

PARENT HANDBOOK

2026-2027

*"As for me and my
household, we will
serve the Lord."*

Joshua 24:15



family
Faith Formation

*Growing
Together in
Christ*



St. Anthony of Padua Church
1627 Mill Street, Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793
stanthonyparish.org
808-244-4148

Welcome to Our Parish Family

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church! We are grateful that you have chosen to continue your family's journey of faith with us.

Faith Formation is much more than preparing for a sacrament. It is a lifelong journey of growing closer to Jesus Christ through prayer, worship, learning, service, and community.

As parents, you are the primary educators of your children in the faith. Our role is to support and encourage you by providing opportunities for your entire family to encounter Christ and grow together as disciples.

Whether your child is entering Family Faith Formation, preparing to receive a sacrament, participating in Youth Ministry, or your family is exploring the Catholic faith for the first time, know that you belong here.

We look forward to walking this journey with you.

Blessings,

Tanya Barbero

Director of Faith Formation & Family Life

Kaitlin Kim

Assistant Director of Faith Formation, Youth Minister

Fr. Larry Denis, III
Pastor

Fr. Taylor Mitchell
Parochial Vicar

Growing Together in Faith

At St. Anthony, faith formation is more than a class or preparation for a sacrament. Faith grows through everyday experiences that help children and adults know Jesus, belong to His Church, and live as His disciples. We partner with families to nurture faith through relationships, prayer, worship, learning, service, and family life.

Relationships

Faith begins with relationships. Children grow in faith when they experience love, encouragement, belonging, and the example of parents, catechists, clergy, and the parish community.

Prayer

Prayer is our relationship with God. Through personal and family prayer, Scripture, the Rosary, and parish prayer, we learn to listen to God and make faith part of everyday life.

Sunday Mass

The Eucharist is the heart of Catholic life. Gathering for Sunday Mass helps families worship together, hear God's Word, and receive Jesus in the Eucharist as one parish family. Our Masses are: Sat 5pm, Sun 7am, 9:30am & 5pm

Learning

Faith seeks understanding. By learning Scripture, Catholic teaching, prayer, and the sacraments, we discover what we believe, why we believe it, and how to live our faith each day.

Service

Faith is lived through love of others. Serving at home, in our parish, and in the community helps us recognize Christ in those we meet and put the Gospel into action.

Family

The family is the first place where faith is formed. Children learn to follow Jesus by watching their families pray, worship, forgive, serve, and love. We support parents as the primary educators of their children in the Catholic faith.

Faith Formation Opportunities

Our Mission & Vision

*We
accompany
children,
youth, adults,
and families
as they
encounter
Jesus Christ,
deepen their
relationship
with Him,
celebrate the
sacraments,
and joyfully
live the
Gospel in
everyday life.*

*We strive to
be a
welcoming
parish where
every
generation
grows
together in
faith through
prayer,
lifelong
learning,
meaningful
relationships,
worship, and
service.*

Hui 'Ohana Family Faith Formation Grades K–5

Hui 'Ohana is our family-centered faith formation program where parents and children grow together in their Catholic faith. Families gather twice each month to pray, learn, and build community while continuing faith formation at home using the A Family of Faith resource.

Schedule

First & Third Sundays of each month

8:00–9:15 a.m. in the cafeteria

Parents and children attend together.

Monthly home lessons reinforce what is learned during parish gatherings.

Sacramental Preparation

St. Anthony Catholic Church offers preparation for First Reconciliation, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion following the Diocese of Honolulu's Restored Order of the Sacraments. Preparation is family-centered and includes parent participation, Sunday Mass, prayer, retreats, and being active in parish life.

Sacramental preparation requires a separate enrollment.

Families interested in preparing a child for the sacraments should contact the Faith Formation Office to begin the enrollment process and discuss their child's readiness.

Youth Ministry

Youth Night - Edge Grades 6–8

EDGE helps middle school youth develop a personal relationship with Jesus while building friendships within the parish community.

Youth Night - Life Teen Grades 9–12

Life Teen challenges high school youth to deepen their relationship with Christ through prayer, Scripture, the sacraments, and authentic Christian community.

Schedule

**First, Second, Fourth, and occasional Fifth Tuesdays
6:00–8:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria**

Youth are encouraged to discover their gifts, serve others, and discern God's call for their lives. Throughout the year, youth are invited to retreats, conferences, service projects, social events, and leadership opportunities.

We believe young people are called to be leaders in the Church today. Our goal is to help young people discover their gifts, deepen their faith, and confidently serve Christ and His Church.

Becoming Catholic (OCIA for Children)

Children age seven and older who have not been baptized, or who are seeking full initiation into the Catholic Church, participate in the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults adapted for Children (OCIA).

Children journey alongside their families as they learn about the Catholic faith and prepare to celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation through prayer, catechesis, liturgical rites, and parish life.

Family Events & Retreats

Throughout the year, families are invited to participate in special parish events that strengthen faith and build community.

Opportunities may include:

- Family Retreats
- Advent and Christmas celebrations
- Lenten prayer experiences
- Service projects
- Parish missions and celebrations
- Family prayer and fellowship events

These experiences help families live their faith beyond the classroom and throughout the liturgical year.

Parents are our Partners

Parents are the first and most important teachers of the faith. By registering your family, you are partnering with St. Anthony Parish to nurture your child's relationship with Jesus Christ.

We ask every family to:

- ✓ Participate regularly in Sunday Mass.
- ✓ Attend scheduled sessions and activities.
- ✓ Complete family faith activities at home.
- ✓ Encourage daily prayer.
- ✓ Keep registration and emergency information current.
- ✓ Communicate absences or concerns promptly.
- ✓ Support your child in living the Catholic faith through your example.

Together, we can help our children discover the joy of following Christ.

Adult Faith Formation

Adults interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, preparing to receive the sacraments, or continuing their faith journey are invited to contact the Faith Formation Office.

We offer opportunities for adults at every stage of faith, including OCIA, sacramental preparation, Bible studies, small groups, and seasonal faith enrichment.

To help us determine the best path for your individual needs, we begin with a brief conversation before providing registration information and next steps.

To learn more or begin the process, please contact the Faith Formation Office.

Registration

Registration for all Faith Formation programs is available online through our parish website or this QR Code. Printed registration forms are also available from the Parish Office for those who prefer to register in person or need assistance.



Safe Environment

St. Anthony Church is committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for all children, youth, and vulnerable adults. All clergy, employees, and volunteers who work with minors are required to comply with the Diocese of Honolulu's Safe Environment Program, including background screening and training.

Stay Connected

We communicate with families through email, text messages, our parish website, and the weekly bulletin. Please be sure your family's contact information remains current so you receive important updates and announcements throughout the year.

Family Prayer

Heavenly Father,
Bless our family as we grow together in faith.
Help us to know You more deeply, love You
more fully, and serve You more faithfully each
day.
Strengthen our home through prayer, kindness,
forgiveness, and joy.
May St. Anthony of Padua intercede for us as
we journey together toward Your Kingdom.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Questions?

We're here to help! Whether you're registering for a program, preparing for the sacraments, or looking for opportunities to grow in your faith, the Faith Formation Office is happy to assist you.

Faith Formation Office
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