



A STEWARDSHIP PRAYER
for August

Lord Jesus Christ,

As we begin to shift our thoughts
from summer schedules
to the anticipated demands of autumn,
teach us to recognize you,
and help us follow you
amidst our busy lives.

Open the Scriptures to us...
that we may know you, see you, hear you –
in the voices of friends and family,
in the ministries of our parish,
in the proclamation of the Word,
and in the Breaking of the Bread.

Teach us to be good stewards,
that we may use your gifts wisely
and care for all those you place
in our path.

Encourage us when we are overwhelmed.
Strengthen us when we are frightened.
Challenge us when we are complacent.

Help us make our August transition
a time of spiritual renewal, hope
and action: to proclaim the Gospel
in our words and in our deeds.

Amen.

STEWARDSHIP SAINT for August



St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein)

Edith Stein was born in 1891 to a Jewish family living in Breslau, Germany. From a very young age she was intellectually curious and loved to learn. She rejected her family’s Jewish piety and even God because her observation was that people acted as though they did not believe in God. She was a brilliant university student and graduated summa cum laude with a doctoral degree in philosophy. She became the assistant to one of the most influential philosophers of the 20th century, Edmund Husserl, who recognized and admired her intellectual gifts. In 1921 Edith had a conversion experience. At age 30, she began reading the autobiography of St. Teresa of Avila in a friend’s library and couldn’t put it down. “This is the truth!” she exclaimed. She converted to Catholicism and was baptized on New Year’s Day, 1922. Edith soon became well regarded as a Catholic philosopher and author. She left her university appointment as Husserl’s assistant and took a position teaching at a Dominican college for women teachers in Speyer, Germany. While there, she studied the philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas and published the first German translation of his treatise The Truth. She also lectured widely to Catholic women’s groups throughout Europe. Edith was passionate about her teaching, writing and lectures, but she yearned for a deeper relationship with God. In 1933 she entered religious formation in the Carmelite community at Cologne, Germany and made her final vows on Easter Sunday 1935, taking the name Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. As the persecution of Jews in Germany intensified in the late 30s, Sister Teresa Benedicta was taken out of the country. On New Year’s Eve 1938, she secretly crossed the border into the Netherlands where she was welcomed by the Carmelite community at Echt. There she would write her final book, The Science of the Cross, a study of the spirituality of St. John of the Cross. The German Army invaded the Netherlands in 1940 and Sister Teresa’s situation would again become perilous. She and her sister Rosa, also a Catholic convert, were eventually arrested and transported by cattle train to Auschwitz, where they perished in a gas chamber on August 9, 1942. In his homily at the time of her canonization in 1998, St. John Paul II said: “St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross says to us all: ‘Do not accept anything as the truth if it lacks love. And do not accept anything as love which lacks truth!’” The feast day of Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross is August 9.

ICSC



OLD HISTORICAL CHURCH

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Ronaldo Guzman, MS – Pastor
Dcn. Bambi Emayo - Deacon
Volunteer Office Secretary – Rose Dela Cruz

Parish Accounting Manager:
Michele Lum

Volunteer Accountant:
Mercedes Casticimo (as needed)

Volunteer Bookkeeper:
Marina Pascua

Volunteer - PDS
Laure Dietterle

Religious Education Director:
TBA

Food Pantry:
Benymar Tapucol

Filipino Catholic Club:
Lydia Rebugio

Pastoral Council:
Paul Roberts - Chairperson

Finance Council:
Jacquelyn Contrades

Baptism: Submit application form and required papers to the Parish Office. Baptism class will be scheduled upon receipt of completed applications. Baptism are usually held on Sunday after the 9:30AM Mass.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation:
Contact the Office for more information.

Marriage: Contact the Parish Office for more information at least six months before wedding.

OCIA: Contact the Parish Office for more information.

Anointing of the Sick: Contact the Parish Office for scheduling the visit.

Funerals: Contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

ST. RAPHAEL CHURCH

Oldest Catholic Church on Kauai – est. 1841
3011 Hapa Road, Koloa, Hawaii 96756
Phone: (808) 742-1955
Fax: (808) 742-1845
Fr. Ronaldo Guzman, MS Cell: (808) 482-7601
Website: St-Raphael-kauai.org
Email: straphael@rcchawaii.org



NEW CHURCH

BOTH CHURCHES – SAME ADDRESS

“SPES NON CONFUNDIT”
HOPE DOES NOT DISAPPOINT



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 17, 2025

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Catholic Daily Mass Monday – Friday: 7:00 AM (Old Church) **Wednesday:** 7:00 AM (Old Church)
followed by Novena; **Saturday:** 8:00AM (Old church)
Saturday (obligation mass): 5:00 PM (New Church)
Sunday (obligation mass): 7:00 AM (New Church) 9:30 AM (New Church)
Reconciliation: 30 Minutes before Mass on the weekends in the Parish Office
Sacrament of the Sick: Call the Parish Office at (808) 742-1955 to schedule an appointment

August Birthdays

Stella Bukoski 16
Sofea Cagalawan 19
Priscilla Pascua 22



May God richly bless you and grant the wishes of your heart!



St. Raphael’s is in need of a new parish secretary. To apply for this position, check the Diocese website (www.catholichawaii.org) and click “Careers” at the bottom page and will direct you to job openings (i.e. application form, job description, qualifications etc.) or call St. Raphael’s office number 808-742-1955 for more information. If you believe you meet the minimum requirements for this position, kindly submit your letter of intention including some information about yourself to the pastor. Mahalo!

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today’s second reading, we hear the author of the letter to the Hebrews liken the daily life of the Christian steward to a race, a long-distance race perhaps, certainly not a sprint; requiring endurance and a single-minded focus on Jesus at the finish line. Good stewards are firmly committed to running the race, to live the Christian life International Catholic Stewardship Council to the fullest, to keep their eyes focused on Jesus. They don’t grow weary. They don’t lose heart. They know there is immense joy waiting for them at the finish line. Are you fully committed to living each day for Christ? Are you running the race, or are you simply jogging? Just walking? Sitting? Going backwards? Going nowhere? Some of us may want to reflect on what we can do to run the race with even more conviction. Others may want to reflect on how to simply enter the race and start running



Stewards of Treasure
Weekly Collections August 10, 2025

Collection	\$	2,746.00
Votive Candles	\$	381.00
Mass Intentions	\$	217.00
Food Pantry	\$	10.00
Marriages	\$	100.00
Gift Shop	\$	388.00
Filipino Catholic Club Donation	\$	50.00
Building Maintenance Fund	\$	1,300.00
Second Collection for Catholic Charities Hawaii	\$	50.00
Online Church Offering	\$	297.00
Second Collection for Catholic Charities Hawaii	\$	7,500.00

MAHALO FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT



- *Our Parish Pastoral Council will have a meeting on Wednesday, August 20 at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall.
- *St. Raphael Church’s drive thru Food Pantry distribution will be on Thursday, August 21 from 4:30 PM – 6 PM.
- *Our Gift Shop is open after mass on weekends and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9AM to 12PM.

Welcome and Aloha!

Thank you for celebrating with us at St. Raphael Church this weekend. You may be visiting, new to our community, or live on this beautiful Island. We hope you enjoyed your time at St. Raphael Church where you considered St. Raphael Church your “home” away from home.



St. Raphael's Church Online giving is tested and secured and a convenient way to give your weekly offerings or donations anytime from the comfort of your own home, or from any place with internet access. For more information, please visit our website at: st-raphael-kauai.org

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading
Jeremiah 38:4-6,8-10
Jeremiah is punished for criticizing the wealthy for their corruption and their in

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 40:2-4,18
A prayer for God's help

Second Reading
Hebrews 12:1-4
Let us persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Gospel Reading
Luke 12:49-53
Jesus has come not only to bring peace but also division.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Having reminded the apostles and the crowd that facing the coming judgment takes patience, Jesus now goes on to speak of how difficult it will be to wait. He tells them that he has come to set the earth on fire. Recall that in chapter 3 of Luke's Gospel, John the Baptist tells the crowd that he is baptizing with water, but someone mightier is coming who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. The fire Jesus speaks of here is the distress caused by the coming judgment. It is also the fire of the Spirit that Luke, in the Acts of the Apostles, will describe descending on the disciples on Pentecost. That fire will strengthen them to go out to the whole world to preach the good news of Jesus' Resurrection.

Jesus will be the first to experience the distress of the coming judgment. His baptism will be the conflict into which he will be immersed as he approaches Jerusalem and his death on the cross. His followers will not be spared that distress. The angels at Jesus' birth proclaimed peace on earth, and Simeon, holding the baby Jesus in the Temple, said to God: “Master, now you may let your servant go in peace.” Here Jesus tells the crowd not to think he has come to bring peace; he has come to bring division. Simeon said as much when he turned to Mary and said that the child was destined for the rise and fall of many and to be a sign that will be contradicted. Peace is the ultimate end of the Kingdom of God, but peace has a price. Jesus is warning the crowd that wherever the Word of God is heard and acted upon, division occurs. Fathers will be divided against sons and mothers against daughters.

The coming judgment forces us to look at the implications of our commitments. As Jesus warned in last Sunday's Gospel, a commitment of faith requires us to change our attitude toward material possessions and to take even more seriously our moral responsibilities. Here he reminds the crowd that those who commit to him will find it affects the way they relate to friends and family members. The angel who announced the birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah said John would go before Jesus to turn the hearts of fathers toward their children. But a commitment to Jesus forces us to change the way we live our lives, and this can put strains on relationships.

We don't expect to hear such difficult words from Jesus in the Gospel. But it is good to be reminded once in a while that the decision to do the right thing, the good thing, is not always easy and without conflict. Jesus himself did not make easy decisions and avoid conflict. In today's reading, he reminds his followers to be prepared for difficult decisions and conflict as well.

Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

