

Feast day July 16



Hermits lived on Mount Carmel near the Fountain of Elijah in northern Israel in the 12th century. They had a chapel dedicated to Our Lady. By the 13th century they became known as “Brothers of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.” They soon celebrated a special Mass and Office in honor of Mary. In 1726, it became a celebration of the universal Church under the title of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. For centuries the Carmelites have seen themselves as specially related to Mary. Their great saints and theologians have promoted devotion to her and often championed the mystery of her Immaculate Conception. Saint Teresa of Avila called Carmel “the Order of the Virgin.” Saint John of the Cross credited Mary with saving him from drowning as a child, leading him to Carmel, and helping him escape from prison. Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus believed that Mary cured her from illness. On her First Communion Day, Thérèse dedicated her life to Mary. During the last days of her life, she frequently spoke of Mary. There is a tradition that Mary appeared to Saint Simon Stock, a leader of the Carmelites, and gave him a scapular, telling him to promote devotion to it. The scapular is a modified version of Mary’s own garment. It symbolizes her special protection and calls the wearers to consecrate themselves to her in a special way. (Franciscan Media excerpts) This feast was instituted by the Carmelites between 1376 and 1386 under the title "Commemoration B. Marif Virg. duplex" to celebrate the victory of their order over its enemies on obtaining the approbation of its name and constitution from Honorius III on 30 Jan. 1226. The feast was assigned to 16 July, because on that date in 1251, according to Carmelite traditions, the scapular was given by the Blessed Virgin to St. Simon Stock; it was first approved by Sixtus V in 1587.

After Cardinal Bellarmine had examined the Carmelite traditions in 1609, it was declared the patronal feast of the order and is now celebrated in the Carmelite calendar as a major double of the first class with a vigil and a privileged octave (like the octave of Epiphany, admitting only a double of the first class) under the title "Commemoration solemn B.V.M. de Monte Carmelo". By a privilege given by Clement X in 1672, some Carmelite monasteries keep the feast on the Sunday after 16 July, or on some other Sunday in July. In the seventeenth century the feast was adopted by several dioceses in the south of Italy, although its celebration, outside of Carmelite churches, was prohibited in 1628 by a decree contra abusum. On 21 Nov. 1674, however, it was first granted by Clement X to Spain and its colonies, in 1675 to Austria, in 1679 to Portugal and its colonies, and in 1725 to the Papal States of the Church, on 24 Sept. 1726, it was extended to the entire Latin Church by Benedict XIII. The lessons contain the legend of the scapular; the promise of the Sabbatine privilege was inserted into the lessons by Paul V about 1614. The Greeks of southern Italy and the Catholic Chaldeans have adopted this feast of the "Vestment of the Blessed Virgin Mary". The object of the feast is the special predilection of Mary for those who profess themselves her servants by wearing her scapular.



OLD HISTORICAL CHURCH



NEW CHURCH

ST. RAPHAEL CHURCH

Oldest Catholic Church on Kauai – est. 1841

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Fr. Ronaldo Guzman, MS Cell: (808) 482-7601

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BOTH CHURCHES – SAME ADDRESS

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Ronaldo Guzman, MS – Pastor
Dcn. Bambi Emayo – Deacon
Office Secretary – Sr. Roselyne Mawpat, MSMHC

Parish Accounting Manager:
Michele Lum

Volunteer Accountant:
Mercedes Casticimo (as needed)

Volunteer Bookkeeper:
Marina Pascua

Volunteer - PDS
Laure Dietterle

Religious Education Director:
Sr. Roselyne Mawpat, MSMHC

Food Pantry:
Benymar Tapucol

Filipino Catholic Club:
Lydia Rebugio

Pastoral Council:
Jacquelyn Contrades

Finance Council:
Jeanette Liberato

Baptism: Submit application form and required papers to the Parish Office. Baptism class will be scheduled upon receipt of completed applications. Baptism is 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.

*But blessed are your eyes,
for they see:
and your ears, for they hear.*

Matthew 13:16



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 12, 2026

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Daily Mass Monday – Friday: 7:00 AM (Old Church)

Wednesday: O.L.P.H Novena (After Mass)

Thursday: Our Lady Of La Salette Novena (After Mass)

Saturday: Novena to St. Raphael & Rosary (7.30 AM. Mass – 8.00 AM)

Healing Mass: (Every First Saturday only)- 8.00 AM

Saturday (Vigil Mass): 5.00 PM (NewChurch)

Sunday (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

July Birthdays

Herman Rendon 13
 David Gregorius 15
 Payne Blackstad 16
 Khloe Laborte 17
 Joy Robles 18
 Nainoa Soto 18



*May God bless you and grant you
 the wishes of your Heart*

New Columbarium

We are happy to announce the new St. Raphael cremation Niche Columbaria project on the parish grounds. For the first time, we can offer **NON-REGISTERED** as well as Registered Parishioners the opportunity to have their remains interred at St. Raphael.

The new columbaria niches allow the committal of cremated remains in a final resting place on Holy ground amongst our St. Raphael parish community. Each niche can accommodate the remains of up to two individuals.

Your purchase of a niche helps support St. Raphael and the Diocese community. For more information or to answer any questions, please contact: Duane Pavao, Director of cemeteries, 808-783-6778, dpavao@cfcsmission.org. Elly Mae Kalilikane, Family Service Advisor, 808-727-1024, mkalilikane@cfcsmission.org.

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.

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's second reading, Saint Paul gives us reason to hope for a wondrous future beyond our imagination. He preaches this hope amidst the suffering of the early Christian communities. "Brothers and sisters: I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us" (Romans 8:18). Good stewards realize that by remaining faithful to the Gospel with persistence, fervor and endurance, our hope in the promises of Christ Jesus will be rewarded. Reflect this week on concrete ways you can remain faithful to the Gospel during these challenging times



Stewards of Treasure

Weekly Collections July 4 – 5, 2026

Collection	\$	4,053.00
Votive Candles	\$	646.00
Mass Intentions	\$	97.00
Gift Shop	\$	956.25
Food Pantry (Cash)	\$	5.00
Second Collection (CMAA)	\$	1,000.00
Online Church Offering	\$	638.40

MAHALO FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT



* This Sunday, July 12 there will be a P.P.C meeting after the 9:30 am Mass.

*Our Second Collection for today is for CMMA. We thank you for your generosity.

*St. Raphael Church's drive thru Food Pantry distribution will be on Thursday, July 16 from 4:30 PM – 6 PM.

*Join Duane Pavao, Director with Catholic Funeral and Cemetery services, after the masses next weekend on Saturday July 18 and Sunday July 19. He will be here to answer questions you may have regarding our new columbarium project, so that the Church can provide peace of mind around securing you and your loved one's final resting place, provide advanced financial planning to ease the burden on loved ones, and provide a faith-centered approach to align your end-of-life decisions with your Catholic faith. You don't have to be a registered parishioner to enter the Columbarium.

*Our Gift Shop is open after mass on weekends and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9AM to 12PM.



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:

straphaelkauai.org

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

The Word of the Lord shall achieve its purpose.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 65:10-14

A prayer of praise to God for his abundance.

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-23

Together with all of creation, we await God's redemption.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-23 (shorter form: Matthew 13:1-9)

Jesus teaches that the kingdom of heaven is like seed that has been sown on good soil.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel marks the beginning of the third long discourse given by Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew. Over the next few weeks, the Gospel readings will consist of the entire 13th Chapter of Matthew's Gospel, a lengthy teaching discourse.

Throughout this discourse, Jesus will offer several parables to illustrate for his listeners what he means by the kingdom of heaven. He begins with the parable of the Sower, which appears rather straightforward—of course seeds grow best in good soil. Seeds that miss the soil, are sown on rocky ground, or are sown among other plants will not grow. The surprise in the parable is the enormous yield of the seed that is sown on good soil.

Jesus then explains his use of parables. Jesus seems to suggest that he uses parables to teach because the meanings of parables are not self-evident. The hearer must engage in some degree of reflection in order to comprehend the message of a parable. In this way, the medium—the parable—models the point of the parable of the Sower. Those who are willing to engage themselves in the effort to understand will be rewarded by the discovery of the message and will bear fruit.

To bring home the point, Jesus interprets the parable of the Sower to his disciples. The different types of soil in which the seeds are sown are metaphors for the disposition with which each individual hears the teaching about the kingdom of heaven. Some will be easily swayed away from the kingdom of heaven. Some will receive it for a time but will lose it when faced with difficulties. Some will hear the word but will then permit other cares to choke it out. Yet some will receive it well, and the seed will produce abundant fruit.

Stewardship Prayer

Loving Father! I desire to spend my life living in collaboration with You as a disciple of Your son Jesus. I am truly grateful for the numerous gifts that You have given me. I acknowledge that everything that I have and everything that I am are Your gifts. As I approach the Eucharist, I bring a portion of Your gifts as my offering. I bring the time that I spend with You in prayer. I bring what I have done in Your service. I bring a just portion of my treasure. I pray that You grant me the wisdom and strength to live my life as a reflection of Your love. I pray that my participation in the Eucharist and my sacrificial offering is pleasing to You. I ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

