



2024 Kauai Vicariate Chrism Mass hosted by St. Raphael Church



MOST REVEREND LARRY SILVA, D.D.
BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF HONOLULU –
PRESIDER



OLD HISTORICAL CHURCH



NEW CHURCH

ST. RAPHAEL CHURCH
 Oldest Catholic Church on Kauai – est. 1841
 3011 Hapa Road, Koloa, Hawaii 96756
 Phone: (808) 742-1955
 Fax: (808) 742-1845
 Rectory: (808) 320-8758
 Website: St-Raphael-kauai.org
 Email: straphael@rcchawaii.org

BOTH CHURCHES – SAME ADDRESS

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Rizal Pedro Acosta, MS – Pastor
Office Secretary – Rose Dela Cruz

Parish Accounting Manager:
Michele Lum

Volunteer Accountant:
Mercedes Casticimo (as needed)

Volunteer Bookkeeper:
Marina Pascua

Volunteer - PDS
Laure Dietterle
Laurel Busse

Religious Education Director:
Allison Carveiro

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.

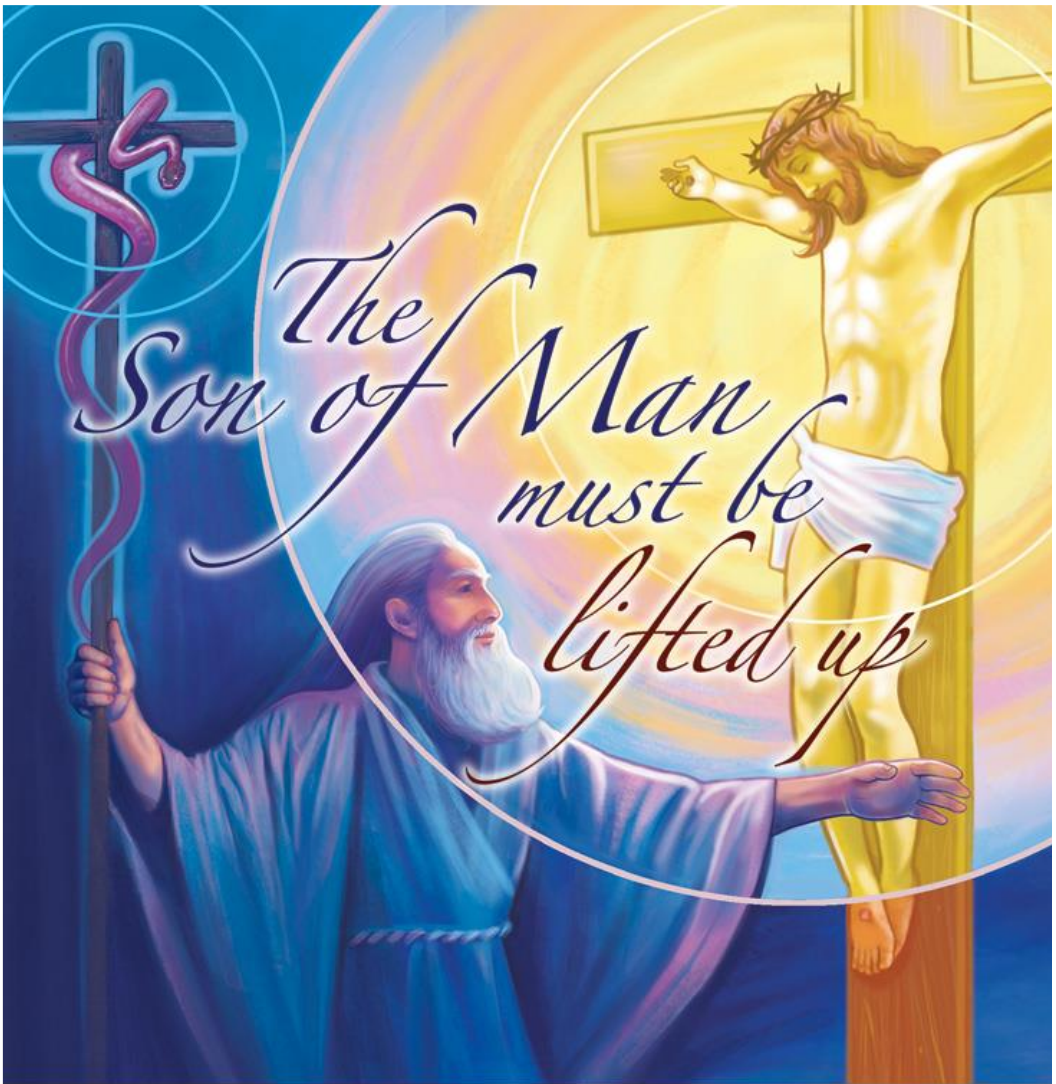
First Holy Communion and Confirmation: Contact the Office for more information.

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

RCIA: 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.



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Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 10, 2024

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Monday – Friday: 7:00 AM (Old Church) **Wednesday:** 7:00 AM (Old Church) followed by Novena
Saturday: 5:00 PM (New Church) **Sunday:** 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

March Birthdays

Penny Vess 10
Lael Bukoski 11
Sandra Honl 11
Susumu Muraoka 13
Kyra Bukoski 14
Josefina Corpuz 14



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

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

March 11 - 6:00PM at St. Raphael Church
March 12 - 6:00PM at Holy Cross Church
March 14 - 6:00PM at Immaculate Conception Church
March 18 - 6:00PM at St. Theresa Church
March 19 - 6:00PM at St. Catherine Church

Please consider attending the Lenten Penance Service at other Churches if you are unable to attend at St. Raphael Church.

A Stewardship Moment

The Gospel story of Jesus' encounter with Nicodemus, a Pharisee and leader of the Jews who comes to Jesus by night, recognizing Jesus as a teacher from God, but coming in secret for fear of being put out of the synagogue. Jesus rebukes him for his lack of understanding. Good stewards realize that for the sake of this world, God gives his most cherished beloved son. And so they are willing to confess Jesus as their Lord and savior in a public way. They do not keep their faith to themselves, in darkness. The Gospel reading challenges us to profess our faith in word and deed publicly, not to hide it away. Are we willing to accept the Gospel's challenge? Are we willing to get out of our personal "comfort zone" and confess our faith in Christ Jesus in an open, tangible way?



Stewards of Treasure Weekly Collections , March 3, 2024

Collection	\$ 5,294.00
Votive Candles	\$ 594.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 365.00
Gift Shop	\$ 534.00
Filipino Catholic Club Membership Dues	\$ 48.00
Building Maintenance Fund	\$ 233.00
Online Church Offering	\$ 1,017.70
Online Building Maintenance Fund	\$ 15.39

MAHALO FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT



***There will be a Second Collection this weekend for the Catholic Relief Services. Please make your checks payable to St. Raphael Church. Thank you.**

***Lenten Recollection for St. Raphael Parishioners had been collaborated by Father Rizal with Holy Cross Church. It will be on March 20 at 6 PM at Holy Cross. You are all invited.**

***St. Raphael Church's drive thru Food Pantry distribution will be on Thursday, March 21 from 4:30PM to 6PM.**

***In preparation of Palm Sunday, we are looking for fellow parishioners to assist with cutting of Olive branches on Friday, March 22 at 8AM. Please bring your pruning shears. Thank you.**

***We will be having an Easter Egg hunt on Easter Sunday after the 9:30AM Mass. Donations of plastic eggs and candies are now accepted in the Parish Office. Last day to donate will be on Holy Thursday. Thank you for your generosity.**

***Rice Bowls will be collected on Holy Thursday, please help yourself to the Rice Bowls that are located at the entrance of the Church to help deepen our personal experience of Lent, devote our Lenten prayers, fasting, and gifts to transform our relationship with God and neighbor.**

***Our Gift Shop is open after mass on weekends. Weekday schedule is 8 am to 2 pm. Thank you.**



MAHALO for celebrating with us 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 and considered St. Raphael Church your "home" away from home.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading

2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23

The causes for the Israelites' captivity in Babylon are described.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 137:1-2,3,4-5,6

A lament from exile for the loss of Jerusalem

Second Reading

Ephesians 2:4-10

In grace we have been saved, so that we may do the work of the Lord.

Gospel Reading

John 3:14-21

Jesus tells Nicodemus that the Son of Man will be raised up so that those who believe in him will have eternal life.

Background on the Gospel Reading

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called *Laetare* Sunday. *Laetare* is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy's opening antiphon. On this Sunday, the antiphon is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:10-11). Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

Today's Gospel reading is taken from John's Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus' reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today's Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses' prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today's Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus' words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John's Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In John's reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

Prayer for Lent

Father of mercies and God of all consolation, you sent your only Son to give your people knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of our sins, because of the tender mercy of our God by which the daybreak from on high will visit us to shine on those who sit in darkness and death's shadow, to guide our feet into the path of peace. Deliver us from the darkness that blinds us; free us from the sins that bind us; fill us with the joy of your forgiveness through the Death and Resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.



God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.
— John 3:17