

**STEWARDSHIP SAINT for March**



**Saint Katharine Drexel** *Katharine Drexel*, the second American-born canonized saint, was born into great wealth in Philadelphia in 1858. Her mother died soon after Katharine's birth, and she was raised by her father and stepmother, both known for their philanthropy, especially their generosity to the poor. As a young heiress, Katharine traveled extensively across the U.S. and became aware of the difficult circumstances faced by Native Americans and African Americans. After her father and stepmother died, Katharine determined to use her inherited wealth to help these groups. Traveling in Europe in 1887, she asked Pope Leo XIII for help in sending missionaries to the many institutions she funded, including a school in South Dakota. The pope challenged the heiress to undertake the mission herself. After much discernment, Katharine decided to devote not just her fortune (worth more than \$200 million today), but her life to the poor. In 1889, at age thirty, she entered the Sisters of Mercy. But Drexel continued to feel a special call to serve African and Native Americans. In 1891 she started her own religious congregation, the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People (S.B.S). The order's first American Indian school was launched in Santa Fe, New Mexico, three years later. Mother Katharine eventually created eleven more schools on Indian reservations, nearly a hundred for African Americans in rural areas and the inner cities of the South, and in 1915, established a teacher's college that would eventually grow to become the first and only Catholic university for African Americans, Xavier University in New Orleans. In 1922 in Beaumont, Texas, the Ku Klux Klan threatened to tar and feather the local pastor and bomb his church if he did not close down one of Mother Drexel's schools. The sisters prayed for God's intercession to resolve the threat. Within days a tornado destroyed the Klan's headquarters. Two Klansmen died, and the Klan never bothered the sisters again. In 1935, a severe heart attack forced Mother Katharine into prayerful retirement at her motherhouse in Philadelphia. Nevertheless, she continued to fight for, and fund, civil rights causes. During the 1950s, her sisters in Harlem and New Orleans were jeered at as "Nigger Sisters," and Mother Katharine's response was to ask the sisters if they prayed for their detractors. She died in 1955 and was beatified by Pope Saint John Paul II in 1988 and canonized in 2000. Her feast day is March 3.

*Commissioning of Michelle Armson as Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion*



**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  
 Fr. Ronaldo Guzman, MS Cell: (808) 482-7601  
 Website: St-Raphael-kauai.org  
 Email: straphael@rcchawaii.org

**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:**  
**TBE**

**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 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.



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*Third Sunday of Lent  
 March 8, 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 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**



**2026 LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICES**  
**6 p.m.**



**March 16 (Mon.)**  
**March 17 (Tues.)**  
**March 18 (Wed.)**  
**March 23 (Mon.)**  
**March 24 (Tues.)**

**St. Raphael Church**  
**St. Theresa Church**  
**Holy Cross Church**  
**St. Catherine Church**  
**Immaculate Conception Church**

**Koloa**  
**Kekaha**  
**Kalaheo**  
**Kapaa**  
**Lihue**

## March Birthdays

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



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



### Stations-of-the Cross

Every Friday at 5:30 PM during Lent.  
Weather permitting, on the lawn fronting the New Church.



### 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.

### Third Sunday of Lent

Jesus' longest-recorded conversation with anyone is the one he has with the Samaritan woman at the well. She discovers she can be honest with Jesus and goes and tells others about him. She gives witness. She's not the most certain, thorough or even convincing witness. But her witness is enough. It is inviting, humble, non-judgmental and sincere. What is the quality of our witness? How do our words and actions give daily testimony on behalf of Christ? During this season of Lent, how might we do a better job at proclaiming the risen Lord in word and deed?



### Stewards of Treasure Weekly Collections, March 1, 2026

|  |    |          |
|--|----|----------|
| Collection                               | \$ | 5,147.00 |
| Votive Candles                           | \$ | 395.00   |
| Mass Intentions                          | \$ | 127.00   |
| Gift Shop                                | \$ | 632.05   |
| Food Pantry                              | \$ | 5.00     |
| Building Maintenance (includes Laulima)  | \$ | 300.00   |
| Filipino Catholic Club (Membership dues) | \$ | 12.00    |
| Baptism                                  | \$ | 100.00   |
| Calendars                                | \$ | 80.00    |
| Online Church Offering                   | \$ | 1,412.40 |
| Building Maintenance Fund                | \$ | 200.00   |

*MAHALO FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT*



\*Next week's second collection will be taken up for Catholic Relief Services. Your generous donations will fund CRS's programs such as the USCCB office for International Justice and peace, Migration and Refugee Services, relief work of the Holy Father and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network.

\*On Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> of March, we encouraged volunteers to join us in planting Grass around the Handicapped area. Thank you for your stewardship of time.

\*St. Raphael Lenten Penance Service will be on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6.00pm in the New Church. If you are unable to do so, other parishes schedules are printed at the back of our bulletin.

\*The Chrism Mass will be held on Thursday, March 26 at 6 PM at Immaculate Conception Church presided by the Most Reverend Bishop Larry Silva. St. Raphael's Catechumens are encouraged to attend.

\*Please help yourself with the Rice Bowls that are located at the entrance of the Church to help your Lenten journey. Rice Bowls will be collected on Holy Thursday, April 2. Thank you.

\*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: [st-raphael-kauai.org](http://st-raphael-kauai.org)

## TODAY'S READINGS, Third SUNDAY OF LENT

### First Reading

Exodus 17:3-7

God tells Moses to bring forth water from the rock.

### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 95:1-2,6-9

Sing joyfully in the presence of the Lord.

### Second Reading

Romans 5:1-2,5-8

Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

### Gospel Reading

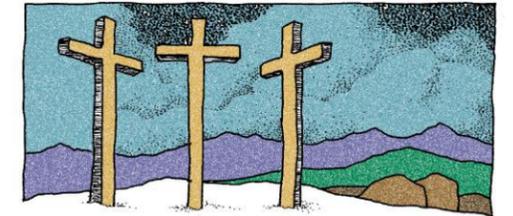
John 4:5-42

Jesus reveals himself to the Samaritan woman at the well. (shorter form: John 4:5-15,19b-26,39a,40-42)

### Background on the Gospel Reading

On this Sunday and the next two Sundays, we break from reading the Gospel of Matthew to read from John's Gospel. The Gospel of John is the only Gospel not assigned to a particular liturgical year. Instead, readings from John's Gospel are interspersed throughout our three-year liturgical cycle.

In today's Gospel, the dialogue between Jesus and a woman from Samaria is among the most lengthy and most theological found in Scripture. The most startling aspect of the conversation is that it happens at all. Jesus, an observant Jew of that time, was expected to avoid conversation with women in public. The animosity between the Jews and the Samaritans should have prevented the conversation as well. The woman herself alludes to the break from tradition: "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" Yet Jesus not only converses with the woman, he also asks to share her drinking vessel, an action that makes him unclean according to Jewish law. The initial conversation between Jesus and the woman is better understood if we consider the importance of water, especially in the climate of Israel. At first, the woman understands Jesus' promise of "living water" in a literal sense: "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." With no running water, the daily trip to the well by the women of the community was of paramount importance. The women of the town would have traveled to the well in the early morning, but this woman came to the well at noon, the hottest time of the day. The timing of her visit is a clear sign that she is an outcast within the Samaritan community. We learn in her conversation with Jesus that she is an outcast because of her "many husbands." Behind the conversation lies the animosity and rivalry between the Jews and the Samaritans. Samaritans shared Jewish ancestry, but Samaritans had intermarried with foreigners when they lived under the rule of the Assyrians. Samaritan religion included worship of Yahweh but was also influenced by the worship of other gods. When the Jews refused Samaritan help in the building of the Temple at Jerusalem, the Samaritans eventually built a temple for themselves at Mt. Gerizim (the same mountain mentioned by the woman at the well). Like the Jews, the Samaritans believed that a Messiah would come. The high point of the conversation is when Jesus reveals himself to her as the Messiah. His answer to the Samaritan woman's questions about worship is meant to predict a time when worshiping in truth and spirit will become the way to worship. After the conversation, the Samaritan woman becomes a disciple. Even though she is an outcast and not a Jew, she returns to her town to lead others to Jesus and to wonder whether she has found the Messiah. The Samaritan townspeople return with her to meet Jesus for themselves, and many are said to come to believe in him. The significance of the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman has many levels. The first is personal: The woman is herself converted to belief in Jesus as Messiah because he knows her sin but speaks with her just the same. The second is social: Having come to know Jesus as the Messiah, the Samaritan woman becomes an evangelist to her own people. The third level of the story is educational: Jesus uses his encounter with the Samaritan woman to teach his disciples that God's mercy is without limit. The disciples return from their shopping quite confused to find Jesus talking with a Samaritan, and a woman at that! But the conversion of the Samaritan townspeople is a foretaste of the kind of open community that will be created among those who believe that Jesus is the Messiah.



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### 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.*