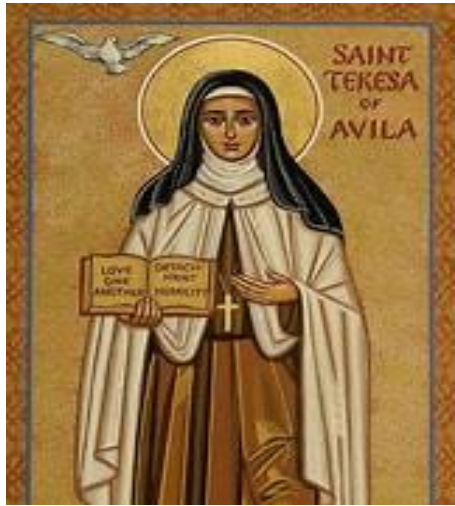
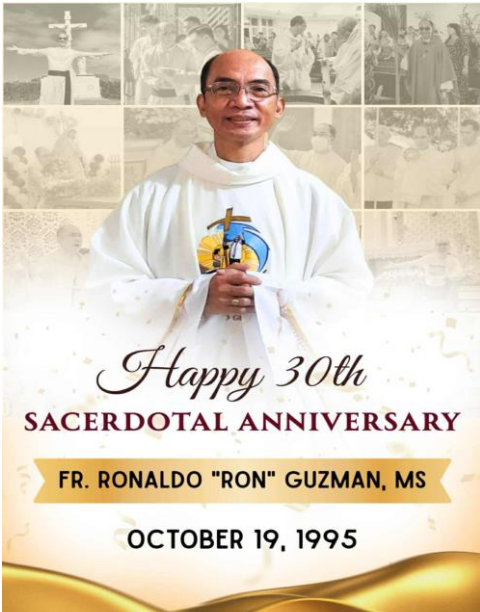




St. Teresa of Avila, Doctor of the Church

St. Teresa of Avila founded the Discalced Carmelite religious community of women and was one of the first two women to be named Doctor of the Church (with Catherine of Siena) because of her extraordinary contribution to Christian mysticism and spirituality. Born in 1515 to a large, aristocratic Castilian family in Avila, Spain, Teresa entered the Carmelite monastery when she was 20 years old. She spent a number of relatively average years in the convent before she experienced a vision that changed her life forever. In 1554, while praying before a statue of the crucified Christ, Teresa underwent a profound spiritual conversion. She later wrote: “When I fell to prayer again and looked at Christ hanging poor and naked upon the cross, I felt I could not bear to be rich.” She prayed that she might be as poor as Jesus.

Teresa had a number of mystical experiences centered on Christ’s passion. She was motivated by these visions to reform her religious community which had relaxed the observance of its original rule. In 1562, Teresa established a convent in Avila with thirteen other nuns where she felt the primitive Carmelite Rule could be strictly observed. Their communal life was marked by prayer, poverty, manual work, abstinence from meat and solitude. This convent would become the model for 16 other Discalced convents she would establish between 1562 and 1582 while traveling across the rugged Castilian countryside by mule. In 1567, she met St. John of the Cross, who she enlisted to extend her reform into the male side of the Carmelite community. St. Teresa was a prolific writer on the spiritual life and left a substantial body of writings on Christian mysticism. These works include the Way of Perfection and Meditations on the Song of Songs. Her masterpiece was the Interior Castle which was a disguised autobiography. For St. Teresa, the test of growth in the spiritual life was the extent one responded to Christ’s stewardship call to love one’s neighbor. Teresa died on October 4, 1582, and was canonized in 1622. She is the patron saint of Spain. Her feast day is October 15.



Heavenly Father,

We gather today with hearts full of gratitude to honor and celebrate the anniversary of Your faithful servant's priestly ordination. Thank You for calling him to serve as a shepherd to Your flock, guiding us with wisdom, compassion, and unwavering faith.

Lord, we ask that You continue to bless him abundantly. Strengthen him in his mission to proclaim Your Word, administer the sacraments, and bring Your love to all he encounters. Fill his heart with joy, his mind with peace, and his spirit with courage as he continues to walk in Your light.

May he always find comfort in Your presence, and may his life be a reflection of Your grace and mercy. Bless his ministry, his health, and his journey ahead, so that he may remain a beacon of hope and faith to all.

We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



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

**“SPES NON CONFUNDIT”
HOPE DOES NOT DISAPPOINT**



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 19, 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

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:
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 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.

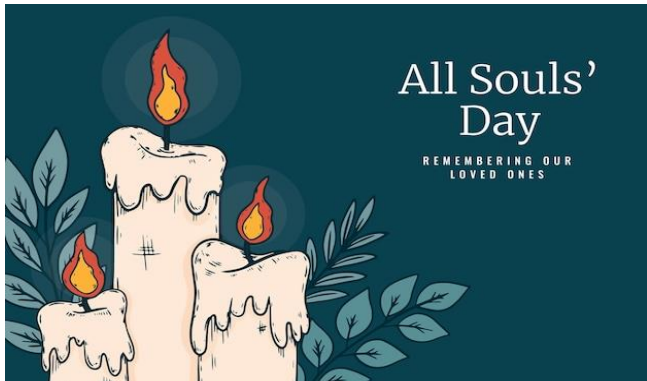
Funerals: Contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

October Birthdays

Alyssa-Lynn Carveiro 19
Tomas Chavez 19
Tessa Ruiz 19
Alicia Sarmiento 19
Noelani Garcia 20
Jessie Miyazaki 22
Erlina Caoagas 23
Rafaela Laborte 24
Adriane Ceria 25



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



Our Parish will be having a **Luminary Service** on Saturday, November 1, All Saints Day after the 5 PM mass. Bags and candles are provided and will be set up for you at the Courtyard. All Souls Day envelopes can be picked up at the office or at church entrance. Please submit all envelopes by **Thursday, Oct. 30**. The names of your deceased loved ones will be read by Father Ron on Saturday during the Luminary Service.

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

If we want to know what Jesus’ parable is about in today’s Gospel, it seems that we don’t need to work too hard because Saint Luke tell us right at the beginning: “Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.” This parable has often been used to bring comfort to us about our prayer life. But could there be a more challenging message for those who take stewardship seriously? Widows were the poorest and most vulnerable of people in Jesus’ time. Oppressive legal and economic structures were the norm. Jesus embraced with great compassion the poor and the marginalized. Could it be that we are also encouraged to pray persistently for the poor, the weak and the vulnerable as we hear their cry for justice? And that we must not lose heart that we can effect change in their lives?



Stewards of Treasure
Weekly Collections October 12, 2025

Collection	\$	4,416.00
Votive Candles	\$	357.00
Mass Intentions	\$	77.00
Food Pantry	\$	5.00
Gift Shop	\$	857.00
Second Collection for Ohana in Christ	\$	1,000.00
Religious Education	\$	30.00
Online Church Offering	\$	457.00

MAHALO FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT



*We will have a Second Collection on October 25 & 26 for World Mission Sunday. Please make your checks payable to St. Raphael Church. Thank you.

*Our Parish is looking for volunteers to help clean our cemeteries in preparation of All Souls’ Day. Please bring your cleaning supplies like rakes, weed whacker, shovels on Saturday, October 26 at 8AM. Thank you for your stewardship of time.

*Lectors will have an exclusive meeting on Sunday, October 26 after the 9:30am mass in the Parish Hall.

*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

Exodus 17:8-13
Joshua and the Israelites defeat Amalek with the help of God and his servant, Moses.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 121:1-2,3-4,5-6,7-8
The Lord is the Guardian of Israel.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 3:14–4:2
Paul exhorts Timothy to continue to preach the word Timothy received from his teachers.

Gospel Reading

Luke 18:1-8
Jesus urges his disciples to pray and not lose heart, for God hears and answers prayers.

Background on the Gospel Reading

This is the first of two parables that Jesus tells in Luke 18 about prayer. (The second will be read at Mass next Sunday.) This first parable is a lesson in persistence in prayer. (Next Sunday's parable will address attitude in prayer.) While the parable seems to present prayer as nagging God for what we want, such a reading misses the point. God is not like the judge in the parable, worn down by requests and coerced to respond. The key is found in the description of the judge as corrupt and unjust. Since God can be neither, we must understand Jesus to be saying that if even an unjust judge responds to the persistence of the widow, how much more so will God listen to our prayers. God truly wants to hear our needs and respond generously. It is the final lament of Jesus that gets to the point of the parable. The lesson is about the persistence of the one who prays. God wants us to be like the persistent widow, staying in relationship with God, confident that God hears and answers prayers. Then Jesus laments, “Will such faith be found when the Son of Man comes?” In this lament, Jesus notes how easy it can be for us to lose heart.

God hears those who call out day and night



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