

September: is a La Salette Month

September is a special month of La Salette devotion. In addition to the **Nativity of Mary** on the 8<sup>th</sup> and the **Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows** on the 15<sup>th</sup>, we commemorate the **Apparition of Our Lady of La Salette** on **September 19**. Which took place in 1846.



She appeared to two children—**Maximin**, 11 years old, and **Melanie**, 14 years old—on the mountains of La Salette in the French Alps. The Beautiful Lady invited them, saying: “Come near my children, do not be afraid” This invitation extends to each and every one of us.

In today’s world, fear can be overwhelming. We face violence, hatred, insults, persecution of faith, discrimination, war, chaos, division, famine, natural disasters, and pandemics. Yet, Our Lady of La Salette calls us to **conversion** and to draw closer to **Jesus, her son**.

Her message from 1846 still resonates powerfully today. She appeared **weeping**, saying she could no longer hold back the hand of her Son—it had become too heavy. If we do not turn away from sin, punishment and wrath may follow.

She was seated on a rock, her face in her hands, wearing a **radiant crown of roses**, a glowing dress, and a crucifix on her chest. Her message was one of **warning and hope**, urging people to return to **prayer, penance and zeal**. She also asked us to **honor the Lord’s Day** and **stop using the Lord’s name in vain**.

Symbolism of the Apparition:

- **Tears:** Represent Mary’s sorrow over humanity’s sins
- **Chains and Crucifix:** Signify the burden of sin and the Passion of Christ
- **Roses of different colors:** Symbolize the diversity of humankind-different races and origins.

Mission and Ministry

**Reconciliation** is the central charism of the **Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette**. Locally, the parishes of **Saints Raphael in Koloa**, **Immaculate Conception in Lihue**, **holy Cross in Kalaheo**, and **St. Theresa in Kekaha** are under their care. Let us join them in **prayer, devotion, and the celebration of the mass** as a sign of gratitude for their ministry. They nourish our faith and administer the Sacraments for our daily spiritual sustenance.

May the message of Our Lady of La Salette lead us to **conversion** and **reconciling way of life**. Let us heed her call to “make her message known to all people.”



OLD HISTORICAL CHURCH

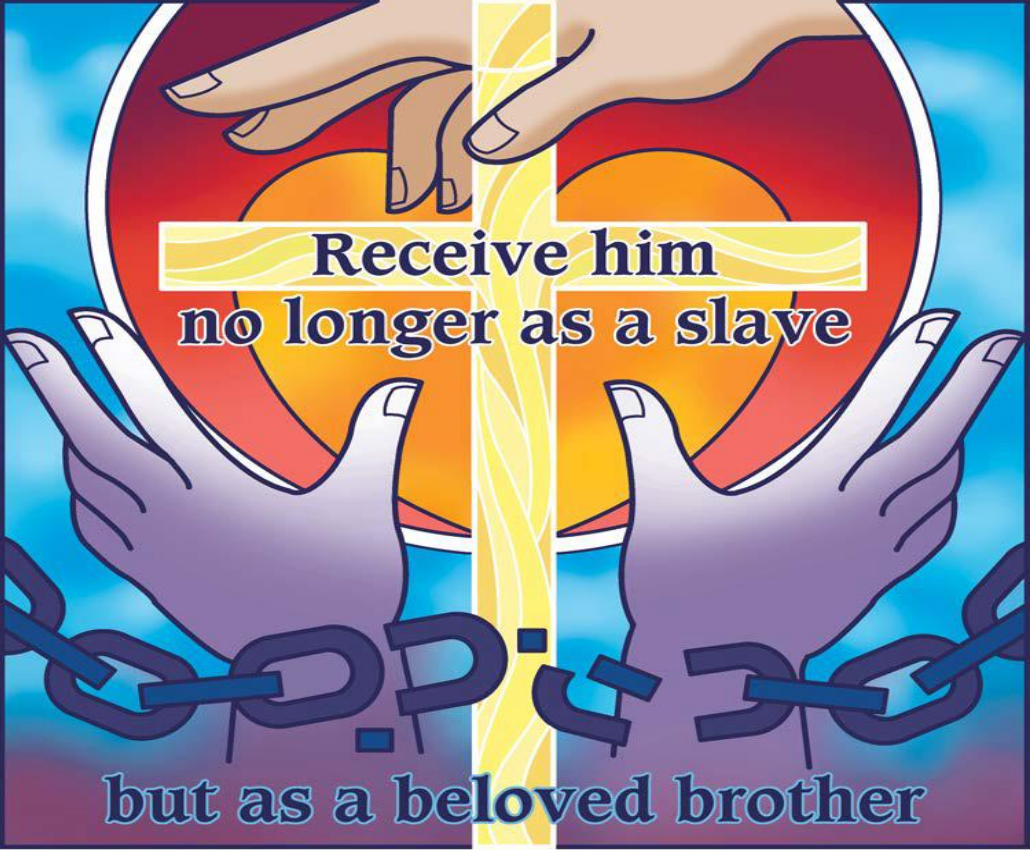


NEW CHURCH

**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**



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*Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*September 7, 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: 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.



September Birthdays

Simatar Cortez 08  
Layleigh Carveiro 10  
Janet Clarion-Cortez 10  
Soledad Melchor 10  
Cyane Snay 10  
Malae Roberts 10  
Kailea Matthews 10  
Richard Gibbs 13



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



LITURGICAL CALENDAR

September 8 – The Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary. 7 AM Mass.

September 16, 17 & 18 – Our Lady of La Salette Triduum. Mass at 6:30 PM in the New Church. No 7AM Mass.

September 19 – Feast of Our Lady of La Salette. Mass at 6:30PM, in the New Church. Followed by a potluck in the Parish Hall.

September 18, 19 & 20 – St. Raphael Triduum. Mass at 6:30PM in the New Church. No 7AM Mass.

September 21 – Parish Celebration of St. Raphael at 5:30PM in the courtyard. Potluck dinner.

September 20/21 – Second Collection for the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette.

September 27 – No morning Saturday mass.

September 29 – St. Raphael Mass at 6:30 PM in the Old No 7 AM Mass.

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

At the conclusion of today’s Gospel, we hear Jesus tell a “great crowd” that “...anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.” A few of Jesus’ immediate disciples, such as Peter, John and James, did just that: They responded to Jesus’ call, renouncing everything to follow him. How do modern disciples of Jesus respond when confronted with this apparently harsh command of Jesus? Surely the renunciation of possessions need not mean literally giving all one’s possessions away, does it? Questions we might ponder this week though: Do our possessions keep us from encountering Christ at Mass? Do they distract us from our parish family? Do our possessions interfere with our relationships? Do they make us insensitive to those less fortunate?



Stewards of Treasure  
Weekly Collections August 31, 2025

Collection	\$	3,379.60
Votive Candles	\$	354.00
Mass Intentions	\$	110.00
Food Pantry	\$	10.00
Gift Shop	\$	631.00
Online Church Offering	\$	1,277.10

MAHALO FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT



\*We have a Second Collection this weekend for the Catholic University of America. Please make your check payable to St. Raphael Church. Thank you.

\*We are looking for volunteers to work after weekend mass. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested.

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



Please register online/website or drop off your registration at the Parish Office.



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

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading

Wisdom 9:13-18b  
Knowledge alone has limits. We also need wisdom to understand the ways of God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 90:3-4,5-6,12-13,14-17  
God's power has no boundaries; it is not limited by space and time.

Second Reading

Philemon 9-10, 12-17  
Paul encourages one of his converts to consider his former slave a brother in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading

Luke 14:25-33  
Jesus teaches about the demands of discipleship.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In chapter 14 of Luke's Gospel, Jesus is speaking to people gathered at the table about the difficulties of following him. This group of people is suspicious about Jesus, looking to catch him doing something wrong. Jesus speaks to them in parables, emphasizing that although there is a right way to be a disciple and enter into the kingdom of his Father, it is a difficult path to follow. Many, even some of the guests at the table, reject the invitation. So Jesus turns to the crowds and speaks to them of discipleship. Jesus explains that, when it comes to making a choice for the Kingdom of God, nothing can get in the way. When Jesus describes “hating” one’s father and mother, he is not talking about feelings. Rather, he is emphasizing very strongly that choosing to be a disciple means that everything else—family, money, your own life—must come second. In Matthew's version of this story (Matthew 10:37), Jesus refers not to “hating” father or mother, but to *loving them more* than Jesus. Jesus makes it very clear that being a disciple is not easy. It means to bear one's own cross. These difficult sayings of Jesus are followed by two brief parables (a person constructing a tower and a king marching into battle) that make an obvious point—don't start what you cannot finish. Discipleship is difficult and is something we can commit to only if we are prepared to put the Kingdom of God before everything else.

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

