



Come pray the Rosary.  
Weekdays Monday thru Friday  
Morning Mass at 7:00am,  
Rosary following.  
Saturdays before Mass at 4:30pm  
Sunday at 8:00am



### March Mass Intentions

Mariamamma Muthoottil—3/09  
Abel & Irene Gouveia—3/11  
Brian Silva—3/14  
Chauncey Kimokeo—3/19/2023  
Nathan Perreira—3/25  
Mike & Violet Pszyk—3/28  
Jeffrey Pszyk—3/29



**JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY AT 5:35PM FOR DIVINE MERCY PRAYER**



**ST. RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
655 HAIKU RD., HAIKU, HAWAII 96708  
**ST. GABRIEL MISSION**  
WAILUANUI, KEANAE



### Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 26, 2023  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)**  
Ezekiel 37:12-14 / Romans 8:8-11  
John 11:1-45 or John 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45



### Called from the Pits

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**hen I feel sorry for myself or just down in the dumps, when I feel buried by life not going the way I think it should, sometimes I remember to stop thinking about myself and my problems, and I say to myself, *I need to go care about someone else.* It seems that doing so pulls me out of that tomb of darkness and back into the light. Then I ask myself, *Why didn't I do that sooner?* The truth is, I didn't remember. But the very fact that I eventually do remember is the spirit of God dwelling within me that pulls me back into life, just as Paul once wrote (Romans 8:9 and the verses afterward). It's like hearing a voice calling me out of a dreary tomb of death, just as sure as Lazarus heard Jesus calling him out.

Have you experienced times when your spirit feels dead than dead, but then someone or something calls

you back into life? I have. When that happens to us, I think we've been blessed with a hint of the resurrection. When I find myself wondering if there is really life beyond death, if resurrection really does happen to us, then I think about all the times that what I thought was a death turned out to be some unexpected doorway to new life. If that happens with such little deaths along the way, wouldn't it also happen on our last day on this earth? ●

#### Reflect

**Have you ever experienced something that seemed terrible at the time that turned out to be a blessing in disguise?**

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK BROTHERS & SISTERS

James Gonzalez-Wesley  
Rosemary Robbins  
Debbie Faborito  
Joan Opitz  
Rachel Cravalho  
Mark Potter  
Robert Robello  
Melissa Prince  
Stanley Lee  
Monica Revells  
Winona Martinez  
Clarita Pimentel  
Helen Estrella  
Stephen Groff

#### EASTER FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF:

Hans and Elvi Riecke  
Grace and Howard Petith  
Stan U & Betty Zbiciak  
Benjamin Castillon Sr.  
Nancy & Mark Seognamillo  
Annette, Daria & Jan Young  
Julian & Rose Namahoe  
Dionicio & Adresina Olaitiman  
Rose & James Visalli

Harold Yap, Sr.  
Bill & Valerie Heckman  
Dayna Mae Domingo  
Stephen Cabral  
Reverend Patrick Freitas  
Alfred & Clara Kaluau  
Hal Siva  
Kanani Pichay  
Nathan Perreira

*Eternal rest grant upon them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*



### PRO LIFE CORNER

"God, our Father, you always bear the cry of the poor. How many times have Christians themselves not recognized you in the hungry, the thirsty and the naked, in the persecuted, the imprisoned, and in those incapable of defending themselves, especially in the first stages of life. For all those who have committed acts of injustice by trusting in wealth and power and showing contempt for the 'little ones' who are so dear to you, we ask your forgiveness: have mercy on us and accept our repentance. We ask this through Christ our Lord."  
St. John Paul II

**Do you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential non-judgmental help is available. Call Project Rachel's national toll-free number: 888-456-HOPE (4673) www.hopeafterabortion.com**



KCIK 740 AM or online @ RELEVANTRADIO.COM

#### Stewardship of Time

*Needed in various Ministries:*  
**Thrift Store**—Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday  
**Collection Counters** - Sunday 1 hour after mass  
**Liturgical Tech**—Saturday or Sunday Mass (1 Hour)  
**Church Cleaners**—Weekly



**~OFFICE~**  
655 Haiku Road Phone: 575-2601  
Haiku, HI 96708  
**St. Rita's Website:** <http://stritahaiku.com/>  
**Text App to 88202 to download our Parish App**  
**~STAFF~**  
**Pastor**  
**Rev. Chacko Muthoottil**  
Email: stritahaiku@gmail.com  
**Office Hours:**  
Mon, Wed & Fri 8:00am~1:00pm  
**Bookkeeper: Esther Yap**  
eyap@rcchawaii.org  
**RE Director: Rita Bauldry**  
ritabauldry@yahoo.com  
**~MASS SCHEDULE~**  
**~ST. RITA~**  
Saturday: 5:00 p.m. ~ Vigil  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m.  
**WEEKDAY MASSES:**  
7:00 a.m. ~ Tuesday ~ Friday  
**~ST. GABRIEL~**  
1st & 3rd Sundays: 11:00 a.m.  
**~RECONCILIATION~**  
ST. RITA~ Saturday: 3:30 ~ 4:00 p.m.  
ST. GABRIEL~ Before Sunday Mass  
**~ANOINTING OF THE SICK~**  
Please contact the Office  
**~BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS~**  
Please contact the Office  
**~MINISTRIES~**  
**MINISTRY OF SONG: CHOIR**  
Wayne Freitas & Rita Bauldry  
Tuesday ~ 6:00 p.m.  
**PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD**  
**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**  
**COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND**  
**COMMUNION TO HOSPITAL**



"Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said....  
"Untie him and let him go."

JOHN 11:43-44

# LENT

A SEASON OF REFLECTION, RENEWAL, AND PREPARATION

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Every Friday at 6:00 p.m. Using various formats/versions of this popular Lenten devotion, we revisit the “heart-journey” of Jesus and ultimately that of the Christian – the one who follows in his steps and with his heart. Divine Mercy Prayer will begin at 5:30 p.m.

**DAILY LENTEN MASS:** The daily scripture of the Lenten weekday Masses has its own inner rhythm and power to move us to “newness of heart.” A RETREAT spread over the 40 days of Lent. For retirees, and all a possibility! Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday @ 7:00 a.m.

**LENTEN RETREAT:** Tuesday, March 28 & Wednesday, March 29 at 6-7 p.m. with Fr. Ace Tui.

**PARISH LENTEN RECONCILIATION:** The Parish Lenten Communal Celebration of the Sacrament of Penance is scheduled for Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> 6 p.m. Priests serving in the neighboring parishes join us and will be available as confessors.

## EASTER TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday → Good Friday → Holy Saturday → Easter Sunday

### SCHEDULE 2023

**HOLY THURSDAY MASS OF THE LORD’S SUPPER, April 6th 6:00 PM**

Collection: Lenten ‘Sacrificial’ Gift for the Needy Operation Rice Bowl)  
Washing of the Feet  
\*Adoration – After Mass until 8:00 pm

**GOOD FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD, April 7<sup>th</sup>**

Day of PASCHAL FAST & ABSTINENCE  
3:00 PM— Stations of the Cross followed by The Divine Mercy  
6:00 PM—Solemn Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion and Death  
Veneration of the Cross & Communion  
Collection: Shrines of the HOLY LAND

**EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT, April 8<sup>th</sup>**  
7:00 PM Solemn Easter Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord

**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD, April 9<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30 AM—Mass @ St. Rita Church  
11:00 AM— Mass @ St. Gabriel Church

# Dear Padre

March 26, 2023

## Are Catholic religious orders dying?

Yes...and no.

In Africa and Asia, some religious orders are vibrant, with orders of men and women religious increasing in number. In the United States, Europe, and Oceania, it’s a different story. As many as 300 of the 420 institutes of women religious in the US are in their final decades of existence (*Leadership Conference of Women Religious*, 2019). One-third of all women’s congregations in the US have fewer than fifty members. In the US, sisters over age ninety far outnumber those under sixty. Consequently, many communities fall short of the number of active ministers needed to replace their elderly and retiring members. The story is similar for many orders of religious men.

As those in religious orders struggle to remain effective in their mission and ministry for God and humanity, they are reimagining styles of leadership, levels of administration, and, in short, ways of getting the job done. This includes, for example, creative partnerships with laypeople to share in the charism, community life, and ministry of the religious order.

People are still drawn to Jesus and the work of building the kingdom. Only God knows how this “building process” will look in the future. As in all challenging times, the Church remains hopeful. From crisis comes resurrection! ●

— Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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### PARISH LENTEN RETREAT

**TUESDAY, MARCH 28TH  
WEDNESDAY MARCH 29TH  
6:00-7:00PM  
FR. ACE TUI**

Lent is a special time, in preparation of the Resurrection Of The Lord,, in which we are invited to nurture our relationship with God and deepen our appreciation for God’s enormous and unconditional love for us.  
All Are welcome!

## St. Rita’s Church Stewardship Corner

Many of us say that we believe in God. We attend Sunday Mass and participate in parish events. But when life gets hard and the pressure is on, when things aren’t going our way, do we really believe? Do we really put our trust in the Lord? When we live a life of gratitude, recognizing all that we have been given, we really live **Stewardship** by seeing that God is providing for our needs. Living a grateful and generous life allows us to see God’s active presence in our daily lives and we become “partakers of the divine nature.”



St. Rita	INCOME March 19, 2023	St. Gabriel
\$2,829.00	Collections	303.00
\$125.00	On-line Giving	
\$405.25	Thrift Store	
\$20.00	Repairs & Maintenance	160.00
\$100.00	Shepherd’s Care	32.00
\$80.00	Easter Flowers	
\$42.00	Candles	
\$582.00	Catholic Relief Services	
100.00	Baptism	
40.00	Mass Intention	25.00
<b>\$4,323.25</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$520.00</b>



This week’s second collection is for:  
**Repairs and Maintenance**

Next week’s second collection is for:  
**Shepherd’s Care**

### WE NEED PALMS FOR PALM SUNDAY

Please cut and clean palms. Put it in a bucket with water and drop off at the church Friday, March 31st. Please call the church office 808-575-2601 any questions.



**SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST  
8:30AM—NOON  
CHURCH AND RECTORY  
BRING CLEANING SUPPLIES  
AND BUCKETS  
LUNCH PROVIDED**

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!

### St. Rita’s Thrift Store

The Thrift Store is now accepting donations during store hours only.  
Tuesday’s from 8am-12pm or on Sunday from 9:45 to 12pm.

**Mahalo for your support!**



### THE POWER OF SACRIFICE

Lent can feel like a long time. Sometimes we’d like to skip right to Easter! But through prayer and sacrifices, we share in Christ’s suffering and prepare for the joy of his resurrection. This Lent, we’ve learned how people in Honduras, the Philippines and Kenya made sacrifices so their families and communities can thrive. How have your Lenten sacrifices helped your family and community and communities around the world?

### FAITH FORMATION CORNER

**March & April CLASSES**

(Subject to Change)

**Mar 26—Class (Group 2 Only)  
April 2—Class All  
April 9—Easter Sunday—Attend Mass  
April 16—Class All  
April 23—Class (Group 2 only)  
April 30—Class All**



We are required by the Diocese to have 26 classes throughout the school year. Students are allowed to miss only 3 classes during the year. Some of our classes will include service projects.

**If you have any questions pertaining to classes call the Parish Office @ (808)-575-2601 and leave a message. Rita will get back with you.**