

Catholic Community of Malia Puka O Kalani

326 Desha Ave

PO Box 222

Hilo, HI 96721

Telephone: 808-935-9338

Email: maliapastor@gmail.com

Mass Schedule

Sat. 5:15 pm

Sun. 9:00 am

No Weekday Masses from

Nov. 29—Jan 6

November 24-25, 2013



MISSION STATEMENT

“Malia Puka O Kalani is a Roman Catholic parish on Hawaiian Home Lands in Keaukaha, Hawaii dedicated to building a church community filled with the Holy Spirit, guided by God’s Word, and enriched by the Hawaiian culture”

Pastor:

Fr. Joe Hennen

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Robert Stark, SSS

Baptisms:

Patty Grube

747-6273

Building Maintenance:

Moke Moses 937-9783

Business Manager:

David Watson 935-1465

Finance: Jeannette Lesko

778-8058

Liturgy: Joe Farias 982-5919

Faith Formation: Billie Baclig

315-9844

Social Awareness:

Richard MacKenzie 896-0390

Roberta Gacutan 339-1295

Homebound Ministry “Malia

Visitor”: Hale Pekelo 968-1382

Facility Use: Laverne Costa 959-9219

Pastoral Council & Bulletin:

Kehau Kuewa 258-0041

jkkuewa@gmail.com

WEBSITE:

www.maliapukaokalani.com

A TIME FOR THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving Day is a secular holiday with an annual Thanksgiving Proclamation from the President of the United States. Yet, as the name signifies, it is a deeply spiritual event. When people are grateful, when we realize that just about everything we have is a gift, we then RESPECT that gift. We are created by our God to live in harmony. First of all we are created to live harmony with nature, the gift of our environment. When we are grateful for the splendor of the ocean, the rivers, the waterfalls, the mountains and the canyons, the colorful flowers and the unique trees that are part of our everyday life in Hawaii, we take special care to respect our treasured gifts. It is only when we are so self-centered and believe that everything is here to serve us, that we abuse and ruin our precious environment. Sadly, we have witnessed this too often in our contemporary society. Recycling, limiting our use of plastic bags, not littering is an act of thanksgiving!

We are also made to live in harmony with each other, to see each other as a precious gift from God. Each gift is different. We are a grateful people when we celebrate our uniqueness, our differences. Sometimes we can become so self-centered that we see our brothers and sisters only through the prism of ourself. If the other is not like me or doesn't think or act like me, he/she is a cheaper gift than me! A truly grateful person is one who celebrates the differences and sees in each other the precious and unique gift of God and treats the other accordingly. A person of Thanksgiving is a person of respect, understanding, and gentle kindness.

This brings us to the gift of Malia. I am acutely aware that this will be my last Thanksgiving at Malia. It is a time to express the deep gratitude in my heart for the gift of Malia. It is here that I have learned to appreciate the power of the Hawaiian history, customs, values, and people. Gone are the stereotypes exploited by the marketing agents who attempt to remake Hawaiians and Hawaiian customs in order to draw tourists. When the bishop first asked me to pastor Malia Puka O Kalani he stated, “Please let Malia be Hawaiian while, at the same time, being Catholic”. This goal is being accomplished, I believe. It is best expressed in our Mission Statement and our Pastoral Plan which is constantly being developed and updated. These are not empty and dead documents. Malia is a gift for which we are thankful. The preservation of this gift is an act of Thanksgiving and it is something in which each of us needs to take an interest and be involved. Quite obviously the Standing Committees, the Inculturation Team, and the Pastoral Council are at the center of preserving who we are and treasuring the gift. There are, however, many other levels of caring for the gift of Malia. The very act of being present, participating in our liturgies, supporting our fundraising, contributing time, talent, and resources to the ministries of Malia are acts of Thanksgiving. Today I single out one of our parishioners who has treasured the gift of Malia long before many of us, myself included, came here. Samantha Naipo-Arsiga with her husband, Bart, and their wonderful family were part of Malia through thick and thin. When we structured the parish, I asked Samantha to chair the Pastoral Council. Filled with trepidation, she said, “Yes”. Under her leadership, the Council was born, grew, and is thriving. Samantha needs to step down due to family obligations. She quietly preserved and treasured the gift of Malia. We are a THANKFUL people. *Fr. Joe*

THANKSGIVING MASS: Thanksgiving Day Mass will be celebrated on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 27, at 5:30PM. Please bring food or food gift certificates for distribution to those in need. These gifts, along with your own loaf of bread or bottle of wine, will be placed around the altar for blessing.

SOCIAL AWARENESS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: The Committee has decided not to do a Christmas giving tree. However, if you would like to provide a donation (monetary or gift certificate) for a family in the parish or in Keaukaha (need not be Catholic) that is in a time of need during this holiday season, please write your name and address on a paper and place it and your donation in a sealed envelope marked for "Fr. Joe". To protect confidentiality, Fr. Joe will be the only one to see these envelopes. He will send a card to the family/individuals with the donation and note saying "The people of Malia Puka O Kalani Church wish you and your ohana a Joy-Filled Christmas. May our common God bless and care for you". Your envelopes can be placed in the Koa Bowl anytime between now and the Sunday before Christmas. Mahalo. Richard

THE PASTORAL COUNCIL: Kehaulani (Kehau) Kuewa has graciously accepted the invitation to be Chairperson of the Parish Pastoral Council now that Samantha has stepped down. Kehau has been Secretary of the Pastoral Council since its inception and has been a key player in the editing and printing of the annual Pastoral Plan. We express our deep gratitude to Kehau for assuming this key responsibility. In addition to the Chair, the Pastor appoints the Secretary of the Pastoral Council. An invitation has been made to fill that position but, as of the printing of this Bulletin, no answer has yet been received. There are two at-large vacancies on the Pastoral Council. Norman Arancon has accepted the invitation to fill one of the three-year terms. We are grateful to Norman for accepting. There is still one opening on the Pastoral Council. The responsibilities of this position are basically to participate in four (possibly five) meetings per year to represent the varying interests of the Parish in the development of the Pastoral Plan. This position is incompatible with serving on any of the five Standing Committees. Anyone open to discussing your involvement please contact Fr. Joe or Kehau (phone numbers are on the front of the Bulletin).

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (CCHD): The Collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development provides funding for groups that make lasting change and uplift the poor in the United States. In the last 5 years, over 36% of the CCHD grants have gone to improving education, supporting economic development, and improving housing in low-income neighborhoods. Help us continue to defend human dignity and take poverty off the map. Give generously to the CCHD Collection. Envelopes can be found on the pews.

THE COMMUNITY GARDEN: Susie Tauzer started a community garden on the property of our Parish. The fresh vegetables are given to the Food Pantry and/or any person in need. Susie did a remarkable job in getting it off the ground but has decided not to continue. We express our gratitude to Susie and all who worked on this creative project. Our parishioner and member of the instrumentalists for our music, Norman Arancon, is a professor at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. He has offered to take on the garden as a project of his horticulture class. All fresh food will still go to the Food Pantry and/or any person in need. Norman will have Safe Environment Certification. If any person under 18 volunteers to work in the garden, that person will be under the direct, personal supervision of Norman. We are thrilled that the garden will continue under this creative partnership.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We have the opportunity to sell our cookbooks and shopping bags at various Christmas Fairs. We need volunteers to man the following booths:

1. *Ben Franklin Christmas Craft Fair*
Friday, November 29 1:00 PM to 9:00PM
Saturday, November 30 9:00AM to 3:00PM
2. *Pahoa Sacred Heart Church Christmas Fair*
Saturday, December 7 6:30AM till pau
3. *Papaikou Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Christmas Fair*
Saturday, December 7 9:00AM to 7:00PM
Sunday, December 8 7:00AM to 1:00PM
4. *Na Makua Christmas Festival*
December 6 and 7 (Volunteers already found for this event)

If you are able to help on any of these days and times, please call Laverne Costa at 959-9219. All help will be greatly appreciated.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: A reminder that Monday, November 25, is the last day for collection of shoe boxes. Please drop your packed boxes off at either Big Island Toyota or Hilo Missionary Church. Thank you for being a blessing to a needy child!

SWEETBREAD: Pick-up at the church this Wednesday, Nov. 27, between 9:00AM-11:00AM.

STEWARDSHIP	
<u>NOV. 16-17</u>	
KOA OFFERING BOWL:	\$1511.00
Food Pantry	\$30.00
Cook Book	\$658.00
Sweetbread	\$192.00
Building Fund	\$100.00
Other	\$37.16
TOTAL	\$2528.16