

Dear Padre,

If Jesus was a Jew, why are we Catholic and not Jewish?

Jesus was a first-century Jew, as were his first disciples. They continued their Jewish practices after Jesus' resurrection, but they believed and proclaimed that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah, the fulfillment of Judaism. Such claims inevitably led to clashes with Jewish authorities, as when St. Stephen, the first martyr, was charged with blasphemy and stoned to death in Jerusalem in the year 36 (Acts 6–7).

Nevertheless, Jesus' followers initially saw themselves as reformers of Judaism—not founders of a new religion. The Acts of the Apostles traces the first thirty years of this community of believers, from Jesus' ascension in Jerusalem to Paul's imprisonment in Rome. It details the beginnings of their separation from Judaism, as when the Jewish disciples wanted to impose certain practices of Mosaic Law on the Gentile disciples—circumcision, for example (Acts 15:11). Acts and the epistles also chronicle the expansion outside of Jerusalem to the Mediterranean region, where, for example, in Antioch, the disciples of Jesus were called Christians for the first time (Acts 11:26). The first written reference to "Catholic Church" is from St. Ignatius of Antioch around the year 107. Catholic means "universal." "The Church is catholic: she proclaims the fullness of the faith.... She is sent out to all peoples. She speaks to all men. She encompasses all times" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 868). ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 30	December 31	January 1	January 2	January 3	January 4	January 5
Octave of Christmas	Octave of Christmas	Mary, Holy Mother of God	Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church	Christmas Weekday	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious	Epiphany of the Lord
1 Jn 2:12–17	1 Jn 2:18–21	Nm 6:22–27	1 Jn 2:22–28	1 Jn 2:29–3:6	1 Jn 3:7–10	Is 60:1–6
Lk 2:36–40	Jn 1:1–18	Gal 4:4–7	1 Jn 1:19–28	Jn 1:29–34	Jn 1:35–42	Eph 3:2–3a, 5–6
		Lk 2:16–21				Mt 2:1–12



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Every day, families have to learn to listen and understand one another, to walk together, to face conflicts and difficulties.... And this too helps...talk within the family, talk at table, dialogue between parents and children, dialogue among siblings. It helps us experience our family roots that come from our grandparents. Dialogue with the grandparents!

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 26, 2021



ST. PETER PREACHING, BY MARQUINO / JORISKO / SHUTTERSTOCK

Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 29, 2024
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (C)
Sir 3:2–6, 12–14 or 1 Sm 1:20–22, 24–28 /
Col 3:12–21 or 3:12–17 or 1 Jn 3:1–2, 21–24 / Luke 2:41–52



Belonging to Two Families

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Adolescence can bring family life into an upheaval for both parents and adolescents alike. At its heart, adolescence is an urge for independence, a silent instinct to be part of the larger world. It is a calling sewn by God's Spirit into the very fabric of being human. At its best, family life can be the staging ground for that movement outward.

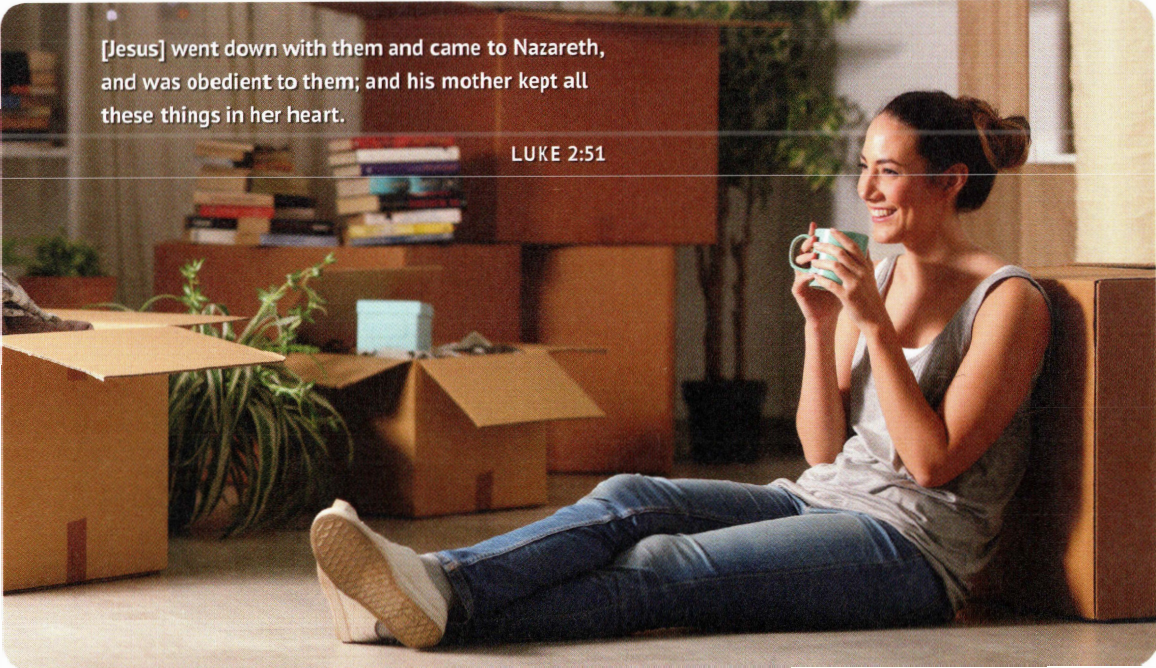
Hannah recognized this when she believed that her young son Samuel was chosen for a specific role in life. It moved her to bring Samuel to the temple to be raised there in growing service to the community. Ultimately Samuel became a charismatic leader of the Hebrew people who would anoint both Saul and David as king. That same calling seemed to take time

to unfold in the awareness of Joseph and Mary who wondered why Jesus stayed behind in the temple. "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" asked Jesus of them (Luke 2:49). All of us are meant to live more than a life of satisfaction for ourselves or even the fulfillment of our parents' dreams.

We may find ourselves asking a young person what they want to be when they grow up. A more valuable question might be what they think God wants them to be. While the Spirit of God does not usually ask us to be something contrary to our inclinations, the call of service to the needs of the human family is an added piece to the puzzle of what someone's life might look like. ●

Reflect

How has the call to serve God and God's people shown itself in your life?



[Jesus] went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart.

LUKE 2:51



Sacred Heart of Jesus & Mary at Waimea



St. Theresa Parish

Established January 21, 1941
P.O. Box 159, Kekaha, HI 96752



Vision / Mission Statement
*To make St. Theresa Parish
a dynamic Christian community of
worship & service*



St. Theresa School at Kekaha



Parish Directory



Clergy

Reverend Edwin D. Conselva, MS,
Pastor 808-337-1784
Deacon Ron Jones 907-978-4018
Deacon Jim Bostick, retired 808-337-1124

Parish Office

Mass Intentions / Hospital or Homebound
Communion / Weddings / Marriage
Convalidations / Baptisms / Funerals
Dee Young, Parish Secretary 808-337-1548
M-F, 8am-noon sttheresac@yahoo.com

PPC Raynette Newall

Worship / HI Catholic Herald articles
Chantal Duarte 808-634-0403

Bulletin / Website Betsy Jones 907-347-6618

Evangelization Commission

Director of Religious Education
Sr. Gloria Camitan, O.P. 808-337-1548

OCLIA Deacon Ron Jones 907-978-4018

Youth Coordinator
Rena Ulanday 808-635-2701

Social Services Commission

Respect Life call parish office 808-337-1548
Agency on Elderly Affairs 808-241-4470

St. Theresa School

Principal David Verdugo 808-337-1351
M-F, 7:30am-3:00pm sttheresakauai.com

The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary, and Joseph
December 29, 2024

**See what love the Father has
given us, that we should be
called children of God;
and so we are.** 1 John 3:1

*During this season of giving,
let us remember a beautiful
gift that we have received –
being children of God!
As God's children, it's in our
DNA that we share and
express our love for others.*

*Tell your spouse, children,
other family members and
friends that you love them,
every day! Also, pray for
those people that are
different than you,
those that you may not like or
those that go out of their way
to annoy you.*

*Your prayers may be the start
of a new friendship.*

~ Archdiocese of St. Louis



St. Theresa Church – Kekaha

Sat 5pm Vigil Mass
Sun 7:45am Rosary, 8:30am Mass
Weekdays 6:30am Mon-Thu,
8:10am Fri (all are
welcome to attend the
School Mass each Friday)

Wed 6pm Rosary to Our Lady of
Fatima & Novena to OLPH
resumes Wed, Jan 8, 2025
First Friday Holy Hour 1/3/25 6-
7pm with Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament & Benediction



Sacred Heart of Jesus & Mary Church – Waimea

Sun 7am Mass
First Saturday Devotion to the
BVM 1/4/25 8-9am

Confessions

Saturdays at 4:30pm or call the
parish office to schedule an appt.

View the bulletin in color at
kekahacatholic.com

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

† Mahalo for being as generous
as your means allow. †

Sunday Offerings

Kekaha \$ 1,274
Waimea \$ 946

Other Donations

Candles \$ 40
Christmas 80
Cross We Share 200
(GOAL MET! Campaign ends 12/31)
Donation 1,000
Immaculate Conception 10
Maintenance Fund 137
Mass Intentions 220
Misa de Gallo 1,410
~ candles 1,618
Missalettes 46
Peter's Pence 2
Retirement Fund for Religious 30

God bless you!

Offertory envelopes for 2025 are
available at the rear of the church.

Kalua Pork Fundraiser

SALES including donations \$8,611.28
EXPENSES 2,185.52
PROFIT **\$6,425.76**

Mahalo for your support!

Happy New Year!

Parish office is closed
Dec 31 and Jan 1.

SCHOOL NEWS

Jan 7 Classes resume
Jan 26 Family Mass at 8:30am
Jan 26 - Feb 1 Catholic Schools Week
Jan 31 No School

Begin 2025 with Mass!

Wed, Jan 1 at 9am at St. Theresa Church
(The **Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God** is
not a Holy Day of Obligation in the Diocese of Honolulu.)

Help Wanted

**KIAWE CHICKEN
FUNDRAISER MEETING**

- 6pm Thu, Jan 2 in the parish hall - Many hands
are needed for a successful February event!



CELEBRATE FATHER EDWIN'S 10th ANNIVERSARY!



6pm Sat, Jan 4 on St. Theresa School grounds
Dinner provided. Please bring a pupu or dessert to share.
Contact Lisa Johnston with questions at 808-652-7984.

Adult Religious Education

Six-week study of saints begins **Mon, Jan 6 at 6pm** at
Deacon Ron & Betsy's home, 4526B Alae Rd, Kekaha.
Gather with us for enlightening videos & discussions.
All are welcome.

Our first evening highlights **Saint Andre Bessette.**

MINISTRY NEWS

K-12 Religious Education Classes meet Thursdays at 6:30pm.

Youth Ministry Grades 6-12 meet in the parish hall following
8:30am Mass on the 1st and 3rd Sundays.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) Classes are held
in the parish hall at 6pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays.
Revised schedule in January: **classes on 8th & 22nd only.**

Choir practice Thursdays at 4:30pm at STC. All are welcome.

**** Lectors at STC ****

Wed, Jan 1 at 9am Jonathan & Adele

Sat, Jan 4 at 5pm Charlene & Dimna

Sun, Jan 5 at 8:30am Youth