

# Dear Padre,

*I have gay/homosexual friends and coworkers. How do I respond appropriately when they announce they got married or are engaged, as we Catholics do not believe in same-sex marriage?*

Context and perspective are always useful and necessary. It is also important to remember that your beliefs can often conflict with another person's belief system. It does not change the truth of what you believe, but it can be sobering. When you offer someone congratulations, it does not mean you are giving your approval or acceptance. It just means you are engaging in respectful social protocol. Let's assume that most people are mature enough to understand the difference between acceptance and protocol. Confusion arises when some people insist that you cannot be "both/and," as they reduce everything to "either/or." With this kind of perspective, life is a battle to be fought rather than an opportunity to live a life of graciousness and thanksgiving that invites us to celebrate. Be respectful. Be gentle. Be loving. Be compassionate. Each of those virtues speak much louder than judgment, rigidity, and a posture that proclaims, "I am better than you." ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, 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*.



### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*We have heard what Jesus told his disciples before leaving this world.... He told us what it means to be a Christian: "Even as I have loved you, so you must love one another" (Jn 13:34). This is the legacy that Christ bequeathed to us, the ultimate criterion for discerning whether or not we are truly his disciples.*

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 15, 2022



#### Monday

May 19  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 14:5–18  
Jn 14:21–26

#### Tuesday

May 20  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 14:19–28  
Jn 14:27–31a

#### Wednesday

May 21  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 15:1–6  
Jn 15:1–8

#### Thursday

May 22  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 15:7–21  
Jn 15:9–11

#### Friday

May 23  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 15:22–31  
Jn 15:12–17

#### Saturday

May 24  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 16:1–10  
Jn 15:18–21

#### Sunday

May 25  
Sixth Sunday of Easter  
Acts 15:1–2, 22–29  
Rv 21:10–14, 22–23  
Jn 14:23–29

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

May 18, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Easter (C)

Acts 14:21–27 / Revelation 21:1–5a / John 13:31–33a, 34–35



## The Other Side of Love

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**e have an instinct to love; this is something woven into the foundation of human life. It's also a godly instinct, for anything embedded into the human spirit with such intensity must surely be of God. In fact, it is how God is creating a new heaven and a new earth, thereby making all things new as is written in the Book of Revelation. So intense is that inclination to love, we read in the first letter of John that God is love.

While our culture tends to romanticize love, the reality is that, all too often, if we are seriously committed to loving someone, it can also be a lonely effort. Love is not always romantic or satisfying. At times, it can be demanding and even harsh. One day, when I was meeting with an engaged couple in preparation for their marriage, I asked them, as I often do, for their definition of love. Usually, couples are tongue-tied when I ask that question. They know they're in love, and, to them, that seems to be enough. This time, however, the young groom-to-be did not hesitate. He said that love is caring for someone even when they are unlovable—an insightful definition, for it is precisely during such times that we need someone's love. It is the weakest moments of life that are in need of rebuilding, the loneliest moments of life that are in need of someone reaching out a hand, and the darkest moments of life that are in need of light. When that happens, creation is made new. ●

### Reflect

*What is my definition of love?  
How do I live it?*



[Jesus said,] "This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

JOHN 13:35



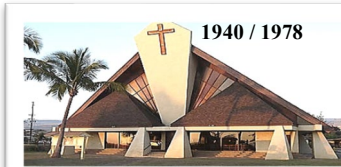


Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary at Waimea



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



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Mahalo for being as generous as your
means allow. God bless you!

Sunday Offerings

Kekaha \$ 1,718
Waimea 1,220

Other Donations

Candles \$ 25.06
Cross We Share 2,390.00
Dio. Priests' Retirement 1,738.00
Donation 340.35
Earthquake Survivors 435.00
Funerals 300.00
Maintenance Fund 22.00
St. Theresa Choir 50.00



JUBILEE 2025
iubilaeum2025.va/en.html

Let us pray for Pope Leo XIV.

FATHER EDWIN'S 60th BIRTHDAY

Join the celebration in the Parish Hall after the
8:30am Mass on Sunday, May 18th.

Patriotic Rosary at 6pm May
26th at St. Theresa Church.
Pray for the consecration of
our nation.



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 parish 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

O CIA 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

808-337-1351 sttheresakauai.com
M-F, 7:30am-3:00pm
HCH school articles

5th Sunday of Easter

May 18, 2025

I give you a new
commandment: love one
another. As I have loved you
so you also should love one
another. John 13:34

"As I have loved you,"
this is the hard part - Jesus's
love is unconditional;
our love usually comes with
strings attached. It is easy to
love someone when they love
you back. But it takes mercy
and compassion to love
someone when you feel
unappreciated, feel used or
feel like your opinion doesn't
matter. It takes courage and
the grace of God to "love my
neighbor" when they may be
someone you don't like,
someone you don't know,
or someone that doesn't look
like you.

~ 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

First Friday Holy Hour 6-7pm
with Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament & Benediction



Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary
Church - Waimea

Sun 7am Mass

First Saturday Devotion to the
BVM 8-9am

Confessions

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

View the bulletin in color at
kekahacatholic.com

SPECIAL collection by Bishop Larry for
MYANMAR & THAILAND earthquake
survivors. Kindly designate your
offering & place in collection basket.

Congratulations 2025 graduates!

May you enjoy a bright
and blessed future!

SCHOOL CARNIVAL RESULTS

Gross Profit \$145,337.20
Total Expense \$32,399.78
Net Income \$112,937.42

Thank you to our parishes for your
incredible support of our school
carnival. You shared your time,
talent, and treasure..... and you
made a huge difference!

Special thanks to the Holy Cross Altar
Society sweet bread experts and the
St. Theresa Filipino Catholic Club
for their contributions.



6pm Mondays at 4526B Alae Rd, Kekaha
Join us! All are welcome!

~ Led by Deacon Ron ~
Develop a fuller understanding of God's
word as we focus on the following
weekend's Mass readings.
\* No study on May 26th due to
Patriotic Rosary \*

Bishop Larry's 50th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination
Sunday, June 29, 2025

9:30am Mass at Immaculate Conception Church
Noon Reception Luncheon at Smith's Tropical Gardens
Reception tickets (\$60) are available in the church office.

MINISTRY NEWS

K-12 Religious Education Classes meet Thursdays at 6:30pm.
Final class May 22nd; Retreat May 24th; Confirmation and
First Holy Communion Jun 1st.

Youth Ministry for grades 6-12 will resume in the fall.

O CIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) Contact Deacon
Ron at 907-978-4018 to learn more.

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

OFFICE CLOSED May 26th in observance of Memorial Day.