

Dear Padre,

At a recent gathering, a relative questioned my family's continued participation in the Catholic Church because of the sexual abuse cover-up. What is the best way to address this question?

Resist the temptation to argue or make any response that is not respectful. Choose to respond with empathy and understanding; perhaps something like this: "I understand and respect your feelings. Some have made the difficult choice to leave the Church. Others find the choice to remain also difficult.

"As a mature and discerning person, I am not making excuses for behaviors that are inexcusable. I cannot and will not defend behavior that should not be defended. I choose to remain in the Church because I choose to remain in a relationship with Jesus, and that relationship includes my reception of the sacraments of the Church. I value the sacraments even as I remain vigilant about the conduct of those who have been entrusted with celebrating those sacraments. I retain my practice of the sacraments and, at the same time, I retain my responsibility to be alert to abusive behavior. This is not acceptance or approval of what most certainly happened. It is continuing to participate in what is beautiful and wise and true so that, in the company of other believers, I may become more like Christ."

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*.



JOHN MC ERLBY

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

I would like that our first great desire be for a united Church, a sign of unity and communion, which becomes a leaven for a reconciled world. [We see] too much discord, too many wounds caused by hatred, violence, prejudice, the fear of difference, and an economic paradigm that exploits the Earth's resources and marginalizes the poorest.

**HOMILY, ROME,
MAY 18, 2025**



JULIA-M-CAMERON / PEXELS

Monday

September 22
Weekday
Ezr 1:1-6
Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday

September 23
St. Pius of
Pietrelcina, Priest
Ezr 6:7-8, 12b,
14-20
Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday

September 24
Weekday
Ezr 9:5-9
Lk 9:1-6

Thursday

September 25
Weekday
Hg 1:1-8
Lk 9:7-9

Friday

September 26
Weekday
Hg 2:1-9
Lk 9:18-22

Saturday

September 27
St. Vincent de Paul,
Priest
Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a
Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday

September 28
Twenty-sixth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Am 6:1a, 4-7
1 Tm 6:11-16
Lk 16:19-31

Our Parish COMMUNITY

September 21, 2025

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Amos 8:4-7 / 1 Timothy 2:1-8 / Luke 16:1-13 or 16:10-13



Wanting to Be Wanted

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

More than anything, we want to be wanted.

As infants, we reach out, wanting to be wanted. When we begin school and discover others who might be friends, we want to be wanted. As teenagers discovering the stirrings of something new and deep, we want to be wanted. And when we grow old, then still we want to be wanted.

The parables Jesus told were always about how God moves in our lives, how God is powerfully intertwined in all that is. Jesus told parables to give us a hint of where to find God. This Sunday's parable is about a rich man with a steward about to be dismissed. The steward then finds ways to ingratiate himself into others' lives so when he is dismissed, he won't be left

out in the cold. It's not the rich man who is the God-person in the parable. The rich got rich by abusing the poor. Rather, it is the steward who is the image of God—a God who, like the steward, is desperate to be accepted, to find a way into our lives. We might say clever...or even sneaky. It is God who finds a way into our lives when we are afraid, when we face the loss of love, when our worlds are falling apart, when we go looking for him. There, then, is God, eagerly wanting to be wanted.●

Reflect

**What do I do when I'm feeling unwanted?
Do I recognize that God wants me?**



No servant can serve two masters....
You cannot serve God and mammon.

LUKE 16:13



Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary at Waimea

PRAISE THE LORD WHO LIFTS UP THE POOR

St. Theresa Parish

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



St. Theresa School at Kekaha

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

Whoever can be
trusted with very
little can also be
trusted with
much

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
OCIA Deacon Ron Jones 907-978-4018
Youth Coordinators
Blu & 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

Wendy Souza, Principal
808-337-1351 sttheresakauai.com
Office hours M-F, 7:30am-3pm
HCH school articles

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 21, 2025

No servant can serve two
masters. He will hate one
and love the other, or be
devoted to one and despise
the other. You cannot serve
God and mammon (wealth).

Luke 16:13

Jesus knows that for many of
us, God and money run
“neck and neck” as top
priority. Is money a “god”
that you put before God?

Giving money to support the
Church and other charities is
a pillar of our faith, just like
attending Mass every Sunday
and participating in parish
ministry.

Giving money frees us from
becoming a slave to money.
It increases our dependence
on God and our trust that
God will provide all that we
need.

~Archdiocese of St. Louis



St. Theresa Church – Kekaha

Sat 5pm Vigil Mass
Sun 7:45am Rosary,
8:30am Mass
Mon-Thu 6:30am Mass,
Fri 8:10am School Mass
Weekday Masses subject to change.

Wed 6pm Rosary to Our Lady
of Fatima & Novena to
OLPH

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

Confessions 4:30pm Saturday
(or call the parish office for
appt.)



Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Church – Waimea

Sun 7am Mass
First Saturday Devotion to
the BVM 8-9am

View the bulletin online:
kekahacatholic.com

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

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

Sunday Offerings

Kekaha \$ 1,632
Waimea 824

Other Donations

Candles \$ 65.00
Catholic Univ of America 32.00
Cross We Share 1,070.00
Funerals 300.00
Maintenance Fund 65.00
Mass Intentions 120.00
MC Rebate 12.08
Religious Education 20.00
Youth 20.00

Catechetical Sunday
September 21, 2025



“Always be ready to give an explanation...
for a reason for your hope.” 1 Peter 3:15

Second
collection
NEXT
weekend
for
La Salette
Seminarians.

St. Therese 9-day Novena

Daily Rosary prayed Sep 22 to Sep 30.
Rosary will be prayed before weekend Masses,
and at 6pm all other days at STC.
The feast day of our patron saint,
St. Therese of Lisieux, is Oct 1.

Without priests,
there is
no Eucharist.
Without the
Eucharist,
there is
no Church!

~ PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY is SEP 28th ~

Join us for a POTEUCK after the
8:30am Mass in the Parish Hall
as we celebrate our past & present
priests, especially Father Edwin.

Four-week
Eternal Rest
study begins
Nov 3 at STC.
Contact Betsy at
907.347.6618
so materials can
be ordered.

MINISTRY NEWS

Religious Education classes resume Thu, Sep 25 at 6:30pm at St. Theresa School. Registration
forms can be found at the Usher’s table at St. Theresa Church.

Youth Ministry for grades 6-12 meets every 1st & 3rd Sunday after the 8:30am Mass at the Parish
Hall.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) Do you someone who is interested in becoming
Catholic, or do you want to learn more about your faith? Next class is Thu, Oct 2 from 6-7:30pm at
St. Theresa Church. To register, contact Deacon Ron at 907.978.4018.

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

ST. THERESA SCHOOL NEWS

Oct 3 Teacher Workday – No School
Oct 4 – 12 Washington DC Experience Travel
Oct 6 – 10 Fall Break – No School

BIBLE STUDY

Sep 22 from 6 to 7:30pm at
Dcn Ron’s, 4526B Alae Rd.
Final study this year!