

Dear Padre,

I recently lost my husband of sixty years. I prayed for him through his four-year illness. Since he has died, I cannot pray. Any advice for me?

My heartfelt condolences on your profound loss. When someone we love dies, a part of us dies too. Sometimes, the trauma is so severe that it can even affect our relationship with God.

Psychiatrist Elisabeth Kübler-Ross identified five stages of grief. In the denial stage, some people can't accept the reality of the death. It becomes too much to handle. In the anger stage, some may question their belief in God—especially if their prayer requests (such as, "Please God, if you heal my loved one, I will...") weren't successful in the bargaining stage. People in the depression stage feel overwhelmed by the reality of the loss and may not always feel like connecting with others—even with God in prayer. However, in the acceptance stage, emotions stabilize, and a person comes to terms with their new reality. Nothing makes up for the absence of a loved one, but people manage to cope and live on.

It's because you loved so deeply that the loss feels so deep. God accepts you completely; God understands how you feel. He wants you to be at peace and live life fully. Our compassionate God yearns to help console you and offer assistance in your healing process until you can embrace him again in prayer. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Let us resolve to bring [God's] love everywhere, never forgetting that each of our sisters and brothers is a dwelling place of God and that his presence is manifested above all in the little ones, in the poor and the suffering, who ask us to be thoughtful and compassionate Christians.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 25, 2025



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Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Monday

January 5
St. John Neumann,
Bishop
1 Jn 3:22–4:6
Mt 4:12–17, 23–25

Tuesday

January 6
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:7–10
Mk 6:34–44

Wednesday

January 7
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:11–18
Mk 6:45–52

Thursday

January 8
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:19–5:4
Lk 4:14–22a

Friday

January 9
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:5–13
Lk 5:12–16

Saturday

January 10
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:14–21
Jn 3:22–30

Sunday

January 11
The Baptism
of the Lord
Is 42:1–4, 6–7
Acts 10:34–38
Mt 3:13–17



VANDRY FERNANDEZ PERDOMO / CATHOLIC

Our Parish COMMUNITY

January 4, 2026

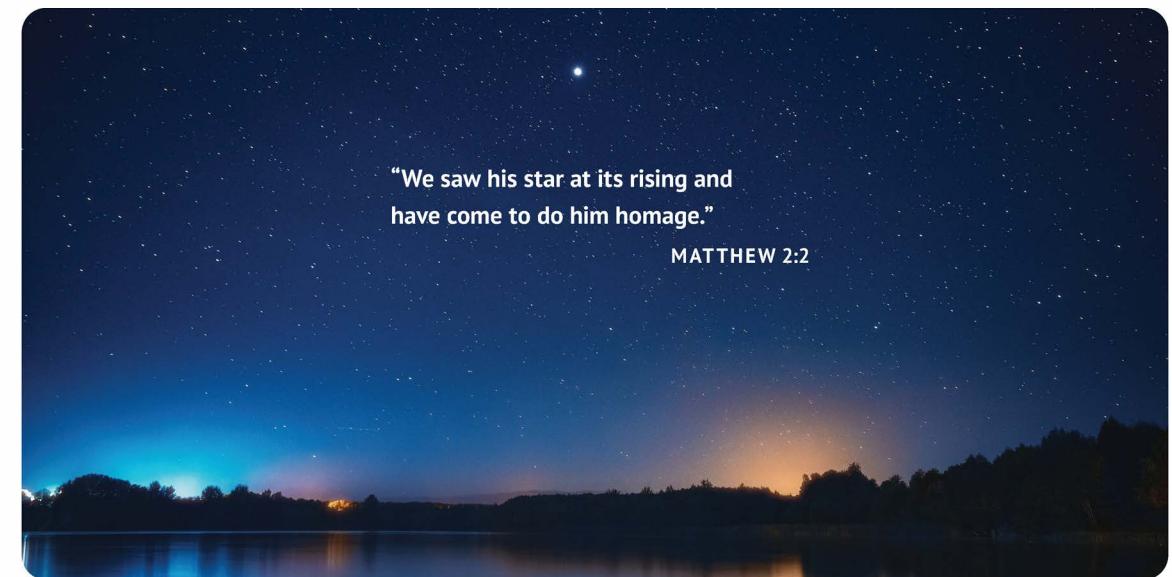
The Epiphany of the Lord (A)

Isaiah 60:1–6 / Ephesians 3:2–3a, 5–6 / Matthew 2:1–12



"We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

MATTHEW 2:2



Following Jesus Without a Star to Guide Us

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

“We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage" (Matthew 2:2) describes the spark that sent the Magi on their journey. Something unusual in the sky, interpreted as a sign of something wonderful—in response, they changed direction in their lives and devoted themselves to a completely different path. As wonderful as it might well be, a special star in the heavens is not the ordinary experience of how we learn to follow the Lord or discern his will. If only there could be a sign in God's universe for each of us, beckoning us forward, clarifying what we need to do, setting down the path that needs to be followed. Perhaps life would be much simpler. Or perhaps not?

Would it truly be less complicated if everything were made clear and certain? Is the manifestation of God's grace and blessings confined to the straight and narrow, or can we also experience God in the chaos—"in the weeds," so to speak. Human experience seems to suggest that life is more "gray" than "black and white." There is real grace in the journey, in making mistakes, even in choosing something that is incomplete. Thankfully, God's grace does not need perfection to be powerful. We can know and follow God's will for us in the ordinary moments of day-to-day living. We do not need the extraordinary or the dramatic. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

How can I resolve to look for God in the unplanned, the unexpected, the interruptions?

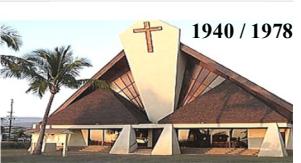


Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary at Waimea

**YES, ALL KINGS SHALL FALL DOWN BEFORE HIM;
ALL NATIONS SHALL SERVE HIM.**
PSALM 72:11

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 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

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 4, 2026

Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Matthew 2:11

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow each day.

In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose.

God wants you to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to you.

~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 an appointment)

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	\$	1,937
Waimea		1,028

Other Donations

Candles	\$	30
Christmas		6,284
Cross We Share		1,665
Initial Offering		15
Maintenance Fund		87
Mass Intentions		165
Misa de Gallo – Candles		665
Misa de Gallo – Masses		766
Share the Faith		5
Veneration of Baby Jesus		193

+

GET INVOLVED!

Our annual **Kiawe Chicken Fundraiser**
will be held Sat, **Feb 7, 2026**
(that's Superbowl weekend!)

It takes all of us to be successful.
Sell and/or buy tickets, help set-up and/or
tear-down tents & tables, prep and/or
cook chicken, or assist at the drive thru.

Six weeks of Saints begins Mon, **Jan 5** from 5 to 7pm at the home of Dcn Ron & Betsy Jones.

This week we will study **St. Kateri Tekakwitha**,
the first Native American to be recognized as a saint by the Catholic Church.

ST. THERESA SCHOOL NEWS

Jan 6 Classes resume

Happy 11th Anniversary, Father Edwin!
We appreciate all that you do for our parish
and wish God's blessings upon you
for many years to come. Mahalo!



Pope Leo's January Intentions
For prayer with the Word of God

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

PRAYER WARRIORS

Contact Chantal Duarte (808-634-0403 or chantal_duarte@yahoo.com) and let our Prayer Warriors pray for your special needs.

OCIA Classes resume Thu, **Jan 8** at 6pm

MINISTRY NEWS

Religious Education classes are held every Thursday at 6:30pm at St. Theresa School.
Youth Ministry (grades 6-12) meets every 1st & 3rd Sunday after 8:30am Mass at the Parish Hall.
Choir practice is held Thursdays from 4:30 to 6pm at STC. Musicians and vocalists are welcome.