

Dear Padre,

I am a senior Catholic woman. All my life, I have waited for the Church to welcome women as priests. I have volunteered with numerous faiths over the years and have worked with pastors and rabbis who are women. Why does the Catholic Church not recognize that women have callings to the priesthood?

My answer will probably not be acceptable to you, and it might even make you a little more frustrated and perhaps even discouraged. The understanding of the Church is that the call to priesthood is not based on merit. If it were based on merit, and that was the single important criterion, your question might be phrased in a different way. I will let you imagine what that might be!

The tradition, practice, and discipline of the Church continues to insist that the call to ordained priesthood requires the respondent to be male. Any explanation beyond this simple statement would be strained and of little use. We are aware of the traditions that are practiced in other Christian denominations. We are probably aware of the Roman Catholic theology of priesthood that is offered in support of the practice. We can probably offer example after example in support or in disagreement of the practice. None of it matters when it comes up against the hard truth of the tradition, practice, and discipline: the priesthood requires a baptized male for validity. ●



CARLOS DANIEL / CATHOPIC

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Our Parish COMMUNITY

May 24, 2026

Pentecost Sunday (A)

Acts 2:1-11 / 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 / John 20:19-23



A Gift for All People of All Times

ANN M. GARRIDO

When reading aloud today's passage from Acts of the Apostles, do you stumble over the names of the peoples gathered as I do? "Parthians, Medes, and Elamites." Where is "Cappadocia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia"? And why were all these peoples in Jerusalem in the first place?

It might help to know that Pentecost did not originate as a Christian feast. There are three pilgrimage festivals that drew Jews from across the Mediterranean region to Jerusalem. Sukkot celebrates the fall harvest and God's protection during the exodus from Egypt. Two are in the spring: Passover, the Feast of the Unleavened Bread, recalling the night the Jews were freed from enslavement in Egypt; and Shavuot, or *Pentecost* in Greek, remembering the giving of God's law on Mount Sinai.

The scene described in Acts echoes the story at Mount Sinai. The peoples who gathered outside the house in Jerusalem represent the breadth and diversity of peoples known at that time, and not just at that time. Some of the civilizations mentioned had not existed for hundreds of years. The book of Acts wants us to know that the gift of the Holy Spirit was an event of such significance that somehow *all* were mysteriously present—not just those of times gone by, but even we who live in such far-away, hard-to-pronounce places as Islamabad or Albuquerque. Today, we celebrate a gift that transcends time and geography. A gift that continues to draw all of us together in wonder and awe. ●



LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Reflect

Do I often remember that the Church encompasses people of every nation: those gone before us and those to come?

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

At Pentecost, the apostles spoke the languages of those they met, and the confusion of Babel was finally resolved by the harmony brought about by the Spirit. Whenever God's "breath" unites our hearts and makes us view others as our brothers and sisters, differences no longer become an occasion for division and conflict.

HOMILY, ROME, JUNE 8, 2025

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Monday

May 25

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14
Jn 19:25-34

Tuesday

May 26

St. Philip Neri, Priest
1 Pt 1:10-16
Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday

May 27

Weekday
1 Pt 1:18-25
Mk 10:32-45

Thursday

May 28

Weekday
1 Pt 2:2-5, 9-12
Mk 10:46-52

Friday

May 29

Weekday
1 Pt 4:7-13
Mk 11:11-26

Saturday

May 30

Weekday
Jude 17, 20b-25
Mk 11:27-33

Sunday

May 31

The Most Holy Trinity
Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9
2 Cor 13:11-13
Jn 3:16-18



[The Jews] were astounded, and in amazement they asked, "Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his own native language?"

ACTS 2:7-8

VETRE / SHUTTERSTOCK



1899
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



1946 / 1993
St. Theresa School at Kekaha



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Sunday Offerings

Kekaha \$ 2,243.65
Waimea 1,013.00

Other Donations

Baptism \$ 350
Candles 73
Catholic Communication Campaign 1,492
Cross We Share 370
Diocesan Appeal: CMAA 50
Dio. Priests' Retirement Fund 3
Funerals 300
Maintenance Fund 195
Mass Intentions 120

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

Please join us in praying for
Bishop-Elect Michael Castori, S.J.,
as he prepares for his
Episcopal Ordination and Installation.

Consider offering a special prayer, act of fasting,
abstinence, or another form of penance on Fridays
for Bishop-Elect Castori and for the Diocese of
Honolulu during this time of transition.

O God, the Shepherd and Ruler of all the
faithful, graciously look upon Your servant,
Father Michael Castori, whom You have been
pleased to appoint pastor over the Diocese of
Honolulu; grant, we beseech You, that by both
word and example he may edify those over
whom he is set, and together with the flock
committed to his care, may attain to eternal life.
Amen.

*Pentecost is often called the birthday of the
Church. The Spirit came with wind and fire,
filling the disciples with new energy. They
spoke in many languages, showing that the
message of Jesus is for all people. What once
was scattered is now brought together.*

MINISTRY NEWS

Choir practice Thu 4:30 to 6pm (STC)
OCIA call Deacon Ron at 907.978.4018
RE and Youth Ministry will resume in the fall

Online bulletin at kekahacatholic.com

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon May 25 – **Memorial Day** NO school; parish & school offices closed

– **NO Bible Study**

– **Patriotic Rosary** at 6pm at St Theresa Church

Wed May 27 – **NO Rosary/Novena**

– **STS Graduations** at St Theresa Church: **Preschool** at 8:20am and **8th Grade** at 6pm

Fri May 29 – **Last day of school – Have a safe summer!**



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

Pentecost Sunday

May 24, 2026

To each is given the
manifestation of the Spirit
for the common good.

1 Corinthians 12:7

To receive the gifts of the
Holy Spirit you must open
your heart and invite Him in!
Ask the Holy Spirit to guide
your thoughts, words and
actions every day!

Be grateful for all the gifts
God has given you!

Regardless of our individual
circumstances, God has
given all of us many
blessings. What we do with
those gifts is our gift back to
God! By generously sharing
everything we have and
everything we are,
we become more
“God-centered” and less
“self-centered”, and our lives
truly reflect God’s light,
love and mercy.

~Archdiocese of St. Louis



St. Theresa Church

8343 Kaumualii Hwy
Kekaha HI 96752

Sat 5pm Vigil Mass

Sun 7:45am Rosary

8:30am Mass

Mon-Fri 6:30am Mass

Weekday Masses subject to change.

Wed 6pm Rosary to Our Lady
of Fatima & Novena to
OLPH (not May 27, 2026)

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 and

Mary Church

9496 Kaumualii Hwy
Waimea HI 96796

Sun 7am Mass

First Saturday Devotion to
the BVM 8-9am