

Dear Padre,

If Catholics say the Confiteor at Mass, then why do we still need to go to confession?

Recall when Jesus told Simon and his fishing companions to lower their nets after they had caught nothing. (See Luke 5:1–11.) When their boats began to sink with so many fish, Simon fell at Jesus’ feet and said, “Leave me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.” Likewise, at Mass, we’re so filled with awe upon entering the presence of God that we become aware of our own sinfulness.

The penitential act prepares the assembly to enter the celebration in a proper spirit of humility. The priest and the faithful observe a period of silence to acknowledge their sinfulness and confess their awe of Christ’s love and mercy. This is expressed in different forms, one of which is the Confiteor, a general confession that invokes the support of the communion of saints and the specific community gathered at Mass. It includes the instruction to strike one’s breast, an ancient gesture of humility and penitence. (See Luke 18:13; 23:48.) The rite concludes with the priest’s absolution, but it “lacks the efficacy of the sacrament of penance” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 51). Thus, the penitential act isn’t a substitute for absolution from sins confessed in the sacrament of penance, particularly serious, mortal sins. Rather, it prepares the faithful as a unified community to properly listen to God’s word and celebrate the Eucharist worthily (*GIRM* 46). ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org



ZULFIJAR KARIMOV / UNSPLASH

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

In the Church there is...a place for everyone, and... every Christian is called to proclaim the gospel and bear witness in every environment.... Thus, this people shows its catholicity, welcoming the wealth and resources of different cultures and, at the same time, offering them the newness of the gospel to purify them and to raise them up.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, MARCH 11, 2026

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The Debt We Have in Common

THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

As we hear today’s Gospel of the servant whose enormous debt is forgiven, yet who refuses mercy to a fellow servant owing far less, we cannot help but ask: how can this be? This is the first question that comes to mind. How could a person be forgiven so much and then, just a few minutes later, refuse to forgive something inconsequential in comparison? Selfishness doesn’t really explain it. Being so full of oneself doesn’t explain it. Being completely dense and obtuse is perhaps closer to the truth, but even that explanation comes up short.

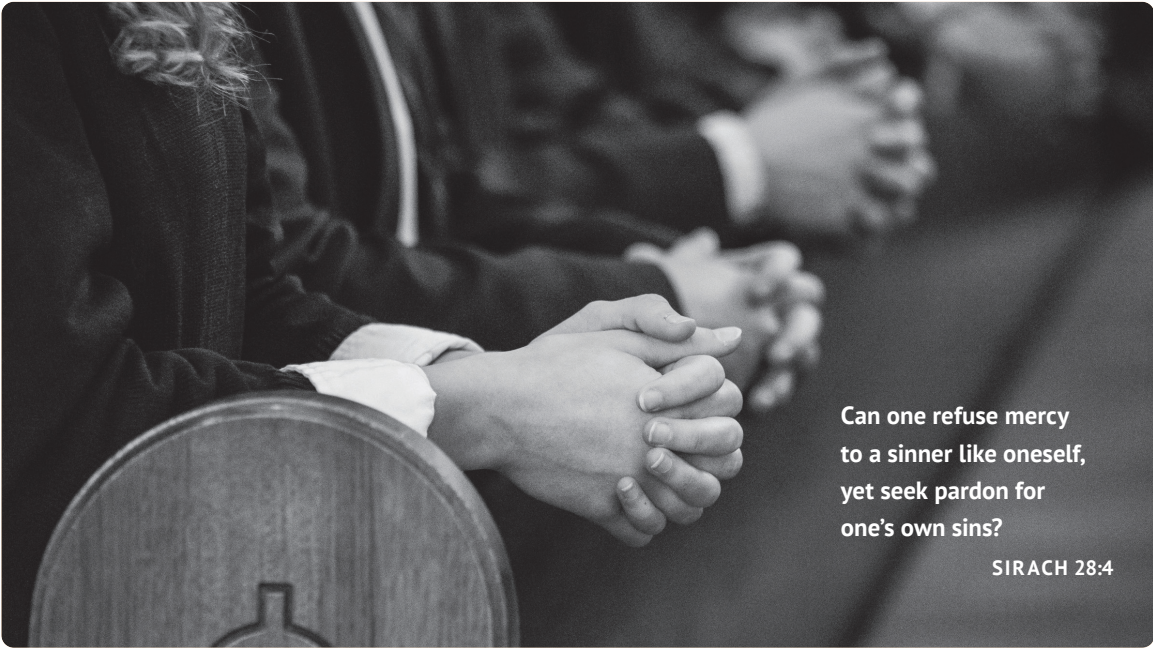
The truth is that the exaggeration of the debt is secondary to the story. What is essential to the story is the invitation to reflect on what it means to be a human being. It is to acknowledge that, when all is said and done, everyone owes a huge debt. No one is exempt from gratitude. An honest acceptance of who we are—completely and totally dependent on God who created us—is the core truth. To be so disconnected from this truth as to not recognize one’s own dependence and be completely unaware of the need to be grateful—that is the real challenge the story considers. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

How am I at forgiveness—with others and with myself?



Can one refuse mercy to a sinner like oneself, yet seek pardon for one’s own sins?

SIRACH 28:4



Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary at Waimea

*not seven times,
but seventy-seven times.*
Matthew 18:22

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

**FORGIVE AND
BE FORGIVEN**

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

**Due to Hurricane Lowell,
the offertory of Sep 5-6
will be reported next weekend.**

Stay safe.

Join us for the **Triduum novena** in honor of the 180th anniversary of Our Lady of La Salette's apparition in La Salette, France - Wed, Sep 16 through Fri, Sep 18, following the 6:30am Mass.



Our decisions should take into account a candidate's commitments, character, integrity, and ability to influence a given issue. Thus equipped, and further impelled by our sense of patriotism, we exercise our right and duty to vote and otherwise to participate actively in public life. By forming our consciences for faithful citizenship, we can better pursue the common good and thus obey the command of our Lord to love our neighbors. *US Conference of Catholic Bishops*

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

Jeianna & Chris Iguchi 808-651-8786

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

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sep 13, 2026

**For if we live, we live for the Lord,
and if we die, we die for the Lord;
so then, whether we live or die, we
are the Lord's.** Romans 14:8

This is the essence of stewardship – everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God.

We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts that God has given us, especially our very own lives.

Pray to God, daily, and ask Him how He is calling you to the life that He intended for you.

~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-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 and Mary Church

9496 Kaumualii Hwy
Waimea HI 96796

Sun 7am Mass

First Saturday Devotion to the BVM 8-9am

kekahacatholic.com

We welcome our new Youth Coordinators for our Youth Ministry,
Jeianna and Christopher Iguchi.

*There will be an orientation Sat, Sep 26
after the 5pm Mass in the Parish Hall for
all children in grades 6 through 12.*

Youth Ministry will be held on the
1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month
after the 5pm Mass in the Parish Hall.

Contact Jeianna with questions at 808-651-8786 or call the parish office.

*We thank
Blu and Rena Ulanday
for all their years serving as
our Youth Coordinators!*

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon Sep 14 **Bible Study** at Deacon Ron's home, 4526B Alae Rd, 6-7:30pm. All are welcome.
Thursdays **Choir practice** 4:30-6pm at STC
Fri Sep 18 **La Salette Feast Day Mass** with Kauai's La Salette priests, 5pm at St Theresa Church.

STS Fundraiser –

**Pick up Regal Foods
Sat Sep 19, 9 to 11am
at the school.**

