

Dear Padre,

Adam and Eve had two sons and maybe others not mentioned in the Bible. How were others born without having committed incest?

This is a perfectly valid question, and one that I think many people have probably asked themselves at one time or another. Unfortunately, it is the wrong question, because it does not reflect the true meaning of the story.

The story about Adam and Eve is not a literal story or, in other words, a story that would be reported by CNN or FOX News. It is a teaching story, intended to encourage belief in the creative power of God at work in his creation. It is not, nor has it ever been, a literal step-by-step tutorial of the early days of the human race.

The bible includes different literary forms: narrative or history, poetry and songs, parables, letters, genealogies, and more. Knowing what form is being used, the purpose of the passage, who is writing or talking, and the intended audience is the work of Scripture scholars. The story of creation is not intended to be literal; it is inspirational. ●



OSCAR VAN ESQUIVEL / UNSPLASH

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

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](https://dearpadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday

September 21
St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
Eph 4:1–7, 11–13
Mt 9:9–13

Wednesday

September 23
St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest
Prv 30:5–9
Lk 9:1–6

Saturday

September 26
Weekday
Eccl 11:9–12:8
Lk 9:43b–45

Tuesday

September 22
Weekday
Prv 21:1–6, 10–13
Lk 8:19–21

Thursday

September 24
Weekday
Eccl 1:2–11
Lk 9:7–9

Friday

September 25
Weekday
Eccl 3:1–11
Lk 9:18–22

Sunday

September 27
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ez 18:25–28
Phil 2:1–11 or 2:1–5
Mt 21:28–32



FADHIL ABHIMANTRA / UNSPLASH

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

It is a great sign of hope—especially in our times, traversed by so many conflicts and wars—to know that the Church is a people in which women and men of different nationalities, languages, and cultures live together in faith: it is...a reminder and prophecy of that unity and peace to which God the Father calls all his children.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, MARCH 11, 2026

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

September 20, 2026
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Isaiah 55:6–9 / Philippians 1:20c–24, 27a / Matthew 20:1–16a



Next Up!

MIGUEL DULICK

I keep hearing preachers say this is their least favorite gospel, because it makes people so mad! All the workers in a vineyard get a full day’s pay—which folks interpret as heaven—even the ones who came at the last hour of the afternoon. “You mean, I work hard my whole life, and some nobody from nowhere just waltzes into heaven ahead of me?” But wait a minute! You think you *deserve* your “pay”? None of us is anywhere or anything, even breathing, without God’s grace. It’s not a competition; it’s our only hope! We should be dancing in the street to celebrate God’s generosity. Matthew himself must have chuckled at this parable, since he was also a latecomer, having spent his life grinding his own brothers and sisters into poverty to feed the tax maw of the Roman Empire. Then, Jesus called him! I love the twist in the parable: the owner not only pays the last ones equally, but he pays them *first*!



LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

If you don’t like standing in line, you could be like Paul, who wants to just skip to the end: “I long to depart this life and be with Christ” (Philippians 1:23). As he says, “To me life is Christ, and death is gain” (Philippians 1:21). We should all be so eager. Just concentrate on the “fruitful labor” of service to others. Put everyone else ahead of you, and don’t be afraid of some hard work. Any vineyard is a challenge, even when that vineyard is the Church. ●



For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, [says] the Lord.

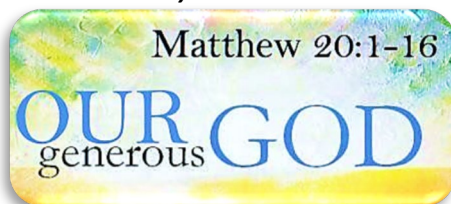
ISAIAH 55:8

Reflect

Do I feel more deserving than others or struggle with envy?



Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary at Waimea



St. Theresa Parish

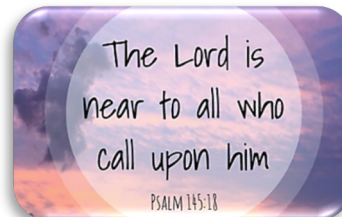
Established January 21, 1941
P.O. Box 159, Kekaha, HI 96752



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



St. Theresa School at Kekaha



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

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sep 20, 2026

**Thus, the last will be first,
and the first will be last.**

Matthew 20:16

You've heard the saying
"it's not where you start,
but how you finish."
This certainly applies to
this Bible passage.

We have a responsibility
not only for our own lives,
but for the lives of others
as well. We are called to
generously share our gifts
with others, not hoard
them for our own use.

Our sincere gratitude and
cheerful generosity will
help us live "God-
centered" lives and not
"self-centered" lives.

~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

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Due to Hurricane Lowell,
the offertory of Sep 5-6 is
published in today's bulletin.

	Sep 5-6	Sep 12-13
Sunday Offerings		
Kekaha	\$ 1,815	\$ 1,462
Waimea	1,281	1,188
Other Donations		
Candles	\$ 40	\$ 50
Catholic Univ of America	1,412	
Cross We Share	565	
Maintenance Fund	50	
Mass Intentions		210
Religious Articles	8	

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



Come home. Reconnect. Remember. Celebrate.



"Social friendship and universal fraternity"
Pope Francis writes, "necessarily call for an
acknowledgement of the worth of every human
person, always and everywhere."

Through our political participation,
our accompaniment of those in need, and
the witness of our daily lives, may we support the
worth of every person, created in God's image.

US Conference of Catholic Bishops

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

*There will be an orientation **next Saturday**, 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!*

Maintenance Fund (2nd collection) this weekend

... Our churches and grounds need some TLC after Hurricane Lowell.

... Mahalo for your continued support of our parish.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon Sep 21	St. Theresa School Portrait Day
Mon Sep 21	Bible Study at Deacon Ron's home, 4526B Alae Rd, 6-7:30pm. All are welcome.
Thursdays	Choir practice 4:30-6pm at STC
Thu Sep 24	Religious Ed at STS; OCIA at STC (both at 6pm)
Fri Sep 25	Bishop Michael's Welcome Mass , 6pm at St. Catherine's, Kapaa, followed by ticketed dinner.

