

Ed Team Newsletter



St. Ann's Model Schools

"Given the right conditions, all children can learn"

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Volume 2
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Strength & Ideas for the Lenten Journey

By: Robert Noguchi, Principal of Religious Education

Lent began this year on March 9, Ash Wednesday. On that day we began a season of doing special forms of charity and being especially generous (almsgiving); of being more contentious about prayer; and of fasting. During Lent, our relationship with Jesus grows stronger as we prepare to celebrate the joy of the Resurrection of the Lord.

As we continue our Lenten faith journey, take some time to talk with your family about the season of Lent and the things you may want to do as a family during Lent. There are many good resources out there for children and families to delve deeper into the meaning and fruitfulness of this blessed season.

Here are some Lenten opportunities in our parish:

Operation Rice Bowl – This annual Catholic Relief Services project was sent home with RE/YM students earlier this month. It is a great opportunity for almsgiving and for being in touch with the plight of our brothers and sisters in impoverished countries around the world. Catholic Relief Services is popularly known for their efficient use of funds to help those in great need.

Stations of the Cross – Join fellow parishioners on Fridays during Lent at 7pm in the church, and refer to our calendar for dates and times of the RE and YM Stations of the Cross

St Ann's Mission Retreat – March 28-31 from 7-8pm in the church Fr. Thomas McElroy, ss.cc. will present "My Pilgrimage in Faith"



April
Sacred Hearts
Core Values:
Collaboration
&
Selflessness

Lenten Penance Service – Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with the parish on Tuesday, April 12 at 7pm in the church

Check the weekly **church bulletin** for more information and opportunities

The following is a short list of websites with great ideas for Lent:

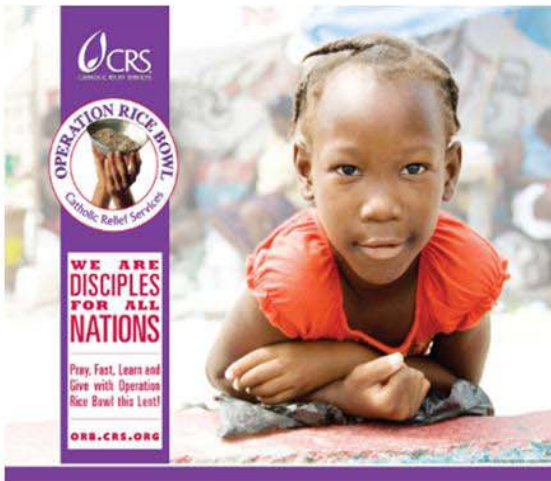
catholicmom.com – A great link for Lenten projects and activities for children and families

loyolapress.com – Click on the Lent link for Lenten prayers, daily activities, mini-retreats, books, scripture reflections and a bunch of other helpful resources for the whole family

uscce.org – Click on the Lent 2011 link for a more in-depth look at the Lenten season, including daily readings for Mass

We are truly a people blessed by the grace and mercy of God, and this season of Lent is the perfect time to consider as a family how we live out our baptismal calling each day. May the peace and love of our Lord Jesus Christ be strength for the journey this Lent.

Operation Rice Bowl 2011!!



We are disciples for all nations. As Jesus' disciples, we are called to care for our brothers and sisters in all nations. Each year, Operation Rice Bowl invites us to pray with our families and faith communities; fast in solidarity with those who hunger; learn more about our global community and the challenges of poverty overseas; and give sacrificial contributions to those in need. Operation Rice Bowl, Catholic Relief Services' Lenten program, began in 1975 in the Diocese of Allentown, PA as a response to the drought in the African Sahel. For more than 35 years, Operation Rice Bowl has offered Catholics in the United States a way to connect with our brothers and sisters in need around the world. Each Lent, nearly 13,000 faith communities across the United States participate to demonstrate solidarity with the poor around the world.

Seventy-five percent of Operation Rice Bowl donations come to CRS to help fund development programs designed to increased food security around the world. Twenty-five percent of the donations support hunger and poverty alleviation efforts in dioceses within the United States. Beginning Ash Wednesday, St. Ann's Church & Model Schools started participating in the Operation Rice Bowl 2011 Campaign. This is a six-week Lenten program of prayer, education, fasting and almsgiving to promote peace and justice for the poor and hungry in the world. Each packet contains a "rice bowl" as a sign and means of making lent a time to think of others and a Family Guide which gives many ideas for family participation...

- PRAYER:** Bible references for each week. Your family may pray and reflect together.
- EDUCATION:** The Family Guide offers information and opportunities to learn about the courage and strength of the poor, and about Operation Rice Bowl's programs.
- FASTING:** One day per week during Lent your family may want to eat a reduced meal and place the savings in the rice bowl. Your savings will help hungry people throughout the world.
- ALMSGIVING:** Meal savings contributed by your family become almsgiving. The donation is a concrete expression of your concern for creating a just and peaceful world. Monies are used both here in Hawaii and in Third World countries to provide food, housing and medical assistance to help the poor attain a life of greater dignity.

The Gift of Reading

First graders began their service learning project by gearing up to share their gift of reading. Each first grader read nightly and began gathering pledges for books read. The money raised was used to purchase books for the Head Start Preschool children at Kalihi elementary. First graders walked to Windward Mall one day and shopped at Borders Bookstore using the approximately \$1,000 collected in pledges. The students then took a bus ride to the Kalihi school to meet the preschool children, read to them and bring them the books that they had purchased. Smiles were abundant on their little faces and the gift of sharing began. It was a wonderful day of giving gifts of books, songs, camaraderie and Aloha. Great job, First Grade!

The Gift of Sharing

The fifth grade class recently contributed to a garage sale held at McKinley High School. The sale, sponsored by former Pan American Airlines flight attendants, is held annually to raise funds for the St. Francis Hospice program. Students collected items from home, each bringing in a large bag. In class, the items were sorted, priced and boxed up. A good time was had while contributing to a good cause.

4th Grade Artists Make a Splash!

Starting May 1st, six students from the fourth grade class will have their artwork on display at the Hawaii Convention Center. Eleven students were entered into the contest and six pieces were chosen. There were 96 students total whose pieces of artwork were chosen for the convention center. As an acknowledgement of their good work, the students' art will remain at the center on display for an entire year. We congratulate all participants and say Mahalo to Mrs. Louise Barr for her tireless support of the arts and the talents of St. Ann's students. We congratulate all the 4th grade students who participated in the competition. Great job everyone!

Junior "High-Lights"

Honors at I'olani Speech Festival

Seven students from 6th and 7th grades participated in the I'olani Speech Festival in early February. In competition with the bigger, independent private schools, St. Ann's came out holding their heads high. Under the tutorship of Mrs. Gerri Kelly, this small group of participants came away with the second place prize of having the second highest percentage of superiors. Great job for this group of first timers. Congratulations to one and all!

Windward District Spelling Bee Winner

St. Ann's 8th grader, Alyssa Nakaoka was the Windward District Spelling Bee champion. On February 24th, St. Ann's, St. Anthony, Kailua, St. John Vianney and LeJardin were in competition to see who would spell their way to success as the district champ. The race was tough for the first couple of rounds and slowly students were eliminated. Towards the final rounds, Alyssa and two other spellers were in head to head battles and Alyssa came out on top. We congratulate Alyssa and Marie Anabelle Mesina, St. Ann's second speller for their fine representation of our school. Alyssa went on to the State Spelling Bee and, although she did not come out on top, we are still very proud of her!

Catholic Schools League Track Meet

Students for the fifth through eighth grades participated in the CSL track meet held in Mililani in which ten schools were represented. St. Ann's students ran in events that took speed and stamina and several students came away with first place, if not top five finishes. Congratulations to the students in the novice division who earned the second place overall for both the boys and girls divisions. Mahalo to Mr. Aron Baker who oversaw student participation.

First Reconciliation! . .

By: Sylvia Makaina, RE Elementary Coordinator

Last month, sixty-eight of our young students experienced their first reconciliation, the sacrament of confession. As our sacraments are beautiful celebrations of God's grace, we grow in this divine sprinkling of God's goodness. As we mature in life, so too does our understanding of these moments.

Congratulations to our young students, their parents and their teachers. We can celebrate this sacrament of conversion on Saturdays at 4pm at Church or attend the Lenten Penance Service. This will be held on Tuesday evening, April 12th at 7pm in the Church. Mahalo Ke Akua for this gift. May all of us become more aware of your love and forgiveness.



Ready to say YES!

The Confirmation II candidates are heading into their final preparations as they get ready to say YES! on their Confirmation Day, May 7th at the 6:00pm Mass. As part of that final step, each candidate attends a Confirmation interview with either Fr. Herman Gomes, our pastor; Mrs. Daphne Kauhane, our Parish Director of Education; or Mr. Bob Noguchi, our Principal of Religious Education. At this interview, each candidate is asked to reflect and share how they have been affected by our RE/YM Programs; what it means to them to belong to St. Ann's Parish and the Catholic Church; and how they plan to live out their faith. Our 37 candidates all seem eager—empowered in the Spirit and ready to say YES!



RE Principal, Bob Noguchi interviews CII Candidate Kiana Watson this past Sunday.

Youth Ministry Fun!

By: Malu Kamanu, YM Coordinator

Although Youth Ministry students did not have class on Sunday, February 20th, they had the opportunity to get together to pray, play and partake during our YM Fun Day. Students prayed, talked about the Gospel reading that Sunday and participated in community builders. The St. Ann's Knights of Columbus prepared lunch and afterwards, the youth could choose an activity to engage in. The largest contingency chose basketball, but others sang karaoke, created greeting cards, played board games or learned how to t-shirt "shred" and bead. Thank you to the Knights of Columbus, Aunty Lyl, Aunty Leslie G., Lindsey, Shane, Alicia, and Estevan for all your help!

Easter Help Wanted!

St. Ann's Annual Easter Egg Hunt is proudly sponsored each year by our Youth Ministry program. We are asking for teen volunteers to sign up and help prepare over 1000 eggs, set up prizes and decorate the Food Court. We are also seeking prize donations (i.e. bubbles, stickers, novelty items, puzzles, etc.) for children 3-12. Items may be dropped off at St. Ann's Rectory or RE/YM offices. Mahalo for your support!