

Religious Ed News

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St. Ann's Religious Education Programs

46-125 Haiku Road

Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

O Happy Day...

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RELIGIOUS ED NEWS

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Website: www.saintannshawaii.org

Editorial Staff:

Daphne Kauhane, Publisher

Robert Noguchi & Renee Fung, Editors



Oh Happy Day!

By Bob Noguchi, Principal of Religious Education

I still remember those fun, carefree summer days of my childhood, when I wished that the sun would never set so that I could play outside forever. Some of my fondest memories are of me, my brother, and two sisters playing in our yard and in the green pasture next to our house on the island of Kaua'i. Oh, what happy days those were! Alas, I never did figure out a way to slow the sun down or to make those joyous days last any longer.

Fortunately, the Church in her great wisdom has not had a problem with trying to figure out how to make a joyous day last longer, especially when it comes to the liturgical season of Easter. The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost (April 24th - June 12th) are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or to put it another way, as one "great Sunday." At the start of the fifty days is the Easter octave, beginning with the celebration of Easter Sunday and continuing for seven days. The octave treats Easter as one day. It could be said that the octave comprises the "early hours" of the

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RE & YM Events

Oh Happy Day! (continued)

"great Sunday". Our liturgical calendar gives us fifty days to shout alleluia and spread the Good News through our Easter joy!

As we come to the end of our RE/YM year let us continue to celebrate the Resurrection of our Savior, taking the joy of this *happy day* into the summer months ahead. Although our religious education program is coming to a close, religious formation in the home knows no season. Your child's faith continues to grow strong through these summer months in your family prayer, play, and service to others. Thank you for allowing us to work with you this past RE/YM year as a partner in the faith formation of your child. Everything we do is in support of what you do every day in the home. Your prayers and blessings, weekly Mass attendance with your child, and conversations you share with your child about God and Jesus are very critical to forming your child's faith as a Catholic Christian. May these coming months be a wonderful time of grace as your family continues to grow and blossom in faith, hope, and love.

On behalf of the St. Ann's RE/YM leadership team, we wish you and your family a Happy Easter and a blessed and safe summer, filled with the peace and joy of Christ's love!

*Oh Happy Day - Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!*



Keiki Lenten Experiences

By Sylvia Makainai, RE Elementary Coordinator

During the season of Lent we share the experience of THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS with our students.

Our fourth, fifth, sixth and RCIC II graders join us at the Lenten retreat and we hike the beautiful prayer. This year we traveled to St. Anthony's retreat center on Sunday, March 13, 2011. We were blessed with such good weather, which allowed us to walk this somber prayer. Our Kinder, first, second and third grade children joined us in the church on April 10, 2011, where we prayed together with the beautiful stations that mark Jesus' pathway.

Our keiki now have a glimpse at Jesus' sufferings.

During Easter, we express the joy that we all enjoy because we have the promise of everlasting life.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Fifth Grade "Role-Play" Mass

Mrs. Martha Fontana-Kwon and her aide, Ms. Rachel Labella work in the fifth grade classroom. Each year, Mrs. Fontana-Kwon has her students prepare a Mass. The main objective: The learner will prepare a Mass and invite their parents to share.

On Sunday, April 17th, the students with parents in attendance held their "role-play" Mass. The students chose their Presider, who also gave a reflection on the readings. The class also chose Song Leaders and Readers to proclaim the Good News; *A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit.* Surely, our keiki come from good trees! Mahalo, dear parents for allowing us to help you in your job of faith sharing. I commend you for your good works, bearing good fruits!

In the Spirit...

YM Makes A Difference...

By Malu Kamanu, Youth Ministry Coordinator

St. Ann's Youth Ministry tweens and teens have been busy! Besides serving in the various ministries, they have been involved in several service opportunities these past couple months. The youth are encouraged to do this service not so much to fulfill a requirement, but rather to adopt and commit to a lifestyle of service -- one which our Lord Jesus taught us.

On March 26th, about 30 from YM gathered at the Heeia Fishpond. Working alongside, Paepae O Heeia (a non-profit organization that tends to the pond and provides education about it), they helped to rebuild part of the pond's walls. This required much teamwork and "elbow grease". YM also led two of the parish Stations of the Cross during Lent. Most recently, they prepared and led the parish's annual Easter Egg Hunt and Keiki festivities. Way to go YM! You do make a difference!!!!

Celebrating the Sacraments!

With our last RE & YM session upon us, we look forward to our culminating events for our students who have been studying hard and preparing for Sacraments in both our RE & YM programs.

In YM, four of our youth have been preparing for Baptism. They have been working with Mr. Larry Campbell *after* their regular Sunday classes in preparation for the Sacrament and are set to be Baptized this month. Two of the youth have also been preparing for 1st Eucharist with Mr. Campbell and Mrs. Carla Simao, our CII Teacher.

In our RE program, we will celebrate the Baptism of our four R.C.I.C. I (Rite of Christian Initiation, Year I) students. They have been studying and preparing for their Baptism with teacher Mrs. Linn Bautista throughout the year. Next year, they will continue with Mrs. Bautista to prepare for their 1st Reconciliation & 1st Eucharist.

Forty-seven young students in our RE 2nd grade & RCIC II class will be receiving their 1st Eucharist on the weekend of May 14th & 15th along with twenty-seven of our Grade



(Left) St. Ann's gave away a live baby rabbit at our Easter Egg Hunt & Celebration last Sunday. The lucky drawing winner, Avery is pictured with the adorable rabbit donated by Koolau Pets. (Below), Alexis Stoebner along with other YM teens put in a lot of hard work at Paepae O Heeia, pulling rocks from the fish pond basin, transporting them to land and then utilizing them to rebuild existing rock walls around the fishpond. Way to go YM!!



School students who have been preparing for the Sacrament as well. 1st Eucharist will be celebrated at all Masses that weekend as we welcome these children and teens to our Eucharistic table. Thank you to Mrs. Campbell and her aides (Mrs. Sandy Nakasone & Mrs. Jamie Tanoura), Mrs. Leslie Gladu, school teachers, Mrs. Cindy Ramos and Mrs. Clarie Thompson as well for their heartfelt work preparing these young Catholics.

On May 7th, we will proudly Confirm thirty-seven of our CII Candidates at the 6pm Mass. Their two year journey of preparation and learning has brought them to this moment when they say YES! and be sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We thank Mrs. Carla Simao, Mr. Shane Chambers and the CII team of Youth Leaders for their dedication in the classroom, guidance and being excellent models of faith to our young adults. Please join us as we celebrate the Sacraments with our students this May. God Bless!



RE & YM's Event Calendar for May

Sunday, May 1st ~ 2nd Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday

- Last day of RE & YM Classes
- End of Year Prayer Service at 10:15am, Church followed by individual classroom celebrations.
- Baptism Prep Session I, 10am, Church

Thursday, May 5th

- Confirmation Rehearsal, 7pm, Church – Candidates & Sponsors

Friday, May 6th

- Eucharistic Adoration, 7am to 7pm

Saturday, May 7th ~ Confirmation Day

- CI Candidates & Parents: Confirmation Reception Setup, Shifts at 9am, 6:30 & 8pm, please report to the Food Court for your selected shift
- Confirmation Mass, 6pm Church, Candidates report to Library at 5:15pm. Sponsors report to Church by 5:30pm. *A Confirmation Reception will be held in the Food Court immediately following the Mass.*

Sunday, May 8th ~ 3rd Sunday of Easter, Mother's Day

Tuesday, May 10th ~ Feast of St. Damien

Saturday, May 14th

- 1st Eucharist celebrated at 6pm Mass

Sunday, May 15th ~ 4th Sunday of Easter

- Baptism Prep Session II, 10am, Church
- 1st Eucharist celebrated at all Masses

Sunday, May 22nd ~ 5th Sunday of Easter

- RE Leadership Team Mtg

Saturday, May 28th

- Baptism Mass, 6pm

Sunday, May 29th ~ 6th Sunday of Easter

Monday, May 30th ~ Memorial Day

- All offices closed

If you have any questions on these events, please call the Religious Education Office at 247-3092 ext. 225.



Summer Prayer

Father, Creator of all,
Thank You for summer!
Thank You for the warmth
of the sun and the
increased daylight.
Thank You for the beauty
I see all around me and for
the opportunity to be outside
and enjoy Your creation.
Thank You for the increased time
I have to be with my friends
and family, and for the more
casual pace of the summer season.

Draw me closer to You this
summer. Teach me how I can
pray no matter where I am
or what I am doing.
Warm my soul with the
awareness of Your presence
and light my path with Your Word
and Counsel. As I enjoy
Your creation, create in me
a pure heart and a hunger
and a thirst for You.

Amen.

-Author Unknown-