

SEPT  
2016

# ST. ANTHONY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

**“LET GO, LET GOD!”**

*Meet Principal Linda Keizer and Learn  
About What is in Store for the Upcoming School Year*

With the retirement of Mrs. Winona Martinez as Principal of St. Anthony Grade School at the end of last year, we now welcome our new principal, Mrs. Linda Keizer. Mrs. Keizer brings a wealth of experience and training to her new position.

Mrs. Keizer began in education 28 years ago at St. Joseph Catholic School in Shreveport, La. Since that time, she has taught in Missouri, Georgia, Iowa, and Illinois. Most recently, she was the principal of Our Lady of Grace in East Moline, Ill. Two years ago, her husband's company transferred him to Maui too – Mrs. Keizer and her husband enjoy going to the beach, kayaking, snorkeling, and hiking, so the island is a perfect place for them.

“I am very honored and excited to be in my new role as principal of St. Anthony Grade School,” she says. “It was my dream to continue my administrative journey here on Maui. When I first arrived on Maui and substituted at St. Anthony Grade School, I knew that this is where I belonged. I love the atmosphere, the faculty and staff, the families, and most especially the students. I am lucky to begin this year looking to



*Principal Mrs. Linda Keizer assists a student*

the future of possibilities, honoring the rich past that has gotten us to this point.”

As is typical of those who have a strong commitment to Catholic schools, Mrs. Keizer points out that faith is at the core of what she does.

“I have raised my own family to believe two prayers or sayings that we live by each and every day – ‘Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in You,’ and ‘Let go, let God!’” she says. “Because I believe that through Jesus all

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# ST. ANTHONY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

## *Learn About What Is in Store for the Upcoming School Year* *continued from front cover*

things are possible, I just trust and believe and do my best to make all decisions through eyes of faith.”

The school year officially began on Monday, Aug. 1, bringing several important developments and changes.

“The biggest change this year is that our sixth-graders moved off our side of the campus and went to a reorganized junior high of sixth, seventh and eighth-graders,” Mrs. Keizer says. “We miss them down where we are, but we are happy they are joining a junior high team of students. We also have experienced two faculty changes. Our new first-grade teacher is Mrs. Marian Lung and our new fifth-grade teacher is Ms. Kapu Adams. They are both very qualified teachers, part of the St. Anthony community, and excited to start the year with St. Anthony Grade School!

Because Mrs. Keizer is new to the school and somewhat new to Maui, she intends to learn more before she recommends or implements any other changes.

“I look forward to being a part of developing and implementing the St. Anthony one-school model,” she says. “My hope is that we can work together to support each other’s needs and make this the best school on Maui. My hope is to continue supporting and enhancing the community of St. Anthony Grade School and the church, St. Anthony Grade School and the Wailuku community, and St. Anthony Grade School and its families.”

She explains that the school opened the school year with 93 students, but their goal is 20 students per class, which means they can accommodate more.

“I am excited for the possibilities of gaining new students,” Mrs. Keizer says. “With each new family, we gain diversity and opportunity to make our school even better than what it is today.”



*Opening Mass at St. Anthony Grade School*

*“I have raised my own family to believe two prayers/sayings that we live by each and every day – ‘Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in You,’ and ‘Let go, let God!’ Because I believe that through Jesus all things are possible, I just trust and believe and do my best to make all decisions through eyes of faith.”*

*– Mrs. Linda Keizer, Principal*



*St. Anthony Grade School*

*If you would like more information about St. Anthony Grade School, please contact Principal Linda Keizer at 808-244-4976.*

## A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

### *Stewardship: "This Is the Day the Lord Has Made; Let Us Rejoice in It and Be Glad"*

Dear Parishioners,

Sometimes, we spend much time looking at, analyzing and speaking about the meaning of various passages and readings from Holy Scripture. Of course, we need to do that – it is important to our spiritual well-being, and to have a complete understanding of the messages revealed to us in the Word of God. As you are aware, most weeks we have four readings as part of our Liturgy of the Word – a First Reading, then a Responsorial Psalm, a Second Reading, and the Holy Gospel.

The one reading that sometimes is ignored is that Psalm. Yet, there are truths and wisdom in the Psalms that are worthy of our comments and our recognition. Psalm 24 (a song of David) strikes me in particular as one rich in meaning for us, especially from the perspective of stewardship. It opens, "The earth is the Lord's and all it holds, the world and those who dwell in it." For me, that says everything we believe and provides us with all the motivation we need to pursue stewardship as a way of life.

Let us consider how profound that statement – "The earth is the Lord's and all it holds" – really is. If we do embrace

stewardship as a way of life, we admit and accept that everything comes from God and everything is God's. Stewardship is not complicated, although we try to make everything complex and complicated, it seems. It is, as stated, merely the realization that our very existence, our lives, our goods all come from and in finality belong to God. We are the stewards of all of this. If we do accept that and try to live that way, we then tend to administer well God's gifts on behalf of God. That is all stewardship is.

At the heart of all of this is our relationship with the Lord. We can also say that stewardship is all about getting that relationship right (pono). Jesus certainly makes reference to stewards and stewardship in the Gospels. The Gospels were all written in Greek, and the English words for "steward" and "stewardship" are translations from a Greek word that means "to administer what belongs to someone else."

That is what we do in this life. We receive gifts – we are granted the stewardship of time, talent and treasure from God. But all of this and all we may be are only gifts. Our use of them to serve one another and all those around us in our community,



our parish and the Church Universal is the measure of our stewardship.

In the northern hemisphere, autumn begins on Thursday, Sept. 22. This time of year in the Church is when everything seems to begin or resume. There is another wonderful Psalm that states, "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad" (Psalm 118:24). Let us do that together, and let us be good stewards together.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Roland Bunda, S.M.

*If we do embrace stewardship as a way of life, we admit and accept that everything comes from God and everything is God's. Stewardship is not complicated, although we try to make everything complex and complicated, it seems.*

## Parish Staff and Volunteers



Brenda Phillips, Secretary



Rodney Teixeira, Maintenance



Hoku Ornellas, Cafeteria Manager

There's a reason they use the words "a higher calling." Working for the Church in any capacity requires more out of a person than just getting a job done. The men and women who work for St. Anthony, whether as staff or volunteers, are no exception. Time and again, they have proven themselves willing to lend their time and talents to the parish in ways that go above and beyond their job description.

This past spring, the parish chose to thank its employees with a special recognition event.

"We have an appreciation dinner once a year to thank all our staff and volunteers," Fr. Roland says. "Stewardship asks that we give up our time and talent, and we have about 440 people who do that and we want to acknowledge them."

The appreciation dinner, held in April, thanked staff and volunteers alike with door prizes and entertainment by Fr. Roland's band, Bunda's Boomers. As Fr. Roland describes, it's a chance for the parish family to relax and enjoy each other's company in a way they don't normally get to do.

Each year, one staff member or volunteer is recognized for his or her time and dedication. This year, St. Anthony Grade School principal Winona Martinez was honored.

"She's served for more than 20 years as principal and she's been at the school for 43 years, not counting her time as a student," Fr. Roland says of the honoree.

*"When people are happy they give more of themselves, of their spirits. It's part of stewardship to give your time and talent and help one another."*

*– Fr. Roland*

# AT A JOB: *Workers Go Above and Beyond*

Fr. Roland says this type of long-term dedication and commitment isn't rare at the parish. As he describes, staff members routinely go out of their way to assist different ministries in making sure their needs are met or spend extra time helping around the school.

"When we have a funeral, they help the Bereavement Committee by providing a reception during the wake, and they help set up the parish room for that – some of them are very committed to helping with that," Fr. Roland says. "We also have certain functions at the school and they'll open up the place and make sure it's tidy. When we had our school fair, they've volunteered with helping count the money. I'm really blessed that I have a good staff who volunteer here with several areas within the church and school."

In particular, Fr. Roland mentioned he wanted

to thank Sr. Eva Mesina for all that she does beyond her role as Director of Religious Education.

"If we have Mass for the grade school, she creates the program and assists with all the liturgical ministry," he says. "She volunteers extra time with helping clean the church early on Saturday mornings. She also assists on Saturday evening by cantoring and serving with the choir."

Creating this kind of spirit within the parish can be catching. Fr. Roland says he tries to encourage volunteers and staff members through a positive atmosphere.

"When people are happy they give more of themselves, of their spirits," Fr. Roland says. "It's part of stewardship to give your time and talent and help one another."



Winona (Nona) Iwata, Sacristan, Funeral Consultant



Sr. Eva Mesina, R.E. Instructor



Rosie Johnson, Music Director



Tehani Shimabuku, Pastoral Administrator



Debbie Bissen-Melton, Admin. Assistant

*If you would like to find out more about helping in and around the parish, please contact the church staff office at 808-244-4148.*

## THE IMPORTANCE OF *Family Prayer*

“The family that prays together stays together.” This famous slogan was coined in 1947 by writer Al Scalpone, and has been frequently referenced ever since. The phrase pinpoints the true power of prayer, and the importance of making family prayer a consistent practice in our lives.

As Christian disciples, we are striving to follow Jesus – to grow in our love of Him and to serve Him through the use of our time, talent and treasure. If we desire to follow in His footsteps, we must first begin by getting to know Him. Spending time with the Lord in prayer forms a foundation on which we can build our lives as Christian disciples, much in the same way that spending time with a girlfriend or boyfriend forms the foundation of a strong relationship.

The Christian family is the first place where children learn to pray. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* calls the family unit “Ecclesia domestica,” or “the Domestic Church” (1656). Thus, parents have a responsibility to set an example by taking time for personal prayer every day, and making family prayer a regular practice. This not only sets an example for the children, but also provides them with a faith-filled foundation and brings them closer to the Lord – forming them as grateful stewards of their time.

There are many ways in which a family can pray together. One of the most important times for prayer is before meals, where we thank God for His blessings, and for the food on our family table. Families may also share in the formal prayers of the Church, or perhaps pray a Rosary together every night. We can also thank the Lord aloud, asking Him to answer our prayers and offering Him our daily petitions. One often-suggested method of family prayer is ACTS, where we offer Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, and Supplication. Families may also go to their church and kneel together before the Blessed Sacrament, offering prayers in Christ’s Presence.

These are just several of the many opportunities for families to pray together. Of course, prayer will be influenced by each family’s dynamics and personalities. But no matter how we pray, it is important that we make the time to do so. This will deepen the family’s relationship with the Lord, our commitment as His disciples will be stronger, and we may continually renew and foster our families’ bonds.



### **PRAYER OF PARENTS:**

*God, our Father, I thank you for the gift of my children and for the privilege and responsibility of being a parent, for this is my way of holiness. May I regard each of my children as a sacred pledge of Your love and a beautiful sign of Your confidence in me. Help me to pass on to my children our greatest treasures - faith in Your truths, hope in Your goodness, love in Your name for all. I entrust my children to Your loving care. Banish from our home any bitterness or lack of forgiveness. Let us have time, deep concern, and a sense of sacrifice for one another. Teach us never to be ashamed that we are, in name and in fact, a Catholic family striving to live in the way of Jesus, Who is head of our home. Give us Your Holy Spirit to unite us throughout this life and let the circle of our family be unbroken in the Kingdom of Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

## Taking Care of God's Garden at St. Anthony

There are many ways we can experience God in our everyday lives – through prayer, a conversation with a friend, or in the splendor of nature. Particularly here on Maui, it's hard to deny the way that God can speak to us through the beauty of His creation. Whether it's a beautiful sunset, the waves crashing on the beach, or the stunning detail of a hibiscus, God shows us the wonder of His creative power in many ways – and if we're open to it, nature can draw us closer to the Lord.

Here at St. Anthony Catholic Community, volunteers serve to keep our grounds maintained, both to honor God by making His home a beautiful place, as well as to help parishioners enter into prayer as they encounter the wonder of God's creation.

"For us as Catholic Christians, the church is the house of God where people come to worship Him and receive the holy sacraments," says Ramiro Hernandez, through his wife, Diana, as his interpreter, "When people come, they see the flowers and they appreciate the beauty of the creation of God."

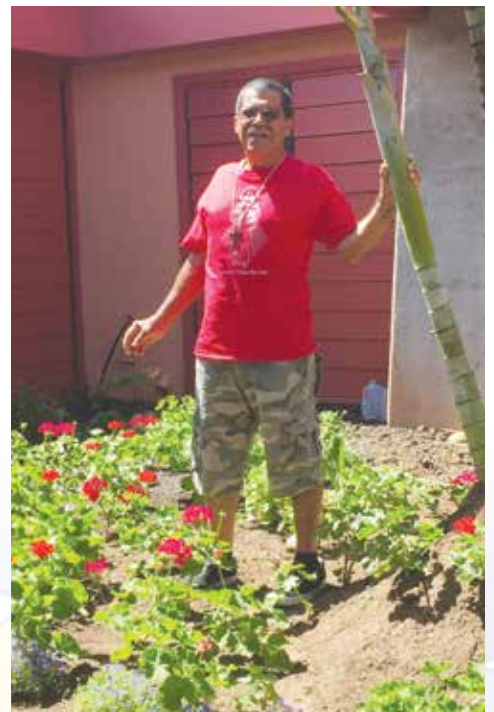
Ramiro has helped care for the grounds for the past three years. His involvement began when he would come to the parish, with his family, to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. After praying the Chaplet, his wife, Diana, would stay to chat with friends, and Ramiro just noticed little things that he could take care of around the yard. After experiencing serious illness, Ramiro was unable to work, because of his disability. However, rather than let this discourage him, Ramiro took the opportunity to become more involved in serving the parish and making the yards beautiful.

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*"For us as Catholic Christians, the church is the house of God where people come to worship Him and receive the holy sacraments. When people come, they see the flowers and they appreciate the beauty of the creation of God." – Ramiro Hernandez*



*Caring for the parish grounds is one of the ways Ramiro serves God and his parish family.*



*Ramiro Hernandez has volunteered in caring for the church grounds for the past three years.*

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## *Taking Care of God's Garden at St. Anthony*

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For those who serve in this way, the act of cleaning, maintaining, and caring for the plants and grounds can be an opportunity to serve and grow closer to God.

Diana recalls asking Ramiro why he chose to serve in this way, and his response: "I love Jesus, that's why I'm doing it – it's not for people to look at it and praise me," Ramiro said. "When we do something, it's not for others to see, it's for the glory of God."

Working in the yards is also an opportunity for volunteers to share in the creative work of

God. While those who serve work hard, in the end, it's God's work.

"God is the one who nourishes the flowers," Ramiro says. "For every little thing we do, it gives glory to God – it always goes back to Him."

Often unnoticed, this "behind-the-scenes" ministry is a way for parishioners to use their gifts to serve the parish, in something that might appear to be simple. However, when done for God, this service can have a powerful impact.

"It doesn't need to be big," Ramiro says. "If God calls you, you just have to do it with all of your heart."

*If you have a love for nature and gardening, and would like to become involved in caring for the grounds, please contact Fr. Roland Bunda at 808-244-4148 for more information on how you can serve!*

### LITURGY SCHEDULE

CHURCH CENTER :: **Saturday** 5:00 p.m. | **Sunday** 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

SAINT DAMIEN CHAPEL :: **Monday - Friday** 6:30 a.m. | **Saturday** 7:00 a.m.