

ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH & ASCENSION MISSION



SPREAD CHRISTMAS CHEER AND SHARE THE GOOD NEWS THROUGH ANNUNCIATION'S GIVING TREE

Each Advent season, Annunciation parishioners look forward to helping local families through our parish's Giving Tree. Through this program, the parish is able to provide gifts for seniors, children and families who would otherwise have nothing to open on Christmas morning. By taking the time to grab ornaments and purchase gifts, parishioners can spread a little extra Christmas cheer.

"It is the season of giving!" says parishioner Maile Lincoln. "This is the perfect time to spread the news about Jesus' birth and to practice stewardship within our own community."

On Thanksgiving weekend, a tree goes up at both Annunciation parish in Waimea and at Ascension Mission in Puako. The trees



are decorated with angel card ornaments, which list gifts and personal items to be purchased for the Giving Tree recipients — personal items include bath towels, hairbrushes, fuzzy socks and grocery store gift certificates. Parishioners may take as many cards as they like. The gifts

may be wrapped or unwrapped — if you choose to wrap your items, please place the angel card ornament on the outside of the gift so that volunteers can identify them.

The recipients of the Giving Tree often change from year to year, depending on need.

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FINANCIAL REPORT

| Income | July 1, 2018 - Sept. 30, 2018 |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Saturday, 5:00 p.m. Mass - Waimea | \$18,333.62 |
| Sunday, 8:00 a.m. Mass - Waimea | \$20,675.91 |
| Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Mass - Puako | \$23,759.40 |
| Online Sunday Giving | \$12,670.00 |
| Special Offerings (maintenance offerings) | \$8,122.49 |
| Holy Days | \$0.00 |
| Special Gifts & Bequests | \$9,300.00 |
| Food Pantry Donations & Grants | \$1,875.00 |
| Online Food Pantry (1425) & HFK (300) Online Donations | \$1,725.00 |
| Interest Income | \$2,708.06 |
| Candle Offerings | \$1,936.30 |
| Online Evangelization Donations | \$1,520.80 |
| Other Income | \$1,505.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$104,131.58 |
| Second Collections - Money disbursed | \$6,321.50 |
| Expenses | |
| Priest Expenses (salary, medical, retirement) | \$15,164.82 |
| Lay Expenses (employees wages, taxes, medical & insurance) | \$19,052.27 |
| Office Expenses (parish & R.E. office supplies) | \$2,009.30 |
| Insurance (property & liability) | \$0.00 |
| Puako Lease | \$3,287.26 |
| Waimea repairs, maintenance & improvements | \$2,818.71 |
| Puako repairs, maintenance & improvements | \$1,500.00 |
| Waimea Utilities (all buildings) | \$3,918.90 |
| Puako Utilities | \$2,961.11 |
| Diocese Assessment | \$12,627.00 |
| Stewardship Expenses | \$9,000.00 |
| Liturgy Expense (incl.candle exp. of \$1959.19) | \$14,582.04 |
| Equipment & Furniture | \$0.00 |
| Appreciation Expenses | \$1,638.92 |
| Other Expenses (Travel,Cmte.Food,Hskpg.Supp.,Prof.Svcs.,etc.) | \$17,652.84 |
| Faith Formation (WILAC, Retreat, Convocation, LA Congress, Stewardship Conference, Parish Retreat, Youth Days, RE textbks.) | \$796.33 |
| Evangelization (Catholic Bks/News, Newsletter printing & mailing) | \$4,978.15 |
| Community Outreach (incl.pers.care kits) | \$387.11 |
| Food Pantry Expense | \$14,312.58 |
| Hunger Free Keiki | \$0.00 |
| Parish Tithing (support to other parishes/relig.org., etc) | \$3,900.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$130,587.34 |
| Net Income (Income minus Expenses) | -\$26,455.76 |

A Letter from Our Pastor

NOVEMBER IS A TIME FOR

Thanksgiving

Dear Parishioners,

November seems to automatically bring us to thoughts of gratitude and Thanksgiving Day — it is both a time of year when we tend to think in terms of gratitude to God, and a time when we also formally celebrate our American holiday. My memories of Thanksgiving are filled with food, of course, but they are also filled with thoughts of family and a sense of togetherness and a sense of my faith.

But this is also a significant month in the Church from a number of perspectives. Nov. 1 is a Holy Day, the Solemnity of All Saints. The next day is All Souls' Day. In these 2 days, we reflect on all the saints in our lives — living, not living, known and unknown.

Most of us have people in our lives who have had a profound impact on us — people we can consider as our own personal saints. This month is a wonderful reminder to think of them, thank them, and thank God for making them a part of our lives.

Our Thanksgiving holiday falls on Nov. 22, and is a time



for families and gratitude. Thanksgiving became official in the United States in 1863, and in his proclamation, President Abraham Lincoln made very clear Whom we needed to thank. “To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually

insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God,” Lincoln said. In other words, we all need to thank Almighty God for our many blessings.

Finally, November also brings us to the end of one Church year and the beginning of a new one. The Feast of Christ the King on Nov. 25 officially begins the final week of our liturgical year, and the First Sunday of Advent is on Dec. 2. From the beginning of the month when we thank God for the example of the saints and the saintly people in our lives, to the end of the month when we thank God for everything we have and everything we are, November is a time to approach the Lord with a grateful heart. That is what stewardship truly is all about — about approaching God, about approaching each day, and about approaching all those with whom we come in contact with hearts filled with gratitude and love.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Stephen

Reverend Stephen Macedo
Pastor

Thanks

STEWARDSHIP

A PATH TO HOLINESS

2018 Stewardship Renewal



ANNUNCIATION PARISH
AND ASCENSION MISSION

OUR ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL

You have to take care of yourself before you can take care of those you love. This rationale is difficult for many of us to accept. Mothers and fathers routinely place the needs of their children before their own; soldiers at war often throw their own safety to the wind in the interest of protecting their fellow soldiers. The story of Jesus also focuses on giving to others. If Christ calls us to imitate Him – to become completely selfless – then it would seem that focusing on ourselves might counteract our efforts as Christians.

Nevertheless, as we enter into our annual Stewardship Renewal, Fr. Stephen is asking us all to focus a bit more on ourselves. No, he's not encouraging self-centeredness; he's asking us to examine our own lives and determine the areas that are in need of growth. Before the stewardship way of life can totally transform our parish, it must begin in each of our hearts. As each individual's spiritual life blossoms and grows, so will our parish as a whole. Will you plant the seed of stewardship in your own heart?

How do I use my Commitment Card?

Your commitment card allows you to make commitments to prayer, parish ministries, and offertory giving. It is designed to be used by the whole family.

Time Section: Except for the ill and homebound, everyone should be able to check "Come to Mass on Sundays and Holy Days." Try to check at least a few other items. Daily prayer should be a priority for every person trying to grow closer to God.

Talent Section: You can either sign up for new ministries or re-commit to your current ministries. Be sure to write your first name next to the ministry! This is especially important if the card is being used by more than one person.

Treasure Section: Clearly print how much

Every parish family receives a special "Stewardship Package" in the mail that further explains our parish's vision of stewardship. It includes a booklet that describes every ministry in the parish, as well as your commitment card.

STEWARDSHIP

A PATH TO HOLINESS

money you plan to give each week or month to our parish. Try to take a step toward giving a percentage of your income to Annunciation.

Is your prayer life in need of a tune-up?

Honestly ask yourself, "How much time do I spend in prayer each week?" The answer is probably a bit embarrassing. Everyone wants to spend more time in prayer, but there's just never enough time to do everything we want to do. Good intentions are just that: intentions. This year, as you're discerning how you will offer your time to God, resolve to follow through with your commitments. Consider each moment you spend in prayer as nourishment for your soul. The spiritual health of our parish is only as strong as the sum of its parts (individual parishioners).

Is your level of parish involvement in need of a boost?

We give our talents back to God when we get involved in our parish ministries. With a host of ministries to choose from, there's something for everyone. Sure, ministries give parishioners opportunities to serve others in the community, but they also benefit those in the ministry itself. Ask anyone who actively participates in a ministry, "Why do you enjoy serving in this way?" They'll probably say, "I get more out of the ministry than the people I serve." This year, as you're discerning

how you will offer your talents to God, considering signing up for a ministry that may benefit you, like a Bible study, prayer group, or retreat. Or, contribute to an outreach ministry where your good deeds not only help others in the community, but also give you feelings of satisfaction and thankfulness.

Do you give a percentage of your income to the offertory?

It may be hard to see offertory giving as a way to "help yourself," but when we approach the subject from a spiritual viewpoint, it can lead to individual spiritual growth and an increase in faith. Even the most savvy business person worries about his or her personal finances from time to time. Adding a weekly offertory check to the list of monthly bills may seem crazy but, ultimately, sacrificial giving forces us to cut unnecessary spending, create a budget and have faith that God will help us make it through the month. All of these are good things for each of us, individually. After faithfully giving to the offertory for a few months, many Catholics find that it's not only possible to give a weekly offering, but that the fruits of their gift far outweigh the expense.

Why a percentage of income? First, because the tithe (10 percent) is a scriptural benchmark that the Church has honored for centuries (see Malachi 3:10). Secondly, we give a percentage of income because

it is a common-sense standard by which everyone can equitably support the parish. Most of all, we give because we believe God comes first in everything, even finances.



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STEWARDSHIP
A PATH TO HOLINESS

2018 COMMITMENT CARD
My Offering of Time, Talent & Treasure

First & Last Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Spouse: First & Last Name _____

Spouse: Phone _____

Spouse: Email _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

*Please bring this card to Mass on
Nov. 24 or 25, or mail using the envelope provided.
Thank you and God bless you!*

*Commitment Weekend
is November 24-25.
Don't forget to bring your
Commitment Card to Mass!*

THE BUGADO FAMILY GIVES

For the Bugado family, Annunciation Parish is a second home. The three members of the family — Angela, Paul and their son, Hunter — all find joy in using their God-given talents to serve the parish and community.

“St. Francis said, ‘For it is in giving that we receive,’ and we like to give back,” Angela says. “It is important to share our talents because they can be used to help out the parish and those in our community in an amazing and powerful way. When people come together and use their talents as one, they can accomplish anything, while being mindful and appreciative of the gifts that God has bestowed upon them.”

Angela was born in North Kohala, but grew up in both Honolulu and California, while Paul was born and raised in Hilo. They met in North Kohala in 1995, the same year they began attending Ascension Mission in Puako. They were married in 1999, and currently live in Kamuela. Their son, Hunter, was baptized at Annunciation in 2001, and they instantly fell in love with the parish community. Angela has been a stay-at-home mom for 17 years, and has enjoyed devoting her time to her family and the parish. Paul has been a police officer for the past 24 years, and is currently a sergeant as well as serving on the special response team. Hunter is a senior at Parker School and is preparing for college.

Angela and Paul have lived with strong examples of faith and service for as long as they can remember. They were both raised in devout Catholic families, and both had close family



The three members of the Bugado family — Angela, Paul and their son, Hunter — all find joy in using their God-given talents to serve the parish and community.

members who were religious sisters. Angela recalls how seeing her older family members’ involvement at their parish made a lasting impression.

“When we would spend summers with my

“St. Francis said, ‘For it is in giving that we receive,’ and we like to give back. It is important to share our talents because they can be used to help out the parish and those in our community in an amazing and powerful way. When people come together and use their talents as one, they can accomplish anything, while being mindful and appreciative of the gifts that God has bestowed upon them.”

— Angela Bugado

BACK TO GOD AND PARISH COMMUNITY

grandparents, I remember how they were active at their parish in Kohala,” she says. “Growing up, we saw this very strong devotion in our parents and grandparents, and that’s where we learned to follow through. That’s why now, with our son, we have become very active and have a strong relationship with our church.”

Currently, Angela serves as a sacristan and is involved in the Prayer Warrior ministry. Hunter is active in the parish Youth Group and serves as a lector.

“I feel blessed and honored to serve as a sacristan,” Angela says. “Hunter enjoys being a lector because it allows him to use his talent of reading while being able to proclaim the Word of God.”

The Bugados also attend a parish Bible study, and serve together as a family in the Cemetery Maintenance ministry. “Serving as part of the Cemetery Maintenance crew allows us to spend quality time together while being able to honor those who have left us,” Angela says. “It also teaches our son about the importance of giving back to the community and to appreciate the gifts that God has given him. It is important to teach our children these values because they are the next generation of stewards. They have the power to make great change in both the Church and the community. Helping them to get active and involved allows them to experience different types of service, which can help them to grow morally and spiritually. These morals will most definitely affect the way that our children will choose to make important decisions and ultimately take control of their lives.”

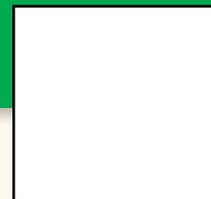
Angela, Paul and Hunter have all grown closer to God through their parish involvement, and are proud to serve as members of the Annunciation community.

“By giving back through stewardship, we use our gifts and talents to help change our parish and community for the better,” Angela says. “It makes us happy to know that our small roles are part of a larger, communal role. The time that we give in these ministries helps us to fully understand that the little sacrifices we make every day could never amount to the sacrifice that Jesus made for us.”



For the Bugado family, Annunciation Parish is a second home.





Annunciation / Ascension Parish
PO Box 301 Kamuela, HI 96743



Annunciation's Giving Tree *continued from front cover*

“Each year a decision is made based on who will best benefit from our stewardship of gift giving,” Maile says. “For example, we did keiki in public housing for several years, and we did the kupuna for the last two years. Last year, we distributed approximately 100 gifts to seniors in two different housing complexes and some others in need.”

The ministry relies on its dedicated volunteers to make the Giving Tree project a success each year.

“We have about a dozen committee members that help in a variety of ways,” Maile says. “This includes decorating the tree, collecting the gifts, hand-writing Christmas cards with Bible verses and coordinating gift wrapping. Our parish youth, their parents, and their teachers come out to help distribute the gifts. We are always

in need of volunteers to bring fresh ideas and to help with the workload.”

The Giving Tree is a positive experience both for the recipients and for the volunteers.



“It’s always great to give back to our community,” Maile says. “I love spreading the Good News of our faith, and it’s always good to see the smiles on the faces of the recipients and how grateful they are. Last year we were thanked by one of the kupuna’s children. She had

just moved into senior housing a couple of months prior, and this was a new transition for the whole family. After we delivered her present and sang some songs, she called her son to tell him what happened and that she was so overwhelmed by the kindness of everyone.”

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5 p.m. (Waimea) | **Sunday:** 8 a.m. (Waimea) & 10 a.m. (Puako) | **Confession:** Saturday 4 p.m. (Waimea)