

# PARISH

# SPOTLIGHT

Meet  
Kathy  
Jaycox



**St. John Vianney Parish  
Representative to Faith Action for  
Community Equity**



Kathy Jaycox has been a parishioner at St John Vianney since moving here from Chicago 1992. She serves as our parish representative to Faith Action for Community Equity, an interdenominational coalition focused on issues of social justice.

Our parish joined Faith Action in 1998, two years after its founding. Kathy's involvement began in the early 2000's. When asked why she chose to commit her time to Faith Action, Kathy responded that it provides a structure through which she can put her faith into action. She said, "I was moved by the covenant statement, the agreement signed by every church, temple or organization that joins Faith Action." This covenant states, in part, that Faith Action member organizations will "examine core issues and the root causes of problems, and [will] be a vehicle through which our people can act to improve quality of life."

Kathy uses this analogy to explain the work of Faith Action. We are all familiar with the story of the Good Samaritan, who helped the Jewish robbery victim by binding his wounds and providing for his follow-up care. Well, Faith Action is NOT like the Good Samaritan. It does not provide direct help, such as feeding the hungry or building homes. But Faith Action is a coalition of caring neighbors who ask the Good Samaritan and all others in the Bible story, "How did this happen to the victim and what can we do to insure that no one else gets abused in this way?"

So Faith Action looks at the social justice challenges facing our community (e.g., costs of long-term care, access to affordable workforce housing, environmental climate concerns) and says, in essence, here are two things we can do. First, we can voice our concerns and suggest solutions to those who shape public policy at the local, state and federal level. And second, through our issues-based task forces, we can develop leaders from within our churches and temples who will help others to find and develop their own voices in support of justice and compassion.

Learn more about this work at:  
<https://www.faithactionhawaii.org>, including a historic video made by SJV religious education students in 2011.