

St. John Vianney Parish Is celebrating its 59th Anniversary



CONGRATULATIONS For serving the Enchanted Lake And surrounding area for 59 years!

St. John Vianney Parish, a Christian Community in the Roman Catholic tradition, motivated by the love of God, provides opportunities in worship, education, ministry and outreach for its parishioners and the community at large.

The parish's four priorities are: Faith Formation, Leadership Development, Marriage and Family, and Youth and Young Adult.

Ministries are Altar Servers, Bereavement, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Environment, Hospitality, Lectors, Music & Choir, an RCIA team, and Sacristans .

Our programs include Faith Action, Knights of Columbus, Prison Ministry, Scouting, Seniors Young at Heart, the Sodality, St. Vincent DePaul Society and Stewardship.

Parish staff includes our pastor, a parish administrator, a Music director, a director of Religious Education and Maintenance.

A Finance Council, Pastoral Council, School Board, Liturgy Commission and a Building & Maintenance Commission act as advisors to our pastor.

(For more information see myParish app or
our parish website www.saintjohnvianneyhawaii.org).



ABOUT ST. JOHN VIANNEY CHURCH AND SCHOOL

In August 1962 the Roman Catholic Diocese of Honolulu announced the newest parish in the islands, the second one in Kailua. The new parish was established to serve the newly developed area of Enchanted Lake and the growing Kailua community. Mr. Joseph Pao pledged to donate the church in memory of his parents Joe and Mary Pao. The Kailua Heights Joint Venture Company and the Kaelepu Investment Company donated and developed four choice acres which comprised the parish campus. The parish was named St. John Vianney after the patron saint of all Catholic priests.

The church building was completed and dedicated by Bishop Sweeney on February 24, 1963, as a modern, functional, 425-seat building of steel and concrete construction. The pastor of the new church was Fr. John B. Read, ordained in Kentucky on May 31, 1952, and the assistant pastor was Fr. Patrick Freitas, newly ordained from Maui. A residence for them was built simultaneously with the new church. At the end of its first year, the parish rejoiced in 135 Baptisms, 110 First Communicants, 75 Confirmed, 20 Converts, and had grown from 650 to 750 registered families.

In less than three years after being established, St. John Vianney parishioners clamored for a parochial school. Plans for a school and convent were submitted by architect Ray Akagi and approved by the Building Commission and the Bishop. The Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity from Manitowoc, Wisconsin agreed to staff the school and the school opened in 1965. At the conclusion of the school year (78-79), after 12 years of rich service to our parish, we bade the sisters farewell. The departure of the Sisters left us with an empty convent. After some renovations, the convent was re-opened as a shared parish and school facility, which was named "The John B. Read Center". Since then more renovations have taken place and the center now consists of early learning centers for 3 and 4 year olds, a contemporary science classroom-lab, an art studio, a 21st century technology center and a modern library. The school runs on a year round schedule and currently has 213 students.

Pastors have been Fr. John Read, Fr. Patrick Freitas, Fr. Nathan Mamo, Fr. Joseph Grimaldi and Fr. Thomas Gross. The current pastor is Fr. Peter Miti. The parish facilities include the Church, completely remodeled in 2006, the Parish Center with parish and school offices and meeting rooms; a ten room school building; the renovated Fr. John Read Center; a Parish Hall; and the pastor's residence.

St. John Vianney parish's success over the years is due to our many dedicated parish organizations. They have helped our parish achieve its mission, which is to provide quality worship, education, ministry and outreach to our parishioners and the community at large, and will surely guide our parish for future years. Let us pray that next year we will be able to celebrate our 60th Anniversary together as a family with festive events and activities.