



He Ana Iki

Winter
2016-2017

A Winter Edition

This “Winter” edition of the He Ana Iki comes near the end of the season. Spring actually begins on Monday, March 20, 2017 at 12:29 am Hawai`i time. But before it ends we will have celebrated Valentine’s Day, the inspiration for the focus of this newsletter—God’s love made known.

In Hawai`i “Live Aloha” and “the Aloha Spirit” are commonly heard phrases. But what does Aloha really mean and how does Aloha make God’s love visible? Although Aloha is commonly used as a greeting or a goodbye it is much more than that. Aloha expresses the mutual respect and caring which are essential for relationships in which every person is important and can be articulated in the following free translation:

Akahai, meaning kindness expressed with tenderness;

Lōkahi, meaning unity or right relationship, to be expressed with harmony;

Olu`olu, meaning agreeable, to be expressed with pleasantness;

Ha`aha`a, meaning humility, to be expressed with modesty;

Ahouni, meaning patience to be expressed with perseverance;

all of which are included in the Charism and Spirit of the Sisters of St. Joseph!

How are the Sisters and `Ohana in Hawai`i making God’s love evident to the people of the islands? Part of the answer is in the following stories.

Visiting the Sick

Evie Char, CSJ `Ohana

Every now and then I’m aware of how God arranges things to happen in my life, especially when it comes to people I meet. My ministry these days is giving Healing Touch (energy healing) to patients in the hospital as well as friends and family at home.

Early on in Tai Chi class I met Edna, a soft spoken older Chinese woman for whom English was not her first language. She had been a seamstress and generously altered the tee shirts for some of our classmates. Last Fall, Edna was diagnosed with intestinal cancer and has been receiving a series of chemotherapy treatments, the side effects make her very sick, weak, and severely dehydrated. I have been giving Healing Touch to Edna and sometimes drive her to the doctor for treatments or IV therapy to alleviate the side effects. That saves her adult children from having to take time off from their jobs to drive her to the doctor.

(continued on next page)

Kindness is just LOVE
with its work boots on.....

anonymous

(Healing Touch Continued)

The site manager for our condo had been very kind to me, helping identify problems and solutions when things are not working and even helping me fix things without my asking. He recently told me he would be having surgery because his bladder cancer had reoccurred. I was able to go to the hospital and give him Healing Touch several times. He had some complications after surgery but is now recuperating at home. When he says he doesn't know how to repay me, I tell him he already did when he was so kind to me.

I truly believe that what we do for each other, our dear neighbors, is expressing God's love.

Feeding the Hungry

Sr. Mary Dugar



Feeding the hungry takes on a whole different meaning when the hungry are an entire elementary school! Sr. Mary Dugar (second from the right above) offers her services as a volunteer at St. Theresa School in Honolulu. She usually is found in the school library, but during the celebration of Catholic Schools Week Mary joined the faculty and staff in serving up a barbecue lunch to the students.

Mary is also one of our volunteer drivers, taking sisters to appointments and, since she lives close to the airport, is frequently called on for airport pick up or delivery.

Visiting the Imprisoned

CSJ `Ohana on O`ahu

In 1998 the Diocese of Honolulu started a program which began as a dream that the simple act of giving would help mend damaged or strained relationships among incarcerated mothers, their children and caregivers. Star Light, Star Bright's Christmas program (which includes a weekend stay at the Diocesan Center, a Christmas Party at the Corrections Center and gifts of food and household supplies for families) provides mothers and children a day of meaningful and emotional reconnection, especially children who do not live on the island of O`ahu.

The `Ohana members on O`ahu invite the Sisters to join them in annually reaching out in compassion to the families and especially the children struggling with the effects of their mother's incarceration. This year, many large laundry baskets were filled for distribution to these families.



Here `Ohana members Vicky Bunye, Evie Char, Star Lum Kee and Posie Fujimoto sort the donations for packing into the laundry baskets.

We Commit Ourselves To: use imagination and creativity to practice and pilot new ways of being in mission with partners and collaborators

Burying the Dead

Sisters on O`ahu and Maui

Seven of our Sisters are buried at Diamond-head Cemetery on O`ahu: Barbara Mary Vennard, Sheila Sullivan, Margarita Marie Ringor, Esther Marie Chong, Jerome Mulligan, Rose Anthony Tanio, and Rose Damien Malabon. Sr. Julia Marie Acain is buried in the family plot at St. Joseph's Parish cemetery on Maui.



Sr. Tomasa Marcos and Sr. Anita Marie Rosco help Sr. Jean Larm with Flowers for the graves.

Sr. Jean Larm and other Sisters and `Ohana insure that the graves on O`ahu are regularly decorated with fresh flowers. On Maui, Sr. Catherine Acain and her family care for the family plot where Julie is buried. On All Souls Day Sisters and `Ohana gather on both islands to remember our deceased—both Sisters and `Ohana—in, what has become, a traditional prayer service.

Giving Alms to the Poor

Sr. John Joseph Gilligan, Sr. Marcie Felipe

Sr. John Joseph Gilligan is the Principal at St. Theresa School in Honolulu (our first mission in Hawai`i), but she is often found substituting for a teacher who is ill or who has an appointment.



“J,” as she is known by us, has another mission as well—to bring her faculty and students into partnership with the CSJs in reaching out to the Dear Neighbor. This year St. Theresa’s was one of over 4,000 groups around the country participating in Souper Sunday—not a misspelling!

Since 1990, young people have taken the lead in collecting food and donations leading up to and on Super Bowl Sunday. Everything that is collected is given to local charities and outreach organizations. On Souper Bowl Sunday this year, the students and staff of St. Theresa School along with the Parish collected over 600 pounds of food and over \$1,000 in monetary contributions. All of these donations have been given to the Parish’s newly opened food pantry where Sr. Marcie Felipe has become a regular volunteer.



St. Theresa School students collecting on Super Bowl Sunday



Sr. Marcie Felipe (lower right) works with parishioners in the new parish food pantry

Sheltering the Homeless

Sr. Marian Tung and Sr. Sara Sanders

Family Promise is a national interfaith program that began in 1986 with a simple act of kindness: giving a sandwich to a homeless woman and then listening to her story. The name Family Promise reflects the vision for ending family homelessness and the commitment that communities make to these families in need. It also refers to the promise/potential inherent in every family.

In Hawai`i the goal is to assist families with children experiencing homelessness and help them transition to sustainable independence. Many churches and temples offer secure places to stay and meals a week at a time until families are placed in homes. Many of our Sisters and `Ohana members on O`ahu participate in Family Promise—setting up facilities, donating supplies, providing and serving meals, being with the families who are their guests for supper. Most Sisters and `Ohana help at Holy Trinity; Sr. Sara Sanders (left), Sr. Marian Tung (right), help volunteer coordinator Yvette Pacheco at St. George’s in Waimānalo.



Praying for the Living and the Dead

Luz Ramil

Individual and communal prayer are essentials of our spiritual lives. Many of our Sisters and `Ohana members are active in parish liturgical ministries and as Eucharistic Ministers for the home-

bound and those in hospitals and nursing/care homes. St. Augustine has been credited with penning the saying “to sing is to pray twice.” Luz Ramil, `Ohana member on Maui, has taken that to heart and is an active member of the Filipino Choir at St. Theresa Church in Kihei. This faithful group encourages the prayer of the assembly every Sunday at the 7 am Mass. Pictured here is Luz (5th from the left) with the choir and Bishop Larry Silva at the Missa de Gallo last December.



`Ohana Candidate, Gail Mitchell, and her husband Joe have been attending the annual Congressional Prayer Breakfast in Washington, DC. For many years. At this year’s 65th Breakfast on February 2, Gail (her husband is in the middle of the picture in the next column) met with Tony Hall, a former congressman and ambassador to the United Nations for Food and Hunger.



In our prayer as individuals and as community, we delight in God’s love in a spirit of thanks and praise.

Constitution of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet

Walking with the Marginalized

Sr. Francine Costello

For a month at the end of 2016 Sr. Francine Costello served the immigrants and refugees coming into El Paso. On the day of her arrival and introduction to the Loretto-Nazareth Hospitality Center for Migrants there were 100 newly arrived guests (35 families with 66 children). Between one and two hundred immigrants pass through this one of five houses each week where they are registered, housed, provided with personal supplies, food and clothing and connected to their sponsors or sponsoring families. Once arrangements are made they are taken to bus stations or airports where they continue their journey, a dream of hope.

The ministry runs smoothly, though at times it appears chaotic, because of the continuous flow of volunteers and the generosity of the local families. Monetary donations to the project are used to purchase needed items and to defray costs—like daily laundering of sheets and towels at a local laundromat which can cost \$40-\$50 a day. During her time in El Paso, Francine (far right below) joined with three other CSJs: Doreen Glynn (Albany), Lorraine Polacci (Los Angeles), Patrice Coolick (St. Louis) and numerous other lay and religious volunteers.



We walk with those who are marginalized, especially those who live in poverty, as an essential lens in sharing resources and evaluating and forming partnerships. 2013 Calls to Action

Francine and her local community, Rosita Aranita and Mary Dugar, also stood with other women at the Honolulu Women's March on January 21, 2017.



Protecting Earth's Beauty

Sr. James Therese Joseph

Who never went to the beach without a plastic bag? The correct answer is Sr. James Therese Joseph. Before recycling was the IN thing to do, Sr. James collected discarded cans and bottles and redeemed HI-5 items to get money for the missions and for the love of the Aina. Water is never wasted. She told me how her father taught her family how to take a "Navy shower:" Turn on the water, get wet, turn off the water, soap up, turn on the water to rinse off and pau, no waste of water. Unused ice cubes are put in plants, not thrown away. In our local community we use cloth napkins not paper, etc. All for the love of the Aina.

(Story by Sr. Giovanna Marie Marcoccia)



Making God's Love Tangible



The Enomoto Clan on Maui, along with Fr. Jim Orsini, celebrated Sr. Roselani's 60th Jubilee

Lynda Asato, CSJ `Ohana (center front) celebrated the beauty of Japan with friends.



Sisters Deanine Medina, Claudia Wong and Jean Larm brought Mother St. John along to welcome neighborhood children on Halloween.

Sr. Rosita Araninta (front row, left) joined other volunteers on a retreat at Hoa Aina O Makaha where she is a Board Member and grant writer for educational programs on the farm.





Lynda Asato, CSJ `Ohana joins Sisters Patty Chang, Sarah Bernard Talite, Tomasa Marcos, Anita Marie Rosco and Jean Larm in a celebration of life—Hau`oli la hanau! (Happy Birthday, Tomasa)



Sisters Ann Faber Chang and Brenda Lau
"We got the message!"

God's love is shown through
the simple acts of our
everyday lives.

Posie Fujimoto sings with the choir at Pohai Nani Retirement Community

