



THE ANGELUS

The Newsletter of Saint Mary's Episcopal Church • Honolulu

Fall 2023

It's Fall. Pumpkin spice season. Spooky season. A season that is always a bit weird in tropical places because the stores and houses are decorated with imagery and foliage from much higher in the Northern Hemisphere. For us it's when the swells get smaller in Town and start getting much bigger on the North Shore, when whales start showing up, when we might start looking for Makali'i (also known as the constellation Pleiades) to begin rising in the east at sunset to mark the change from the season of Kau to Ho'oilō and the start of the Makahiki celebrations.

In a sense, these all fit together in a common theme of dying and rising again, which is something that we remember at this time of year—a sort of concentrated celebration of the entire Christian year and it's focus on Jesus' coming to us and changing our worldview of one from death-as-finality to death-as-entry-into-resurrection. Praise be to God.

This season is also Diocesan Convention season, which just wrapped up a few days before writing this. This, the 55th convention of our Diocese (since becoming a full-fledged Episcopal diocese, after both being a mission of the Episcopal Church and the Hawaiian Reformed Catholic Church, which ended after Annexation) contained a note of heaviness. Not only was it happening during the heavy aerial bombardment of Gaza by Israel, but it also was happening not too long after the tragic fires that burned down Lāhaina, particularly our historically significant parish of Holy Innocents. But, in keeping with the aforementioned spirit of dying and rising that substantiates this time of year, the pinnacle cross from the roof of Holy Innocents, which survived the fire, was present in the room with us.

In terms of business from the convention, we not only did the usual vote on the budget, we also voted to enter into a diocesan relationship with both the Episcopal Church in the Philippines and the Philippine Independent Church (which is a full-communion partner) in the northern regions of Luzon; we passed a resolution condemning the polluting of our water by the US Navy and calling for remediation of this act; we joined a bevy other dioceses in condemning the wanton violence of the Hamas-Israel war and calling for a ceasefire; and we began the process of welcoming the Convocation of Episcopal Churches of Micronesia into the Episcopal Church of Hawai'i. This is all in addition to the renewed focus on the order of Deacons, creation

creation care, and reconciliation that marked Education Day on Friday, October 20th.

And this time of renewal is not relegated only to the diocese, but is happening here at Saint Mary's as well. We have welcomed the Rev. Frank Condello back home here to serve as a Priest Associate, Carlton Pang has been officially licensed to preach as a lay-person, and we are looking toward changes and improvements on our campus to better empower Saint Mary's ministry in our community.

It's Fall. And the signs of new life beginning are all around us.

—Fr. Charles+



(Left) White hibiscus in bloom, behind the Memorial Chapel. The card on this plant lists it as an endangered species.

(Top) Mary and Jesus in a 16th c. Islamic Persian miniature

Join us in-person and online!

Sunday Eucharist — 9:00 am

In the Sanctuary (and online)

Wednesday Formation — 6:00 pm

Online

Thursday Bible Studies — 10 am and 6 pm

Rector's office



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Our New Priest Associate!

In mid-October, Bishop Bob asked if Saint Mary's would consider welcoming the Rev. Frank Condello as a Priest Associate. The vestry voted overwhelmingly in support of the proposal. Frank and his family were members of Saint Mary's when he felt the call to ordained ministry and was sponsored by us in that process (he was ordained last year). It's a rare and blessed opportunity for us to welcome him back and serve him in his continued formation as a priest in Christ's one, holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church!



(Above) Fr. Frank after his ordination last year

What's a "Priest Associate?"

One of the things you learn pretty quick once you get really involved in the Episcopal Church is that we love titles (and acronyms!), and often those titles can be confusing (and not necessarily consistent across the Church!). A "Priest Associate" is our diocese's title for a non-stipendiary but *not-retired*, priest (a retired non-stipendiary priest would be an "Assisting Priest"). The level of responsibility for this position is determined by both the rector and the Priest Associate, based on availability and other factors, giving the position more flexibility than full- or part-time stipendiary positions in the Church. —Fr. C+

Convention

As mentioned in the opening piece, the 55th Convention and Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church of Hawai'i took place on October 21-22, 2023. Fr. Frank joined our delegation for voting. A special thanks for Mrs. Laurie Lee, Mrs. Ruth Yoshioka, and Mr. Isaiah Horimoto (who also served as an acolyte at the Convention Eucharist!) for serving as our lay delegation this year. They braved the freezing cold of the hall at 'Iolani School to do the work of the Church and deserve much commendation for it.



(Clockwise from top left) Mary Margaret Smith (bottom left) is ordained to the Vocational Diaconate by the Rt. Rev. Robert Fitzpatrick, with Archdeacon Steve Costa assisting (center), Isaiah Horimoto (far right) looks on (photo: Sybil Nishioka); the pinnacle cross from Holy Innocents, Lāhaina, one of the few things to survive the fire; the memorial for those who died in our diocese was a collection of floating lanterns; (from left) Fr. Frank, Fr. Charles, Archdeacon Costa, and Stason Skeen (lay delegate from Saint Matthew's, Waimānalo)

