

## History of St. Joseph's

In 1878 Portuguese settlers came to Maui to labor at the plantation. Some of the families settled and built their homes in the Makawao and Kaupakalua areas. Makawao is located on the East side of the Island of Maui, on the slopes of Haleakala and with a region commonly referred to as "Upcountry".

In 1882 Fr. James Beissel was appointed to Makawao as pastor to care for the growing flock. He then recruited men to build a small frame Church, on a site above the present Catholic Cemetery. Between 1906 and 1913 another 6,000 Portuguese immigrants arrived in Hawaii so Fr. Beissel was called to other duties.

Fr. Justin Van Schayk, ss.cc. was then assigned to the Makawao, Huelo and Kula area and within two months Fr. Justin learned to speak Portuguese and also became proficient in the Hawaiian language.

On a rainy day Fr. Justin assisted a man in removing his truck from a mud hole, later to find out that the man was a plantation executive. They befriended and later Fr. Justin announced the good news about acquiring land to build a new and bigger Church known today, as St. Joseph Church.

In 1911 St. Joseph Church was completed, with the present bell tower built in 1927. As the community grew the parishioners seen the need to build a gym in 1941. The convent was built in 1947 to house the Sisters of Orange and later years and to date the Dominican Sisters who were brought to St. Joseph to educate the children. St. Joseph School was established in 1949 and continues to educate the children in the Upcountry area.

Fr. Donald Macgregor was assigned to St. Joseph in 1996 and saw the need of capital improvements. He established a Master Planning Committee and began a Master Plan for St. Joseph Church and School. In 1999 the new rectory, home of the priest, was constructed to replace a structure that had been brought from Kula in 1934.

His predecessor Fr. Eugene Keusal continued with the process and now, Fr. Santiago is completing his dreams. In 2006 with the support of our parishioners and generous donors we were able to renovate the Church with new pews, flooring and install a parking lot with landscaping.

## ST. JOSEPH CHURCH & SCHOOL MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER

*"Our Hope... Our Dream... Our Goal"*



The need to replace the gym is critical, it has extensive termite and dry rot damage throughout the complex, the electrical and plumbing systems are outdated and the gym non-accessible for persons with disabilities.

It is not feasible to renovate the St. Joseph Gym due to it's dilapidated condition. The Multi-purpose center would be located where the gym is currently situated on the property.

There are many factors that determine when we can begin to replace the gym with the Multi-Purpose Center. First, and most critical, the Diocese of Honolulu requires us to have 50% of the project cost. The estimated construction cost for the new Multi-Purpose Center is \$6 million, we would need to have \$3 million in the bank before we can start construction plans.

Replacing the gym with a Multi-Purpose Center will serve the needs of the Church and School with offices, meeting rooms, classrooms, cafeteria and hall. These facilities will be a blessing to programs that we offer to the community such as, cooking for the homeless and distributing food boxes to the needy.

We need your assistance and ask for your financial support for the present and future generations. Your contribution is, of course, tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Please use the enclosed envelope to make your contribution. Checks can be made payable to St. Joseph Building Fund. Your consideration, generosity and thoughtfulness is appreciated by the parishioners, the students, the faculty and the community.

*Please Detach & return with your donation*



**St. Joseph Church & School**

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