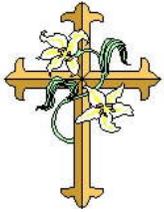


"I am the vine, you are the branches; abide in me and you will bear much fruit." John 15:5



Vine & Branches

News from St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church, 720 N. King Street, Honolulu, HI 96817



**April
2006**

*The Right Reverend
Richard S. O. Chang,
Bishop*

*The Reverend
Jodene S. Hawkins,
Priest-in-Charge*

*The Reverend Dr.
Gerald G Gifford
Rector Emeritus*

*The Reverend
Peter S. M. Fan,
Chinese Language
Priest*

*Lyn Jefferes
Interim Choir Director*

*Marie Wang
Organist*

*Katherine Crosier
Parish Administrator
Graphic Design*

*Stuart Ching
Senior Warden*

*Francis Kau
Junior Warden*

*Caren-Jean Esaki
Secretary*

Bill Eng, Treasurer

Sue Yap, Contributor

*Website:
www.
stelizabeth720.org*

From Mother Jodene

Aloha Beloved in Christ,

It has been a long, late winter here in the Hawaiian Islands. Gray skies, rain, rain and more rain. We commiserate with the endurance contests of families with homes inundated with water and mud. We pray for those who have lost everything, including their loved ones both on Kauai and in the military service. We feel heart felt compassion for the darkness of tragedy they endure. We pray for hope and God's healing and consolation. The darkest times in anyone's life are the wilderness where hope hides or disappears in the shadows. The darkest hours are the hours of the Cross. The journey of Lent has no short cut. This journey takes us through the wildernesses of temptations, all the way to the Cross. We may have discovered that even with our best intentions for prayer, fasting and almsgiving, these forty days have not been an easy journey.

But, this journey really has not been all about us. The journey has also been about companioning Jesus on his journey. Walking His way of the wilderness. Walking His way of being misunderstood and rejected in the Garden. Walking His Way of Sorrows on the Via Dolorosa. Walking with him to His death 'on a hill far away, on an old rugged cross.' And then.....and then! the glorious, almost unbelievable good news that the stone cold tomb is empty. No amount of positive or wishful thinking could accomplish what the

power of God accomplished. Jesus, the Man of Sorrows, acquainted with grief, is now the Victorious One—risen from the dead. Yes, risen from the d-e-a-d, dead! Where hope was hidden in the shadows, a heavy stone rolls away and hope lives.



God's love gave the world not a dead teacher and savior, but a Living Lord. God's love for you and me gave *us* a Living Lord. That is Easter. Easter is God's surprise that we have a Living Lord, risen from the dead, who now walks with us in the challenges and sorrows of our everyday lives. Easter is God's surprise that a Living Lord will lead us to the place where, one day, the light of hope will rise in our hearts like the sun rising over the vast ocean surrounding our island home. Easter is God's surprisingly good news that we are forgiven, and that we are blessed with second chances, third chances, fourth chances and even more, because of Jesus, our Living Lord. Easter is God's surprise that we have a Living Lord who promises to lead us beside still waters to the place where we can fall ever more in love with living.

God's incredible surprise is that 'though we die, yet shall we live.' That, too, is Easter—for your loved ones and for you. May God bless you and those whom you love with Easter Joy. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Mother Jodene +

Read to Me Story Apron Program Begins April 5

in Children's Outreach Center

Our long awaited first reading program begins Wednesday April 5. Kamehameha High School Book Club leaders bring stories to life for neighborhood children ages 3-11. 3:00 with snacks for the children.

Story telling from 3:30-4:15.

Volunteers are needed

Future readers for the children: Want to learn the *Read to Me* and *Story Apron* methods, come observe and learn? Limited to 4 people per week, please call office to sign up.

We need healthy snacks every week, grapes, sliced apples and cantelope, cheese sticks and bite sized brownies or granola bars. Please sign up.

We need 4 volunteers each week to help the children and pass out RagDolls2Love for children to hold during story time. RagDolls2Love stay at the Center for children to hold the next time they come.

Prayer for the last days of Lent and Holy Week

Dear Lord, Take, O take me as I am . . . set your seal upon my heart and live in me. (John Bell).



Lillian Tyau and Nora Kurosu are shown in front of the altar with foodbaskets.

Lenten Loaves and Fishes Almsgiving

provides Abundance of Food for Foodbank

St. Elizabeth's generosity has done it again!

Hundreds of cans of meat, fruit, vegetables, bags of rice, pasta and cereal were donated during Sundays in Lent for the River of Life Foodbank Pantry at St. Elizabeth's. In this season of heavy rain and extraordinary challenges for the needy and the homeless, our caring response is making a positive difference in family's lives. Mahalo for everyone who made feeding the hungry part of their Lenten discipline of almsgiving.

Church Attendance March 2006

Lent I	95
Lent II	105
Lent III	96
Lent IV	86
Chinese language service	6

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"God doesn't make grownups anymore, just babies. They're tiny and easier to make."

from *The Joyful Noiseletter*
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane

MJB Mother Jodene and the Boys

Tuesday April 18th, 11:30 am, Au's Garden

Please join Mother Jodene for lunch at Au's Garden.

All 'boys' are invited for delicious food, good humor and fellowship. Guests are always welcome. First timers are guests of Mother Jodene, so they attend FREE! Come help me break the bank and bring a bunch. Remember MJB rules, no fundraising is held and no church business is conducted.

Please sign up or call the office for reservations.



Ladies 'Out to Lunch'

Esther's Kitchen Fellowship

Wednesday, April 26th 11:30

Come enjoy Easter season fellowship and fun together. Buffet 100 is our destination. The food is always great and the price is just right, especially with the senior discount. Please sign up or call the office for reservations.



Alleluia!

ST. ELIZABETH'S EASTER SUNRISE HOLY COMMUNION
AND HOLY BAPTISM, APRIL 16 8:15 am

8:15 am Festival Holy Communion,
Holy Baptism, Flowering of the Cross
Special Hula and musical offerings by
St. Elizabeth's Ringers

9:30 am Easter Egg hunt for children and Easter
reception in Shim Hall

Dear Family of God,

This note comes with prayers for you and your family to discover every blessing in Holy Week and the joys of our Easter celebration of Jesus' resurrection. Martin Luther wrote, *"Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection in every leaf and bud of springtime."* May each of us discover this Easter a springtime for our souls where we may truly experience our Lord's loving assurance of the gift of forgiveness and life eternal. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Mother Johana +

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, April 9 *"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord."*
Please bring palms to share in the Festival Parade and as we enter the church.

7:00-7:45 Trolley leaves Princess Kai'ulani school for Aala Park
8:00 Blessing of the Palms and Palm Sunday Procession begins at AalaPark
led by the Cross and the Royal Hawaiian Band
8:45-9:10 Community prayer and hymn service at Banyan Court Mall
9:10-9:30 Refreshments at Kaumakapili hosted by Aldersgate Church
9:30 St. Elizabeth's Palm Sunday Service with Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday, April 13 *"Take, eat, this is my body, given for you."*

7:00 pm Holy Communion, Sacred Foot Washing and Stripping of the Altar,
Procession to the Altar of Repose

Good Friday, April 14 *"Were you there when they crucified my Lord?"*

12 noon Prayers from Stations of the Cross in Jerusalem, Holy Communion
7:00 pm from the Reserved Sacrament and Veneration of the Cross

RagDolls2Love at the Priory



Ragdolls 2 Love and the Interact Club at St. Andrew's Priory School made front page news in the Honolulu Advertiser, March 16, 2006, when Sgt. Davila, stationed in Alaska and deployed to Mosul, here on R&R, visited the Priory and some of the girls putting together ragdolls! The Lenten project of the Interact Club has certainly gotten the attention of many! The girls had an opportunity to talk to Sgt. Davila and his wife and learned that when Sgt. Davilla gives a child a ragdoll, he tells them that it is from Hawaii. Mrs. Davila said that it makes the wives feel just as good to know that their husbands are helping the children and that the ragdoll doesn't only make the children feel good – the ragdoll reaches out to a lot of people!

The article in the Honolulu Advertiser caught the attention of Ms. Philomena Racuya, President of 'Pali Seniors'. The Pali Seniors meet at the Kailua Recreational Center. Ms. Racuya asked if the 'Pali Seniors' could also make ragdolls for the children in war torn areas. Of course!!!

Contributions and donations for fabric and batting/fiberfill to make these ragdolls have been generously given by the Priory Alumni Board, members of the Pali Seniors and members of St. Elizabeth's Church. Thank you all for your generous contribution and support!

On Easter Sunday we will bless the ragdolls that have been made by the girls in the Interact Club at St. Andrew's Priory. We have invited the Interact Club members to participate in the Easter service by bringing the ragdolls forward for the blessing. Also invited are Ms. Philomena Racuya, President and members of the 'Pali Seniors'.

Ragdolls .. the fabric cut, the face and heart drawn, then stitched, and stuffed... stuffed not only with the fiberfill but with prayers of hope for peace... and sent with blessings at St. Elizabeth's Church, with

love and aloha to bring solace to a child turned all too quickly into an adult by war!

Volunteers not only from Hawaii but across the United States have made over 16,000 ragdolls!!! Mary Page Jones, from the little post office in Wapiti, Wyoming has sent ragdolls into 22 countries! ... The Ragdolls2Love Project that was started in 2003 as a vision of Mary Page Jones, in June 2004 the first 65 ragdolls were blessed and commissioned by Bishop Bob Jones and sent out from St. Elizabeth's Church to the Gaza, ...and now in 2006 has reached out to thousands of children and continues to grow!

Sunday School News

This Lenten season, the Sunday school and acolytes lead the call to worship with a short reading and the snuffing out of one candle on the Lenten wreath each Sunday in lent. As we enter Holy Week, a week from Palm Sunday to Easter, on Palm Sunday two purple candles and the Christ candle will be lit.

On Palm Sunday – April 9 – Palm Sunday Parade - meet at Aala Park 8:00 AM and walk to Banyan Court Mall. There will be a short service at the Mall at 8:45 am.

The service at St. Elizabeth's will begin at 9:30 am. Children will go to Sunday School following the call to worship reading.

Easter Sunday, we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection! There will be no Sunday School. Children please sit with your parents in church. Easter Egg Hunt will be immediately after the service. Miss Lisa will have instructions!!!! There will be bags for all the children from 1 to 12!!! Thank you to those you have donated goodies for the Easter bags.

Heavenly Humor

Lenten Prayer: So far today, God, I've done all right. I haven't talked stink about anybody. I haven't lost my temper. I haven't been grumpy or selfish. I'm so thankful about that. But, in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed and from then on I'm going to need a lot of help from you. Amen.

6 things about Life I learned from the Easter bunny:



*Don't put all of your eggs in one basket.
Everyone needs a friend who is all ears.
There's no such thing as too much candy.
Everyone is entitled to a bad hare day.
Let happy thoughts multiply like rabbits.
Some parts of our body eventually
get floppy.*

Many, many Mahalos

to our painters and laborers who have helped transform our Children's Outreach Center and our Conference Room. Take a look at how clean, fresh and beautiful both rooms look just in time for Easter. Special thanks to **Peggy and Tom Ishida, Stuart Ching, Brian Kau, Francis, and Pearl Kau, Kit Hawkins, Richard Yee, and Rebecca Kleinschmidt** for efforts above and beyond the call of duty.

Office angels: Mahalo to Patsy Ching and Roy Chee who assist Kathy with administrative projects in our office to make things work more efficiently.

Enchanted Garden

Bracelet Making Class

By Expert Artist and Teacher Jennifer Watanabe

Jennifer Watanabe is an expert at creating and teaching the skills of making 'Enchanted Garden Bracelets' for yourself or as treasured gifts. Jennifer will teach a class on Sunday April 30th and Sunday May 7th after church in the conference room. Each participant will create a beautiful bracelet to take home for their collection or for gifting.

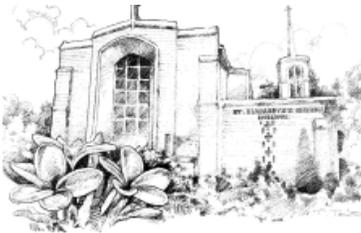
Each class is limited to the first 6 students to sign up because of the time and skills it takes her to assist learners. All bracelet supplies are included in the class fee of \$22 to be paid directly to Jennifer. You will learn bracelet making skills to become your own artist. You will also learn where to get the best supplies for your new found skill. Please bring your own long nose pliers. Observers are welcome, but everyone needs to sign up.

Church Chuckles

A gentleman was coming out of church one morning. The pastor grabbed him by the hand, pulled him aside and said, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!"

The gentleman replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord."

"Really?" the pastor questioned. "How come I hardly ever see you in church?" He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."



St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church
720 N. King Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

A House of Prayer for all People

Return Service Requested

*Rejoice
in the
Miracle of
Easter*

**EASTER
SUNRISE COMMUNION**

8:15 am

with flowering of the Cross.
Remember to bring flowers.
Special hula and festival bells.

**9:30 Easter Egg hunt and
reception in Shim Hall.**

**Your Easter lily donations are
welcome.**

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