

"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  
2008**

The Right Reverend  
Robert L. Fitzpatrick  
Bishop

The Reverend  
Jodene S. Hawkins,  
Rector

The Reverend Imelda S.  
Padasdao, Priest Associate

The Reverend Dr.  
Gerald G. Gifford,  
Rector Emeritus

The Reverend  
Peter S. M. Fan,  
Cantonese Language Priest

Hsiao Ying "Ajaon" Chen  
Music Director

Marie Wang  
Organist

Katherine Crosier  
Parish Administrator  
Graphic Design

Stuart Ching  
Senior Warden

Lani Kaaihue  
Junior Warden

Arleen Young  
Secretary

Bill Eng, Treasurer

Roy Chee, Assistant  
Treasurer

Sue Yap, Contributor

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## From Mother Jodene

*Aloha, Beloved in Christ Jesus,*

*Alleluia Christ is Risen!  
The Lord is Risen Indeed!*

These great Easter proclamation words rang out Easter morning at the ringing of the tower bells. St. Elizabeth's church overflowed with pure white lilies, hundreds of golden balloons and 235 family, friends and visitors who spilled into the chapel and out the front door. On that glorious morning the tune and words from the African-American gospel hymn, "My Lord, what a morning, My Lord what a morning!" played in my mind.

The great Good News we have to share with the world is that Jesus has Risen! The stone is rolled away. Before us lies an Empty Tomb. Phillips Brooks, the preacher who penned the words of "O Little Town of Bethlehem," penned these words of the wonder of the Resurrection:

"Tomb, thou shalt not hold Him  
longer;  
Death is strong, but life is stronger;  
Stronger than the dark, the light:  
Stronger than the wrong, the right;  
Faith and Hope triumphant say,  
Christ will rise  
on Easter Day."

Jesus Risen, means we now live in the era of An Empty Tomb. That changes everything. God has given us life. And not just a 'same old, same old' kind of life, but a wake-up call to New Life. We have forgiveness. Now, and in eternity. The Empty Tomb

proclaims that though we die, yet shall we live. Yes, the Resurrection has been called by theologians 'God's strange work,' for this work of God is so dazzlingly amazing, that it can defy our comprehension. But, doesn't the birth of a baby defy our comprehension? Doesn't a fractured relationship that finally is healed defy our comprehension? Doesn't the selflessness of a donor who gives her marrow to save a stranger's life, defy our comprehension? Doesn't music that grasps our hearts so fully that we almost weep for joy, defy our comprehension? Don't the memories of loved ones no longer on this earth, defy comprehension by their steadfast vividness?



Just because an experience defies our comprehension, does not make that experience less true or untrue. So it is with Jesus' resurrection. When we experience something wondrous that opens horizons and gives new hope, we've encountered that Empty Tomb and God's strange work of resurrection. When light suddenly dawns in a dark hour, we've encountered that Empty Tomb and God's strange work of resurrection. When we sense, that without that glimmer of faith in our life, we just could not have made it through a difficult time, we have encountered the Empty Tomb and God's strange work of resurrection.

May we rise each day in this season of Easter proclaiming with joy, "My Lord, what a Morning!"

With the love of the Risen Christ,

*Mother Jodene +*



# Palm Sunday Parade 2008



*Nella Kleinschmidt (left) shows off her Palm Sunday outfit, accompanied by daughter, Rebecca.*



## Easter Thanks

To Fellow Parishioners and Friends:

You were magnificent! Thank you for your enthusiastic response for the most delicious pot luck dishes and generous monetary gifts you shared at our Easter luncheon. It is always refreshing and inspiring to witness love, faith and charity at work. Mahalo.

Nancy Shim-Au  
and Esther's Kitchen committee

## Easter Egg Hunt



*Pearl Kau joins the Palm Sunday procession.*

## Sumptuous Easter Feast

## Prayer for Esther's Kitchen

"Thank you, Lord, for food and laughter, For those who cook, those who eat, And those who clean up after."

via United Methodist Church,  
Gibbstown, NJ



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Mother Imelda Padasdao and a young parishioner.

## Easter Lilies

were given to the glory of God by:

Jerry and Aileen Albert, Nelson Bolibol, Sarah and Jerry Bush, Patsy Ching, the Chock family, the Chun Ohana, Eunice Gee, Beryl Goo, Allene Haskovec, Tom and Peggy Ishida, Laura Iwami, Estella Iwerks, Walter Kau, the Kealoha Ohana, Johnny and Mildred Kuniyoshi, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond K. Leong, Urban W. S. Mun, The Rev. Imelda S. Padasdao, Margaret Suyat, Faye Tsukamoto, Gertrude Tyau, and Frank Yap family.



## Dates to Save

**Sunday, April 20. Confirmation and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows and Commitment to Christian Service** with Bishop Bob Fitzpatrick, 1:00, St. Andrew's Cathedral. Let us know if you are coming to celebrate.

**Sunday, April 27. Long Life Sunday. Healing Prayers** following Holy Communion. Blood pressure checks will be provided by trained parish volunteers.

**Wednesday, May 7, Ilocano Language Eucharist, 6:00 pm.**

**Sunday, May 11 (Mother's Day). Pentecost Celebration and the Sacrament of Holy Baptism** will be offered for adults and children. Please see Mother Jodene or Mother Imelda.

**Sunday, May 18th: Trinity Sunday Service** followed by **Potluck Picnic, beachside** at Christine Ling's home in Ewa Beach. Picnic hats and clothing are church attire this day. Family and Friends are all invited to worship and to caravan to Christine's home. There will be swimming, surfing, talk story and feasting. Bring your favorite "easy to carry and easy to serve" picnic dish. We all want to have a relaxing time.

## Gecko Reports



It's a Boy! Best wishes and congratulations on the birth of **Ka'alaneo**, born to **Kaleo Blaisdell** on April 6th. The delighted grandparents are **Rowena and Bill Blaisdell**.

St. Louis, Missouri was the destination of **Harlan Arakawa and Collette Arakawa** in March. See: Neighborhood Athletes, Honolulu Advertiser April 4th. Why St. Louis in the middle of mainland winter? Harlan was honored by the National Wrestling Coaches Association for 25+ years of service and for winning 100 dual meets in his career. He was head coach at Campbell High School from 1977-2007. Go! Harlan and Congratulations.

Wedding bells: Congratulations on the marriage of **Esby Otto and Mathson Meyshine**. Their marriage was blessed and celebrated on March 29th.

Did you read? Words of wisdom for these troublesome economic times from one of our newest members, **Preston Lentz**, in *Pacific Business News*, March 21, 2008? **Mary Anne Lentz**, Director of Development at the Mission Houses is keeping busy with special events at Mission Houses--keep an eye on scheduled free events in *Honolulu Advertiser's* TGIF section.

**Lani Kaaihue** and her new position as Office Manager and Events Coordinator at the Diocese were featured on page C in the April Hawaii Church Chronicle. Congratulations on your new position, Lani!

Thanksgiving for the birth of **Gisella Ming Sing Jong**, grandchild of Gretchen and Harrison Jong.

**Joshua and Daniel Yuen-Schat** flew to Seattle for a swim competition. They both brought home awards and prizes. Good job.



## April Birthdays

Shawnalyn Sunagawa	4/2
Sharon Oshiro	4/3
Walter Kau	4/4
Kit Hawkins	4/6
Concisa Bartoline	4/7
David Gierlach	4/8
Santereen Kom	4/9
Alberta Eng	4/11
Belinda Chung	4/12
Flora Wong	4/12
Michael Young	4/14
Joseph Tom	4/14
Kalfred Yee	4/15
Lauren Ho	4/16
Puanani Woo	4/17
Kenneth Nagamine	4/18
Juan Ramos	4/22
Ellen Tom	4/25
Craig Kokubun	4/26
Gilbert Batangan	4/29
Lily Ho	4/30
Richard Ching	4/30

## Humor Pew

A man was stunned to read in the newspaper that his name was listed in the obituaries.

He immediately phoned his friend and said, "Mike, did you read in the paper that I have died?" "I sure did," replied Mike. "By the way, where are you calling from?"

A new usher graciously asked a woman visitor where she would like to sit in church.

She said she would like to sit in the front pew.

"Oh, you don't want to sit there—our preacher can be so boring."

"Do you know who I am?" asked the woman.

"I'm sorry, but I don't" the usher replied.

"I'm the preacher's mother!"

"Do you know who I am?" asked the usher.

"No sir, I don't," she replied.

"Good—let me show you to the front pew."

## Risen Christ

*Renew me through and through with the brightness and life of Easter. Shake my bones, dust my brain, stretch my imagination, nourish my nerve, waken my willingness to be an eager Christian.*

*When my faith is flimsy, grant steadfastness.*

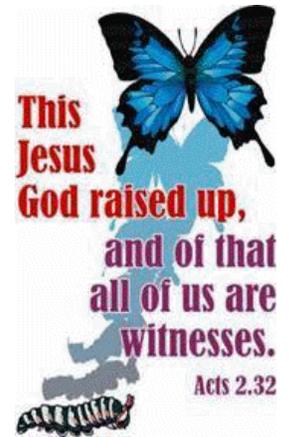
*When my hope is half-hearted, grant encouragement.*

*When my conscience is cautious, grant courage.*

*Lord, let it happen! Renew my life, through and through.*

*Amen.*

The Rt. Rev. Michael W. Crieghton  
Ret. Bishop, Central Pennsylvania



Budding organ scholars

## Young Organist Concert

Two young members of St. Elizabeth's family, **Joshua Yuen-Schat and Naomi Yuen-Schat** (children of music director Ajaon Chen), will perform on a concert by young organists on **Saturday, April 26th** at 7 pm.

The concert will feature 11 young organists, among them **Christopher Lindsay and Joey Fala**, both of whom have performed at St. Elizabeth's. Nine of the 11 youngsters are students of Katherine Crosier, our parish administrator. The concert will take place at the Lutheran Church of Honolulu, 1730 Punahou Street. A freewill offering will benefit the scholarship fund of the American Guild of Organists. Come support these young people as they pursue the King of Instruments.



## A Note of Thanks (excerpts)

Dear Rev. Jodene,

Thank you for the warm welcome that we experienced from your congregation on Easter. It was important to us to celebrate Easter and we are grateful for the fond memories of being with you and your church family. We will carry our memories with us for years to come.

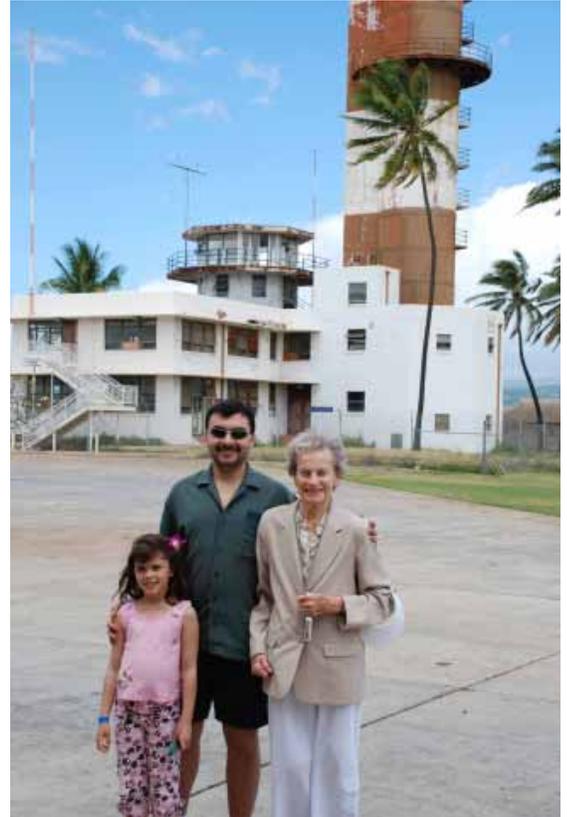
As you know, I tried to communicate with several churches in the area and you responded promptly. In addition, I viewed your online information and newsletter. I found it up to date with information about recent entries and events. You and your staff's attention to detail and the management of the information on the Internet was what brought us to St. Elizabeth. The warm hearts and open arms we experienced will bring us back in our memories and will draw us back for another visit when we get the chance to come again to Hawaii.

We live in Virginia and this was an important trip for my mother, Betty. Her husband, my father, was stationed on Ford Island during WWII. He never wanted to return to Hawaii and she always wanted to visit the land of rainbows. Last summer I said to my mother that I was sorry that she never got to Hawaii and I guess that sparked her interest. My husband Wil and daughter Annika and I escorted her for a whirlwind visit that focused on Ford Island, the Arizona Memorial and of course celebrating Easter at St. Elizabeth in Honolulu. Although my dad died over ten years ago, I felt that he was with us during our stay.



I have attached a few pictures for your memory book. I didn't take my camera with me on Easter but I did take some

shots with my mother's camera. When we swap pictures I will forward that ones we took during our visit on Easter. The ones below are: Luau is a picture of me with my mom and Annika taken at Paradise Island where we enjoyed a wonderful luau, the Annika picture was taken in the airport at the end of the trip where she had completely embraced Hawaii and did not want to leave, and the Ford Island shot is of my husband, my mom and Annika outside of the Pacific Air Museum.



Again, it was a true treat and pleasure meeting you in person. I would enjoy getting your newsletter online. I would enjoy a hard copy as a memory of the issue that gets a mention about us. I apologize for my delay in writing but I just got back from two business trips that hitched right on the back of this vacation. It is good to get this chance to review my pictures and to reconnect with my good friends in Hawaii. We had a wonderful time.

Aloha and mahalo for a wonderful Easter.

Sincerely,

Carol Vargas

# More RagDolls to Iraq

On April 6th, girls from St. Andrew's Priory Interact Club brought their ragdolls to join other RagDolls2Love made by members of our community for a blessing. These dolls will be sent to our troops for distribution in an all-girls school in Iraq. Special guests were men of the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division from Hawaii who will take the dolls to Iraq. They are from the 2nd Squadron 14th Cavalry under the command of LTC Tom Mackey, who in 2004 was 1Lt. Nainoa Hoe's Executive Officer in Mosul. Mrs. Lisa Mackey, Tom's wife and their two daughters also worshipped with us in addition to Nainoa Hoe's father, Allen Hoe.

The first Rag Dolls were commissioned as ambassadors of love on April 18, 2004 for children in Palestine and Israel. LTC Tom Mackey tells the story:

*We went to a Sunni and Shia elementary school in a town previously very divided by violence. The town has turned the corner through much hard work by many agencies and the people of the area. We met with the headmaster of each school to distribute school supplies and the dolls. We had the teachers from all-girl classes pick the students they wanted to reward for good work. Some of the girls were orphaned in the local population's fighting over the last year.*



The photo above was sent from Hawaii resident Chad Nakamura stationed in Baghdad, and shows dolls made by parishioners of St. Elizabeth's.



Rag Dolls were given to students in Iraq.

Sue Yap writes:

*"Lisa Mackey and her daughter Catherine (2 yrs old) had a very enjoyable morning! The little Eryn, 7 weeks old, was precious... slept through the whole service! For Lisa, it is something she really wanted to do, see and meet the people who are involved in making RagDolls2Love and the process of how we send the dolls out! This is her husband, LTC Tom Mackey's, 2nd tour into Iraq, he was with Nainoa when the first ragdolls from St. Elizabeth's made their way into Mosul 3 years ago! As they were leaving church today, Lisa told her daughter, Catherine, 'we sure have a lot to tell Daddy today! We had such a wonderful time!'*



Members of St. Andrew's Priory Interact Club have their Rag Dolls blessed at St. Elizabeth's.



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# Alleluia!

## More Scenes from Easter



Mother Imelda and Mother Jodene at the flowered Easter Cross.



Ajaon Chen (standing), with her children, Joshua, Daniel and Naomi Yuen-Schat, and cellist Charlie Yu celebrate the Resurrection through joyous music.

## Long-Winded Sermons?

"How long can I preach," asked the guest preacher.

The long-time member smiled and said,

"Mate, you can preach just as long as you want to, but we all go home at ten past nine."

*Pastor Donald Prout, West Preston, Australia,  
via Joyful Noiseletter*



from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
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## The Braeded Chord

Sharon Dennis and Doris Au MacDonald (Kathy Crosier's sister) will present a concert in the courtyard of the Lutheran Church of Honolulu, 1730 Punahou Street on **Friday, April 18th at 6:30 pm.**

The acoustic folk duo, called "The Braeded Chord," are two-time WAMMIE winners (Washington DC Area Musician Awards) for Best Inspirational/Religious Goup and Best Inspirational/Religious Recording. Called "a female Simon and Garfunkel," the duo weaves life, faith and song into a unique fusion of folk-rock-gospel-blues. Members of St. Elizabeth's family are especially invited to share in a potluck meal and this evening of faith, fellowship and music.

## Glorious Easter Music



*Ajaon Chen conducts the Sunday School children and the Handbell Choir on Easter Day.*

## Saving Energy

Hand printed on a sign attached to an Amish horse and buggy in Pennsylvania:

"Energy efficient transportation: Runs on oats and grass.  
Caution: Do not step in the exhaust."



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

*A House of Prayer for all People*

*Return Service Requested*

## March 2008 Attendance

8:15 am Eucharist avg	<b>116</b>
Easter	<b>235</b>
Wednesday Healing	<b>5</b>
Holy Week services total	<b>85</b>
Cantonese language Eucharist	<b>6</b>
Ilocano language Eucharist	<b>31</b>

Sunday is the day all of us bow our heads. Some are praying and some are putting.

*via Joyful Noiseletter*

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