

Speakers for the Damien and Marianne Catholic Conference

Keynote Speakers

We are pleased to announce our growing team of exceptional speakers for the 2017 Inaugural Damien and Marianne Catholic Conference including the following:

Dewitt Jones - One of America's top professional photographers with a career stretching over twenty years. [read more](#)

Jackie Angel - Prolific Christian Song Writer, Recording Artist [read more](#)

Paul J. Kim - International Speaker, Beatboxer, and Comedian [read more](#)

His Eminence Soane Patita Pains Cardinal Mafi of Tonga [read more](#)

Helen Prejean (Cancelled) - We regret to announce that Helen Prejean is unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances and apologize for any inconveniences this may have caused our registrants.

Dr. Edward Sri - Theologian, Author, Regular Guest on EWTN [read more](#)

Speaker Lineup



Fr. Chris (Joseph) Alar - Director of the Association of Marian Helpers, Stockbridge, Massachusetts. [read more](#)

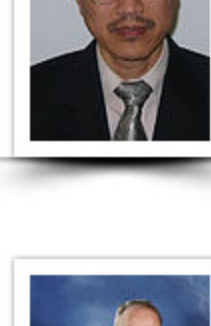


Keynote Speaker

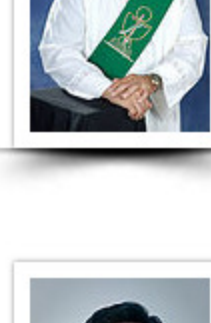
Jackie Francois Angel - Jackie Francois Angel is a speaker, worship leader, songwriter/recording artist, and author from Orange County, California. [read more](#)



Patrick Boland - Patrick first visited Kalaupapa 30 years ago, and has been absorbed by the stories and the people of the place ever since. He has been a board member of the Damien Museum and Archives, a member of Ka' Ohana O Kalaupapa, the Bishop's Damien/Marianne Commission and now the Joseph Dutton Guild. On occasion, he is a driver/guide for Damien Tours; a tour service at Kalaupapa that was started by patient Richard Marks 51 years ago.



H. Anthony Chan, Ph.D. - With a career in science and technology, Anthony had personally witnessed the miraculous gift of the Eucharist which has fundamentally changed his daily life at mass, in the family, and at work. Despite a busy life, he finds time to have already presented witnesses at churches in 46 cities in 5 continents. [read more](#)



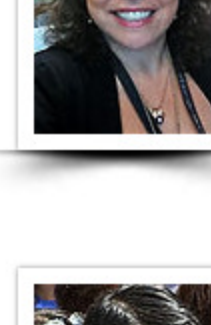
Den. Modesto Cordero - Director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Honolulu. Deacon Cordero's primary service at the Office of Worship is to assist the diocesan bishop, priests, and the liturgists of the local church. He instructs and assists clergy and parish liturgical ministers in the work of guiding the faithful in their celebration of the liturgy and the sacraments. [read more](#)



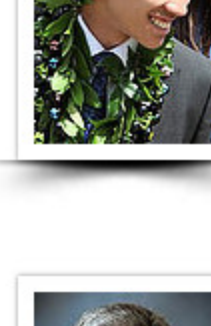
Peter Cruz - A parishioner of St. Anthony of Padua Church in Kailua, Oahu, where he is currently a commissioned catechist and co-leader of the parish's monthly First Saturday Rosary Devotion. He views himself as just an ordinary guy... but somehow blessed with an extraordinary ability to engage people with fascinating stories about our spiritual heroes - the Saints. [read more](#)



Dallas Carter - Aloha! My name is Dallas Carter. I am a husband, father of 5, small business owner, Catholic Apologist, National Catholic Speaker, and a Diocesan Catechist for the Diocese of Honolulu. [read more](#)



Maria Luisa Villalba Devera, M.D. - I am Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist. My journey has taken me to Loma Linda University Medical Center and worked in Pediatrics and later in Child Psychiatry at Stanford University Medical Center working in many communities in California before living in Hawaii. I have joyfully worked for the past 12.5 years at Schofield Barracks Pediatric Clinic serving our Military families here in Hawaii as well as my community. [read more](#)



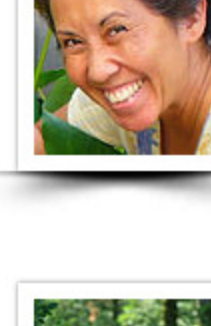
Brandon Elefante - City Council Member, District 8, has served the residents of Aiea, Pearl City and Waipahu since taking office on November 12, 2014 and has been at the forefront of many issues important to island families. [read more](#)



Rev. Herman Gomes, SS. CC. - Born January 24, 1953, Honolulu, Hawaii, entered Sacred Hearts Seminary, Sept. 1967, graduated Damien Memorial High School 1971, Chaminade College, 1974, Professed Congregation of the Sacred Hearts, June, 1975; Graduated Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, Illinois 1978 with Masters of Divinity; Ordained a Priest, November 24, 1978, Masters in Applied Spirituality, University of San Francisco, 1986. [read more](#)



Fr. Jack Healy - Educator, Administrator, Teacher and Chaplain; Ex-Officio Board Member and Chaplain, St. Luke's Medical Association; Founding member: Chaplain, Mount Carmel 'Hospice' House. [read more](#)

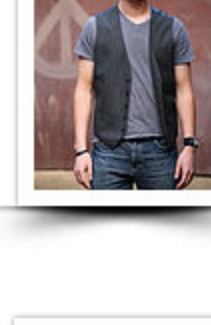


Colette Higgins - Dean of Academic Affairs at Windward Community College. Colette Higgins has been researching and presenting lectures on the life and legacy of Queen Kapiolani since 2002 emphasizing the queen's visit to Kalaupapa in 1884, and her journey to London in 1887. Colette appeared on the Jessica Lani Rich Show to discuss her journey on KWHE-TV (Channel 14) on August 6th. [view video](#) [read more](#)



Keynote Speaker

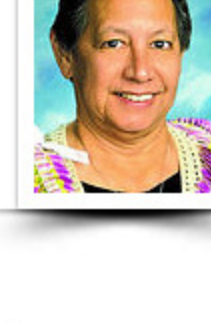
Dewitt Jones - One of America's top professional photographers with a career stretching over twenty years. As a motion picture director, he had two documentary films nominated for Academy Awards (Climb - Best Live Action Short Film and John Muir's High Sierra - Best Short Subject Documentary) before he was thirty. Turning to advertising, Jones rose to the forefront of corporate creative marketing photographing national advertising campaigns for Dewar's Scotch, Canon, and United Airlines. [read more](#)



Paul J. Kim - International speaker, beatboxer, and comedian. Paul presents and performs full-time, sharing his hope in Christ via music, comedy, and inspirational talks. He has released two music albums. His videos on YouTube have accumulated over a million views. [read more](#)



Fr. Philip Krill - Pastor of St. Gertrude parish in Krakow, MO and St. Ann parish in Clover Bottom, MO, in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Father Krill holds a BA degree in Theology from the University of Notre Dame, an MA in Theology from Yale Divinity School, and a doctoral degree in ministry (D.Min.) from the Graduate Theological Foundation. [read more](#)



Sr. Alicia Damien Lau, OSF, R.N., MSN, MPH - After retiring from healthcare administration in 2012, she is now owner and consultant for Damien Healthcare Consultants, LLC; as a Sister of Saint Francis, and belonging to the same order as Saint Marianne Cope, she has been going to Kalaupapa since 1965 assisting the Sisters and the patients. For the past three years, she is now a full time National Park Service Volunteer perpetrating the legacy of Saint Marianne Cope and the Sisters of St. Francis in Kalaupapa. [read more](#)



Joan Lewis - For EWTN's Special Contributor and former Rome Bureau Chief, Saints Damien and Marianne have been her passion for years; the focus of all her trips to Hawaii, all her friendships with priests and nuns of their orders. [read more](#)



Keynote Speaker

His Eminence Soane Patita Pains Cardinal Mafi of Tonga - Appeared in 'Soane Patita Pains Mafi, M.S. '00, Nominated to College of Cardinals,' Loyola University Press Release, January 5, 2015 [read more](#)



Kate D. Mahoney - The author of The Misfit Miracle Girl, Candid Reflections and an international speaker who travels the country to share anecdotes from life as patient and caregiver - it's crisis, but with jazz hands. She is on a mission to inspire audiences across the globe sharing candid reflections and her miracle story. [read more](#)



Dcn. Fernando A. Ona, M.D. - Deacon at Mary, Star of the Sea Church in Honolulu, HI. Actively supports the mission of the Star of the Sea Parish which is "To give love, direction and support to all members of our community..." [read more](#)



Fr. William 'Bill' Petrie, SS. CC. - Author of "New Beginnings... The Path Continues" appearing in Generation Magazine; a priest with the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary - the same order as St. Damien. With Mother Marianne Cope, the Sisters of St. Francis of Syracuse and volunteer Joseph Dutton, Damien brought the love of God and dignity to Hansen's disease patients exiled at Kalaupapa. [read more](#)



Tito Montes - A 1993 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Tito is a 24 year U.S. Navy veteran. In 2003, Tito began work as a Military Operations Research Analyst in Washington, DC. [read more](#)



Bonnie Moore, Esq. - Attorney practicing in Honolulu, Hawaii and a member of the state bars of New York, California and Hawaii, appeared in 'Yehudah' Takes Top Award in Christian Film Festival. [read more](#)



Keynote Speaker

Helen Prejean, C.S.J. (Cancelled)
We regret to announce that Helen Prejean is unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances and apologize for any inconveniences this may have caused our registrants.



Fr. Aniello Salicone, S.X. (Cancelled)
We regret to announce that Aniello Salicone is unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances and apologize for any inconveniences this may have caused our registrants.



Fr. Filipe Seluini 'Akau'ola SM - Born in Tonga and attended St Joseph's Convent, Nuku'alofa, St. John's High School, 'Apti Fo'ou, Ma'ufanga, Tonga and St. Patrick's College, Silverstream, Wellington, New Zealand. In 1979 Father Filipe entered Pacific Regional Seminary, Suva, Fiji, as a Marist Aspirant. [read more](#)



Keynote Speaker

Dr. Edward Sri is a theologian, author and well-known Catholic speaker who appears regularly on EWTN. Each year he speaks to clergy, parish leaders, catechists and laity from around the world. He has written several best-selling books, including A Biblical Walk through the Mass, Walking with Mary and his newest release, Who Am I to Judge? - Responding to Relativism with Logic and Love. [read more](#)



Anna Tognacci, B.S.N., R.N. - Anna Tognacci was born a Catholic, raised a Catholic, living a Catholic life! Born and raised on the Waianae coast with both parents being Catholic, I had always known the presence of Jesus and Mary. [read more](#)



Audrey Toguchi - Hawaii resident and retired school teacher whose recovery from lung cancer a decade ago stunned her doctor and was ruled a miracle by the Vatican, appeared in 'Father Damien's Miracle Woman' Humble Despite Worldwide Fame [read more](#)



Fr. Mark Wheelan, S.O.L.T. - MISSIONARY OF MERCY; On February 10, 2016, Fr. Mark Wheelan, S.O.L.T., was one of the priests selected and commissioned by Pope Francis to be a special "Missionary of Mercy." [read more](#)



Sr. Helene Wood, SS. CC. - Councilor, Sisters of the Pacific-U.S. Province of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus. Appeared in "Sacred Hearts Sisters Discuss the Future, Elect Councilors at Provincial Gathering" by the Hawaii Catholic Herald. [read more](#)

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