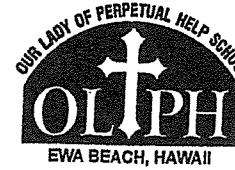


May 2011

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School
 91-1010 North Road, Ewa Beach, HI 96706
 Phone: (808) 689-0474 + FAX (808) 689-4847
 www.olphschoolwabeachhawaii.com



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"We, the faith community at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School and Church, in partnership with parents, and with Jesus as our Model, educate students to be active Catholics, responsive producers, holistic learners, and capable communicators."

April 29, 2011

Dear Parents, Guardians, Parishioners, and Friends of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School,

Greetings and the blessings of our Lord be with all of you!

Imagine it is that time of the school year again for your child's **Fourth Quarter Progress Report**. Your loving partnership and conscientious cooperation with our Faculty and Staff has brought you and your child to this wonderful time of our school year. We know that together all things transpired are to further your child's growth and development.

Congratulations to our P.T.S.A. Officers for the 2011-2012 School Year: **President Jodie deGuzman, Vice-President Fred Ponce, Secretary Cheryl Dietz, Treasurer Editha Domingo, and Sergeant-at-Arms Clarence Nishikata**. We are deeply grateful to them for leading us forward to higher realms, especially as we do everything for the good of our students & their families, our faculty & staff, and our parishioners & guests.

May 6th is our Annual Crowning of our Blessed Mother and May Day Celebrations, marking another highlight in the history of our school. Our students, faculty, & staff are diligently preparing to share their many God-given talents and creativity. **Mahalos** are extended to our enthusiastic Crowning of Mary and May Day Committee, our loving faculty, staff, students, Knights of Columbus, volunteers, donors, and to the countless others, who so graciously give of their time, talents, donations, and resources, to make the celebrations beautiful, meaningful, and memorable.

Because of YOU and all you did for our school's **"Grand Giveaway & Family Fair 2011,"** our school family will have its **Celebration of Gratitude** on **May 24, 2011**. It will be truly a day of prayer in gratitude to God and to all those who participated in our school's **"Grand Giveaway & Family Fair 2011,"** a trip to Our Lady of Peace Cathedral to **venerate Blessed Marianne Cope's relic** with a prayer service, and when returning to school for a picnic. We invited **Dr. Carmen Himenes**, who is retiring, to join us, so that we can express our gratitude to her for being our Diocesan Hawaii Catholic Schools Superintendent for the past 14 years. You will find enclosed the Authorization for our trip that is due by May 13, 2011.

We invite all of you, students and families, to participate in our school's **Blessed Marianne Cope's Family Poetry Contest** to commemorate her beatification. A pamphlet is enclosed to get you started. For more information: 1) website: <http://blessedmariannecope.org>, 2) mmariannecause@a-znet.com, or 3) contact me.

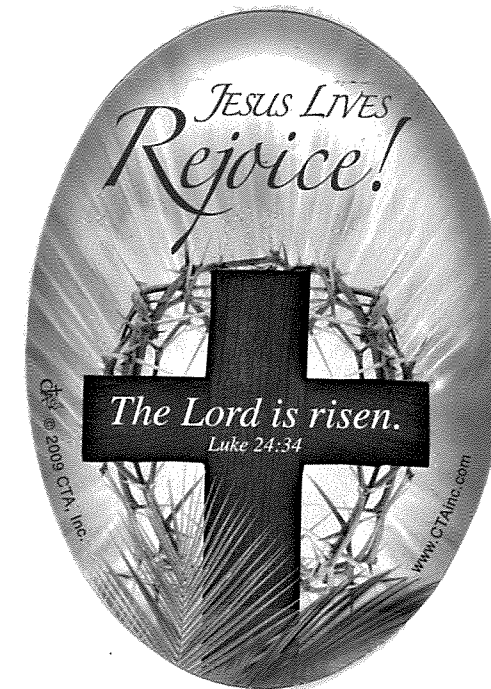
Private School Eligibility for Title I Service Form for the 2011-2012 School Year – Our Lady of Perpetual Help School was granted some Title I Funds this school year with the programs for Math and Reading. Our school was able to acquire the funds, because you completed and returned the forms. Will you please help us again so that our school may receive more federal funds and services for the 2011-2012 School Year. Please complete and return the form enclosed by May 13, 2011. Thank you very much!

May the blessings of Jesus, our Risen Lord, be upon you and your lovely family indeed!

Gratefully, lovingly, and prayerfully yours in our Risen Lord,
 in Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. Damien deVeuster,
 & Blessed Marianne Cope,

Sister Davilyn

Sister M. Davilyn Ah Chick, osf,
 Principal



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 2 nd Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday	2	3	4 7:50 School Assembly Rosary 1:30 Dismissal F/S Meeting	5	6 10:00 am Crowning of BVM & May Day Program	7
8 3 rd Sunday of Easter Mother's Day	9	10 Saint Damien DeVeuster Feast Day 8:15 am Mass Rosary	11 1:30 Dismissal F/S Meeting	12 JPO Field Day	13 Aloha Attire Noon Dismissal F/S Development Day	14 Grade 8 Retreat
15 4 th Sunday of Easter Grade 8 Retreat	16	17 D.A.R.E. Day	18 8:15 am Mass Rosary 1:30 Dismissal F/S Meeting	19	20	21 First Holy Eucharist Communion
22 5 th Sunday of Easter First Holy Eucharist Communion	23	24 Veneration of Blessed Marianne Cope Relic GG & FF School Celebration & Picnic	25 8:15 am Mass Rosary 1:30 Dismissal F/S Meeting	26 Noon Dismissal 3 pm Grade 8 Graduation No After School Care	27 10 am Grade K Graduation 	28 3 rd Placement Testing & Parent Orientation
29 6 th Sunday of Easter	30 No School Memorial Day	31	June 1 Noon Dismissal 6:45 pm Awards Ceremony PTSA Meeting	June 2 Noon Dismissal Last Day of School No After School Care	June 3	June 4



Top Ten Reasons to Choose Catholic School
 Reason #10 Catholic tradition and excellence in a community grounded faith.



GEOGRAPHIC BEE

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School is more than happy to congratulate **Jhanelle Vinluan** who placed 6th out of 50 other contestants in the State of Hawaii Geographic Bee 2011.

HAWAII STATE SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR

Congratulations, Mrs. Laverne Suster, for receiving the 54th HSSEF Teacher Award from the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, Hawaii Chapter.

IOLANI SPEECH FESTIVAL

Many congratulations to eleven of Our Lady of Perpetual Help students, who participated in the 'Iolani School Speech Festival. They competed in various categories as highlighted for Original Oratory: **Kula Kukonu**, Impromptu: **Brian Arde**; Storytelling: **Michael Di Martino**; Poetry Reading: **Joshua Ibarra & Jessica Mateo**; Group Interpretation: **Sara Martell, Alexandria Apilando-Aguda, & Auli'i Faurot**; Group Interpretation: **Cameron Maximo, Kristen Moylan, & Quiana Reyes**. The judges' results given to our students were Superior and Excellent!

Appreciation is extended to their coaches: Mrs. Laverne Suster and Mr. Tim Mattos.

The Month of May or June Is

- Family Wellness - May
- National Safety - June
- Great Outdoors - June

We also celebrate:

- May 6 School's Crowning of Mary & May Day Program
- May 8 Mother's Day
- May 10 St. Damien deVuester Feast Day
- May 12 J.P.O. Field Day
- May 17 D.A.R.E. Day
- May 26 Grade 8 Graduation
- May 27 Grade K Graduation
- June 1 Awards Ceremony & PTSA Meeting
- June 14 Flag Day
- June 19 Father's Day



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VOCATIONS DAY

Vocations Day is a wonderful time to advocate the religious life, the priesthood, and diaconate. Sister Davilyn Ah Chick was able to have her Sisters of St. Francis Vocation Directors, Sister **Jeanne Karp, osf**, and Sister **Kathleen Adamski, osf**, for four different years to speak to our students, faculty, & staff about the religious life, and in particular, how they are called to be God's Instruments of Peace all the time.

This school year, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School Student Government hosted a Vocations Day. There were one priest, one deacon, one religious brother, nine sisters, and one lay minister, who shared their life stories with our school family. We thank our school's Student Government Officers and Mr. Jorge Ochoa for sponsoring this inspiring day.

INTERNATIONAL PEACE POEM

We congratulate our students and one of our staff for receiving the 12th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Peace Poetry Contest Awards.

FIRST PLACE AWARDEES

- Alexandria Apilando-Aguda*
- Alicia Barnett*
- Megan Goodman*
- Sasha Numazu-Fisher*
- Jaydon Patoc*

SECOND PLACE AWARDEES

- Joshua Alvarez*
- Anjelynn Baron*
- Pacita Baron*
- Jessica Mateo*
- Malia Ropati*

May peace begin with us!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAY 2011

- 04 Miqayla Reyes
- 04 Jaydon Balino
- 07 *Thalia Woodward, Teacher*
- 08 *Maximo Rubina, Jr., Staff*
- 08 Xaedon Reyes Pesamino-Kumukoa
- 08 Gabriela Wond
- 08 Jaime Wond
- 13 Ekela Donlin
- 17 Kila Padua Brown
- 18 Elijah Naranjo
- 19 Cody Goodson
- 20 Jonathan Mateo
- 24 Marvi Gail Saragena
- 25 Amanda Dietz
- 27 Darylyn Hokamura
- 31 Jordan Searcy-Hosea
- 31 Marlie Goodman

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JUNE 2011

- 07 Malia Ecube
- 07 Marc Armas
- 08 Guirilynne Gambalan
- 11 *Julia Chun, Volunteer*
- 11 Malia Ropati
- 12 *Larry Alcosiba, Volunteer*
- 13 Michael Di Martino
- 17 Taryne Ano
- 25 Joshua Aguinaldo

Happy Birthday to all of you, who were born in the months of May, June & July! Your birthday anniversary will be celebrated with an Ice Cream Party on Wednesday, May 25th.



DOLPHINS OF THE MONTH APRIL 2011

O.L.P.H. Dolphins of the Month manifest the following qualities:

- > Christlike attitude
- > Cheerfulness & friendliness
- > Courteous to others
- > Diligence and responsibility
- > Good Citizenship
- > Good sportsmanship
- > Service - charitable deeds

Congratulations to our **April Dolphins**

- K - Arien Dezafra**
- 1 - Marlie Goodman**
- 2 - Mikayla Ponce**
- 3 - Chanelle Galang**
- 4 - Jacob Falle**
- 5 - Kristian Apilando**
- 6 - Kayana Hirokane**
- 7 - Alexis Domingo**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JULY 2011

- 01 Mahaley Cabudol
- 05 Alyssa Jaramillo
- 07 Rosemarie Maltezo
- 10 Geralynn Raymundo
- 11 Laurin Verdida
- 14 Zander Gaynor
- 17 Kaelynn Balderas
- 18 *Karen Caliedo, Teacher*
- 18 Benjamin Legowski
- 22 Brian Arde
- 22 Alexandria Gouveia
- 26 *Remedios Aguinaldo, Nurse*
- 26 Quiana Reyes
- 29 Arien Dezafra
- 30 Auli'i Faurot

MAY & JUNE

The virtue for the Month of May & June is: **GENTLENESS**

Gentleness is...

Christian GENTLENESS is shown in how we solve problems with those around us and how we care for people in need. We follow Jesus' example of the Good Samaritan as we treat our neighbors with GENTLENESS.

Let us pray:

"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.."

Colossians 3:12-13a, 14

"Nothing is so strong as GENTLENESS nothing so GENTLE as real strength." St. Francis de Sales

Blessed Marianne Cope's Family Poetry Contest

*"I am hungry for the work...I am not afraid of any disease;
hence it would be my greatest delight even to minister to the abandoned 'lepers.'"*

Mother Marianne Cope

Dear Families of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School,

As families, all of you wrote wonderful essays about Blessed Marianne Cope and St. Damien deVeuster. You are now invited to be part of **Our Lady of Perpetual Help School's Blessed Marianne Cope's Family Poetry Contest**. This will be in conjunction with the arrival of the first class relic of Blessed Marianne Cope, and our upcoming trip to Our Lady of Peace Cathedral for our school's veneration of Blessed Marianne Cope's relic on May 24, 2011.

The article that appears in the April 29, 2011 issue of the Hawaii Catholic Herald (*refer to the back of this paper*) will give you the overview of how fortunate we are to have a first class relic of Blessed Marianne here in our Diocese of Honolulu, Hawaii. Bishop Larry Silva was very instrumental in acquiring the first class relic of Blessed Marianne's from Sister Davilyn Ah Chick's religious community, the Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities.

Mrs. Laverne Suster was gracious to give you some great suggestions in writing your family's Blessed Marianne Cope Poem.

Contest Overview:

- We encourage families to collaborate in the writing of a poem about Blessed Marianne Cope.
- You may select any style of poem to write.
- Feel free to ask your teacher for help with any aspect of writing this poem.
- The inspiration is Blessed Marianne Cope's life and her ministry. You may write about any aspect of her life and her work.

Some Basic Information on Poetry Writing that may prove useful in your efforts:

- Poetry is an interesting form of writing. It is very free, has few restrictions, and can be a great way to express feelings. Anyone can write poetry.
- Use a lot of descriptive works. Create imagery with words, trying to appeal to all the sense in a literal way. Use symbolism and metaphors. For auditory interest, try alliteration; the repeating of similar sounds in a sentence or phrase. All of this adds life and interest to a poem.

Kinds of Poems:

- Acrostic – the first letters of each line are aligned vertically to form a word. The word often is the subject of the poem. For example: B-L-E-S-S-E-D M-A-R-I-A-N-N-E
- Cinquain poems are five lines long with a certain number of syllables or words in each. Cinquain poems do not rhyme. There are many ways to write cinquain poems.
- Ballad – Retells an event in history, in the news, or in your life as a ballad. You will want the ballad to rhyme.
- There are many other forms of poetry such as haiku, limerick, couplets, sonnet, diamante, quatrains, etc.

**Kindly submit your Blessed Marianne Cope's Family Poem by Monday, May 16, 2011,
to The Blessed Marianne Cope's Family Poem Committee
OLPH School Office, 91-1010 North Road, Ewa Beach, HI 96706**

Prayer to Blessed Marianne Cope

Lord Jesus, You gave us Your commandment of love of God and of neighbor, and identified Yourself in a special way with the most needy of Your people; hear our prayer. Faithful to Your teaching, Mother Marianne Cope loved and served her neighbor, especially the most desolate outcast, giving herself generously and heroically for the victims of leprosy. She alleviated their physical and spiritual sufferings, thus helping them to accept their afflictions with resignation, as a pledge of God's love and their eternal happiness. Through her merits and intercession, grant us the favor which we confidently ask of You (mention request) so that the People of God, following the inspiration of her life and apostolate, may practice fraternal charity, according to Your word and example. Amen.
Blessed Marianne Cope, Pray for us.



And her legacy continues...
The Sisters of St. Francis are still in Kalaupapa; staff care centers, hospitals, nursing homes, diocesan schools, throughout the years where and when needed; run a flagship education center - St. Francis School in Honolulu since 1924; and St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii since 1927.

More information about Blessed Marianne Cope and the Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities:

Website: <http://blessedmariannecope.org>

Sisters of St. Francis: www.sosf.org

Cause of Blessed Marianne:
mmariannecause@a-znet.com

Ssremata13@hotmail.com

Sisters of St. Francis, Regional Administrator
2715 Pamoia Road, Honolulu, HI 96822-1885



BLESSED MARIANNE COPE, O.S.F.

Feast Day: January 23



January 23, 1838 - August 9, 1918

"I am hungry for the work... I am not afraid of any disease; hence it would be my greatest delight even to minister to the abandoned 'lepers.'"

BLESSED MARIANNE COPE, O.S.F.

Barbara Koob (now officially "Cope") was born on January 23, 1838 in what is now SE Hessen, West Germany. She was one of the 10 children born to Peter Koob, a farmer, and Barbara Witzenbacher Koob. The year after Barbara's birth, the family moved to the United States. The Koob family found a home in Utica, New York, where they became members of St. Joseph Church and where the children attended the parish school.

Although Barbara felt called to the religious life at an early age, her vocation was delayed for nine years because of family obligations. As the oldest child at home, she went to work in a factory after completing 8th grade in order to support her family when her father became ill. Finally, in the summer of 1862, at the age of 24, Barbara entered the Sisters of St. Francis in Syracuse, New York. On November 19, 1862, she received the religious habit and the name of Sister Marianne. The following year she made her religious profession and began serving as a teacher and principal in several elementary schools in New York State. She joined the Sisters of St. Francis with the intention of teaching, but her life soon became a series of administrative appointments. God had other plans for Sister Marianne. As a member of the governing boards of her religious community in the 1860's, she participated in the establishment of two of the first hospitals in the central New York area. In 1870, she began a new ministry as a nurse-administrator at St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse, New York, where she served as head administrator for six years. During this time she put her gifts of intelligence and people skills to good use as a facilitator, demonstrating the energy of a woman motivated by God alone.

Mother Marianne was often criticized for accepting for treatment "outcast" patients such as alcoholics; she became well known and loved in the central New York area for her kindness, wisdom and down-to-earth practicality.

In 1883, Mother Marianne, now the Provincial Mother in Syracuse, received a letter from a Catholic Priest asking for help in managing hospitals and schools in the Hawaiian Islands, and mainly to work with leprosy patients. The letter touched Mother Marianne's heart and she enthusiastically responded: *"I am hungry for the work and I wish with all my heart to be one of the chosen ones, whose privilege it will be to sacrifice themselves for the salvations of the souls of the poor Islanders... I am not afraid of any disease; hence it would be my greatest delight even to minister to the abandoned 'lepers.'"*

Mother Marianne and six other Sisters of St. Francis arrived in Honolulu, in November 1883. With Mother Marianne as a supervisor, their main task was to manage the Kaka'ako

Branch Hospital on Oahu, which served as a receiving station for patients with Hansen's disease, gathered from all over the islands. The Sisters quickly set to work cleaning the hospital and tending to its 200 patients. By 1885, they had major improvements to the living conditions and treatment of the patients. In November of that year, they also found the Kapiolani Home inside the hospital compound, established to care for the healthy daughters of Hansen's disease patients at Kaka'ako and Kalawao. The unusual decision to open a home for healthy children on the leprosy hospital premises was made because only the Sisters would care for those so closely related to people with the dreaded disease.

Mother Marianne met Fr. Damien deVeuster for the first time in January 1884, when he was in apparent poor health. Two years later, in 1886, after he had been diagnosed with Hansen's disease, Mother Marianne alone gave hospitality to the outcast priest upon hearing that his illness made him an unwelcome visitor to church and Government leaders in Honolulu. In 1887, when a new Government took charge of Hawaii, its officials decided to close the Oahu Hospital and receiving station and to reinforce the former alienation policy. The unanswered question: Who will care for the sick, who once again would be sent to a settlement for exiles on Kalaupapa peninsula on the island of Molokai? In 1888, Mother Marianne again responded to the plea for help and said: *"We will cheerfully accept the work..."* She arrived in Kalaupapa several months before Fr. Damien's death together with Sister Leopoldina Burns and Sister Vincentia McCormick, and was able to console the ailing priest by assuring him that she would provide care for the patients at the Boy's Home at Kalawao that he had founded.

Together the three sisters ran the Bishop Home for 103 girls and the home for boys. The workload was extreme and the burden at times seemed overwhelming. In moments of despair, Sister Leopoldina reflected: *"How long, O Lord, must I see only those who are sick and covered with leprosy?"* Mother Marianne's invaluable example of never failing optimism, serenity, and trust in God inspired hope in those around her and allayed the Sister's fear of catching leprosy. She taught her Sisters that their primary duty was *"to make life as pleasant and as comfortable as possible for those of our fellow creatures who God has chosen to afflict with this terrible disease..."*

Mother Marianne never returned to Syracuse. She died in Hawaii on August 9, 1918 of natural causes and was buried on the grounds of Bishop Home.

Her body was exhumed in January 2005 and sent to Syracuse, New York. A shrine in her honor is in the Motherhouse Chapel, Syracuse, New York. Beatified May 14, 2005.

BLESSED MARIANNE COPE, OSF

SERVANT LEADER FOR HAWAII'S PEOPLE

January 23, 1838 – August 9, 1918

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School's students, faculty, staff, parents, friends were able to spend their Earth Day Celebration by visiting the Blessed Marianne Cope Statue at Kewalo Basin State Park on April 22, 2010. This statue is a tribute to Blessed Marianne because she left a lasting impression on the people of Hawaii for 35 years. The Blessed Marianne Cope Statue was blessed on her feast day, January 23, 2010. Kewalo Basin is not far from where she and the six brave sisters first landed on November 8, 1883 to begin their ministry in Hawaii.

Franciscan Sisters giving diocese Blessed Marianne relic

By Patrick Downes
Hawaii Catholic Herald

The Sisters of St. Francis in Syracuse are giving the Diocese of Honolulu a first class relic of Blessed Marianne Cope for permanent display in the Cathedral of Our Lady of Peace in Honolulu.

The relic, described as "bone fragments," will be carried to Hawaii from Syracuse on May 4 by Sister Patricia Burkard, general minister of the Sisters of Saint Francis of the Neumann Communities. The relic will then visit each island before being installed May 13 in the cathedral. May 14 is the sixth anniversary of Blessed Marianne's beatification in Rome.

The Sisters of St. Francis are giving the relic to the diocese at the request of Bishop Larry Silva.

The relic is being transported in a carved and polished mahogany reliquary the size of a small shoebox rounded at both ends. In the cathedral, the reliquary will be placed in a case similar to the seven-foot-high koa and glass cabinet to the right of the sanctuary that houses a relic of St. Damien. Blessed Marianne's relic will be placed to the left of the sanctuary opposite Damien's.

The bone fragments were collected when the remains of Mother Marianne were exhumed from her resting place in Kalaupapa, Molokai, in January 2005 and transported to her motherhouse in Syracuse in anticipation of her beatification that year.

Sister Patricia said the relic will be a "physical, tangible reminder of this holy woman of God" in the church "where once she knelt before its altar in prayer."

"Blessed Marianne's first visit to a place of worship in Hawaii was to the Cathedral of Our Lady of Peace" after her arrival on Nov. 8, 1883, Sister Patricia said.

She said that her religious congregation is "pleased" that Bishop Silva "has deep appreciation of Blessed Marianne and wishes a first class relic in honor and re-



Sister Grace Anne Dillenschneider, vice-postulator of the cause of Blessed Marianne's canonization, holds the reliquary that will hold the sainthood candidate's bone fragments.

membrane of her."

The relic travel schedule

Here is the schedule of the relic's visit to the neighbor islands and Oahu. Sister Patricia will speak at each location. The times listed are for the celebration of Mass. There may be additional time at each stop for veneration before and after Mass.

- May 6: 7 p.m., St. Damien Church, Kaunakakai, Molokai
- May 7: 10:30 a.m., St. Francis Church, Kalaupapa, Molokai
- May 8: 2 p.m., Sacred Hearts Church, Lanai City, Lanai
- May 9: 6:30 p.m., Christ the King Church, Kahului, Maui
- May 10: 7 p.m., St. Joseph Church, Hilo, Big Island

- May 11: 6 p.m., Annunciation Church, Kamuela, Big Island
- May 12: 7 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church, Lihue, Kauai
- May 13: 6 p.m., Cathedral of Our Lady of Peace, Honolulu, Oahu

The reliquary was made by New York artist Steve Hale who also created the much larger reliquary that holds the greater part of Blessed Marianne's remains in the motherhouse chapel of the Sisters of St. Francis in Syracuse. Both are decorated with bas relief carvings of plumeria blossoms.

The display case is being made by Hawaii koa woodworker Robb Young, who made the case for St. Damien's relic, which cost \$9,000.

First class relics are parts of the body — usually bone or hair — of a saint or beatified person. Second-class relics are items used by the saint such as clothing, a book, a rosary or even a fragment of the saint's coffin. Third class relics are items that have been touched by a first or second-class relic, usually pieces of cloth or a holy card. The Catholic Church forbids the sale of first or second-class relics.

"To those of us who venerate the first-class relic of Blessed Marianne, it is not the bone fragments themselves that are meaningful, but who they were part of and what they represent," said Franciscan Sister Davilyn Ah Chick, who assisted the exhumation team in 2005. "The relic helps serve as a reminder of the holiness of her life which inspires us to live virtuous lives. It also gives the occasion to pray more deeply for her intercession."

Arrived in Hawaii in 1883

Mother Marianne Cope (formerly Barbara Koob) was a leading hospital administrator and the superior of her order Syracuse, N.Y., in 1883 when she responded to the Hawaiian government's appeal for religious health care workers to care for Hansen's disease patients in Honolulu.

"I am hungry for the work," she said at the time. "I am not afraid of any disease."

She arrived in Hawaii on Nov. 8, 1883, at age 45, with six other Franciscan sisters. She was soon running the Kakaako Branch Hospital in Honolulu where she also opened Kapiolani Home for the daughters of leprosy patients. Within a few years she had founded Maui's first general hospital.

Mother Marianne went to the Kalaupapa leprosy settlement on Molokai in 1888, a few months before the death of St. Damien de Veuster. She succeeded Father Damien as the settlement's guiding force. She died there on Aug.

9, 1918, of natural causes and was buried in Kalaupapa.

Pope John Paul II declared her "venerable," the first major step toward canonization, on April 19, 2004. That same year, a miracle attributed to Mother Marianne's intercession — the unexplained healing about 10 years earlier of a New York girl who had multiple organ failure and was expected to die — was recognized by the Vatican, paving the way for her beatification.

Mother Marianne was beatified on May 14 in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome by Cardinal Jose Saraiva Martins, then prefect for the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. She is one of five "Blesseds" in the United States.

The Vatican must authenticate a second miracle for Blessed Marianne to be canonized, or declared a saint.

Sister of St. Francis Mary Laurence Hanley of Syracuse, the director of Blessed Marianne's canonization cause, said that one "miracle case" has gone through "diocesan channels" and was presented to the Vatican Congregation for the Causes of Saints in 2010 where it is now being studied.

In order for the case to be verified, it must be examined and approved by panels of doctors, theologians and bishops, and finally the pope.

"We feel we have a strong case," Sister Mary Laurence said, but added that it would be unwise to discuss it or speculate on its outcome at this point.

"We were advised it is not prudent to speak of its content or circumstances which make sense, since there is no word received yet from our representatives at the Vatican of its passing any of the stages involved," she said. "We are in close contact, of course."

She asked for prayers that the case will proceed "through the stages of the process with a positive result."