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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Blessing of a Bench in Honor of Fr. Clarence "Larry" Fisher

Ceremony to be held on Sunday, November 21, 2021 at 10:15 am (HST)

November 8, 2021 – Honolulu, HI – Fr. Clarence "Larry" Fisher is being honored with a bench in his name by Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i and Our Lady of Sorrows Church. Rev. Falaniko "Niko" Atonio will perform a blessing on Sunday, November 21, 2021 at 10:15 am HST at 1403 California Avenue, Wahiawa, Hawai'i, 96786.

The bench and honorary plaque are located on the parish grounds, on a grassy area in front of the Priest's Rectory, where parishioners and visitors can enjoy peaceful reflection. The plaque reads:

In Honor of Fr. Clarence "Larry" Fisher "The Lord has done great things for us; and we are filled with joy." Psalm 126:3

Clarence Luzon Fisher III, affectionately called Larry Fisher, was born and raised in New Jersey. He studied theology at Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome and was ordained in 1961 at St Peter's Basilica. In 1978, he moved to Hawai'i at the invitation of the Sisters of St. Francis. In 1989, Fr. Larry was one of the founding board members of Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i and continued as an active board member until 2019. In 1990, he became pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Church, retiring in 2007. He served as the spiritual director of the Filipino Catholic Club and Oahu Council of Filipino Catholic Clubs. Fr. Larry celebrates his 60th Jubilee in 2021.

"Knowing and working alongside Fr. Larry has truly been a blessing," says Rev. Dr. George Clifford, President of the Board of Directors of Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i. "Always fulfilling his duties as pastor of first Holy Trinity and then Our Lady of Sorrows, Fr. Larry lives the parable of the Good Samaritan. He saw the need for mental health care, he knew too many people who could not afford to pay for that care, and so he helped to create a non-profit dedicated to providing quality mental health care to persons without regard to their religious identity or ability to pay."

<u>COVID-19 Safety Guidelines</u>: People who wish to attend Mass at 9 am should register at <u>https://www.olswahiawa.org/</u>. Mass and ceremony attendees should wear a face covering and practice social distancing.

About Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i

Founded in 1989, Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides professional and accessible mental health counseling for individuals, families, and communities in Hawai'i, regardless of their ability to pay. The organization also participates in community outreach and events to provide mental health education, strengthen resilience, and help reduce the stigma of mental illness. For more information, call (808) 545-2740 or visit http://www.samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org.

About Our Lady of Sorrows Church

Our Lady of Sorrows Church is a Catholic, faith-filled community united and founded on the teachings and love of Jesus Christ to serve the needs of all parishioners and, through its ministries, to foster and nurture their growth in faith. For more information, call (808) 621-5109 or visit <u>https://www.olswahiawa.org/</u>.

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Celebrating Over 30 Years of Service

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