

**REPORT TO THE ANGLICAN INDIGENOUS NETWORK (AIN) 2011 FROM:
THE COMMISSION ON NATIVE HAWAIIAN MINISTRY (CONHM),
THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF HAWAII – April 28, 2011.**

Convener: Leimalama Lee Loy

In his message to the Anglican Indigenous Network (AIN) Gathering at Kilauea Military Camp (April 23-27, 2009), on Hawai'i (the Big Island)," The Rt. Rev. Robert L. Fitzpatrick, Bishop, Diocese of Hawai'i set the stage for all participants, particularly for the Hawaii delegation, when he indicated that "our presence offers a vision of solidarity among indigenous peoples in the Anglican Communion but more so, by the possibility of evangelism and new outreach in the Native Hawaiian communion in culturally appropriate and welcoming ways." Bishop Bob especially noted that for the first time in our history, several Native Hawaiians are in discernment for ordination to the diaconate and the priesthood. It is truly within this milieu that the following presentation is CONHM's contribution to the AIN Gathering in Australia in May 2011.

THE GOOD NEWS is that after much persistence and patience, many prayers, and a solidified, COMMUNITY Support Group, the NA KUPUNA A ME NA MAKUA, we are praying for the CANDIDACY FOR HOLY ORDER for our dearest Native Hawaiian Son, MALCOLM NAEA CHUN. Under direct supervision of one of our clergy, who is currently assisting Malcolm with any knowledge gaps in the seven (7) canonical areas; and with the blessings of the Standing Committee should Malcolm meet all of the qualifications to be considered, he could then be ordained to the Transitional Diaconate by Bishop Bob as early as October 2011. We therefore ask for your continued prayers for Malcolm as well as for several potential candidates who are currently in various stages of the discernment process.

CONHM has now completed its 2-year project to update the Directory of Native Hawaiian Episcopalians in our Diocese in order "to identify and meet its unique ministry needs and insure its full participation in the life of the church." Unfortunately, despite the strong number of Native Hawaiians involved in the beginnings and founding of the Anglican Church here in Hawaii in the 1860's, our current statistics reflect that of the thirty-four (34) parishes studied, those members who participated in our project added up to approximately 243 families or about 510 individual persons. The largest number of Native Hawaiians reside in St. John's-By-The-Sea; the Cathedral of St. Andrew; and Grace Church, Molokai. It is for these reasons that there is a very deliberate and concerted effort to reverse that trend through a more serious and proactive role to discern servant ministry and ordination, along with their respective priests, discernment committees and congregations. The Diocese is making all efforts to be as flexible and innovative in its formation process and training requirements, with a need for a strong support system, done in COMMUNITY.

Following the Diocesan Strategic Plan, since 2009, CONHM has been meeting its challenges, with new partnerships, continued good working relationships among all parishes; increased visibility and accountability; and being involved with the emergence of potential lay and ordained Native Hawaiians.