



CASE STUDY St. Raphael Church *Koloa, Hawaii*

The reputation of Sauder Worship Seating® as a premier supplier of congregational seating has earned recognition among many Catholic dioceses, including the historic St. Raphael Church in Koloa, Hawaii. The parish transitioned from flexible seating (chairs) to Sauder's custom-manufactured Radiance™ Curved Pews. This best fit the wide profile of the church sanctuary and altar, plus the architectural design of the space.

Sauder established a relationship with the Catholic Church in Hawaii years ago, forming the awarding of the St. Raphael's chapel renovation project in 2013. This project involved removing existing pews, refinishing floors, and installing Oaklok chairs, which provides flexibility in the limited space. At that time, plans to remodel the main sanctuary were in the exploratory stages. Their satisfaction with Sauder's service, product and performance in the chapel project, led to Sauder Worship Seating becoming the pew supplier for the upcoming project.

After a thorough on-site review and discussion with church leaders and construction managers, the Sauder Worship Seating team assisted St. Raphael Church with the selection, design, transportation logistics and installation of the curved pews. The project moved from inception to completion in a matter of months! Additional Sauder chancel furniture was also part of the remodeling project.



The main sanctuary of St. Raphael Catholic Church after the remodeling and installation of Radiance™ Curved Pew custom seating.



The curved shape of Radiance™ pews create a sense of community and draw parishioners into the service, while providing comfort when sitting or kneeling.



The chapel of St. Raphael Catholic Church after the remodeling and installation of Oaklok flexible customized chair seating.

About St. Raphael Church

St. Raphael Catholic Church in Koloa on the island of Kauai, Hawaii, was founded in 1841 with its first stone chapel constructed in 1842. The present sanctuary was first completed in 1854, followed by expansion and renovation in 1936 to double its seating capacity. For more information about the history of St. Raphael Catholic Church, visit the “History of the Parish” section at www.st-raphael-kauai.org.

About Sauder Worship Seating®

Sauder Worship Seating, a brand of Sauder Manufacturing Co., began in 1934 in Northwest Ohio with small, custom orders for worship seating. The company’s reputation for handcrafted, top quality work became its springboard for expansion as increasing needs and changing church trends prompted the Sauder family to introduce new seating solutions and worship accessories. Today, Sauder Worship Seating blends skilled craftsmen, modern technology, and quality materials to create some of the world’s best worship furniture. More information about Sauder Worship Seating may be found online at sauderworship.com.



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