

# Father Ken works, and plays, to make a difference

**ERICA FLEMING**  
MANAGING EDITOR

Father Ken Templin is a social butterfly, gardener and swimmer who loves to sing and dance. His current occupation is a Campus Minister at Chaminade, where he offers prayer, sacrament, retreats, counseling, and student life activities.

Of German-Irish ancestry, Father Templin, 66, has been a priest for 27 years and a Marianist for 47.

One of four brothers, he joked that he was the neglected middle child. Both of his parents are deceased. His father died on Guam during World War II when Templin was four.

Father Templin had a paper route at the age of 12, was a Boy Scout, alter boy, high school cheerleader and worked on the yearbook.

He earned a Bachelor of

Arts in Education from the University of Dayton, a Master's in Education from Western Michigan University, and a Master's in Divinity from St. Michael's College in Toronto, Canada.

He said on a good day he is about five-foot-seven, weighs 165, has "bedroom blue eyes" (some people say), and peppered hair. When asked how he prefers to dress, Father Templin said, "A Hawaiian

shirt and a pair of shorts: less is better."

Templin said his greatest flaw is that words come out of his mouth before he can close it. His mannerisms are spontaneous and he often uses hand gestures while speaking.

"You'd think I was Italian," he said.



*Erica Fleming*



Photo by Stacia Garlach

*Father Ken laughs it up at a Hale Malia pau hana.*

Father Templin speaks Italian, Latin, Spanish and French.

During his free time, he enjoys reading novels, going to the beach, and playing in the dirt (his little garden) where he grows eggplant, papaya, cucumbers and tomatoes.

Father Templin has a list of favorites. His favorite songs are "Rose" by Bette Midler and "Friends" by Michael W. Smith. He would like them played at his funeral. His favorite beverages are

water and diet Coke. His favorite football team is the Cleveland Browns. He enjoys butter pecan and mint chocolate chip ice cream, and likes Italian, Slovenian and other Eastern European foods.

He also loves the polka and the jitterbug because they are a cardiovascular workout. He smokes cigars that are cheap and mild, but stopped drinking alcohol 25 years ago when he struggled with addiction.

Some of his favorite sayings and quotes include,

"Soon as you think you have all the answers, that's when they change the questions," "Unconditional love," and "You are the light of the world."

His philosophy is that life is a gift God gives us to make a difference in our world. Like Jesus, he wants to make a difference.

Father Templin's short-term goal in life is to have to ability to work until retiring and his long-term goal in life is to live to be 100, if he has his wits and health.

Asked if there is anything that no one knows about him, Father Templin said, "Nothing, because I'm pretty much an open book."

Things that make him angry include negative humor, selfish people, seeing others hurting, and injustice.

Father Templin does not teach classes but tries to set a good example.

"I love working with young people because it keeps me young," he said.