



ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH *of the* IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

ADDRESS:

91-1298 Renton Road
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Open Monday – Friday
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Closed from 12:30 PM – 1:00 PM
Also closed on Saturdays & Sundays

PHONE: (808) 681-3701

FAX: (808) 681-3117

EMAIL: iccewa@rcchawaii.org
www.immaculateconceptionewa.org

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O.C.I.A. COORDINATOR

Eden Pulga
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MISSION STATEMENT: *“We, the people of Immaculate Conception Parish in Ewa, declare our firm loyalty to our Lord Jesus Christ, our Roman Catholic Church, and to the Diocesan Bishop of Honolulu. Our strength is in our unity as a Christian Family of Faith, and we inspire to reach out to everyone with the embrace of Christ.”*

Second Sunday of Advent December 8, 2024

Focus: We are made pure and blameless through Jesus Christ.

When the path to salvation appears rocky, we can be assured that God will lower mountains and level depths to lead the faithful into his glory. This holy season, we rejoice to be remembered by God because he draws near and unites himself to us through Emmanuel – God with us.

COMING HOME FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Coming home can take place in many varied ways. Sometimes it's at the end of a long day when we come home to where we can be ourselves without any pretensions. Sometimes it's going back to the neighborhood we grew up in, to the old haunts that remind us of the dreams we had and how they now seem tucked in every niche. Sometimes coming home is what happens after many wanderings, after we've sown our oats and harvested little and now have nowhere else to go. That too is a coming home, back to where it all began, back to where we dare to hope that life might begin again.

All of this is how the Hebrew people found themselves coming home to Jerusalem after eighty years of exile, coming back to start anew with the hope that their God would once again be proud of them, back to where they could be as God intended them to be. All of that is what we do when we decide we will try to be the sort of person we'd always hoped to become. It's when we attempt a second effort at making a marriage work, or a job productive, or maybe simply putting the pieces of our lives back in some sort of order. It's all about coming back home to God's dream for us, a kind of second Advent, when God comes into our lives and is born once again.

● **Reflect: Have you wandered too far from the values of your true home? Can you find your way back?**

Contact us for the following:

BAPTISM: Inform the parish 2 months in advance to allow for baptismal preparation

FAITH FORMATION (CCD & OCIA):
Contact coordinator.

MARRIAGE: Notify the parish 6 months prior to proposed date. Attending an Engaged Encounter Weekend is required prior to marriage ceremony.

COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND: Contact the office to arrange for someone to bring the Blessed Sacrament to the Sick.

FUNERALS: Call the parish before making arrangements with the mortuary.

FOOD PANTRY: Distribution happens in Parish Hall, bring ID:

- First Friday hours: 3–5 PM
- Remaining Fridays: 4–6 PM

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Monday, December 9:

7:00 AM Rosary
8:00 AM Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Mass (*Holy Day of Obligation*)
(+Asako Diana - RS)
7:00 PM Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Mass (*Holy Day of Obligation*)
followed by Dinner/Fellowship (*Hall*)

Tuesday, December 10:

7:00 AM Rosary
8:00 AM Mass
(+Varez Ohana - Thanksgiving)
6:30 PM PPBC Meeting

Wednesday, December 11:

6:40 AM Rosary
8:00 AM Mass
(+Felipe Madamba, Jr. - RS)
5:00 PM Centering Prayer
6:30 PM O.C.I.A.

Thursday, December 12:

No Mass
7:00 PM Advent Penance Service

Friday, December 13:

6:40 AM Rosary
8:00 AM Mass
(Nhu Loan Nealon - Thanksgiving)
4-6:00 PM Food Pantry

Saturday, December 14:

8:00 AM Church Cleaning
4:00 PM Confessions
4:15 PM Rosary
5:00 PM Mass
(+Simpliciana "Sophie" Victoria - RS)

Sunday, December 15:

6:15 AM Rosary
7:00 AM Mass
(Darcey Daclison - Birthday Blessing)
8:45 AM Rosary
9:30 AM Mass
(+Felipe Madamba, Jr. - RS)
4:15 PM Rosary
5:00 PM Simbang Gabi Mass
(Mass for the People)

CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

Dec. 14: Knights of Columbus
Dec. 21: Couples for Christ
Dec. 28: Chamorro Group
Jan. 4: Sacred Heart Society



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 9



FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:00 A.M. - MASS
6:00 P.M. - PROCESSION
- CROWNING & OFFERING OF FLOWERS to OUR LADY
7:00 P.M. - MASS, BISHOP LARRY SILVA
8:00 P.M. - DINNER & FELLOWSHIP - HALL

DECEMBER 12

7:00 P.M. - PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

DECEMBER 15 - 23 SIMBANG GABI MASSES:

5:00 PM, DEC. 15, SUN. - FR. LYNDON JONG
7:00 PM, DEC. 16, MON.- FR. JOEY RANCHO
7:00 PM, DEC. 17, TUE. - FR. ED BARUT
7:00 PM, DEC. 18, WED. - FR. RHEO OFALSA
7:00 PM, DEC. 19, THU. - FR. ERIC CASTRO, M.S.
7:00 PM, DEC. 20, FRI. - FR. PAULO KOSAKA, OFM, CAP.
5:00 PM, DEC. 21, SAT. - FR. VALENTINE SUN TUN, M.S.
5:00 PM, DEC. 22, SUN. - FR. LEONARD TUBANA
7:00 PM, DEC. 23, MON.- FR. KURT MEYER

DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASSES
7:00 P.M. - CHRISTMAS EVE MASS
11:30 P.M. - CHRISTMAS CAROLING
12:00 A.M. - MIDNIGHT MASS

DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES
7:00 A.M. - CHRISTMAS MASS
9:30 A.M. - CHRISTMAS MASS
(NO 5:00 P.M. MASS)

DECEMBER 28 -29

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
BLESSING OF FAMILIES

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Our Advent Penance Service this year will be next **Thursday, December 12th, at 7:00 p.m.** If you cannot make it to our Penance Service, please note the only other Penance Service will be held on Tuesday, December 10th, at St. Rita's, Nanakuli beginning at 7:00 p.m.

LIGHT A STAR



Our Annual **Light A Star Tree** will be up soon. If you would like to remember your loved ones during Advent by placing an ornament on our Light A Star Tree, please pick up an envelope which can be found at the back of the church. Write their names legibly and place your envelopes in the collection basket or box near the entrance. You may also drop them off at the parish office.

ORDINATION OF PRESTON CASTRO TO THE DIACONATE



All are invited to the ordination to the transitional diaconate of **Preston-Jay Castro**, to be celebrated at **St. Joseph Church, Waipahu**, on Saturday, **December 14, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.** (the anticipated Mass for the Third Sunday of Advent). Please keep Deacon-elect Castro in your prayers.

CATECHETICAL RETREAT

The students attending CCD Classes this year participated in a retreat this past Saturday, November 30th, led by catechist, Wanda Bega. Together with Shirley Sunio, our Director for Religious Education, and their assistants, they gathered our students and their parents to engage in various activities to learn about God. They are in preparation to receive their Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and/or Confirmation. We are grateful for everyone who made this day a success. We pray for our students and their parents as they continue this journey toward God and His Sacraments.



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Nov. 30 - Dec. 1, 2024

Weekly Offering	\$3,972.00
Sat. 5:00 PM - \$	894.00
Sun. 7:00 AM - \$	1,191.00
Sun. 9:30 AM - \$	934.00
Sun. 5:00 PM - \$	953.00

Repair & Maintenance	\$1,915.00
Building Fund	\$325.00
Flowers	\$15.00
Candles	\$175.00
Book of Intentions	\$70.00
Mass Intentions	\$150.00
Food Pantry	\$1,128.00
All Souls Day	\$20.00
Light A Star	\$295.00
Thanksgiving	\$1,150.54
Christmas	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$9,315.54



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:

Catholic Charities	\$20.00
Ohana in Christ	\$1,220.00
Capital Campaign for Human Development	\$100.00

Nativity Pilgrimage to the Philippines

Join Bishop Larry Silva for this special 12-day nativity pilgrimage to the Philippines from **July 20-31, 2025**. The tour will go through Malina, Ilo-Ilo, Cebu, Simala, Batangas, and Tagaytay. The trip includes round-trip airfare, airport taxes & fuel surcharges, land transportation, first-class hotels, daily mass, meals as per itinerary, and a medical protection plan. To learn more, visit travel.nativitypilgrimage.com/silva-philippines.

CHRISTMAS IN THE COUNTRY: CRAFT & FARMERS' MARKET

December 14th, 9am-2pm
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Waikane

2ND COLL: RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Aging religious need your help.

"Your support acknowledges that we continue the mission of Christ even in our retirement," says Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart Sister Celeste Burgos, 80. Donations provide for the care, medicine, and daily needs of over 24,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests, who have dedicated their lives to service. Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious next weekend, Dec. 14th-15th.

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Christmas IN THE COUNTRY
CRAFT & FARMERS MARKET
DECEMBER 14TH | 9AM - 2PM
Booking Vendors Now!
WE NEED FOOD, ARTS & CRAFTS, & FARM VENDORS!
SPACE IS LIMITED. REGISTER NOW!
PLEASE CALL (808) 436-7377 / (808) 421-9331 OR
EMAIL ALMITA07@SBCGLOBAL.NET / CBALLI231@GMAIL.COM

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Weekend appointments available



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ANNUAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD
OCT. 15 - DEC. 7

Call me for a FREE consultation
with NO obligation to enroll.



Angie Armas
Licensed Agent

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94-210 Pupukahi St., Ste. 203, Waipahu

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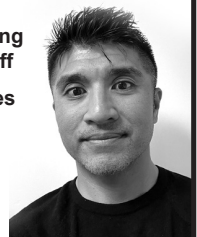
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If Christmas is on December 25, why is the Immaculate Conception on December 8, rather than sometime in March?

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception asserts that Mary was free of the stain of original sin from the time she was conceived in her mother's womb. Jesus was also free of the stain of original sin and his conception by Mary is referred to as the Incarnation of Christ. Mary's Immaculate Conception is often confused for Christ's Incarnation. In the Church's liturgical calendar, Mary's conception is celebrated on December 8; her birthday is celebrated exactly nine months later on September 8. Likewise, Christ's conception is celebrated on March 25 on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord; his birthday is celebrated exactly nine months later on December 25. Mary's Immaculate Conception was celebrated many centuries before Pope Pius IX defined it as dogma on December 8, 1854: "The doctrine that maintains that the Blessed Virgin Mary in the first instant of her conception, by a unique grace and privilege granted to her by Almighty God, in consideration of the merits of Jesus Christ the Savior of mankind, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore must be firmly and constantly believed by all the faithful" (Ineffabilis Deus). In fact, eight years before, in 1846, the bishops of the United States had already adopted the Immaculate Conception as the patronal feast for Catholics in this country.

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE WEEK

A word from POPE FRANCIS

By calling us to conversion, John urges us to go "beyond" where we presently are; to go beyond what our instincts tell us... Let us ask for the grace to believe that with God things really do change, that he will banish our fears, heal our wounds... Let us ask for the grace of hope...

HOMILY, ATHENS,
DECEMBER 5, 2021

PARISH MINISTRIES

- Parish Pastoral Council
- Parish Council of Ministries
- Finance Council
- Parish Planning & Building
- Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
- Stewardship Committee
- Music Ministry
- Money Counters
- Bereavement
- Religious Education
- Lectors
- Ushers
- Altar Servers
- Flowers and Environmental
- Knights of Columbus
- Event Planners
- Food Pantry
- Couples for Christ
- Youth & Young Adult Min.
- Sacred Heart Society
- Secular Franciscans
- Chamorro Group



Our Lady of Guadalupe - Feast Day is December 12th. Also known as the "Virgin of Guadalupe," this feast commemorates a series of four apparitions to Mexican Aztec peasant, Juan Diego, from Dec. 9-12, 1531. Unlike any other vision of the Blessed Virgin Mary, this special day holds profound cultural significance, particularly in Mexico and among the indigenous peoples of the Americas. When Our Lady appeared to Juan Diego, she introduced herself as the Mother of God and Mother of all Humanity. She asked him to have a shrine built on this exact spot to show and share her love and compassion with all those who believe. The Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe stands there in her honor at the foot of Tepeyac Hill in Mexico. This feast is one of the most popular religious devotions in Mexico. She's the Patroness of the Americas, unborn children, and the New Evangelization.



St. Lucy - Feast Day is December 13th. This 3rd c. virgin and martyr was one of the best known of the earliest saints, who achieved popularity in Europe during the Roman Empire. Born in Syracuse, Sicily, she was also known as St. Lucia, who dedicated her virginity to God and desired to serve the poor. She's venerated in parts of Europe such as Sweden, where ceremonies mark St. Lucia's day and the festival brings hope and light during the darkest time of the year. She's also revered in the Philippines with a novena before her feast day with processions, hymns, Masses, and festivals. She was martyred when she refused to marry a suitor, who accused her of being a Christian. Before being finally executed by a sword in her neck, her eyes were gouged out and she's often depicted in medieval art holding a dish with her eyes on it. This patron of sight is one of eight women commemorated during the Canon of the Mass.



St. John of the Cross - Feast Day is December 14th. This 16th c. Catholic priest, mystic, and Carmelite friar was also a theologian, a major figure of the Counter-Reformation in Spain, and one of the 37 Doctors of the Church. He was best known for his writings, having been mentored by Carmelite, Teresa of Avila, and then corresponded with her. He was one of the foremost poets in Spain and his works, particularly the "Dark Night of the Soul" and "Spiritual Canticle" are considered masterpieces of Spanish poetry with its formal style and rich symbolism and imagery. Having known the Cross extremely, he experienced the dying of Jesus as he sat in his dark, damp, narrow cell months after months with only his God with him. He was truly "of the Cross" by conveying the message of losing one's life if a person wants to save it. He's the patron of Spanish poets, mystics, and contemplatives.

		NOV. 16-17		NOV. 23-24		NOV 30-DEC 1	
WEEKLY MASS COUNT	Day/Time	Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child
	Sat. 5:00 PM	134	15	173	24	156	7
	Sun. 7:00 AM	197	5	227	3	202	3
	Sun. 9:30 AM	245	41	245	43	229	38
	Sun. 5:00 PM	110	14	149	19	159	19

Readings for the 3rd Sunday of Advent:

Zephaniah 3: 14-18a
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:10-18