



# 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

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**FAX:** (808) 681-3117

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

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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.”*

## Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 29, 2024

**FOCUS:** Let the peace of Christ control your hearts.

Our readings today point to the importance of reverencing one another with respect and charity. We are to honor our parents and let the peace of Christ control [our] hearts. We are to put on love and strive always to live with gratitude.

## FEELING OUR WAY FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Adolescence can bring family life into an upheaval for both parents and adolescents alike. At its heart, adolescence is an urge for independence, a silent instinct to be part of the larger world. It is a calling sewn by God’s Spirit into the very fabric of being human. At its best, family life can be the staging ground for that movement outward. Hannah recognized this when she believed that her young son Samuel was chosen for a specific role in life. It moved her to bring Samuel to the temple to be raised there in growing service to the community. Ultimately Samuel became a charismatic leader of the Hebrew people who would anoint both Saul and David as king. That same calling seemed to take time to unfold in the awareness of Joseph and Mary who wondered why Jesus stayed behind in the temple. “Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” asked Jesus of them (Luke 2:49). All of us are meant to live more than a life of satisfaction for ourselves or even the fulfillment of our parents’ dreams. We may find ourselves asking a young person what they want to be when they grow up. A more valuable question might be what they think God wants them to be. While the Spirit of God does not usually ask us to be something contrary to our inclinations, the call of service to the needs of the human family is an added piece to the puzzle of what someone’s life might look like.

● Reflect: How has the call to serve God and God’s people shown itself in your life? **a wholehearted “Yes” to God’s will for you?**

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 30:

7:00 AM Rosary  
 8:00 AM Mass  
 (+Teofilo Corpuz - Death Anniversary)

### Tuesday, December 31:

7:00 AM Rosary  
 8:00 AM Mass  
 (+Pablo D. Luab - RS)

### Wednesday, January 1:

7:00 AM Rosary  
 8:00 AM Mass  
 (Benjamin and Andrea Yucoco - Thanksgiving)

### Thursday, January 2:

No Mass

### Friday, January 3

6:40 AM Rosary  
 7:00 AM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by the Rosary  
 8:00 AM Mass  
 3-5:00 PM Food Pantry  
 (Holy Souls in Purgatory)

### Saturday, January 4:

8:00 AM Church Cleaning  
 3:00 PM First Saturday Devotion  
 4:00 PM Confessions  
 4:15 PM Rosary  
 5:00 PM Mass  
 (Holy Souls in Purgatory)

### Sunday, January 5:

6:15 AM Rosary  
 7:00 AM Mass  
 (Holy Souls in Purgatory)  
 8:45 AM Rosary  
 9:30 AM Mass  
 (+Simpliciana Agravanate Victoria - RS)  
 4:15 PM Rosary  
 5:00 PM Mass  
 (Mass for the People)



*For unto us,  
 a Child is  
 Born*

## CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

**Jan. 11:** Knights of Columbus  
**Jan. 18:** Couples for Christ  
**Jan. 25:** Chamorro Group/Stewardship  
**Feb. 4:** Sacred Heart Society



## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### JUBILEE YEAR, "SPES NON CONFUDIT"



The Catholic Church's **2025 Jubilee** was officially proclaimed on Thursday by Pope Francis. The papal bull, titled "Spes Non Confudit," meaning "**Hope Does Not Disappoint**," declares that the Jubilee Year will officially begin with the opening of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica on Christmas Eve 2024. A jubilee is a special holy year of grace and pilgrimage in the Catholic Church. It typically takes place once every 25 years, though the pope can call for extraordinary jubilee years more often, such as in the case of the 2016 Year of Mercy or the 2013 Year of Faith.

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/257635/pope-francis-proclaims-2025-jubilee-papal-bull-hope-does-not-disappoint>

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

This Wednesday, **January 1, 2025**, is the **Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**, Lady's greatest title. This feast is the Octave Day of Christmas. In the current liturgical Calendar only Christmas and Easter enjoy the privilege of an octave. It is also the World Day of Peace. The Catechism of the Catholic Church, 721, teaches us that "Mary, the all-holy ever-virgin Mother of God, is the masterwork of the mission of the Son and the Spirit in the fullness of time. Mary is acclaimed and represented in the liturgy as the "Seat of Wisdom." We will honor her this day with Mass starting at 8:00 a.m. All are welcomed to join us.



### FIRST FRIDAY - FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

This week Friday, January 3rd is the First Friday. We honor our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament with Eucharistic Adoration starting at 7:00 a.m. followed by the Rosary and Mass at 8:00 a.m. On Saturday, January 4th, the First Saturday Servants of Mary invite all to join them for the First Saturday Devotions starting at 3:00pm in the church.

### OFFICE CLOSURES



The parish office will be closed on Tuesday, December 31st 2024 and Wednesday, January 1st, 2025, for the New Year holiday. We will reopen on Thursday, January 2nd, 2025.

### A GIFT FROM THE PARISH

Pope Francis has called 2024 a Year of Prayer. As we end 2024 and welcome 2025, we would like to thank everyone for your continued generosity. As an expression of our gratitude, we are giving each family a **book** entitled, "**An Introduction to Prayer**," by Bishop Robert Barron.



Also, the 2025 **calendars** are now available. The ushers will be passing them out after the Masses along with the book. One book and calendar per family.



### FATHER WILL BE ON CHRISTMAS BREAK

Fr. Sieg will be on a break for Christmas through New year's Day. Fr. Victor Lanuevo will preside over the Masses.



# SIMBANG GABI CELEBRATION!



# STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Dec. 21 - 22 2024

Weekly Offering	\$2,725.00
Sun. 7:00 AM - \$ 1,603.00	
Sun. 9:30 AM - \$ 1,052.00	
Sun. 5:00 PM - \$ 70.00	
Repair & Maintenance	\$2,541.96
Building Fund	\$40.00
Flowers	\$25.50
Candles	\$85.00
Book of Intentions	\$175.00
Mass Intentions	\$155.00
Light A Star	\$125.00
Christmas	\$655.00
Leeward Clergy	\$400.00
Simbang Gabi Masses	\$4,363.52
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,290.98</b>



### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:

Ohana in Christ	\$45.00
Capital Campaign for Human Development	\$50.00



# MAHALO FROM SR. GRACE ACIRO, LITTLE SISTERS OF MARY IMMACULATE OF GULU



Before...

I am happy to present to you a brief report on the financial support of USD 5,100 you gave us through Sister Mary Rose to repair the roof of our residence that got damaged by a storm on April 18, 2024. Your generous donation has made a difference in our lives and we are forever grateful. The progress of the reconstruction is on course. On behalf of the Sisters, I thank you very much for your constant prayer and financial support. I am so grateful to you and the Parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church. God bless.



...After

After receiving the contributions from you and the Parishioners through Sister Mary Rose Atuu and the little savings from the Sisters, we have made great

progress. Once again we thank you for your generosity and love for the LSMIG. May God bless you abundantly and bring your plans to fulfilment especially with the graces of the Holy Birth of His Son. Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year 2025! Sr. Grace Aciro



Above Fr. Sieg presents the check to Sr. Mary Rose Atuu.

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## If Jesus was a Jew, why are we Catholic and not Jewish?

Jesus was a first-century Jew, as were his first disciples. They continued their Jewish practices after Jesus' resurrection, but they believed and proclaimed that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah, the fulfillment of Judaism. Such claims inevitably led to clashes with Jewish authorities, as when St. Stephen, the first martyr, was charged with blasphemy and stoned to death in Jerusalem in the year 36 (Acts 6-7). Nevertheless, Jesus' followers initially saw themselves as reformers of Judaism—not founders of a new religion.

The Acts of the Apostles traces the first thirty years of this community of believers, from Jesus' ascension in Jerusalem to Paul's imprisonment in Rome. It details the beginnings of their separation from Judaism, as when the Jewish disciples wanted to impose certain practices of Mosaic Law on the Gentile disciples—circumcision, for example (Acts 15:11). Acts and the epistles also chronicle the expansion outside of Jerusalem to the Mediterranean region, where, for example, in Antioch, the disciples of Jesus were called Christians for the first time (Acts 11:26). The first written reference to "Catholic Church" is from St. Ignatius of Antioch around the year 107. Catholic means "universal." "The Church is catholic: she proclaims the fullness of the faith.... She is sent out to all peoples. She speaks to all men. She encompasses all times" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 868).

● Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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### A word from POPE FRANCIS

Every day, families have to learn to listen and understand one another, to walk together, to face conflicts and difficulties.... And this too helps...talk within the family, talk at table, dialogue between parents and children, dialogue among siblings. It helps us experience our family roots that come from our grandparents. Dialogue with the grandparents!

ANGELUS, ROME,  
DECEMBER 26, 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

## FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE WEEK



**St. Sylvester** - Feast Day is December 31st. This 4th c. Pope of Rome ruled during a time of transition for the city into Christianity and according to legend is credited with converting and baptizing Emperor Constantine as the first Roman emperor to become a Christian and who was miraculously cured by him of leprosy. His other achievements during his pontificate include the constructing of several important basilicas, including St. Peter's, and also for convening the Council of Arles and the First Council of Nicaea. There are celebrations especially in some European countries on St. Sylvester's Day with Watchnight Mass, fireworks, feasting, partying, and even some "lucky foods." He's the patron saint of the Chivalric Order called the "Militia Aurata."



**St Basil**- Feast Day is January 2nd. Also known as St. Basil the Great, he served as the Bishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia in the 4th c. To combat Arianism, he taught that in the Trinity, the Father and Son are equal in value. He was one of the most influential figures in the development of Christian monasticism and is the Father of Eastern monasticism. He made the virtues such as poverty, obedience, and self-denial the foundation of monastic life. He's also noted for working tirelessly in pastoral care. Best known as an orator, he preached twice a day to large crowds and built a hospital, which is noted as a "wonder of the world." He's the patron saint of hospital administrators, reformers, and of the region of Cappadocia in Turkey.



**Most Holy Name of Jesus** - Feast Day is January 3rd. In Roman Catholicism, the month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus and is celebrated on January 3rd. Roman Catholics observe this feast as a formal way and appointed time to give honor to the Name of Jesus. St. Paul actually first promoted this devotion in his letter to the Philippians by saying that God the Father gave Jesus "the name that is above every name." Later, this devotion was popularized by 12th c. Cistercian monks and nuns and then more so by the preaching of a 15th c. Franciscan named St. Bernardine of Siena. Then, the Jesuits promoted the feast in the 16th c. and from then on, the devotion grew. When prayerfully spoken, Jesus' name unites our hearts to His, gives strength, casts out fears, arouses trust, and bestows abundant graces.

WEEKLY MASS COUNT	Day/Time	DEC. 7-8		DEC. 14-15		DEC. 21-22	
		Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child
	Sat. 5:00 PM	155	20	143	9	228	25
	Sun. 7:00 AM	225	10	180	9	212	5
	Sun. 9:30 AM	200	30	248	59	220	51
	Sun. 5:00 PM	159	22	227	29	271	33

Readings for the Feast of the Holy Family:

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6  
Matthew 2:1-12