



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

PASTOR

Rev. Siegfred B. Dosdos, JCL

DEACON

Richard Abel

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Alison Harney
iccewa@rcchawaii.org

BOOKKEEPER

Lalla Andres

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Shirley Sunio
ssunio@rcchawaii.org

BAPTISM COORDINATORS

Phillip & Emilie Malasig
malasig.family@gmail.com

O.C.I.A. COORDINATOR

Eden Pulga
edencia@aol.com



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 in Ordinary Time January 19, 2025

FOCUS: The Lord’s love and care for us knows no bounds.

It is comforting to know that, within the kingdom of God, all will be well in the end. Isaiah tells us of God’s promise to Zion – which we know to be fulfilled in his Son, Jesus. And Jesus, whose ministry on earth was visible and transformative, takes care to ensure that the wedding feast is not spoiled while demonstrating that what he offers us is superior to anything the world may offer. God’s care for us knows no bounds, and the goodness we experience here is but a taste of what is to come.

WHEN WATER BECOMES WINE

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

For all of us, at one time or another, life seems to run out of wine. We look at our relationships and find ourselves saying, “There’s no more wine.” It may be a friendship of five years or a marriage of twenty-five years, but, for some, the wine runs out. For others, it is the job that loses its challenge. Or, one day, the foreman gathers everyone to announce that the plant is closing. In a moment, all has turned into vinegar; there is no more wine. For others still, it is when retirement suffocates the future, choking all that once gave meaning.

However, there are also those times when hope is reborn, when we feel “espoused” not only by life but also by God, when the ordinary turns extraordinary—and the water becomes wine. It is the phone call offering a new job after we have collected unemployment checks for months. It is falling in love when we have given up on the notion. It is conceiving a child after years of barren waiting. It is someone who listens, finally, when no one else would. It is at times like these—and many others as well—when we are caught off-balance and trip into God unwittingly, saved from drudgery and redeemed to live a life enriched, when water is turned into wine. It is a deeply felt joy that reveals God’s presence.

● Reflect: What stories from Scripture comfort you, and which ones challenge 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, January 20: (Office closed)

7:00 AM Rosary
8:00 AM Mass
6:30 PM Liturgy Meeting

Tuesday, January 21:

7:00 AM Rosary
8:00 AM Mass
(+Erminda Tagama - Death Anniversary)

Wednesday, January 22:

7:00 AM Rosary
8:00 AM Mass
5:00 PM Centering Prayer
6:30 PM O.C.I.A.

Thursday, January 23:

No Mass

Friday, January 24:

6:40 AM Rosary
8:00 AM Mass
4-6:00 PM Food Pantry

Saturday, January 25:

8:00 AM Church Cleaning
4:00 PM Confessions
4:15 PM Rosary
5:00 PM Mass
(+Isabel Alabanza - RS)

Sunday, January 26:

6:15 AM Rosary
7:00 AM Mass
(+Sulpecia Virtucio - RS)
8:15-9:15 AM CCD Classes
8:45 AM Rosary
9:30 AM Mass
(+Alejandro Bareng - Death Anniversary)
4:15 PM Rosary
5:00 PM Mass
(Mass for the People)

MARTIN LUTHER KING

HOLIDAY, JANUARY 20TH

The office will be closed on Monday, January 20th, due to the Martin Luther King holiday. We will reopen the next day, Tuesday, January 21st.

CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

Jan. 25: Chamorro Group
Feb. 1: Sacred Heart Society
Feb. 8: Knights of Columbus
Feb. 15: Couples for Christ



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

IMPORTANT: 2024 TAX STATEMENTS

If you need a tax statement for calendar year 2024, please contact the parish office. A statement is sent ONLY upon request. You may reach us by calling (808) 681-3701, Mon-Fri, 8:30am to 4:30pm or email us at iccewa@rcchawaii.org.

FREE TAX PREPARATION SERVICES - AARP

AARP Foundation is offering tax preparation services for those who may qualify for free services. They do not do rentals (Schedule E) or businesses (Schedule C). There are 3 different locations nearby:

Ewa Beach Library (S-038), 91-950 North Rd., Ewa Beach, Thu. 10am - 1pm
Villages of Kapolei Mauka - 91-1050 Kamaaha Loop, Kapolei, Tue., 9am-2pm
Kroc Community Ctr: 91-3257 Kualakai Pkwy, Ewa Beach, Sat., 9am - Noon

Please see the bulletin board outside for more info.

MARCH FOR LIFE, JANUARY 24TH



All are invited to join Bishop Larry for a March for Life Mass on Thursday, January 23rd, at Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa, Honolulu, starting at 6:00 p.m.

The March for Life Rally will be held the next day, **Friday, January 24th**, from **2-5 p.m.** at the State Capitol Rotunda. This year, the Knights of Columbus, Council 6734 will rent a 15-passenger van for the first 15 people who sign up. Please call the parish office if you are interested in going, or if you need more information.

Dcn. Gary Streff will open the ceremonies followed by guest speakers such as **Bishop Larry Silva, Patrick DeGuzman, James Wallace, Lisa Shorba, Matt Smolka, pastors,** and **members of the legislature.** All are encouraged to stand up for the unborn and the vulnerable and protect the Life that God has given us.

AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA - ROSARY RALLY

Another way to protect the unborn and the vulnerable is to come together and pray as a parish ohana. This coming **Saturday, January 25th**, our prayer warriors will gather at the church to pray the rosary starting at **12:00 p.m.** Please come and join them.

ANNUAL RED MASS

The Annual Red Mass is a gathering of our community to come together to pray at the beginning of the legislative session. It took place this past Tuesday, Jan. 14th at the Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace, with guest speaker, Kerry Robinson, President and CEO of Catholic Charities USA. Bishop Larry presided over the Mass. Fr. Sieg was in attendance along with other priests of our Diocese. (Photos courtesy of Nenita Morales)



BLACK & INDIAN MISSIONS & CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA



Next weekend, Jan. 25th-26th, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America as well as the Black and Indian Missions. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ.

Your financial support of the three organizations of the Black and Indian Mission Office enables us to help form children in the faith, educate young people, and build hope – a hope often so hard to find in the areas our missionaries serve. There are two separate envelopes, which can be found at the entrance door.



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Jan. 11 - 12, 2025

Weekly Offering		\$3,643.27
Sat. 5:00 PM -	\$1,156.00	
Sun. 7:00 AM -	\$908.25	
Sun. 9:30 AM -	\$869.00	
Sun. 5:00 PM -	\$710.02	
Repair & Maintenance		\$1,716.21
Building Fund		\$260.00
Flowers		\$12.50
Candles		\$70.00
Book of Intentions		\$80.00
Light A Star		\$28.00
Food Pantry		\$50.00
KoC Books		\$4.00
TOTAL		\$5,863.98



POPE FRANCIS RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD



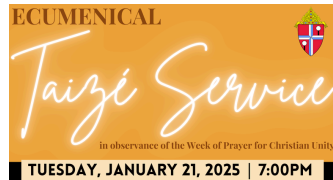
On Saturday, January 11, 2025, President Joe Biden awarded Pope Francis with our nation's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Furthermore, he was the first person to receive it "with distinction," which is an added level of honor. Pope Francis was commended for his commitment to serving the poor, advocating for peace, protecting our planet, and reaching out to different faiths. Per President Biden: "Above all, he is the People's Pope - a light of faith, hope, and love that shines brightly across the world."

LEARNING FROM GRIEF: EPIPHANY IN THE UPPER ROOM w/ FR. JAMES KEENAN, S.J.



All are invited to attend a lecture entitled, Learning from Grief: Epiphany in the Upper Room, with Guest Speaker, Fr. James Keenan, S.J., Vice Provost of Global Engagement, Director of the Jesuit Institute, and Canisius Chair at Boston College. Fr. James will be speaking on Sunday, February 9, 2025, 4 p.m., at the Clarence T.C. Ching Conference Center, Chaminade University of Hawaii. To register, log on to chaminade.edu/marianist-lecture.

2025 ECUMENICAL TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE, JANUARY 21, 2025, 7:00 P.M.



The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has been observed for more than 100 years, working toward the fulfillment of Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper "that they all may be one." Each year, an international group organized through the World Council of Churches and the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity prepares text material for the week based on a theme. This year's theme is "Do you believe this?" (cf. John 11:26). The year 2025 will mark the 1,700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council. This commemoration provides a unique opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the common faith of Christians as expressed in the Creed formulated at that Council. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025 is an invitation to draw on this common heritage and to enter more deeply into the faith that unites all Christians. You are invited to join us in our Ecumenical Taize Service on Tuesday, January 21st, 7:00 p.m. Newman Center/Holy Spirit Parish, UH Manoa, 1941 East West Road, Honolulu, HI 96822-2321. (Free parking at 2707 Pamoia Road, Honolulu)

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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
808-382-6290

angie@planadvisorshawaii.com
94-210 Pupukahi St., Ste. 203, Waipahu

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Is there a year of John? I know we're now in the year of Luke, next year will be the year of Matthew, and the following year will be the year of Mark. Then the cycle starts over with Luke. Why doesn't John have a year?

Matthew, Mark, and Luke, collectively known as the synoptic gospels, are narrative gospels. Together, they tell the story of Jesus of Nazareth. Although in some ways they might be understood synoptically, "the same," each narrative is unique in its emphasis. The Church desires that we hear these narratives and be nourished through the proclamation of the early memories of the Christian community. John's Gospel, on the other hand, is not primarily a narrative, but is best understood as theological. As such, it is highly dependent on the use of symbolic representations to make the point it intends. For example, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me...will have the light of life" (John 8:12). The interplay between light and darkness illustrates the point. John's Gospel is intended to be experienced and engaged in as "bigger than life," proposing and celebrating Christian themes that are life-giving and inviting. Therefore, we hear John's Gospel when the Church celebrates the mystery of the saving life and resurrection of Jesus. For this reason, the Gospel of John is proclaimed on Good Friday, during the Easter season, and on other major feasts.

● Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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A word from POPE FRANCIS

I suggest an exercise.... Let us think about that difficult moment in which God let me experience his love.... And let us ask ourselves: with which discrete and loving signs did he let me feel his tenderness? When did I feel the Lord nearer? When did I feel his tenderness and his compassion?

ANGELUS, ROME,
JANUARY 6, 2022

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. Agnes of Rome - Feast Day is January 21st. This 3rd - 4th c. saint was one of the most famous early Christian virgin martyrs, who died at the young age of 13 by beheading. She's even mentioned in one of the Eucharistic prayers of the Mass. She had many suitors who wanted to marry her, but she refused them all saying that she could have no spouse but Jesus. Desiring to live a life of purity and devotion to God, she dedicated her life completely to her "spouse." Her name means "lamb" in Latin and she's often depicted holding a lamb symbolizing her purity and her status as a bride of Christ. Many miracles have been attributed to her and there are two churches in Rome which are major shrines to her. She's the patron saint of young girls, virgins, rape victims, and chastity.



St. Francis de Sales - Feast Day is January 24th. He was a 16th - 17th c. French prelate, who became a Bishop of Geneva and Doctor of the Church. He's noted for his sanctity, wisdom, deep faith, and gentle approach to the religious divisions in his land resulting from the Protestant Reformation. He's been especially known as the "Gentleman Saint" for his many "little virtues" rooted in the gospel, including gentleness, patience, humility, kindness, and generosity. As the patron saint of writers and journalists, he wrote prolifically and is often depicted with a quill and book. Of his miracles, he healed the sick and expelled demons by providing the Blessed Sacrament over 400 times. As a spiritual director, he co-founded the Order of the Visitation of Holy Mary along with St. Jane Frances de Chantal in 1610.



Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle - Feast Day is January 25th. This important event in the life of this beloved saint commemorates his conversion from a persecutor of Christians to a faithful follower of Jesus. He ceased persecuting Christians after Jesus revealed himself to him on the road to Damascus. His whole life was changed after finding grace, love, and mercy to reflect the teachings of Jesus. After being healed and baptized by Ananias, he began a new life as Jesus' apostle and devout Christian missionary. His conversion was actually the key to our salvation, as he brought salvation to the Gentiles on his missionary journeys by his preaching and example. He became better known by his Roman name of "Paul" after his conversion and is the patron saint of missionaries, writers, publishers, and evangelists.

WEEKLY MASS COUNT	Day/Time	DEC. 28-29		JAN. 4-5		JAN. 11-12	
		Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child
	Sat. 5:00 PM	133	12	162	17	164	14
	Sun. 7:00 AM	204	3	176	8	197	5
	Sun. 9:30 AM	226	45	296	46	242	69
	Sun. 5:00 PM	168	18	282	31	149	21

Readings for the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10
1 Corinthians 12: 12-30
Luke: 1:1-4; 4:14-21