



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

MASS TIMES

Saturdays at 5:00 PM
Sundays: 7:00 AM, 9:30 AM, and 5:00 PM
First Fridays: Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament: 7:00 AM. Mass at 8:00 AM

CONFESSION

Saturdays: 4 – 4:30 PM or by appointment



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.”*

Fourth Sunday of Lent March 30, 2025

FOCUS: We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

In the parable of the prodigal son, Jesus presents God as a Father who loves all his children – the wayward and the dutiful – and seeks to draw them into a loving relationship and therefore share in his joy. Sometimes, like the younger son, we are swept up in God’s love, forgiveness, and mercy; other times, we set up barriers and resist it. Let us reflect on how God has been coming out to meet us in our own lives.

GOD OF JUSTICE, GOD OF MERCY FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Life is not fair. Even though we know this, we expect God to be fair, which may be what irks so many about the Parable of the Lost Son. There is a part of our skewed human nature that agrees with the older son in the story. It certainly seems that the younger son was able to have his cake and eat it too, while the older son could only sit by and watch, missing out on the devil-may-care part of life. It didn’t seem fair, and the older son said so. The point of the story does seem to be that God is both just and merciful, but if ever one of those virtues seems to give way to the other, then, from God’s perspective, divine mercy always trumps worldly justice.

We, however, think that’s not fair. We grow suspect of deathbed conversions, worried that the person is trying to have life both ways. But do we give thought to the suffering such a life without God might entail? The humiliation and near starvation of the younger son as he lived his self-indulgent life? We think we want God to be fair, but do we really? In C.S. Lewis’ novel, *Till We Have Faces*, one character asks another if the gods are just, to which is replied, “Oh, child, pray that they are not!” Do we really want to be treated with justice, getting exactly what we deserve and no more? Or do we want to let God be God and be treated with mercy?

- **Reflect:** Does my life seem unfair? More fair or less fair compared with others?

STAFF:**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

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, March 31:

6:50 AM Rosary
 8:00 AM Mass
 (Gail Okay - Thanksgiving)

Tuesday, April 1:

6:50 AM Rosary
 8:00 AM Mass
 (+Segundino Guira - RS)

Wednesday, April 2:

6:45 AM Rosary
 8:00 AM Mass
 5:00 PM Centering Prayer
 6:30 PM O.C.I.A.

Thursday, April 3:

No Mass
 7:00 PM Lenten Penance Service

Friday, April 4:

6:45 AM Rosary
 7:00 AM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Rosary
 8:00 AM Mass
 (+Segundino Guira - RS)
 3-5:00 PM Food Pantry
 4:30-6 PM KoC Fish Fry Pick Up
 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 5:

8:00 AM Church Cleaning
 9:00 AM CCD Retreat (Hall)
 3:00 PM 1st Saturday Devotions
 4:00 PM Confessions
 4:15 PM Rosary
 5:00 PM Mass
 (+Holy Souls in Purgatory - RS)
 6:30 PM Movie Night, "Stolen Summer" in the Hall

Sunday, April 6:

6:15 AM Rosary
 7:00 AM Mass
 (Mass for the People)
 8:15-9:15 AM CCD Classes
 8:45 AM Rosary
 9:30 AM Mass
 (+Segundino Guira - RS)
 4:15 PM Rosary
 5:00 PM Mass
 (+Rosario Pascua - RS)

CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

Apr. 5: Sacred Heart Society
 Apr. 12: Knights of Columbus



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST FRIDAY - FIRST SATURDAY



This coming Friday, March 4th, is First Friday. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at 7:00 a.m., with Mass starting at 8am. The next day, Saturday, March 5th, is First Saturday. Our First Saturday Servants of Mary will begin their devotional prayers in honor of Mamma Mary starting at 3pm in the church. All are welcomed to join.

PENANCE SERVICE, THU., APRIL 3rd, 7 P.M.

Just a friendly reminder that our **Lenten Penance Service** is this **Thursday, April 3rd, at 7:00 p.m.** Come and be reconciled with Our Lord Jesus, as we prepare for His Resurrection on Easter.



CHRISM MASS, TUE., APRIL 15th, 7 P.M.



Throughout the world, the pope and local bishops will soon carry out the annual custom of preparing and distributing to churches the holy oils. This year, the Chrism Mass will take place on **April 15th** at the **Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa** starting at **7:00 p.m.**

The oils include the oil of the sick, used in the anointing of the sick; the oil of catechumens, which is for those preparing to be baptized, and the chrism oil, which is consecrated and used for baptism, confirmation, and holy orders.

2ND SCRUTINY, 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Today at the 9:30 a.m. Mass, **Isabella Santos** will go through her 2nd Scrutiny, where the readings are about Jesus, who is the Light of the World, healing the man born blind. The scrutinies help the Elect (Isabella) see how sin works in their lives, so that they can make a deliberate choice to turn away from and step joyfully into the light of Christ at their Baptism. Below are a few pictures of Isabella and her sponsors during the First Scrutiny at last week's Sunday Mass:



STATIONS OF THE CROSS, FRIDAYS, 7PM

Stations of the Cross continue **every Friday** during Lent starting at **7:00 p.m.** in the Church. We encourage all to join us on the journey with Jesus. The following ministries will be leading us in the Stations of the Cross:

April 4th - Sacred Heart Society and Environment Ministry
 April 11th - Couples for Christ, Baptism, and Parent & Family Ministries



PALM WEAVING FOR PALM SUNDAY MASSES



Want to learn how to weave palms into crosses for our Palm Sunday Masses? Come and join us on **Saturday, April 12th, at 7 a.m.!** **It'll be fun!** You will learn how to make the crosses (and other designs) while helping to prepare the palms for our parishioners! We encourage all to come and help us! Please meet at the Parish Hall! Mahalo for your help!

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 3 - 7:00 p.m. - Lenten Penance Service
Saturday, April 5 - 6:30 p.m. - Movie Night, "Stolen Summer"
Sunday, April 13 - Regular Mass - Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
Holy Monday, April 14 - 8:00 a.m. - Mass
Holy Tuesday, April 15 - 8:00 a.m. - Mass
" 7:00 p.m. - Chrism Mass, Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa
Holy Wednesday, April 16 - 8:00 a.m. - Mass with Anointing of the Sick
Holy Thursday, April 17 - 7:00 p.m. - Lord's Supper/Washing of Feet
Good Friday, April 18 - 3:00 p.m. - Outdoor Stations of the Cross
7:00 p.m. - Veneration of the Cross/Comm. Svc.
Holy Saturday, April 19 - 7:00 p.m. - Easter Vigil/Service of the Light
Easter Sunday, April 20 - 7:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. - Mass of the Resurrection

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Mar. 22 - 23, 2025

Weekly Offering	\$3,757.50
Sat. 5:00 PM -	\$ 860.00
Sun. 7:00 AM -	\$1,087.00
Sun. 9:30 AM -	760.00
Sun. 5:00 PM -	\$1,050.50
Repair & Maintenance	\$1,958.50
Building Fund	\$230.00
Flowers	\$22.50
Candles	\$170.00
Book of Intentions	\$70.00
Mass Intentions	\$220.00
Funerals	\$300.00
Stations of the Cross	\$10.00
Sacred Heart Society	\$35.00
Special Collection	\$50.00
TOTAL	\$6,823.50
Second Collections	
Rice Bowl Collection	\$37.40



STEWARDSHIP

ANOTHER MOVIE NIGHT, APRIL 5TH, 6:30 P.M.



Our Event Planning Committee has planned another **Movie Night** on **Saturday, April 5th** starting at **6:30 p.m.** Please mark your calendars for the movie **"Stolen Summer."** This movie is about an 8-year-old Catholic boy named Pete, growing up in the mid-70's, who decides that he is going to convert a Jew to Catholicism. He visits a nearby synogue and meets Rabbi Jacobson, who has a son, Danny, about the same age. When he learns that Danny is seriously ill, he decides he will be an excellent choice for conversion. We invite everyone to come and join us. There is no cost again...so please come and join us for a night of fun, food, and fellowship. Save-the-date!

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES



This weekend, **March 29-30**, our second collection will be taken up for **Catholic Relief Services**. Your donations help provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Please give generously and help those who are in most need. Learn more about this collection at their website: www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

FISH FRY-DAYS

There are **only two more Fridays** to get your Fish Fry plates! These last two weeks, the Knights will be selling **Mahi Mahi Fish plates** instead of the usual pompano! **Each plate is \$20.** Please purchase your tickets from the Knights after all the Masses on the weekend. Mahalo!!!!

RICE BOWLS

The official collection date for our CRS Rice bowls is on Holy Thursday, April 17th, BUT you may turn them in anytime before then. If possible, the money counters ask that you convert your coins into bills or checks. We thank you for your effort in helping our brothers and sisters throughout the world that need a little help in their lives. Mahalo!

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Is it OK if I receive holy Communion more than once a day? Part of my routine is to go to early morning Mass in my parish, even on days I know I'm going to another Mass, like a wedding or funeral, or sometimes another Mass for that day.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that by the very nature of what the Eucharist intends and celebrates, those who participate in the great mystery of our faith should "receive the Lord's Body" (1388). In other words, reception of holy Communion is strongly recommended and is understood as the ordinary practice for all who participate in the Mass. Proper preparation and disposition are presumed as both necessary and important. In response to a specific "dubium" or question about this practice and expectation, in 1984 the Pontifical Commission on the Code of Canon Law issued an authentic interpretation of the Church's understanding of this practice. It mandated that "the faithful may receive the Holy Eucharist only a second time on the same day" (CCC, 1388, footnote 222). This directive is intended to establish the general norm and practice for the reception of holy Communion. Your practice, as a result of this norm, is directly representative of the understanding of the Church.

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

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A word from POPE FRANCIS

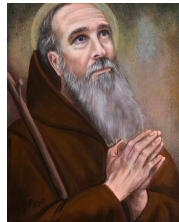
There was a pop theatre production...about the prodigal son.... [The son writes a letter]: "Father, I have repented, I want to come back home.... If you want to welcome me, please put a white handkerchief in the window." And when he was near home... what did he see? Not one handkerchief: it was full of white handkerchiefs, the windows, everywhere!

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 27, 2022

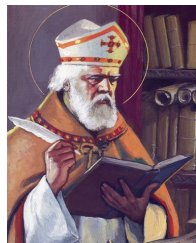
PARISH MINISTRIES

- 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. Francis of Paola – Feast Day is April 2nd. This 15th c. friar of a poor family from Paola in Calabria, Italy was named after his patron saint, St. Francis of Assisi. His parents had prayed for a son through this saint's intercession and after they were blessed with one, they vowed to direct him to God's service. During a period of corruption in the church, this hermit founded a religious order known as the Hermits of St. Francis of Assisi, later called the Minim Friars. This order of friars, of which this saint sought to revive practices of earlier monks, had its Rule based on charity, humility, and penance and his followers took the 3 monastic vows plus abstinence from meat, eggs, and milk. He's known for performing many kinds of miracles, such as raising the dead, healing the sick and crippled, averting plagues, expelling demons, and speaking prophetically to bishops, popes, and kings.



St. Isidore of Seville – Feast Day is April 4th. A 6th – 7th c. scholar, writer, and fearless defender of the faith, this saint was a Bishop and Doctor of the Church. Born in Cartagena, Spain, he was considered among the last of the early Christian fathers, who combined Christian faith and classical education. After his death, he was acclaimed as "an illustrious teacher of our time and the glory of the Catholic Church." He has been noted as the patron saint of the Internet by Pope St. John Paul II, who recognized him for his impact on knowledge and communication. He's been credited with compiling the "Etymologiae," which was the first encyclopedia written from a Catholic perspective and to be used for the service of God's glory. He believed in not only loving God in contemplation, but also loving our neighbor in action shown in his charitable outreach to the poor. Three of his siblings were also canonized as saints with him.



St. Benedict the African – Feast Day is April 4th. Also known as Benedict the Moor, this 16th c. Sicilian Franciscan friar of African descent was born to slaves, but given freedom before his birth, due to his parents' loyal service. He became a renowned spiritual leader and healer and was known for his humility and charity, especially in his care for the poor. As a kind and good-natured youth, he worked as a shepherd and was known for his generosity, especially in giving his earnings to the poor. Despite being illiterate, he had a deep understanding of theology, scripture, and spiritual counseling. He joined a Franciscan-affiliated hermit group, who followed St. Francis of Assisi's Rule for hermit life and served as their cook and later as their leader. He also was noted as a healer of the sick. He was nicknamed "Il Moro Santo" meaning the holy black saint in Italian and is the patron saint of African missions, African Americans, black people, and Sicily.

WEEKLY MASS COUNT	Day/Time	MAR. 8-9		MAR. 15-16		MAR. 22-23	
		Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child
	Sat. 5:00 PM	136	13	144	10	146	12
	Sun. 7:00 AM	204	17	217	14	213	19
	Sun. 9:30 AM	284	55	238	60	225	54
	Sun. 5:00 PM	139	24	168	21	169	26

Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Lent:
Isaiah 43: 16-21
Philippians 3: 8-14
John 8: 1-11