



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, EWA

DIOCESE OF HONOLULU

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII

ADDRESS:

91-1298 Renton Road
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PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Open Monday - Friday
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
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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."*

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time January 18, 2026

STAFF:

PASTOR

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FOCUS: We must bring the light of Christ to the world.

The servants of God are lights to the world. There is no way to serve God without bringing light to others. Isaiah and John the Baptist were both called lights. Jesus is, of course, the light of the world, but he also desires that his followers bring his true light to the world.

BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD!

ANN M. GARRIDO

Of the many names Scripture provides to help us ponder the mystery of Jesus, one of the most intriguing is the name that John the Baptist offers at the opening of today's gospel: "Behold the Lamb of God!" (John 1:29).

Scripture scholars debate what John means here. Is he alluding to the Passover lamb—that unblemished lamb whose blood the enslaved Israelites were to post over their doorways? The angel of death knew to "pass over" these homes. Perhaps John was saying that by Jesus' blood, the people would be freed from death.

Or was John thinking about the guilt offerings mentioned in the Hebrew Scriptures when priests offered animal sacrifices to God as a way of seeking the removal of their sins? Leviticus mentions use of a scapegoat who would carry the sins of the people away into the desert. (See Leviticus 20-28.) Could John have understood that Jesus would bear the sins of the world?

Or did John have in mind the great constellation Aries, the ram, considered the prince of the stars of the sky, the center from whom all the other constellations were mapped in ancient times? Perhaps John was pointing out that Jesus was the center around whom heaven and earth revolve, like the ruling lamb mentioned in the Book of Revelation. Today at Mass, when the host is elevated and you hear John's words again—"Behold the Lamb of God!"—take a moment to savor these words anew.

● **Reflect:** This week, I'll think about my baptism, when I was called to serve as Jesus served.

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, January 19: Martin Luther King Day

7:00 AM Rosary **Office Closed**
8:00 AM Mass
(+Eddie Fajardo -Death Anniversary)

Tuesday, January 20:

6:50 AM Rosary
8:00 AM Mass
(+Elijah James Kauhaneakahai Alesna-Sagon - Death Anniversary)

Wednesday, January 21:

6:50 AM Rosary
8:00 AM Mass
(Primi Martins - Birthday Blessings)
5:00 PM Lectio Divina (Church)
6:30 PM O.C.I.A.

Thursday, January 22:

- No Mass

Friday, January 23:

6:50 AM Rosary
8:00 AM Mass
(+Esperanza Zamora Magday - RS
+ Ermininda Tagama - Death Anniversary)
4-6:00 PM Food Pantry

Saturday, January 24:

8:00 AM Church Cleaning
10:00 AM Money Counters Ann. Tng.
12:00 PM Rosary Rally
4:15 PM Rosary
5:00 PM Mass
(+Sophie Victoria - RS)

Sunday, January 25:

6:00 AM Rosary
7:00 AM Mass
(+Sulpecia Virtucio - RS)
8:45 AM Rosary
9:30 AM Mass
(Robert & Roxanne Whalen - 55th Wedding Anniversary)
4:15 PM Rosary
5:00 PM Mass
(Mass for the People)

FR. SIEG AWAY ON VACATION

Fr. Sieg will be away this week visiting his family. In his place, Fr. Ed Barut and Fr. PJ Castro will be here to preside over the daily and weekend Masses.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARCH FOR LIFE RALLY



"Aloha Kekahi i Kekahi - Love One Another"

March for Life 2026 calls us to stand in unity and be the voice for the voiceless. Through love, prayer, and fasting, we affirm a Culture of Life and witness the Gospel in the public square.

Mass & Adoration, Jan 22, 2026 • 6:30 PM at St. Theresa Co-Cathedral, Bishop Larry Silva

Rally: Jan 23 • 2:00-5:00 PM, State Capitol

9-Day Novena: Jan 14-22 • 9daysforlife.com

Retreat: Jan. 24 • 9AM - 3PM, St. Anthony's Ctr.

FOOD PANTRY ANNUAL TRAINING - JANUARY 10TH

Last weekend, we had our Annual Training for our Food Pantry Ministry. It was a very informative meeting. Guest speaker, Phillip Malasig gave a very inspiring talk on Stewardship of time, talent, and treasure aligned with scripture passages to the work in the Food Pantry Ministry of faith in action. Those who volunteer not only feed people's stomachs, but also their souls. This work involves being faithful, sharing their God-given gifts generously for his greater glory, and feeding Christ Himself. These expressions of service are where one's values lie.

On January 31, 2025, our parish incorporated with the Hawaii Food Bank Neighbor Intake Program. Those participating are given a "Nourish our Ohana" card which tracks the household size, income, and demographics into a digital system. These statistics are used to better serve our community's needs.

In 2025, our Food Pantry served 5,036 individuals and provided food for about 13,061 family members. There were 704 new households registered which included 364 adults and 393 children.

Our Food Pantry is open on Fridays (except for some holidays). The hours are: 4 - 6:00 p.m. except for the first Friday, which are from 3 - 5:00 p.m. All are welcomed. We thank Dami Espiritu, our Food Pantry Coordinator, and our volunteers who tirelessly help every Friday to bag and distribute the food to those who come.



MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY

Tomorrow, January 19th, is the Martin Luther King Holiday. The parish office will be closed. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 20th.

Dear Padre,

January 18, 2026

I thought only priests and bishops should distribute Holy Communion at Mass. In my parish, the priest allows laypeople to help him, and I thought laypeople couldn't because our hands are not consecrated.

You're not the only person with this concern, so thank you for taking the time to write. The distribution of holy Communion has nothing to do with "consecrated hands." Ordinary ministers of Communion include bishops and priests, as you rightly identify, but also deacons and installed acolytes. Of the four ordinary ministers, only the hands of bishops and priests are consecrated. Laypeople are extraordinary ministers and are installed to help the priest so that everyone can receive holy Communion without long lines or wearying the (sometimes elderly) priest. Most extraordinary ministers of Communion approach this ministry every prayerfully. Your question brings up the subject of the full participation of the laity in the Mass, which is part of a highly contentious theological discussion on social media. There is an unfortunate conflict between so-called "traditional Catholics" and "Vatican II Catholics" or, as they are often misrepresented, "Novus Ordo" Catholics. Some Catholics are led to believe that the "new Mass" is not authentic, even though it has been the ordinary form of the Mass for well over fifty years—that is, since the authoritative Second Vatican Council. Many good and faithful people suffer with doubt and anxiety as a result of this confusion.

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

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Do you have a question for the Padre? Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about Dear Padre.

BLACK NAZARENE DEVOTION



The Festival of the Black Nazarene takes place every year on **January 9th**. For the past couple of years, our parish has participated in the celebration of this festival with prayers, songs, and fellowship. This devotion started in the 1600's when a life-sized image of Jesus on the way to His Crucifixion, and made by an anonymous Mexican sculptor, brought the image to Manila. The image was enshrined in the Church of San Juan Bautista, but has transferred to the Church of San Nicolas of Tolentino. Pious devotees claim that many miracles were performed by touching the image. Folk belief attributes the image's color to soot from votive candles burnt before it, although is believed that it was charred by a fire on the galleon that brought it from Mexico. Pope Innocent X approved veneration of the image and authorized the establishment of the Confraternity of the Most Holy Jesus Nazarene in 1650. Pope Pius VII granted his apostolic blessing in 1880 which granted a plenary indulgence to those who piously prayed before the image, and Pope John Paul II issued a decree which raised the shrine to the status Minor Basilica. Many thanks to **John and Dora Sheleg** who has allowed their image of the Black Nazarene to be used for this devotion.



CATHOLIC MINISTRIES ANNUAL APPEAL:

The **Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal**: Sharing God's Gifts, or CMAA, replaces the Ohana in Christ campaign. The CMAA will also help provide for the current operational needs for clergy retirement and vocations, which include deacon and seminarian formation; support in retirement; and medical expenses.

The annual appeal's financial goal will increase from \$1.125 million to \$1.5 million, which comprises the Ohana in Christ goal of \$1.125 million as well as the \$375,000 average annual amount collected for vocations and clergy retirement. Please mark your envelopes **CMAA** when giving to this appeal. Thank you for your generosity. <https://hawaiicatholicherald.com/2025/12/31/revamped-annual-appeal-to-focus-on-supporting-ministries/>

2025 TAX DONATION STATEMENTS

It's tax season again! If you need a tax donation statement for 2025, please call the office to request one. If you gave through Parish Soft, formerly Faith Direct, a letter was sent via email of your contributions. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the office during normal business hours. Mahalo!

CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA



Next week we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. Many in Latin America and the Caribbean find that a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. 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. To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit usccb.org/latin-america. iGiveCatholic also accepts funds for this collection if you prefer to donate online (see QR code). Thank you in advance for your generosity.

BLACK & INDIAN MISSIONS



The Black and Indian Mission Office is comprised of three distinct but inter-related organizations, each with its own purpose and history, but all seeking to fulfill the one Mission to the Missions! Founded by the Catholic bishops of the United States, each organization cooperates with local diocesan communities to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and respond to real and pressing needs on the ground. Your financial support 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. These collections will be taken up next weekend, January 24-25, 2026. Thank you for your generosity

WEEKLY MASS COUNT	Day/Time	DEC. 27-28		JAN. 3-4		JAN. 10-11	
		Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child
	Sat. 5:00 PM	106	8	141	8	147	12
	Sun. 7:00 AM	214	6	241	7	227	5
	Sun. 9:30 AM	226	46	245	41	235	50
	Sun. 5:00 PM	143	21	187	18	176	23

Readings for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time:
Isaiah 8:23–9:3
1 Corinthians 1:10–13, 17
Matthew 4:12–23 or 4:12–17

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

January 10-11, 2026

Weekly Offering	\$3,916.25
Sat. 5:00 PM –	\$856.25
Sun. 7:00 AM–	\$1,031.00
Sun. 9:30 AM –	\$966.00
Sun. 5:00 PM –	\$1,063.00
Repair & Maintenance	\$2,079.00
Building Fund	\$35.00
Flowers	\$2.00
Candles	\$200.00
Book of Intentions	125.00
Mass Intentions	\$215.00
Funeral	\$25.00
T-Shirts Sales	\$125.00
Christmas	\$11.00
Holy Water Bottles	\$9.00
Sacred Heart Society	\$35.00
Hawaii Quilt Guild (RM)	\$25.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$15.00
Father's Special Projects	\$200.00
TOTAL	\$7,017.25



Second Collection:

Church in Latin America **\$20.00**

A Quote from POPE LEO XIV

Ours is a time marked by a growing search for spirituality, particularly evident in young people, who are longing for authentic relationships and guides in life. Hence, it is important that the Christian community be farsighted in discerning the challenges of today's world and in nurturing the desire for faith present in the heart of every man and woman.

MESSAGE TO SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS, ROME, MAY 28, 2025

Church Cleaning Schedule

Jan. 24: Chamorro Group
Jan. 31: Volunteers Needed
Feb. 7: Sacred Heart Society
Feb. 14: Knights of Columbus

ST. MARIANNE COPE

MASS – JAN. 23rd



Come and celebrate St. Marianne Cope's Birthday!!! Her celebration will be held on **Friday, January 23, 2026**, at the **Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa**, 712 N. School

St., Hon. Mass will begin at 7:00 p.m. All those in attendance will receive a special gift and delicious treats.

"The charity of the good knows no creed and is confined to no one place."
 –St. Marianne Cope

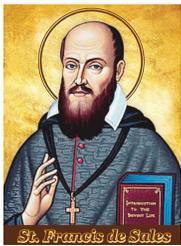
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FEASTS AND SAINTS OF THE WEEK



St. Agnes of Rome – Feast Day is January 21st. This 3rd – 4th c. Roman virgin and martyr was one of the most famous ones in the early Christian Church. Because of her great love for God, she devoted herself fully to him. Her purity and fidelity to her faith made her a symbol of innocence and courage, which have inspired others to hold steadfast to their beliefs. Having rejected many offers of marriage, she insisted that her heart belonged only to God. She faced brutal persecution, but remained unharmed with divine intervention. She was finally beheaded at the young age of 13 after refusing to renounce her faith. She's the patron saint of young girls, virgins, chastity, and rape survivors. Since her name in Latin means "lamb," two lambs are blessed in Rome on her feast day and their wool is used to make pallium. Her message for us is that true strength comes from God and we're called to live our faith courageously despite the challenges that arise.

St. Vincent of Saragossa – Feast Day is Jan. 23rd. The feast day for this famous Spanish saint is traditionally celebrated on January 22nd, but in the U.S. it's observed on January 23rd. St. Vincent was a 3rd c. deacon and protomartyr, who was the 1st to die for Christ on the Iberian Peninsula. Many legends have been attributed to him and St. Augustine's sermons were a testimony to his righteous character. He was commissioned by Bishop Valerius, who had a speech impediment, to preach for him throughout the diocese. During the persecutions by the governor of Spain, they were both apprehended and subjected to fierce tortures, as they were willing to suffer for their faith. St. Vincent eventually died from his wounds after persevering with great peace. This tranquility so impressed his jailer, who later converted. He is the patron saint of Lisbon, Algarve, & Valencia as well as of vinegar makers, wine makers, brickmakers, and sailors.



St. Francis de Sales – Feast Day is January 24th. This 16th & 17th c. French prelate served as Bishop of Geneva and was a Doctor of the Church. He was noted for his deep faith and gentle approach to the religious divisions in his land resulting from the Protestant Reformation. He was known as the "Gentleman Saint" for having a gentle and patient approach to faith and for being a renowned spiritual director and an influential author. Two of his noteworthy books, Introduction to the Devout Life and Treatise on the Love of God, made holiness accessible to everyone. He was also famous for being a captivating preacher, teaching sign language to a hearing-impaired man, and performing many miracles. These contributed to his being a saint of gentle yet powerful transformation. He's the patron saint of journalists, writers, and the deaf. Two of his famous quotes were: "The measure of love is to love without measure" and "Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself."

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