

Holy Trinity Catholic Church A Stewardship Parish

November 30, 2025 First Sunday of Advent



Pastor: Fr. Michel Dalton, OFM Capuchin

Reconciliation/Confession: Saturdays 9:00 to 10 00 am.

# Mass Schedule

Saturdays: 4:30 pm Sundays: 8:00 am / 10:30 am

Mondays: 5:00 pm Tuesdays: 9:00 am Wednesdays: 5:00 pm Fridays 9:00 am

Our vision: To be a welcoming parish committed to serving others.

Our mission: To make Christ known to the world through Word, Sacrament, Prayer, and Service

# **HOLY TRINITY CHURCH CALENDAR Nov 30—Dec 13**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 30	Dec 1	2	3	4	5	6
Advent Begins Mass 8 and 10:30 am Pickleball, gym, 2 pm Christmas Lighting 2 pm	Mass 5 pm	Mass 9 am	Mass 5 pm Bible Study, Parish Office, After 5 pm Mass	Mass 9 am Adoration 12—1 pm Thrift Shop 9 am—noon	First Friday Mass 9 am Rosary and Adoration 9:45 am	Reconciliation 9-10 am Thrift Shop 9 am—noon Religious Ed See class schedule Mass 4:30 pm 2nd Collection: Maintenance
Dec 7	Dec 8	9	10	11	12	13
Mass 8 and 10:30 am Pickleball, gym, 2 pm 2nd Collection: Maintenance	Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation Mass 9 am and 6 pm Advent Mission 7 pm	Mass 6 pm Advent Mission 7 pm	Mass 6 pm Advent Mission 7pm Advent Penance Service to follow	Adoration 12—1 pm	Mass 9 am	Reconciliation 9-10 am Thrift Shop 9 am—noon Religious Ed See class schedule Mass 4:30 pm

# **Scripture Readings Summary**

# Nov 30, First Sunday of Advent

### (Click for readings)

**Isaiah 2:1-5** The era of peace and justice is coming and everyone will be invited to share it. **Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9** Jerusalem is viewed as the center of hope for all who love God. **Romans 13:11-14** Rise and shine! If you can tell time, you know now's the time to embrace the day of the Lord. **Matthew 24:37-44** Although the hour is shrouded in mystery, the event is not unexpected: Jesus will come again!

## **Dec 7, Second Sunday of Advent**

# (Click for readings)

**Isaiah 11:1-10** When God's day arrives, creation will become the peaceable kingdom it was meant to be. **Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17** In God's time, justice and peace will rule and the lowly will be saved. **Romans 15:4-9** Christ unites all believers, Jew and Gentile, in the spirit of hope and harmony. **Matthew 3:1-12** John the Baptist comes heralding the kingdom of heaven for those who repent.

# **Online Giving**

To donate online, please click <u>HERE</u> or go to:

https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZH84/home

Mahalo for your generosity!

**Holy Trinity Church Contact Information** 

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By Bob White

S ewardship
In giving we receive

**Stewardship Corner Reflection 490** 

**Stewardship at Holy Trinity Catholic Church** 

### **Jesus Offers Us Another Second Chance**

"I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it." (Luke 13:8)

I recently went to my favorite "big box" garden shop...just to look around...at the plants, the tools, the hardscape ideas...and fertilizer. I thought back to my childhood; we had hardware stores with tools, but not an extensive display of "ready to go in the ground" supplies. We went to the nearby farm for fruits and vegetables and perhaps some gardening suggestions. Fertilizer? Bring a shovel and a bag...and take all you want...from mother nature; not a premeasured 50 pound plastic bag. So, what's fertilizer got to do with Advent that we are just now starting? Well, the parable of the fig tree speaks of a second chance for the tree to produce fruit and the gardener "getting his hands dirty" to cultivate it. The farmer gave the fig tree a second chance and Jesus always gives us a second chance...and Advent is that season...to get our hands dirty and cultivate our lives to produce good fruit for the Lord. So while we're planning for His coming this Christmas, let's let this season provide an opportunity to serve one another in ministry or an increase in offertory so that we can do good things for Him. Happy Advent!

"You Can't Out Do God's Generosity...But We Can Give It A Try "

# Special Collection Reminder Major Maintenance and Repair (MMR)

Next weekend, December 6-7 will be our monthly collection for **Major Maintenance and Repair (MMR)**. This monthly collection supports ongoing major maintenance and repairs to the physical plant and buildings of Holy Trinity Church. We are grateful for your generosity enabling our parish to have sufficient funds to carry out the upkeep and restoration of our church and its campus. Your continued support is appreciated. Mahalo.



## It's Time for Christmas Lights!

Halloween is over...Thanksgiving is behind us and some of us are still feeling a little stuffed...Advent starts today...and Christmas is just around the corner.

Holy Trinity Church will once again light the way for the coming of Our Savior, Jesus Christ. Yes, we will beautify our church grounds in order for all of us, including our neighbors and those who pass by on the highway, to celebrate His coming. Join us this Sunday, November 30th, at 2pm...come and participate in our unscripted plan and join together to light the way toward experiencing Christmas 2025. Come, join us..."see the great light..." (Isaiah 9:2).









# **Important Dates to Remember**

- Saturday, Nov 29, Advent Begins, 4:30 pm Mass
- Sunday, Nov 30, Decorate church grounds with Christmas lights, 2 pm
- Friday, Dec 5, First Friday Mass, Rosary, and Adoration, 9 am
- Monday, Dec 8, Immaculate Conception, Masses at 9 am and 6 pm
- Monday, Dec 8, Advent Mission (follows 6 pm Mass)
- Tuesday, Dec 9, Mass at 6 pm, Advent Mission to follow
- Wednesday, Dec 10, Mass at 6 pm, Advent Mission & Penance Service to follow
- Sunday, Dec 14, Marathon Sunday, Mass at 4:30 pm only
- Deadline for Angel Tree donations

### **Christmas Masses**

- Wednesday, Dec 24, Christmas Eve, Masses at 4:30 pm and 7 pm
- Thursday, Dec 25, Christmas Day, Masses at 8 am and 10:30 am

## **Annual Angel Tree**

Our annual Angel Tree will be decorated and ready for picking your special gift donation beginning this weekend.

This year, we will have 200 ornaments from the HUGS organization with requests for **GIFT CARD ONLY** donations.



HUGS (Help, Understanding & Group Support) works to strengthen Hawaii's families and improve their quality of life as they face the emotional and financial hardships of caring for a seriously ill child.

The deadline for returning your gift cards for the Angel Tree is on **Sunday, December 14th**. Please tape your ornament that you chose to the back of the gift card/envelope you are donating and deposit it into the gift box in front of the Angel Tree.

Thank you all for your generosity!







# Respect Life Corner Weekend of November 29-30, 2025

"The poor and sick are the heart of God. In serving them, we serve Christ."

Saint Camillus de Lellis

Advent is the season to prepare our hearts to welcome guests, family, and most importantly Christ. As we begin preparing our hearts for this Advent season this week, let us look at a gift of love that could touch many families, friends and even strangers. That gift is organ donation.

Organ donation is a miracle of modern medicine that gives seriously ill patients a chance at a new life and health. For the donor, it's an act of selflessness and love for another person. But what does the Catholic Church think about this?

The living can always donate non-vital organs such as a kidney or liver. This type of donation is to be honored as a true gift of love for another. For a patient



St. Camillus de Lellis, Mural at Marywood College, Scranton, PA. Patron saint of hospitals, nurses, healthcare workers, sick.

who has died, the ethics of organ donation depends on two criteria: informed consent from the patient or family and the patient's confirmed death before vital organ removal.

In many cases, the ethical path is clear. A patient with a life-ending illness, such as head trauma or a ruptured brain aneurysm, is on artificial life support. Brain death is determined on a series of criteria including brain activity or one's ability to breathe independently. After a declaration of brain death, the choice for organ donation is made by a patient's healthcare proxy or next of kin. If consent is given, the hospital notifies the organ collection organization, searches a database of patients awaiting transplants, and maintains the organs on artificial support during transportation. The transplantation is then performed, giving a fatally ill person, potentially many fatally ill people, a second chance at life through a loving donation.

In this season of Advent, we reflect on our Father's mission, through the birth of his son, to selflessly give oneself for the good of others. The Church believes in treating people with respect and dignity, and organ



donation is in alignment with the Church's doctrine of the dignity of life. Preparing ahead of time and speaking with loved ones about their wishes can help make a difficult time an opportunity to grow closer to the heart of Jesus.

Visit <u>Legacy of Life</u> (click here: <a href="https://legacyoflifehawaii.org/about-donation/organ-donation-fact-vs-myth/">https://legacyoflifehawaii.org/about-donation/organ-donation-fact-vs-myth/</a>) for a local resource to guide and answer question you may have with organ donation.

At Holy Trinity we support and sustain a culture of LIFE. Join us on each First Friday, after the 9:00 AM Mass as we pray the rosary while in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. We appreciate the support of your prayers. If would like to join our Respect Life Committee, please contact Debbie at <a href="mailto:dkula@rcchawaii.org">dkula@rcchawaii.org</a>



### The Thrift Shop is Open!

Come stop by and see what you'll find! Bargains galore!
We're open Thursdays and Saturdays, 9:00am - 12noon.
See you soon!





# **First Friday**

Please join us on Friday, December 5, after the 9:00 am Mass for Rosary and Adoration Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

# Help Beautify our Church for the Christmas Season!

We are requesting donations of poinsettia plants to decorate the church for the Christmas season.

Plants should be dropped off in the church (not the rectory) starting this weekend. All sizes are accepted.

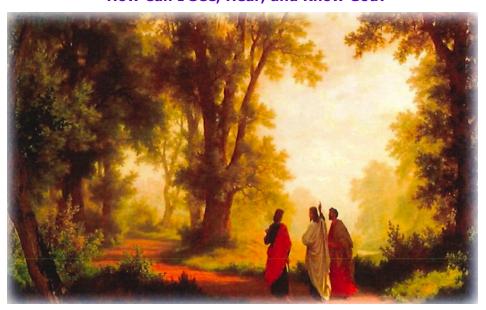


## PARISH ADVENT MISSION—NEXT WEEK!

# "It is the Lord" Gospel Encounters with Divine Love

Holy Trinity Advent Mission
December 8-10, 2025
Masses by Fr. John Paul Le, O.S.B., & Presentations by Br. Louis de Montfort Nguyen, O.S.B.

### How Can I See, Hear, and Know God?



December 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation) Mass at 6 pm, followed by Mission

December 9, Daily Mass at 6 pm, followed by Mission

December 10, Daily Mass at 6 pm, followed by Mission, followed by Advent Penance Service

## **Annual Diocesan Appeal**

### Dear Parishioners,

Aloha and thank you for your ongoing support and generosity to our parish. Here is a copy of the letter that all Priests received from Bishop Larry regarding the upcoming Annual Diocesan Appeal. As you can see, it states that our Parish Goal will be: \$37,483.

This Appeal will be starting in the upcoming months, and your support of this effort will be greatly appreciated.





DIOCESE OF HONOLULU

November 18, 2025

Rev. Michel Dalton, OFMCap. Holy Trinity Church 5919 Kalanianaole Hwy. Honolulu, HI 96821-2309

Dear Fr. Michel,

The Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) is far more than a fundraising effort — it is an opportunity for each of us to respond with gratitude for the blessings God has entrusted to us and to use those blessings to serve others.

Funds raised through the CMAA support essential ministries and outreach programs of our Church, including Religious Education, Youth Ministry, the formation of deacons and seminarians, hospital and prison ministries, and services for the homeless.

The overall goal for the 2026 CMAA is \$1,500,000. For Holy Trinity Church, your 2026 CMAA goal is \$37,483.00. As a reminder, the parish gets to keep every additional dollar above the parish goal and there is no mandatory payment if you do not reach goal as long as you used our best efforts in promoting our CMAA.

Our shared commitment to the CMAA is a vital expression of our mission to live out Christ's call to extend his love and mercy across the islands. As the pastor of Holy Trinity Church, you play a critical role in leading your parishioners to embrace this call.

One of the most powerful ways to do this is by making your own sacrificial gift to the CMAA now, before asking your parishioners to give. Your personal participation demonstrates faith, commitment, and leadership — parishioners are inspired when their pastor leads by example.

I hope you will prayerfully consider your gift today and encourage your priests to give and help set the tone for your parish community.

Participation matters — every gift, large or small, strengthens the mission of the Church and encourages your parishioners to join in support. We will also be asking for 100% participation from our Diocesan staff so together we can share the good news of our collective commitment to the CMAA to our parishioners.

You can make your gift today at: Appeal.CatholicHawaii.org/support.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALTH, COMFORT AND HEALING

Filomina "Mina" Chung Pat Rossman Kai Gumataotao Taylor Hangai Aurora Saulo

Please advise the Parish Office when it is no longer necessary or appropriate to keep names on the list.



# PLEASE PRAY FOR FOR ETERNAL REST

Cyril Chung Toni Leahey

Please advise the Parish Office when it is no longer necessary or appropriate to keep names on the list.

### **Pray with Phyllis**

**Daily Prayer:** "May the Lord Jesus put his hands on our eyes also, for then we too shall begin to look not at what is seen but at what is not seen. May he open the eyes that are concerned not with the present but with what is yet to come, may he unseal the heart's vision, that we may gaze on God in the Spirit, through the same Lord, Jesus Christ, whose glory and power will endure throughout the unending succession of ages." (Prayer of Origen, 185-254 AD)



# The Liturgical Year

A simple guide to learn about the liturgical times of the Catholic Church







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with **Subscribe** in the Subject line and your first and last name in the body to get the Bulletin delivered to you each Friday afternoon.

### Sunday, Nov 30, 2025

### **Expect the unexpected**

It may seem strange to talk about Christ's Second Coming when we're just starting to prepare for the celebration of his first. But that's exactly what the scripture readings for the first two Sundays of Advent do; it's not until the third and fourth Sundays that we get to the Incarnation part. "You . . . must be prepared," we hear, "for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." What gives? Why speak of the End at the Beginning? Because in both cases Jesus becomes present to the world. Our task is to be ready to receive that presence, at the beginning and the end and all the time in between.

### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44 (1). "Our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed."

### Monday, Dec 01, 2025

### An inspiration for the centuries

To become a Roman centurion, a soldier had to be literate, come highly recommended, be at least 30 years of age, and have already served some time in the Roman army. This was no cushy job. Centurions suffered heavy casualties in battle because they led their "century" of troops from the front. However, their brave example inspired courage in the soldiers who followed behind them. One well-known centurion also became an inspiration of faith for centuries of Christians when he asks that Jesus "only say the word" to heal his ailing servant. Do you have such faith in Jesus' healing power in your own life?

#### ADVENT WEEKDAY

Isaiah 4:2-6; Matthew 8:5-11 (175). "Amen, I say to you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith."

## Tuesday, Dec 02, 2025

### **Living Christmas**

'Tis the season when scenes of peace and serenity start arriving in our mailboxes daily. Every Christmas card is a bid for a more hopeful world. A star shines against the darkness of a fearful nation. A child is born into a culture sadly given over to ways of death and destruction. Wild animals learn to live together as people never do. Even Saint Nick brings gifts through a spirit of generosity as wide as his belly. This year let's bring those Christmas scenes to life, so that, in the words of Saint Teresa of Calcutta, "When Christ comes to you in Christmas, He may find in you a warm home, warm love like that of a heartful of love."

### ADVENT WEEKDAY

Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24 (176). "Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid"

## Wednesday, Dec 03, 2025

### How to build a fire

One of the founding members of the Jesuits, Saint Francis Xavier (1506-52) is considered to have been one of the greatest missionaries since the apostles. Appointed to re-evangelize portions of the Far East, Francis placed himself with the lowest castes, preaching to the sick and dying at hospitals and orphans and slaves in the street. He understood that if the fire of Christianity were to spread through the East, the kindling must begin at the base of society. Rather than arriving like a royal ambassador, Francis clothed himself with rags and made his home in the lowliest shelters. Francis' humble appearance proved to be the greatest tool for bringing the message of Christ to others. "It is not the actual

physical exertion that counts towards one's progress," Francis explains, "nor the nature of the task, but by the spirit of faith with which it is undertaken." Gather a spirit of faith as you set out on your own daily missions.

MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37 (177). "My heart is moved with pity for the crowd."

### Thursday, Dec 04, 2025

### Spoken through the prophets

Historically speaking, the various deities revered by tribes and cultures around the world usually did little more than reinforce the position of those in power. From the Egyptians to the Aztecs, civilizations usually were led by a religious elite who controlled the resources, made the decisions, and "spoke for the gods." That is what makes the testimony of the Jewish prophets so remarkable. They regularly took the rich and powerful to task while advocating for the poor and marginalized. Anyone who doubts the authenticity of biblical literature should pause to consider the striking originality of the prophetic testimony. Surely that testimony would not have survived the censorship of the Jewish elites unless a Higher Power was calling the shots! Take time to read the divinely inspired scriptures that are foundational to our faith.

#### ADVENT WEEKDAY

Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27 (178). "The LORD is an eternal Rock. He humbles those in high places."

### Friday, Dec 05, 2025

### Do you understand?

At First Sight is a movie that tells the true story of a blind man who, at the urging of a friend, undergoes experimental surgery to restore his sight. The operation is successful; his retina works and he can see. Or at least his eyes function. But he finds he must still finger objects to "know" what they are. He can "see" a cheese grater, for example, but he doesn't know what it is until he has felt it with his hands. Seeing is a function of light striking the retina, but it takes the mind to interpret what we are looking at. Sight is one thing; understanding what we see is another. Take time today to consider the meaning behind the glory of God's creation.

### ADVENT WEEKDAY

Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31 (179). "Out of gloom and darkness, the eyes of the blind shall see."

### **Saturday, Dec 06, 2025**

### The cure for what ails us

As Jesus sent out the 12 apostles after empowering them to proclaim God's kingdom and heal the sick, he admonished them not to charge for their services: "You received without payment; give without payment." As the nation struggles with difficult questions of effective, affordable, and universal healthcare, it is good to take a step back from the heat of the debate and look at larger principles. The U.S. Bishops recently stated in a letter to Congress: "We firmly believe that all people have the right to those necessities needed to live, found a family, and flourish. It is in this reality that we recognize that the right to healthcare is a fundamenta necessity for the preservation of life and human flourishing." And for Jesus such care was a way of proclaiming the kingdom of God. Lend a healing hand to others and help build up God's kingdom.

#### ADVENT WEEKDAY

Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8 (180). "The LORD binds up the wounds of his people."

