



WELCOME

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
A Stewardship Parish

December 21, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Advent



Hope Peace Joy Love

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 Dec 21–Jan 3

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 21 Mass 8 and 10:30 am Pickleball, gym, 2 pm	22 Mass 5 pm	23 Mass 9 am	24 Christmas Eve Mass 4:30 and 7 pm Parish Office Closed	25 Christmas Mass 8 and 10:30 am No Adoration Parish Office Closed Thrift Shop Closed	26 Mass 9 am	27 Reconciliation 9–10 am Thrift Shop Closed Mass 4:30 pm
						
Dec 28 Mass 8 and 10:30 am Pickleball, gym, 2 pm	29 Mass 5 pm	30 Mass 9 am	31 Mass 5 pm Parish Office Closed	Jan 1 Mass 9 am No Adoration Parish Office Closed Thrift Shop Closed	2 Mass 9 am	3 Reconciliation 9–10 am Thrift Shop Closed Mass 4:30 pm

Scripture Readings Summary

Dec 21, Fourth Sunday of Advent

([Click for readings](#))

Isaiah 7:10-14 The sign that God is with us is found in the birth of a child.

Psalms 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Entering the presence of God requires a pure heart and redirected desire.

Romans 1:1-7 Paul introduces himself to the community at Rome, redefining them in the process.

Matthew 1:18-24 A righteous man has to consider what's more important: propriety or prophecy?

Dec 28, Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

([Click for readings](#))

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 An old man reminds a young one the debt each generation owes to the last.

Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 Prosperity will follow the one who follows the will of the Lord.

Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 Dress with care in the virtues that are perfected in love.

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 Joseph remains obedient to dreams, angels, and the promptings of God.

Online Giving

To donate online, please click [HERE](#)
or go to:

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

Mahalo for your generosity!

Holy Trinity Church Contact Information

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CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS TO OUR PARISH

Our Advent journey will soon be coming to an end. Hopefully you used these preparation weeks to your benefit so that this year's celebration of the Lord's Nativity will be a true blessing to you. Saint Leo the Great (our Pope's namesake) wrote this centuries ago as an encouragement to the people of the universal church:



"today our Savior is born; let us rejoice. No one is shut out from this joy; all share the same reason for rejoicing. Our Lord, victor over sin and death, finding no one free from sin, came to free us all. **Let the saint** rejoice as he sees the palm of victory at hand. **Let the sinner** be glad as he receives the offer of forgiveness. **Let the pagan** take courage as he is summoned to life. And so, at the birth of our Lord angels sing in joy: Glory to God in the highest and they proclaim peace to His people on earth....When the angels on high are so exultant at this marvelous work of God's goodness, what joy should it not bring to the lowly hearts of all. **Christian**, remember your dignity, and now that you share in God's own nature...bear in mind who is your head and of whose body you are a member."

As Saint Leo the Great wrote...we have a great reason to be rejoicing. Jesus Christ was born into humankind and became like us in all things but sin. And, He came with the open invitation for all peoples, saint, sinner, pagan, and most especially Christians, to come closer to Him so that His goodness might rub off on us. Incarnation...the "Word becoming flesh," is a reality in our world and in our lives. May we grow in goodness and good cheer. May we imitate the words of those Angels from heaven: "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all peoples on earth." Our calling is to proclaim the Prince of Peace to one another, especially those who need to hear it again...and again...and, again.

Peace to all of you and may the blessings of the Lord be experienced by all,

Fr. Mike



THE VIRGIN
SHALL CONCEIVE,
AND BEAR A SON,
AND THEY SHALL
NAME HIM

Emmanuel

MATTHEW 1:23



By Bob White



Stewardship Corner Reflection 493

Stewardship at Holy Trinity Catholic Church

The Real Reason For The Reason For The Season

"...You're the one I want to be with, you're the reason that I came..."
(A Christmas Letter from Jesus, Spirit 92.9 FM)

This line, from the above cited poem, perhaps represents the simplest explanation of "the reason for the season." Some of us have prepared and decorated since before Thanksgiving...and some of us are the true Christmas Eve decorators. Whatever method suits you best, let's remember "the reason for the season." Jesus, "...was wrapped in swaddling cloths and placed in a manger, because there was no room in the inn...and shepherds living in the fields...watching their flock...an angel appeared and said The Lord has been born." (Luke 2:7-11). He was born of humble beginnings and first visited by hands hired to tend sheep. If He came for them... He came for us. Yes, He came for all mankind and He came for us...and each of us is the one He wants to be with...it is the reason that He came. So let's enjoy the decorations...and let's mostly enjoy the moment...and most importantly, let's reflect on the real reason for "the reason for the season." Merry Christmas!

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

A Gentle Christmas Reminder

As we prepare to celebrate the joy of Christmas, we are likely to see many new and familiar faces joining us at Mass — some who haven't been with us in a while, and others who may be walking through our doors for the very first time.

Let's remember to welcome them with the same love and warmth Christ extends to all of us. A smile, a kind word, or simply making space in the pew can make all the difference in helping someone feel at home.

This is a beautiful opportunity to show that our parish isn't just a building, but a community where all are invited and embraced.

Merry Christmas, and thank you for being a part of what makes our church such a special place to worship.

- Holy Trinity Pastoral Council



Christmas Mass Schedule



CHRISTMAS EVE
Wednesday
December 24th
4:30 PM and 7:00 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY
Thursday
December 25th
8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Choirs will begin singing Christmas music about 45 minutes before the start of each Christmas Mass

Donations and Weekend Attendance: Dec 6-7, and Dec 13-14, 2025

Collections	\$24,877.34
Major Maintenance & Repair	5,148.96
Religious Retirement	795.00
Thrift Shop	1,691.50
Candles	360.00
TOTAL	\$32,872.80



Thank you for your continuing support of Holy Trinity!

Attendance			
	Dec 6-7	Dec 8 Immaculate Conception	Dec 13-14 Marathon
Sat 4:30 PM	131		197
Sun 8:00 AM	139		
Sun 10:30 AM	152		
Sun 4:30 PM			112
TOTAL (Adults Only)	422	218	309

Awaiting Baby Jesus

My heart is beating, filled with joy,
awaiting Mary's baby boy.
For with this child, we embrace
the birth of God's most precious grace.
Baby Jesus, soon to come!
For us comes the Promised One.
Baby Jesus, God's own Son,
you will be the Chosen One
to lead our flock into salvation.
Our eternal life awaits.
The birth of Jesus brings us nearer
Heaven's holy gates.
Sing with joy, and count the days,
for soon to come, the Lord we'll praise.
Rejoice that Jesus will soon arrive,
the Messiah and our faith alive.
Amen.

Traditional Catholic Advent Prayer



**Respect Life Corner
Weekend of December 20-21, 2025**

"In the stable at Bethlehem, Heaven and Earth meet."

Pope Benedict XVI

"Christmas reminds us that God makes himself known by drawing near to us, not in grandiose events, or by revealing himself from afar. He comes to meet us in the very heart of our ordinary lives."

Pope Leo XIV



The Adoration of the Shepherds by the Spanish artist Bartolomé Esteban Murillo

The **Holy Family Novena** ([link](#)) is traditionally prayed nine days before the feast of the Holy Family, which falls on December 28th this year. The start day would then be December 18th, but we know prayers, even a bit late, are always heard. The linked novena is user friendly and beautiful and of course can be prayed anytime throughout the year.

At Holy Trinity we support and sustain a culture of LIFE. Join us 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 you have ideas and suggestions to share about activities or topics to pursue, or if you are interested in joining our Respect Life Committee, please contact Debbie at dkula@rcchawaii.org



The Thrift Shop is on Break!

We will be closed from Christmas Day
and will reopen on January 8th.

Our regular hours are Thursdays and Saturdays, 9:00am - 12noon.

See you in the new year!



**PLEASE PRAY FOR
HEALTH, COMFORT AND
HEALING**

**Bernie Ordonez
Filomina "Mina" Chung
Pat Rossman
Kai Gumataotao
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**

Jesenia (Jesi) Rosemeyer

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

Pray with Phyllis

"Christ is born, glorify Him! Christ from heaven, go out to meet Him! Christ on earth, be exalted! Sing to the Lord all the whole earth; and that I may join both in one word, let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad, for Him who is of heaven and then of earth. Christ in the flesh, rejoice with trembling and with joy; with trembling because of your sins, with joy because of your hope."

St. Gregory



Bishop's Nativity Sets Open House

**Sunday, December 21, 2025
2:00 - 4:30 p.m.**

St. Stephen Diocesan Center, Kaneohe

For many years, Bishop Larry Silva has been collecting Nativity sets of all kinds from all over the world. There are currently close to 300.

All are invited to an Open House to see them on Sunday, December 21, 2025, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. They are displayed in the library (just off the cobblestone courtyard) at St. Stephen Diocesan Center, 6301 Pali Highway, Kaneohe, HI 96744.

Refreshments will be served. Bishop Silva and some of our seminarians will welcome you!



SAVE THE DATE

20 JANUARY
2026
6:30 PM

Human Trafficking Awareness
and Safety Presentation
by Ho'ola Na Pua
(New Life for our Children)
Holy Trinity Church

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Sunday, Dec 21, 2025

Oh, what a beautiful morning!

Today we name the Messiah “O Radiant Dawn, Sun of Justice, Splendor of Eternal Light!” Anyone whose morning commute includes a sunrise or who has risen early to watch the sun come up knows why primitive peoples and even our oh-so-sophisticated selves find godliness in a sunrise. At the Easter Vigil we sang “May the Morning Star which never sets find this flame still burning!” While Christmas lights have been shining for weeks, today we can think of them explicitly as a reminder of God’s gift of Light to the waiting world. We remember poet Gerard Manley Hopkins’ wonderful “Oh!” at the sight of “God’s grandeur” and this great renewal: “Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs / Because the Holy Ghost over the bent / World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.”

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (O RADIANT DAWN)

Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24 (10). “O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness.”

Monday, Dec 22, 2025

A real superpower

Remember when we were kids and we used to play king of the hill? It was an important part of our social learning that the strongest among us would dominate. The same game is played out in world politics as nations rise and fall. The story of Christmas reminds us that Jesus is the world’s only real superpower, though the nations play their games of supremacy for a time. History reduces all empires to dust, but the reign of God endures forever. “Christ has dominion over all creatures,” says Doctor of the Church Saint Cyril of Alexandria, “a dominion not seized by violence nor usurped but His, by essence and by nature.” Pay homage to the King of All by humbly serving others as he would.

ADVENT WEEKDAY (O KING OF ALL NATIONS)

1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56 (198). “O King of all nations and keystone of the Church; come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!”

Tuesday, Dec 23, 2025

Embrace the gift of love

We end our observance of the O Antiphons today with praise for Emmanuel, our savior. “God is not distant: he is ‘Emmanuel,’ God-with-us. He is no stranger: he has a face, the face of Jesus,” proclaims Pope Benedict XVI in his 2010 Christmas address. “This message is ever new, ever surprising, for it surpasses even our most daring hope.” The one who is to come satisfies all of our greatest longings. We need look no further. All our fretting and straining for answers comes to an end with the birth of Christ. Are we ready for such good news? Can we let go of all the things we often think will bring us happiness—money, recognition, power, beauty, health—and embrace the simple, searing gift of love?

ADVENT WEEKDAY (O EMMANUEL)

Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66 (199). “O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!”

Wednesday, Dec 24, 2025

Final preparations

It is no accident that scripture references the birth of John the Baptist on the day before we commemorate the birth of Jesus. John represents the culmination of Jewish prophetic hope for the Messiah, and his birth offers a fitting climax to the Advent season. John’s father, Zechariah, sings praises on the occasion of his son’s

birth. Zechariah’s song, or canticle, is recited daily during the morning prayer of the church’s Liturgy of the Hours. It serves as a lovely closing refrain to the Advent season, our time to prepare for the coming of the Lord. Have you made yourself ready to be guided by God’s compassion “into the way of peace”?

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Morning: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Luke 1:67-79 (200).

“You will go before the Lord to prepare his way.”

Thursday, Dec 25, 2025

Live in the moment of Christmas

Today we celebrate the day God entered God’s own creation by becoming human. How can we authentically honor this day? One way is to notice and truly relish our own experience of being human. So often we hurry through the hours, heedless of the many sensations to be enjoyed. This Christmas may we wake up appreciating the delicious warmth of our beds, the sparkle of our decorations, the aroma of our holiday meals, the laughter of family and friends gathered, the words and music of Christmas liturgy, the taste of the Word made flesh, the glory of the child in the manger, the everlasting embrace of love. At the end of the day, we will know something of what Emily Dickinson meant when she wrote, “To live is so startling it leaves little time for anything else.”

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

Night: Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 (14); Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14 (16).

“Today a Savior is born for us, Christ the Lord.”

Friday, Dec 26, 2025

The power and the glory

Saint Stephen’s Day, commemorating the first Christian martyr, is celebrated the day after Christmas, serving as a reminder that just as the naked cross looms above the empty tomb, so also its shadow falls across the crib—Jesus’ and our own. It is into human experience that the Christ is born, an experience that knows death, violence, and cruelty but a humanity also capable of love so true as to lay down life for a friend. Stephen was “filled with grace and power.” It was a power we often forget we possess. It is the power of love, our greatest gift, that gives us the wisdom and strength to endure the worst that life can bring. How will you use your power in the coming year?

FEAST OF STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22 (696). “Stephen, fillea with grace and power, was working great wonders and signs among the people.”

Saturday, Dec 27, 2025

Lend an ear

When we receive a piece of news, often our first impulse is to think, “I can’t wait to tell ...!” We are social creatures, hardwired to live in community with other people, sharing our sorrows and our joys. Moreover, sharing has mathematical properties: It divides and multiplies. When we share bad news, our burden is lessened, and when we share good news, our happiness increases. Of course, the reverse is also true: When we don’t have someone with whom to share our stories, sorrows increase and joys are diminished. As Saint Teresa of Calcutta once observed, “Loneliness is the most terrible poverty.” Who do you know to be lonely? Take time to listen to their good news.

FEAST OF JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST

1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8 (697). “We are writing this so that our joy may be complete.”

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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