



S<sub>T</sub>. PETER

S<sub>T</sub>. PAUL



# Sts. Peter and Paul Church

## December 21, 2025

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

The angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus."

MATTHEW 1:20-21



#### MASS SCHEDULE

##### WEEKDAY

Monday – Friday  
7:00 a.m. & noon

##### WEEKEND

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., & 6:00 p.m.

##### EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays after 7:00 a.m. mass until 11:45 a.m.

##### RECONCILIATION

Fridays: 10:15—11:30 a.m.  
Saturdays: 3:00—4:15 p.m.

##### DEVOTIONS

First Fridays (*until Lent*): 5:30—7:00 p.m.  
First Saturdays (*until Lent*): 11:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

#### CONTACT

##### OFFICE HOURS:

M-Th 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. / 1:00—3:00 p.m.  
Friday 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

**PHONE:** (808) 941-0675 **FAX:** (808) 945-0689

**OFFICE EMAIL:** [sspeterandpaul@rcchawaii.org](mailto:sspeterandpaul@rcchawaii.org)

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[www.sspeterpaulhawaii.org](http://www.sspeterpaulhawaii.org)

##### FACEBOOK:

Sts. Peter & Paul Church Honolulu

#### SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

**Anointing of the Sick and Funerals:** Please call parish office.

**Infant Baptism:** Parents are required to meet with Father before scheduling a baptism. Please call the office or send email to request a registration form. (For adults, call and leave a message for OCIA coordinator, 808-941-0675 ext. 25)

**Marriage:** The proper and required prep for Marriage is extensive. Please talk to a priest or deacon at least 6-months prior before setting a date.

**Father Arnel Soriano, *Pastor Administrator* ♦ Father Khanh Hoang, *Part-Time Parochial Vicar***  
**Deacon Joel Narusawa**

# Good News!

December 21, 2025

## Fourth Sunday of Advent (A)

Isaiah 7:10-14 / Romans 1:1-7 / Matthew 1:18-24

### Close Enough!

MIGUEL DULICK

**It is the fourth Sunday of Advent.** When Christmas is this close, one takes that final leap. Isaiah is centuries from Christmas, but he cannot wait! He sees the “sign” as clear as day: “the young woman, pregnant and about to bear a son” (Isaiah 7:14). And how about that Son! None other than “Emmanuel” himself—God-With-Us! Paul, too, is bursting at the seams! Inspired by what he calls “the obedience of faith” (Romans 5), he is excited to see the gospel thriving even among the Gentiles. For him, the “Spirit of holiness” is a gift offered to all—Christmas every day, you might say.

Speaking of “obedience of faith,” Joseph is the perfect example. The word “obey” comes from the same root as “to hear,” and Joseph has almost supernatural ears! Matthew, the former tax collector, tells “how the birth of Jesus Christ came about” in today’s gospel reading like a bookkeeper—the Holy Spirit in Column A, Joseph in Column B, with Mary in the middle. But when an angel whispers to Joseph at night, his dream comes true: “he took his wife into his home.” Everything is set for Emmanuel!

So, the Bible is brimming with Christmas, that is, “God-With-Us,” from end to end. And when a virgin can conceive, are any of us exempt from “birthing” Jesus in our midst? Even when a “happy holiday” seems impossible in the midst of war or violence or poverty, when our ears hear only silence, let’s sing Christmas carols every day! ●

#### -Reflect-

*How am I at listening? Can I find new insights in old stories that I think I know so well?*

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#### MONDAY

December 22  
*Advent Weekday*  
1 Sm 1:24-28  
Lk 1:46-56

#### TUESDAY

December 23  
*Advent Weekday*  
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24  
Lk 1:57-66

#### WEDNESDAY

December 24  
*Advent Weekday*  
2 Sm 7:1-5,  
8b-12, 14a, 16  
Lk 1:67-79

#### THURSDAY

December 25  
*The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)*  
Is 52:7-10  
Heb 1:1-6  
Jn 1:1-18  
or 1:1-5, 9-14

#### FRIDAY

December 26  
*St. Stephen, the First Martyr*  
Acts 6:8-10;  
7:54-59  
Mt 10:17-22

#### SATURDAY

December 27  
*St. John, Apostle and Evangelist*  
1 Jn 1:1-4  
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

#### SUNDAY

December 28  
*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph*  
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14  
Col 3:12-21  
or 3:12-17  
Mt 2:13-15,  
19-23

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# LITURGY & PRAYER

Date		Intentions	Celebrant
<b>Sat Dec 20</b>	5:00 PM	Parishioners of Sts. Peter and Paul	Fr. Khanh
<b>Sunday Dec 21</b>	7:00 AM	+ Bernadita Rijhoff + Leonard Lange + Donald Okimoto + Fr. Daren Zenhle + Reynaldo Requiman	Fr. Khanh
	9:00 AM	+ Nick & Naty Arato + Terry & Tony Nuivo + Timothy Cantley Harai Joseph (SI)	Fr. Khanh
	11:00 AM	+ Justine & Philips Aguanta + Fr. Sydney Fernandes Holy Souls in Purgatory + Johnny Kou Wong	Fr. Arnel
	6:00 PM	+ Johnny Kou Wong + Fr. Khanh Pham-Nguyen	Fr. Arnel
<b>Monday Dec 22</b>	5:00 AM	Fatima Guillermo (H)	Fr. Anthony
	7:00 AM	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Fr. Khanh
	12 NOON	+ Marcelino Avecilla	Fr. Khanh
<b>Tuesday Dec 23</b>	5:00 AM	+ Matilda Correa	Fr. Nicholas
	7:00 AM	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Fr. Arnel
	12 NOON	+ Dabrowski family	Fr. Arnel
<b>Wednesday Dec 24</b>	5:00 AM	+ Francisca David	Fr. Alfred
	5:00 PM	Jade Mai Duong (BD) + Merv Young + Archie Toledo	Fr. Khanh
	11:00 PM		Fr. Arnel
<b>Thursday Dec 25</b>	7:00 AM	+ Carlos Miranda, Sr. Esther Miranda (SI) + Adriann Mirabueno	Fr. Khanh
	9:00 AM	+ Perfecto Tomas + Maria Dao Uyen Alberth Mabalatan (SI) Sylvia & family (SI)	Fr. Arnel
	11:00 AM	+ Ramil Tenchevez + Rafael Tenchevez	Fr. Arnel
<b>Friday Dec 26</b>	7:00 AM	+ Enrique Kou, Sr.	Fr. Arnold
	12 NOON	+ Loretta M. Gerzke	Fr. Victor
<b>Sat Dec 27</b>	5:00 PM	Parishioners of Sts. Peter and Paul	Fr. Arnel
<b>Sunday Dec 28</b>	7:00 AM	+ Evelyn Benevente + James Concilla + Fr. Daren Zenhle	Fr. Arnel
	9:00 AM	+ Fr. Khanh Pham-Nguyen + Leonard Lange + David Cantley + Erin L. Mahady-Rolfe	Fr. Arnel
	11:00 AM	+ Fr. Sydney Fernandes Holy Souls in Purgatory Nelia Tomas (SI) Wendi Lee Adkins (BD)	Fr. Khanh
	6:00 PM	Barbara Nakanelua (SI) + Father Daren Zenhle	Fr. Khanh



We pray for the repose of the soul of...

+ Robert Konig



## Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for December For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.



### PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK

We join together to pray for our brothers and sisters

Rob Aguilar  
Lucrecia L. Ancheta  
James Brauer  
Charles Brauer  
P. Estella  
Rosario Garuida

Virginia Ishida  
Jack Jacewicz  
Christoph Jacewicz  
Victoria Jacinto  
Alison Kunishige  
Anne Noto



### Advent – Week Four

The 4th Sunday of Advent brings us very close to Christmas. We focus on who Jesus is and why He came. We hear the name Emmanuel, which means “God is with us.” This is the message we hold onto as we get ready to celebrate His birth. We are invited to quiet our hearts and wait with hope and joy, knowing that God is coming to be with us.

*Lord, help us to trust You as Joseph did. Give us faith to follow Your plan, even when we do not understand. Teach us to rely on Your promises instead of our fears. Guide us as we prepare for the coming of Jesus. May we welcome Him with open hearts. Amen.*

### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

#### CHRISTMAS EVE

**Wed, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> —5:00PM Vigil (Family Mass with Nativity play)**  
**10:30PM Christmas Cantata**  
**11:00PM Christmas Vigil Mass**

#### CHRISTMAS DAY

**Thurs, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>—7:00AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM**  
*(no 6pm Mass)*

#### THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE (December 22—28, 2025)

**Monday: 5:00 am—Misa de Gallo-Church**  
~~6:30 pm—Charismatic Prayer Group~~—resumes Jan 19  
**Tuesday: 5:00 am—Misa de Gallo-Church**  
**6:30 pm—Young Adult Bible Study/Faith Sharing-Amana Bldg 3<sup>rd</sup> Flr**  
**Wednesday: 5:00 am—Misa de Gallo-Church**  
~~3:30 pm—Centering Prayer~~—resume Jan 7  
**5:00 pm—Christmas Family Mass-Church**  
**10:30 pm—Cantata- Church**  
**11:00 pm—Christmas Vigil- Church**  
**Thursday: 7AM, 9AM, 11AM—Christmas Day Mass-Church**  
**Friday: 7:30 am-11:50 am—Eucharistic Adoration-Church**  
**10:15-11:30 am—Confession-Church**  
**12:00 noon—Anointing Mass-Church**  
**Saturday: 3:00-4:00 pm—Confession-Church**  
**Sunday: 9:00-10:30 am—Adult Scripture Study-Upper Rm**  
**10:15-11:45 am—Faith Formation-Amana Bldg 3<sup>rd</sup> Flr**  
**12:15 pm—OCIA-Reception Rm**  
**12:30 pm—Youth Ministry & High School Catechism**—resume Jan 4  
**5:00 pm—OCIA-Reception Rm**

# STEWARDSHIP

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION



*"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home."*

—MATTHEW 1:24

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. Joseph was a model of these pillars of our faith. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.

### *We thank you for your time, efforts & service...*

\*Mahalo to all volunteers & ministries who helped to decorate and prepare the church for this Christmas season.

\*Mahalo to our devotional team, Legion of Mary and all who sponsored the Misa de Gallo novena masses.

\*Mahalo to our Olakino Team and many volunteers who helped pack and distribute produce to our community last Saturday.

\*Mahalo also to our generous donors for your contribution of nonperishable goods for the Catholic Care bags project. Thanks to our Catholic Care volunteers who packed 55 bags for those needing supplemental food assistance.

\*Mahalo to those who participated generously in the Giving Tree project.

## TREASURE

*Mahalo for your generous donations and faithful Stewardship contributions.*

### DECEMBER 13—14, 2025

WEEKLY OFFERING	\$8,716.24
STEWARDSHIP (online)	\$760.00
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	\$3,852.00
BAPTISM	\$50.00
HOLY DAYS	\$85.00
CANDLES	\$484.00

**Operating income subtotal: \$13,947.24**

### *Custodial & Restricted Collections Sunday and online giving*

BUILDING FUND	\$80.00
MASS INTENTIONS	\$527.38
CATHOLIC CARE	\$10.00
OLAKINO	\$120.00
OUTREACH	\$330.00
GIVING TUESDAY	\$522.00
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	\$45.00
RESTRICTED (LINENS)	\$100.00
RETIRED RELIGIOUS FUND	\$2,478.00
SECOND COLLECTIONS	\$95.00
SHAPING THE FUTURE PHASE 2	\$60.00

**Custodial & Restricted subtotal: \$4,367.38**

**TOTAL COLLECTION: \$18,314.62**

*Mahalo nui loa*



### *Ohana Christmas Potluck Gathering*

*Saturday, December 27<sup>th</sup>*

*after the 5pm Mass*

*Our Parish will gather to celebrate Christmas with food, fellowship, and fun on December 27<sup>th</sup> after the 5:00pm Mass.*

*Please join us and bring a dish to share.*

*A potluck signup sheet is in the courtyard.*

# Around the Diocese



## Misa de Gallo 2025

Dec. 16 - 20 at 5:00 am  
Dec. 21 at 7:00 am  
Dec. 22 - 24 at 5:00 am

Sts. Peter and Paul Church  
800 Kaheka Street  
Honolulu, HI 96814

*Misa de Gallo is a nine-day novena of masses dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the expectant Mother of God. Misa de Gallo translates to "Rooster's Mass", reflecting the rooster's crowing at dawn, signaling the time to attend mass before starting the workday.*

*This beloved Filipino tradition will be celebrated in our parish from December 16 to December 24.*

*Mark your calendars, invite your family and friends, and join us this year on each of the dawn masses as we spiritually prepare and joyfully anticipate our Lord's birth at Christmas. A breakfast fellowship will follow each mass.*

Dec 16 – Fr. Arnel Soriano, Pastor, Sts Peter and Paul  
Dec 17 – Fr. Arlan Intal, MS, Pastor, St. Anthony Kalihi  
Dec 18 – Fr. Adondee Arellano, MS, Pastor, St. Stephen  
Dec 19 – Fr. Greg Honorio, Vicar for Clergy  
Dec 20 – Fr. Melchor Palomares, Parochial Vicar, St Jude  
Dec 21 – Fr. Khanh Hoang, Parochial Vicar, Sts Peter & Paul  
Dec 22 – Fr. Anthony Tran, VHM Chaplain  
Dec 23 – Fr. Nick Apetorgbor, Parochial Vicar, Sacred Heart  
Dec 24 – Fr. Alfred Guerrero, Director Office of Worship

### UPCOMING...

#### ANNUAL RED MASS

Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 9:00 AM  
Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa

*A tradition invoking the Holy Spirit's guidance upon government officials, civic leaders, legal professionals, and all those who serve the common good in Hawai'i. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Larry Silva; keynote speaker will be Connie Mitchell, executive director of IHS.*

#### SAINT MARIANNE COPE FEAST DAY CELEBRATION

Friday, January 23, 2026 at 6:00 PM  
Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa

#### MARCH FOR LIFE RALLY

January 23, 2026 at State Capitol



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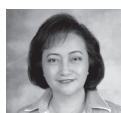
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## Dear Padre,

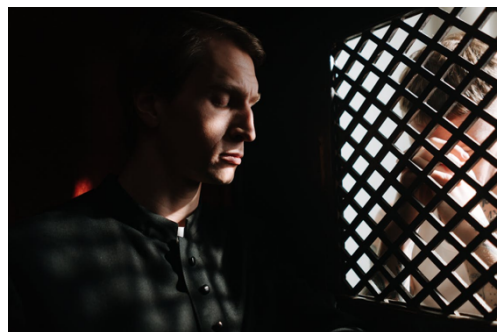
December 21, 2025

***I went to confession, and then, months later, my priest was removed for alcoholism and theft. Is my confession still worthy?***

Your confession is not dependent on the worthiness or the unworthiness of the priest. Your confession is made to Jesus; the priest is a witness who pronounces the words of absolution that Jesus intended in the sacrament. "From the moment that a sacrament is celebrated in accordance with the intention of the Church, the power of Christ and his Spirit acts in and through it, independently of the personal holiness of the minister" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1128).

The question of the efficacy of the sacrament and the unworthiness of the minister who performs the sacrament in the name of the Church is not new. During the time of persecution, in the early centuries of the Church, some people, including priests and bishops, avoided martyrdom by offering the required oblation to Caesar. Later, they repented and returned to the Christian community, a community that included the surviving family and friends of the men and women who were martyred. The question was asked, and with some animated energy, "How could these ministers who sinned to save their own lives now represent the Church?" The answer, arrived at with patience and discernment, is that the minister is only the representative of the sacrament, not the source of the sacrament. Jesus is faithful, even when his ministers have been unfaithful. ●

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



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## A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV



***I think it is important for all of us to learn how to listen more, to enter into dialogue. First and foremost, with the Lord: always listen to the word of God. Then also listen***

***to others, to know how to build bridges, to know how to listen without judging, not closing the doors [and] thinking that we have all the truth and no one else can tell us anything.***

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 11, 2025



SUNDAYKIDZ

## 4th Sunday of Advent

I	V	E	M	M	A	N	U	E	L
S	P	I	R	I	T	Z	H	W	H
A	F	U	L	F	I	L	L	A	Q
S	D	U	P	M	U	S	U	W	M
D	A	S	B	I	N	L	O	B	H
D	N	G	I	R	D	A	W	N	X
R	G	D	R	Z	L	Q	M	V	L
E	E	U	T	W	I	F	E	E	I
A	L	M	H	R	N	I	H	M	P
M	R	B	P	C	H	I	L	D	D

Birth Child Spirit Angel Dream  
Wife Son Name Fulfill Emmanuel