

NEWMAN CENTER

Holy Spirit Parish



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3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

IN JOY, WE WAIT



Aloha! Welcome!

We are the Catholic Center and Campus Ministry at the University of Hawai'i, and under the Catholic Diocese of Honolulu, serving parishioners, staff, faculty, and students alike that stimulates critical thinking and dialogue about issues that challenge Christian living and commits to a living faith that practices and promotes justice.

We are a spirit-filled and welcoming community that proclaims and celebrates the Good News through liturgy, the sacraments, faith sharing, outreach, and social action. As the Roman Catholic Community of the University of Hawai'i, we offer opportunities for life-long faith development to all who choose to join us. We invite the contribution of gifts in stewardship and evangelism, and challenge one another in the same manner that Jesus challenges us: to love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind and to love your neighbor as yourself.

Come journey with us!

Pastoral Team

	<i>Phone Ext</i>
Pastor Director of Campus Ministry Fr. Alfred Omar B. Guerrero pastor@newmanhawaii.org	214
Administrative Assistant Alofa Leasiolagi manager@newmanhawaii.org	219
Campus Minister Fay Pabo campusministry@newmanhawaii.org	211
Communications & Pastoral Assistant Brandon Akiona pastoralassistant@newmanhawaii.org	211

We welcome your call and are here to serve you! Contact the Parish Office to speak with us or make an appointment. We look forward to hearing from you!



Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00am to 5:00pm
(except Diocesan Holidays)
Newman Center may remain open till evening programs conclude

Saturday and Sunday:
Open during Mass times and for activities as needed.

From the Desk of the Pastor

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."

Today we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday. "Gaudete" is a Latin word, meaning "rejoice." The Christian steward should be characterized by a spirit of rejoicing.

Our First Reading, from Isaiah, expresses a fitting motto for us. "I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul." It is God Who is the source of our joy and contentment — not things or achievements or comfort, but our relationship with God. This is why stewards can share so freely of their time, talents and material possessions — because ultimately, we are not attached to these things. We recognize them as good gifts from our loving Father, but we are attached to the Giver of the gifts, not the gifts themselves. This allows for great freedom in life and the capacity for great joy in the Lord.

In fact, we can become like John the Baptist, in today's Gospel passage from the Book of John. We read this description of the prophet: "He came for testimony, to testify to the light... He was not the light but came to testify to the light." This is our calling too — to testify to the Light, our wonderful Savior — by the way we make use of the time, talent and treasure He has entrusted to our care. When God Himself is the source of our joy, it cannot be taken away from us. There is still time, this Advent season, to clear away any "clutter" in our lives that may take our focus away from Him. Let us strive to detach from any of these things so that we can be free to truly rejoice in God on Christmas Day.

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P.S. Thank you for all your support of our mission! As you are planning your end of the year giving, please consider Newman Center-Holy Spirit Parish. You can make a gift online or deliver it to the Parish office. Every gracious gift of any amount helps us share the love of Jesus during the holidays and beyond.

Have a blessed advent week,

Fr. Alfred Omar
(@fralfred808)



Important Notices

- Christmas Eve Mass (December 24) @ 5PM and 10PM (with caroling before mass)
- Christmas Day Mass (December 25) @ 10AM (with caroling before mass)
- Newman Center Closed: 12/26—12/30 and 1/1-1/2

Liturgical Schedule

Daily Mass (*Tuesday-Friday*) 12:10PM

Sunday Mass
(*Saturday Evening Anticipated*)
5:00PM
9:00AM
11:00AM
(*Student-led Mass*) 5:00PM

Sacramental Information

Reconciliation By Appointment

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule.

Baptism By Request

Please contact Fr. Alfred Omar at least one month before the date desired for the Baptism.

Funerals At Need

Funerals and the Rite of Christian Burial are made in conjunction with the Mortuary of your choosing. Please contact the Parish Office prior to finalizing a date with the mortuary.

Holy Matrimony By Request

Couples need to contact Fr. Alfred Omar at least eight months prior to your desired wedding date to begin the marriage preparation required by the Diocese of Honolulu.

Holy Orders—Religious Life By Call

Is God calling you to the Priesthood, Diaconate, or Religious Life? God doesn't call the qualified. He qualifies the called. Call us today to setup a discussion with our Pastor where you can continue discerning God's call.

Holy Communion Ongoing

Programs are available for those who have not yet received their First Eucharist. Please contact our Parish Office for more information.

Confirmation Ongoing

Programs are available for those who have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please contact our Parish Office for more information.

Anointing of the Sick By Request

If you or someone you know are in need of receiving the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, please call our parish office to schedule

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults Ongoing

If you or someone you know are have not yet been baptized and are interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Faith, please call our parish office to learn more about the RCIA,



The Word of the Lord Weekly

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

I rejoice heartily in the LORD,
in my God is the joy of my soul. (Is 61:10)

Psalm:

My soul rejoices in my God. (Is 61:10b)

Second Reading:

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy
and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body,
be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord
Jesus Christ. (1 Thes 5:23)

Gospel:

"I baptize with water;
but there is one among you whom you do not
recognize,
the one who is coming after me,
whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."
(Jn 1:23)

Readings for the week of December 17, 2023

Sunday:

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
(Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday:

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday:

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/
Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday:

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday:

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12,
20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Friday:

1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/
Lk 1:46-56

Saturday:

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and
14/Lk 1:57-66

Observances for the week of December 17, 2023

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Thursday: St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Saturday: St. John of Kanty, Priest

Nourishing Our Faith

Prayer On the Go

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/>
<https://www.sacredspace.ie/>

Daily Scripture and Reflections:

<https://www.dailyscripture.net/daily-meditation/>

Weekly Essays on Ignatian Spirituality by Fr. Randy Roche, SJ:

<https://mission.lmu.edu/cis/spiritualessays>

Contemplative Prayer (via Zoom)

The Monday night contemplative Prayer group continues to meet each Monday night via zoom. The schedule is 30 minutes of silence, Lectio Divina using as our scripture reading the Gospel from Sunday, petitions, concluding with the Our Father. Usually there are about 6-9 who join each week with some people joining us from Canada and the Big Island. All are welcome to join us.

We are also affiliated with Contemplative Outreach Hawaii that uses Centering Prayer as their meditative practice. Sometimes, a few members of St. Clements Church have joined us waiting for the establishment of a centering prayer group at their own church. For information contact: June Naughton at jnaughton808@gmail.com. Or 808 383-8954.

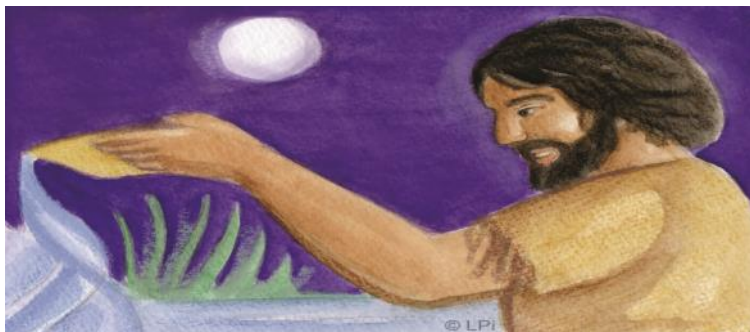
Family Connection

In family life, we learn to trust other people for protection and care. This experience of trust within the family enables children to believe us when we testify about our faith in Jesus. John the Baptist was believed by those who heard him because he helped them to recognize Jesus in their midst. In our family life, we hope and pray that we lead one another to recognize Jesus' presence in our world.

As you gather as a family, recall that during the Advent season we are invited to pay particular attention to the signs of Jesus' presence in our world. Consider some of the signs of Jesus' presence that you have experienced. During Advent, we remember how John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus. Read together today's Gospel, John 1:6-8,19-28. Discuss the signs of Jesus' presence in our world that you named and explain what these signs tell us about God and God's love for us. Pray together that your family will be led to recognize that Jesus is present among us. Read and pray together the psalm for today's Mass, the Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55).

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

In today's second reading Paul concludes his letter to the Christian community at Thessalonica by providing it with actions to take as its members wait for the return of the Lord. The first action is to rejoice always and give thanks in all circumstances. This sounds easy but it's not. The two words that make this task difficult are "always" and "all". This means giving thanks and rejoicing even when our circumstances are not always moments of joy and thanksgiving, or when we are confronted with a broken world. Prayerful stewards rejoice and give thanks in all circumstances because they are people of hope. A good reflection this week would be how the season of Advent can give you reason to hope.



Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure

Tithes and Offerings:

12/08/2023 Immaculate Conception:	\$899.00
12/09/2023-12/10/2023 Collection	\$1,516.00
Maintenance:	\$300.00
PV Purchase & Maintenance:	\$10.00
2nd Collection	
Online Retirement Fund for Religious:	\$470.00

Online Collection

12/08/2023-12/15/2023: \$3,455.00

May we continue to receive God's gifts gratefully, manage them responsibly, and share them joyfully. Mahalo for your generosity!

Upcoming Second Collections:

Ohana In Christ Diocesan Appeal: ongoing

Giving Made Easy

Giving online is safe and easy using our secured online platform, by visiting WeShare at:

newmanhawaii.weshareonline.org

Thank you, for your continued support of our parish as we strive to meet the needs of our faith community!



STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Generous and Loving Creator, you have called us to
Malama i ka Makana (Cherish the Gift).

As disciples of your Son, we ask that your Spirit open our minds and hearts to more deeply appreciate your countless blessings. Increase your transforming spirit within us, so as to nurture our call to stewardship as a way of life marked always by faith-filled prayer,
service to others and generous giving.

With the kokua of St. Marianne and St. Damien, teach us to be good stewards so we may return a hundred-fold the makana entrusted to us.

We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Around the Parish

New to Newman Center - Holy Spirit Parish?

Aloha! E Komo Mai!

We welcome you to your new spiritual home and are delighted to have you join our parish community!

At Newman Center - Holy Spirit Parish, we know that we are all individual parts of the mystical Body of Christ. Working together, we find great joy in doing God's work here on earth. We invite and encourage you to join us as we pray, work and fellowship together.

Please contact the Parish Office to register. Welcome!

NEWMAN CENTER HOLY SPIRIT PARISH CAMPUS MINISTRY

Christmas Schedule

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
Sunday, December 24
Vigil Mass | 5pm
Mass during the Night | 10pm

Monday, December 25
Mass during the Day | 10am

****THE CENTER WILL BE CLOSED
AFTER THE CHRISTMAS DAY MASS,
DECEMBER 25 TO DECEMBER 29
AND ON JANUARY 1 & 2**



FOR
a child is born
TO US

ISAIAH 9:5

Around the Diocese



Please celebrate with us
at the **'OHANA MASS**
Saturday, December 23
at 5:30 p.m.
**Mary, Star of the Sea
Catholic Church**
4470 Aliikoa St.
Honolulu, HI 96821

Pot Luck Fellowship After the Mass



EPIC MINISTRY
Christmas
LŪ'AU
Celebrate the season with EPIC Ministry!
**Friday, January 5, 2024
6:00 PM
Hawaii Okinawa Center**

Honoring
Dcn. Wally & Gwen Mitsui
for their lifetime of dedication to the youth and young adults of Hawaii



Reserve your ticket today at
www.epicministry.net



Pray

Prayer to St. Thomas the Apostle for a heart ready for Christmas

Philip Kosloski - published on 12/21/21

"Doubting Thomas" can help us address our own spiritual wounds so that we can see the Christ Child and proclaim our faith in him.

According to tradition, St. Thomas the Apostle was martyred on December 21, and for many centuries the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church celebrated his feast on that day.

Thomas may seem a curious apostle to celebrate right before Christmas, but his example can be an inspiration to us, who sometimes doubt the power of the Christ Child at Christmas.

Here is a prayer from Dom Prosper Gueranger in his Liturgical Year that asks for St. Thomas' intercession during these final days of Advent.

O glorious apostle, Thomas who led to Christ so many unbelieving nations
hear now the prayers of the faithful,
who ask you to lead them to that same Jesus,
who in five days will have shown himself to his Church.

We ask not, O holy apostle, to see him with the eyes of our body,
but with those of our faith, for He said to you when He showed Himself to you,

"Blessed are they who have not seen and have believed!"

Of this happy number we desire to be.

We ask you, therefore to pray that we may obtain the faith of the heart and will
so that when we behold the divine Infant wrapped in swaddling clothes
and laid in a manger, we may cry out, "My Lord and my God."

Resource: <https://aleteia.org/2021/12/21/prayer-to-st-thomas-the-apostle-for-a-heart-ready-for-christmas/>

Grow

5 Great ways to get into the Christmas spirit if you're feeling low
Cerith Gardiner - published on 12/11/23

A little help if you're down in the dumps and finding it hard to feel the excitement of this special time of the year.

The Catholic faith can be of great comfort for many during life's difficult moments. However, it can also create a little pressure if you're just not able to muster the joy you feel you should during particularly festive moments, such as Christmas.

Now with Christmas Day just around the corner, for those feeling stressed or rather down, the pressure may be mounting. Thankfully, there are a myriad of ways to infuse your days with joy and embrace the festive spirit. Whether you're seeking a little solace or a little divine inspiration, here are five suggestions to lift your mood and rediscover the joy in your Christmas celebrations.

Communion with merriment

Attend a joyful Mass or service that resonates with the joyous aspects of your faith. Seek out a parish known for its spirited celebrations, lively hymns, and a congregation that embraces the holiday cheer. Allow the communal spirit to lift your own, finding joy in shared worship and celebration.

Festal fellowship

Engage in festive fellowship by organizing or participating in gatherings with fellow Catholics. Host a potluck dinner, plan a festive movie night featuring faith-based films, or join a caroling group to share the joy of the season with your community. Connecting with others who share your faith can bring a sense of belonging and warmth.

Sacred serenity in nature

Take a meditative stroll through a nearby park or nature reserve. Find solace in the beauty of creation, marvel at the changing seasons, and reflect on the spiritual significance of this time. Nature has a remarkable way of rejuvenating the spirit, allowing you to find joy and inspiration in the simple yet profound aspects of life.

Prayerful creativity

Infuse your prayer life with a touch of creativity. You could decorate a small Christmas tree with symbolic ornaments representing aspects of your faith — this is especially good if you create your own ornaments. You could add this to a prayer corner and have a constant reminder of the joys of your faith.

Divine delights

Explore the rich traditions of Catholic cuisine during festive seasons. Whip up traditional dishes, share recipes with friends and family, and relish in the flavors that bring comfort and joy. Cooking or baking can be a delightful and therapeutic way to connect with your faith while indulging in the pleasures of the season.

Remember, embracing the festive spirit is not just about rituals but also about finding joy in the shared experiences of faith, community, and the simple pleasures that surround this special time.

May your days be filled with the warmth of fellowship, the comfort of traditions, and the uplifting spirit of celebration as we prepare for Christ's birth.

Resource: <https://aleteia.org/2023/12/11/5-great-ways-to-get-into-the-christmas-spirit-if-youre-feeling-low/>



CAMPUS MINISTRY

Reflect

In high school, we were required to complete a certain number of hours each school year. I was determined to go above and beyond and challenge myself to do at least 100 hours. On a particular service day, I joined a group of volunteers for a clean-up at Sand Island Beach Park. It was a humbling experience and motivated me to do and be better at keeping our space and environment clean. After the clean-up, we were provided lunch and a shady space to eat and fellowship with the other volunteers. I met this wonderful older couple who were both recently retired. They shared with me that they wanted to use this opportunity to make use of their free time and give back to the community. At the end of our delightful conversation, the husband asked if he could share three important points with me. I'll never forget what he said to me – "You will experience and encounter many things in life. There are three things that you must remember – always be joyful; pray, pray, and pray like there's no tomorrow; and be grateful for the blessings in your life."

Almost thirty years later, I still remember those three things. As for the "doing" part, it's a work in progress. How fitting to hear these words of encouragement in today's 2nd reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians – rejoice, pray, and give thanks. We are all work-in-progress. St. Paul reminds us to embrace the spirit of joy, prayer, and gratitude. This is who we are called to and be in the life of Christ. However, we are not always going to be joyful, our prayers may not always seem like they're being heard or answered, and there will be times when we will be unsatisfied and unappreciative of everything and anything in our lives. So we must remain hopeful in life's challenges and anticipate in the joyful coming of Christ. Let us, then, in all circumstances, rejoice in hope and love, keep faithful in our relationship with God through prayer, and express our gratitude in every moment of our lives.

"Joy does not simply happen to us. We have to choose joy and keep choosing it every day." – Henri Nouwen

To our Newman students - Kudos for completing the Fall 2023 semester. We did it! I hope and pray that you will take this break time to rest and relax, reunite with family and friends, and wait in joy and hope for the coming of the Baby Jesus. We look forward to your return this New Year and new semester!

A BIG MAHALO to our parishioners for your prayers and donations of food, snacks, and onolicious dessert for this semester's study haven. We are greatly blessed for your generosity and support!

May we continue to pray for one another, and for peace in our world and among our brothers and sisters in Christ in this Advent season and as we await the coming of the Baby Jesus.

St. John Henry Newman, pray for us! – Fay C. Pabo (@fa_jo_pabo)

Blessings to you and your 'ohana!
- **Fay C. Pabo** (@fa_jo_pabo)



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!



CAMPUS MINISTRY



*Thank
You*

TO OUR PARISHIONERS AND BENEFACTORS FOR YOUR CONTINUOUS LOVE AND PRAYERS FOR CAMPUS MINISTRY. THROUGH YOUR KIND GENEROSITY, WE ARE ABLE TO GATHER IN PRAYER, WORSHIP, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP AS A STUDENT COMMUNITY. WE ARE BLESSED AND GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN CAMPUS MINISTRY. WE WISH YOU AND YOUR 'OHANA A PEACEFUL ADVENT, JOYFUL & MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR!



NEWMAN CENTER HOLY SPIRIT PARISH CAMPUS MINISTRY