

# NEWMAN CENTER

## Holy Spirit Parish



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SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

# OVERJOYED

## AT SEEING THE STAR

MATTHEW 2:10



# 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

### Phone Ext

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

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

"Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you."

Today, we celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord. The Gospel account of the three magi traveling to meet Baby Jesus is one that we know well. Yet, when we pause to reflect on this moment when these men met Christ for the first time, we recognize that there is much to be said for us still today.

When the magi entered the house, it says, "they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage." Clearly these men knew that they were in the presence of their King. They also came bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, which symbolize Christ's kingship, divinity, and humanity.

Christ is still manifesting Himself to us today. We enter God's house weekly, and we are in His presence. When we meet Him, do we offer Him our gifts — our time, talent, and treasure? As Christian stewards, we are called to respond with love, reverence, and gratitude.

Let us prepare our hearts to receive Christ's many manifestations in our lives. We just need a grateful disposition to receive them.

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This week, we begin our listening sessions in preparation for our Episcopal Visit in March and for the development of our five-year pastoral plan. All are invited to attend and participate on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 @ 6pm in the Newman Center. We will be discussing the aspects of Worship, Sacraments, and Faith Formation. Light refreshments will be served. Free parking at St. Francis Campus.

Have a blessed week

Fr. Alfred Omar  
(@fralfred808)



- Listening Session: This Wednesday @ 6PM
- Help Needed: We are looking for volunteers to assist in the preparation of floral arrangements for each weekend. Please see a staff member to sign up. Mahalo!

## 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:

Your light has come,  
the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

#### Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

#### Second Reading:

It was not made known to people in other generations  
as it has now been revealed  
to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:  
that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the  
same body,  
and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus  
through the gospel. (Eph 3:5-6)

#### Gospel:

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews?  
We saw his star at its rising  
and have come to do him homage." (Mt 2:2)

### Readings for the week of January 7, 2024

#### Sunday:

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13  
see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

#### Monday:

Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1  
Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

#### Tuesday:

1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/  
Mk 1:21-28

#### Wednesday:

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a,  
8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

#### Thursday:

1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/  
Mk 1:40-45

#### Friday:

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/  
Mk 2:1-12

#### Saturday:

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/  
Mk 2:13-17

### Observances for the week of January 7, 2024

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

Monday: The Baptism of the Lord

Saturday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the  
Church; BVM



## 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](mailto:jnaughton808@gmail.com). Or 808 383-8954.

## Family Connection

The tradition of giving gifts at Christmas is thought by some to be rooted in the gift giving of the Magi. In many cultures, gifts are not exchanged at Christmas, but rather on the feast of the Epiphany. Whenever you exchange your Christmas gifts, take some time to reflect on this tradition of gift giving at Christmas. Think of the best gift you have received. What was it? What made it special? Was it the gift itself, the thought that went into it, or the person who gave it to you?

Read today's Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12. The gifts of the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—have come to be understood as symbols of Christ's royalty, divinity, and eventual suffering and death. They are special because in giving them, the Magi acknowledge who Jesus was to be: our Savior. We pray that we will acknowledge Jesus as Savior in all that we do and say. Conclude by singing together "We Three Kings."

## STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

The Gospel reading reveals the journey, the visit and the gifts of the Magi. They read the stars and inspired by their own wisdom and vision they truly want to find and pay homage to Christ Jesus who they understood would bring about a kingdom of justice and peace. Although they are not astrologers like the Magi, good stewards go about the task of reading the signs of the time as well. Moreover, they help others discover the loving presence of Christ through their own actions, bringing mercy, compassion and hope for a better world. How do you live each day to bring about a better world, a better life, unity with those who gather around the Eucharistic table and a deeper communion with God?



## Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure

### Tithes and Offerings:

12/30/2023-12/31/2023 \$2,262.00

Maintenance: \$1,500.00

Campus Ministry \$3,000.00

Online  
12/29/2023-01/05/2024 \$4,651.00

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](http://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

STEWARDSHIP

SHARING THE GIFTS WE HAVE



## Around the Parish

### New to Newman Center - Holy Spirit Parish?

Aloha! E Komo Mail!

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!



#### RCIA Inquiry Period

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults), also called the Catechumenate, is a process of initiation into the Catholic Community of Faith for persons who are experiencing a conversion in their lives and seeking either Christian baptism in the Catholic Church or full Communion with the Catholic tradition of Eucharist and Confirmation. It is a process which enables the study of the Gospels, Catholic Christian teaching, the acceptance of Christian values and morality, the development and deepening of a life of prayer and action with the support and involvement of the local Christian community. The RCIA is more than a course of instruction. It is a process of conversion, designed to meet the unique and individual needs of the participants.

Who is RCIA for?

Non-Catholics who want to find out more about the Catholic Faith  
Those who want to join the Catholic Church through Baptism, or Profession of Faith

Those who were baptized Catholic as infants but never received religious education, Confirmation, or First Eucharist.

If you are interested in joining the RCIA process, please contact Father



#### **MAHALO ART AND ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY!**

We would like to thank the many hands and hearts that supported our Art & Environment ministry as they created beautiful arrangements to enhance our liturgical environment throughout the year!

Mahalo:

Tessie Amore  
Patricia Ayers  
Lorna A.  
Donna Christle  
Alyce Dodge  
Irma P.  
Dana Tsushima

As we begin a new year, consider joining our art & environment ministry. There is a small weekly budget for flowers. No experience necessary. Sign-up on the bulletin board today.

NOT-SO-ORDINARY

# CHRISTMAS *Patty*



**FRIDAY, JANUARY 12 | 6:00PM**

**\*BRING A DISH TO SHARE**

RSVP: [INFO@NEWMANHAWAII.ORG](mailto:INFO@NEWMANHAWAII.ORG) OR  
CALL PARISH OFFICE 808.988.6222



## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

### Step Into the Light

How strange it is to think that if not for Herod's directions, the magi would not have known where to find Jesus. They were not Jews, they knew nothing of the old prophecies. It was Herod who convened the scholars. It was Herod who pointed the way — for ulterior motives, certainly, but nonetheless, this is the part he played. It was Herod who made the Epiphany possible.

"Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance," writes the prophet (Isaiah 60:3). A king may keep to the shadows, suspicious of the light — he may foolishly imagine he can snatch it from the sky to keep as his own possession, and, upon finding the light cannot be governed, grow to loathe it, and even seek to extinguish it once and for all.

But all his grand designs will come to nothing because there is no king so powerful that he can see in the dark. And even a man like Herod — a man so jealous that he sought to kill God — cannot prevent the breaking of day.

The Epiphany marks the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. It is a celebration of truth reaching places it was not expected to reach, of brightness illuminating corners of the world long ago consigned to shadow. It is a reminder that the battle has already been won, the night is over. All that remains is for us to decide: will we step into the light?

*"See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory."*  
— Isaiah 60:2

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

How are the feasts of the baptism of Jesus and the account of the wedding feast of Cana related to the Epiphany celebration?

### Answer:

The Epiphany season focuses on revealing Jesus to the world. Following the Christmas celebration, the liturgical year lays out a series of manifestation points in which Jesus is made publicly known. From its very beginning, the Christian community highlighted three events in the life of Jesus. These are the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the wedding feast at Cana.

The Epiphany discloses Jesus to the world of the Gentiles, represented by the magi from the East. The accounts of Jesus' baptism reveal his identity and mission, along with exposing him to those to whom he was sent to minister. The miracle of turning water to wine at the wedding feast of Cana, unique to John's Gospel, is the first public sign that Jesus performs, thus manifesting his public identity and his powers.

Today in the Roman Church, these are usually celebrated on three successive Sundays: Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord which is usually the next Sunday, and the wedding feast of Cana, which is proclaimed on the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time in lectionary year C.

These feasts connect around the concept of epiphany, public manifestation of Jesus to the world. They help us get to know more intimately who Jesus is and what he is about. Spend some time delving more deeply into your understanding of who Jesus is. Continue to cultivate these "epiphany" moments in your life.



## Pray

### A beautiful prayer to the Holy Magi

*Philip Kosloski - published on 01/06/19*

Tradition says that the "Three Kings" were converted and became holy saints. It is said that the Three Kings who traveled to Bethlehem to adore the newborn King were radically changed by the experience and abandoned their pagan ways. According to one account, the Magi traveled to India and were eventually baptized by St. Thomas the Apostle before their deaths.

Tradition has since held Balthasar, Melchior and Caspar as "saints," and throughout the centuries various prayers have been composed to them. Below is one such prayer, part of a longer novena to the Magi that is often said in preparation for the feast of Epiphany.

O Holy Magi, you were living in continual expectation of the rising of the Star of Jacob, which would announce the birth of the true Son of justice;  
obtain for me an increase of faith and charity,  
and the grace to live in continual hope of beholding, one day,  
the light of heavenly glory and eternal joy. (Share your request ...)  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

#### Prayer to the Infant Jesus:

Infant Jesus, meek and mild, look on me a little child. Pity mine and pity me, suffer me to come to Thee. Heart of Jesus, I adore Thee. Heart of Mary, I implore Thee. Heart of Joseph, pure and just. In these three hearts, I put my trust. Help us Joseph in our early strife, ever to lead a pure and blameless life. O, Holy Magi, Pray for Us

Resource: <https://aleteia.org/2019/01/06/a-beautiful-prayer-to-the-holy-magi/>

## Grow

### The new year: A dance of promises and forgiveness

*Daniel Esparza - published on 01/01/24*

As we stand at the threshold of the new year, laden with the promises made and broken in the year gone by, forgiveness becomes necessary.

As the old year wanes and the new one rises on the horizon, we find ourselves at a crossroads. The past year is a closed door behind us, while the future is wide open – indeed, a bit too “open.” The expectation of a new year is laden with the weight of the irreversible on the one hand, and that of the unpredictable on the other.

In this liminal space, Hannah Arendt's insights on promising and forgiving offer a compelling lens through which to navigate the complexities of time, while trying to forge a path into the unknown. For Arendt (deeply influenced by Augustine) time was an active arena where we, through the acts of promising and forgiving, shape our own destinies. Each promise, she argued, was a leap into the unforeseen, a daring act of carving out a future different from the present. It's a declaration of faith in our own agency, a commitment to act and to bind ourselves to something beyond the immediate.

## Grow

At the New Year, the human power of promising takes on a special significance. Resolutions, whispered wishes, and unspoken pacts with ourselves are common. And still, in every promise (common as they might be) there is an inherent tension. We pledge to become different, to do better, to step onto uncharted paths. But the future, by its very nature, is shrouded in uncertainty. Will we keep our promises? Will the year ahead fulfill our hopes or reveal cracks in our carefully laid plans?

Forgiveness steps in

This is where forgiveness steps in. For Arendt, forgiving is radically different from passive forgetting. It is an active release. And, as expected from any activity, it is demanding. To forgive, for Arendt, wasn't about condoning past transgressions; it was about freeing ourselves and others from the shackles of the past. It is an act of acknowledging the harm done, the broken promises, the unmet expectations, and then choosing to move forward, unburdened by the weight of resentment.

As we stand at the threshold of the new year, laden with the promises made and broken in the year gone by, forgiveness becomes necessary. It allows us to let go of the regrets that threaten our peace, and to release the bitterness that can poison our future. By forgiving ourselves and others, we clear the slate, creating space for new beginnings and renewed commitments.

Ultimately, the New Year becomes a potent microcosm of Arendt's philosophy. She constantly referred to the figure of Janus, the Roman pagan god of endings and beginnings – from whose name we get our January. Like Janus, we constantly stand at the crossroads of time, juggling the weight of the irreversible past with the promise of the unpredictable future. It's a moment where the power of promising compels us to chart a new course, while the necessity of forgiveness allows us to shed the baggage of the past and embrace the possibilities that lie ahead.

So, as we embark on this new beginning, let us remember that the new year is not just a calendar change, but a responsibility. Let us promise with courage and hope, and forgive with resolution, so that we can make way for a future richer and brighter than the promises we leave behind.

Resource: <https://aleteia.org/2024/01/01/the-new-year-a-dance-of-promises-and-forgiveness/>







## Reflect

Aloha from St. Louis, MO

Encounter...Transformation... Community... This is what SEEK24 was all about. We were blessed to attend this year's SEEK conference at the America's Center Convention Complex in St. Louis, Missouri. The lifechanging experience of SEEK is something that will be forever engraved into our hearts. We encountered Jesus Christ, immersed ourselves into deeper relationship with Him and His Church, shared in the experience of truth, beauty, and goodness through prayer, reflection, and fellowship, and thus moved to be the light!

How profound that we, too, experience a similar encounter this Christmas season as we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. In the journey of the Magi, they were in search of the Baby Jesus, which likely sparked much emotion as to what they would find. They each carried an important gift that symbolized and foretold the life and purpose of Jesus. This significant encounter forever transformed their lives. Although this season of Christmas is almost ended, let us be mindful and stay vigilant in continuously seeking Christ. It is necessary for us to put on the armor of Jesus's light and love for all to see. May we, too, be transformed in our daily encounter with Christ. Happy New Year to you and your 'ohana!

"Like the Magi, may we also journey and be attentive, untiring and courageous on the path to find the invisible God who was born among us." – Pope Francis

A BIG MAHALO to our parishioners and benefactors for your continued prayers, love, and support for campus ministry. We are blessed by your generosity and kindness to our student community. May we continue to pray for one another, and for peace in our world and among our brothers and sisters in Christ.

St. John Henry Newman, pray for us! –  
Fay C. Pabo (@fa\_jo\_pab0)

Blessings to you and your 'ohana!  
- **Fay C. Pabo** (@fa\_jo\_pabo0)



## Reflect

Here are some thoughts and reflections from some of our Hawai'i participants:

My time as SEEK24 has revitalized my yearning for Jesus. Being able to share my faith with so many different people that all have such zeal for Jesus is transformative. Particularly in the celebration of the mass-while we are all one in the Eucharist, it is surreal having such a large number of people being physically present in the mass. I was contemplating in adoration with 24,000 people and realized I have not had this same level of passion for our Lord since the last focus conference I attended 4 years ago. I am eager to go back home and share with everyone what I was reminded of and learned here! I will be using my experience at this conference to help give me the strength needed to be Christ's light in this world and hope to share that light with others at Newman! Viva Christo Rey! – Trey Rodriguez

As a recent convert to the faith, receiving Full Communion into the Catholic Church, I wasn't sure what to expect at SEEK24. I thought, maybe, there would be some general talks about the sacraments and a lot of flashing lights, glossing over the hard stuff. There was excellent entertainment and fun to be had, yes, but I was thoroughly impressed by how the hard truths of our sin and suffering we will face in life were brought to the fore, to tens of thousands of college students in fellowship. As Christians college students, we are in close contact with the full force of the culture. This 5-day oasis in St. Louis, I believe, superbly equipped and commissioned myself and others to resist the culture and proclaim Jesus Christ, and I feel blessed to have participated. – Ian Wynn

Attending SEEK24 has strengthened my faith in many ways. From confession that clears away my fears and talks that gives me better understanding of the Eucharist. Knowing more about how Christians are being persecuted around the world has made me realize that I cannot take everything I have for granted and gave me courage to face the difficulties I have. I am now very eager to share the blessings I have to people around me back in Hawai'i! – Donald Lee

