



# Immaculate Conception Church



4453 Kapaia Road, Lihue HI 96766

808245-2432

www.icchurchlihue.com

icchurchkauai@rcchawaii.org

Deacon Bill Farias

PASTOR : REV.FR. AUGUSTINE UTHUPPU, MS

Deacon Dave Kane

## OUR VISION

We, the Christian Community of Immaculate Conception, Lihue, are called to be Stewards of the Gospel.

Centered on the Holy Eucharist, we live our lives on the four pillars of stewardship: hospitality, prayer, formation and service.

**This is our call.**

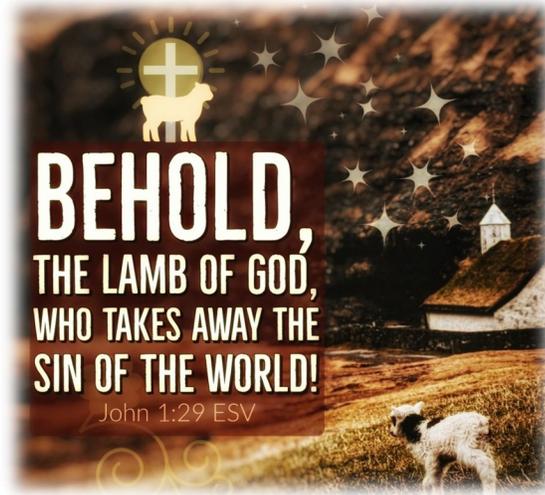


## OUR MISSION

Responding to the call of Jesus and inspired by the example of the Blessed Mother, the Immaculate Conception, we live stewardship towards a holy way of life.

## Today's Reflection

*The central theme of today's readings is a challenge to live like the Lamb of God and to die like the Lamb of God and thus bear witness to Christ the "Lamb of God."*



*The first reading* is from the "Songs of the Suffering Servant" in Isaiah, where the prophet was chosen by God from his mother's womb and consecrated to be a "light to the nations." Here, aspects of Jesus' own life, as sacrificial lamb, and mission, as salvation of the world, are foreshadowed.

*In the second reading*, Paul reminds the Corinthian Christians that they, like all who call on the name of Jesus, are "sanctified and called to be holy." They are called by God and consecrated in Christ Jesus for a life of holiness and service.

*The Gospel passage presents three themes*, namely, the witness John the Baptist bears to Jesus, the revelation (epiphany) and identification of Jesus as the "Lamb of God," and the call to discipleship.

### *Life messages:*

1. We need to live and die like the Lamb of God.

A. Live like a lamb by: **i)** leading pure, innocent, humble, selfless lives, obeying the Christ's commandment of love; **ii)** appreciating the loving providence and protecting care of the Good Shepherd in His Church; **iii)** eating the Body and drinking the Blood of the Good Shepherd and deriving spiritual strength from the Holy Spirit through the Holy Bible, the Sacraments and our prayers.

B. Die like a sacrificial lamb by: **i)** the sacrificial sharing our blessings of health, wealth, and talents with others in the family, parish, and community; **ii)** bearing witness to Christ in our illness, pain, and suffering; **iii)** offering our sufferings for the salvation of souls and in reparation for our sins and those of others.

2. We are invited to "Come and see." The essence of our witnessing is to state what we have seen and believed and then to invite others to "come and see" our experience of Jesus. As with Andrew and John, Faith begins with our responding to Jesus' invitation to "come and see." We tell others about good restaurants, barbers, optometrists, etc. Why isn't there the same fervor over inviting and encouraging people to come and participate in our Church activities? If we are not willing to invite others into this experience, what does that say about our experiences with Christ and with our Church?

- - Fr. Gus, MS. - -

## MASS TIMES

### Weekday Mass (Monday-Saturday)

7:00 AM

### Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 7:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 4:30 PM

### **Reconciliation (Confession)**

Saturday: 4:00 PM—4:30 PM

Weekdays: By Appointment Only

### **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

First Friday of the Month—6:15 AM  
(Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus)

2nd, 3rd, 4th Fridays—6:00 PM @ Sisters' Convent

### **Novena to our Mother of Perpetual Help**

Wednesday @ 6:30 AM

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday @ 8:00—12:00 Noon

### **Gift Shop**

8:00AM to 12nn Monday to Friday

## SACRAMENTS AND BLESSINGS

### **Baptism Preparations**

Please call Deacon Dave Kane to arrange your child baptism.

### **Sacrament of Matrimony (Marriage)**

Couples must schedule an interview with Deacon Kane at least six months before a desired wedding date.

### **Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick**

Please contact the parish office.

### **Funeral Mass / Mass Intentions**

Please contact the parish office.

**House Blessings** - Please call the parish office at least one week in advance to have your house blessed.

**Car Blessings** - Car blessings are done after every Mass (weekdays or Sundays).

### **Becoming A Catholic-For Adults**

**OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)** Every Thursday @ 6PM in the Parish Hall.

### **FIRST COMMUNION and CONFIRMATION CLASS**

Sunday, Monday & Thursday

Please call the Parish Office for more details

## FAITH FORMATION

### **LIFETEEN, EDGE, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT**

Continuing formation journey for youth age 13 to 35.

Every 1st & 2nd Sunday of the month after 4:30 PM Mass

### **YOUTH & CHILDREN CHOIR**

#### **Schedule of practice:**

Every 3rd & 4th Saturday of the Month @ 3:15 to 4:30 PM

#### **Mass sponsorship:**

3rd Sunday @ 4:30 PM

4th Sunday @ 5:00 PM

## OTHER MINISTRIES

### **Hospitality Sunday**

Every 2nd Sunday of the month  
After 7:00 & 9:30 AM Mass

### **General Cleaning of Church & Parish Hall**

Every Friday right after the Mass

# Stewards of God's Gift *God's gift of Time, Talent & Treasure*

### **2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal** *(transition from the Ohana in Christ appeal).*

Starting Jan. 2026, Every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday we will conduct a second collection to support the Catholic Ministries annual appeal

This fund will sustain Diocesan services for retired priests, youth and young adult ministry, faith formation programs, and priests' ongoing education programs.

Your financial support helps our mission to live out Christ's call to extend His love and mercy across the island.

This collection, formerly known as Ohana in Christ, is deeply appreciated.

The total amount we must collect for the year 2026 is \$34,049.00.

*Date of first collection: January 25, 2026*

### SUNDAY SUMMARY COLLECTION-Jan. 10/11, 2026

5PM Mass	\$ 994.00
7AM Mass	\$ 1,563.00
9:30AM Mass	\$ 2,284.00
4:30PM Mass	\$ 1,308.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,099.00</b>

## *Calendar 2026*

January 24	Vicariate Meeting of Young Adults (18-39 years old are invited to come)
January 25	Second Collection (Catholic Ministries)
February 1	Second Collection (Facility Maintenance)
February 3	PPC Meeting
February 8	Coffee-Donut Sunday (Hospitality Sunday)
February 14	Valentine's Day
February 22	Second Collection (Catholic Ministries)

# Why the Catholic Church does not Ordain Women Priests?

One of the most common accusations leveled against the Catholic Church today is that she is “out of touch,” “patriarchal,” or “unjust” because she does not ordain women as priests—especially when many modern Christian denominations already do. To the secular mind, and even to many Christians shaped by contemporary culture, the refusal of the Catholic Church appears stubborn and offensive. Yet this accusation rests on a fundamental misunderstanding. The Catholic Church does not refuse women’s ordination because she undervalues women. She refuses it because she does not have the authority to change what Christ Himself instituted.

## ***The Priesthood Is Not a Right, but a Calling***

In Catholic theology, Holy Orders is not a human entitlement or a role created by the community. It is a sacrament instituted by Christ. No one—man or woman—has a “right” to the priesthood. A vocation is received, not claimed. The Church cannot redefine a sacrament any more than she can redefine Baptism or the Eucharist. Just as water is essential to Baptism and bread and wine to the Eucharist, maleness is essential to the sacrament of Holy Orders, because Christ Himself chose it.

## ***Christ Chose Only Men as Apostles—***

***Deliberately*** Jesus Christ lived in a culture where women played significant religious roles, and He consistently elevated women in radical ways. He spoke publicly with women, defended them, taught them, and entrusted them with the first proclamation of the Resurrection. And yet, when He chose the Twelve Apostles—the foundation of the ministerial priesthood—He chose only men. This was not cultural cowardice. Christ defied social norms repeatedly when truth demanded it. If He intended women to be ordained, He would have done so. The Church cannot claim to be more enlightened than her Lord.

## ***The Priest Acts In Persona Christi***

The Catholic priest does not merely represent the community. He acts in persona Christi—“in the person of Christ”—especially at the altar. Christ is not an abstract symbol; He is the Bridegroom of the Church, His Bride. The priest sacramentally represents Christ the Bridegroom offering Himself for His Bride. This nuptial (spousal) symbolism is not poetic imagery—it is sacramental reality rooted in Scripture (Ephesians 5). Because the Incarnation itself is not

interchangeable, the priesthood is not interchangeable either.

## ***The Constant and Universal Tradition of the Church***

For two thousand years—across cultures, continents, persecutions, and councils—the Catholic Church has never ordained women to the priesthood. This is not an accident of history; it is a sign of apostolic fidelity. When denominations began ordaining women in the 20th century, they did not appeal to apostolic tradition but to modern social theories of equality. The Catholic Church does not derive doctrine from sociological pressure but from divine revelation.

## ***The Church Has Definitively Ruled on This***

In 1994, Pope St. John Paul II declared in *Ordinatio Sacerdotalis*: ***“The Church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women.”*** This was not a policy decision. It was a recognition of a limit placed on the Church by Christ Himself. The Church is a steward, not a master, of the sacraments.

## ***Equality Does Not Mean Sameness***

Catholic teaching affirms the equal dignity of men and women, created in the image of God. Equality, however, does not require identical roles. Even within the Trinity, there is equality without sameness. Ironically, many denominations that ordain women have also abandoned other core Christian teachings—on the Eucharist, marriage, sexual morality, and even Christ’s divinity. The Catholic Church’s refusal to ordain women is not rooted in sexism, but in obedience.

## ***Women Hold the Highest Honor in the Church***

The greatest human person in the history of salvation—higher than any pope or priest—is the Blessed Virgin Mary. She was not ordained, yet she is Queen of Heaven. Holiness, not ordination, is the true measure of greatness in the Church.

## ***Fidelity Over Fashion***

The Catholic Church does not refuse women priests because she is afraid of progress. She refuses because she is afraid of betraying Christ. While many denominations reshape Christianity to fit the spirit of the age, the Catholic Church remains bound to the will of her Founder. She cannot give what she was never given authority to give. This is not oppression. This is obedience.

—The Catholic Faith Guardian—



**Carol Simon**

Kauai, Hawaii  
808-205-7179  
carolsimon808@gmail.com

**5% tithe of my commission will be donated to this Church.**

**Locally owned and operated Complete Funeral Cremation & Memorial Service**

Even if your cemetery property is elsewhere, we can still help you with funeral services.

Kauai Memorial Gardens  
"A garden for the living in Memory of the Departed"  
4716 Maalo Rd Lihue (Wailua Road)  
Kauai Memorial Trus Plan  
Pre Need Planning Available  
"It is better to own one and not need it, than to need one and not have it"  
**245-3661**  
Serving the People of Kauai since 1972

**Place your ads here.**  
Please call the Parish Office for more information

**DON & PHYLLIS CELEBRADO**  
Owners/Parishioners  
Classic Deli Sandwiches  
Fresh Baked Breads

**"The Best Sandwiches on Kauai"**

**(808)245-7115**

**DELI & BREAD CONNECTION INC.**  
KUKUI GROVE SHOPPING CENTER  
3-2600 KAUMUALII HWY. #1648  
LIHUE, KAUAI, HI 96766  
FAX: (808) 245-3492

**DAYLIGHT DONUTS**

**"The Best Donuts on Kauai"**  
Donuts for all occasions

Fresh Coffee & Donuts made daily

*Open every morning 7 days a week*  
Behind Ace Hardware, Lihue  
**(808) 245-7414**  
Owned & Operated by the Celebrado Family

**Place your ads here.**  
Please call the Parish Office for more information

**Smiley's Local Grinds**  
Local Hawaiian Restaurant

Monday - Saturday 11am-8pm  
Sunday - CLOSED

4100 Rice Street • Lihue, Hawaii, 96766  
**(808) 245-4772**

**TIRE WAREHOUSE**  
Serving Kauai For 45 Years

- Shock Absorbers
- Tires and Brakes
- Computerized Tire Balancing
- Front End Parts
- Wheel Alignment
- Split Rims
- Safety Checks

MON-TUES, THURS-FRI 8AM-5PM  
WED & SAT 8AM-1PM  
Free Pickup in LIHUE

FOR FREE ESTIMATE . . . .  
ASK FOR GEORGE OR LAURIE

**245-6754**  
3028 Aukele St. - Lihue (Industrial park II)

**Place your ads here.**  
Please call the Parish Office for more information

Immaculate Conception Church, Lihue

**MAHALO for supporting our Church's ministries.**

**Please scan the QR code to donate online.**

**Place your ads here.**  
Please call the Parish Office for more information

**You can post your greetings here- for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and other special occasions.**  
Please call the Parish Office for more information