



# Immaculate Conception Church



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[icchurchkauai@rcchawaii.org](mailto: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.**

## Family Blessing on the Feast of The Holy Family (of Jesus, Mary & Joseph)



## Why the Priest Receives Communion First?

*At every Mass, the priest receives Holy Communion before anyone else. To some, this can look like privilege or hierarchy. But in the Church, nothing at the altar is about status, this moment is about order, responsibility, and sacrifice.*

*The priest receives Communion first because he is the one who has just offered the Sacrifice of the Mass in the person of Christ. He does not stand outside the sacrifice; he is deeply bound to it. By receiving first, he completes the offering he has made on behalf of the people. The sacrifice is not finished until the one who offers it also partakes of it.*

*This practice reaches back to Scripture. In the Old Testament, priests who offered sacrifice were commanded to consume part of it. In the New Covenant, Christ, the true High Priest, both offers Himself and receives Himself. When the priest communicates first, he mirrors Christ's*

*priesthood, not his own importance.*

*There is also a pastoral meaning. The priest cannot give what he has not first received. Just as he proclaims the Word before the people hear it, he must be nourished by the Eucharist before distributing it. His communion is not separate from the people's; it is for them. It strengthens him to serve, to bless, and to feed the flock entrusted to him.*

*This moment also carries a silent burden. The priest receives first because he will answer first. With the grace of the Eucharist comes accountability. He stands before God not only for himself, but for the soul he serves. His communion is a reminder that leadership in the Church is not privilege, it is sacrifice.*

*So when you see the priest receive Communion first, do not see rank. See responsibility. See a man who must be strengthened before he can strengthen others. —Catholic Dailies—*



## 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.

**Feast of the Lord's Epiphany—January 4, 2026**

## 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 4, 2026*

### SUNDAY SUMMARY COLLECTION-Dec. 27/28, 2025

5PM Mass	\$ 1,016.00
7AM Mass	\$ 1,636.00
9:30AM Mass	\$ 1,853.00
4:30PM Mass	\$ 1,156.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,661.00</b>
<b>Christmas Collection</b>	<b>14, 912. 00</b>

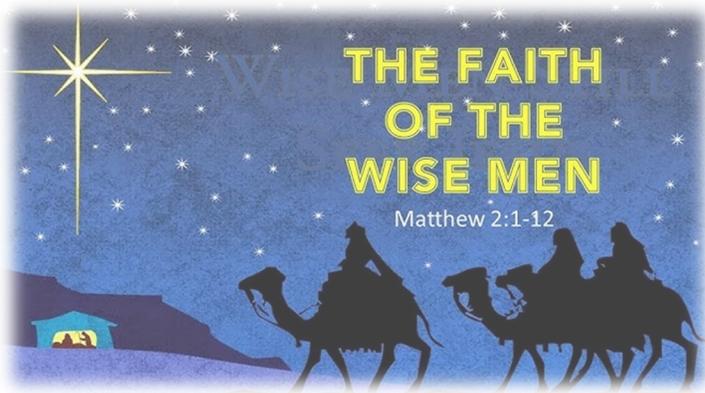
## *Calendar*

January 4	Feast of the Lord's Epiphany Second Collection (Facility Maintenance)
January 11	Feast of the Lord's Baptism Coffee-Donut Sunday (Hospitality Sunday) Lectors/ Liturgy
January 25	Second Collection (Catholic Ministries)
February 1	Second Collection (Facility Maintenance)

# Today's Reflection

## Feast of the Lord's Epiphany

*The Greek word Epiphany (επιφάνεια), means appearance or manifestation.*



**The adoration of the Magi** fulfills the oracle of Isaiah (first reading), prophesying that the nations of the world would travel to the Holy City following a brilliant light, bringing gold and incense to contribute to the worship of God.

**Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 72)** verses 10-11 picture kings from foreign lands bringing gifts to pay homage to a just king in Israel.

**Paul's letter to the Church of Ephesus (today's second reading)**, expresses God's secret plan in clear terms: "the Gentiles are...co-heirs ... co-partners in the promise, in Christ Jesus through the Gospel."

**Today's Gospel** reminds us that if God brought the Magi – foreigners and pagans – to recognize and give Jesus proper respect as the King of Jews, we should know that there is nothing in our sinful lives that would keep God from bringing us to Jesus. There were three groups of people who reacted to the Epiphany of Christ's birth. The first group, headed by King Herod, tried to eliminate Jesus, the second group, priests and scribes, ignored Jesus, and the third group, represented by the shepherds and the Magi, came to adore Jesus.

### Life Messages:

**(1)** Let us make sure that we belong to the third group:

**a)** by actively worshiping Jesus at Mass with the gold of our love, the myrrh of our humility and the frankincense of our adoration; **b)** by giving a new direction to our lives. Just as the Magi chose another route to return to their homes, let us choose a better way of life, abstaining from proud, unjust, and impure thoughts, words, and actions, evil habits, and selfish behavior; **c)** by becoming stars leading others to Jesus, as the star led the Magi to Jesus. Let us remove the darkness of the evil around us by radiating the light of Jesus' love through selfless service, unconditional forgiveness, and compassionate care.

**(2)** Like the Magi, let us offer Jesus our gifts on this feast of Epiphany and every day:

**(a)** the Gift of our life by offering it on the altar during the Holy Mass and every morning as soon as we get up, asking for the strengthening anointing of the Holy Spirit to do good and avoid evil during the course of the day. **b)** the Gift of responsive relationship with God by talking to Him in personal and family prayers and listening to Him through reading the Holy Bible every day. **c)** the Gift of friendship with God by recognizing Jesus' presence in, and offering loving, humble service to, everyone we encounter, and by getting reconciled to God every night, asking His pardon and forgiveness for our sins and failures during the day.

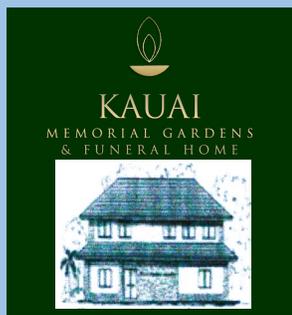
*- - -Fr. Gus, MS. - - -*



**Carol Simon**

Kauai, Hawaii  
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carolsimon808@gmail.com

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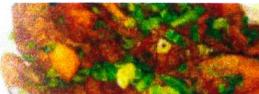
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Immaculate Conception Church, Lihue

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

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



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