# NEWMAN CENTER Holy Spirit Parish



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### THIRD SUNDAY OF



#### **DECEMBER 11, 2022**

"Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them."

**MATTHEW 11:4-5** 

### Aloha! Welcome!

We are the Catholic Center and Campus Ministry at the University of Hawai<sup>4</sup>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
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	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!

pastoralassistant@newmanhawaii.org



#### Office Hours:

Monday - Friday:

Brandon Akiona

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

"Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand."

We all have expectations? Whether it is with people, with things, or services. As a seminarian, I expected that the seminary would be this heavenly place where seminarians and priests pray day and night. It turned out to be another human institution with normal human beings, both saints and sinners. As an owner of apple products, I expected that they would last forever. Instead, I have to upgrade every couple of years. At least my 2015 laptop is still running and useful. You see, the human experience is not without expectations. The first coming of Jesus was complicated by the many expectations that surrounded it. There were the expectations that a great deliverer will be born to save the Chosen people and reinstate Israel among the nations. John the Baptist was the messenger who was preparing the way for Jesus. However, he expected that the way of the Messiah was a coming wrath from God. We heard him last weekend say, "Repent, the kingdom of God is at hand." Jesus is not fiery, as John expected. Nor is Jesus giving warnings about God's wrath. John was a great preacher and prophet, but his expectation of the coming Messiah didn't fit Jesus. Through Jesus, the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. For those reasons and so much more, it is a cause for great joy. Can you believe that we are halfway through our Advent journey? Time is surely flying. As we anticipate and hope for renewal at Christmas, may we rejoice at the coming of the Lord in our lives today and everyday.

May our advent journey prepare our hearts and lives for that Christmas renewal.

Have a blessed Advent week,

Fr. Alfred Omar (@fralfred808)



#### **Important Notices**

- The Newman Center will be closed for its annual closure from December 26-30, 2022.
- We will also be closed on January 2, 2023 in observance of the New Year's Day holiday.

#### 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

#### **Today's Readings**

First Reading — The barren deserts will rejoice and flower. Tired bodies will receive strength. Aching hearts will be made glad (Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10).

**Psalm** — The Lord saves us when he comes (Psalm 146). **Second Reading** — Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain (James 5:7-10).

**Gospel** — Tell of what you hear and see: The blind regain their vision, the crippled their movement, the deaf their hearing (Matthew 11:2-11).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;

Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47,

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23;

Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45: 6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14;

Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b;

Lk 7:24-30

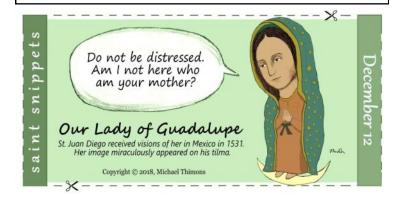
Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Jn 5:33-36 Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

#### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: Our Lady of Guadalupe

Tuesday: St. Lucy

Wednesday: St. John of the Cross



#### THE ONE FOR WHOM OUR HEARTS LONG

Put yourself in the scene of today's Gospel passage. John the Baptist is in prison. He has heard stories of what Jesus is doing, and wants reassurance that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah. John's disciples and those who surrounded Jesus were faithful Jews who would have known Isaiah's prophecies by heart. God would send One who would bring sight to the blind, healing to those who were ill, salvation to all who longed to know God's mercy and peace. Jesus' response to the disciples' question rings as powerfully in our ears today as it surely did for the people who were with him that day. His actions are precisely those that the people had been told to expect. Jesus is the One for whom the people have been patiently yet anxiously waiting, like the farmer who waits for the fruits of his labor. Jesus is the One for whom our hearts long.

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#### 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)

Monday Nights at 6:30 pm. 30 minutes of silence, followed by Scripture and Sharing. For more information, contact June Naughton (808) 524-2718.

#### Stewardship Moment

From the loneliness of his prison cell John the Baptist asks of Jesus: "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" The weeks before Christmas offer much to be joyous about, celebrating with family and friends, the glitter of seasonal decorations, the excitement of gift giving and receiving. But in our midst there are the lonely and neglected, the poor, the hospitalized, the wayward, the shut-ins.

There are those who feel that they have no hope. To whom should they look? Discipleship in the Lord includes being good stewards of others.

Are there those in our family, our neighborhood, our community to whom we can reach out to show them a sign of Christ's presence in their midst?

#### Family Connection

It is easy to look at our world and become discouraged by the apparent absence of God and signs of God's salvation. Advent, however, is a season of hope, in which we acknowledge that salvation is both mysteriously present, even in our world, and yet to be fulfilled.

Read together today's Gospel. Think about John's question to Jesus: Are you the One? Jesus does not answer directly, but points to the signs of the kingdom present in his midst.

Together as a family, look through the newspaper for signs of hope that God is at work in our world. Pray that the world will know God's salvation by praying together the Lord's Prayer.



#### Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure

Tithes and Offerings:

12/03/2022-12/04/2022: \$2,695.00

**Online** 

12/02/2022-12/08/2022:

\$1,002.00

Campus Ministry:

\$1,000.00

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

**Upcoming Second Collections:** 

#### 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**

# NEWMAN CENTER - Holy Spirit Parish Christmastide Mass Schedule

Vigil of the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord Saturday, December 24 (Christmas Eve) 5:00 PM and 10:00 PM

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord Sunday, December 25 (Christmas Day) 10:00 AM

Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God Saturday, December 31 5:00 PM

> Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God Sunday, January 1 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, and 5:00 PM



#### 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!

#### **ADVENT WORD SEARCH**

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Even before the sun breaks through the horizon on December 12, the burst of firecrackers rings throughout Mexico to announce the greatest national fiesta of the year—the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

At la Villa de Guadalupe, the National Sanctuary near Tepeyac Hill, pilgrims begin to arrive days earlier to camp out on the plaza surrounding the Basílica de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. Many travel for days to get there, entering la Villa on their knees as a sign of their devotion and gratitude for la Virgen Morenita's protection. By nighttime on December 11, millions have already gathered and the monumental atrium leading to the basilica is standing room only. Much like a family member holding a beloved's picture close to the heart, pilgrims carry images of their Mother Guadalupe on their backs, banners, and bodies.

For these faithful pilgrims, the chants, ballads, and traditional dances that are part of Guadalupe's liturgical celebrations are well known. During the annual dance at Guadalupe Plaza, detailed ballads chanted by elder Indians have chronicled for hundreds of years every aspect of the Guadalupe story: the miracle of the roses, Juan Diego's account, and the progression and care for the sacred image. Initially communicated only orally, the story of Guadalupe was first recorded through Aztec pictographic chronicles called mapas. The first authored document, "el Nican Mopohua," was written in 1556 in the official language of the Aztec empire, Náhuatl.

Beyond Mexico, church and home altars honoring the dark-skinned Lady can be found throughout North and South America every December. A traditional Guadalupe celebration begins with las Mañanitas, a special serenade in her honor that takes place at the break of dawn on December 12.

Traditional commemorations include a festive Mass and fiesta, and a procession with children dressed in traditional costumes. The boys typically dress as Juan Diego with a painted mustache and wearing a shawl. The girls dress in multicolored embroidered blouses and flowered skirts—and carry baskets of roses that are placed before the Guadalupe image.

Celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe always culminates with the reenactment of the familiar story. In 1531, just a few decades after Christopher Columbus arrived in the New World, the Mother of God appeared three times to a humble Chichimeca Aztec baptized as Juan Diego. Our Lady asked him to be her special messenger and provided proof of their encounters for a skeptical bishop in the form of two signs: a cloak full of fresh roses in December and a miraculous image of herself on Juan Diego's tilma, or shawl.

Yet the Guadalupe apparition is not only one of the earliest Marian apparitions. It is also the only time in history that Our Lady has shared her portrait.

#### The Heart of the Guadalupe Message

It is not an exaggeration to say that the Guadalupe apparition is the greatest historical moment in the development of Christianity in America. A mere eight years after the apparition, 8,000,000 people had embraced the Catholic faith in the New World. Not only did Our Lady appear as an indigenous woman, but she also recruited an indigenous native from Cuautitlán to proclaim her message.

"The Blessed Mother has an interesting way of empowering the poor like Juan Diego," explains Mark Zwick, founder and director of Casa Juan Diego Catholic Worker House in Houston. "You can't speak that kind of empowerment. She chooses an indigenous person—and that's revolutionary!"

Throughout history, Our Lady "chooses to appear almost exclusively to those who wouldn't have a respectable place in society." Saint John Paul II, who in 1979 became the first pope to visit the shrine in Mexico City, described the Guadalupe event as "the beginning of evangelization with a vitality that surpassed all expectations. Christ's message, through his Mother, took up the central elements of the indigenous culture, purified them, and gave them the definitive sense of salvation." Together, Our Lady of Guadalupe and Juan Diego have a "deep ecclesial and missionary meaning and are a model of perfectly inculturated evangelization," said the pope in his homily for Juan Diego's canonization in 2002

#### Patroness of the Americas

It is hardly a coincidence that in 1945, the year that World War II ended, Pope Pius XII looked at the suffering, fragmented world and declared Our Lady of Guadalupe patroness of the Americas. He knew that both continents North and South, in many ways, share a common heritage—and future. In the words Our Lady spoke to Juan Diego: "I am your Compassionate Mother, yours, for you yourself, for everybody here in the land, for each and all together, for all others too, for all folk of every kind . . . here I shall listen to their groanings, to their saddenings; here shall I make well and heal up their each and every kind of disappointment, of exhausting pangs, of bitter pain."

December 11, 2020 María Ruiz Scaperlanda Franciscan Spirit Blog





# Pray

A special Advent prayer to maintain a spirit of silence and peace Philip Kosloski - published on 12/02/18

The prayer captures the essence of Advent and helps prepare for Christmas.

The Advent season is a special time in the Church to prepare for the celebration of Christmas. Unfortunately, its not always easy keeping the peaceful spirit of Advent in our hearts as the world promotes its own loud and noisy version of Christmas.

One simple way to try and capture that spirit of Advent is to pray this short prayer written by Dutch Catholic priest Henri Nouwen. It is a beautiful prayer, one that can be prayed each day of Advent to help maintain a spirit of silence and peace.

Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit
upon our preparations for Christmas.
We who have so much to do
seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.
We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.
We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

Resource: https://aleteia.org/2018/12/02/a-special-advent-prayer-to-maintain-a-spirit-of-silence-and-peace/

To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" Amen.

#### Grow

#### Living Advent as an extrovert

Elizabeth Ascik - published on 11/30/22

What if "slowing down," "being quiet" and "resting from the holiday hustle" is not really possible for you?

The season of Advent has experienced a huge resurgence in recent years, and with good reason. Christians of all denominations have seen the need to spiritually prepare themselves for the coming of Christ at Christmas. Pick up any Advent devotional and you are likely to read advice to slow down, take time for quiet, and rest from the holiday bustle.

The problem is that some of us may not be able to slow down. Many of us are in circumstances that allow for very little rest because of the people depending on us. What if you can't opt out of shopping, traveling, or events this holiday season? Or what if you don't even want to?

I know for myself I look forward to these things all year, and they add such a bright spot to the humdrum of life. I started to wonder — can I throw myself into holiday projects and tasks and still spiritually prepare for Christmas? Is there an Advent for extroverts?

#### Grow

#### Inspiration from John the Baptist and the Virgin Mary

I found a clue in a homily given last Advent by our transitional deacon. He preached about John the Baptist, who is the opposite of a quiet figure in the Bible. Instead, his role is to cry out, to "prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." John's entire role is active; he is constantly crying out to let the people know that Jesus is coming.

Our Lady is often given as an example of quiet contemplation, but rereading the story of the Annunciation I noticed a new detail: As soon as Mary has received the message from the angel, the very first thing she does is to "go in haste" to visit her cousin Elizabeth.

We don't know whether Mary went to support Elizabeth in her pregnancy or if she was looking for support herself from her older relative. All we know is that Mary considered this visit an essential part of preparation to receive Jesus. It was not yet the time for Mary to hold things in her heart; it was the time for her too to cry out, as she enthusiastically returns Elizabeth's greeting with "My soul glorifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."

#### Worship takes work

The reality is that all worship takes work. Ask any parish priest, and he will tell you about all the practical preparation that goes into public Masses and devotions, especially for important holy days. During Advent, many of us who are parents try to teach our children about the season in a variety of ways, from using a Jesse Tree to teach about the ancestry of Jesus to celebrating the feasts of St. Nicholas or St. Lucy. But someone has to buy the items, bake the special foods, and fill the shoes late at night. Someone has to plan the liturgies for the domestic church.

It's not that we don't need to take a few minutes for quiet and prayer. Every extrovert knows that we need to be reminded of that! But what if instead of thinking of all the Advent and Christmas preparations as a distraction from worship, we thought of them as a form of worship?

The Second Vatican Council speaks of this very aspect of Christian life,

"Therefore, to respond to their vocation, the lay faithful must see their daily activities as an occasion to join themselves to God, fulfill his will, serve other people and lead them to communion with God in Christ." [Propositio 5, quoted in Christifideles Laici]

We are creatures of body and soul, and the work of our hands can become the work of our hearts if that is our desire. So for those whose Advent is filled with busyness instead of quiet, know that like John the Baptist, we can use our work and our voice to "prepare a way for the Lord."

Resource: https://aleteia.org/2022/11/30/living-advent-as-an-extrovert/



# CAMPUS HINISTRY.

# Reflect

My niece recently asked me in a phone conversation, "Auntie, is Christmas here yet?"

"Not yet," I said. "We've got about two weeks before Christmas Day." With a strong voice she replies, "Why two weeks? I can't wait that long. I'll be your age by the time Christmas comes!"

Is Christmas worth waiting for? Yes! Is Jesus worth waiting for? Absolutely yes!

And waiting requires patience. Today's second reading from St. Paul's letter to St. James encourages us to be patient. And how are we doing with that this Advent season? In these weeks of busyness leading up to Christmas, it would be a good time for us to step back for a moment each day to think about what we are patiently waiting for. At the same time, allow joy to be part of your reflection. Let this season of waiting encourage us to be patient in mind, body and spirit.

So, what are we waiting for?! Hurry, the Lord is coming! Let us be filled with joy!

"In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possessions and human success, but rather on how much we have loved." - St. John of the Cross

We are thankful to our parishioners and benefactors for your continued love, prayers, and support in sustaining the mission and

vision of campus ministry here at Newman Center. We are beyond blessed for by your generous heart and spirit.

St. John Henry Newman, pray for us!

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





# STUDY HAVEN STUDY HAVEN FALL SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday **DECEMBER 10 DECEMBER 11** 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM Monday Thursday to DECEMBER 12 **DECEMBER 15** 9:00 AM - 11:00 PM FREE FOOD Friday FREE DRINKS **DECEMBER 16** FREE WIFI A/C LOUNGE 9:00 AM -MEET FRIENDS 5:00 PM OPEN CHAPEL

> FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 808.988.6222 or EMAIL CAMPUSMINISTRY@NEWMANHAWAII.ORG