

St CATHERINE *of Alexandria Parish*



Reverend EJ Resinto - Pastor

Reverend Francisco Sanchez - Parochial Vicar

MASSES

St. Catherine Saturday Anticipated: 5:00pm
Sunday: 7:30am ◇ 9:30am ◇ 5:00pm

Monday - Saturday: 7:00am

St. Sylvester Saturday Anticipated: 5:00pm
Sunday: 7:00am | Wednesday: 5:30pm

St. William Sunday: 9:00am

CONFESSIONS

St. Catherine: Saturday 8am-9am Wed 5:30pm

St. Sylvester: Saturday 4:00pm-4:30pm

St. William: Upon Request

PARISH OFFICE

5021-A Kawaihau Rd. Kapaa, Hawaii 96746

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30am-2:00pm

Sunday 8:00am to Noon

Phone: 808-822-7900 | Fax: 808-822-3014

Priest Residence: 808-822-4804

Sacramental Emergency Phone: 808-822-4804

Parish email: stcatherine@rcchawaii.org

Parish website: www.kauaistcatherine.church

Mass Intentions

St. Catherine of Alexandria

Monday, Dec 08 +Joaquin Vicente
Tuesday, Dec 09 +Jacqueline Nakasone
Wednesday, Dec 10 +Jovita Domingo
Thursday, Dec 11 Thomas John Shuey (Bday)
Friday, Dec 12 +Delphin Labuguen
Saturday, Dec 13 +Delphin Labuguen
Sunday, Dec 14
7:30am +Emelia Sanchez, +Delphin Labuguen,
+Antonio Sanchez Sr., +Celemente Agas,
Delia Ibia (Healing)
9:30am +Leroy Newman, +Kekoa Blevins, +Renee
Thronas, +Betty Lei Kong Kee, +Kapua Harris
5:00pm +John Harries, +Florence Rapozo Oyamot

St. Sylvester Church

Wednesday, Dec 10 +Florence Rapozo Oyamot
Sunday, Dec 14 +Adele & Eddie Rapozo,
+Tony Baptiste, +Teodorico Abara, +Enriqueta
Abara. +Felipe Abara

St. William Church

Sunday, Dec 14 Dye Ohana (Healing)

Personal Mass intentions will be accepted for all daily and Sunday Masses at all three Churches.



Advent Flavor: Humility

2nd Sunday of Advent – Year A Matthew 3:1–12

As many of you know, I've been traveling quite a bit this past month. And in my crisscrossing through airports, one thing kept catching my attention—**holiday coffee flavors**. Everywhere I turned it was gingerbread cold brews, sugar-cookie lattes, peppermint mochas, toasted chestnut cappuccinos... you name it.

Now, I'm a simple guy. I brew my own coffee at home every day, and I rarely buy a cup outside. But on one of those early airport mornings, I needed a little jolt. So, I walked up to the counter, stared at this menu of holiday flavors, and the barista looked absolutely thrilled... until I ordered a **small, black coffee**. No peppermint. No gingerbread. No sugar-cookie foam. Just... coffee.

It made me think: Advent has its own “flavors” we sometimes layer on—wreaths, candles, cozy music, lights, spiritual warm fuzzies. And they're good. They help us enter the season. But at its core, Advent gives us something far more essential than festive sweetness.

Advent gives us the pure, bold, unflavored “brew” of humility and today, Matthew places in front of us the strongest, most uncompromising flavor of humility the Church has: **John the Baptist**. In Year A, Matthew introduces John not simply as a prophet but as the long-awaited voice crying out in the wilderness—the one Isaiah spoke about centuries earlier. And John comes not to entertain, comfort, or offer seasonal inspiration.

He comes to **shake** us. He comes to **strip away illusion**. He comes to **prepare the way of the Lord**.

Matthew highlights several elements that show John's unique humility:

1. His location – the wilderness. John doesn't set up shop in the city square. He goes to the desert, a place symbolizing dependence on God, purification, and truth. Humility begins by stepping away from the noise that keeps us distracted.

2. His appearance – camel's hair and leather belt. This echoes the prophet Elijah. John isn't trying to impress; he is trying to point. Humility always points away from self toward God.

3. His message – “Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand!” Matthew's John is urgent. Clear. Direct. He's not selling a seasonal special; he's announcing the arrival of a King. Repentance—acknowledging our sins and changing our lives—is the doorway to receiving Christ. Without this humility, Advent becomes sentimental but not transformational.

Humility: The First Step Toward the Manger

One of the most humbling experiences in human life is admitting we are sinners. John calls out the Pharisees and Sadducees not because he dislikes them, but because they want the appearance of religion without the interior conversion.

Matthew's message is sobering: **You cannot receive the Savior if you're unwilling to admit you need saving.**

John knows exactly who he is—and who he is not. “One mightier than I is coming after me... He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” John humbles himself so we can recognize the greatness of Christ. John lowers himself so Christ can be lifted high. John steps aside so Christ can step in. This is the flavor of humility Advent offers us today. We often hear the phrase: “Jesus is the reason for the season.” True. But Matthew wants to push us deeper.

Why was He born?

Not simply to be a gentle teacher.
Not simply to give us holiday joy.
Not simply to inspire good deeds.



Jesus came to save us from our sins. He entered our world in humility so that He could lift us out of our fallen state and draw us into the Kingdom. The wood of the manger points to the wood of the Cross. Bethlehem cannot be separated from Calvary.

And the only way to prepare for the coming of such a Savior is the way John tells us: **Repent. Change your heart. Clear a path. Make room.**

Your Advent Cup of Coffee

If Advent had a flavor this week, it would not be gingerbread or peppermint or sugar-cookie anything. It would be: **Humility. Bold. Unfiltered. Straight to the heart.** No cream. No sugar. No holiday sprinkles. Just the truth: **We need God. We need mercy. We need conversion.**

If you truly want to feel the warmth, peace, joy, and closeness of Christ this Advent... Start where John tells us: **Repent.** Let the Lord humble our hearts. Let Him clear out what doesn't belong. Let Him prepare a manger within us so He may be born anew.

Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus, come! Give us hearts humble enough to receive You.

Please consider attending the Parish Advent Penance Service on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 6pm. Humble your hearts, repent of your sins, and prepare the way of the Lord!

December 7, 2025 Second Sunday of Advent

Hospitality Sunday at St. Catherine & St. Sylvester
R.E. Classes at SS and SC
6:00PM - SC Children's Choir



12/08 Monday Feast of Immaculate Conception-see bulletin

12/09 Tuesday Parish Advent Reconciliation, SC 6:00PM

12/10 Wednesday Reconciliation during Adoration Hour
5:30PM Adoration of Blessed Sacrament at SC

12/13 Saturday

11:00AM to 12:00PM Food distribution in the playfield

12/14 Third Sunday of Advent

2nd Collection: Retirement Fund for Religious
R.E. Classes at SS and SC

Mahalo for YOUR Stewardship of Treasure:



QR code for Online Giving

**Week of November 30
2025**

Sunday Offertory

\$ 7147.80

On-Line Offertory

\$ 2649.00

Offertory-direct giving

\$ 100.80

Catholic Campaign

\$ 36.00

Repair & Maintenance

\$ 3287.00

Parish Reserve

\$ 90.00

Ohana in Christ

\$ 25.00

Christmas Flowers

\$ 581.00

Youth Ministry and RE

\$ 55.00

Parish Food Pantry

\$ 150.00

Youth Ministry—High School

\$ 50.00

Youth Ministry—Middle School

\$ 50.00

St. Catherine Roof

\$ 5593.00

WE pray for the recently deceased

Name: Josephine Gatiuan

Funeral: December 20, 2025. St. Catherine Church



In unity with their fellow Sisters in their congregation world-wide, our own Sr. Lucy and Sr. Rachel will renew their vows on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception at St. Catherine Church on December 8th at the 6PM Mass. Join them after the Mass for a small reception to congratulate and thank them for their service.

Liturgy of the Day:

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" So proclaimed John the Baptist as he prepared the world for the coming of the Messiah. We may not be preparing for Jesus Christ's arrival in the flesh or plunging into the Jordan River, but John's words apply just as much today as they did then. We must recognize and repent of our sins to order to be prepared for the Lord's arrival in our lives in any way. And the kingdom of heaven is still at hand, glimpsed when we are reconciled with God and our neighbor. May we hear John's words as if they were directed to us here and now.

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word:

Each Sunday of Advent this year, the first reading is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah, and the Gospel is from Matthew. Mathew's Gospel consistently portrays Jesus and his mission as a fulfillment of the promise God made to the Chosen People. Therefore, Matthew strives to connect the dots between Isaiah, the paramount prophet of the Hebrew scriptures and Jesus Christ. Today we hear Isaiah and John the Baptist describe in terms poetic and practical the coming of God's chosen one. May their words strengthen our anticipation of and preparation for the Lord's coming.

Reflection:

There are so many people in our lives, from those who are close to us to the strangers we pass on the street. We have our beliefs and ideas of what is good and acceptable, and it is easy to judge by our standards- after all we are God-fearing people, and we know what is right. Do you ever consider that each person you meet is a gift? They all have something to teach you – from your child to the bum on the street. If we can stop judging others for a moment, perhaps we can discover the gift they can bring to our hearts.

Accept on another; then, as Christ accepted you, for the glory of God. -Roman 15:7



New Gift Shop items! Come shop on December 7th, Hospitality Sunday.

St. Carlo Acutis books, prayer cards, and icon. St. Marianne Cope statue and rosaries. New books for children and adults. Prayer bracelets, new medals and more!



All children are invited to join the St. Catherine's Children's Choir! We would love to have your children be a part of the Christmas Vigil 5:00pm

service. Practices will be held the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month after the Sunday evening 5pm mass. Spread the word! This is a great way to get your children involved in this very special ministry! For more information, contact Sister Rachel or Mary Lardizabal.



DECEMBER MONTH HIGHLIGHTS

Dec 5 First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after the 7:00am Mass and Benediction at 12 noon

**Dec 6..... Confessions: 8:00am-9:00am at SC
4:00pm-4:30pm at SS**

Dec 6/7... Hospitality Sunday at SC & SS

December Birthday Blessings at all Masses

**Dec 8..... Feast of Immaculate Conception
Holy Day of Obligation**

Dec 9.....Parish Advent Reconciliation- SC 6pm

Dec 13/14.....2nd Collection: Religious Retirement

Dec 16-24...5AM- Misa de Gallo Novena of Masses

Dec 20/21... Youth /R.E. Collection

Dec 22... 7PM-SC-Christmas Concert

Dec 24/25... See bulletin for Christmas Eve / Day Masses

Dec 27/28... 2nd Collection-Ohana in Christ

Young Apostles of Christ (YAC)

Sr. Luci is inviting all students in Grades K-5 for an hour of scripture-based activities and games.

Bring a friend or family member to the portable building across Coyle Hall every Monday at 2:30 to 3:30PM.

Parents are invited to accompany their children



Feast of the Immaculate Conception

December 8th -Monday

Holy Day of Obligation

St. Sylvester CH- **6 PM**

St. Catherine CH- **7 AM & 6 PM**

Sr Rachel & Sr. Luci renewal
of vows at 6PM Mass

Parish- Wide Advent Reconciliation



Tuesday, December 9th

St. Catherine CH- **6 PM**

*O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, the Expected of Nations and
their Savior: Come save us, O Lord our God!*

RECONCILIATION in the Catholic Church, also known as confession or penance, is a sacrament of healing through which a baptized person receives forgiveness for sins committed after baptism. It involves three elements: confession of sins to a priest, who acts as God's representative, absolution by the priest and the performance of a penance assigned by the priest. Through this sacrament, an individual is reconciled with God and the Church.

Misa de Gallo --- Dec 16 – 24

“We are gifted to give!”

In the Philippines, we have the tradition of praying the nine days of novena to the Blessed Virgin Mary before celebrating the Feast of the Nativity. Each day of the novena is celebrated with a mass at dawn, which is at 5 a.m. This is the time of the day when the chickens and roosters are waking the people up through their different sounds. It is the peaceful moment that follows which allows the people to contemplate in silence the Gospel for the day.

Recently, it has become a more popular belief that this novena is the time to ask any petition from God; all are assured that God will answer their needs. More and more people embrace this devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

This is also a time when parishioners relate more closely to each other. After the dawn mass, members of our parish FCC take turns serving breakfast to those who attend.

All these traditions are efforts by the Catholic Church to bring people closer to God. After 500 years of Christianity in the Philippines, they can now say: “We are gifted to give!” They are so grateful to God to have been given this faith and are able to spread it throughout the whole world. Filipinos give strong witness that they are doing their part to proclaim the Good News, spreading God's Mercy on Earth!

Our parish Filipino Catholic Club invites all parishioners to share in this beautiful tradition and partake of a complimentary breakfast immediately in Coyle Hall after Mass on each day of the novena.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Misa de Gallo- Novena - 5AM- Dec. 16-24 - w/complimentary breakfast

Wednesday...December 24th Christmas Eve

St. Catherine CH -Kapaa	5PM & Midnight
St. Sylvester CH- Kilauea-	Midnight
St. William CH- Hanalei-	None

Thursday...December 25th Christmas Day

St. Catherine CH.....	7:30AM and 9:30AM
St. Sylvester CH...	NONE
St. William CH.....	9AM



Christmas Concert

**Come celebrate the
birth of Jesus Christ
and enjoy a wonderful
evening of music.**

7pm-8:30pm Monday, 22 December, 2025

St. Catherine Church at 5021 A Kawaihau Rd in Kapaa

Performance by St. Catherine's Sunday 9:30am Choir

With Cello, Bassoon, Trombone & Guitar

Public Event, All Welcome, Aloha Attire

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. EJ Resinto	Fax 822-3014 ext 225
Rev. Francisco Sanchez	ext 224
Deacon Andy Ragasa	645-1710
Administrative Assistant: Carmen Nakasone	822-7900
Stewardship Coordinator:	
EM& Lector: Bronwyn Farias	635-2339
Faith Formation Director: Sr. Rachel Marius	822-7900
Music Ministry	
Music Director: Sean Texeira	651-0454
Larry Rosa	651-5499
OCIA: Raina Bautista	634-0756
OCIC: Sr. Lucy Salboro	
Young Adults: Clay Levinthol	346-1350
Youth Ministry	
St. Catherine: Sundays at 8:15am	
Shanlee Gusman, Jonah Stein, & Iyanah Wiltshire-Stein	
St. Sylvester: Kierstyn & Jimmy Guerrero. 8:15am Sundays	
St. Mary's Convent	808-320-3445
Sacristans	
St. Catherine: Sr. Lucy Salboro	
St. Sylvester: Nelly Bautista	634-0756
St. William: Violet Yagihara	

SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the Sick

Call Parish Office. After hours, call Residence

Baptism

First Holy Communion

Religious Education classes run from September to May.
Core classes run January to May

Eucharist to Homebound

Deacon Andy 645-1710

Want to have your child Baptized, please call the church office 822-7900 at extension 2, to set-up a date for this wonderful celebration.

Confirmation

Religious Education program of instruction, September to May. Core classes run January to May

Holy Matrimony

Contact Priest 6 months before the wedding.

Diocesan Engaged Encounter required

Funeral

Arrangements to be confirmed with parish office first to confirm date and priest.

Adoration 5:15pm & Adult Faith Formation 6:30pm

St. Catherine Church on Wednesdays

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Every Thursday in Coyle Hall from 8:00am-11:00am.
More information call Patricia Saturnino 822-7900

Miraculous Medal Devotion

St. Catherine Church every Monday after Daily Mass

Divine Mercy Devotion

St. Catherine Church every day after Daily Mass

Rosary

St. Catherine Church 6:30am, before Daily Mass

St. Sylvester on Wednesday at 5:00pm, before Mass

Food Pantry Sam Knepper 808-826-1944

St. Williams every Thursday 4:00pm-6:00pm

St. Catherine every Saturday 11:30am-1:00pm 822-7900

Lending Library at St. Catherine & St. Sylvester

Located on the back wall of St. Catherine Church and on the side alcove at St. Sylvester Church, is a bookshelf full of Catholic reading materials for you to borrow. Kindly share with family and friends but please return so others may enjoy. Contact Maria at 808-228-4471 if you have books to donate or drop off at church office.

Healing Prayer Ministry

Every Friday after morning Mass, All Are Welcome
Terri D. Mansfield 602-885-9058

Respect Life - Prisma Brewer 530-356-7643

Prison Ministry ~ Kenneth Ponce 808-822-7650

Hospitality Ministry ~ Inocenta Ragasa 651-2481

Bereavement Ministry

St. Catherine: Deacon Andy Ragasa 645-1710

St William & St. Sylvester: Raina Bautista 634-0756

Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group Kauai Family of God

~1st Tuesday, Intercessory Prayer at Viado Home
~2nd & 4th Tuesday, St. Catherine Church @ 6:00pm

Brenda Viado
808-346-1436.

Text for Prayer Line and more information.