



CROSSROADS

*Holy Family Catholic Academy
October 2024*

Making God's goodness known, educating for life.

Aloha families and friends of HFCA,

We are excited to have completed our first quarter of the school year and are so proud of our students! They have settled into their new classes, clubs, teams, and volunteer groups we have at HFCA. Our little ones are also more confident and comfortable at school and are learning to contribute positively to their classroom communities.

Clubs for Q2 have been announced; please see ParentSquare for signup information and mahalo to our staff advisors for offering these opportunities for our students.

We'd like to extend a special mahalo to our HFCA community for helping us raise essential funds during Foodland's Give Aloha matching gifts campaign. Through your generosity, we raised more than \$6,000 to support our student activities and we are so grateful for this support!

We pray you have a wonderful October and enjoy Fall Break with your 'ohana.

Take care, and God bless,

Dr. Celeste Akiu, Principal

Makeup Picture Day

Pictures from House of Photography are expected to arrive on October 14. If your child was absent on picture day, makeup picture day will be held on October 18. Please be sure to fill out an order form if you would like to purchase photos (ask your homeroom teacher if you need one) and send it to your child's homeroom teacher on or before October 18. If you would like your child's picture to be retaken, please let your homeroom teacher know, return the pictures on or before October 18, and House of Photography will retake them free of charge. Students participating in the makeup picture day may dress in Free Dress following the guidelines. Please contact Mrs. Paparo if you have any questions, at: mpaparo@hfcahawaii.org.



HFCA PTG Wants You!

You're invited to join our PTG Executive Committee for the 2024-2025 school year. Executive Board Members attend a monthly Zoom meeting, assist other Board members with PTG activities, and vote on expenditures for our school community. If interested, please email your interest and a brief bio to ptg@hfcahawaii.org. Should there be multiple people interested, an election may be held. The deadline to submit your interest is Wednesday, October 16, 2024.

Open Positions: Vice President, Secretary, and At-Large Member (2)

Did you know that our PTG manages our used uniform sales as well? Please email uniforms@hfcahawaii.org to check our stock of used uniforms. Please include the size, quantity, and uniform type you are interested in.

We kindly ask each family to complete a PTG Questionnaire (four questions) that will help inform our plans for the upcoming year. Mahalo for your kokua!
Please click [HERE](#) for the link.



PTG Christmas Tree and Wreath Fundraiser



We have partnered with Habitatat, a local nonprofit who has offered Hawaii residents fresh, high-quality Christmas trees and wreaths for over 40 years. This is one of our largest fundraisers for the year, and helps our PTG fund programs for HFCA, including field trip support, student activities, and Staff Appreciation Week. For each Christmas tree sold, your child will earn a small prize as well. How it works:

- Trees and wreaths can be ordered online at www.hawaiichristmastrees.com.
- Select the pickup location that is most convenient for you.
- Select Holy Family Catholic Academy as the group.
- A QR code will be emailed to you after you purchase; you will need this for pickup.
- All orders must be placed by Monday, October 21st.
- Items will be available for pickup on Saturday, December 7th between 7 am – 4:30 pm.



HFCA Strategic Plan

HFCA established a Strategic Plan in 2020 with four primary “pathways” to organize our priorities: Family, Maintenance and Modernization, Learning and Nurturing Environment, and Enriching Experiences. We highlight our progress in our monthly newsletters. We will update our strategic plan in the spring of 2025, after our goals are solidified as part of our accreditation process in February.



October Highlight: Enriching Experiences



HFCA hosted a Catholic guest speaker and performer on September 23 when Joe Melendrez visited campus to share his message of faith, unity, and prayer. In addition to performing for our students, Mr. Melendrez performed at St. Ann, St. Theresa, Our Lady of Sorrows, St. Anthony, St. John Vianney, Our Lady of Good Counsel, St. Patrick, Holy Spirit Newman Center, Mary Star of the Sea, Maryknoll, and Resurrection of the Lord. We thank the Diocese of Honolulu for vetting this enthusiastic speaker and performer and supporting his Hawai'i tour. Our students were able to sing, dance and praise with Mr. Melendrez, a proud Catholic, husband and father who lives in Los Angeles, CA.

Coffee Chat with Admin

Mahalo to the parents/guardians who joined us for a coffee chat with our admin team in September. Many helpful suggestions were shared to improve school-to-home communication, including a [Parent Tech Help link](#) that was added to ParentSquare on 9/17 (and will remain open), and an [FAQ sheet](#) added to the ParentSquare Resource Hub on 9/19. We also had a wonderful discussion about updating our SHAKA Gram program and we will have an update to share in the next newsletter. We love talking stories with our parents and hope to see you at the next coffee chat!



Save the Date: Coffee Chat with Admin



Friday, November 8, at 8 am.



Please join us for our morning assembly and sign in at the Main Office after we sing our school song.



We will meet in the Laulima Room, located by the flag pole.

Let's Go, Wildcats!

Our Catholic Schools League volleyball teams (grades 6 - 8) wrapped up their regular season games in September and will have playoff games in October. Best of luck with the tournaments!



Our Christian Schools Athletic League boys basketball team (grades 4 - 6) wrapped up their regular season in September and celebrated with a team scrimmage and potluck.



Mahalo to all our student-athletes, parents, and coaches for representing HFCA!

Walk with Jesus

As part of Religion classes, we plan monthly faith-based collaborations between our upper and lower grades to celebrate our Catholic identity. We call this collaboration time "Walk with Jesus" and students in grades 4 - 8 prepare and teach a lesson for students in grades PK - 3. This school year, we will study the parables of Jesus each month. Please enjoy some images from our first Walk with Jesus event, when the idea of a parable was introduced.

Holy Family Catholic Church

Monday - Friday

Mass - 8am

Saturday

Confessions - 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Mass (Sunday Vigil) - 5 pm

Sunday

Masses at 8:30 am, 11 am, and 7 pm

HFCA students attend Mass each Wednesday.
We invite parents, grandparents, and friends of HFCA to join us for Mass any time!

