



CROSSROADS

*Holy Family Catholic Academy
December 2024*

Making God's goodness known, educating for life.

Aloha families and friends of HFCA,

We have a wonderful December planned, including our beloved Christmas programs, an Advent Prayer Service, Mass on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, 'Twas a Night Before Christmas dinner, and testing and academics wrapping up the year's second quarter.

We have been blessed to have your children as part of our Holy Family 'ohana and look forward to the second half of the year with our school community.

May your holidays be filled with joy, peace, and gratitude as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. We'd like to wish you and your 'ohana a very, merry Christmas and a joyous New Year!

Take care, and God bless,

Dr. Celeste Akiu, Principal

'Twas a Night Before Christmas Dinner - RSVP by December 1!

We are blessed to invite our school and parish community to a special event this Advent season, as we reflect on the themes of hope, peace, joy, and love. Please join us for our 'Twas a Night Before Christmas Dinner complete with Italian food, music, complimentary pictures with Santa, Advent crafting, a bake sale and silent auction, and games. All proceeds will be donated to Catholic Charities Hawaii, whose mission perfectly aligns with the Season of Advent.

Date: Saturday, December 7, 2024, 6-8 pm (after the 5 pm Mass)

Location: HFCA Courtyard and Cafeteria

Cost: \$25 for adults, \$15 for children

Deadline: Please RSVP by December 1

RSVP: Use see ParentSquare or [use this link](#).



Catholic Charities Hawai'i (CCH) provides a wide range of social services with dignity and, compassion. Through their programs and advocacy efforts, CCH serves all people in need, regardless of their faith or culture. CCH serves an average of 40,000 individuals each year and has helped the people of Hawai'i since 1947.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
HAWAII

"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."

– Pope Benedict XVI

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 after our updated goals are solidified as part of our accreditation process in February.



December Highlight: Oliver the Ornament



Children's author Todd Zimmermann recently shared his storybook series with the Hawaii Catholic Schools administrators, and we are excited to bring this story to HFCA as a great example of fostering a nurturing learning environment, especially during the holiday season. Students in grades K-3 had the opportunity to meet Mr. Zimmerman via a Zoom call, and their homerooms all received the book *Oliver the Ornament*, the first in a series of seven books. Each story tells how the various ornaments entered the family's collection while teaching children important lessons like kindness, friendship, forgiveness, and determination.

Help HFCA STUFF THE SLEIGH!

We will be gathering wish list items to bless the keiki at the Kaaahi Women's & Family Shelter this Christmas.

Donations can be sent to homerooms until December 17.



- Art/Craft Kits
- Board Games
- Card Games
- Coloring Books
- Fidget Toys
- Sports Equipment: basketballs, volleyballs, footballs, soccer balls, frisbees, kickballs, tennis rackets, hula hoops, jump ropes, lawn bowling, etc.

SAVE THE DATE! Coffee Chat with Admin



Friday, January 10,
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.

2025 Sacraments Deadline - December 1, 2024

NOT Baptized Students in Grades 2-8

We welcome HFCA students who are 7+ years and older and would like to be baptized Catholic to complete the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil Mass at Holy Family Catholic Church on Saturday, April 19, 2025. The Diocese of Honolulu requires all three sacraments to be received for this age. There are mandatory steps to this process, and attendance is required at ALL services below.

Additional details will be emailed to you after completing the registration form.

- For students in grade 2, [please register here.](#)
- For students in grades 3 - 8, [please register here.](#)

MASS	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Rite of Acceptance	December 8, 2024	11:00 AM	Holy Family Church
Rite of Election	March 9, 2025	1:00 PM	Co-Cathedral Church, Kalihi
First Scrutiny	March 23, 2025	11:00 AM	Holy Family Church
Second Scrutiny	March 30, 2025	11:00 AM	Holy Family Church
Third Scrutiny	April 6, 2025	11:00 AM	Holy Family Church

Baptized Catholics, Grade 2

Second-grade HFCA students who are already baptized Catholic may receive the sacraments together as a class on the following dates:

- First Reconciliation - April 30, 2025, after 8:00 am Mass at Holy Family Church
- First Communion & Confirmation - May 11, 2025, at 11:00 am at Holy Family Church

Additional details will be emailed to you after completing the registration form, [available here.](#)

Baptized Catholics, Grades 3-8

HFCA students who are already baptized Catholic in grades 3-8 may receive the following sacraments with our 2nd-graders as follows:

- First Reconciliation - April 30, 2025, after 8:00 am mass at Holy Family Church
- First Communion & Confirmation - May 11, 2025, at 11:00 am at Holy Family Church

Additional details will be emailed to you after completing the registration form, [available here.](#)

jesus
loves
you

Turkey Trot Fun at HFCA

We hosted our annual Turkey Trot of activities to support the Hawaii Children's Cancer Foundation (HCCF) before leaving for Thanksgiving break, and it was so much fun. Mahalo to Mrs. Burch for leading this event, and to all our parent volunteers who pitched in to help! We spent the month raising awareness and funds for this wonderful local organization and proudly presented HCCF representative Tara Humphreys with a check for \$4,414.60! Mahalo to our families for all your donations and for helping us teach our students to value a spirit of generosity.



THANKFUL

Thanksgiving Mass

We gathered together to celebrate a Thanksgiving Mass this morning. Mahalo to Mr. Foster, Mrs. Miguel, and our Keiki Choir for providing beautiful music, all our Altar Servers for their steadfast commitment, and students from 5A who provided the readers, gift bearers, and a reflection after Mass. We have much to be thankful for, and pray you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving with your 'ohana.



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!

