



CROSSROADS

Holy Family Catholic Academy

March 2025

Making God's goodness known, educating for life.

Aloha families and friends of HFCA,

We will begin the month of March focused on our Lenten journey as we reflect on prayer, penance, and almsgiving. Father Dario has a special activity planned for students on Shrove Tuesday, and our PTG will also treat all students and staff to a Krispy Kreme doughnut. We will celebrate Ash Wednesday Mass together, and homerooms will all participate in a Lenten retreat and a Lenten prayer service later in the month. We pray Lent is a time for all our students to grow in their faith and align their lives more closely with Christ.

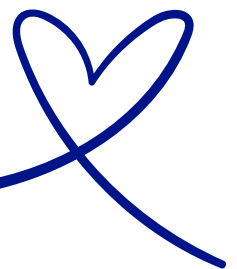
We will also take part in Read Across America Week and the Hawaii Catholic Schools 24 Game math competition this month. Additionally, fourth-quarter clubs will be announced soon, so please keep an eye on ParentSquare for more information.

As we prepare to finish the third quarter and enjoy our Spring Break, we are simultaneously planning for the 25-26 school year to ensure a healthy enrollment and are eager to welcome new and returning students. Mahalo to the families who have met our re-enrollment deadline, which helps us plan for personnel needs!

We wish you a peaceful and thoughtful season of Lent.

God bless,

Celeste Akiu
Principal



Rice Bowls for Catholic Relief Services

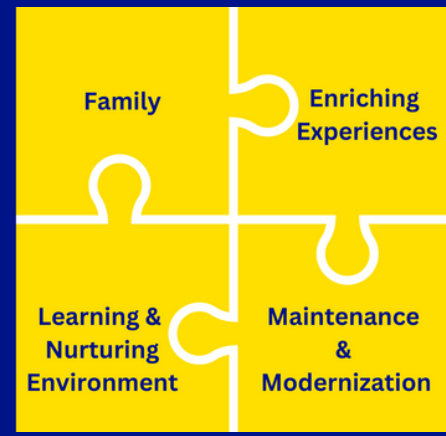
Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowls will be sent home with all students on Ash Wednesday. Supporting CRS is a meaningful way to teach our students about compassion, generosity, and global solidarity. The campaign not only provides essential food, clean water, and livelihood support to impoverished communities around the world, but it also funds local programs that assist families in need within the United States. By contributing, we set an example of Christian charity, demonstrating the importance of helping the less fortunate, especially during Lent, a season of sacrifice and giving.



Mahalo for your generous support!

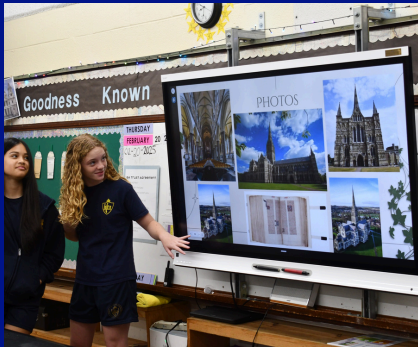
HFCA Strategic Plan

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. Over the past four years, we have added numerous programs and special projects in these four areas and will 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.



PTG Stargazing Event - Family

Our PTG would like to offer a mahalo to all the families who joined the stargazing event in January, which is a perfect example of our Family pathway. Mr. MacMaster had a core memory tucked away from his own stargazing experience as a 3rd-grade student, so when he learned that there was a company on Oahu that offered a similar experience, he jumped at the chance to suggest this fun event for HFCA. The conditions were perfect for stargazing and families enjoyed looking through two telescopes sponsored by our PTG.



Additional SmartBoards - Maintenance and Modernization

We recently added SmartBoards to the Digital Media Room, Title 1 Room, and the Laulima Room to continue our maintenance and modernization goal of providing a safe, comfortable, innovative, and flexible environment. We now have SmartBoards in all homerooms and the majority of classrooms on campus. In addition to our 1:1 iPad initiative for students in kindergarten through 8th grade, investing in SmartBoards ensures that our teachers and students have access to high-quality technology and presentation tools.



Accreditation Process - Learning & Nurturing Environment

To maintain our accreditation, we provide comprehensive data and evidence related to the areas of Mission and Catholic Identity, Leadership and Governance, Academic Excellence, and Operational Vitality. We have been preparing for our 2025 accreditation visit for more than a year, and are happy to report the visit went very smoothly. We will receive the final report in July, and anticipate positive feedback in the four focus areas and actionable feedback for HFCA. Mahalo to the visiting team, and to our families for supporting our early release day on February 21st to accommodate this process!



Expanding National Junior Honor Society - Enriching Experiences

Holy Family proudly expanded our chapter of the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) to include 6th-grade students this year and we were delighted to induct 19 new middle school members in February. Our administrators work with our NJHS students throughout the school year to provide leadership and volunteer opportunities for these students and to help them personify the mission our founding sisters created: making God's goodness known, educating for life. Mahalo to Mr. MacMaster for advising NJHS this year!

HFCA PTG Updates



Reminder - Krispy Kreme Pickup March 4th

For families who ordered Krispy Kreme doughnuts to support our PTG, please remember to pick up your order in the car line (grades K-8) or the rectory tent (for PK) on the morning of Tuesday, March 4th. Any unclaimed orders will be in the Main Office until the end of the day. We kindly ask all parents to remember to be patient and drive with aloha in our car line!



Next General Meeting: April 3, 7 pm.

The Zoom link will be shared via ParentSquare a few days before. Questions? Please email ptg@hfcahawaii.org



Used Uniform Sales

To inquire about our PTG Used Uniform Sales, please email uniforms@hfcahawaii.org with the type of uniform you are looking for, as well as the size and quantity. Mahalo to all the families who have donated their uniforms so that another family may benefit!

Kid's Heart Challenge - SLIME DAY!

We'd like to offer a huge Holy Family mahalo to our school community for supporting our Kid's Heart Challenge again this year. Together we raised \$16,924.01, for a lifetime contribution to the American Heart Association of \$304,625 over the last 24 years. A special mahalo to Mr. Kainoa and Mrs. Thimsen for volunteering to be slimed on Valentine's Day – hearts of gold!

Next Coffee Chat with Admin



Friday, March 28, 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 flagpole.



Solemnity of the Dedication of Holy Family Church

We celebrated the Solemnity of our Church's dedication on February 26 during our weekly school-wide Mass hosted by 7A. Holy Family Church was dedicated on February 26, 1967, and has welcomed our parishioners, students, families, and visitors for 58 years! We took a moment to look back at the groundbreaking and some of the historical photos we have of the Church being built. It will be exciting to see what the next 58 years hold for Holy Family Church!

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!



The hard working people pictured here with pick and shovel are from left to right — Fr. Sherry, Fr. Mann, Sister Noreen, Br. Roberts, Fr. Hogan and Fr. Bach.



Remember the big hole with all the supports and steel rods?



... and then we had walls and you could begin to see the shape of things to come.



We are not outdoors any longer. We have a roof now.



Almost there! Now we can see how our church will look.

Images and captions are from the Holy Family Church dedication brochure date February 26, 1967.