

Rev. Lane K. Akiona, ss.cc.
Pastor
Rev. Benny Kosasih, ss.cc.
Parochial vicar
Deacon Keith Cabiles
Deacon Andy Calunod
Anne Harpham
Pastoral associate
Sr. Cheryl Wint, osf
Pastoral associate

St. Augustine Church by-the-sea

Sunday Liturgy
5 p.m. Saturday
6, 8, 10 a.m., 5 p.m. Sunday

Daily Liturgy
7 a.m. Monday-Saturday
5 p.m. Monday-Thursday



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*You have made us for yourself,
Lord, and our hearts are restless
until they rest in you*

-- St. Augustine of Hippo

*With the servant leadership
of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus
and Mary since 1854*

www.staugustinebythesea.com



St. Augustine by-the-sea Parish

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Parish secretary: Bev Tavake

Pastoral Council President: Theresa Kong Kee

Finance Committee chairman: Jim Danne-miller

Office hours

Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; closed noon to 1 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m. to noon.

Closed Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

Sacraments

Reconciliation: 6:30-6:45 a.m. and 4:30-4:45 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 3-4 p.m. Saturday.

Baptism: Call the parish office for information.

Marriage: Email staugustineweddingcoordinator@gmail.com before making arrangements.

Confirmation: Call the parish office for information.

Funerals: Call the parish office when finalizing services with the mortuary.

Religious education

Contact the parish office to enroll your child in religious education classes or to inquire about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

Parish organizations

Altar Rosary Society

Holy Name Society

Tongan Society

Knights of Columbus

Ka Huaka'i (Marriage ministry)

Please call the parish office for information about joining any of these organizations.

Aunty Carmen's Kitchen

Hot meals are served between 11 a.m. and noon Monday to Friday, except holidays

To register

Call the parish office to register and to sign up for envelopes

Bulletin deadline

Material to be considered in the bulletin must be submitted to the parish office by noon on the Monday before the Sunday of publication.

Hospitality

Join us for doughnuts and juice after all morning masses on the first Sunday of the month.

This week at St. Augustine

Sunday, Dec. 11—Third Sunday of Advent

Liturgical color: Violet/Rose

6 a.m. Mass—R/S Catherine Lynch, Glynn Martino; S/I Kelly Navarro (healing)

8 a.m. Mass—R/S Pua Bow, Jerry Galang

9 a.m. Religious education, Annex Building

10 a.m. Mass—S/I Sage and the Kong Kee Family; R/S Fr. Joseph Priestley

5 p.m. Mass—R/S Viola Palepale; S/I Barry & Glenda Drexler (wedding anniversary), Alexi & William (healing)

Monday, Dec. 12--Our Lady of Guadalupe

Liturgical color: White

6:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours

7 a.m. Communion Prayer Service

5 p.m. Mass—S/I Thomas Nunez (birthday), Mikayla Kato (birthday)

6 p.m. Knights of Columbus, Damien Meeting Room

6 p.m. Parish Mission

Tuesday, Dec. 13--St. Lucy

Liturgical color: Red

6:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours

7 a.m. Mass

5 p.m. Mass

6 p.m. Parish Mission

8 p.m. Tongan Choir, Annex Building, upstairs

Wednesday, Dec. 14--St. John of the Cross

Liturgical color: White

6:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours

7 a.m. Mass

5 p.m. Mass

6 p.m. Parish Advent Penance Service

6:30 p.m. RCIA, Damien Meeting Room

8 p.m. Tongan Choir, Annex Building, upstairs

Thursday, Dec. 15

Liturgical color: Violet

6:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours

7 a.m. Mass

5 p.m. Mass

Friday, Dec. 16

Liturgical color: Violet

6:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours

7 a.m. Mass—R/S Edward Lapnewski

Saturday, Dec. 17

Liturgical color: Violet

6:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours

7 a.m. Mass

Church cleaning: Altar Rosary Society and Knights of Columbus

5 p.m. Mass—S/I Sage and the Kong Kee Family, Alfredo & Constancia Olfato (wedding anniversary); R/S Elvin Boggs, Patrick Park

8 p.m. Tongan Choir, Annex Building, upstairs



Breaking open the Word

Third Sunday of Advent

John sent **his own** disciples to Jesus with a question: "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" John isn't doubting his faith that the Messiah would come to Israel, he is simply puzzled as to whether that messiah is Jesus or someone yet to appear. John expected a fire and brimstone Messiah, a person like himself, so he watched Jesus, hoping to see fireworks, and Jesus didn't live up to expectations.

Like John, none of us is a stranger to doubt. Sometimes our lack of confidence is a small matter, like when we doubt if we're wearing the right clothes for an occasion, or whether a new acquaintance has been favorably impressed by us, or if an old friend is annoyed by something we've done.

But the worst situation is when we no longer trust in something fundamental to our value system, like love or truth or God. Why does God allow the righteous to suffer? Why doesn't God answer our prayers for healing? If we attend church regularly, why doesn't God give us whatever it is that we feel that we desperately need right now?

"Happy is the person who does not lose faith in Me," Jesus tells us. And sometimes it requires a faith that, indeed, defies description. "Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Happy is the person who is wise enough to know that final and complete fulfillment waits upon God's time. The Apostle Paul was a happy man for that reason. Like John the Baptist, he became a prisoner of the Roman Authority. Like John the Baptist, he sent messages out from his jail cell. But even as he languished in jail, Paul knew that complete fulfillment would come in God's time -- and he was perfectly willing to follow Jesus, be obedient to His teachings -- and wait.

Jesus doesn't offer instant gratification. Jesus doesn't fulfill his promise according to our time table. "Have faith in Me," he says, and "you will experience the ultimate happiness you need and want, in God's time."

With Christmas just two weeks away, hopefully your greatest desire is to be numbered among the happy people who do not lose faith in Christ. With Christmas just two weeks away, hopefully you will prepare in some special way for the coming of Christ into your life.

Deacon Efrain Andrews

Daily prayer

This third week of Advent, our daily prayer continues to allow us to become more concrete about preparing the way for the Lord. For some of us, the great grace will be to ask that expectant hope - and the joy that this can bring - will fill our hearts and replace whatever is heavy or dark or sad there. We can only let our Lord bring good news to us in our own poverty, if we acknowledge that we are poor in some ways. He can only proclaim liberty and release to us if we can admit that we are captives and prisoners to habits and patterns that inhibit joy.

We can surrender our fear of being put to shame by humbly coming face to face with the un-humble person we can sometimes be. The depths of gratitude and joy come when we experience the tenderness with which our Lord keeps taking us back.

This is a wonderful week to examine our consciences as we let our daily, prayer-filled background moments interact with some of the places in our daily lives in which we discover the need for mercy and peace. Wherever we encounter some experience of darkness or fear, some struggle with faith or hope, some discouragement about my own generosity or freedom, it is there that we have an opportunity to pause, in the briefest way and pray, "Come, Lord Jesus; come and visit me here, in this place."

Preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, individually or in common, can be a powerful Advent religious experience. And the one who forgives us deeply desires to heal us and give us his peace.

Creighton University Online Ministries

Daughters of St. Paul Book Exhibit

The Daughters of St. Paul will be visiting our parish for a Book Exhibit Dec. 10 and 11. The Sisters will be bringing books for all ages, DVDs about the lives of saints, music by the Daughters of St Paul Choir, and much more. These items will be available for purchase after the Masses. This is a great opportunity to purchase reading materials for yourself or gift someone with a book during this season of Advent and in anticipation for the Christmas season to come. You can also visit their Pauline Books & Media Center at 1143 Bishop St.

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 — Lord, come and save us (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).

Weekday

Monday: Zec 2:14-17; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34; Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45: 6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85; Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Is 54:1-10; Ps 30; Lk 7:24-30
Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Ps 67; Jn 5:33-36
Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72; Mt 1:1-17

Next Sunday's readings

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Wheelchair mission to the Philippines



Fr. Lane traveled to the Philippines in November to help with the delivery of wheelchairs to those too poor to afford them. The funds for the chairs were raised by the American Wheelchair Mission and included the \$24,000 raised in May at St. Augustine. With that money, 330 wheelchairs, canes and crutches were purchased. In the Philippines, the wheelchair mission visited the Missionaries of the Poor (international men religious) and Missionaries of Charity (St. Mother Teresa) orphanage for children, women and men, the Missionaries of Immaculate Mary (local religious women) orphanage for children and Daughters of Charity (retired religious women teachers).

St. Augustine Advent Mission Dec. 12 & 13 at 6 p.m.

Fr. Steve Macedo, a priest of the Diocese of Honolulu, will lead our parish Advent mission Dec. 12-13. He is Pastor at Annunciation Church in Kamuela. His parish is a Stewardship parish and will be a speaker at the April 26-27, 2017 Msgr. McGread Stewardship Conference in Wichita, Kansas. Fr. Konelio Faletoi will also be a speaker at the same conference. Fr. Konelio is Pastor at St. Michael and his parish is also a Stewardship parish.

They both learned much at the Wichita Conference, where they got first hand experience to transform their parishes. Come and learn how we can transform our parish into a Stewardship parish. Don't forget, Monday and Tuesday at 6 pm.

Our parish Penance service will be on Wednesday the 14th at 6 pm. See you there.

Advent Penance Services

The East Honolulu Advent Penance Services are:
December 13 @ 6:30 pm Mary, Star of the Sea
December 14 @ 6 pm St. Augustine
December 15 @ 7 pm Holy Trinity

Parish Christmas Party Jan. 7

The Parish Christmas Party will be held in the Banyan Tree Restaurant at the Hale Koa Hotel on Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This year's theme is "Christmas Around the World."

Tickets are \$35 per person. Parking with validation is \$6. Entertainment provided by "Na Kane o Kana Kamiano & Friends" Tickets will be available after all Sunday Masses. Tickets must be purchased by Dec. 29.

Office personnel

I would like to inform our parish community to keep Beverly Tavake in your prayers as she recovers from a heart attack recently. She is at home resting now and being cared for by her daughters. We are not sure when she will be able to return to work, but we'll keep you updated on her condition.

During the process for our Capital Campaign, it was suggested that I hire another office staff member. Priscilla Hanohano was volunteering while Bev was on vacation and was a natural at helping to manage the front office. Therefore, I've hired Priscilla as our new staff member, please welcome her.

New chef at Aunty Carmen's Kitchen

Our prayers and aloha to Jimmy and Sheri Gusukuma, who took over the operations of our soup kitchen at the passing of Aunty Carmen. Sheri is now undergoing treatment for cancer. May Sts. Damien and Marianne continue to intercede for a speedy recovery.

Therefore, our new chef is Art De Guzman. He is the owner and chef at Three Star Gourmet Restaurant and Catering on Bishop Street. Art is well known in the Honolulu area and has done catering for the Diocese for some of its functions. Please welcome Art to our community. I am truly grateful for such wonderful, generous stewards in our community to help us with feeding the hungry and needy. Much blessings to Art and Three Star Gourmet Restaurant and Catering.

Stewardship of treasure

Collection for the week ended Dec. 4: \$8,270.75

Repair & Maintenance: \$5,556.03

Children's collection: \$33.00

Learning Lectio Divina

Lectio Divina, or Divine Reading is an ancient Benedictine practice of reading, meditating and praying on Scripture to increase faith and draw closer to God. Bring your Bible and learn and practice Lectio Divina with Sr. Marie Lemert ss.cc. and Malulani Kamanu.

Saturday, Jan. 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**St. Anthony Retreat Center, Rose Hill Building
3351 Kalihi St. Honolulu HI 96819**

Open to men and women 18 years and older. Free will offering. Registration required. Call 845-0065

Holy Trinity Advent Mission

Holy Trinity Parish's three-day Advent Mission, "Practicing Mercy," will be held Dec. 12-14 at 7 p.m. and will be led by Fr. Philip Chircop SJ. The parish mission will explore what it means to believe in a God whose mercy is fresh every morning and each person's call to practice mercy in all their encounters on a daily basis.

Religious education holiday schedule

There will not be religious education classes for the following holiday weekends:

Sunday December 25

Sunday January 1

A remembrance of Hawaii

Unique crosses made of driftwood, sea glass and shells by a Hawaii artist are available here at St. Augustine after Mass or in the parish office during office hours. These crosses are one-of-a-kind creations, masterpieces of the sea and are a beautiful remembrance of Hawaii. Come after Mass outside the church and see them for yourself. They will be available the second and fourth Sundays of each month.



Christmas Eve, Saturday Dec. 24

No 7 a.m. Mass

6 p.m. Mass --Contemporary Choir

9 p.m. Mass—Cantor/Piano

11:30 p.m. Christmas music—Tongan Choir

Midnight Mass—Tongan Choir

Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec. 25

6 a.m. Mass —Cantor/Organ

8 a.m. Mass—Contemporary Choir

10 a.m. Mass—Contemporary Choir

5 p.m. --Cantor/Organ

Dec. 26-30

7 a.m. Mass only

Second collection next weekend for religious retirement fund

The second collection next weekend will go to the Retirement Fund for Religious, which helps religious communities across the country care for their aging members and plan for ongoing retirement needs. Nearly 34,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests benefit from the fund. Show your appreciation for the Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests who made a positive difference in your life and please give generously.

Christmas story time for children

The Daughters of St. Paul invite you to a Christmas Story Time for Children, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., followed by coloring activities until noon Saturday Dec. 17 at Pauline Books and Media, 1143 Bishop St.

Notecards and rosaries

The Altar Rosary Society is selling rosaries, including local hand-made rosaries and Jerusalem rosaries, and notecards featuring St. Augustine Church after Sunday morning Masses the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

2017 envelopes available

Stewardship envelopes for those who give to St. Augustine using the envelope system are available in the sacristy. If you do not use envelopes and would like to begin, please call the parish office during office hours.



Pearl Harbor survivor Navy CDR John George Mathrusse, who was a pilot on Ford Island, visited St. Augustine Sunday, Dec. 4. The Sons & Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors, a group from San Francisco, was at the 10 a.m. Mass Dec. 4 and were in Hawaii for the 75th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor. We are grateful for their service and that of all veterans and they are in our prayers.