

Fr. Lane K. Akiona, ss.cc.  
*Pastor*  
Fr. Chris Kaitapu, ss.cc.  
*Parochial vicar*  
Deacon Andy Calunod  
Anne Harpham  
*Pastoral associate*  
Sr. Cheryl Wint, osf  
*Pastoral associate*

# St. Augustine by-the-sea Church

## 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



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

*-- St. Augustine of Hippo*



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

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

[www.staugustinebythesea.com](http://www.staugustinebythesea.com)



## **St. Augustine by-the-sea Parish**

130 Ohua Ave.

Honolulu, HI 96815

Phone: (808) 923-7024

Fax: (808) 922-4086

e-mail: [staugustinebythesea@gmail.com](mailto:staugustinebythesea@gmail.com)

Web: [www.staugustinebythesea.com](http://www.staugustinebythesea.com)

Parish secretary: Bev Tavake

Pastoral Council President: Theresa Kong Kee

Finance Committee chairman: Jim Dannemiller

ler

### **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](mailto: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. 13--Third Sunday of Advent**

Liturgical color: Violet

6 a.m. Mass

7:15 a.m. Rosary

8 a.m. Mass—R/S Jerry Galang

10 a.m. Mass—S/I Sage and the Kong Kee Family

5 p.m. Mass

### **Monday, Dec. 14**

Liturgical color:

6:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours

7 a.m. Communion Prayer Service

5 p.m. Mass

6 p.m. Parish Penance Service

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

### **Tuesday, Dec. 15**

Liturgical color: White

6:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours

7 a.m. Mass

5 p.m. Mass

5:30 p.m. Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

### **Wednesday, Dec. 16**

Liturgical color: Violet/White

6:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours

7 a.m. Mass—R/S Edward Lapnewski

5 p.m. Mass

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

7 p.m. Tongan Choir, annex building

### **Thursday, Dec. 17**

Liturgical color: Violet

6:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours

7 a.m. Mass

3 p.m. Wedding rehearsal

5 p.m. Mass

5:30 p.m. Wedding rehearsal

### **Friday, Dec. 18**

Liturgical color: Violet/White

6:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours

7 a.m. Mass

2 p.m. Wedding

### **Saturday, Dec. 19**

Liturgical color: White

6:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours

7 a.m. Mass—S/I Sau and Pule Ngata (wedding anniversary)

Church cleaning: Altar Rosary Society

2 p.m. Wedding

5 p.m. Mass—R/S Elvin Boggs, Michele Lowery; S/I Danelle and Dean Nakooka (30th anniversary), S/I Sage and the Kong Kee Family

# Breaking open the Word

## *Third Sunday of Advent*

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word meaning "rejoice." Joy surprises us. It shows up in unexpected places. It goes against the tide. Joy involves our whole being - which includes our ability to choose.

St. Paul says, "Rejoice always!" It's not a suggestion, like "cheer up," or "look on the sunny side." It is, rather, a command, "Rejoice." Not only when things are going well. Not just when I am getting my way - but always. "Rejoice always." St. Paul can command joy because joy requires a conscious choice. This command is not easy for any of us. We can give in easily to sadness and depression. I am talking about a kind of sadness that can quickly overtake us. Ninety-nine things might be going well, but we tend to focus on the one thing that is going badly.

St. Paul does not tell us to wait until everything is in order. He says, "Rejoice always." Fortunately, St. Paul explains how to do it. The first thing is to pray. When things go wrong, Paul says, "Pray without ceasing." Even when things fall apart - especially when they fall apart.

The second step to joy is gratitude. Paul says give thanks "in all circumstances give thanks." Even when we encounter difficulties and suffering, give thanks, maybe not immediately, but by prayer God will work in and through us.

Paul then adds something that seems obvious: "Refrain from every kind of evil." When we sin we distance ourselves from God, we will not be happy. For that reason John the Baptist urges us in today's Gospel to be honest in our way of life and not to take advantage of others. One of the things that we can do to live more peacefully, happier and closer to God in the spirit of sharing.

*Fr. Chris Kaitapu ss.cc.*

### **Readings**

**First Reading** — Shout for joy! Sing joyfully! Be glad and exult! The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior (Zephaniah 3:14-18a).

**Psalm** — Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 12).

**Second Reading** — Rejoice! The Lord is near. Make your requests known to God (Philippians 4:4-7).

**Gospel** — John tells his hearers to share their possessions with the needy; be honest; do not threaten or accuse others falsely (Luke 3:10-18).

### **Weekday**

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Friday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

### **Next Sunday's reading**

Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

## **Praying with the Third Week of Advent**

This Third Week of Advent, our daily prayer continues to allow us to become much more concrete about naming our desires and preparing the way for the Lord. We begin this week with joy, knowing that our celebration of all the ways our Lord comes to us is near.

In these familiar readings is an invitation to us to ask again for help, perhaps especially in dealing with our fears. In many of this week's gospels an angel, a messenger from God reassures these holy but very human members of Jesus' family over and over: "Do not be afraid." Fear can stop us from asking God for the very help we need in our lives.

In the midst of what our culture tells us should be a picture-perfect holiday season, we can step back and get in touch with our fears and ask God to help us deal with the relationships we are afraid of, the family tensions that make us apprehensive and the stress that can take us out of the spirit of Advent reflection. If we pause for just a minute, we can feel in our hearts that Jesus is saying gently to us each day: "Do not be afraid."

We can ask God to remind us again that what we are doing in our daily lives is touched by the sacred because God is present in even the most mundane tasks.

*Lord, let me place my trust in you. I get so independent and think I need to fix everything myself. Let me remember not to be afraid of so much and to ask you for the healing that my heart needs so badly. Give me the patience this week to deal with the relationships in my life that need mending and the forgiveness that I can give others and that I need so badly myself. Be with me through the darkness so that I can see the light that you bring to us and the joy with which you want to fill our hearts."*

We are moving toward the end of our Advent journey. Even if we don't feel like we have "started" on Advent yet, we can begin today. We are being invited: "Do not be afraid!"

## **Third Week of Advent**

We continue to focus on the first readings in this first part of Advent. From the Book of Numbers, we have the proclamation that "a star shall advance from Jacob..." Zephaniah is the prophet of impending doom, if the people don't abandon their idolatry. But this week we read about consoling healing, "on that day," when the Lord comes. Isaiah's message is full of promise: "Turn to me and be safe ... for I am God; there is no other!"

On Thursday, we reach Dec. 17 and in these last eight days of Advent the focus returns to the gospels with stories from Jesus' family in the time before he was born. Matthew's gospel offers the genealogy of Jesus' family. On the 18th we read Matthew's account of the nativity: Joseph decides to divorce the pregnant Mary until an angel appears to him in a dream, saying, "It is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her." On the 19th, in the first chapter of Luke's gospel, Elizabeth and Zechariah struggle with their inability to have a child. They are told they will have a child named John who will be filled with the Holy Spirit. When Zechariah doubts, he is struck speechless.

# St. Augustine Christmas Party



**Date:** Saturday, January 9  
**Place:** Hale Koa Hotel @ the  
Banyan Tree Room  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
**Cost:** \$35.00 per person  
**Aloha Attire**  
**There will be entertainment**  
**Tickets sold in the parish office and after Mass.**



## Christmas & New Year's Masses

### Christmas Eve, Thursday Dec. 24

No 7 a.m. Mass  
6 p.m. Mass  
9 p.m. Mass—Tongan Choir  
11:30 p.m. Christmas music—Contemporary Choir  
Midnight Mass—Contemporary Choir

### Christmas Day, Friday, Dec. 25

6 a.m. Mass —Organ Music  
8 a.m. Mass—Contemporary Choir  
10 a.m. Mass—Contemporary Choir  
5 p.m. Mass

### Saturday, Dec. 26

No confessions

### Dec. 28-31

7 a.m. Mass only

### New Year's Day, Friday Jan. 1

8 a.m. Mass only

### Saturday, Jan. 2

No confessions

## Advent Penance services

Advent Penance Services in the East Oahu Vicariate are scheduled for:

December 14 University Catholic Center, 7 pm  
St. Augustine Church, 6 pm  
December 17 Holy Trinity, 7 pm  
December 23 Sacred Heart/St. Pius X, 7:30 pm

## 2016 envelopes available

Stewardship envelopes for those who give to St. Augustine using the weekly 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.

## Faith sharing meets Dec. 21

St. Augustine's faith sharing group meets **Monday, Dec. 21 at 6 p.m.** in the Damien Meeting Room. We are using Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si*, as the basis for our sharing. *Laudato Si* is Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment, "On Care for our Common Home."

In this encyclical, Pope Francis asks us to look deeply at our consumer-driven society and throw-away culture. Join your fellow parishioners in a discussion on how our faith challenges us to be stewards of our home. We are reflecting on Chapter 2 of the encyclical currently. Download the encyclical at: <http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals.index.html>. We will have copies available at class or you may purchase copies of the book at Pauline Book and Media Center.

## Stewardship of treasure

**Collection for the week ended Dec. 6: \$7,399.52**

**2nd collection maintenance and repair: \$5,339.99**

**Children's collection: \$14.00**

## 2nd collection for religious

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.

## 1,223 meals served in November

St. Augustine's ministry to the homeless and others who are hungry, Aunty Carmen's Kitchen, served 1,223 hot lunches in November. Your financial support for this outreach is one way we are living examples of the Gospel. "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me..." (Matthew 25:35).

Jubilee Year of Mercy

## Living Mercy

The **Jubilee Year of Mercy** began **Dec. 8, 2015**. How can you practice mercy in your every day lives? One way is through living the Corporal Works of Mercy.

The Corporal Works of Mercy are found in the teachings of Jesus and give us a model for how we should treat all others, as if they were Christ in disguise.

They respond to the basic needs of humanity as we journey together through this life. Last week, we looked at the the Corporal Work of Mercy of feeding the hungry.

Another is to **Give drink to the thirsty**. Many of our brothers and sisters in Christ do not have access to clean water and suffer from the lack of this basic necessity. We should support the efforts of those working toward greater accessibility of this essential resource. How we can help:

~~Donate to help build wells for water for those in need

~~Make an effort not to waste water.

### AN ADVENT PRAYER

May the God of peace make us completely holy.

May God keep us blameless in spirit, soul and body  
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Forever faithful is the One who calls us—God our Father!

Expectant, let us live in joyful hope

for the revelation of the glory

of our God and Savior, Christ Jesus!

To him be glory forever!

Come, Lord Jesus! Your grace be with us all.

## Our Liturgy

### GAUDETE SUNDAY

Today is "Gaudete Sunday" or "Rejoice Sunday." Why? What is all the rejoicing about?

More than two hundred years ago a man named Isaac Watts wrote the words to a Christmas carol which, no doubt, you have heard every Christmas since you were born. The first verse reads:

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!*

*Let earth receive her King;*

*Let every heart prepare him room*

*And heaven and nature sing.*

Do you every wonder if that is really true? Is there joy in the world because Jesus was born? Yes! There is joy and happiness, celebration and song, excitement and honest-to-goodness merriment. There is hardly a nook or a cranny, hardly a country on the entire earth that doesn't have at least some Christian people who join in celebrating Jesus' birth. Almost as though the Liturgy can't wait to celebrate the presence of the Savior, the Word of God today tells us to rejoice.

How will you put that word into practice as we enter this second half of the Advent season?

Copyright © 2009 Resource Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.



## The O Antiphons of Advent

This week, our celebration of Advent makes a transition in ritual and texts. Beginning December 18, the countdown of nine days (a novena) to Christmas sees a heightened sense of expectation, and also a turning from the call of the Baptist in the wilderness to the events leading up to Jesus' birth. In ancient Spain, Dec. 18 was once celebrated as the "Feast of the Expectancy," and customs grew up to heighten readiness in the homes.

Some customs arise from monastic life and practice and spill over into our parish life. The Roman Church has been singing the "O" Antiphons since at least the eighth century. They are the antiphons that accompany the *Magnificat* canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well. Their repeated use of the imperative "Come!" embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.

### December 17

O Wisdom of our God Most High,  
guiding creation with power and love:  
come to teach us the path of knowledge!

### December 18

O Leader of the House of Israel,  
giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai:  
come to rescue us with your mighty power!

### December 19

O Root of Jesse's stem,  
sign of God's love for all his people:  
come to save us without delay!

### December 20

O Key of David,  
opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom:  
come and free the prisoners of darkness!

### December 21

O Radiant Dawn,  
splendor of eternal light, sun of justice:  
come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in  
the  
shadow of death.

### December 22

O King of all nations and keystone of the Church:  
come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

### December 23

O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law:  
come to save us, Lord our God!

