

# Annunciation Parish – December 3, 2017

Church of the Annunciation Waimea – Ascension Mission Puako

Rev. Stephen Macedo Pastor

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## Mass Times

Annunciation Church Waimea: Saturday 5:00PM Sunday 8:00AM

Ascension Mission Puako: Sunday 10:00AM

Tuesday – Friday Morning Prayer 6:45AM Mass 7:00AM

First Friday Mass 12:00 Noon

Adoration Fridays after morning Mass until Noon and from 6-9PM on First Fridays

Confession Saturday 4:00 – 4:30PM or by appointment

Religious Education Classes Sunday 8:15 AM Puako; 9:15 AM Waimea.

Marriage Allow six months for preparation.

Baptism of Children Parents attend class offered quarterly.

Hospital Visits Anointing of the Sick Please call office.

My Brothers and Sisters,

This First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. All the readings during this period of waiting and anticipation concentrate on making us aware that it is time for us to awaken our lives as Christians. Jesus opens our Gospel Reading from St. Mark by saying, “Be watchful! Be alert!” and closes it with an intense “Watch!”

For many, Advent and Christmas are times of light, whether it is the light of the candles on Advent wreaths or the lights on a tree, or the festive lights which decorate many houses and businesses. Jesus brings light into our worlds, but we must allow this light to permeate our own lives, to enter into the dark and sinful parts of our lives to illuminate and cleanse them.

This should be a time of renewed prayer and penance, which truly prepares us to “watch” for the Lord; not just at Christmas, but throughout our lives. There is a natural wonder among children at this time of year, but sometimes as we age, we lose that sense as if we are sleeping. It is time to awaken. Our minds may say “Let go”, but our spirituality tells us to “Awaken.” We are filled with spiritual depths. It is time to seek them, find them, and awaken them. It is Advent, time for us to awaken and become aware of the gifts of love we have received from God and others. Or as Jesus remind us: “Watch!”

Yours in Christ,

*Fr Stephen*

### Stewardship Note on this First Sunday of Advent

*We are the servants of God, each with his or her own task. We will be judged good stewards if, at His coming, He finds us ready and conscientiously pursuing the tasks to which we have been called.*

## Up Coming Events

- **Feast of Immaculate Conception – Holy Day of Obligation** – Friday, December 8 ~ Masses at 7AM in Waimea and 7PM in Puako
- **Healing Service** – Dec. 9 ~ 5:00PM Mass, Waimea
- **Finance Council** – Dec. 12 ~ 6:00PM – Conf. Room
- **Advent Reconciliation Service** – Dec. 15 ~ 6PM (W)
- **Kupuna Luncheon** – Sat. Dec. 16 ~ 11AM – Parish Hall
- **Sunday Masses Dec. 23/24** – regular schedule: Waimea 5pm Sat. & 8am Sun. Puako 10am Sun.

## Advent Reconciliation Service

During this season of renewal, let us take this opportunity for the grace of confession. Advent Reconciliation Service will be on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6pm in Annunciation Church.

### Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24

Waimea – 7pm ~ Puako – 10pm

Christmas Day – Monday, December 25

Waimea – 8am ~ Puako – 10am

## Prayer Blanket Material Needed

Do you have pieces of material we could use to make prayer blankets for patients at North HI Community Hospital? The hospital no longer has funds to buy the material. You may bring the material to church or drop off at the parish office. Mahalo for your kokua!

## Ring the Bell for Salvation Army

at KTA on Saturdays in December. Please call Mary in the office if you can help. We still have empty time slots available. Thank you!

## Kupuna Christmas Luncheon

Saturday Dec. 16th from 11am-2pm in the Parish Hall

RSVP with Mary Kay 885-5640 or Karen 464-4651.

## Retirement Fund for Religious 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection

next weekend. Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests need your help. Many served for years in Catholic schools, hospitals, and parishes -- often for little to no pay. Now there is a shortage in retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides funding for medications, nursing care, and more. Please give to those who gave given a lifetime. Please make checks payable to Annunciation with notation on memo line “Retirement Fund.” Envelopes are attached to the bulletin.

## Best Advent Ever

Remember getting ready for Christmas when you were a child? From decorating the tree to baking cookies, each moment brought you excitement and joy. Preparing for Christmas can be as joyful as it was then. Don't let this be just another Advent where you get distracted and busy.

Rediscover the joy in the season with Best Advent Ever, a free email program that will help you prepare for Christmas in a way that will allow you to have a Christmas as memorable and joyful as when you were a child. **Get ready for the best Christmas of your life!**

SIGN UP AT [DYNAMICCATHOLIC.COM/ADVENT17](http://DYNAMICCATHOLIC.COM/ADVENT17)

## Living Catholic in the 808: Thoughts About

**Advent** ..... By: Rafael Mendoza Business Manager

Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa

It is common nowadays to be on lookout for sales discounts. It is as if our ‘personal antenna’ is attuned to the airwaves, picking up ‘signals’ where we can get the latest product deals. We will grab any opportunity to buy at a discount!!

The Gospel reading for this 1st Sunday of Advent also speaks of being watchful. In this parable, the gatekeeper is the focus of attention. A gatekeeper or porter was responsible to guard the entrance to his master's house. Entrusted with his master's goods, this gatekeeper literally did “not know when” his “master” would return. However, whenever the master returned, the gatekeeper was (hopefully!) ready to admit him to a well-managed house. The gatekeeper had to be on the alert, to be watchful.

Today, this month, something much more valuable than a sales discount is before our very eyes. Someone much greater is (has always been!) sending us signals. Signals of His presence. What do we need to do to catch these signals? Jesus teaches us that we all need to be on the alert. If we do not pay attention, we will miss the sale. But, more importantly if we do not pay attention, we will miss out of God's very self coming to you.

How prepared are we to receive Jesus?

## Bereavement Ministry

By request, we have placed copies of “Instructions for My Funeral” in the kiosk. Please feel free to take one.

### Nov. 25/26 Mass Count

#### and Your Gift of Treasure

|      |                        |           |
|------|------------------------|-----------|
| 5PM  | 262 people             | \$1636.00 |
| 8AM  | 164 people             | \$1159.00 |
| 10AM | 250 people             | \$1867.83 |
|      | Thanksgiving offerings | \$ 849.00 |

**Mahalo for your gift of treasure!**