

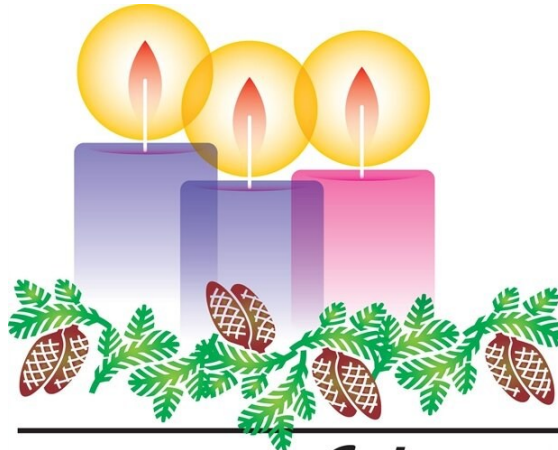


ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

Dec. 14, 2025

*Church Dedicated on
February 23, 1919*

Served by the Blessed Sacrament Congregation



THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

Gaudete Sunday

Priests:
Rev. Apolinario Ty, SSS
(ext. 131)
Rev. Ferdinand Tomo, SSS
(ext. 137)

Deacons:
Dcn. Charley Mapa
Dcn. David Watson



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Hilo, HI 96720
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*Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament begins
Monday-Thursdays at 11 am &
Fridays & Sundays at 4:00 p
Saturdays at 3:00 p*

Mass Schedule

6 am & 12:15 pm Monday—Friday
7 am Saturday Morning

5 pm Saturday Vigil Mass
7 am, 9 am, 11:45 am and 6 pm
Sunday

Forgot your Check Book?
Make your offering to
St. Joseph Church, Hilo online.

Simply click on the QR Code and
process your offering.

Thank You and God Bless.



*Please remember St. Joseph
Parish in your will!*

3rd Sunday of Advent (Year A)

Gaudete Sunday – “Rejoice, the Lord is near.”

Today is **Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of rejoicing**. But the Church does not ask us to rejoice because everything in life is perfect. She asks us to rejoice because the Lord is near, and His nearness changes everything—even when life is heavy.

In the Gospel, we meet an unexpected John the Baptist in prison, confused and discouraged. He sends his disciples to ask Jesus: “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?”

And this is comforting for us. Because there are times when we too cry out: “Lord, are you really here?” “Are you listening?” “Have you forgotten me?” John’s question is the question of every believer whose faith is being tested.

But Jesus does not rebuke John. He does not say, “How could you doubt?” Instead, He says gently: “Go and tell John what you hear and see. The blind see. The lame walk. The deaf hear. The poor receive the Good News.” Jesus’ message is this: “John, God is working—even in ways you cannot see from your prison cell.” And that is His message to us on Gaudete Sunday. Sometimes God’s work in our lives is not dramatic. It is slow, quiet, hidden—like healing wounds we don’t notice yet, softening hearts, preparing us for something deeper. Advent joy is not loud excitement.

It is calm confidence in God’s presence even when life feels unfinished. Isaiah’s vision of “The desert and the parched land will exult.” tells us: that Joy is not the absence of struggle; joy is the presence of God in the middle of it. and St. James in the 2nd reading reminds us to rejoice not because everything is solved, but because God is already at work beneath the soil like a farmer waiting for the rain to water the land.

Gaudete Sunday teaches us that Christian joy is not a feeling; it is an act of faith. We rejoice not because life is perfect, but because God is near.

December 2025

Office hours are from 9-1 M-F

14 7:00 Mass-FF 9:00 Mass-FF 11:45 Mass-FF 6:00 Mass-FF	15 6:00 Mass-FP 10:30 OCIA 12:15 Mass-FF 1:30 Mass +V.Rosario-FF 6:00 OCIA 6:00 Simbang Gabi-FP	16 6:00 Mass-FF 10:00 EH Vicariate Mtg. 12:15 Mass-FP 6:00 Simbang Gabi-FF	17 6:00 Mass-FF 12:15 Mass-FP 6:00 Simbang Gabi-FP	18 6:00 Mass-FP 11-12 Confessions 12:15 Mass-FF 6:00 Simbang Gabi -FF	19 6:00 Mass-FP 12:15 Mass-FF 4-5pm Confessions 6:00 Simbang Gabi -Fr. Niko	20 7:00 Mass-FF 10:00 Confessions 3-4 Confessions 5:00 Mass-FP
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Daily Readings

Monday, Dec. 15

Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a
Psalm 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc,
8-9
Matthew 21:23-27

Tuesday, Dec. 16

Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13
Psalm 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18,
19 and 23
Matthew 21:28-32

Wednesday, Dec. 17

Genesis 49:2, 8-10
Psalm 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8,
17
Matthew 1:1-17

Thursday, Dec. 18

Jeremiah 23:5-8
Psalm 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19
Matthew 1:18-25

Friday, Dec. 19

Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a
Psalm 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-
17
Luke 1:5-25

Saturday, Dec. 20

Isaiah 7:10-14
Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6
Luke 1:26-38

Sunday, Dec. 21

Isaiah 7:10-14
Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6.
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-24

A gift of Prayer this Christmas for:



Lord, as we celebrate this Christmas season, we remember those we love who are no longer with us. Thank You for the gift of their lives and the joy they brought. We trust in Your promise of eternal life and find hope in knowing that one day, we will be reunited in Your heavenly embrace. Amen.

Envelopes are available now.

Stewardship Report of Treasury for:

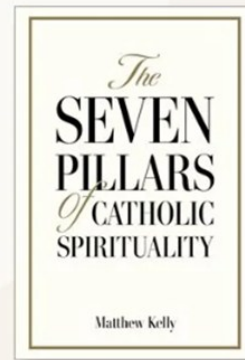
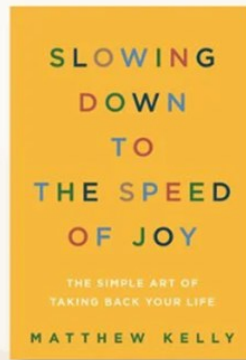
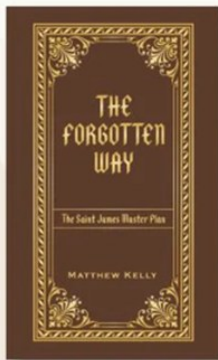
Stewardship Report of Treasury for:		
	Dec. 2-8	FYTD Actual
Collections	10,273.28	252,248.27
Other Regular Income	751.37	26,816.18
Unusual Income:		
Choirs	0.00	100.00
Convent Lease	0.00	34,000.00
R&M Collection	755.00	11,757.00
Security Project	110.00	1,175.00
Feed the Hungry	100.00	2,680.00
Other Unusual Income	0.00	3,715.28
Total Income	11,989.65	332,491.73
Designated Funds		630,339.94
Restricted Parish Hall Funds		465,326.95



CHRISTMAS

BOOK PROGRAM

The Right Book
at the Right Time
Changes Everything.



This Christmas there will be three books to choose from.

Choose the right book for you and your family

More information available on our bulletin board or grab one of the take home booklets to review!



SJS Campus Ministry Christmas Wreath Sale



Support our students and bring home a fresh, handcrafted Christmas wreath made with care by our very own SJS Campus Ministry students.

Wreaths are on display outside the high school front office Dec. 15-19.

Price: \$30 each

First come, first served

Payment options:

Cash or check payable to St. Joseph School

Memo line: Campus Ministry Wreaths

Please submit payment to Mr. Costales or Mrs. Villena

Mahalo and God bless.

ADVENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE:

DECEMBER 1-23:

Thursdays: 11-12 noon (Dec 4, 11, 18)

Fridays: 4-5 pm (Dec 5, 12, 19)

Saturdays: 10 am (Dec 6, 13, 20)
3-4 pm (Dec 6, 13, 20)

Advent Recollection/Adoration:

Dec. 14 10:30-11:30 am



COLLECTION WILL BE ON DECEMBER 13/14

Please give generously to
the upcoming collection.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Visit retiredreligious.org/2025photos to meet the religious pictured.
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The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.
May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole Cosmos
in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.
Amen.



Franciscus



PLEASE JOIN US ON
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 AT 10:30 FOR OUR
SUNDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND PRAYERS



We are looking for people interested in serving our Church as altar servers, lectors, choir members, church cleaners and/or hospitality ministers. Anyone who would like to join a ministry can obtain a voluntary form from the back bulletin board. Just fill it in and place it in the collection box. Upon receipt of the form, Coordinators will contact with you. Thank you.



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