



*Welcoming Jesus,
The Light of the World*



*Our Lady of Good Counsel
Parish & School
Pearl City, Hawaii*

November 30, 2020

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118:24)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Warm greetings and wishes of peace, joy, and good health of the new born baby. Jesus be with you and your family. This Christmas is coming to us with a powerful message of Christ conquering the world and all evil and sickness. He will restore his kingdom within our hearts and that kingdom of peace and love will be an eternal kingdom. "Yes," this has been an extremely difficult year. The pandemic created fear, doubt, and even suspicion amongst the best of us. Every man, woman, and child in our community, state, nation, and the entire world has been adversely affected. There was no easy way out of it and it came as a shock and surprise to us. It often tested our patience and understanding. Initially, we didn't know how to deal with it, but gradually in faith and trust in God's mercy we learned to cope. Our faith in God and his providence empowered us and led us to where we are today. It is difficult to hold on to faith of any kind when we are literally isolated from the world. I write to you today with the promise of God's love. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the father of all mercies and the God of all consolations, who consoles us in all our afflictions, so that we may be able to console those who face any affliction.

God's answer for us all during times of darkness is Christmas! God brings us out from the darkness of the world and into the light through the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus! Let the light of Jesus illuminate your way out of the darkness that this pandemic has created in your life.

Our clergy, staff, and amazing volunteers have been hard at work to make this year's Advent and Christmas celebrations bright! Our theme is, "Welcoming Jesus, the Light of the World." I promise that this year's celebrations will be very bright, indeed! I hope to welcome back those of you have been away (if you feel safe in coming) and look forward to celebrating Christmas with all my parishioners.

Due to the limited seating in the church and pastoral center, we will be adding additional seating. If you plan to attend a Christmas Mass, please register with our volunteers at our Sunday Masses or call our offices at 455-3012. All are welcome! Please see the enclosed schedule of Christmas Masses as well as additional events which will take place here in the coming weeks.

May the Light of Jesus shine brightly upon you all!

Sincerely,

Fr. Santhosh Thottankara, SS.CC
Pastor