

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, January 8

The Epiphany of the Lord

Masses at 6:00a/7:30/9:00/10:30/12:00n/6p

Religious Education Classes at 8:00pm

Monday, January 9

The Baptism of the Lord

Tuesday, January 10 – *Weekday*

No Cathedral Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, January 11 – *Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 11:00am

Adult Bible Study at 6:00pm

Thursday, January 12 – *Weekday*

Friday, January 13 – *Weekday*

Saturday, January 14 – *Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

St. Marianne Devotional Group at 12:30pm

Sunday, January 15

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

2nd Collection for Repairs & Maintenance

Masses at 6:00a/7:30/9:00/10:30/12:00n/6p

Religious Education Classes at 8:00pm

Adult Faith Formation

Join us on today, Jan. 8, 11:30am-12:30pm for Bishop Robert Barron "*Catholicism*" series. Also, teaching "*7 Keys to the New Evangelization*" at Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa on Monday, Jan. 16 at 7pm. For more information, please contact Deacon Joe and Easter at 227-7309 or email: ealmuena@rcchawaii.org

Mahalo Plenty!

Our Christmas celebration was very special this year thanks to our wonderful volunteers...mahalo to Gary and Libert for making our church "merry & bright!" Our choir was outstanding (both voices and instrumentalists.) Our senior ministry lovingly provided a beautiful Christmas banquet. We also want to thank our many hospitality, Eucharistic, lector, sacristan and acolyte ministers for sharing their talents in making the celebration of the birth of Christ at our Cathedral Basilica one that will not be forgotten.

Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection \$ 5,839.08

Weekday Collection \$ 1,842.50

Coffers \$ 404.13

Holy Day Collection \$ 9,447.65

Total \$ 19,863.36



Cathedral Renewal Campaign

The Cathedral Renewal Campaign Receives a Generous Bequest Gift!

Monsignor Gary L. Secor is pleased to announce the Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace recently received a generous six-figure bequest gift from the estate of Rosita Francisco. Rosita Francisco was a dedicated parishioner of the Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace for 35+ years who passed away on July 8, 2016 and left a generous portion of her estate to the Cathedral Basilica in her will.

Michael Francisco, nephew of deceased parishioner Rosita Francisco, traveled to Honolulu from his home in Charleston, SC to meet with Monsignor Gary Secor and hand-deliver the check from his aunt's estate on December 12, 2016. Ms. Francisco's bequest, in its entirety, will be directed to the Cathedral Renewal Campaign to help fund renovation and preservation of the church where she faithfully worshipped for so many years.

Monsignor Gary Secor is honored to receive this gift and welcomed the opportunity to meet personally with Michael Francisco along with family friends and Cathedral parishioners, Paul and Faith Kealoha, who were instrumental in arranging the meeting and were close friends of Rosita's.

Monsignor Secor is working with the family to select a donor recognition opportunity to memorialize and honor Rosita Francisco's generous gift.

Have you considered including the Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace in your will?

To learn more about Cathedral Renewal Campaign and/or to make a contribution: Visit us online at: www.HonoluluCathedralRenewal.org Click on the "Learn" button, or select "Renewal Campaign" in the toolbar to view our 5 ½ minute campaign video.

Email: CRC@rcchawaii.org Phone: (808) 585-3329

January 8, 2017 – The Epiphany of the Lord

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Isaiah 60:1-6 | Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 | Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 | Matthew 2:1-12

Just as Christ's birth sharpened the contrast between light and darkness, so will our faithful discipleship magnify this contrast, too. The disturbing message of this gospel is that we cannot follow Christ and expect that we cannot follow Christ and expect that we won't experience troubling challenges. There is a price to pay for being the light. There is a price to pay for living in this story.

Each fresh look at the Christmas story reminds us that all Christian living is paschal mystery living, that is, the rising (the Light) happens only when dying to self (darkness) is embraced. It ought not to surprise us, then, how much darkness accompanies these beautiful Christmas season gospels; nor should it surprise us that there is a cost in our own lives for living the gospel. We continue to choose self-giving, nevertheless, because God's star always guides us and fills us with joy as we surrender to God's will and follow the Light that has come into our midst.

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Next Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 | Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 | 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 | John 1:29-34

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral Family:

The Epiphany of the Lord, which we celebrate today, is an important part of the Season of Christmas and, in some parts of the world, is celebrated with as much festivity as the Lord's birth. This extension of the Christmas feast reminds us that, like a good meal, we should savor each part of it and not rush the experience. Today's celebration presents three important images and symbols that are essential to understanding who Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, really is.

First, there is the star that led the Magi to Bethlehem. The star reminds us that Jesus is the light that has come into our lives to cast out the darkness of sin and sadness. Christ is the light that can guide us through confusing and difficult times. Even though the darkness is still present when the star of Christ's light shines, this brightness is enough to guide us and give us hope.

Secondly, there is the image of the Magi coming from afar. They represent the fact that Christ came, not just for a few people in Bethlehem, but for all times and for all people. The word, "epiphany" means "manifestation". All of this tells us that Christ has come for all of us, who are centuries and miles removed from Bethlehem and that first Christmas. It also reminds us that we are called to be part of the manifestation of Christ; to not be afraid to make Him known by our words and actions.

Finally, there are the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Although much has been written speculating on the symbolism of each gift, what is important is to note that these were precious and valuable items. They remind us that we are called to offer Christ our best and what is most precious in our lives.

The last words of today's Gospel are particularly important. They indicate that, once the Magi had met the Lord and been warned of Herod's intentions, they "departed for their country by another way". We are reminded that, once we meet the Lord, we cannot leave the same way that we came. Our lives must be changed. As we begin this new year, my prayer for all of us is that we will meet Jesus Christ in a new way so that we will become His new creation. And thanks to all who worked hard to make our Christmas celebration so beautiful!

In His love,
Msgr. Gary L. Secor, V.G.
Rector