

## The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, January 13

### **The Baptism of the Lord**

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

Religious Education Classes at 8:00am

Adult Faith Formation at 11:30am

Monday, January 14

### **Monday of the First Week in Ordinary Time**

Tuesday, January 15

### **Tuesday of the First Week in Ordinary Time**

No Cathedral Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, January 16

### **Wednesday of the First Week in Ordinary Time**

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 11:00am

Thursday, January 17

### **Memorial of St. Anthony, Abbot**

Friday, January 18

### **Friday of the First Week in Ordinary Time**

Saturday, January 19

### **Saturday of the First Week in Ordinary Time**

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

Ss. Damien/Marianne Prayer Group at 12:30pm

Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Sunday, January 20

### **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

Religious Education Classes at 8:00am

## Holy Land Pilgrimage

We still have room left. Fr. Marvin is leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from October 13-24, 2019. We will be partnering with a parish from WA, so very limited space is available. It is a great opportunity to journey in the land of Jesus. Please contact Fr. Marvin at (808) 536-7036.

## Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation will meet on Sunday, January 13 at 11:30am. Continuing education covers learning about Saints and growing in joyful Faith in the new year. Contact Deacon Joe and Easter at [EasterAlmuena@gmail.com](mailto:EasterAlmuena@gmail.com)

## Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection	\$ 10,080.03
Weekday Collection	\$ 144.36
Coffers	\$ 599.58
Holy Day Collection	\$ 16,050.41
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 26,874.38</b>



## Living the Liturgy

- Discuss the symbols and rituals that are used for a Baptism: water, oil, candles, new white garment, Sign of the Cross, anointing, pouring or immersing, blessing. Does anyone in the group remember their Baptism? Perhaps they could tell their experience.
- Read the story of Peter and Cornelius, who was a Gentile, in reading from Acts. What did Peter learn about God? How do you imagine that Peter acted differently after his experience with a Gentile, who many Jews despised? How do you think this experience influence Peter's work in the early Church?
- What does it mean for you to be called by God? If you were to draw a time line of your life journey, where have you experienced that call from God? Perhaps it meant a change in your life or a move from security to uncertainty.

## Sharing Faith

- What does it mean to be God's chosen servant? How do you imagine a servant is called to practice obedience to God?
- Recall a Baptism that you have witness. What images or prayers do you remember from the ritual?
- How do you think God's Spirit helps on to be a servant of God?

## Cathedral Renewal Campaign

As always, Bishop Larry Silva and Msgr. Gary Secor extend their appreciation and aloha for your generous and prayerful support.

Please consider joining us with a generous gift or pledge today! To learn more and/or to make a contribution:

Call: 808-585-3357, or visit us online at [www.HonoluluCathedralRenewal.org](http://www.HonoluluCathedralRenewal.org).

Click on the "Learn" button, or select "Renewal Campaign" in the toolbar to view our 5 ½ minute campaign video.

# January 13, 2019 – The Baptism of the Lord

## Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

*Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 / Psalm 29:1a,1-2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9b-10 / Acts 10:34-38 / Luke 3:15-16 21-22 or  
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 / Psalm 104:1-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-30 / Titus 1:11-14; 3:4-7 / Luke 3:15-16 21-22*

Isaiah's images of what the Lord does for his servant are commanding: "I, the Lord, have called you . . . / I have grasped you . . . / I formed you, and set you as . . . / a light for the nations" (Isaiah 42:6). It is with God's Spirit within that God's servant can teach and bring justice to the earth, fulfill the command to be light, give sight to the blind, release prisoners, and set free those who are in darkness. It seems a fitting passage for the Church to link with Matthew's account of Jesus' Baptism.

John preached baptism in acknowledgement of sin. Jesus, being without sin, had no need for repentance. So why does Jesus approach John for Baptism? In Matthew, Jesus tells John to allow it to fulfill God's plan. Matthew's account invites his community to recognize Jesus' obedience and readiness to submit to God and become his chosen servant. This beloved servant is God's own Son. We, the baptized members of Christ's body, are called, as disciples, to also become obedient servants of God.

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### **Next Sunday's Readings: "Second Sunday in Ordinary Time"**

*Isaiah 62:1-5 / Psalm 96:1a,1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 / 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 / John 2:1-11*

## From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral family:

As a further manifestation and "epiphany" of the Lord, we celebrate today the Baptism of the Lord. This mysterious event is a further revelation that Jesus is Christ, the Son of God, with whom the Father is well pleased. But, it is also an important reminder of who we are, especially because we too have been baptized.

We are reminded that we are beloved sons and daughters. Jesus was acknowledged by the Father as his beloved Son. God wants all of us to know that we are beloved as well. This sense of being loved by God is essential to our well-being. Without it, we begin to feel that God does not care or that God is out to get us and only interested in divine retribution. The truth is that God loves us more than we can imagine.

We are reminded that God's love is meant to comfort us in our trials and be experience as a grace of mercy that is freely given. Isaiah speaks of that comfort. It is important to sense God's care and comfort especially when life is not very friendly or comforting. It is essential to know that God is merciful because we are imperfect and in constant need of forgiveness. God gives us that forgiveness without our needing to earn it; all we need to do is ask for and accept it.

We are reminded that this love, comfort, and mercy are given to us so that we can live good lives. With these gifts comes a responsibility. We are entrusted with these blessings so that we can be a blessing to others. We are reminded that we are beloved so that we can remind others that they are beloved. We are shown mercy so that we can show mercy to others as well.

These rich graces are given to us in Baptism. Let us pray that we will let the fire of the Holy Spirit ignite them so that they will empower us to be God's beloved sons and daughters.

In Christ's love,  
Very Rev. Msgr. Gary L. Secor, V.G.  
Rector