

## The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, January 29

### **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

Religious Education Classes at 8:00pm

Monday, January 30 – *Weekday*

Tuesday, January 31

**Memorial of St. John Bosco, priest**

No Cathedral Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 1 – *Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 11:00am

Adult Bible Study at 6:00pm

Thursday, February 2

**Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**

Friday, February 3

#### **First Friday**

24 Hour Adoration of Our Lord and

Pilgrim Virgin of Our Lady of Fatima

Adoration/Benediction at 10:00am

Saturday, February 4

#### **First Saturday**

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

Mass & Holy Hour at 12:00n

St. Damien Devotional Group at 12:30pm

Sunday, February 5

### **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

Religious Education Classes at 8:00pm

## Outreach Ministries

We are accepting donations of clothes, toiletries and household items for Family Promise. Their mission is to mobilize existing community resources to aid families with children experiencing homelessness and help them transition to sustainable independence. Contact Ron Gochenouer at [gochron@gmail.com](mailto:gochron@gmail.com) for more information.

## Our Lady of Fatima

Join us for a 24-Hour Adoration of Our Lord and Centennial Tour for Peace Vigil of the Pilgrim Virgin of Our Lady of Fatima here at the Cathedral Basilica. Welcoming the statue at the 6:30am Mass on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> and ending on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at the 7:00am Mass. For more information, please contact Easter Almuena at [ealmuena@rcchawaii.org](mailto:ealmuena@rcchawaii.org).

## Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection	\$ 7,572.60
Weekday Collection	\$ 1,337.31
Coffers	\$ 673.71
Holy Day Collection	\$ 25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,608.62</b>



## Cathedral Renewal Campaign

### Accomplishments of 2016 and a look ahead

The New Year is off to a running start and we are able to look back at 2016 with gratitude and a sense of accomplishment. The renewal of the Cathedral Basilica continues to progress. Phase 2 began in 2016 with renovations to the bell tower, the culmination of which we celebrated with a lighting ceremony on December 21. We are blessed to be achieving this milestone and owe our thanks to the many contributors whose ongoing support has brought us this far. Mahalo nui loa!

The Renewal Campaign to support this project has also met with success and has picked up momentum over the past year, expanding our reach across the state of Hawaii, the U.S. mainland and internationally. Since our campaign resumed in earnest more than a year ago, we have raised an additional \$1,575,660 from 434 generous individuals, families, parishes, clergy, deacons and religious orders. This amount ensures our ability to continue Phase 2 work slated for 2017-18, including renovations to the sanctuary of the Cathedral Basilica.

In 2017, workers will begin developing out the sanctuary platform, which is being expanded to accommodate large celebrations and to restore the sanctuary's original footprint from the 1800s. Additionally, to restore the sanctuary to its own nineteenth-century design, the scrim (screen) will be removed to provide unobstructed views of the High Altar. Additional Phase 2 work includes: installation of Bishops' Burial Chapels on either side of the sanctuary as well as work in the sacristies and basement.

Please join in supporting the Cathedral Renewal Campaign with a sacrificial gift or pledge today!

To learn more about Cathedral Renewal Campaign and/or to make a contribution: 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.

**Email: [CRC@rcchawaii.org](mailto:CRC@rcchawaii.org) Phone: (808) 585-3329**

# January 29, 2017 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

*Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13 | Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-19 | 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 | Matthew 5:1-12a*

The Beatitudes seem to describe behaviors and attitudes that we generally ascribe to those we call "saints." Yet, all of us can name good people we know – truly *good* people. We can name the qualities and actions that lead us to judge them truly *good*. These (and we ourselves) are truly *good* – the blessed.

It is awesome to think that our own halting efforts at being really *good* – at extending mercy, justice, and righteousness to others as God has extended them to us – are one means for bringing God's blessedness to others! Simply sharing in God's work of salvation – providing for those in need – is a blessing in itself that brings unequalled happiness. Our deepest happiness comes not from fulfilling our own needs and wants, but from reaching out to others as God reaches out to us in blessing. Happiness that comes from our own desires and efforts is fleeting; the blessings of God that are showered upon us as we live humbly, justly, and faithfully last forever. Here's the truly amazing part: the happiness we share now is but a taste of our great reward in heaven!

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### **Next Sunday's Readings**

*Isaiah 58:7-10 | Psalm 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 | 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 | Matthew 5:13-16*

## From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral Family:

Last week, we saw Jesus calling his first disciples to follow him. In today's gospel he takes them aside at the beginning of their ministry together and gives them their "marching orders". The Beatitudes, as recounted in Matthew's gospel, summarize the attitudes, actions, and approach that those who serve with Christ must adopt. Rather than analyze each of them, it is helpful to note three things that characterize all of them.

First of all, it is significant to note that the blessedness that Jesus promises is not a reward reserved for a heavenly future, but a reality that begins to be experienced in the present. When Christ says Blessed "are" ... he is indicating that the joy and peace of God's kingdom is meant to begin now. Christianity is not just about suffering in order to be happy after we die. Even now, God wants us to find meaning, purpose, and that pleasure that comes from doing what pleases God. Happiness is not just for heaven, it is for here and now.

Secondly, this blessedness comes into our lives when we are willing to empty ourselves in order that God might fill us. It is so easy to be so "full of ourselves". We think that more is better and that our job is to go out and get it. We are hungry, physically, emotionally, and spiritually, and we go ahead and fill that hunger in all kinds of unhealthy ways. God wants us to embrace emptiness so that we might allow God to embrace us with the fullness of love.

Finally, Jesus reminds us that real peace is not just going to "drop from the sky". It must be made by each of us as we seek reconciliation with God and one another. And it must not be "peace at any price". As we fashion more peaceful lives and a more peaceful world, we will experience persecution. As we speak the truth with love, we will often find those who do not love the truth. We must seek that blessedness that comes when we are willing to accept the burden of being rejected and disliked.

Ultimately, what counts is not pleasing others but pleasing God.

All of us who follow Jesus and follow the Beatitudes can look forward to a heavenly reward. And we can look forward to experiencing God's blessedness even now.

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