

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, January 31

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/4:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Monday, February 1

Monday of the 4th Week in Ordinary Time

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after Mass

Tuesday, February 2

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Wednesday, February 3

Wednesday of the 4th Week in Ordinary Time

Sacrament of Reconciliation by Appointment

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Thursday, February 4

Thursday of the 4th Week in Ordinary Time

Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Friday, February 5

First Friday

Memorial of St Agatha, virgin and martyr

Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Saturday, February 6

First Saturday

Memorial of St. Paul Miki and Companions, martyrs

Mass at 7:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by Appointment

Mass at 12:00 p.m.

Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Sunday, February 7

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/4:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Stewardship of Treasure

Offertory Collection

1/18 – 1/24

Sunday Offering	\$ 4,697.20
Weekday	\$ 721.25
Online Giving	\$ 574.57
Feasts & Solemnities	\$ 53.00
Total Offertory	\$ 6,046.02

Other Collection

Repair & Maintenance	\$ 2,080.00
Black and Indian Mission	\$ 605.00
Hawaii Catholic Herald	\$ 20.00
Gallery	\$ 150.50
Others (Mass Intentions, Candles, etc.)	\$ 310.70
Total	\$ 9,212.22

Living the Liturgy

- Make a listing of all of Israel's prophets (it will be shorter than you think). Which prophet do you know best? Why do you think prophets were often mistreated and seldom heeded in Israel's history?
- What do you think it means to be "anxious about the things of the Lord" (1 Corinthians 7:32)? Are you anxious about those things in your life? Are many of the people you know?
- Baking cookies is a great accompaniment to discussion of softening hearts through love, caring, and sharing. If you don't have heart-shaped cookie cutters or a desire to bake from scratch, purchase refrigerator dough, and mold hearts by hand. As an alternative, spread the dough in a pizza pan, bake for about as long as a sheet full of cookies, let cool slightly, flip the giant cookie onto a cake plate, and draw hearts on it with icing when it has completely cooled. The final appearance isn't important as long as there's lots of love rolled!

Sharing the Faith

- Do you know anyone who "speaks with authority"? What characterizes someone who possesses such authority?
- What do you know about the role of prophets in Israel? Do you think we have prophets today who are sent to speak God's word?
- Have you become complacent about or hardened your hearts to some person or situation in your family, community, school, or workplace? If so, what can you do that you aren't doing?

Quote of the Week

"What is this? A new teaching with authority" (Mark 1:27).

January 31, 2021 – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 | Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 | 1 Corinthians 7:32-34 | Mark 1:21-28

Jesus amazes the people with his “authority.” His message differs from that of the scribes because he not only backs it up with signs (casting out demons), but its truth penetrates and quickens people’s hearts. God had promised Moses to send a prophet and to “put my words into his mouth” (Deuteronomy 18:18). Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of that promise and the people sense it. This man can’t be ignored, they realize. Because God’s prophet does his bidding and speaks his word, God expects us to listen to him. In fact, God warns, we’ll have to answer for ignoring any words the prophet speaks in his name (Deuteronomy 18:19). Moses reminds the people they wanted an intermediary, someone less intimidating than the awesome God who spoke to them in fire and thunder at Sinai. The irony is that God’s ultimate intermediary is his own divine Son. Today’s crowd understands the need to listen to him. And Paul does, too — that’s why he endorses an “undivided” life. Paul isn’t denigrating marriage, but emphasizing the need to be attentive to God’s Word as spoken in Jesus. Anything that distracts us from that should be eliminated. Single people know it’s no easier for them to hear and obey the Lord than married people. They, too, must eliminate distractions from their lives. It takes an open heart to recognize “a new teaching with authority” (Mark 1:27), and a generous heart to make room for it.

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Next Sunday’s Readings: “Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time”

Job 7:1-4, 6-7 | Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 | 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 | Mark 1:29-39

From the Desk of Fr. Pascual

Dear Cathedral Basilica Ohana,

Greetings of peace, love, and joy!

“What is this? A new teaching with authority.” Mk. 1:27

It is our longing or desire to know the will of God. In this endeavor, we search and find ways and means to know it and learn from it. Often we end up listening instead to soothsayers, fortune-tellers, or mystics who interpret events according to their whims and caprices. The effect of it is that we trust these words more than what we are taught according to our teachings and beliefs. We outweigh what is presented to us as true and act on these foretelling with the intent that directs our moves. Not only through them that we hear such words. Especially in this modern-day where information and data are presented through social media, how easy it is to be persuaded by what we read or hear even without validating its veracity. Without much thinking, we just believe in it and act on it, not knowing it may negatively affect us. In the end, we fall short and regret if it is not fulfilled or trusting more of it if it coincidentally happens. Then we begin to question, is it the will of God or the will of our interpretation of things? We need to caution ourselves on what we hear and read, especially during these times.

How then could one come to know the will of God? The readings of today teach us the only way: through a prophet. In the Book of Deuteronomy, Moses is an example of a true prophet. He is the intermediary between God and the people of Israel. Moses speaks in the name of God. He transmits God’s words faithfully. As he faithfully carries out God’s message to Israel’s people, a prophecy is proclaimed. That is, “I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their king and will put my words into his mouth; he shall tell them all that I command him.” The Gospel tells us that this prophet is Jesus. It is fulfilled in Jesus as He spoke with authority and communicated God’s word, not by way of the rabbis. His message is new and is proclaimed with authority. His words are effective and free a person from the forces of evil.

If we really intend to embrace God’s gift of life and love, we need to understand what He teaches us and how we can live it every day. He is the authority to find the Way, the Truth, and the Life. He is our Servant-Leader who shows us the path to Peace, Justice, and Love. That is why it is so essential in our journey of life and faith to hold on to Him and to Him alone. And if we do that, then we need to reflect, study and understand whenever He speaks to us through His Word and the Sacrament.

May you always be enriched by His blessings and keep you always safe

Your friend in Jesus,

Fr. Pascual