

## The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, February 18

### First Sunday of Lent

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for Repair and Maintenance

Religious Education Class at 8:00am

RCIA Rite of Sending at 9:00am

Monday, February 19 – *Lenten Weekday*

### President's Day

All offices closed

Cathedral on holiday schedule

Tuesday, February 20 – *Lenten Weekday*

Lenten Evening Prayer at 5:40pm

Cathedral Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm

Wednesday, February 21 – *Lenten Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 11:00am

Adult Bible Study at 6:00pm

Thursday, February 22

Feast of the Chair of St. Peter, *Apostle*

Friday, February 23 – *Lenten Weekday*

*Day of Abstinence*

Stations of the Cross at 10:00am & 5:15pm

Saturday, February 24 – *Lenten Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

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

Sunday, February 25

### Second Sunday of Lent

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

Religious Education Class at 8:00am



In Iraq, we encounter Majd and his family, people forced to flee violence, searching for stability. How are we called to welcome the stranger in our midst? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more information.

## Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection	\$ 7,481.90
Weekday Collection	\$ 1,599.28
Coffers	\$ 1,187.40
Holy Day Collection	\$ 142.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 10,410.58</b>



## Winter Cold and Flu Season

As always, you are reminded to use common sense in the reception of Holy Communion from the chalice during the annual cold and flu season. If you are feeling ill or think you may have been exposed to a virus, you should refrain from partaking of the Blood of Christ from the communal chalice. In the same way, you should refrain from offering your hand to others at the sign of peace. A smile and a heartfelt "Peace be with you" should suffice. Likewise if you are not comfortable sharing the sign of peace or receiving Holy Communion from the communal chalice for fear of infection, you should feel no pressure to do so. All of us must be aware of such sensitive matters in the intimate life of the Christian community and we should expect that some will refrain from the sign of peace and the communal chalice out of care for our well-being and not out of unkindness or a lack of piety.

## Cathedral Renewal Campaign

### What's Going On Outside?

You may have noticed the closure of the Makai entrance and the construction taking place on the south side of the church. The Cathedral is updating their electrical system and will consolidate electrical service at the rear of the church. Workers are trenching along the Makai side to run electrical conduit (and other utilities) in order to eliminate the electrical panels at the front of the building.

The coconut trees, which were near the end of their life, were removed to make room for the trench and for the planned landscape design.

During this process, the Makai entrance will remain blocked to prevent parishioners and visitors from injury caused by the construction. We apologize for any inconvenience and ask for your patience during this time. Mahalo!

Have you considered a year-end gift or a pledge to help restore and preserve our historic Hawaiian Cathedral?

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.

We also offer a menu of individual naming opportunities, which may be obtained by contacting the campaign office:

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

## February 18, 2018 – First Sunday of Lent

### Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

*Genesis 9:8-15 | Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 | 1 Peter 3:18-22 | Mark 1:12-15*

Everything is brought together in Christ: the wild animals of the First Reading join the angels of 1 Peter to minister to Jesus in the desert. All the created order recognizes the Lordship of Christ, but only we humans can choose whether or not to embrace the message Jesus came to proclaim: Now is the time! The kingdom is here! Repent, and believe! That simple message unites all that went before him with what will follow in the ministry of Jesus. God created a good world, but creation rebelled and chose to go its own way. God chastised us and promised redemption, prefiguring it in the waters of the flood. Those floodwaters foreshadow the waters of Baptism through which darkness turns to light and creation is restored to its original goodness.

God placed a rainbow in the sky to remind him of the “covenant I have made between me and you.” God willingly bound himself to us and gave a visible sign of accountability regarding the promise to never again destroy the earth with floodwaters. For millennia that promise was sustained in the hearts of a small and feeble people called the Israelites. And in the fullness of time God sent the promise in the form of his Son, so that beasts and angels could recognize him and humans could become like him by enduring the waters of Baptism.

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### **Next Sunday's Readings: “Second Sunday of Lent”**

*Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 | Psalm 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 | Roman 8:31b-34 | Mark 9:2-10*

### **From the Rector's Desk**

Dear Cathedral family:

As we begin Lent, we pray in a special way for those to be baptized at Easter, those who will be received into the Catholic Church, and those who will be renewing their relationship with God and the Church by receiving Confirmation and Eucharist. Historically, Lent began as a special time of final preparation for those to be baptized. Today, it also is an opportunity for all of us to renew the grace of our baptism.

Baptism gives us the grace of spiritual adoption as a child of God who loves us. God promises to never abandon us and Genesis reminds us of this promise; the rainbow is a sign of that commitment. Here in Hawaii we are blessed with an abundance of rainbows. In this image of God's love, we are provided with a profound lesson about how God's grace works and is experienced. The rainbow is a product of the sun being reflected through the rain. We are reminded that God's love is experienced most deeply when we allow the Son of God, Jesus Christ, to shine through the “rain” and pain in our lives.

Before Jesus began his public ministry, he went into the desert. He embraced a time of pain and testing and emerged ready to proclaim the gospel of God. During Lent we are invited to put our faith to the test. This might mean coming to weekday mass or Stations of the Cross. We might give more generously of our time and resources to those in need, or deny ourselves little pleasures. By prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we are challenged to accept the pain involved in renewing our relationship with God and others. This is so that we may be more ready to proclaim with our lives the gospel of God; the good news of God's love for us.

In Christ's love,

Very Rev. Msgr. Gary L. Secor, V.G.

Rector

### **Cannot Marry in the Catholic Church Because of a Prior Marriage?**

Pope Francis recently streamlined the process to petition for a declaration of nullity to make the process shorter. He also eliminated the mandatory fee. If a person is able to prove in the process that their prior marital bond was invalid for some reason, the he or she can marry in the Catholic Church or validate a current civil marriage. For assistance in petitioning, you can contact Msgr. Gary Secor at (808) 536-7036, ext. 3346 or [gsecor@rcchawaii.org](mailto:gsecor@rcchawaii.org) or Rev. Marvin Samiano at (808) 536-7036, ext. 3323 or [msamiano@rcchawaii.org](mailto:msamiano@rcchawaii.org), either of whom can assist you as an advocate.