

The Church's Calendar This Week

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

Monday, February 26 – *Lenten Weekday*

Tuesday, February 27 – *Lenten Weekday*

Lenten Evening Prayer at 5:40pm

(Located at Kamiano Center)

Cathedral Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm

Wednesday, February 28 – *Lenten Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 11:00am

Adult Bible Study at 6:00pm

Thursday, March 1 – *Lenten Weekday*

Friday, March 2 – *Lenten Weekday*

Day of Abstinence

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

Saturday, March 3 – *Lenten Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

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

Sunday, March 4

Third Sunday of Lent

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

Religious Education Class at 8:00am

The Scrutiny of the Rite of

Christian Initiation of Adults at 9:00am

Adult Faith Formation

Calling all young adults to meet on Sunday, March 4th after the 12:00 Noon Mass for fellowship. For more information, contact Deacon Joe and Easter at ealmuen@rcchawaii.org or call the office.



We encounter Cesia in Nicaragua, where, despite a lack of economic opportunity, young people pursue their dreams by building businesses to better their lives. How can you work to improve the lives of others this Lent? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

Stewardship of Treasure

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Sunday Collection | \$ 8,589.62 |
| Weekday Collection | \$ 1,402.74 |
| Coffers | \$ 476.74 |
| Holy Day Collection | \$ 3,560.80 |
| Total | \$ 14,029.79 |



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 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 Phone: (808) 585-3329

February 25, 2018 – Second Sunday of Lent

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

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

In his breathless relief over the sparing of his son, Abraham spies a ram and knows he has found a substitute to offer in place of his beloved boy. Isaac was a son, his firstborn whom he loved! Abraham's hopes and dreams were pinned on him. To lose Isaac would be to lose everything. But in his place Abraham offers something that isn't even his — the ram is a found object, provided by the merciful God. Isaac is commonly considered a type or foreshadowing of Jesus, but there is also great contrast between them. While Abraham substitutes an animal for his son, God offers his Son in place of us. An inferior creature substitutes for Isaac, but an infinitely superior creature substitutes for us. The ram shares nothing in common with Abraham, but Jesus is God's own Son who shares the very life of God. His divinity is manifested on the mountain in a spectacle that terrifies the disciples. This Jesus who is sacrificed in our place — who, unlike Isaac, God did not hold back — is the one of whom Paul sings. Like a teenager on the playground Paul struts and says: Who would dare be against us? Why so bold? Because Paul knows, as we all should, that one far greater than any threatening bully stands with us: Christ who died, was raised, and who forever reigns and intercedes for us, his sisters and brothers.

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Next Sunday's Readings: "Third Sunday of Lent"

Year A: Exodus 17:3-7 | Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 | Roman 5:1-2, 5-8 | John 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 40-42
Year B: Exodus 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17 | Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11 | 1 Corinthians 1:22-25 | John 2:13-25

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral family:

On this Second Sunday of Lent we see Jesus moving from the desert of temptation to the mountain of transfiguration. As Christ is glorified, the Father reminds us that He is the "beloved Son". Paul indicates that, although Christ was His only Son, the Father gave Him to us out of love for our salvation. This loving surrender was prefigured in the willingness of Abraham to sacrifice his son. He was willing to give God what was most precious in his life. And God honored this heroic faithfulness and self-sacrifice by giving him his son back and blessing him abundantly.

Today, God asks us if we are willing sacrifice what is most precious to us. For each of us, this may be something different. Maybe it is a relationship that we are not living in a way God wants us to. Perhaps it is some material thing that we cling to or a hurt that we refuse to let go of. Whatever we deem most precious, God is challenging us to give him; to sacrifice it but putting it in God's hands. And God has promised that as we are willing to do that, God will give us back relationships, material things, and healing in an abundant way that we never could imagined. Yes, Lent (and indeed all of life!) is about letting go so that we can take hold of God.

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 or Rev. Marvin Samiano at (808) 536-7036, ext. 3323 or msamiano@rcchawaii.org, either of whom can assist you as an advocate.