

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, February 26

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Religious Education Classes at 8:00am

Monday, February 27 – *Weekday*

Tuesday, February 28 – *Weekday*

Shrove Tuesday - Mardi Gras

No Cathedral Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 1

Ash Wednesday

Day of Fast & Abstinence

Masses at 6:30am, 12:00 noon & 6:00pm

Imposition of Ashes at Masses only

Sacrament of Reconciliation 11:00am

Thursday, March 2

Thursday after Ash Wednesday

Friday, March 3

Friday after Ash Wednesday

Day of Abstinence

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

Saturday, March 4

Saturday after Ash Wednesday

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

St. Damien Devotional Group at 12:30pm

Sunday, March 5

First Sunday of Lent

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

Religious Education Classes at 8:00am

House-A-Family Challenge

Do you know a landlord or rental manager? Share your Family Promise experience with them. Connect them to Family Promise and tell them about the hard-working families we support. Help them find 50 homes for 50 families this year. For more information, contact Christy MacPherson at 548-7478 or christy@familypromisehawaii.org

Adult Faith Formation

Series on "Catholicism" by Bishop Robert Barron is scheduled on Sunday, March 12 at 11:30am. Bring a friend. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Deacon Joe and Easter Almuena at ealmuena@rcchawaii.org or 227-7309.

Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection	\$ 8,497.49
Weekday Collection	\$ 1,754.19
Coffers	\$ 413.94
Holy Day Collection	\$ 24.00
Total	\$ 10,689.62



Operation Rice Bowl

Join our faith communities across the United States in a life changing Lenten journey of encounter with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your CRS Rice Bowl after Mass. Also, don't forget to download their app. For more information, please call Ron Gochenouer at 306-7502.

Cathedral Renewal Campaign

Tower Windows and Bird Screens

Renovations to the Cathedral's bell tower were completed in December 2016, including the installation of new lights, which illuminate automatically at dark. If you have looked up at the tower during the day, or to see the new lights at night, you may have noticed the window openings of the tower are bare. This is because the white lattice panels that were there before were removed during renovations. In place of the bulky wood lattice, a fine bronze mesh screen will be installed in the tower windows.

The bronze mesh will screen out birds in order to prevent them from nesting-in and mucking-up the interior of the tower. The new screen is ideal because it will be less obvious to the eye than the lattice work that was there before; the bronze material is more time-period appropriate for the design of the Cathedral Basilica; and, using a metal screen offers greater durability and lifespan than the wood lattice or alternative nylon screens.

The bronze mesh screen has been ordered and is in transit to the Cathedral Basilica. Workers will install the new screen in the tower windows at the end of February and first weeks of March.

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

Email: CRC@rcchawaii.org Phone: (808) 585-3329

February 19, 2017 – Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Isaiah 49:14-15 | Psalm 62:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 | 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 | Matthew 6:24-34

Perhaps we sometimes wonder if God has forgotten or even abandoned us. Any woman who is close to delivering her baby will tell you that it is hard to ignore her pregnancy. The image in this Sunday's First Reading reinforces God's care for each of us by saying that even if a mother might forget the child of her womb, God will not. This is a beautiful image of how closely held we are in God's loving arms.

Psalm 62 enlarges our images of God. God is our salvation who delivers us from sin and oppression. God is a rock, a durable foundation of strength. God is a stronghold, a place of security that protects us from enemies. God is also a place of safety, a refuge shielding us from dangers. Jesus speaks of God as a master to whom followers owe allegiance and commitment above all others. As a Father, God creates life everywhere and cares for each one with the same care as the birds or the grass of the field. These are wonderful images of God for us to contemplate.

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Next Sunday's Readings

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 | Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 | Roman 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 | Matthew 4:1-11

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral Family:

We live in a world that loves to worry. Today's scriptures suggest to us the source of the unhealthy anxiety that often afflicts us and the solution that will free us.

Isaiah reminds us that it is easy, especially in times of trial and affliction, to fear that the Lord has left us, forgotten us, or is not concerned. In our anxiety we feel that God is absent. But the prophet reminds us that God never forgets us. We are the ones who forget God. The feeling of God's absence can make our hearts grow fonder if we choose to believe and trust. The emptiness we feel can be the place where God fills us.

Paul, in the second reading, reminds us that a big source of our anxiety is our tendency to constantly pass judgment on others. Instead of realizing that we should reverence the mystery of God's presence in each person, we want to figure them out. This effort to analyze and judge others is often motivated by the desire to look good at the expense of others. God invites us to experience the closeness to others that comes when we stop critiquing them.

In Matthew's gospel, Jesus reminds us that when we choose to serve two masters, God and the things of this world, we end up creating a world of worry. When our hearts are divided, the result is a love/hate relationship with ourselves and God that brings no peace. The finite energy that we have for doing good and growing personally is dissipated by the division. The great challenge is to let God be in charge and to believe that, as we serve God first in all things, all things will be taken care of.

As we live in these beautiful islands and regard the way that God takes care of creation, let us remember that God has not forgotten us. We are the pinnacle of creation and infinitely more valuable than anything else that God has made. We are the only creature made in God's image and likeness.

I am grateful for all those who are serving as liturgical ministers at the Cathedral. Thank you for renewing your commitment to this important ministry. As we look forward to the beginning of Lent this Wednesday, let us all pledge to enter into this special season of renewal with zeal and faith

In Christ's love,

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

Rector