

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, February 28

Third Sunday of Lent

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

Religious Education Class at 8:00am

Mass with 1st Scrutinies at 9:00am

Adult Bible Study at 10:30am

Monday, February 29 – *Lenten Weekday*

Tuesday, March 1 – *Lenten Weekday*

Lenten Evening Prayer at 5:40pm

Cathedral Choir Rehearsal at 6:00pm

Wednesday, March 2 – *Lenten Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation 11:00am

Thursday, March 3 – *Lenten Weekday*

Friday, March 4 – *Day of Abstinence*

EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY

Stations of the Cross at 10:00am

Adoration/Benediction at 5:00pm

Penance Service at 7:00pm

Saturday, March 5 – *Lenten Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

St. Damien Prayer group at 12:30pm

Bible Study at 3:30pm

Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Sunday, March 6

Fourth Sunday of Lent

2nd Collection for Catholic Relief Services

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

Religious Education Class at 8:00am

Mass with 2nd Scrutinies at 9:00am

Adult Bible Study at 10:30am

Catholic Relief Services

Your donation to Catholic Relief Services will feed hungry families, provide health care and clean water in remote villages, help farmers to grow better crops, protect orphans and vulnerable children, and allow for an immediate response to emergencies. For more than 70 years, CRS has been providing expertise and compassion to the very poorest of our brothers and sisters in more than 100 countries. But we can't do this lifesaving work without your help. Next weekend we will take up a second collection and because of you, they make a difference in the communities they serve. Mahalo!

Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection \$ 9,473.82

Weekday Collection \$ 1,771.29

Holy Day Collection \$ 241.00

Coffers \$ 739.16

Total \$ 12,225.27



Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy

Pope Francis has named special days of jubilee throughout the year – for youth, for workers and volunteers of mercy, for prisoners, for deacons, for priests, for the sick and persons with disabilities, etc. In addition, there are special events, “Twenty-four Hours for the Lord” on March 4-5, with special emphasis on the sacrament of reconciliation. It is the intention of the Holy Father that these be celebrated also in dioceses throughout the world. “24 Hours for the Lord” with a penitential liturgy in St. Peter’s Basilica on the afternoon of Friday, March 4. Sacrament of Reconciliation in all parishes. Please check the parish website or call the Office of Worship at 585-3342 for more information.



Cathedral Catholic Academy

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Quality Catholic education year-round.

Lenten Practices

CCA held an Ash Wednesday prayer service with Fr. Marvin this past Wednesday. The holy season of Lent began with the marking of ashes on our foreheads. CCA participates in the Catholic Relief Services RICE BOWL and will participate in the APP challenge this year as well.

Stations of the Cross

All are invited to celebrate the STATIONS OF THE CROSS each Friday at 10:30 a.m. in the School Hall. Each grade presents a different version of the traditional prayer service of Jesus' final 18 hours of his life.

Stream Clean up

The City & County of Honolulu, Division of Urban Forestry is working with CCA in providing educational opportunities at Queen Liliuokalani Botanical Gardens. CCA also participates in a cleanup event of the stream and gardens. The next clean up is on March 5th from 9 a.m. – 12 noon. Call 808-628-1990 for more information. Please join us on the cleanup day!

February 28, 2016 – Third Sunday of Lent

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Exodus 1:1-8a, 13-15 | Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11 | 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 | Luke 13:1-9

Lent is a time of conversion, a time to turn our lives around and return to God. Moses heard God's voice in the midst of tending his father-in-law's flock. Just as his moment of conversion comes right in the middle of daily life, so do ours. In the course of daily living, God calls us to pay attention, repent, and change.

In calling forth Moses and revealing his name, "I am who I am," God reveals himself as awe-inspiring, the source of all being, the one who rules over creation and gives meaning to life. Faced with such a God, we can imagine Moses' astonishment. Yet God asked obedience from him. Moses is to do as God tells him. God asks us, too, for obedience when we hear his call in the middle of everyday life. We are called by God: repent, bear fruit, change your ways, and redeem your lives from destruction.

Once again, Lent is a new opportunity, a time of renewal. Like the fig tree, God's grace fertilizes and nourishes us, but our response must be to bring forth life. The life we bring forth is to make the fruits of God's reign visible for all to see.

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Next Sunday's Readings

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12 | Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 | 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 | Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral Family:

Repentance is a first and essential step for anyone who wants to live the Christian life more deeply. John the Baptist ministered a baptism of repentance as a way to prepare for the Lord. Jesus proclaimed the importance of changing our minds, hearts, and actions and indicated how God is lovingly ready to accept us back, even if we have strayed significantly from God's way. During this Lenten Season, as we are invited to a closer walk with Christ, today's scriptures indicate to us three important aspects of the nature of true repentance.

First of all, repentance is a recognition of one's own guilt and sin. As the second reading and the gospel remind us, it is very easy to be concerned about the sin of others. In the process, we neglect to look at our own faults and failures. Lent is an excellent time to acknowledge that all is not ok in our lives and to identify the areas that need fixing.

Secondly, repentance is an awareness of the deep love and mercy of God. The Lord told Moses that he had come to rescue the Israelites and to lead them into a good land. The gospel parable illustrates the desire of God to give each of us another chance to change. Lent is a perfect time, through prayer and reflection, to get more in touch with how much God loves me, personally, no matter what I have done. I am not ok and you are not ok, but that is ok because God loves us anyway!

Finally, repentance involves a change of mind and behavior. Exodus reminds us that God is the ground of all being and existence. For repentance to truly exist in our lives, there must be some existential change in our thoughts and behavior. This change should reflect the reality of who God created us to be; persons, created in God's image and likeness, who are therefore called to bear the fruit of love. The fig tree was created to bear figs. Although it is given a second chance, ultimately its continuing existence will depend of whether it does what it was created to do. While God is the God of the second, third, fourth, and forty-fourth chance, God is also the God of the final chance. True repentance involves accountability.

Today, at the 9am Mass, we will celebrate the First Scrutiny with those among us to be baptized at Easter. The Gospel that recounts Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman will be proclaimed. Christ, gently yet firmly, invited her to repentance. We join with our Elect in asking God to move our hearts closer to Christ.

In Christ's love,
Fr. Gary L. Secor, V.G.
Rector