

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, March 19

Third Sunday of Lent

2nd Collection for Repair & Maintenance
Masses at 6:00a/7:30/9:00/10:30/12:00n/6p
Religious Education Classes at 8:00am

Monday, March 20

Solemnity of St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday, March 21 – *Lenten Weekday*
Presentation of the Creed at 5:30pm
Cathedral Choir Rehearsal at 6:00pm

Wednesday, March 22 – *Lenten Weekday*
Sacrament of Reconciliation 11:00am
Bible Study at 6:00pm

Thursday, March 23 – *Lenten Weekday*

Friday, March 24 – *Lenten Weekday*
Day of Abstinence
Stations of the Cross at 10:00am & 5:00pm

Saturday, March 25
Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord
Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am
St. Marianne Devotional Group at 12:30pm
Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Sunday, March 26

Fourth Sunday of Lent

2nd Collection for Catholic Relief Services
Masses at 6:00a/7:30/9:00/10:30/12:00n/6p
Religious Education Classes at 8:00am

Seniors in Catholic High School

Attention graduating seniors in the Catholic high schools in the **Diocese of Honolulu**, we would like to know who you are. We are assisting the Newman Connection a non-profit organization working with college/university campus ministries nationwide. They use a referral system to connect graduating high school students to their Catholic campus ministries, allowing campus ministers to contact their incoming students, inviting them in before they arrive on campus regardless of what diocese they come from or are going to. If you are interested or have any questions, please call the office at 536-7036 or visit **OYYAM** website: www.catholichawaii.org/oyyam/ym/newman

Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection	\$ 9,408.45
Weekday Collection	\$ 1,814.15
Coffers	\$ 780.79
Holy Day Collection	\$ 90.00
Total	\$ 12,093.39



Cathedral Renewal Campaign

Telling Hawaii time for nearly 200 years

The Cathedral's nearly 200 year-old tower clock has been repaired as part of the campaign to renew the Cathedral Basilica. The story of the Cathedral's tower clock is an interesting one: the clock is the oldest tower clock in Hawaii and it's actually *older* than the Cathedral building in which she is installed.

The Cathedral was dedicated in 1843 and, shortly thereafter, Bishop Louis Maigret asked his superior stationed at the mission in Valparaíso, Chile to send Honolulu a clock similar to the one in the Valparaíso Cathedral. Thus, the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary ordered a clock from France on behalf of the Cathedral in Honolulu.

However, the ship carrying the clock from Europe had to come around the horn of South America (no Panama Canal in those days!) and the boat stopped in Valparaíso, Chile. The priests in Chile decided they liked the new clock for themselves and sent their used clock, circa 1825, on the ship to Honolulu. The clock from Chile was installed in the Cathedral tower in 1846.

Amazingly, this clock functioned up until just a few years ago, at which time it stopped working because the family-owned company servicing the clock closed when the owner retired and no one else claimed the knowledge to fix it. Recently, however, Cathedral staff located the two individuals who had serviced the clock in the past and, together, they have graciously repaired the clock and have also offered to service the clock for free for the next 10 years.

We are blessed and thankful to have our historic clock up and running once again. Mahalo!

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

March 13, 2017 – Third Sunday of Lent

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

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, 39a, 40-42

In today's Exodus reading, we hear Moses' frustration with the Israelites who demand he find water in the desert. He prays to God, who provides water from the rock in Horeb. The Israelites demand water but they really want God to send them a sign of his presence. It is a human story; it is easy to trust God is with us when all is right in our lives. But in our desert times, when struggle, heartache, and loss occur, we wonder where God is. Like the Israelites, we thirst for reassurance that God remains ever with us.

In today's Gospel we hear a story about water and thirst. Jesus tells a Samaritan woman he is the source that can quench her thirst for all eternity. She does not understand. Jesus' conversation with her reveals an amazing truth: he is Christ, the Messiah, who offers her salvation. She believes and testifies to this Good News in her town, where people began to believe because of her testimony. This Lent, we, too, are invited to testify how Christ, the Messiah, quenches our thirst.

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Next Sunday's Readings

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a | Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-6 | Ephesians 5:8-14 | John 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral Family:

As we approach the midpoint of Lent, the Scriptures (especially the Gospel passages) for today and the next two Sundays are central to an understanding of the renewal of God's grace that we are being invited to during this holy season. For those preparing for Baptism, they are important instructions about the meaning of what they are to receive. For all of us, called this Lent to revitalize the grace of our baptisms, they are reminders of the life in Christ that has been and is being offered to each of us.

In today's Gospel, Jesus compassionately begins his interaction with the Samaritan woman by striking up a conversation with her about drawing water. His real purpose is to draw her to recognize her need for the living water of His grace. As the conversation continues, Christ confronts her with the truth about her past; that she has been thirsting for a lot of things that were not of God and in the process did not find any real satisfaction. Then she realizes that Jesus is the Christ and that he is inviting her to taste the living water of His grace. The witness of her encounter with the Lord leads others to seek out Christ and to experience for themselves that He is "truly the savior of the world".

We are all thirsting for many things, but are we thirsting for God? In our hunger and our thirst for affection, acceptance, security, happiness, and countless other things, we often seek immediate satisfaction or superficial fulfillment. We are afraid to address the deeper issues that are driving us. Only God will never disappoint us and only in God will we find and rest and peace for our souls and ourselves.

God is thirsting for us and will gently but firmly lead us to the truth about ourselves and about who God is. God longs for us and wants nothing more than that we would long for God. Just as Jesus was willing to come close to the Samaritan woman and engage her in this life-giving and life-changing conversation, God approaches us and speaks to our hearts. Are we listening, or are we pushing God away?

"You can lead a horse to water, but you cannot make him drink". We can be led to believe in God, but we must decide for ourselves whether we will accept the "living water" of God's grace as the primary and only source of our strength and the agent for washing away our sins. The choice is ours.

In Christ's love,

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

Rector