

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, May 2

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Monday, May 3

Feast of Ss. Philip and James, Apostles

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Tuesday, May 4

Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Easter

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Wednesday, May 5

Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Easter

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00 a.m.

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Thursday, May 6

Thursday of the Fifth Week of Easter

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Friday, May 7 – *First Friday*

Friday of the Fifth Week of Easter

Adoration/Benediction at 10:00 a.m.

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Saturday, May 8

Saturday of the Fifth Week of Easter

Mass at 7:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00 a.m.

Mass at 12:00 p.m.

Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Sunday, May 9

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Stewardship of Treasure

Offertory Collection

4/19 – 4/25

Sunday Offering with Palm Sunday	\$ 5,268.88
Weekday	\$ 825.10
Online Giving	\$ 1,665.95
Feasts & Solemnities with Easter	\$ 5.00
Total Offertory	\$ 7,764.93

Other Collection

Repair & Maintenance	\$ 135.00
Diocesan Religious Retirement Fund	\$ 3,803.00
Operation Rice Bowl	\$ 70.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 130.00
Others (Gallery, Candles, etc.)	\$ 944.00
Total	\$ 12,846.93

Living the Liturgy

- Talk to someone who gardens or has knowledge of agricultural practices. Ask them about the importance of pruning. Why is it helpful and necessary? What happens to a plant that is not pruned?
- Check several sources and study the meaning of the term “fear of the Lord.” Then discuss how it is that Acts of the Apostles could boast that the early Church “walked in the fear of the Lord” (9:31).
- Our liturgy is filled with signs of unity in Christ: prayers recited and songs sung in community, corporate postures, and of course, the reception of the Eucharist — one bread, one cup. Invite your family members to look for these and other signs that remind us that we’re connected with one another through Jesus.

Sharing the Faith

- We hear in Acts that the “church . . . was at peace” (9:31). How many times in our history do you think that statement was true? Why is even the Church so often afflicted by inner turmoil?
- Recall a time in your life when you disregarded the advice or instructions of an authority figure and got in trouble as a result. What insight does that give you into Jesus’ admonition to remain attached to him, the true vine?
- Do you ever try to draw sustenance from sources that are unhealthy, like friends who always put you down? Are there things that need to be pruned from your life so that you can reach the authentic fulfillment to which Christ calls you?

Quote of the Week

“And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another . . .” (1 John 3:23).

May 2, 2021 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Acts 9:26-31 | Psalm 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 | 1 John 3:18-24 | John 15:1-8

“You are nothing without me!” We expect such words from an angry spouse or business partner, perhaps. But here, it's Jesus who says it (John 15:5). Such words often provoke an “I'll show you!” response. But Jesus isn't flinging angry insults, he's just telling the truth. Today's readings are filled with hard truths. Paul was rejected by disciples who feared he was a fraud. John's letter says there is no other route to discipleship than to follow the commandments in deeds, not just words. And the Gospel puts it very bluntly, telling us that he is proactive, pruning healthy vines and cutting away dead branches. The sum of today's readings smacks us upside the head, telling us to do what we're supposed to, stay close so we don't wander into danger, and remain connected so we get the nourishment we need. Otherwise, we'll be tossed aside like withered limbs and end up in the fire.

We receive no apologies for that tough love. We all need it now and again. Without it, it's too easy to become complacent, to act the part without living the role. The formula for success is simple: Belief in Christ comes first. We are not just a “do the right thing” religion, we're a “we belong to Christ” religion. We embrace the consequences of our commitment. That's where step two comes in. If you belong to Christ, then do what he commanded: Love one another.

CELEBRATING THE LECTIONARY © 2021 Resource Publications, Inc.

Next Sunday's Readings: “Sixth Sunday of Easter”

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 | Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 | 1 John 4:7-10 | John 15:9-17

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral Basilica Ohana,

Greetings of peace, love, and joy!

“Remain in me, as I remain in you.” John 15: 4

Grateful and Blessed! Last Monday, I celebrated my twenty-five years of priesthood. I have spent ten years of my ministry in my former Archdiocese of Nueva Segovia, Philippines. And the last 15 years and on, here in the Diocese of Honolulu. Despite the difficulties of having a big gathering, together with Bishop Larry, clergy, family, and few visitors, I was able to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in thanksgiving to God's graciousness of the gift of the priesthood. I expressed that He bestowed upon me a gift that I do not deserve and sustained me for twenty-five years. I truly believe in my heart that whatever sustained me during these number of years is to remain in Him no matter what. My life and ministry had not been easy. There are ups and downs, defeats and victories, trials and successes, sadness, and joy. Clinging to Him made me go through whatever adversities come, especially when there is so much darkness and confusion to the path of salvation. No matter how difficult to preach His truth, justice, and peace, I allow the Holy Spirit to guide me through to give me the courage to be an ardent and gentle preacher of the Gospel. (Prayer on the Anniversary of Ordination).

Discipleship with Jesus is not only a matter of knowing to follow him. It is more than that. It takes commitment, dedication, faithfulness, and trust in Him. He illustrates this in his words, “remain in me, as I remain in you.” We need to realize this because we need that deep kind of relationship to bring about goodness in this world. Today, our world is reaping so much fruit of hatred, division, unfaithfulness, selfishness, anger, jealousy, and indifference. Also to mention discrimination, abortion, terrorism, war, and strife. Jesus' words, remain in me as I remain in you, is a mission and a challenge to bring about true discipleship. True discipleship brings about the fruits of Gospel values of love, faithfulness, kindness, selflessness, and truthfulness. Also, to mention respect for each other, community life-building, spirit-filled mission, and dedication. Such fruitfulness is never without any trials and hardships. But remaining in him and He in us will work things out not only for the better but also for the best. Come to think of it, and when this kind of relationship is established, we do not only celebrate it by counting the number of years spent. But cherishing the moment day after day till we are in the presence of our Loving Father and our Vine, Jesus.

Grateful and blessed to all of you who supported me for twenty-five years. I know that you will keep me in your prayers that I may continue serving the Lord and His faithful, especially here at the Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace!

May the Lord bless you! May our Blessed Mother, our Lady, Queen of Peace intercede for you!

Your friend in Jesus,

Fr. Pascual