

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, July 24

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Bible Study at 10:30am

Monday, July 25

Feast of St. James, Apostle

Infant Baptismal Class at 6:00pm

Fishers of Men Hawaii at 6:00pm

Tuesday, July 26

Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

No Cathedral Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, July 27 - *Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 11:00am

Adult Bible Study at 6:00pm

Thursday, July 28 - *Weekday*

Friday, July 29

Memorial of St. Martha

Saturday, July 30 - *Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

St. Marianne Devotional Group at 12:30pm

Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Sunday, July 31

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Bible Study at 10:30am

Infant Baptism at 12:00n

Hawaii's Deacon Fundraising

Please help deacons of our diocese offset costs for their educational summer gathering by purchasing Zippy's tickets. Email Deacon Joe at jalmuena@rcc-hawaii.org or call at 227-7309. Mahalo!

Religious Education

Religious education classes for the new school year begin on Sunday, August 21st at 8:00am in the Kamiano Center. Children in second grade and older who have not received first communion or confirmation should enroll this year. Please register today at the Kamiano Center. For more information, please email Michael Bauer at: mbauer@rcc-hawaii.org

Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection	\$ 7,520.48
Weekday Collection	\$ 1,561.07
Coffers	\$ 516.41
Holy Day	\$ 106.00



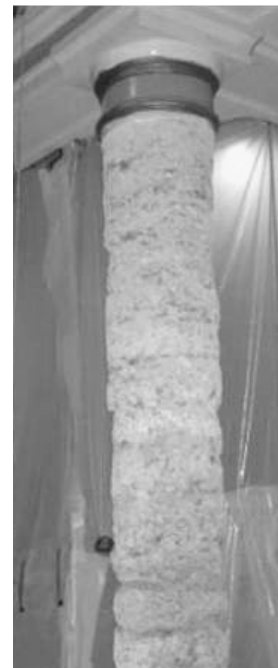
Total \$ **9,703.96**

Cathedral Renewal Campaign

Did you know our Cathedral is built of coral?

Coral blocks, harvested from Honolulu Harbor in the 1830s and early 1840s, were used to construct the main body of the Cathedral. Historic records show that workers were paid \$0.15 per block to dive into the harbor, cut and haul out the coral blocks.

While we now know that coral is a living organism and to be left in the ocean, we have also learned that coral is an enduring building material. Dedicated in 1843, the Cathedral has been serving our community for over 170 years and her structure is still sound today. The coral blocks that make up the walls and support columns are in good shape structurally. The coral does, however, attract water which has caused the plaster to bubble in places. An important part of our Cathedral Renewal project will be to repair the damaged plaster and replace it with a special porous plaster that allows the coral to “breathe” as it naturally hydrates and dehydrates itself.



The photo on the right, taken during renovations, shows one of the coral support columns in the sanctuary without its plaster finishing.

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@rcc-hawaii.org

Phone: (808) 585-3329

July 24, 2016 – Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Genesis 18:20-32 | Psalm 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 | Colossians 2:12-14 | Luke 11:1-13

Some say conversation is a lost art in our fast-paced, technological world. Who needs conversations when we have e-mail, fax machines, Post-it notes, and answering machines? Perhaps it is faster and more efficient to leave a note or a message, get a quick response, and move on to the next task. Not so, according to communications experts, who maintain that while technology is a great tool, it cannot be considered a substitute for the human bonds that develop when people engage in face-to-face conversation. We need to connect with one another—to look into each others' eyes, to listen to tone of voice as well as spoken words, and to respond after thinking about and reflecting on what someone has just said to us.

God also invites us to conversation. In the Gospel, Jesus encourages bold and persistent prayer. Remember what it feels like when a child or a friend confides in you. God invites that same personal conversation. As a parent or friend, it is difficult not to listen to the bold pleading of someone we love. God invites us to talk about many things—the necessities as well as the niceties of life. God wants the same satisfaction we feel in sharing conversation with others.

Reflect on the intimacy Jesus feels with God. In addressing God as “Abba,” Jesus affirms our intimate relationship with God as the One who brings us into life. Spend some time talking about what a difference it makes to address God as “Abba.”

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Next Sunday's Readings

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23 | Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 | Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11 | Luke 12:13-21

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral Family:

Today's scriptures teach us important lessons about prayer. While the gospel has Jesus giving his disciples a specific prayer (the Our Father), he is really giving them the pattern and the priorities for all praying. God's word reminds us that prayer needs to be personal, persistent, and penitential.

Abraham, in the first reading, draws near to God and engages in a bold bargaining session with the Lord. Jesus teaches the disciples to address God as "Father". The tone and the content of these prayerful exchanges teach us that prayer is meant to be a conversation with God who, in Christ, desires a personal relationship with each of us. We should speak to God about our thoughts and desires and allow God to speak to us about what God thinks and what God desires for us. Prayer is meant to remind us of how close God really is to us; that, in Christ, God is within us.

Listening to Abraham and Jesus might lead us to think that if we "twist God's arm" and nag God enough that God will eventually give in. Actually, persistent prayer is important not because we need to change God's mind, but because we need to change our minds. We need to constantly dialogue with God so that we can begin to think as God thinks and feel as God feels. Like any relationship, it is the "long haul" that is important; it is being persistently present.

In any relationship, hurts will occur and mistakes will be made. What is important is whether healing takes place. The question is not whether God wants to forgive us. As Paul reminds us, in the second reading, Christ died for all of our transgressions and offers us new life. The question is whether we will be properly penitential. Will we seek God's forgiveness and the forgiveness of others? Will we forgive others?

Prayer that is personal, persistent, and penitential does not happen by accident. It is developed in a purposeful way. Let us pray that God will help us to take time on a regular basis to call to mind our relationship to God and allow God to change our hearts and minds. As Jesus promises us, the Father will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him

In His love,
Fr. Gary L. Secor, V.G.
Rector