The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, July 31

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Infant Baptism at 12:00n

Monday, August 1

Memorial of St. Alphonsus Ligouri, *bishop and Doctor of the Church*

Tuesday, August 2 – *Weekday*

Evening Prayer at 5:40pm

Cathedral Choir Rehearsal at 6:00pm

Wednesday, August 3 – *Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 11:00am

Adult Bible Study at 6:00pm

Thursday, August 4

Memorial of St. John Vianney

Friday, August 5 – **First Friday**

Adoration/Benediction at 10:00am

Saturday, August 6 – **First Saturday**

The Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

Mass & Holy Hour at 12:00n

St. Damien Devotional Group at 12:30pm

Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Sunday, August 7

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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 call the office at 536-7036 or email Michael Bauer at mbauer@rcchawaii.org

Hawaii's Deacons Fundraiser

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

Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection	$	8,125.02
Weekday Collection	$	1,574.38
Coffers	$	736.86
Holy Day	$	47.00
Total	**$**	**10,483.26**

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@rcchawaii.org

Phone: (808) 585-3329

July 31, 2016 – Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exegesis on this 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

A woman very involved in her parish, children's school, and community was excited to be elected co-president of the Parent Teacher Association. Some months after taking office, she became frustrated, not with the challenges of the position but with her own inability to relinquish control to her co-president. "I never realized I was such a control freak," she told a friend. "I must turn to God for help on this one because I am certainly not doing a good job on my own." When we take a controlling attitude over others, we demean their value. A good leader respects others and empowers them to lead as well.

Most of us have areas of our lives that we like to control—finances, child rearing, careers, even friends or family members. Exchanging our controlling ways or God's loving ways does not mean becoming complacent. Rather, trusting God to walk with us through issues and relationships brings us the strength and wisdom to handle life's challenges efficiently, effectively, and lovingly. Perhaps the easiest way to involve God in our everyday decisions and activities is to focus on our prayer life. Simple, little prayers throughout the day help to maintain our focus on the One who is our strength.

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Next Sunday's Readings

Wisdom 18:6-9|Psalm 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22|Hebrew 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12|Luke 12:32-48 or 12:35-40

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral Family:

The best way to fail to see something is to fail to look at it. As Jesus continues his journey toward Jerusalem in Luke's gospel, he invites us to consider where, what, and who we looking at so that we might see things as God sees them.

We are invited to look beyond ourselves. The man who approached Jesus in the gospel was concerned about himself and his share of the inheritance. In the story Jesus tells, the person with the bountiful harvest never considered that he might share it with others. The only option he considered was saving it for himself. When one is self-absorbed, one is tempted to focus on the feelings expressed in Ecclesiastes; I work hard and someone else gets to enjoy the fruit of my labor. Paul, in the second reading, challenges us to put to death those parts of ourselves that are self-centered.

We are invited to look beyond this world. One might say that a summary of the theme of today's scriptures is: "In all things consider the End". If the end exists in this world alone, then it makes sense to be concerned with the acquisition and accumulation of all that the world has to offer. But, if the finish line is in heaven, then it makes sense to become "rich in what matters to God". We put off focusing on life beyond this life at our peril. As the gospel reminds us, we never really know what day will be our last. This awareness is not meant to paralyze us with fear, but should help us to purify the purpose of our lives and faith.

We are invited to look to Christ. As we look beyond ourselves and this world, we don't gaze into a void of meaninglessness. We can begin to see Jesus who loves us and wants us to recognize that we share in his risen life. His love gives us the power and the reason to be generous and to hope for eternal life. We are never alone because Christ is with us.

This weekend we bid aloha to Fr. Jerry Overbeck, S.J. who returns to Chicago soon. We are grateful for his presence among us and look forward to welcoming him again next year.

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