

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, August 26

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

2nd Collection for Catholic Charities Hawai'i

Monday, August 27

Memorial of St. Monica

Tuesday, August 28

Memorial of St. Augustine, *bishop,
doctor of the Church*

Evening Prayer at 5:40pm

Cathedral Choir Rehearsal at 6:00pm

Wednesday, August 29

Memorial of the Passion of St. John the Baptist

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 11:00am

Adult Bible Study at 6:00pm

Thursday, August 30 – *Weekday*

Friday, August 31

Saturday, September 1 – *First Saturday*

Prayer Group at 7:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

Mass & Holy Hour at 12:00n

Ss. Marianne/Damien Devotion Group at 12:30pm

Sunday, September 2

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Young Adult Meeting in Rectory at 1:00pm

Catholic Charities Hawai'i

Serving Hawai'i since 1947, Catholic Charities Hawaii provides a wide range of social services with dignity, compassion, social justice, and a commitment to excellence.

Through programs and advocacy efforts, Catholic Charities serves all people, especially those with the greatest need, regardless of their faith or culture.

Mahalo for your generous support. If you like more information, please visit their website at:

catholiccharitieshawaii.org



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
HAWAII

Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection	\$ 8,428.60
Weekday Collection	\$ 2,193.83
Coffers	\$ 425.44
Holy Day Collection	\$ 407.00



Total \$ **11,454.87**

Outreach Ministry

Outreach Ministry looking for assistant every Saturday from 10:00am – 2:00pm for the HIE HIE Shower Trailer. Looking for 4 – 6 volunteers for any given Saturday. Also looking for donations of clothes, (Especially men's clothing) toiletries, food and monetary donation at accepted. For more information, please call Ron Gochenouer at (808) 306 – 7502.

Religious Education

Classes are available for grades K-12 and adults to complete their initiation in the church. Classes will begin on Sunday, September 9. The deadline to register was August 19th. There is still time to register. Please email Mike at mbauer@rcchawaii.org

Cathedral Renewal Campaign

175th Anniversary Mass and Celebration!

A big **MAHALO** to all those who attended the special event this past Thursday showcasing the newly renovated Sanctuary – *Wow, what a difference!*

Dedicated on August 15, 1843, the 175-year-old Cathedral Basilica celebrates the anniversary of her dedication on August 16th in deference to the Assumption of Mary on the 15th.

With phase two of the six-phased renovation project coming to completion this summer, the project team will begin to plan for phase three, which will likely begin in early 2019 with additional renovations to the interior.

As always, Bishop Larry Silva and Msgr. Gary Secor extend their appreciation and aloha for your generous and prayerful support.

Please consider joining us with a generous gift or pledge today! To learn more and/or to make a contribution:

Call: 808-585-3357, or 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.

August 26, 2018 – 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b | Psalm 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21 | Ephesians 5:21-32 or 2a, 25-32 | John 6:60-69

Some commitments require everything, and it's no use trying to pretend otherwise. Jesus knew that and so he doesn't pull punches. He gives own disciples cause to murmur against him. Of course, he knew his request that they eat his flesh and drink his blood would shock them. But it's those words that would separate "groupies" from true disciples. Many of his followers left that day, but the Twelve remained. Where else would they go? Unlike those who left, the chosen Twelve understood that, though Jesus' words confused them, they were "the words of eternal life" (John 6:68).

Like Jesus, Joshua was smart enough to place a tough choice before the twelve tribes. He doesn't coax or beg, he just states the options — the pagan gods of their ancestors and their neighbors, or the Lord. All he adds is his own decision — a bold declaration that is now one of scripture's classic lines. Remembering the mercies and mighty works of God, the people cast their lot with the Lord. The demands Paul places on spouses are no less demanding than what we hear from Joshua and Jesus. Love requires everything — submission to one another, loving in the same sacrificial way as Christ, loving your spouse so much that the love binds you together as one and love of the other becomes indistinguishable from love of self.

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Next Sunday's Readings: "Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time"

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8 | Psalm 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 | James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27 | Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral family:

"This saying is hard; who can accept it?" This is what many of Jesus' disciples said after he insisted that they eat his flesh and drink his blood in order to have life within them. Many left him at this point. Today's second reading, which speak about the submission of wives to husbands, presents an equally hard saying that causes many to discount the message of Christ. But, to just dismiss what Paul is saying would be to miss an important lesson.

The important lesson is to be found in the line before the one about wives being subordinate to their husbands. Paul says: "Brothers and Sisters: Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ." In other words, he is really challenging married couples (and all of us) to mutual submission. He makes this even clearer when he indicates that husbands should love their wives as Christ loved the Church. And we know what Christ did for the Church: He gave his life for the Church by dying on the cross. The lesson is that real love involves mutual and sacrificial giving.

The important lesson is to be found in the fact that we can only hope to love in this way if we are loving, not just a concept or teaching, but a real person. It is why Paul says that we should practice this submission out of "reverence for Christ". It is also why Peter refused to leave Jesus. Even though it was difficult to understand what Christ was saying, he knew Jesus' love personally and trusted that he had "the words of eternal life". The lesson is that real love is always love that is personal.

God places before us a challenge similar to the one Joshua placed before the people in the first reading: "decide today whom you will serve". Will we serve God and one another in sacrificial and submissive love or will we be primarily self-serving? Will we reverence the person of Christ in ourselves and others and desire a personal relationship with him or will we keep God and others at a distance?

Let us pray that we will truly promise to serve the Lord and fulfill that promise.

I also want to thank all those who made the celebration of our 175th Anniversary such a beautiful and meaningful occasion. God bless you for your hard work and generosity!

In Christ's love,

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

Rector