

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, September 4

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

2nd Collection for Catholic University of America

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

Religious Education Classes at 8:00am

Monday, September 5 – *Weekday*

Labor Day Holiday

Cathedral on Holiday Schedule

All Offices closed

Tuesday, September 6 – *Weekday*

Evening Prayer at 5:40pm

Cathedral Choir Rehearsal at 6:00pm

Wednesday, September 7 – *Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 11:00am

Adult Bible Study at 6:00pm

Thursday, September 8

Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday, September 9

Memorial of St. Peter Claver, *priest*

Saturday, September 10 – *Weekday*

75th Anniversary of the

Diocese of Honolulu Mass at 10:00am

No Sacrament of Reconciliation or Noon Mass

St. Marianne Devotional Group at 12:30pm

Sunday, September 11

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Religious Education Classes at 8:00am

Attention Social Ministry Volunteers

Whether you feed the hungry, visit those in prison, give comfort to the bereaved, welcome the stranger, reach out to the hurting or provide basic necessities for the poor – all who do Social Ministry are encouraged to attend our vicariate ENRICHMENT GATHERING on Saturday, September 24, 2016 from 8:30 AM till 12 Noon here at the Cathedral Basilica. Call the Diocesan Office for Social Ministry at 203-6702 to RSVP your attendance TODAY. You can also email your response to itamashiro@rcchawaii.org. See you there!

Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection	\$ 7,619.94
Weekday Collection	\$ 1,596.16
Coffers	\$ 471.77
Holy Day	\$ 127.00



Total \$ 9,814.87

Movie Night

Please join us on Saturday, September 24th at 6:00pm. We'll be showing Miracles of Heaven about a young girl suffering from a rare digestive disorder finds herself miraculously cured after surviving a terrible accident. For more information, please call Ron Gochenouer at 306-7502.

Adult Faith Formation

Please join us on Sunday, September 11th at 11:30am - 12:15pm for Adult Faith Formation using Bishop Barron's Catholicism Study Guide. For more information, please call Deacon Joe and Easter Almuena at jalmuena@rcchawaii.org or 227-7309.

Cathedral Renewal Campaign

\$1,000,000 benchmark surpassed!

More than 120 families and 11 parishes and schools have contributed to the Cathedral Renewal Campaign in the past 12 months to raise more than \$1 million.

Thank you for your generosity and prayers of support!! The money collected from these gifts and pledges will directly support renovations and improvements to our 173 year-old Cathedral Basilica.

All new gifts and pledges to the campaign are being held in our secure campaign account with the Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation (HCCF). The HCCF is a separate 501c3 (not-for-profit foundation), which provides an added level of security and ensures that our campaign funds cannot be used for any other purpose.

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

September 4, 2016 – Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Wisdom 9:13-18b | Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 | Philemon 9-10, 12-17 | Luke 14:25-33

As the summer wanes and the season moves along, the cross enters more and more into the scriptures of the liturgies. We begin to understand the cost of following Jesus on his journey to Jerusalem.

In the First Reading today, left to our own devices, the human capacity to discern God's will is thwarted by his majesty. Yet, God does not leave us to our own devices, but touches the human mind and heart with the gift of grace to illumine the path that leads to wisdom.

In the Gospel, prudent discipleship requires radical choices. Jesus invites his followers to emulate the prudent discernment of builders and warrior kings as they discern their response to his call. The cost of laying a sure foundation and being victorious in the way of discipleship is great. Both require the reprioritization of one's entire life, including one's primary relationship and definitions of success.

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Next Sunday's Readings

Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14 | Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19 | 1 Timothy 1:12-17 | Luke 15:1-32

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral Family:

As Jesus journeyed toward Jerusalem, great crowds followed him. But, Jesus knew that not all of these were willing to be disciples. All of us, by being here at Church, can be said to be following Jesus. But, are we disciples who are willing to be under the discipline of the master? Jesus gets the attention of the followers in today's gospel by shocking language that seems to imply that one must hate his relatives in order to be a disciple. Christ is not saying that we must literally hate our family. He is pointing out to them and us three important lessons about true discipleship.

Jesus points out that a true disciple is one who is working to put the love of God and relationship with Jesus Christ above all other loves and relationships. We all love many things and can often use the word "love" rather loosely. We have things and people who are precious to us and to whom we have become attached. We value these things and people very much. This can all be very good. But, we must never forget the ultimate reason why we have these things and relationships is so that we can, in and through them, love God more deeply. Loving them more than God causes God to be "hated".

Jesus points out that a disciple's love will always involve carrying our cross. Real love hurts and there is no way around this. The word "sacrifice" is very instructive in this regard. Taken apart, it literally means "to make holy". Our love is made holy when it involves sacrifice. It becomes a blessing and more blessed when we accept the burdens that this love entails. Love is made more precious when it is purified in the fire of adversity and pain. The challenge of real discipleship involves being willing to embrace the pain of love knowing that it promises great blessings.

Jesus points out that a disciple must calculate the cost of discipleship and invest in it. He must discipline his spiritual, physical, and emotional life in order to finish the race to heaven and the building of the kingdom of God. He must work, with God's help, to have what it takes. Otherwise, his life will be full of a lot of "unfinished business"; plans and projects that began with good intentions but never were completed. He will find himself, in many situations, failing to fight against evil and making peace with the enemy instead.

Today, we pray that God may be our most important possession. It may not be practical to renounce all of our possessions in order to be the Lord's disciple. It is not good to literally hate our family and friends. But, we can put the love of God first, carry our cross, and more fully invest in being disciples of Jesus Christ.

This weekend, as we celebrate Labor Day, we give thanks for the work that God has called us to do and we pray for those who have difficulty finding work or find it less than meaningful. We also give thanks to God for our local church as we celebrate the 75th Anniversary of our Diocese.

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