

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, December 2

First Sunday of Advent

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

Religious Education at 8:00am

Monday, December 3

Memorial of St. Francis Xavier, priest

Tuesday, December 4 – *Weekday*

Evening Prayer at 5:40pm

Cathedral Choir Rehearsal at 6:00pm

Wednesday, December 5 – *Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 11:00am

Adult Bible Study at 6:00pm

Thursday, December 6 – *Weekday*

Friday, December 7 – **First Friday**

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

Adoration/Benediction at 10:00am

Saturday, December 8

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Prayer Group at 7:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

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

Sunday, December 9

Second Sunday of Advent

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

Religious Education at 8:00am

Young Adults Ministry

All young adults are welcome to attend our Young Adult meeting at the Chancery on Sunday, December 2nd at 1:00pm. Call Joseph at 343-3728 for more info.

Holy Land Pilgrimage

There is still time to register. Fr. Marvin is leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from October 13-24, 2019. We will be partnering with a parish from WA, so very limited space is available. It is a great opportunity to journey in the land of Jesus. Please contact Fr. Marvin at (808) 536-7036.

Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection	\$ 8,324.13
Weekday Collection	\$ 3,976.77
Coffers	\$ 382.66
Holy Day Collection	\$ 140.00
Total	\$ 12,823.56



Advent Season

Advent is a season of preparation. However, for most people in this day and age, this means preparation for Christmas Day itself: the exchange of gifts, the preparation of meals, the readying of the house for guests, the planning of travel. The challenge that every person of faith faces each year is how to balance these needs with the other aspect of preparation, which is an inherent, intricate aspect of Advent – the preparation for Christ's return at the end of time. This aspect is, after all, the very focus of the first two weeks of Advent. Look at the Sunday readings for these days. They speak not of Bethlehem, but rather of the end of time, the end of the world, the Parousia – Christ's return in glory which will mark the start of the kingdom of God in all its fullness.

Pauline Books & Media Open House

The Daughters of St. Paul invites you to their open house today after the 7:30, 9:00, 10:30am and 12:00 Noon services. If you are looking for a word of solace and encouragement, inspiration, books and DVDs to pass the faith on to your children, resources for pastoral ministry, spiritual reading to deepen your faith or help you explore moral issues, you'll want to make Pauline Books and Media one of your favorite places to go, either on-line or on foot. For more information, please call 521-2731.

Cathedral Renewal Campaign

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.

December 2, 2018 – First Sunday of Advent

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Jeremiah 33:14-16 | Psalm 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 | 1 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2 | Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

A new year! Sometimes it is amazing how time flies. Once again, with the First Sunday of Advent, the Church begins a new liturgical year — Year C in the three-year Lectionary cycle of readings. In this year, the Gospel readings are primarily taken from Luke's account of the Gospel. The liturgical year is not in sync with the 2013 calendar year which begins January 1. This now is the beginning of our new year, a time of hope and fresh insight. What better way to begin than by inviting the Lord to teach and guide us!

Today's readings give us a focus not only for Advent, but also for the entire year. God desires justice and reminds us to be faithful to our covenant as his people. Paul reminds the Thessalonians of the love that bonds this community to Christ and tells them to continue the work of upholding the covenant. Jesus tells his disciples to be ready and vigilant at all times. Do not give up hope, stay faithful to the covenant, be ready, and love one another – these sound like good new year's resolution.

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Next Sunday's Readings: "Second Sunday of Advent"

Baruch 5:1-9 | Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 | Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 | Luke 3:1-6

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral family:

As the material preparations for Christmas are well under way, we begin Advent. It is at time when we are invited to a spiritual preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth. Each Sunday of Advent is a chance for us to spend some time away from the shopping mall so that we might renew our minds and hearts about the real reason for the Season.

As we listen to today's gospel talk about a time of tribulation and a day that will "assault everyone" we might begin to have flashbacks about the turmoil of shopping this past Black Friday! Life, especially when we are trying to get bargains on the most crowded shopping day of the year, can present its challenges. Laboring that Christ might be reborn in our hearts and lives can involve us in strife as well. It is not easy to be "pregnant with Christ" in a world that wants us to engage in all kinds of unhealthy behaviors that will harm the life of Jesus within us. Advent invites to pray for strength and vigilance.

As Paul reminds us in the second reading today, we need to strengthen our hearts. First of all, we can increase our love for God by taking some extra time during this Advent to pray. This could mean attending our Advent Penance Service or a daily mass during the week. We could spend 15-20 minutes a day reading the Bible and reflecting on it. Secondly, we can increase our love for one another. Perhaps we can apologize for some past hurt that we have caused. Maybe we can call someone who is lonely and invite them to lunch. Or we can really try to make our Christmas gift-giving an expression of our care for others and not just perfunctory.

By strengthening our hearts we will be better able to deal with the turmoil involved in bringing Christ to birth. We will face his coming, not in fear, but with faith. Let's help one another to really celebrate. Advent that we might rejoice at Christmas!

In Christ's love,

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

Rector