

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, December 3

First Sunday of Advent

Pauline Books & Media Open House

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

Religious Education at 8:00am

Monday, December 4 – *Advent Weekday*

Tuesday, December 5 – *Advent Weekday*

Evening Prayer at 5:40pm

Cathedral Choir Rehearsal at 6:00pm

Wednesday, December 6 – *Advent Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 11:00am

Adult Bible Study at 6:00pm

Thursday, December 7

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

Friday, December 8

Solemnity of the Immaculate

Conception of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

Masses at 6:30a, 12:00n & 6:00p

Saturday, December 9 – *Advent Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

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

Sunday, December 10

Second Sunday of Advent

2nd Collection for Religious Retirement

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

Religious Education at 8:00am

Cathedral "Alumni" Mass

Please join us on Thursday, December 14th for Mass at 6:00 pm and a reception to follow in the Kamiano Center. Families of "alumni" are welcome and all are encouraged to bring pictures to display and share during the reception.

Bishop Larry Silva will be presiding, and Msgr. Gary Secor concelebrating a special Mass for Cathedral "Alumni," for anyone baptized, confirmed, married or ordained in the Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace.

For more information, contact (808) 585-3357 |
cbarnes@rcchawaii.org

Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection	\$ 8,439.40
Weekday Collection	\$ 1,410.88
Coffers	\$ 968.84
Holy Day Collection	\$ 2,743.50
Total	\$ 13,562.62



Adult Faith Formation

Come and join us for Advent reflections by Bishop Barron and Advent activities on Sunday, December 10th at 11:30am at the Kamiano Center. For more information, please call Easter Almuena at (808) 585-3342 or email her at ealmuena@rcchawaii.org. Please bring a friend.

Cathedral Renewal Campaign

Many Thanks!

As the year comes to a close, we reflect on the great many supporters who have come together to make possible the upcoming renovations to the Cathedral's sanctuary. Over the past year, the Cathedral Renewal Campaign has raised an additional \$1,876,000 from the combined gifts of individuals, parishes, foundations, religious orders and local businesses. Mahalo nui loa for your generous support!

Funds collected in 2017 will directly support renovations to the Cathedral's sanctuary, which will begin in early 2018. Exciting upgrades to the sanctuary will take place behind a partition wall and will be unveiled in August 2018, the 175th anniversary of the dedication of the Cathedral. Parishioners and visitors can look forward to a new extended sanctuary platform with new screens on either side, while the current scrim will be taken down. Bishops' Burial Chapels will be added on either side of the high altar, which will be cleaned and restored during this next phase.

Have you considered a year-end gift or a pledge to help restore and preserve our historic Hawaiian Cathedral?

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.

We also offer a menu of individual naming opportunities, which may be obtained by contacting the campaign office:

Email: CRC@rcchawaii.org Phone: (808) 585-3329

December 3, 2017 – First Sunday of Advent

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 | Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 | 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 | Matthew 13:33-37

Every new year gives us opportunities to contemplate our old ways and consider new possibilities. As we begin the new liturgical year with Advent, Isaiah invites us — almost — to blame God for all our struggles and frustrations. “Why do you *let* us wander from you,” asks the Prophet. Come in power and wake us. Shake us up and *make* us do your will, he says. Wouldn't it be great if we could ask God to *make* us be the people we want to be? It's not that simple. But then again, it really does all depend on God. God who is the potter, the one with the vision of what shape we can take and how to get us there. We are but the clay in his hands. This is a reality we embrace with humility and joy. If we surrender ourselves to God despite our failings and habitual weaknesses, God can and will fashion us into a work of beauty that can come only from his hands.

Paul knows that, too. “God is faithful,” he tells us. We don't lack anything we need, not because we are such a storehouse of treasure, but because God's fidelity won't fail us. There's comfort in knowing that we, just like with the potter's clay, are formed more by God's work than by ours. But lest we become complacent, the Gospel offers a final admonition not to take things for granted: “Watch!”

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Next Sunday's Readings: “2nd Sunday of Advent”

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 | Psalm 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14 | 2 Peter 3:8-14 | Mark 1:1-8

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral family:

This weekend, we begin the season of Advent. It is a time to prepare for the greatest gift of all; the coming of Christ into the world. With all the preparations and parties that characterize this time, it is a challenge to do the spiritual preparation that is important if we are to welcome the rebirth of Christ in our hearts.

Jesus Christ was born over 2000 years ago and we believe that He will come again in glory at the end of time. Advent reminds us that we live in between these two comings of Christ. As we live in this “in-between” time, God's word today invites us to wait, be watchful, and to wander not.

Today we tend to believe that “brief is better”. We want our computers to be faster, our food to be quickly cooked and served, and our transportation to be rapid. Waiting in line or in traffic is definitely not fun. Advent tells us that waiting is not always a bad thing. It reminds us that some of the most important things in life take time and patience and that God's schedule is not always our schedule. Often, if we can just wait on the Lord, God has something better in store for us.

We want to be more watchful. As we prepare to remember Christ's birth, we want to remind ourselves that He is already here among us. And yet, so many times we fail to see Jesus in one another or in ourselves. Advent calls us to open our eyes to see how God is alive and present in our world.

It is so easy to be distracted, especially during this time of the year. Our thoughts, and sometimes our actions, wander from the spirit of joy and peace that should characterize this time. We get involved in pursuits that do not honor God, ourselves, or others. We forget that Christ wants to be reborn in us and that we need to nurture His presence if that “birth” is to be a healthy one.

Let us this Advent, wait, be watchful, and wander not so that we might received the most precious present of all: the presence of Jesus Christ!

In Christ's love,

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

Rector