

## The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, December 4

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

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

Religious Education Classes at 8:00am

Monday, December 5 – *Advent Weekday*

Tuesday, December 6 – *Advent Weekday*

Advent Evening Prayer at 5:40pm

Cathedral Choir Rehearsal at 6:00pm

Wednesday, December 7

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 11:00am

Adult Bible Study at 6:00pm

Thursday, December 8

### **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the**

### **Blessed Virgin Mary**

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

Friday, December 9 – *Advent Weekday*

Saturday, December 10 – *Advent Weekday*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

St. Damien Devotional Group at 12:30pm

Sunday, December 11

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Retirement Fund for Religious**

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

Religious Education Classes at 8:00am

## Adult Faith Formation

Please join us on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am – 12:30pm at the Kamiano Center. Our Advent topic is "Mary, Mother of God." For more information, please call Deacon Joe & Easter at [ealmuena@rcchawaii.org](mailto:ealmuena@rcchawaii.org) or call the office.

## Advent Penance Service

Our Cathedral Basilica Advent Penance Service will be on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to take advantage of the Sacrament of Penance as part of the Advent of experience of hopeful anticipation.

## Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection \$ 8,436.20

Weekday Collection \$ 1,291.29

Coffers \$ 709.71

Holy Day Collection \$ 2,348.23

**Total \$ 12,785.43**



## Cathedral Renewal Campaign

Bishop Larry Silva and Fr. Gary Secor invited all 66 parishes in the Diocese of Honolulu to support renovations to the "Mother Church" of the diocese. Many parishes have elected to participate by conducting a second collection on behalf of the Cathedral Renewal Campaign and we'd like to thank all of those communities for their generous support!

Thirty-five parishes have already conducted their second collections and nineteen of those have sent in their contributions, totaling more than \$50,000!!

**Mahalo nui loa** to the following parishes for their second-collection gifts to the Cathedral Renewal Campaign:

**Annunciation, Kamuela, Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa, Honolulu, Immaculate Conception, Lihue, Immaculate Conception, Ewa, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Papaikou, Mailia Puka O Kalani, Hilo, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Pearl City, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kaneohe, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Ewa Beach, Our Lady of Sorrows, Wahiawa, Resurrection of the Lord, Waipahu, Sacred Heart, Hawi, Sacred Heart, Waianae, St. Anthony, Kalihi, St. Anthony of Padua, Kailua, St. Augustine by-the-Sea, Honolulu, St. Catherine, Kapaa, St. Damien of Molokai, Kaunakakai, St. Elizabeth, Aiea, St. George, Waimanalo, St. John Apostle & Evangelist, Mililani, St. John the Baptist, Honolulu, St. Joseph, Waipahu, St. Jude, Kapolei, St. Philomena, Honolulu, St. Roch, Kahuku, St. Theresa, Mountain View.**

We also wish to thank the many individual families and friends who have sent donations (\$84,000) directly to us! **THANK YOU TO ALL!!!**

To learn more about Cathedral Renewal Campaign and/or to make a contribution: Visit us online at: [www.HonoluluCathedralRenewal.org](http://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](mailto:CRC@rcchawaii.org) Phone: (808) 585-3329**

## December 4, 2016 – Second Sunday of Advent

### Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

*Isaiah 11:1-10 | Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 | Romans 15:4-9 | Matthew 3:1-12*

A perfect world where justice and peace and abundance will flourish forever — it sounds incredible and impossible, yet Psalm 72 imagines a world like this. All people, especially the poor, the afflicted, and the lowly will be rescued and saved. All will have what they need and because of this, justice will flourish and peace will reign.

The Israelites believed in the possibility of God's kingdom of peace and justice and expressed it in their hope for the coming of a Messiah. Christ's disciples placed their hope in the longed-for Savior, who showed his followers the way through his life, death, and Resurrection. As disciples, we are called to do our part to produce the fruits of justice and make God's kingdom come. This Advent, we, too, can pray this psalm longing for a world that will bring about God's reign, full of the fruits of justice and peace. We also must prepare ourselves to do our part to make them grow.

CELEBRATING THE LECTIONARY © 2016 Resource Publications, Inc.

### **Next Sunday's Readings**

*Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10 | Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 | James 5:7-10 | Matthew 11:2-11*

### **From the Rector's Desk**

Dear Cathedral Family:

As John the Baptist prepared the way for Christ, we want to prepare the way of the Lord. We refuse to let the "desert moments" of our lives dissuade us. We want to delight in the "fear of the Lord"; to joyfully reverence the presence of the Word made flesh in ourselves and one another. God's word today reminds us of what we need to do to pave the way for Christ.

First of all, we must repent. We must take personal responsibility for our willful failures and sins. This does not mean "beating ourselves up", but it means recognizing that we are in constant need of God's healing and forgiveness. The voice calling us to repent, like John the Baptist's voice, may often be difficult to hear and very challenging. But, rooting out evil and allowing goodness to flourish is never easy.

Secondly, we must be about reconciliation with one another. The Letter to the Romans calls us to more harmonious living. This means allowing the oil of God's grace to ease the friction that can characterize our interactions even with those we love the most. We must eliminate the rough edges of our personality that can cut and hurt. We must be willing to forgive and be forgiven.

Finally, we must work for reform of the structures in our lives and world so that justice may be more present. The peace spoken of in Isaiah will not be present until justice is present. We are challenged to recognize the unjust ways that we relate to others and the systems that often perpetuate that injustice. How can we work to change what is unfair in our workplace, at home, in school, or in the larger community? The vision of harmony, spoken of in Isaiah, seems too good to be true. But, with God, all things are possible.

This Advent let us repent, reconcile with one another, and reform so that justice may reign. Let us reverence Christ in each other and bear the good fruit of love and peace. In this way, we will prepare the way for Christ. He will be born again in us; we will experience baptism with the "Holy Spirit and fire".

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