

## The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, December 30

### **Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

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

Religious Education at 8:00am

Monday, December 31

### **The Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas**

Tuesday, January 1

### **The Octave Day of Christmas Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, The Mother of God**

**New Year's Day**

Cathedral Holiday

Mass at 12:00 noon

(Church will close after Noon Mass)

Wednesday, January 2

### **Memorial of Saints Basil the Great & Gregory**

**Nanzianzen**, *bishop, doctors of the Church*

**No Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Thursday, January 3 – *Christmas Weekday*

### **Birthday of St. Damien of Molokai (1840)**

Friday, January 4 – **First Friday**

### **Memorial of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**, *religious*

Adoration/Benediction at 10:00am

Saturday, January 5 – **First Saturday**

### **Memorial of St. John Neumann**, *bishop*

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am

Mass & Holy Hour at 12:00 noon

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

Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Sunday, January 6

### **The Epiphany of the Lord**

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

Religious Education Classes at 8:00am

## Happy New Year!

On behalf of Msgr. Gary, Fr. Marvin, Dcn. Joe, and our Cathedral Basilica Staff (Alika, Joe, Paula, Calvin, Gary, Zara, Chris, Mike, Harold, and Kamalani), we would like to wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

## Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday Collection	\$ 9,058.08
Weekday Collection	\$ 1,310.56
Coffers	\$ 658.25
Holy Day Collection	\$ 307.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,323.89</b>



## Living the Liturgy

- Read the first three chapters of Sirach. Perhaps you can assign one chapter to each person in your group for in-depth study. What virtues are named in Sirach? Compare them to Paul's list of virtues in Colossians. What phrases or images help us understand what God asks? You may wish to make a bumper sticker, bookmark, or slogan to hang on your wall or refrigerator as a reminder of a virtue that you aspire to model this season.
- With your family or group of friends, do something together to give life this week.

## Sharing Faith

- Which of the virtues named by Paul is easiest for you to attain? Which is hardest?
- Consider Joseph's readiness to respond immediately to God. Where can Joseph's example help with your own choices? What prayer for help might you make to St. Joseph?
- The Church is often called the family of God. What does that mean?

## Young Adults

Join the Young Adults ages 18-39 for fun and learning together on Sunday, January 6 at 1:00pm at the Rectory. Contact Dcn. Joe and Easter at [ealmuena@rcchawaii.org](mailto:ealmuena@rcchawaii.org)

## 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](http://www.HonoluluCathedralRenewal.org).

Click on the "Learn" button, or select "Renewal Campaign" in the toolbar to view our 5 ½ minute campaign video.

# Dec. 30, 2018 – Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

## Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

*1 Samuel 1:20 – 22, 24 – 28 | Psalm 84:2 – 3, 5 – 6, 9 – 10 | 1 John 3:1 – 2, 21 – 24 | Luke 2:41 – 52  
or Sirach 3:2 – 6, 12 – 14 | Psalm 128:1 – 2, 3, 4 – 5 | Colossians 3:12 – 21 | Luke 2:41 – 52*

Many of us have heard stories or seen pictures of pilgrims, or people on a journey to a sacred place such as the Holy Land or Mecca. In our time, some Hispanic peoples seek to reenact Christ's way of the cross through the streets. American history calls pilgrims those who crossed the sea to these shores in search of religious freedom. These travelers set their hearts upon a goal and seek to honor God by making a long or even hard journey.

Today's Scriptures give us stories of other such travelers who set their hope on God. The members of the Holy Family (Jesus, Mary, and Joseph) were travelers who were on their own annual journey to Jerusalem for Passover. In his narrative of the young Jesus in the Temple, Luke tells us that Jesus knew he must be about his Father's will. As travelers ourselves, God also calls us to set our hearts upon him, to place our faith in him, his compassion, and his providence. We can be certain God calls us to do his will.

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### **Next Sunday's Readings: "The Epiphany of the Lord"**

*Isaiah 60:1-6 | Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8 10-11, 12-13 | Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 | Matthew 2:1-12*

## From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral family:

On this Sunday immediately following Christmas, it is appropriate that we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. The Nativity of Jesus Christ proclaims the mystery of the incarnation; that God became a real human being and lives among us. This Sunday's liturgy reinforces our awareness of the humanity of Christ as we remember that Jesus was born into a human family. This fact teaches us some important lessons about family life.

First of all, we are taught that life is a gift from God that we are called to offer to God as a gift. Hannah rejoiced because she was able, by God's grace, to give life to Samuel. Being life-giving is perhaps the greatest of joys that we can experience since it is built into the very nature of who we are.

It is why being mother and father is such a very important calling in life. This gift of life is given to us so that we can give it away and dedicate it to God as Hannah did.

Secondly, we are reminded that all of us are children of God. Although we come from many different families and parents, God is our Father and we are brothers and sisters in Christ. This means that we should act as members of God's family, loving God our Father and loving one another. God invites us to do all that we can to develop relationships and bonds that foster the unity of the human family. Every member is important, especially those who are hurting and in need.

Finally, every family faces challenges and struggles. Even the Holy Family had to deal with the anxiety of a lost child and the mystery of a young person who was forging his identity as God's Son. We know that family life is not easy and never is perfect. There are often times of confusion and, even hurt, as internal and external factors seem to try to force family members apart. It is especially at those times that we need to remember to do what the Holy Family did. Jesus was ultimately obedient to Mary and Joseph and advanced in wisdom and favor. Mary relied on God's love as she pondered in her heart the mystery of the Word made flesh. Joseph was a quiet, stronger, protector of Mary and Jesus.

Please join me in thanking God for the many people (staff and volunteers) who worked so hard to make our Christmas celebrations so beautiful. And thanks to all for your Christmas donations and gifts. May God bless your generosity abundantly!

May you have a New Year filled with much joy and peace. May we begin this New Year by pledging to model our lives after the Holy Family.

In Christ's love,

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

Rector