

Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace



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MARCH 10, 2024
4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday: 6:30 a.m.
& 12:00 p.m.

Saturday: 7:00 a.m.
& 12:00 p.m.

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.
(Fulfills Sunday Obligation)

Sunday: 6:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m.,
10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.
& 6:00 p.m.

RECONCILIATION

Wednesday & Saturday
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
(unless noted in bulletin)

Devotions

First Friday

Adoration/Benediction
at 10:00 a.m.

First Saturday

Adoration after 7:00 a.m. Mass
(unless noted in bulletin)

PARISH OFFICE

MONDAY through FRIDAY
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed on holidays

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so that everyone who
BELIEVES IN HIM
may have eternal life

JOHN 3:15



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This week's Readings: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23; Psalm 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6
Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21

Next week's Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15
Hebrews 5:7-9; John 12:20-33

"EMBRACING GOD'S LOVE IN JESUS"

Beloved Disciples of Christ,

Greetings of peace, love, and joy!

I must say that the Gospel of John, Chapter 3, Verse 16, is one of the most quoted Scripture passages that I know of. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." It is often used for reflection and preaching. It is a statement of fact and a source of spiritual enrichment. It is very appropriate for all of us to understand and reflect deeply on this verse and its meaning during this Lenten season. We often get used to hearing this or reading this verse but never have another thought about what it means. Also how profoundly it can affect our life and faith. When we hear this verse so often, it can become ordinary, and the true meaning loses its depth.

Let us take a moment to ask ourselves if we have truly realized the meaning of this wonderful verse from Sacred Scripture. Let us ask ourselves if we have genuinely realized how much God loves us. Is it enough that we know who Jesus is and what He did for us? Or is there something more to it in understanding how this love was manifested?

From the beginning of time, God already showed how much He loved. He created this world and prepared everything. He saved the people of Israel from their bondage in Egypt. He provided food and water on their journey to the Promised Land. And how did people respond to Him? They wandered into this world. They adhered to false gods and endeavored for worldly pursuits. But God did not stop loving them. He continued to send them leaders to guide them to the path of light and life. Still, they chose to live in darkness and sin. And when that time came, He sent His Son to live in this world to teach and show the path to salvation.

If we are to look around at what is happening in our world today, many still adhere to the path of darkness. Many still prefer to embrace the way of the world rather than the way of God. It is no wonder that we still experience so much division, pain, hatred, and injustice. We cannot just blame anyone other than ourselves because we have not embraced God's love for us wholeheartedly.

God sent His only Son into this world to show us how to live and love and be able to transform this broken world we live in. The depth of this love of Jesus had been manifested by His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. And for someone to do that for us shows how He cares for us.

During this season of grace, let God's love enrich and mold us. And allow His love for us to be the source of inspiration to love others in return.

Your friend in Jesus,

Fr. Pascual Abaya IV
Rector



SO THAT EVERYONE
WHO BELIEVES
IN HIM MAY
HAVE ETERNAL LIFE

JOHN 3:15

CHURCH'S CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 10

Fourth Sunday of Lent with Scrutiny (A)

2nd Collection for Catholic Relief Services

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00am/12:00pm/6:00pm
Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Monday, March 11

Monday of the 4th Week of Lent
Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Tuesday, March 12

Tuesday of the 4th Week of Lent
Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Wednesday, March 13

Wednesday of the 4th Week of Lent
Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am
Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Thursday, March 14

Thursday of the 4th Week of Lent
Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Friday, March 15

Friday of the 4th Week of Lent
Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm
Stations of the Cross at 10:00am & 5:30pm

Saturday, March 16

Saturday of the 4th Week of Lent
Mass & Adoration at 7:00am
Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am
Mass at 12:00pm
Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Sunday, March 17

Fifth Sunday of Lent with Scrutiny (A)

2nd Collection for Repairs & Maintenance
Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00am/12:00pm/6:00pm
Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

SCRIPTURE

In creating his enduring nocturnal character, Count Dracula, Bram Stoker may have taken his cue from John's account of the Gospel: "everyone who does wicked things hates the light" (3:20). Light and evil are incompatible, John tells us. Evil seeks out dens of darkness, so the nature of its works won't be exposed. Christ came as pure light into a world that had grown accustomed to darkness. Like Stoker's vampires, the evildoers of Jesus' day were not eager to have their wickedness exposed. So, with capes and nets of darkness they moved against the light, trying to extinguish it.

It was nothing new. God sent messengers to the Chosen People, but their reward was anger, mockery, and ridicule. Priests, people, and princes all ran from the light, and all polluted the Lord's temple and themselves. It doesn't take long to learn to prefer darkness to light. The eyes adjust. Memory is weak. We get good at fooling ourselves. The wonder is that God puts up with it. For a time, God may become "inflamed" (2 Chronicles 36:16), but his anger never lasts. The God who brought exile upon the Israelites also raised up a foreign king who set them free. Paul marvels at such goodness. While we were dead and steeped in our transgressions, God brought us to life in Christ, not because of any good works we did, but because of his grace and mercy and love. By lifting up the Son of Man, God revealed the shape of love: a cross.

SHARING FAITH

The Old Testament connects world events with the divine will and finds a cause-effect relationship. Are there realities today a biblical writer might see through this same lens?

God uses a pagan king to return Israel to the promised land. We might say that God is writing straight with crooked lines. Has God ever used unexpected means to get you where you were meant to be?

Jesus said he came not to condemn us but to save us. How have you experienced God's saving you from your own selfishness, thoughtlessness, or carelessness?

LIVING THE LITURGY

At sports events, you often see signs proclaiming "John 3:16." Why is that verse so beloved? Spend five minutes memorizing the text and keep it fresh by reciting it at the start of your day throughout the week.

List the number of times you have "started over" in your life: a new school or college, a new job, a new friendship or romantic relationship, a new house, a child added to the family, and so on. Does remembering all those changes make it easier to envision God as a merciful and forgiving?

Cut small crosses from sandpaper for each family member to carry in a pocket or hang from yarn around his or her neck. When temptations arise, touch the rough cross as a reminder of Jesus' example of faithfulness.

REFLECTION

"Early and often did the Lord, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them" (2 Chronicles 36:15).



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

February 26 - March 3, 2024

Offertory Collection

Sunday	\$ 5,935.62
Weekday + Ash Wednesday	\$ 1,157.19
Other Feasts, Solemnities	\$ 35.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,273.44
Total Offertory	\$ 9,346.25

Other Collection

Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 65.00
Diocesan Collection	\$ 161.25
Special Collection (Intentions, etc.)	\$ 1,199.00
Other Collection (Gallery, etc.)	\$ 888.00
Total	\$ 11,714.50

ICSC STEWARDSHIP

PRAYER

MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL IS TO FOSTER AN ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH STEWARDSHIP IS UNDERSTOOD, ACCEPTED AND PRACTICED THROUGHOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for this new day, and another opportunity to give the traditions of Lent genuine meaning in my life.

Help me to be good steward of this day; to use it wisely to reflect on my words and deeds, review my habits, and correct my faults. Inspire me to live as Jesus did, to embrace his cross, and live the great paschal mystery in a way that gives hope to others.

Be merciful to me this day. Forgive me my failings and weaknesses. Cultivate in me a humble and repentant heart.

Prepare me for the renewal of my baptismal vows, today and throughout the season of Lent; so that at Easter I may truly rejoice in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Amen!

WEST HONOLULU PENANCE SERVICE

- Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace, March 23 at 10:00 a.m.
- St. Philomena - March 12 at 6:00 p.m.
- St. John the Baptist - March 14 at 6:00 p.m.
- St. Stephen - March 18 at 7:00 p.m.
- Our Lady of the Mount - March 19 at 7:00 p.m.
- Blessed Sacrament - March 19 at 7:00 p.m.
- Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa - March 20 at 7:00 p.m.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

The Catholic Relief Services Collection supports six Catholic agencies that serve the vulnerable and marginalized at home and abroad. Support the collection at Mass or visit www.usccb.org/catholic-relief to make an online donation.

We are taking up The Catholic Relief Services Collection on the weekend of March 9th and 10th. For more information or to learn more about their services, again, visit www.usccb.org/catholic-relief #RevealChristsLove. #1church1mission

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Are you ready for the Season of Lent? Please join Dcn. Joe and Easter Almuena every 3rd Sunday of the month at 9:45am. Resources are available at Formed.org. On your browser, go to www.formed.org. Sign up as a "Parishioner", choose "RCCHAWAII" and create an account. Please see Dcn. Joe & Easter for more information.

OHANA IN CHRIST ANNUAL APPEAL

Please support the Cathedral Basilica and our many Catholic ministries and services by contributing to the 2023-2024 Appeal. Mahalo for your generous Stewardship of Treasure. All gifts are important and appreciated. Give online at CatholicHawaii.org.

SAINT FOR THE WEEK

"The public ceremonies of the Church," the saint once remaed, "draw the people by their pomp and magnificence, and by degrees win them over in spite of their prejudices. The people hear with their eyes more than with their ears; they are at first captivated, then captured by sight.

St. Clement Mary Hofbauer, (1751-1820),Redemptorist priest, Feast Day, March 15