

Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace



1184 Bishop Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone: 808.536.7036 † www.honolulu-cathedral.org † coolop@rcchawaii.org

Rector

Rev. Pascual Abaya IV

pabaya@rcchawaii.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Lazarus Anondee

lanondee@rcchawaii.org

In Residence

Rev. Gregorio Honorio

Deacon

Dcn. Joe Almueña

jalmueña@rcchawaii.org

Office Coordinator

Joseph Ramos

jramos@rcchawaii.org

Director of Music

Calvin Liu

calvin@rcchawaii.org

Religious Education Coordinator

Michael Bauer

mbauer@rcchawaii.org

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

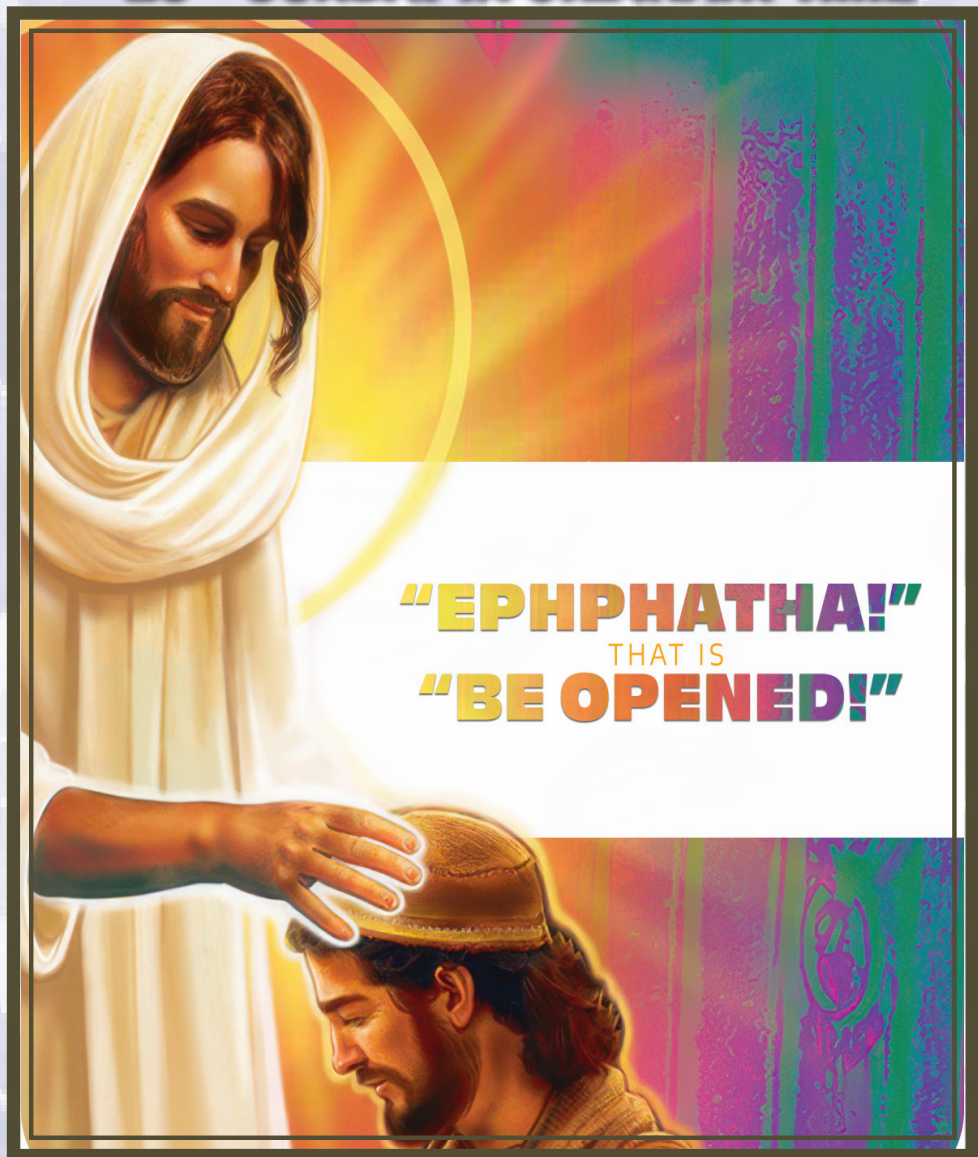
1184 Bishop Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Office: (808) 536-7036

Fax: (808) 585-3383

email: coolop@rcchawaii.org

www.honolulu-cathedral.org



"EPHPHATHA!"
THAT IS
"BE OPENED!"

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This week's Readings: Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10;
James 2:1-5; Alleluia - Matthew 4:23; Mark 7:31-37

Next week's Readings: Isaiah 50:5-9a; Psalm 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9;
James 2:14-18; Alleluia - Galatians 6:14; Mark 8:27-35

"EPHPHATHA!"

Beloved Disciples of Christ,
Greetings of peace, love, and joy!

Our Gospel Reading, this Twenty-third Sunday of Ordinary Time, is about Jesus performing a miracle to a deaf man with a speech impediment. The man is brought by concerned people and asks Jesus to lay His hand on him. Jesus speaks "Ephphatha," an Aramaic word that means "Be opened." Jesus heals the person. The people are astonished and recognize Jesus' extraordinary acts, like making the deaf hear and the mute speak. The miracle that Jesus performed is the fulfillment of the Prophecy of Isaiah in the First Reading, "Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing."

God, the source of life and goodness, wants all people to be whole. Jesus, the Beloved Son of Father, fulfills that with His healing power and might. He heals and restores life and dignity to those who are sick, poor, and oppressed and sets free those imprisoned by sin. Whenever Jesus performs to heal the sick or performs a great miracle on the people, He not only takes out the illness but brings the person to their total self. He makes the person whole physically, mentally, and spiritually with dignity and honor as a child of God.

Being deaf is difficult. Besides being deaf, the person also experiences speech difficulty. It affects the whole person, his way of life, and his relationship. He is enslaved in a situation and is limited to performing the daily chores of life. Such is the case for a person with physical deafness but more for a spiritually impaired person with hearing. Our sense of hearing and speech may be okay, but do we listen to what we are supposed to? Do we speak what we are supposed to say?

This Sunday is one such moment given to all of us to reflect on our response to Jesus' call to discipleship. To be a disciple is not just to fulfill our Sunday obligations, which are great, to do works of charity, but to live also the call to faithfulness in all our ways. Often, we listen to ourselves and do not hear what we need to hear, understand, and speak the words we need to say, not how a true disciple will speak.

To guide us through a more profound commitment as Jesus' followers, we need to go back and read Sacred Scripture and use the Word of God as a source of life and goodness. In doing so, we can share words of wisdom with others and practice what He teaches us through our ways. Let the words of Jesus "Ephphatha" be for us to be faithful to our calling and live our lives so that we can exemplify what a faithful Christian is, one who hears the Word speaks, and lives the Word daily.

Your friend in Jesus,

Fr. Pascual Abaya IV
Rector



*He makes
the deaf hear &
the mute speak*

MARK 7:37

CHURCH'S CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 8
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
2nd Collection for Catholic University
 Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00am/12:00pm/6:00pm
 Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Monday, September 9
 Memorial of St. Peter Claver
 Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Tuesday, September 10
 Tuesday of the 23rd Week in Ordinary Time
 Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Wednesday, September 11
 Wednesday of the 23rd Week in Ordinary Time
 Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am
 Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Thursday, September 12
 Thursday of the 23rd Week in Ordinary Time
 Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Friday, September 13
 Memorial of St. John Chrysostom
 Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Saturday, September 14
 Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
 Mass & Adoration at 7:00am
 Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am
 Mass at 12:00pm
 Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Sunday, September 15
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
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

It echoes across the centuries and rings in our deaf ears: "Ephphatha!" It's an order that speaks the impossible into being, commanding all impediments be removed and all creation be restored to its original blessedness. It's spoken over individuals and nations, and even over nature herself. It is the voice of God decreeing harmony and justice, ordering the end of fear and limitations, commanding creation to rejoice in the salvation that has been encoded into its DNA. It's poetry that flows from Isaiah's pen and transcends the limits of reality, soaring above the natural world, imagining what flesh and reason think impossible. But truth's surest home is poetry. It resides in its verses and takes shelter in its rhymes. Only wild-eyed poets and prophets can proclaim sight to the blind and speech to the mute. Only they can discern bubbling water in the desert. Only a poet can declare that the poor of the world are rich heirs of the kingdom.

Only a poet would dare put his own spit in the mouth of another man to call his tongue back to life. It's all so wild and uncontrolled. The spirit that takes up residence in the poet and prophet eschews propriety and releases forces that shake up lives and worlds. Giving hope is revolutionary. Telling people their limits don't define them is wild and irresponsible. And yet they do it boldly! They can't help it. They know the secret the rest of us have forgotten: God is in charge. And one day every heart will yield to his command: Ephphatha!

SHARING FAITH

What do you make of Jesus' very tactile method of healing the deaf man — placing a finger in his ear and touching his tongue? In what ways does it speak of Incarnation and the importance of flesh?

Are you impressed by the titles and wealth? Would you be inclined to treat a person of money and position with more deference than someone who lacked status and riches? Is there anything wrong with doing that?

How open are you to the lessons of life? Do you honestly examine your conscience, ask for frank feedback from others, and accept corrections?

LIVING THE LITURGY

Inaugurate a "Fear not!" day in your home or workplace. Invite people to write down the things they are most afraid of, fold their paper in half, and put it through a shredder. Then, take the fragments and scatter them in a flower bed where they can act as mulch for the growing plants.

For an entire day, grant every request made of you, whether it comes from your boss or a perfect stranger. Show no partiality.

Open your ears to someone in need. Visit a shut-in or someone you know who is lonely, and let that person do most of the talking. Visit a nursing home lobby or sitting room and invite residents to talk while you listen. Call an old friend or a relative who lives out of town and ask what's happening.

REFLECTION

"Then will the eyes of the blind be opened" (Isaiah 35:5).



ICSC STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Loving and Gracious God,

We ask You to open our hearts to your Son's life and ministry and to answer the call to be his disciples.

May our response be rooted in the Gospel;

may we be ever mindful of the needs of our communities;

and may our stewardship flow from a profound sense of gratitude for Your many blessings.

By the gift of the Holy Spirit, empower and inspire us to respond in a way that brings hope to others and reveals the love that comes to us through Jesus Christ.

We ask this in His Name, who is Lord forever and ever.

Amen

By Monsignor Anthony J. Marcaccio, (May 5, 1963 - July 19, 2024) Beloved pastor of Saint Pius X Catholic Church, Greensboro, North Carolina and friend of ICSC.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

August 26 - September 1, 2024

Offertory Collection

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Sunday | \$ 6,190.37 |
| Weekday + Coffers | \$ 1,679.86 |
| Other Feasts, Solemnities | \$ 18.00 |
| Online Giving | \$ 2,029.30 |
| Total Offertory | \$ 9,917.53 |

Other Collection

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Repairs & Maintenance | \$ 10.00 |
| Diocesan Collection | \$ 536.00 |
| Special Collection (Intentions, etc.) | \$ 2,129.51 |
| Other Collection (Gallery, etc.) | \$ 170.00 |
| Total | \$ 12,763.04 |

SUNSET ROSARY ON THE BEACH

Join the Catholic Men's Fellowship of Hawaii, Outreach Ministry, and the Knights of Columbus on Friday, September 20th for their Sunset Rosary and Potluck at Ala Moana Beach Park at the Ewa side. Dinner at 6:30PM, Rosary at 7:10PM, and Fireworks at 7:45PM. For more information, please contact Ron Gochenouer at 808-206-4420.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Please note, no Adult faith Formation in September. Please see resources that are available at **FORMED**. On your browser, go to www.formed.org. Sign up as a "Parishioner", choose "RCCHAWAII" and create an account.

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY COLLECTION

Thank you for your support in Catholic University and its mission "God Is My Light" second collection. For 137 years, it has guided the University as we educate students who go on to serve the nation and transform the world. Your donation and prayers are deeply appreciated.

'OHANA IN CHRIST ANNUAL APPEAL

We are at 45% from reaching our goal! Please support the Cathedral Basilica and our many Catholic ministries and services by contributing to the 2023-2024 'Ohana In Christ Appeal. Our Catholic Church in Hawaii has many dimensions and continues to make significant impact in the communities we serve. Your generous gift will especially help support numerous ministries and services at our parishes, schools and beyond - as well as our Parish Priests and Deacons, Youth and Young Adult Ministry and those most in need. Mahalo for your generous Stewardship of Treasure. All gifts are important and appreciated. Please give on-line at CatholicHawaii.org.

SAINT FOR THE WEEK

If you wish to leave much wealth to your children, leave them in God's care. Do not leave them riches, but virtue and skill. For if they learn to except riches, they will not mind anything besides, and their abundant riches shall give them the means of screening the wickedness of their ways.

St. John Chrysostom (349 - 407), Patron Saint of Speaking, Feast Day September 13th