



Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace

Cathedral of the Honolulu Diocese • Founded 1843 • National Historic Register

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 19, 2025

Beloved Pilgrims of Hope,

Greetings of peace, love, joy and hope!

“Opportunities for Growth and Renewal”

Jesus’ baptism in the Jordan by John signaled His public ministry. He did not confine Himself in His home, but He went about doing the work of the Father. This Second Sunday in Ordinary Time presents to us Jesus performing a miracle in Cana.

As we gather to reflect on Jesus’ miracle at the Wedding in Cana, we are reminded of the transformative power of Jesus’ first miracle. This event, where Jesus turned water into wine, is a profound symbol of His divine presence and the abundance of grace He brings into our lives.

In the Gospel of John, we read how Jesus, at the request of His mother, Mary, performed His first public miracle at a wedding in Cana of Galilee. This miracle not only saved the hosts from embarrassment but also revealed Jesus’ glory and led His disciples to believe in Him. It is a powerful reminder that Jesus is always present in our lives, ready to transform our ordinary moments into extraordinary experiences of His love and grace.

As we reflect on this miracle, let us remember that Jesus’ presence in our lives is a source of joy and hope. Just as He transformed the water into wine, He can transform our struggles and challenges into opportunities for growth and renewal. Let us invite Him into our hearts and allow His grace to work in us, bringing about a deeper conversion and a renewed sense of purpose.

Listening to some of the testimonies of people who experienced the devastating wildfires in California and even in our own State, specifically on the island of Maui, as much as they could hold on to their pain and struggles, they embraced these challenges wholeheartedly. They continued to move on because of the outpouring of love and support from many agencies and individuals, lifting their spirits up not only to provide for their immediate needs but also to experience humanity at its height when someone cares to assist. People have become a means of hope for them for the goodness they pour out.

In this special Jubilee Year of Hope, we are called to be bearers of hope in our communities and beyond. This Jubilee is a time of grace, renewal, and celebration of God’s boundless mercy. It is an opportunity to reflect on the ways we can embody hope in our daily lives and extend it to those around us.

Hope is not merely a passive waiting but an active engagement with the world, rooted in the assurance of God’s promises. As we celebrate this Jubilee Year, let us commit ourselves to acts of kindness, compassion, and justice. Let us be instruments of God’s hope, bringing light to the darkness and joy to the sorrowful.

May the miracle at the Wedding Feast at Cana inspire us to trust in Jesus’ transformative power and to live our lives with hope and joy. Let us walk together as a community of believers, united in our mission to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all.

Your fellow pilgrim in hope,

Fr. Pascual