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#### 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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# MARCH 23, 2025 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

1184 Bishop Street, Honolulu, HI 96813 Phone: 808.536.7036 † www.honolulucathedral.org † coolop@rcchawaii.org

> **WHERE YOU STAND** IS HOLY GROUND

Picture ©Diocesan **This week's Readings:** Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15; Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Alleluia: Matthew 4:17; Luke 13:1-9

**Next week's Readings:** Joshua 5:9a, 10-12; Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Alleluia: Luke 15:18; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

## FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK

## "CULTIVATING HOPE IN THE JUBILEE YEAR"

Beloved Pilgrims of Hope,

Greetings of peace, love, joy, and hope!

The Sundays of Scrutiny for our catechumen start this Sunday. Considering our understanding, the Readings at this Mass especially at the 8:00 AM Mass is taken from the Gospel of Matthew, Cycle A. This is to accompany our candidate to hear and be nurtured by the Word of God as she starts to learn and reflect how one can embrace the faith in Jesus Christ. For many of us, we will be reflecting on the Gospel of Luke, Cycle C. We may wonder why this takes place. Catechumens are opening their faith in Jesus and the Gospels at the Scrutiny Sundays are all about His teaching to those who are new to know and accept Him. For us who had already been baptized and accepted Jesus, we continue to deepen our understanding that we may become more faithful as His disciples.

As we spend these days in the sacred season of Lent, Jesus offers us the parable of the fig tree—a story rich in meaning and invitation. The fig tree, planted with care, is expected to bear fruit, yet its barrenness leads the owner to consider cutting it down. It is the gardener who steps in, pleading for one more year, promising to tend to the tree with renewed effort and hope. If, after this time, it still bears no fruit, then it shall be removed.

This parable speaks deeply to us, especially as we embrace the grace-filled themes of the Jubilee Year of Hope. It reminds us of God's infinite patience and mercy, granting us time to nurture our spiritual lives and bear the fruit of holiness. Yet, it also calls us to a sense of urgency that cannot wait for tomorrow but must begin here and now.

Lent is a time to pause and reflect on our discipleship. As followers of Christ, we are called to share in His mission. At the heart of this mission lies our witness—our daily living out of His teachings. It is through this witness that we bear the fruits of faith, hope, and love in a world longing for meaning and purpose.

The Jubilee Year of Hope invites us to recommit to this mission with joy and determination. Like the gardener, we are called to cultivate our faith with care, trusting in the Lord's guidance. Let us not delay in answering this call. Instead, let us embrace this sacred opportunity to renew our lives, to reconcile with God and one another, and to be steadfast witnesses of hope to the world.

May this Lent and the Jubilee Year of Hope be a time of profound renewal for each of us, a time to bear abundant fruit for the Kingdom of God. Together, let us walk forward in faith, confident that the One who tends to us is ever patient, ever merciful, and ever loving.

Your fellow pilgrim in hope,

#### Fr. Pascual Abaya IV



IT MAY BEAR FRUIT IN THE FUTURE. IF NOT YOU CAN CUT IT DOWN. *Luke 13:9* 

# **CHURCH'S CALENDAR THIS WEEK**

Sunday, March 23, 2025 **Third Sunday of Lent** Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00am/12:00pm/6:00pm Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

> Monday, March 24, 2025 Monday of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Lent Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 Wednesday of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Lent Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm Thursday, March 27, 2025 Thursday of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Lent Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Friday, March 28, 2025 Friday of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Lent Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm Stations of the Cross at 10:00am & 5:30pm

Saturday, March 29, 2025 Saturday of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Lent Mass with Adoration & Benediction at 7:00am Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00am Mass at 12:00pm Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Sunday, March 30, 2025 Fourth Sunday of Lent 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for Catholic Relief Services Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00am/12:00pm/6:00pm

## **SCRIPTURE**

Lent is a time of conversion, a time to turn our lives around and return to God. Moses heard God's voice in the midst of tending his father-in-law's flock. Just as his moment of conversion comes right in the middle of daily life, so do ours. In the course of daily living, God calls us to pay attention, repent, and change.

In calling forth Moses and revealing his name, "I am who am," God reveals himself as awe-inspiring, the source of all being, the one who rules over creation and gives meaning to life. Faced with such a God, we can imagine Moses' astonishment. Yet God asked obedience from him. Moses is to do as God tells him. God asks us, too, for obedience when we hear his call in the middle of everyday life. We are called by God: repent, bear fruit, change your ways, and redeem your lives from destruction.

Once again, Lent is a new opportunity, a time of renewal. Like the fig tree, God's grace fertilizes and nourishes us, but our response must be to bring forth life. The life we bring forth is to make the fruits of God's reign visible for all to see.

## **SHARING FAITH**

Moses thought God should send someone else, yet God called him. What do you think of God's call to you?

What will fertilize and nourish your growth this Lent?

Read Psalm 103, which lists everything God does. How or where God has done these things for you?

# LIVING THE LITURGY

Make a plan for how you will find spiritual nourishment during the remaining weeks of Lent. Perhaps you will create a certain point of quiet each day or choose a specific time each week to read the daily scripture or a Lenten reflection. Mark it on your calendar as you would an appointment.

Create a mind map (a drawing with a circle in the center and lines drawn in different directions from the circle). Write your name in the circle. At the ends of the lines, write the things that continuously nourish, support, or fertilize your life, especially during Lent.

Talk to a person you know or a member of your parish who became Catholic as an adult. Ask them what was important on their faith journey and who were witnesses of faith along the way for them. Ask them what it was like to be part of a parish community during their journey, especially during Lent.

# REFLECTION

But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! (Luke 13:5)

#### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

March 10 - 16, 2025

	Offertory Collection	
<b>ICSC STEWARDSHIP</b>	Sunday	\$ 6,247.32
	Weekday + Stations of the Cross	\$ 1,079.94
<b>PRAYER (MARCH)</b>	Other Feasts, Solemnities, Holy Day	\$ 70.00
Mission statement:	Online Giving	\$ 3,617.42
The mission of the Interna-	Total Offertory	\$ 11,004.68
tional Catholic Stewardship		
Council is to foster an environ-	Other Collection	
ment in which stewardship is	Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 3,276.24
ment in which stewardship is understood. Throughout the Catholic Church.	Diocesan Collection	\$ 252.98
Catholic Church.	Special Collection (Intentions, etc.)	\$ 1,386.16
Merciful Lord,	Other Collection (Gallery, etc.)	\$ 248.00
As we prepare for	Total	\$ 16,178.06

#### **CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES**

With changing priorities for U.S. government humanitarian assistance, our most vulnerable sisters and brothers are being affected around the world. Due to funding challenges, people need us more than ever. Since our beginning more than 80 years agofrom a groundswell of support from generous Catholics to assist in the aftermath of World War II—it is our donors in the United States that breathe life into our work. Please support Catholic Relief Services on their mission in our second collection next weekend. For more information, please visit <u>https://www.crs.org/</u> Mahalo for your support.

### **JUBILEE SPIRITUAL CONFERENCE**

West Honolulu Vicariate Presents **JUBILEE YEAR 2025** Spiritual Conferences at Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa (with Holy Hour and Confession) April 16, 2025, at 6:00 PM Speaker: Fr. Lazarus Anondee Theme: RENEWING OUR FAITH COMMITMENT IN THE **JUBILEE OF HOPE** 

# **'OHANA IN CHRIST ANNUAL APPEAL**

Help support the Cathedral Basilica and our many Catholic ministries and services by contributing to the 2024-2025 'Ohana In Christ Appeal. We collected \$23,300.00 of \$36,671 and we are at 64% of our goal. 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 online at CatholicHawaii.org. Or scan the **OR code on the left** with your phone. For more information on how you can give or please call the office at 808-536-7036. Thank you for your generosity!

#### SAINT FOR THE WEEK

A servant of the Lord stands bodily before men, but mentally he is knocking at the gates of heaven with prayer.

St. John Climacus (579 - 649), Author of Ladder of Divine Ascent, Feast Day March 30

As we prepare for our journey of renewal toward the great paschal feast of Easter, teach us to be good stewards of your mercy and forgiveness, so that we may extend these gifts to others.

> Give us the strength to bear witness to you at all times, even in times of stress and adversity.

And fill our hearts with love that we may be faithful to the Gospel Jesus proclaimed and ready to celebrate his resurrection.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God. for ever and ever.

Amen.

