



Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 30, 2026

Beloved Disciples of Christ,

Greetings of peace, love, joy, and hope!

“Anchored in Christ through Every Trial”

Hurricane Lala has left a deep mark on our islands. The strong winds and rushing waters swept through many parts of Hawai‘i, especially in Ka‘ū, where the community now faces the heartbreaking sight of loved ones’ graves unearthed. Recovery efforts have begun, and we trust that healing will come, though it will take time, patience, and grace. Here on O‘ahu, we too felt the storm’s severity. Trees were uprooted, properties were damaged, and even the roof of one home was torn off by the force of the wind.

Our hearts are also burdened by the tragedies unfolding around the world. The devastating earthquakes that have claimed lives and shattered communities, along with the many forms of suffering that weigh on our global family, remind us of how fragile life is and how deeply we depend on God’s mercy. As disciples of Christ, we are not called to turn away from these wounds but to carry them with compassion, prayer, and steadfast trust in the One who holds all creation in His hands.

When the earth trembles and the foundations of life seem to crumble, the Lord remains our refuge. The Psalmist assures us, *“O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So, I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So, I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.”*

In moments like these, faith becomes more than a belief; it becomes a lifeline, an anchor that steadies us when everything around us feels uncertain. Trusting in God does not remove our suffering, but it transforms how we walk through it. It reminds us that we are never alone, never abandoned, and never without hope.

We hold in prayer all who have lost loved ones, homes, and livelihoods. We pray for rescue workers, medical teams, and communities as they struggle to rebuild. We pray for those whose suffering is quieter yet no less real, those facing violence, displacement, illness, or loneliness. And we pray for our own hearts, that they may remain tender, courageous, and open to the Spirit’s call to compassion.

As the Body of Christ, we are invited to respond with hope rooted in trust. Hope does not deny suffering; it proclaims that suffering does not have the final word. Hope is the courage to believe God is still at work, even in the rubble. Hope is the willingness to be instruments of peace, healing, and generosity. Hope is the conviction that Christ’s light continues to shine, even in the darkest valleys.

May our parish community be a place where the world’s pain is held with tenderness, where prayer rises like incense for those most in need, and where our actions reflect the love of the One who came to bind the brokenhearted. In every tragedy, let us seek the face of Christ, and trust that He is already present, guiding, strengthening, and renewing His people.

Your Friend in Jesus,

Fr. Pascual