

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, May 24

The Ascension of the Lord

Live Stream Mass at 9:00am

Monday, May 25

Monday of the Seventh Week of Easter

Live Stream Mass at 4:00pm

Followed by Adoration/Benediction

Tuesday, May 26

Tuesday of the Seventh Week of Easter

Live Stream Mass at 8:00am

Adoration/Benediction at 12:00pm

Wednesday, May 27

Wednesday of the Seventh Week of Easter

No Sacrament of Reconciliation

Live Stream Mass at 4:00pm

Followed by Adoration/Benediction

Thursday, May 28

Thursday of the Seventh Week of Easter

Live Stream Mass at 4:00pm

Followed by Adoration/Benediction

Friday, May 29

Friday of the Seventh Week of Easter

Live Stream Mass at 4:00pm

Followed by Adoration/Benediction

Saturday, May 30

Saturday of the Seventh Week of Easter

No Sacrament of Reconciliation

Live Stream Mass at 4:00pm

Followed by Adoration/Benediction

Sunday, May 31

Pentecost Sunday

Masses at 6:00, 8:00, 10:00a, 12:00, 4:00, 6:00p

Live Stream Mass at 10:00a

Stewardship of Treasure

Offertory Collection

5/11 – 5/17

Sunday Offering	\$ 0.00
Easter Sunday	\$ 0.00
Feasts & Solemnities	\$ 0.00
Coffers	\$ 0.00
Online Offertory Giving	\$ 1,524.00
Total Offertory	\$ 1,524.00

Other Collection

Repair & Maintenance (Online also)	\$ 2,035.00
Mass Intention	\$ 118.00
Funeral Donation	\$ 0.00
Others (Gallery, Outreach, etc.)	\$ 0.00

Total

\$ 3,677.00

Living the Liturgy

- Watch a movie or read about people who have witnessed to what they believed. Clear examples are Oscar Romero, Martin Luther King Jr., and Mother Teresa. There are also many others. You may want to find a book about saints or those being considered for sainthood at your local library.
- During the Jubilee Year on May 7, 2000, John Paul II led a prayer, "Ecumenical Commemoration of Witnesses to the Faith in the Twentieth Century." There is a list of witnesses whose lives were celebrated on the Vatican Web site. Discuss your thoughts on people of other faith traditions who follow Christ. What does their witness mean for us?
- What does it mean to make disciples of all nations?

Sharing Faith

- What does it mean for you to be a witness for Christ? Who has been an example of a witness to you?
- This Sunday's Responsorial Psalm speaks about God as king. What does the image of God as king mean to you? How did Jesus exercise kingship?
- What world has God invited you to evangelize?

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8).



**ALL DAILY MASSES ARE
CANCELED UNTIL
June 13th (inclusive).
Follow us on Facebook as we
Live Stream our Masses**

May 24, 2020 – The Ascension of the Lord

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Acts 1:1-11 | Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 | Ephesians 1:17-23 | Matthew 28:16-20

It is easy to imagine that the disciples were not quite ready for Jesus to depart from their midst. In today's First Reading they ask Jesus a question: "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" (Acts 1:6). They still are uncertain.

Only Luke's account of the Gospel treats Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension as two separate events with forty days between them. On the solemnity of the Ascension, we celebrate that Jesus leaves the disciples with a mission to do on behalf of God's reign. Jesus will be with them in this work, but in a new way. The Holy Spirit will help them fulfill the work of witnessing to the ends of the earth. The two men in white in the Acts passage who ask the disciples why they look to heaven might also point us where we are to look. Our work is directed toward heaven while fostering God's kingdom on earth. In the passage from the Gospel according to Matthew, Jesus says the mission is to make disciples of all nations. Disciples must look to the world where Jesus lived and showed us how to live.

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Next Sunday's Readings: "Pentecost Sunday"

Acts 2:1-11 | Psalm 104:1, 24, 29, 29-31, 34 | 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 | John 20:19-23

From the Desk of Fr. Pascual

My Beloved Parishioners of the Cathedral Basilica,

Greetings of peace, love, and joy in the Risen Lord!

"God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord." Psalm 47

The verse quoted from the Book of Psalms expresses adoration and gladness to our Lord, Jesus Christ. It is right and just that after all that He had gone through, His Passion, Death, and Resurrection, all glory be given to Him worthy of a blare of trumpets to be played. And we, who believe in Him, bow our heads, bend on our knees, to thank Him for everything that He had done.

This great solemnity of rejoicing also fills our hearts to hear the news that we can once again gather in Church to celebrate the Holy Eucharist. We heard from our beloved Bishop Larry Silva in his letter to all the Catholic Faithful in Hawaii that on Pentecost Day, May 31, we can once again physically encounter our risen Lord in Holy Communion. This indeed is great news. We continue our spiritual journey deepening our relationship with Jesus and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us to the path of life through our participation in the Sacraments, physically and spiritually.

In as much as Fr. Anthony and I are eager to celebrate the Mass with you; it still makes me sad that we cannot be altogether as we were once before. Our gatherings on Pentecost and the succeeding Sundays will still be under restrictions because of the continuing threat of the Coronavirus Pandemic. **Bishop Larry extended the dispensation from the Obligation to Attend Mass on Sundays until June 30.** It is for this reason that we will continue to live-stream the celebration of Mass so that you can continue to join us within the confines of your home and your family.

Many of you may have read in my last letter addressed to all those who are in our parish database that with the new norm of social distancing, our church can only accommodate 110 individuals. With construction in place in the next two weeks, it will be even lesser to only 50 individuals due to the ongoing construction of repairing the plastered coral columns in the nave of the church. **There will still be no daily Mass with the public, but we will continue to provide you a live stream Mass daily at 4:00 PM with Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament after.** Again, this will only be for two weeks, and after that, we can maximize capacity to 110 on the second weekend of June 13 and 14. By this time as well, we can resume public daily Masses with a change of time in the morning to 7:00 AM and at noon.

May 24, 2020 – The Ascension of the Lord

In line with some adjustments that we need to adapt to our new norm, I have decided to **change Mass times on Sundays to 6 AM, 8 AM, 10 AM, 12 PM, 4 PM, and 6 PM**. We only used to have 30 minutes interval for every Mass, but we need to follow strictly CDC and State protocols, that is, to sanitize or disinfect the church for the next group of people coming to Mass. I have provided protocols to our volunteers that they need to observe strictly, so we can serve you with comfort and safety. In addition, with the parking situation at the Century Square building, they are only allowing two people per ride in their elevator. Therefore, the hour interval will be sufficient time to do all the procedures in place.

Who can enter the church in this new norm? We all have access to phones. It is for this reason that we are asking you to. Calling-in will be weekly. We are exploring the possibility of online reservations, and most likely, we will have this when the construction is over. Our parish staff will be ready to answer your call and include you on the list for the Mass you want to participate in. Again, for the next two weekends, we can only accommodate 50 people per Mass until the construction is over, and we can maximize capacity to 110 individuals. It will be a big adjustment on your part not to be able to go to the Mass time you prefer. If the scheduled Mass is already filled up, we will refer you to another Mass time that has not been filled up yet. **Also, I earnestly ask that if you are sick, if you belong to the high-risk group, 65 years and older, people who live in a care home or long-term care facility, families with children ages six and under, and people of all ages with underlying medical conditions, it is recommended that you continue to join us for Mass via live stream.** As I mentioned above, Bishop Larry Silva has extended the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass through June 30, 2020.

Online/Live-Streaming of the Mass:

www.facebook.com/HonoluluCathedralBasilica or www.hictv.com.

Please take the time to read the Guidelines from Bishop Larry Silva about what we need to observe when public Masses will resume on Pentecost Sunday and on. Let me highlight some of these with adjustments to our Cathedral situation.

Social Distancing and other Health Concerns: The following will be observed at all times and during all Masses.

- Facemasks must be worn upon entering the Church grounds
- Social distancing will be observed at all times.
- In the Church, an “X” mark will be placed to indicate where you can safely sit.
- Families of the same household will be able to sit together.
- Hand sanitizers will be made available for all to use upon entrance and exit of the Church.
- All parish gatherings and social events are canceled.

Please, allow yourself to be guided and be conscientious of what you need to do, following these will benefit our well-being. Let us always count on God’s mercy and grace that He will continue to spare us from this dreaded disease. I am making an appeal to all for your cooperation, patience, and understanding. Let us all be one in this journey during these difficult times. Stay safe, always!

Your friend in the Lord,
Fr. Pascual