

## The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, December 5

### **Second Sunday of Advent**

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

**Cathedral closed after each Mass**

Monday, December 6

### **Monday of the Second Week of Advent**

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed at 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 7

### **Memorial of St. Ambrose**

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed at 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 8

### **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the**

#### **Blessed Virgin Mary**

#### **Holy Day of Obligation**

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00 a.m.

**Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.**

Cathedral closed at 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 9

### **Thursday of the Second Week of Advent**

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed at 2:00 p.m.

Friday, December 10

### **Friday of the Second Week of Advent**

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed at 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 11

### **Saturday of the Second Week of Advent**

Live-Streamed Mass at 7:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00 a.m.

Mass at 12:00 p.m.

Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 12

### **Third Sunday of Advent**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for Retirement Fund for Religious**

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

**Cathedral closed after each Mass**

## Scripture Reflection

*The word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert (Luke 3:2).*

## Stewardship of Treasure

**Offertory Collection** 11/22 – 11/28

Sunday Offering	\$ 3,382.01
Weekday Offering & Thanksgiving	\$ 3,313.43
Online Giving	\$ 719.62
Other Feasts & Solemnities	\$ 15.00
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 7,430.06</b>

### **Other Collection**

Repair & Maintenance	\$ 511.00
Campaign Human Development	\$ 30.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$ 20.00
Holy Day	\$ 241.00
Others (Gallery, Candles, Baptisms)	\$ 1,155.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,387.06</b>

## Living the Liturgy

- Compare the portrayal and message of John the Baptist in Luke to the other accounts of the Gospel (Mark, Matthew, and John). Discuss the differences and similarities.
- Find one or more recordings of Advent music. Listen to the songs often: as prayer before meals, nighttime prayer, before a small group meeting, or in the car. You might also pay close attention to the music from each Sunday's liturgy. Name the images or themes of Advent you hear in the lyrics and which arise from the melodies.
- Saint Lucy's feast is traditionally celebrated on December 13, although this year the celebration of the Third Sunday of Advent takes precedence since it falls on this date. Still, we can remember and be guided by Saint Lucy. Lucia means "light." Find out about her life and reflect on how the image of light prevailing over darkness is a fitting image during Advent.

## Sharing the Faith

- How can we help make straight the Lord's path for one another?
- What kind of advocacy or voice for the poor and oppressed are we called to find in John the Baptist's message?
- What comfort has God offered you when you have had to transform your life?

## Saint of the Week

Nothing graces the Christian soul so much as mercy; mercy as shown chiefly towards the poor, that thou mayest treat them as sharers in common with thee in the produce of nature, which brings forth the fruits of the earth for use to all. - Saint Ambrose (340-397), Bishop, Patron of Police Officers, Feast Day December 7.

## December 5, 2021 – Second Sunday of Advent

### Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

*Baruch 5:1-9 | Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 | Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 | Luke 3:4, 6 | Luke 3:1-6*

Advent readings are often poetic, replete with wonderful images of God freeing captives, dreaming, rejoicing, mountains being made low, or gorges being filled in. We hear these hopeful images especially in today's First Reading from Baruch and the Responsorial Psalm. Salvation has come to God's people!

Yet this Advent imagery is not complete without the Baptist's cry to his listeners to do their part to prepare the way of the Lord. John's message of repentance and his call to make the pathways straight for the Lord's coming are a recognized message of the Advent season. John tells us that, as unlikely or amazing as it may seem, the Lord will come into our world.

He comes into our workplaces, homes, playgrounds, and neighborhoods; into the chaos of our daily struggles and difficult decisions; into the everyday moments of human lives. Yes, the Word of God became flesh and came into ordinary human history. It is for the celebration of this coming and the promise that the Messiah will come again in glory that we prepare ourselves and the world this Advent.

CELEBRATING THE LECTIONARY © 2021 Resource Publications, Inc.

### **Next Sunday's Readings: "Third Sunday of Advent"**

*Zephaniah 3:14-18a | Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 | Philippians 4:4-7 | Isaiah 61:1 (cited in Luke 4:18) | Luke 3:10-18*

### **From the Rector's Desk**

Dear Cathedral Basilica Ohana,

Greetings of peace, love, and joy!

***"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Luke 3: 4***

Series of fatal shootings are occurring around our nation. Many victims die and some are hurt because of some people's motives and actions. Families suffer for the loss of a loved one. With the pandemic still happening, many lost their job, and many are having difficulties finding ends meet. Some children will grow without a parent. Hearts are down and lives are saddened. During this time of the year when we come to the joyful celebration of the Lord's birth, we ask, how can we experience true joy when all these are happening? Our world is falling apart, and humanity is coming to a point when lives seem to have no hope for tomorrow. Shall we just remain resigned about it or is there something we can still do to change this way of living? I believe there is still a way to change our world, our lives, our families for our future or maybe even NOW.

John saw how crooked people's lives were before the Son of Man came into the world. He needed to proclaim the coming of the Lord and that, to straighten His paths. John spoke boldly, courageously, and convincingly about the Lord's coming. He was calling the people to change their lives, to repent from their sins and to be baptized. Lo, and behold, many opened up their lives to his invitation. Although, many too did not heed and lived their old ways.

Our situation today still reflects that many people haven't really heard the voice of John nor even the voice of Jesus. Ideologies emerge and many people even try to stop God's message to be heard anywhere. We are becoming a nation when religious freedom is threatened and even ostracized when you talk about the Bible, about God, about faith and more so about Jesus. Oftentimes, we don't even do something about it and just being resigned like singing the song, "que sera, sera."

John's proclamation, "prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths" is an invitation that we cannot ignore especially NOW. What is happening around us is an awakening moment for us, first, to deepen our commitment to follow the Lord. Secondly, like John, to stand as a witness to the truth of the Gospel, Jesus himself. And thirdly, to prepare for the coming of the Lord when that day and time will come. Let us listen attentively not only with our ears but with our minds and hearts.

Your friend in Jesus,  
Fr. Pascual



THE OUTREACH MINISTRY WILL BE OUTSIDE ALL SUNDAY MASSES ON DECEMBER 4-5 AND 11-12 TO COLLECT THE GIFTS FOR THE HOMELESS FOR THE EARTHLY ANGELS CHRISTMAS PROJECT. WE WILL ALSO COLLECT ANY MEN'S OR WOMEN'S CLOTHING THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE AT THIS TIME. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT RON AT (808) 306-7502. MAHALO!

# Ohana in Christ

THE ANNUAL APPEAL  
*for the*  
CATHOLIC CHURCH IN HAWAII



Please support your Parish and our many Catholic ministries by contributing to the 2021-2022 Appeal.

*Your gift will especially help:*

**PARISH PRIESTS AND DEACONS**

recruitment, assignment, professional development, health and wellness needs

**YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

developing faith formation groups, programs, events, and support for Catholic schools

**THOSE MOST IN NEED**

resourcing for parish food and shelter programs, and for Catholic social ministry agencies serving our kupuna, keiki and migrant communities



Give online at [CatholicHawaii.org](https://CatholicHawaii.org)  
**MAHALO** for your Generous Support  
All Gifts are Important and Appreciated!

