

## PARISH CALENDAR

## The Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

August 6, 2023

Listen, to my beloved!



The LORD is KING, the most high over all the earth

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

Saturday, August 5	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, August 6	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass <b>(Live Stream)</b>
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, August 7	..... 7:30 a.m.	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, August 8	..... 7:30 a.m.	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, August 9	..... 7:30 a.m.	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, August 10	..... 7:30 a.m.	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Friday, August 11	..... 7:30 a.m.	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Saturday, August 12	..... 4:00-4:45 p.m.	<b>Confession - Church</b>
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

### NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

**1 Kgs:19:9a, 11-13a: Elijah the prophet heard the Lord's voice not in wind, not in an earthquake nor in fire, but a tiny whisper.**

**Rom:9:1-5: Paul wrote that he would willingly accept being separated from the Christ for the sake of his fellow Israilites, from who came the Messiah.**

**Mt:14:22-33: Jesus walked on the water, he called to Peter in the boat with the other disciples.**

### Gospel Reflection

#### THE GLORY OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Mark 9:5-7

Just prior to the Transfiguration, Jesus began to reveal to His disciples that He would suffer greatly, be rejected by the elders, be killed and then rise on the third day. This caused much fear for the disciples as they grappled with this unsettling revelation from our Lord. And even though Jesus remained firm with them and even rebuked Peter for his fear, Jesus also gave three of His disciples a very precious gift. After much traveling, preaching, miracle working and private conversations about His passion with the Twelve, Jesus invited Peter, James and John to go with Him up a high mountain to pray. These disciples most likely had no idea what they would soon encounter. As they made the difficult and arduous journey, their minds must have been pondering not only the mighty deeds done by Jesus in the previous months but also His words about the suffering to come. As they struggled with this, much to their amazement, Jesus "was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white." Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared before them, representing the Law and the prophets. These two Old Testament figures appeared as a way of saying to these disciples that everything that Jesus was telling them was to take place to fulfill all that had been foretold about Him from of old. Perhaps Jesus thought that if His disciples would not fully listen to Him, then seeing Moses and Elijah would help. But Jesus went even further. The Voice of the Father Himself thundered and said, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Thus, if these disciples would not ultimately listen to Jesus alone, or if even Moses and Elijah failed to convince them, then the last hope was the Father Himself. And Jesus delivered such a grace.

The Transfiguration was a true mercy. These disciples had never seen anything like it before. But it was most likely this act of mercy that ultimately helped them to accept the hard truth that Jesus was trying to teach them about His coming suffering and death. If the Father in Heaven Personally gave witness to Jesus, then everything that Jesus had said was trustworthy.

As we read through the Gospels and the many teachings God has given us through the Church, think about whether there are some teachings with which you struggle? Or in your own life, on a personal level, are there some things you know God wants of you but you find it difficult to accept? When confusion sets in, that means we are not listening, are not fully hearing what God is saying to us or are not understanding. And though we will not see the Transfigured Lord with our eyes and hear the Voice of the Father with our ears as these three disciples did, we must choose to believe all that God has said as if it were the Transfigured Lord, with Moses and Elijah, and the Father Himself speaking clearly and directly to us. "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Those words were not only spoken for the good of the disciples, they are also spoken to us.

**Reflect, today, upon this powerful experience given to these disciples by our Lord. Try to place yourself in the scene so as to witness Jesus transfigured in the most glorious way, with Moses and Elijah and with the thundering Voice of the Father. Allow the Father to speak also to you, telling you that all He has spoken through the Scriptures, the Church and within your own conscience is true. Allow this revelation to convince you on the deepest level to acknowledge not only the divinity of Jesus but also to "Listen to Him" in every way.**

My transfigured Lord, You are glorious beyond imagination, and You revealed a small glimpse of this glory to Your disciples to help them trust You more fully. May I also trust in You more completely, knowing that all You have spoken to me is true. Please remove any doubt and fear in my life so that nothing keeps me from embracing Your holy will. Jesus, I trust in You... **(My Catholic Life)**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF HAWAII COLLECTION :

Serving Hawai'i since 1947, Catholic Charities Hawai'i serves all people, especially those with the greatest need, regardless of their faith or culture. As part of the largest private network of social service organizations in the United States, Catholic Charities Hawai'i offers much needed programs and services statewide, serving 40,000 individuals each year. Please prayerfully consider being generous in your support. Envelopes are a the back of church.

**WORD OF LIFE:** "We thank you, heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in his love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life" (EV86). "Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae* © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved."

## WEEKLY READINGS

**Aug 06 Sun: The Transfiguration of the Lord**

Dan:7:9-10, 13-14; Ps:97; 2 Pt:1:16-19; Mt:17:1-9

**Aug 07 Mon: Ordinary Weekday**

Nm:11:4b-15; Ps:81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Mt:14:31-21

**Aug 08 Tue: Saint Dominic, Priest**

Nm:12:1-13; Ps:51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13; Mt:14:22-36

**Aug 09 Wed: Ordinary Weekday**

Nm:13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26a-29a, 34-35; Ps:106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23; Mt:15:21-28

**Aug 10 Thur: Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr**

2 Cor:9:6-10; Ps:112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9; Jn:12:24-26

**Aug 11 Fri: Saint Clare, Virgin**

Dt:4:32-40 ;Ps:77:12-13, 14-15, 16 & 21; Mt:16:24-28

**Aug 12 Sat: Ordinary Weekday**

Dt:6:4-13; Ps:18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 & 51; Mt:17:14-20

## FIGHTING DISTRACTIONS

It is hard to concentrate on work when many distractions invade our space. Our minds wander. It does not take much. A clever ad on TV. A song on the radio. A billboard on the highway. Lost in our own thoughts, we sometimes lose our way from the work at hand.

Once we are distracted, it is hard to resume our tasks. Having departed from them, we have to focus our attention and try again.

At other times, though, the task at hand completely absorbs us and keeps distractions away. We immerse ourselves in a book, a game, an exercise, or an art. We gladly give our concentration. At those times we learn our capacity for attention.

At the Transfiguration, Jesus drew the complete attention of his companions. They could think of nothing else but Jesus, their Lord and God. They wanted to hear his message, reflect on it, and live by it.

The Second Letter of Peter says, "We possess the prophetic message that is altogether reliable. You will do well to be attentive to it, as to a lamp shining in a dark place."

When we are distracted by enchantments that take us from our responsibilities, it is hard to go back to the task at hand. But if our task is to live by the prophetic message, we gladly give it our concentration. We fix our attention on the transfigured Jesus, a lamp shining in a dark place.

*Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year A © 2019 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner. Lectionary for Mass © 2001, CCD.*

## NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, and in today's Gospel reading we hear it proclaimed that on Mount Tabor, Peter, James, and John caught a glimpse of Jesus' divinity strong enough to strike fear into their hearts. The event took place shortly after Peter's confession of faith that Jesus was, indeed, the Messiah. In today's second reading from Peter, we hear his personal testimony. This comes from a man who spent more than three years with Jesus. Peter witnessed his humanity. He saw Jesus hungry, tired, and finally rejected and crucified. But he also saw Jesus feed the 5,000, walk on water, heal the sick, and raise the dead. He saw Jesus in his glory when he was transfigured. He saw Jesus risen from the dead and ascend into heaven with the promise that he is coming again in power and glory. How strong is the stewardship of our own faith? Do we accept Peter's apostolic witness to Jesus as Christ? Does this testimony help us acknowledge and trust Christ Jesus as our Lord and savior? *International Catholic Stewardship Council*

## FIERY CHAIRS

Chairs all have the same basic design, but they sure look different. Some are fit for eating; others for reading. Some are tiny enough to roll under a desk; others are large enough for lovers to embrace. Some are leathered to make their occupant seem important; others are stools for handling more lowly tasks.

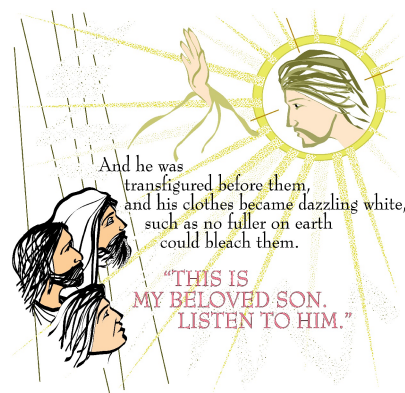
But no chair ever made was quite like the one Ezekiel saw in his vision one night. The throne of a being he called "the Ancient One" was unique: "His throne was flames of fire, with wheels of burning fire. A surging stream of fire flowed out from where he sat." Talk about the hot seat. Not just anyone could sit there. The Ancient One commanded the worship of thousands upon thousands when he sat on his fiery throne.

It was from that chair—Ezekiel's vision continues—that the Ancient One received "one like a Son of man coming, on the clouds of heaven." This one received from the Ancient One "dominion, glory, and kingship." It was quite a vision.

When Jesus was transfigured before his closest disciples, images of Ezekiel's vision surely filled their heads. Jesus, the Son of God, would receive dominion, glory, and kingship from his Father, who sits on a royal throne of unimaginable splendor.

As we celebrate the Transfiguration, we recall our humble place, somewhere beyond the footstool of the flaming throne of God.

*Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year A © 2019 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner. Lectionary for Mass © 2001, CCD.*



The heavens proclaim  
his justice, and all  
peoples see his glory



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.





ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII  
**DIOCESE OF HONOLULU**  
WITNESS TO JESUS

Dear Friends,

Peace be with you!

Jesus never experienced old age. He died at age 33. Though fully human like us, he never felt the disorientation of a fading memory, the aches and pains of arthritis, the dimming of his vision, the halting step, diminished strength, loss of hearing and stooped shoulders.

But no one had greater empathy for the widowed and infirm than Jesus. Indeed, his Jewish tradition elevated honoring father and mother to a commandment. And in fact, Jesus' very last instruction before he died, delivered from the cross, was one compelled by his concern for the elderly – his own mother. As recorded in the Gospel of John, "When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, 'Woman, here is your son,' and to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.'" The disciple was John.

Jesus went beyond merely asking John to "take care of" his mother. He declared them mother and son, a profound familial bond, with John taking Jesus' place as Mary's child, also suggesting that Jesus had been caring for his mother, most likely widowed by then, all along. "From that time on, this disciple took her into his home," the Gospel states.

Housing, security, protection, care, family. These also are the priorities of Catholic Charities Hawai'i in its commitment to Hawaii's seniors – our mothers, our Fathers, our grandmothers and grandfathers.

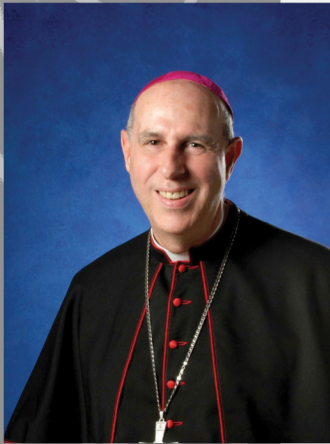
The theme for this year's Catholic Charities Sunday is "His mercy is from age to age," a truth declared by Mary in her Magnificat, and also the theme of Pope Francis' 2023 World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

In today's youth-oriented, ego-centric, throw-away culture, our elderly are too often dismissed, shoved aside, left alone, receiving less than adequate care, and no longer valued as contributors to society. Catholic Charities Hawai'i counters that attitude with its strong obligation to our kupuna, assisting them with housing, transportation, counseling, social activities, leisure, case management and more. But our seniors must not only be seen as recipients of services, but treasured as "teachers of tenderness," as Pope Francis put it, "so that their experience and wisdom may help young people to look toward the future with hope and responsibility."

Our kupuna are precious. And deserving. Please be generous this Catholic Charities Hawai'i Sunday to support them – and all the other sisters and brothers served by Catholic Charities Hawai'i. Your wonderful support in the past is deeply appreciated!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Larry Silva  
Bishop of Honolulu



# IMPACT

In 2022, Catholic Charities Hawai'i touched **107,446** lives.

## HOUSING STABILITY & HOMELESS ASSISTANCE



families and individuals housed & safe

## HELP LINE CALLS



provided information and referrals to programs and services

## IMMIGRANT SERVICES



immigrants welcomed with dignity



## FAMILY & YOUTH ENRICHMENT

5,777

children & families strengthened



## OLDER ADULT SUPPORT SERVICES

4,544

kūpuna kept connected, healthy and active

## KAUA'I



**3,310** resource family training, family strengthening services, housing assistance, disaster relief and community support services

## MAUI COUNTY



**4,664** resource family training, family strengthening services, housing assistance, disaster relief and community support services

## HAWAII



**2,844** family strengthening services, housing assistance, foster care, counseling services, disaster relief and community support services



## SUPPORT CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

[www.catholiccharitieshawaii.org/donate/](http://www.catholiccharitieshawaii.org/donate/)