



## The Cathedral of St. Andrew - Honolulu

### PRESS RELEASE

#### Special Blessing Ceremony for Restored Icon Nov. 24, 8:00 am

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**Honolulu, HI, Nov. 14, 2019** — A dramatic ceremony at the Cathedral will conclude the four-year renovation of the Cathedral's *Wahi Kapu* (“sacred space”, our Royal Chapel). The event, part of the Cathedral’s annual Feast of the Royal Sovereigns at the **Cathedral’s 8:00 am Hawaiian service on November 24**, will include a blessing by the Rt. Rev. Robert Fitzpatrick, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Hawai‘i, and will be attended by members of the Royal Societies. The public is welcome.

The centerpiece of the project is installation of an icon of the Cathedral’s royal patrons, King Kamehameha IV and Queen Emma, by the artist Robert Lenz. The icon was commissioned in 1999 by the late Fr. Malcolm Naea Chun, well-known author of many books on Native Hawaiian traditions and practices. Following Fr. Chun’s death this year, Bishop Fitzpatrick asked his brother Nathan if he would be willing to donate the icon to the Diocese, and he graciously did so.

The icon, which had suffered minor deterioration, has been restored and re-framed, and will be hung in the center of a large, specially commissioned wall hanging by local artist and cultural practitioner Marques Marzan, and flanked by two *lima pa‘a kāhili* (handheld size).

Other features of the renovated chapel include a special floor design created by Dalani Tanahy, a traditional cultural practitioner of *kapa*, that was installed in 2016.

The restored icon and wall hanging will be installed at the Cathedral on **Friday, November 22, starting at about 8:30 am**. *Press is welcome at the installation on Friday as well as the blessing ceremony Sunday morning, but the Friday event is not open to the public.*

More information and photos of the project are available on the Cathedral’s web site, at <https://www.thecathedralofstandrew.org/renovating-the-wahi-kapu-2015-2019>. ###