

PARISH CALENDAR

Second Sunday
of Lent

February 28, 2021

We walk before the Lord
in the land of the living.

Jesus is Lord!

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Saturday, February 27 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, February 28 7:00 a.m.	Mass
 8:30 a.m.	Mass
	..... 10:00 a.m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, March 1	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
	..... 7:00 p.m.	Mass
Tuesday, March 2	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, March 3	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, March 4	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Friday, March 5	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Saturday, March 6	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Exo:20:1-17: God delivered the commandments to Moses and the Hebrews

1 Cors:1:22-25: Paul preached Christ crucified “a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles.”

John:2 13-25: Jesus says “Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up.”

(Everyone who attends Mass must wear a Mask)

Saturday Evening Mass @ 5 pm

Four Sunday Masses @ 7 am, 8:30 am, 10 am & 5 pm

Weekday Masses will be at 8 am & 7 pm (Mon)

To get tickets. You can go to www.sritananakuli.org on the Banner line look “Mass Tickets” click it. You will see screen “Mass Tickets” click on **Obtain Mass Ticket through Event Brite.com here** you will then have a screen which has a picture of the front of the church “St. Rita Catholic Mass Tickets” click; on the next page will be in orange box which says “Select a date” select date and time you wish to get tickets. Please remember there a limited amount of seats due to social distancing. If you do not have a computer you may call the parish office between 10 am - 12 pm (Mon-Tue- Wed-Fri) for tickets

We will continue to live streaming the Sunday Mass at 10 a. m. @ <https://www.sritananakuli.org/livestream> or https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCepqtr_VuHL7R-MjmZpe7Cg/

EXTENSION OF DISPENSATION FROM SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION: “I am extending the dispensation through noon on Holy Thursday, April 1, 2021, which marks the end of Lent. However, this time I am strongly urging that all who take the dispensation engage in some other form of prayer or worship as suggested below. While none of these can be he equivalent of attending Mass, they will server to keep us connected to worship, especially during the penitential season of Lent.

As I said in my last communication regarding the issue of Mass attendance, I urge all who are able o attend Sunday Mass to do so. There is nothing that substitutes completely for our weekly encounter with the risen Lord Jesus in the Eucharist. **Never the less, if you cannot attend Sunday Mass, you are strongly encouraged to do one or more of the following.**

- Participate prayerfully in a live-streamed or televised Sunday Mass AND spend at least 15 minutes in meditation on the Scriptures, preferably those proclaimed at Mass. (These can be found at www.usccb.org/readings)
- Attend, in person, a weekday Mass AND spend a least 15 minutes on Sunday reading and meditating on the Sacred Scriptures.
- Spend at least 30 minutes on Sunday prayerfully reading and meditating on the Sacred Scriptures.
- Pray at least two rosaries on Sunday, meditating on the Glorious Mysteries and one other set of Mysteries you choose (i.e. Joyful, Sorrowful, Luminous).

Note that anyone how is sick should not attend Mass and is not obliged to do so. The above alternative spiritual exercises are strongly urged for those who are physically able to fulfill them. “

Bishop Larry Silva - February 1, 2021

Living God's Word



God of Abraham and Sarah, of Isaac and Rebekah, of Jacob and Rachel, God and Father of our Lord, give us a glimpse of the glory that you have prepared for all who trust in you and remain faithful to you. Strengthen us to walk through any darkness that may threaten our ability to believe.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: LENTEN RECONCILIATION:

Confession will be heard at the rectory (87-1511 Nakii St.) On the following **March 13th & March 20th from 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon** or by appointment.

PARISH COUNCIL: The parish is looking for volunteers to serve on the Parish Council, if you are interested in serving on the council, please send your **Name, telephone number and e-mail** to the parish email at strita_nanakuli@rechawaii.org. Fr. Alapaki will contact you.

OPERATION RICE BOWL: BETTER MEALS IN

MADAGASCAR: In Madagascar, half of all the children are undernourished. That means 50% of kids won't grow to reach their full potential. But communities are changing this by focusing on improving health and nutrition. What role has food played in your life? How can you help those who lack access to enough nutritious food. Visit www.crsricebowl.org to learn more.

WORD OF LIFE: "The essence of our identity is that we are created in God's image and likeness and loved by Him. Nothing can diminish the priceless worth of any human life. Every person is **cherished**." USCCB, Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities **Respect Life Reflection: Cherished, Chosen, Sent** www.usccb.org/cherished-chosen-sent-reflection

WEEKLY READINGS

Feb 28 Sun: First Sunday of Lent

Gen:22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps:116; Rom:8:31b-34; Mk:9:2-10

Mar 1 Mon: Lenten Weekday

Dan:9:4-b-10; Ps:79: 8, 9, 11 & 13; Lk:6:36-38

Mar 2 Tue: Lenten Weekday

Isa:1:10, 16-20; Ps:50: 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 & 23; Mt:23:1-12

Mar 3 Wed: Lenten Weekday

Jer:18:18-20; Ps:31:5-6, 14, 15-16; Mt:20:17-28

Mar 4 Thur: Lenten Weekday

Jer:17: 5-10; Ps:1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Lk:16:19-31

Mar 5 Fri: Lenten Weekday

Gen:37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Ps:105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21;

Mt:21:33-43, 45-46

Mar 6 Sat: Lenten Weekday

Micah:7:14-15, 18-20; Ps:103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Lk:15:1-3, 11-32

NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

The Gospel story of the transfiguration of Jesus holds many lessons; the most prominent being the transformation of Jesus from simply being perceived as a wise and gifted prophet to the one who has fulfilled the sacred traditions of the Mosaic law and the hope of the prophets, the Messiah, the Christ. The Lord calls his stewards to participate in His redemptive activity. Heeding this call requires transformation, being willing to renounce patterns of behavior that draw us from God. In this coming week of Lent, let us pray for the grace to be transformed, so that by our goodness and generosity, we may walk more authentically in the footsteps of Jesus. International Catholic Stewardship Council

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

You can still continue contribute to St. Rita during this time of Social - distancing by going to our web-site www.stritananakuli.org And click "On-line Giving" on the banner line. You can also send your Tithe/Donation via mail: St. Rita Catholic Church/ 89-318 Farrington Hwy. / Nanakuli, HI 96792

MAHALO FOR SHARING YOUR TREASURE

Reflecting on God's Word

Two of today's readings take us up a mountain. Mountains are sacred places in the scriptures. Moses meets the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob on Mt. Sinai. Elijah has an experience of this same life-giving God on Mt. Horeb. Today Abraham goes up Mt. Moriah in obedience to God's command to "take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love" (Genesis 22:2) and offer him there as a holocaust.

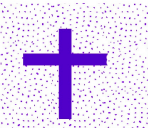
It is hard to get past this reading today and focus only on the story of the Transfiguration. This story of God testing Abraham to see if Abraham will obey is a story of great anguish. "See" is an important word here: Moriah means "the place of seeing." Abraham responds to Isaac's question about a victim, saying God will provide, a word rooted in the Latin word for seeing. God will see to it that there is a victim, just as God will see that Abraham is obedient in all things.

Seeing also takes place on Mt. Tabor. Peter, James, and John see Jesus in glory, his clothes dazzlingly white; they see him speaking with Moses and Elijah, representing the law and the prophets; and they see a cloud overshadowing them, and hear a voice calling for their obedience: "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him" (Mark 9:7).

With them, we are invited to see Jesus as the beloved Son whom the Father "did not spare . . . but handed over for us all," as Paul reminds us (Romans 8:32). The mystery of the Cross and Resurrection is an invitation to see God's love for all God's beloved children and trust in it.

—James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.

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If we die
with
the LORD
we will
live with
the
LORD

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LEAD US TO
THAT EASTER JOY



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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



Help Us to Love

Loving Father,
you sent us the gift of your Son,
One like us in all ways but sin,
to show us what it means to love as you love.
Listen to him, you tell us.
Provide us with the grace to hear
and respond to his voice,
to look at the world's brokenness and
not feel despair,

but see your promise that all the world
shall be transfigured by your love.
Allow us to be transfigured to do what
you will,
that we might use the life we have been
given to glorify you.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, February 28, 2021

Glimpses of Glory



Today's readings: Genesis 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18; Psalm 116:10, 15, 16–17, 18–19; Romans 8:31b–34; Mark 9:2–10. After Jesus first predicts that he will suffer, he takes Peter, James, and John apart from everyone else. These apostles see Jesus in his glory, in gleaming clothing with Moses and Elijah, whose presence communicates that Jesus is the fulfillment of the law and the prophets. Then the apostles hear a voice from heaven, saying, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” As quickly as the vision appears, it ceases.

As conflicts arose between Jesus and the leaders of the day, the apostles may have taken comfort in knowing that Jesus is God’s “beloved Son.” Walking through the passion with Jesus, they could cling to the glimpse of Jesus’ glory.

The words *beloved Son* also may have called to mind for them the sacrifice of Isaac. Abraham had been obedient to God and had not withheld his beloved son. Abraham knew God and, therefore, knew that God is a keeper of promises. Somehow, even when it seemed impossible, God’s promise would be fulfilled. Abraham would be the father of many through Isaac. He believed in God’s promise, even when it seemed that the promise could not be kept. In this moment we see another prefiguration of what is to come, the impossible hope that endures through Good Friday and is vindicated on Easter morning.

Where have you glimpsed resurrection? How can you hold to these moments in your times of trial?



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 1

Mercy

Jesus instructs his followers to do the seemingly impossible: be merciful just as God is merciful. God's mercy is endless. How can we ever manage to love as he does? Living in a world that overflows with brokenness, we have endless opportunities to bring mercy to another. In our families, we have so many chances to forgive. How can you extend mercy to someone today? *Today's readings: Deuteronomy 9:4b–10; Psalm 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Luke 6:36–38.*

Tuesday, March 2

The Greatest among You

From birth, human beings prefer to look at other human faces more than anything else. We come into the world ready for relationships of love. Yet as we seek out that love, we miss the mark. Rather than authentic love, which both affirms us and challenges us, we seek out approval, acclaim, and status. We look for relationships that reflect us back to ourselves in a positive light. Humility is opting out of this unwinnable game. It is knowing that we have an identity that cannot be taken away from us: beloved child of God. Once we accept that this is the love we are looking for, the love that grounds our being, we no longer worry about where we fit. We can instead imitate the one who humbled himself, who came in our likeness, who lived in love. *Today's readings: Isaiah 1:10, 16–20; Psalm 50:8–9, 16bc–17, 21 and 23; Matthew 23:1–12.*

Wednesday, March 3

St. Katharine Drexel

St. Katharine Drexel was an heiress in Philadelphia who felt incredibly moved by the plight of Native Americans and African Americans in the United States in the late nineteenth century. She recognized this pull on her heart as a call from God, and she gave up her fortune and founded a religious

order, establishing missions and schools that served these groups. She listened for God's voice and responded. How can you do the same? *Today's readings: Jeremiah 18:18–20; Psalm 31:5–6, 14, 15–16; Matthew 20:17–28.*

Thursday, March 4

St. Casimir

St. Casimir was a Polish prince with legendary generosity to the poor. Is there a sacrifice you could make today in order to give generously to the poor in his honor? Consider what Abraham said at the end of today's Gospel reading. How has Christ's rising from the dead persuaded you to be merciful? *Today's readings: Jeremiah 17:5–10; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4 and 6; Luke 16:19–31.*

Friday, March 5

Act with Justice

Over and over, the prophets and Jesus call us to give up our sinful ways and act with justice. We fail to recognize that the goods of creation are intended for all people and cling tightly to what we have when many do not have enough. Today choose to eat a simple lunch or dinner, and donate the cost savings to a charity that serves those who are food insecure. *Today's readings: Genesis 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a; Psalm 105:16–17, 18–19, 20–21; Matthew 21:33–43, 45–46.*


Saturday, March 6




Merciful Love

Spend some time reflecting on the words of Jesus in the parable of the prodigal son, and allow yourself to hear it with new ears. The son behaved as though his father were dead, yet the father watched for the son, ran to him, embraced him, and threw a feast to celebrate his return. What does that tell you about the vastness of God's merciful love for you? Is there anything you could do for which God could not forgive? *Today's readings: Micah 7:14–15, 18–20; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 9–10, 11–12; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32.*



LENT 2021 | Reflect. Repent. Restore.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>CNS/Nancy Wiehede</p>			<p>February 17 🦋</p> <p>Ash Wednesday—<i>Lent Begins</i></p> <p>Ashes are sprinkled on our heads so that the fire of love can be kindled in our hearts. We are citizens of heaven, and our love for God and neighbor is our passport to heaven.</p> <p>(Pope Francis, Ash Wednesday, 2020)</p>	<p>February 18</p> <p>Begin your journey with self-reflection and allow yourself to experience the mercy of the Lord. How will you renew your commitment to prayer, fasting and almsgiving this season?</p>	<p>February 19 🦋</p> <p>Abstaining from meat and other indulgences during Lent is a penitential practice. Do you have questions about fasting? We've got answers!</p>	<p>February 20</p> <p>Begin your day with the Bible. Read or listen to the daily readings.</p>
<p>February 21</p> <p>First Sunday of Lent</p> <p>“This is the time of fulfillment. / The kingdom of God is at hand. / Repent, and believe in the gospel.”</p> <p>(Mk 1:15, <i>Lectionary</i>)</p>	<p>February 22</p> <p>Today is the feast of the Chair of St. Peter! This feast reminds us of the significance of the ministry of St. Peter and the succession of popes who followed in his footsteps. Say a prayer for Pope Francis, successor of St. Peter.</p>	<p>February 23</p> <p>“If you forgive men their transgressions, / your heavenly Father will forgive you. / But if you do not forgive men, / neither will your Father forgive your transgressions.”</p> <p>(Mt 6: 14-15)</p>	<p>February 24</p> <p>Catechumens who have been preparing for baptism will soon be initiated into the Church. Say a prayer for all the elect, whose journeys of spiritual growth have led them to becoming our brothers and sisters in Christ.</p>	<p>February 25</p> <p>“Will we bend down to touch and heal the wounds of others? Will we bend down and help another to get up? This is today’s challenge and we should not be afraid to face it.”</p> <p>(Pope Francis, <i>Fratelli Tutti</i>, no. 70)</p>	<p>February 26 🦋</p> <p>Be patient with yourself this Lent. This past year has been difficult in many ways. Take your journey one day at a time.</p>	<p>February 27</p> <p>Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, a sinner.</p> <p>(USCCA, 536)</p>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
February 28 Second Sunday of Lent As one of the three pillars of Lenten practice, almsgiving is “a witness to fraternal charity” and “a work of justice pleasing to God.” <i>(Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2462)</i> Consider making a recurring gift to your parish.	March 1 Jesus said to his disciples: “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven.” <i>(Lk 6:36-37, Lectionary)</i>	March 2 “As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” <i>(1 Pt 4:10)</i> How can you use your time and talents to help others today?	March 3 On the memorial of St. Katharine Drexel, who gave up her wealth to be a missionary, we are reminded, “As a Church, we are called to be missionary disciples who know and live the faith and confidently share the Gospel.” <i>(Living as Missionary Disciples, USCCB)</i>	March 4 Rededicate yourself to prayer. Set aside time every day, even for just a few moments, to sit with Jesus.	March 5  “To receive in truth the Body and Blood of Christ given up for us, we must recognize Christ in the poorest, his brethren.” <i>(Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1397)</i> Learn more about the roots of Catholic Social Teaching .	March 6 “Only by identifying with the least [will we] come at last to be the brothers of all. May God inspire that dream in each one of us.” <i>(Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, no. 287)</i>
March 7 Third Sunday of Lent In today’s first reading, we are reminded of the Ten Commandments. Which commandment do you struggle with the most? Aim for one small improvement this week.	March 8 “The Church’s obligation to participate in shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of our faith. It is a basic part of the mission we have received from Jesus Christ.” <i>(Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, no. 9)</i>	March 9 Today is the memorial of St. Frances of Rome, who organized a women’s religious order—the Oblates of Mary—and was known for her great charity. In her honor today, let us pray for those in consecrated life.	March 10 Heart of Jesus, Son of the eternal Father, have mercy on us. <i>(Litany of the Sacred Heart)</i>	March 11 During Lent we often pray the seven penitential psalms, like this one, “Out of the depths I call to you, LORD; / Lord, hear my cry! / May your ears be attentive / to my cry for mercy.” <i>(Ps 130:1-2, NABRE)</i>	March 12  “When we begin to separate people in our thoughts for unjust reasons, when we start to see some people as ‘them’ and others as ‘us,’ we fail to love.” <i>(Open Wide Our Hearts, USCCB)</i>	March 13 In Lent, we are called to renew our baptismal commitment. We recall those waters in which we were baptized into Christ’s death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ.
March 14 Fourth Sunday of Lent The Fourth Sunday of Lent is the midpoint and known as Laetare Sunday. Laetare means “rejoice” and the Church expresses hope and joy in the middle of our penitential Lenten practices.	March 15 “In every act we do, in every step we take, let our hand trace the Lord’s cross.” <i>(St. Jerome, Letters, 22.37)</i>	March 16 “A clean heart create for me, O God / and a steadfast spirit renew within me.” <i>(Ps 51:12, Lectionary)</i>	March 17 Today is the memorial of St. Patrick, the “apostle to Ireland”! He wrote, “Our way to repay God is to exalt him and confess his wonders before every nation under heaven.” <i>(St. Patrick, Confession, 3)</i>	March 18 St. Cyril of Jerusalem honored today was known for his “Catechetical Instructions.” Give thanks for the catechists in your community and all they do to educate children and adults alike.	March 19  Solemnity of St. Joseph In celebration of the <i>Year of St. Joseph</i> , we pray today for all fathers, that through the example of St. Joseph, they may fully embrace their vocation and accept the privilege and responsibility of caring for their children as St. Joseph cared for Jesus.	March 20 Today is the first day of spring! “Leaving an inhabitable planet to future generations is, first and foremost, up to us.” <i>(Pope Francis, Laudato Si’, no. 160)</i>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
March 21 Fifth Sunday of Lent As we journey with Jesus towards Holy Week, remember all those in our world today who carry heavy crosses of poverty, homelessness, and hunger.	March 22 Why is the Lenten season forty days long? In the Bible , forty is typically indicative of a time of testing, trial, penance, purification, and renewal.	March 23 Today, we mark the memorial of St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, a Spanish-born evangelizer who was sent as a missionary to Peru and opened the first seminary in the New World. In his honor, pray for vocations.	March 24 “Keep your eyes fixed on the outstretched arms of Christ crucified, let yourself be saved over and over again.” (Pope Francis, <i>Christus Vivit</i> , no. 123)	March 25 Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord Today is the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, celebrating the incarnation of Christ in Mary’s womb. Take time to pray the Hail Mary, taken in part from the angel’s words to Mary.	March 26 “Forgiveness first sets free the person who had the courage to grant it.” (Pope Benedict XVI, Address, May 6, 2006)	March 27 “My dwelling shall be with them; / I will be their God, and they shall be my people.” (Ez 37:27, <i>Lectionary</i>)
March 28 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord In one week, we will celebrate Easter Sunday. Pray that the Lord allow you to accompany him serenely during these Easter mysteries and you may emerge from them renewed in faith, hope and charity.	March 29 Holy Week is here. How have you grown throughout your Lenten journey?	March 30 Take time this week to go to confession. Before celebrating the Sacrament of Penance, prepare yourself with an examination of conscience , which involves reflecting prayerfully on one’s thoughts, words, and deeds in order to identify any sins.	March 31 Lent officially ends tomorrow as the Mass of the Lord’s Supper begins. Contact your parish to learn more about how you can participate in the moving liturgies of the Triduum.	April 1 Holy Thursday “If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, / you ought to wash one another’s feet.” (Jn 13: 14, <i>Lectionary</i>)	April 2 Good Friday As we mark the day on which Jesus was crucified, pray the Stations of the Cross to reflect on Christ’s Passion.	April 3 Holy Saturday As you prepare for Easter, reflect on your Lenten journey and think about how you can continue to grow throughout the Easter season.
April 4 Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord “This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.” (Ps 118:24, <i>Lectionary</i>)	<p>“I ask Mary Most Holy to pray that our Lenten celebration will open our hearts to hear God’s call to be reconciled to himself, to fix our gaze on the paschal mystery, and to be converted to an open and sincere dialogue with him. In this way, we will become what Christ asks his disciples to be: the salt of the earth and the light of the world (cf. Mt 5:13-14).”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">—Pope Francis, <i>Message for Lent</i>, 2020</p> <p><small>This calendar may be printed and distributed without charge in its original format only for personal and institutional use. No other use of the copyrighted content is permitted. <i>Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States</i>, second typical edition, copyright © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. All rights reserved. Neither this work nor any part of it may be reproduced, distributed, performed or displayed in any medium, including electronic or digital, without permission in writing from the copyright owner. Scripture excerpts used in this work are taken from the <i>New American Bible, Revised Edition</i>, copyright © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All rights reserved. Quotes from Pope Francis, Pope Benedict XVI, copyright © 2006, 2008, 2014, 2018, 2019, 2020 Libreria Editrice Vaticana, Vatican City State. All rights reserved. Used with permission.</small></p> <p><small>Copyright © 2021, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.</small></p>					