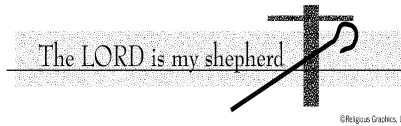


PARISH CALENDAR

Fourth Sunday
of Lent

March 22, 2020

Saturday, March 21
Sunday, March 22
Monday, March 23
Tuesday, March 24
Wednesday, March 25
Thursday, March 26



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED - PRINCE JONAH KUHIO HOLIDAY **Rejoice Jerusalem, and all who love her!**

Friday, March 27
Saturday, March 28

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Eze:37:12-14: I will put my spirit in you that you may live.

Rom:8:8-11: The One who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies.

John:11:1-45: I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live.



**Resources in
Response to
COVID-19**

Resources for Catholics at Home During COVID-19

Many Dioceses, parishes, and Catholics begin to feel the effects of remaining at home due to the coronavirus. Below is a list of websites for Mass, prayers, and daily reflections to help us all during this trying time. Please note, this list will be updated as more resources become available.

Online Mass

Oahu

Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace

Sundays at 9 AM, Bishop Larry Silva presiding

<https://www.facebook.com/HonoluluCathedralBasilica> or www.hictv.com

Sacred Heart, Punahou

Sundays at 8 AM

Solemnity of St. Joseph (March 19) at 7 AM

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord (March 25) at 7 AM

<https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartpunahou>

St. John Apostle and Evangelist

Saturdays at 5 PM

<https://www.facebook.com/saintjohnmililani/>

St. Joseph, Waipahu

Every day at 7 AM

<https://www.facebook.com/StJosephChurchWaipahu/>

Vatican News Live Stream of Pope Francis' Masses: www.youtube.com/channel/UCxIsefyl9g9A5SGWA4FuGIA

Catholic TV Mass. . . www.watchthemass.com/

EWTV Daily Mass. . . <https://www.ewtn.com/tv/schedule>

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. . . www.nationalshrine.org/mass/

Catholic Faith Network Masses. . . www.catholicfaithnetwork.org/masses

Prayers

Pope Francis' Prayer with Mary for COVID-19 . . .

<https://www.catholicnews.com/services/englishnews/2020/text-of-popes-prayer-to-mary-during-coronavirus-pandemic.cfm>

Archbishop Gomez Prayer for COVID-19. . .

<http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/usccb-president-reflection-and-prayer-during-coronavirus.cfm>

Spiritual Communion. . . (<https://www.archny.org/acts-of-spiritual-communion/>)

COVID-19: A Prayer of Solidarity. . .

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/covid-19-prayer-of-solidarity.cfm>

Light a Candle Online (from the National Shrine of St. John Neumann).

www.stjohnneumann.org/faith-miracles/light-a-candle-online

The following publishers have generously made their resources available to support prayer during these difficult days. We thank them for their generosity and pastoral concern.

Liturgical Press:

[Www.giveusthisday.org/Digital](http://www.giveusthisday.org/Digital)

Magnificat: [Www.us.magnificat.net/free](http://www.us.magnificat.net/free)

Bayard: . . . www.livingwithchrist.us/#covid

The Word: <https://wau.org/meditations/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPERATION RICE BOWL: Meet Maria Ana: Maria Ana and her brothers receive one meal a day at school, so that they can focus on achieving their dreams. How was education important for your future? How can you ensure that all young people have a chance to be educated? Visit www.crsricebowl.org for more.

WORD OF LIFE: "There is an everyday heroism, made up of gestures of sharing, big or small, which build up an authentic culture of life. . . . Part of this daily heroism is also the silent but effective and eloquent witness of all those "brave mothers who devote themselves to their own family without reserve, who suffer in giving birth to their children and who are ready to make any effort, to face any sacrifice, in order to pass on to them the best of themselves". . . 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" (The Gospel of Life 86).

WEEKLY READINGS

Mar 22 Sun: 4th Sunday of Lent

1 Sam:16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps:23; Eph:5:8-14; Jn:9:1-41

Mar 23 Mon: Lenten Weekday

Isa:65:17-21; Ps:30:2, & 4, 5-6, 11-12a & 13b; Jn:4:43-54

Mar 24 Tue: Lenten Weekday

Eze:47:1-9, 12; Ps:46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn:5:1-16

Mar 25 Wed: The Annunciation of the Lord

Is:7:10-14; 8:10; Ps:40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11; Heb: 10:4-10;

Lk:1:26-38

Mar 26 Thur: Lenten Weekday

Ex:32:7-14; Ps:89:2-3, 4-5, 27 & 29; Rm:4:13, 16-18, 22;

Mt:1:16, 18-21, 24a

Mar 27 Fri: Lenten Weekday

Hos:14:2-10; Ps:81: 6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 & 17; Mk: 12:28-34

Mar 28 Sat: Lenten Weekday

Hos:6:1-6; Ps:51: 3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab; Lk:18:9-14

A Reading Lesson

Sound is by definition only sound when it is heard. Jesus' miracle in today's Gospel is a sign. That's what John calls miracles—signs. But signs are not signs unless they are read. Copyright © 2004, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

Saint Paul gives us a wakeup call. As stewards of the light of Christ, we are to reflect that light with the help of the Holy Spirit. If Christ's work has transformed and illuminated our lives, there should be a change. The light of Christ's active presence should be at work in us. And as the light shines within us, we take on the properties of that light and we shine too. We are used by God to shine the light of Christ in the lives of others. A challenging Lenten reflection: is the light of Christ shining in our hearts? Is the light of Christ reflecting out from us to others?(International Catholic Stewardship Council)

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

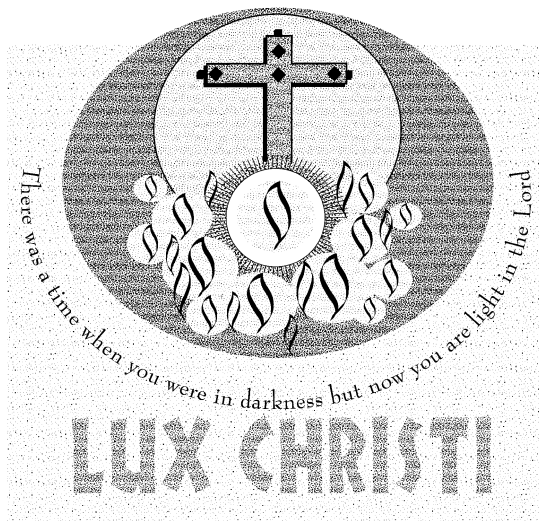
You can still continue contribute to St. Rita during this time of Social - distancing by going to our web-site www.stritananakuli.org And click "On-line Giving" on the banner line. You can also send your Tithe/Donation via mail: St. Rita Catholic Church/ 89-318 Farrington Hwy. / Nanakuli, HI 96792

MAHALO FOR SHARING YOUR TREASURE

Reflection

The Ephesians, whom Paul addresses in the second reading, never saw Jesus physically. Paul himself saw him in a flash of blinding insight. We are all in the same "faith" boat here. We and the Ephesians are counseled to remember that we all were once in spiritual blindness, and now are light in the Lord. This isn't something tacked on; it's intrinsic. At one time in the Church's history, the newly baptized were called illuminati, the illuminated, those wholly filled with the light of Christ. Light is everywhere in these readings. The insight of God chooses David as the future king. The Responsorial Psalm is from the most beloved and well-known of all the psalms, Psalm 23, the "Good Shepherd Psalm." It is sung today largely because of these words: "Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil." If ever there was a dark-valley walker, it was the man born blind. Jesus Christ, the light of the world, is the one to whom the blind man, now seeing, finally confesses his faith. As we move through this Lent, we too are invited to shed our blindnesses and walk in the light of Christ, who is with us in even the darkest valley.

Copyright © 2004, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

CHRIST
our LIGHT

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



That All Might Be Light

Lord of light,
God of our salvation,
we walk by the light of your Son,
whom you sent that all might see and know
your love.
Manifest yourself to all who seek your face,
and be merciful when we persist
in blindness.

Expose injustice,
and illuminate the way to peace.
Reveal the darkness within and around us.
Cast that darkness out of us
so that we will walk more boldly by
your light.
With your Son as our guide,
bring us into your everlasting radiance.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, March 22, 2020

Into the Light



Today's Readings: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6–7, 10–13a; Psalm 23:1–3a, 3b–4, 5, 6 (1); Ephesians 5:8–14; John 9:1–41. When Samuel goes to Jesse to anoint a new king, no one, including Samuel, recognizes God's chosen one. Only God is able to look within David and see that this shepherd boy will be a capable and faithful king.

The people in the Gospel passage also struggle to see as God sees, and so do we. Jesus' words and actions provoke everyone to decide whether he is God's chosen one, whether God truly sent him into the world to save it. The challenge then, as now, is to examine the testimony without making assumptions, such as assuming Jesus was wrong to heal on the Sabbath or that blindness is a punishment for sin.

As we scrutinize Jesus, asking ourselves who he is, we face the ultimate challenge of moving toward or away from him, of moving toward or away from God's light. We want to stand within this light, but sometimes the brightness frightens us. God's light exposes our darkness, and it can hurt when God's light burns the darkness out of us. Sometimes it is easier to close our eyes and pretend that we already see everything clearly.

But we cannot escape God's light. It has come into the world, and it remains in our midst. It remains in us. This light will make us radiate with joy and goodness and enable us to illuminate the way for others if we are humble and brave enough to let it.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 23

Making Everything New

Passages such as the one from Isaiah in the First Reading remind us how invested God is in this earth. Having created the world, God will not abandon it but will refashion it, casting out suffering and sorrow. By healing a child, Jesus reveals that God's work of re-creation has already begun. God invites us to participate in it. Reflect on how the work you do—or could do—is part of God's work of remaking the world. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 65:17–21; Psalm 30:2 and 4, 5–6, 11–12a and 13b; John 4:43–54.*

Tuesday, March 24

Replenishing

The prophet Ezekiel tells of a glorious future in which fresh water flows in abundance. The water brings life to parched ground, transforms salty water, and allows fish and fruit trees to thrive. In the Gospel, Jesus surpasses this life-giving water. He ignores the pool and heals the man through the power of his word alone. The man represents all creation transformed and replenished by the power of Christ. Each time you use water today, thank God for the ways he has helped and replenished you. *Today's Readings: Ezekiel 47:1–9, 12; Psalm 46:2–3, 5–6, 8–9; John 5:1–16.*

Wednesday, March 25

Solemnity of the Annunciation

In the Old Testament, sacrifices are offerings set apart for God. Such gifts remind the people that they themselves are set apart for God. We give things up during Lent in order to make ourselves a sacrifice, to set ourselves apart from the things of this world and to put ourselves at the service of God and his kingdom. King Ahaz did not want to become such an offering, whereas Mary offered herself with barely a moment's thought. Offer yourself to God by praying St. Ignatius of Loyola's *Suscipe*. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 7:10–14; 8:10; Psalm 40:7–8a, 8b–9, 10, 11; Hebrews 10:4–10; Luke 1:26–38.*

Thursday, March 26

The Faces of God

The Israelites in the reading from Exodus wanted to relate to God in ways that were familiar to them, so they made an image of God. They struggled to accept that God is both beyond images and represented by them, his people. Centuries later God again presented himself in a way that was hard for people to accept: in Jesus, his Son. Make a list of titles for Jesus. Choose one you do not normally use and reflect on what it reveals about God. *Today's Readings: Exodus 32:7–14; Psalm 106:19–20, 21–22, 23; John 5:31–47.*

Friday, March 27

The Just Ones

People in the temple area question whether Jesus is the Messiah because they know he is from Galilee. They struggle to accept that he is somehow from God, “from above.” Others flatly refuse to believe that Jesus has a unique relationship with God. Jesus is the just man, the one who obeys God in everything, yet who is attacked for precisely that reason. Take a moment to pray for those who are ridiculed or endangered because they are doing what is right. *Today's Readings: Wisdom 2:1a, 12–22; Psalm 34:17–18, 19–20, 21 and 23; John 7:1–2, 10, 25–30.*

Saturday, March 28

Rejections

As Jesus continues to provoke division, the religious authorities take an ever more rigid stance against him. They so insist that they know the law, that they know the Scriptures, that they demean everyone who doesn't agree with them. God's prophet Jeremiah also experienced spite and dangerous rejection. In those moments we reject someone, it may turn out that we have misunderstood what God is telling us. Choose a psalm and listen for how God might be challenging you. *Today's Readings: Jeremiah 11:18–20; Psalm 7:2–3, 9bc–10, 11–12; John 7:40–53.*

