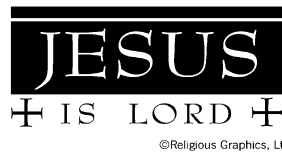


**ASCENSION OF THE LORD**  
**MAY 24, 2020**  
*The Lord ascends with the sound of trumpet!*



---

**NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:**

**Acts:2:1-11:** *They were filled with the Holy Spirit and understood each other*  
**1 Cor:12:3b-7, 12-13:** *To each the Spirit is given for some benefit.*  
**Jn:20:19-23:** *Jesus breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."*

---

**Mass resumes: Next Saturday/Sunday May 30<sup>th</sup> / May 31<sup>st</sup>:** (Everyone who attends must wear a Masks)

**There will be two Saturday Masses @ 4 pm & 6 pm**  
**Four Sunday Masses @ 7 am , 8:30 am, 10 am & 5 pm**

**Weekday Masses will be at 8 am & 7 pm (Mon-Tue-Wed {only})**

**Beginning this Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>** You may use the following link:  
: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/st-rita-nanakuli-catholic-church-30325990288>  
**to get a ticket. Please remember there a limited amount of seats due to social distancing.**

**We will continue to live streaming the Sunday Mass at 10 a. m. @ <https://www.stritananakuli.org/livestream> or <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCepqtrVuHL7R-MjmZpe7Cg/> For those who are sick, particularly vulnerable to infection, or is in a high-risk group. The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass is extended through June 30, 2020. This allows those who are not comfortable attending Mass at this time to stay away with a clear conscience.**

**We ask for everyone's patience and cooperation as we all return to Mass! Mahalo**

---

**OAHU**

**Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace, downtown Honolulu**

**Sundays at 9 AM**, Bishop Larry Silva presiding

**Mondays to Saturdays at 8 AM**

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

or [www.hictv.com](http://www.hictv.com)

**Newman Center, Manoa**

**Sundays at 5 PM**

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

**Our Lady of Sorrows, Wahiawa**

**Sundays at 9 AM**

<https://www.facebook.com/olswahiawa/live>

or <https://www.olswahiawa.org>

**Sacred Heart, Punahou**

**Sundays at 8 AM**

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

**St. John Apostle and Evangelist, Mililani**

**Saturdays at 5 PM and Sunday at 11 AM**

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

**St. Joseph, Waipahu**

**Daily at 7 AM**

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

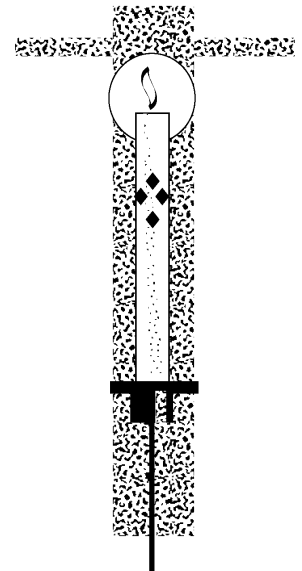
**St. John the Baptist, Kalihi**

**Mass in Spanish on Sundays at 8 AM**

Para misa en Español, seguir este enlace. Estará disponible el domingo a las 8 AM.

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

---



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

---

His presence among us continues forever

---

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Our Knights of Columbus Council, Ka Aha Kuka o na Sana Kamiano a Meleana, would like to help out our Parish in a small gesture by giving **\$500** to the upkeep of the Church and \$100 to Outreach. We are here for St. Rita Parish and our Pastor. We know these are trying times and are pleased to be able to help out. Mahalo to all those that support us and we are hoping that others would like to become part of this Council. Please consider joining us.

**ST. RITA'S PRAYER GROUP:** *Aloha Mai Kakou St. Rita Ohana.* Join our virtual prayer group on Thursday evenings. Send Mele Ahuna your email address (via e-mail [ahuna@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:ahuna@hawaii.rr.com)) and we can invite you to our Google Hangout! Hope to see you soon! A Hui Hou! St. Rita's Prayer Group.

**WORD OF LIFE:** "Everyone is in need of reassurance, and if we, who have touched 'the Word of life' (1 Jn 1:1) do not give it, who will? How beautiful it is to be Christians who offer consolation, who bear the burdens of others and who offer encouragement: messengers of life in a time of death!" Pope Francis, 2020 Easter Homily © 2020 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with Permission. All rights reserved

## WEEKLY READINGS

**May 24 Sun: The Ascension of The Lord**

Acts:1:1-11; Ps:47; Eph:1:17-23; Mt:28:16-20

**May 25 Mon: Easter Weekday**

Acts:19:1-8; Ps:68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn:16:29-33

**May 26 Tue: Saint Philip Neri, Priest**

Acts:20:17-27; Ps:68:10-11, 20-21; Jn:17:1-11a

**May 27 Wed: Easter Weekday**

Acts:20:128-38; Ps:68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab; Jn:17:11b-19

**May 28 Thur: Easter Weekday**

Acts:22:30; 23:6-11; Ps:16:1-2a, & 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Jn:17:20-26

**May 29 Fri: Easter Weekday**

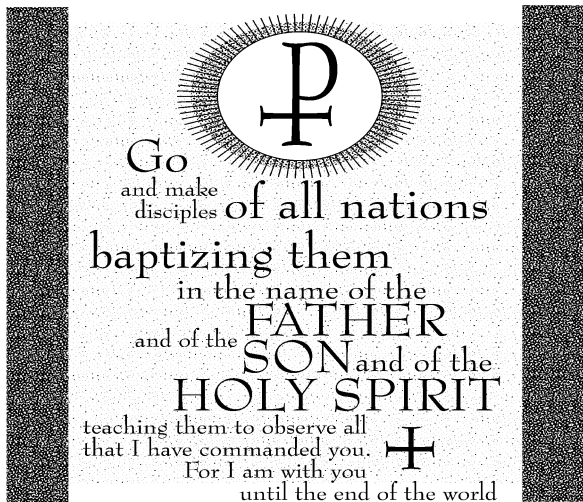
Acts:25:13b-21; Ps:103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn:21:15-19

**May 30 Sat: Easter Weekday**

Acts:28:16-20, 30-31; Ps:11; 4, 5 & 7; Jn:21:20-25

## Leaving

At one time or another in our life, we know we must take leave. We may leave a home, a job, a way of life. We leave because we believe something better lies ahead. We do not do this lightly. We leave with a tinge of sadness and a measure of hope..  
Copyright © 2004, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.



©Religious Graphics, Ltd

## NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

In today's Gospel Jesus charges his followers to "make disciples of all nations,.." What exactly is going on here? What is this Great Commission anyway? Good stewards know they are directed to share what they exercise stewardship over; their life of faith in Christ Jesus. They know Jesus didn't direct them to go to church and to keep quiet about it; or to go out into the neighborhood, workplace or marketplace and just be nice to others. The Good News of Jesus Christ is meant to be shared. Many people in our communities either do not know about Jesus Christ, reject his Good News or have abandoned him. Does that bother us? Do we care? Do we realize we are supposed to do something about it? **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](http://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**

## Reflection

The death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ, as well as the descent of the Holy Spirit, comprise the inseparable Paschal Mystery. We take each event in time, of course. We observe and honor one facet, then another throughout Triduum and the Easter season. Our celebration of the Ascension of the Lord focuses on Jesus' necessary departure. The apostles had been warned, or reminded, "I tell you the sober truth, it is much better for you that I go. If I fail to go, the Paraclete will never come to you, whereas if I go, I will send him to you" (John 16:7).

Jesus will no longer be present in the old, familiar way. He whom they have seen with their very own eyes, he whom they have touched will no longer be there. We can easily sympathize with the apostles. We can forgive them for staring up to heaven in awe, riveted to that place on earth, wishing this were not so. Or wishing they could join him. Or wishing he would return soon. But the apostles have a mission. They also have the assurance of Jesus' presence with them to the very ends of the earth and until the end of all time. God has all space and all time covered, so to speak.

For the apostles this is quite a stretch. They must tarry awhile on this earth. They must learn that though Jesus left them, he did not abandon them. He is wholly present. It is for them to receive and experience and know him in a new way. This will make all the difference to them; it will make all the difference in the world. Copyright © 2004, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.



# SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



## God Most High

God Most High,  
you gave authority over heaven and earth  
to your Son.

He now fills all creation with his presence  
to the glory of your name.  
He guides and governs us  
as the head of his body, the Church,  
and he brings our needs before you.

In him we pray—  
deepen our love for you,  
fill us with the knowledge and wisdom  
we need  
to live as true disciples,  
and strengthen our hope in the age to come.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 24, 2020

For All Time



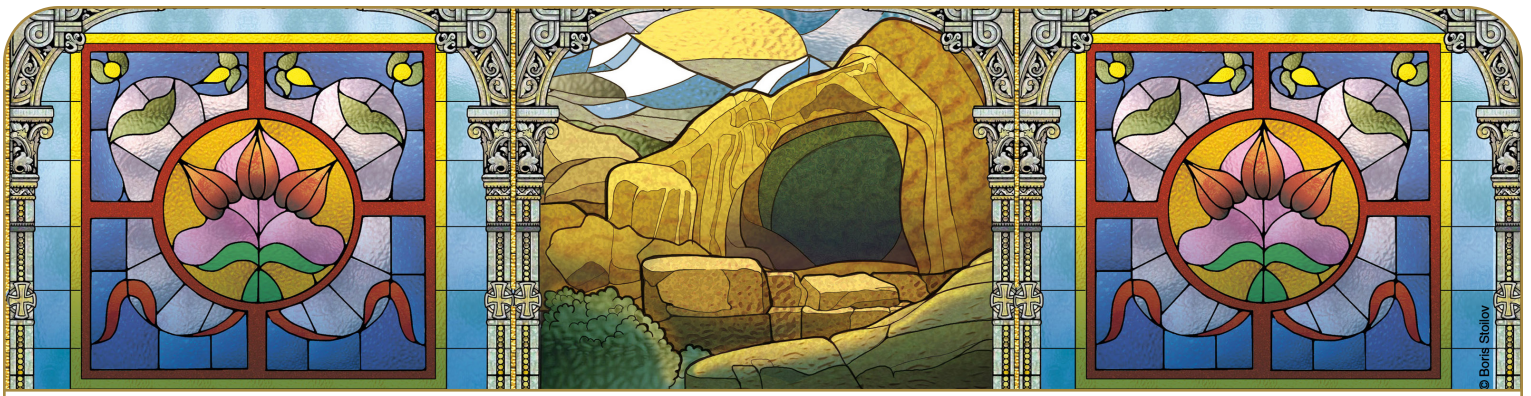
*Today's Readings: Acts 1:1–11; Psalm 47:2–3, 6–7, 8–9; Ephesians 1:17–23; Matthew 28:16–20.* In both Jewish and Gentile writings revered people were sometimes shown being taken up into heaven. Their ascension was a metaphor for divine approval. Luke draws on this imagery to show not only that God approves of Jesus but that Jesus shares God's power. Having ascended, Jesus is spiritually and sacramentally present at all times and in all places.

In Acts, the disciples are uncertain what to do once Jesus has ascended. Two men dressed in white must explain the significance of the event, just as in Luke's Gospel two men in white explained the significance of the empty tomb. In Matthew's account of the Gospel, the disciples are also

uncertain about all that is happening. They worship the Risen Lord, but "they doubted." Perhaps they struggled to believe that Jesus really would remain with them.

When we feel hesitant and doubtful, we are reassured by those first followers of Jesus, who also struggled yet went forth to share the Gospel. They chose to trust their Lord. They embraced the Spirit he sent them and rejoiced in their deepening knowledge of God and God's love for the world. By remaining one with Christ, who has authority over all, they became part of God's new creation and now share in the Father's glory. It is now our turn, as fellow members of Christ's Body, the Church, to show others that Christ remains in the world and to invite them to be part of his reign.





## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, May 25

#### Fill Us

Although Jesus' disciples think they understand him, Jesus insists that their understanding is incomplete: during his passion, they will abandon him. Only with the gift of the Holy Spirit will they find the courage to stay faithful. By contrast, Paul encounters men who have not heard of the Holy Spirit but who are well prepared to receive this gift. We need both the Spirit and the formation of our faith community to guide us forward. Pray for the Spirit to fill you and your faith community. *Today's Readings: Acts 19:1–8; Psalm 68:2–3ab, 4–5acd, 6–7ab; John 16:29–33.*

### Tuesday, May 26

#### Imitators

There are similarities between Paul's journey to Jerusalem and Jesus' preparations for his passion. In John's account of the Gospel, Jesus gives a long farewell discourse in which he talks with his disciples about all that is going to happen. Paul also makes a formal farewell before facing the hardships that await him. As he says goodbye, Paul urges his listeners to imitate Jesus just as he has. Hear more of Paul's heartfelt words by reading all or part of his letter to the Philippians. *Today's Readings: Acts 20:17–27; Psalm 68:10–11, 20–21; John 17:1–11a.*

### Wednesday, May 27

#### Set Apart

In the Gospel passage, the word *world* refers to all that opposes God. As Jesus continues his prayer to the Father, he speaks about how his followers are set apart from the world. He prays that God will further consecrate or sanctify them to continue his work of sharing the truth of God's love. Paul also was set apart for God's work, and he reminded others to remain steadfast in holiness. In what concrete ways can you set yourself apart from the world? *Today's Readings: Acts 20:28–38; Psalm 68:29–30, 33–35a, 35bc–36ab; John 17:11b–19.*

### Thursday, May 28

#### That All May Be One

Religion, sadly, often divides people instead of uniting them. The Pharisees and Sadducees disagreed on whether there was any kind of afterlife. Disagreements about beliefs and practices persist among Christians today. Such division compels us to bow our heads and echo Jesus' prayer for unity. *Today's Readings: Acts 22:30; 23:6–11; Psalm 16:1–2a and 5, 7–8, 9–10, 11; John 17:20–26.*

### Friday, May 29

#### In the Hands of Others

In Luke's Gospel account, Jesus tells his disciples that they will be handed over to kings and governors (21:12–13). In the passage from Acts, Paul is in the hands of the local governor who consults on his case with the king. In today's Gospel passage, Jesus tells Peter that one day Peter will be arrested and crucified. Centuries later, Christians still come into conflict with those in authority. Pray for those who are attacked or imprisoned because of their faith. *Today's Readings: Acts 25:13b–21; Psalm 103:1–2, 11–12, 19–20ab; John 21:15–19.*

### Saturday, May 30

#### The Work Continues

As we near the end of our Easter season, we hear the conclusions to the Acts of the Apostles and the Gospel according to John. Paul has arrived at Rome, in fulfillment of Jesus' prophecy that his followers would be his witnesses throughout the world. Today Christian missionaries have crossed oceans to enter new regions and share the story of salvation. John's Gospel notes that Jesus said and did far more than any book could contain. The Jesus who has risen, ascended to his Father, and filled us with his Spirit continues his mission through us. May the good work we do in Jesus' name fill more volumes than could ever be written. *Today's Readings: Acts 28:16–20, 30–31; Psalm 11:4, 5 and 7; John 21:20–25.*

