

PARISH CALENDAR

Second Sunday

of Easter

Divine Mercy

April 11, 2021

We have life
in the name of the Lord.

Saturday, April 10	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, April 11	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 8:30 a.m.	Mass
	..... 10:00 a.m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, April 12	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 7:00 p.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, April 13	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, April 14	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, April 15	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Friday, April 16	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 4:00-4:45 p.m.	Confession
Saturday, April 17	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Acts:3:13-15, 17-19: Peter proclaims Christ as fulfilling God's promises to Israel.

1 John:2:1-5a: Those who believe keep Jesus' commandments.

Luke:24:35-48: Jesus final appearance to his disciples.

(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.stritananakuli.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.stritananakuli.org/livestream> or https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCepqtr_VuHL7R-MjmZpe7Cg/

Reflecting on God's Word

Can one "fathom" a mystery? "Fathom" derives from an Old English word meaning "outstretched arms;" eventually it referred to the length from fingertip to fingertip of arms opened wide. As a verb, it means to probe or penetrate in order to understand. Granting the impossibility of ever coming to fathom the Resurrection fully, I like the image of trying to reach out and put my arms around this great mystery—or, better yet, to have the risen Christ put his outstretched arms around me, drawing me into it more fully.

Which brings us to Thomas. He is the original person who tried to fathom the risen Christ, insisting that if his friends in the upper room wanted him to believe what he could only think of as nonsense, he needed to touch the wounds of the risen Lord. Jesus didn't seem to have much of a problem letting him.

We never learn whether Thomas did touch Jesus or not, but every second Sunday of Easter we are told this story about Thomas and the risen Lord. It encourages us to fathom the mystery that is our faith, to learn to penetrate it by confessing Jesus as Lord and God, then allow this belief to flow out into our daily activities, reaching out to embrace others.

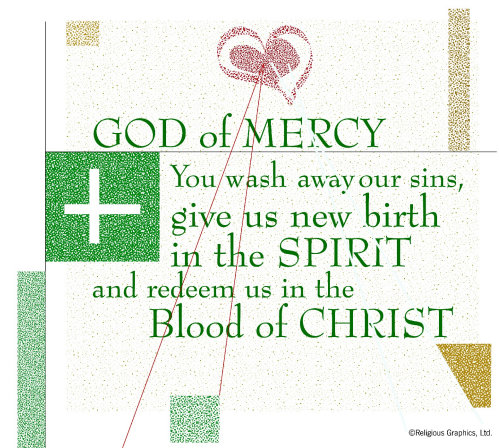
Don't you think when Thomas left the upper room that day he knew that the Resurrection was not something to keep to himself? That his whole being was filled with the warmth and light absorbed from being in the presence of the risen Lord? Is it possible that this can happen to us?

—James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPERATION RICE BOWL: THANK YOU! Our community changed lives this Lent, and CRS Rice Bowl wants to say THANK YOU! Visit www.crsricebowl.org to learn more.

WORD OF LIFE: "If you or someone you know has had an abortion, "be assured that it is never too late to seek God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation."* Additionally, other confidential, compassionate help is available. Select "Find Help" from the menu on www.hopeafterabortion.org to find the diocesan Project Rachel Ministry near you. USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "Bridges of Mercy for Healing after Abortion" www.usccb.org/bridges-of-mercy

WEEKLY READINGS

Apr 11 Sun: 2nd Easter Sunday

Acts: 4:32-35; Ps:118; 1 Jn:5:1-6; Jn:20:19-31

Apr 12 Mon: Easter Weekday

Act:4:23-31; Ps:2: 1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9; Jn:3:1-8

Apr 13 Tue: Easter Weekday

Acts:4:32-37; Ps:93: 1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Jn:3:7b-15

Apr 14 Wed: Easter Weekday

Acts:5:17-26; Ps:34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn:3:16-21

Apr 15 Thur: Easter Weekday

Acts:5:27-33; Ps:34:2, & 9, 17-18, 19-20; Jn:3:31-36

Apr 16 Fri: Easter Weekday

Acts:5:34-42; Ps:27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn:6:1-15

Apr 17 Sat: Octave of Easter

Acts:6:1-7; Ps:119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn:6:22-29

Share and Share Alike

Share and share alike. One of the first lessons we learn in life is the importance of sharing what we have. Whether we receive freely or give freely, sharing brings happiness to all involved. When the first Christians formed a community, they shared everything they owned. The followers of Jesus were not content with a personal relationship with their Savior. They craved a personal relationship with the community of believers. Some believers had more than others. Those who owned property or houses sold them and gave the proceeds to the leaders, who distributed the money to those who needed it. Those who had more realized they could live with less. Those who had less got what they needed to live.

Today many Christians feel good if we tithe. If we give 10 percent of what we earn to charities, we feel like we've done our part. The first Christians did more. Much more. They gave until everyone in their community had the same. Share and share alike.

Do you have more than you need of something? What would it take for you to give it away? All the early church needed was faith.

Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year B
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Living God's Word



Father of the only-begotten Son, send your Spirit upon us that we might know more deeply the truth of your Son's resurrection and allow it to penetrate our lives. Deepen our faith, hope, and love so the world will know us even now as children of the Resurrection.

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NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

When the risen Christ encounters his disciples in the locked room he adds a new Beatitude to the ones we've heard proclaimed before: Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed. Stewards of the mysteries of God's love do not need proof of the risen Christ. They know it because their lives have been transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit who has breathed new life into them. As stewards of this great gift it is appropriate to reflect on how we in turn add new life into our parish communities. **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

Anthem, Allegiance and Creed

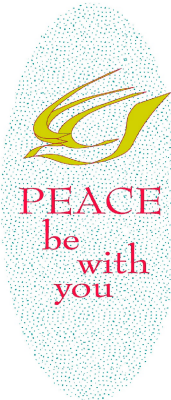
When we sing the national anthem, recite the pledge of allegiance, or fly the flag at home, we citizens perform an action that expresses who we are and what we believe. We don't have to recite the entire Constitution. It's enough to enact a smaller but central symbol of our country.

At church, we recite our Creed every week. And on Easter we renew our baptismal promises—which put the Creed in question and answer form. We don't have to recite the entire Bible or the whole Catechism. We say this smaller text to express who we are and what we believe. It is a symbol of our faith.

Easter is the season that renews our faith. Our central belief is the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. When we hold fast to that faith, everything else falls in line.

John writes in his first letter, "Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God." Every Easter, those who were catechumens preparing for this day profess their belief in Jesus. In that faith they are baptized. They are born again. They are begotten by God.

Our Easter faith will see us through bad times and add meaning to our happy days. Jesus is the Christ, the anointed one of God, the promised redeemer, and he is risen. He is our anthem, our allegiance, and our creed.



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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



That Our Joy Might Be Complete

O God,
from the beginning you prepared us,
making us in your image,
sharing with us every good gift,
revealing yourself to us over the ages,
until in the incarnation, you broke
into history
in a new way, doing a new thing.
You give us your life.

Help us to honor that gift,
that we might use the life we have been
given to serve
and be willing to lay it down with the hope
that we might rise like Jesus,
and that our joy might be complete.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord.
Amen.

April 11, 2021
Our Joy Overflows

Today's readings: Acts 4:32–35; Psalm 118:2–4, 13–15, 22–24; 1 John 5:1–6; John 20:19–31. When Jesus appears in a locked room and says, “Peace be with you,” the apostles rejoice that their Lord is present. Jesus then breathes on them, giving them the Spirit, and commissions them. Their joy in the Resurrection is not theirs alone.

The new life that comes from God, the new life where there was only death, changes the Twelve. Acts tells us that, in the early Church, the needs of all were met. The Christian community was part of the inauguration of the kingdom of justice and peace, and a sign of the kingdom. Therefore in their community, the demands of justice were recognized.

Our Easter joy should bubble up within us and be poured out. The joy should inspire us toward service and self-sacrifice in imitation of Jesus. Whose needs in your community are going unmet? Bring an Easter basket to a homebound member of your parish, and sit and visit for an hour. Pick up a package of diapers on your next trip to the store, and drop them at a center that serves families or women in crisis pregnancies. Volunteer to serve at a soup kitchen, and be present as you smile and greet the guests. Call a person who seems lonely, and set up a time to talk. When you find a need and meet it, others peer through a window into the coming kingdom.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, April 12

Reading Acts

The first reading each day has been making its way through the Acts of the Apostles, as it does each Easter season. We hear about the early Christians' preaching, teaching, and healing, and what occurred as a result. Acts is filled with drama and adventure. During this Easter season, try to read the entire book. Be inspired by those who "were filled with the holy Spirit and continued to speak of God with boldness." *Today's readings: Acts 4:23–31; Psalm 2:1–3, 4–7a, 7b–9; John 3:1–8.*

Tuesday, April 13

No Needy Person among Us

In the early Christian Church, the community cared for one another. Most homeless shelters have a constant need for basics, such as socks and underwear. Imagine how profound a need this is for those who lack them. Buy a few pairs of socks or underwear, and take them to a place in your community that serves those who are without a home. *Today's readings: Acts 4:32–37; Psalm 93:1ab, 1cd–2, 5; John 3:7b–15.*

Wednesday, April 14

We Cannot Help But Proclaim It

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." The early Christians could not help but proclaim the Good News in word and deed, and we are called to continue to do so. How can you bring those around you into the light of God's love? *Today's readings: Acts 5:17–26; Psalm 34:2–3, 4–5, 6–7, 8–9; John 3:16–21.*

Thursday, April 15

Continue the Celebration

One of the beautiful things about Easter is that for fifty days we celebrate our joy. Do something that reflects an Easter custom today. When my children were little, we hid plastic eggs all over the house throughout the Easter season. It was a fun way to keep the joy of the season present for us. You might continue to add flowers to a prayer area in your home, or adorn it with white and gold, to help you to be present in the season and remind those you love that we are still in the season of celebration. Consider also making a lamb cake or getting special Easter treats at the store. *Today's readings: Acts 5:27–33; Psalm 34:2 and 9, 17–18, 19–20; John 3:31–36.*

Friday, April 16

Loaves and Fishes

In the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, we see the Eucharist. Go to Mass or adoration today. Take this opportunity to thank Jesus for the great gift of himself in the Eucharist. Receive this gift and go out into the world and love as he does. *Today's readings: Acts 5:34–42; Psalm 27:1, 4, 13–14; John 6:1–15.*

Saturday, April 17

Called to Serve

We hear about the apostles choosing assistants and laying their hands on these men, including Stephen, who would be the first Christian martyr. They were called by God to serve the needs of the community so that no one would be left at the margins. God is calling you to use your gifts to serve as well. How is God calling you today? Do you think the path of following that call is always going to be easy? *Today's readings: Acts 6:1–7; Psalm 33:1–2, 4–5, 18–19; John 6:16–21.*



Asian and Pacific Islander Catholic Groups' Message on Discrimination and Racism Against Asian Americans

The deadly shootings in the greater Atlanta area in the past week took away the lives of eight people including 6 women of Asian descent. As pastoral leaders within the Asian and Pacific Island Catholic communities, we are deeply saddened to know about this tragic news and we offer our prayers for the deceased and comfort for their families and friends. We strongly stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters during this time of hostility and violence targeting the Asian community in many parts of the country.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' chairman of the Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Island Affairs, Bishop Oscar Solis issued a [statement](#) in which he says, "As bishops, we decry any kind of hatred and violence, particularly based on race, ethnicity, or sex." In May of last year, three bishop chairmen offered a [joint statement](#) expressing, "We call on Catholics, fellow Christians and all people of good will to help stop all racially motivated discriminatory actions and attitudes, for they are attacks against human life and dignity and are contrary to Gospel values."

Together with our shepherds, let us be mindful of and turn to the fundamental truth that, "because all humans share a common origin, they are all brothers and sisters, all equally made in the image of God. When this truth is ignored, the consequence is prejudice and fear of the other, and—all too often—hatred" ([Open wide Our Hearts](#), USCCB 2018).

Over the past year as the COVID 19 pandemic raged on, there has been increased reports of verbal abuse and physical attacks against many Asians. Regrettably, hate crimes against Asians are underreported. As events unfolded, we realize that many of these incidences sadly turned into acts of violence and even death. Hatred, discrimination and violence have no place in our society and anywhere else.

We call on communities to engage in peaceful dialogue at the local and national levels to address prejudice and anti-Asian bias. We stand for the peaceful co-existence of all peoples, we pray for compassion and love, and work towards healing and unity.

As Holy Mother Church celebrates the Paschal Solemnity of Jesus Christ—his suffering, death, and resurrection, we place our hope and trust in a loving and merciful God who gave His only son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to redeem all of us from sin and death.

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