

# PARISH CALENDAR

Third Sunday

of Easter

April 18, 2021

The love of God  
is perfected in us!

Saturday, April 17	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, April 18	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 8:30 a.m.	Mass
	..... 10:00 a.m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, April 19	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 7:00 p.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, April 20	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 7:00 p.m.	<b>Liturgy Committee Meeting (Virtual)</b>
Wednesday, April 21	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, April 22	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Friday, April 23	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 4:00-4:45 p.m.	Confession
Saturday, April 24	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

## NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

**Acts:4:8-12:** Peter proclaims Jesus as Savior to the Sanhedrin.

**1 John:3:1-2:** We are God's children now.

**John:10:11-18:** Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

**(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](http://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/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCepqtr_VuHL7R-MjmZpe7Cg/)**

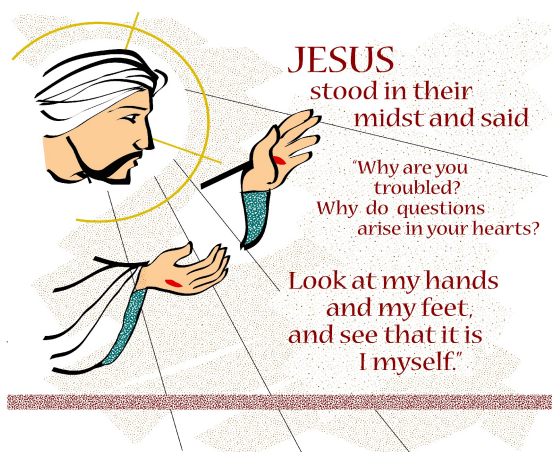
## Reflecting on God's Word

Some vaccinations only last so long. After a predictable amount of time the immunity wears off and people are susceptible to the same old disease again. That's when it's time for a booster shot. It seems that we also need booster shots for faith. Baptism alone is not enough. The joy and peace that filled our communities two weeks ago are probably starting to flag and our old selves may be starting to re-emerge. We need a weekly dose of Resurrection appearances, in the Eucharist we share.

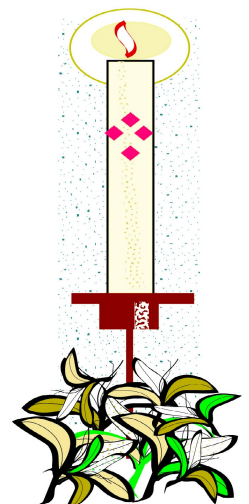
All three of this week's readings as well as the psalm point out the weakness of our human faith. Yet they emphasize the forgiveness and blessing that are always available to those who turn to "Jesus Christ the righteous one." Can we recognize ourselves in Luke's Gospel today? Do we realize how deeply we depend on our weekly "booster shot" of the Eucharist to remember and reclaim the saving presence of the risen Lord?

—Virginia Stillwell

Copyright © 2014, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** “St Rita is seeking volunteers with the following skills to assist us with the upcoming work days. We need plumbers, carpenters, drywall installers, electricians, painters and general laborers. We also need people with trucks that are willing to pick up building materials and deliver to St. Rita. If you have these skills and want to be part of helping improve the St. Rita campus, please call or text Chris Kalili at (808)840-9038 or Krissy Kalili at (808)840-9039. We will have a preliminary meeting with all volunteers on May 16<sup>th</sup>. More information will be provided to volunteers regarding this meeting once we have identified who is willing to help. Mahalo!”

## 2021 DIOCESAN PRIESTS’ RETIREMENT FUND

**COLLECTION:** Next week our Special Collection will be for the Diocesan Priest Retirement Fund. This is a different collection from the Religious Retirement Fund that is done each December. In concert with next weekend’s Good Shepherd Sunday, we are asked to prayerfully consider giving generously to this collection that will directly support our priests who are in their retirement years. They have given their lives shepherding our communities, and we pray that they are adequately cared for, in this next chapter of their lives. Please be generous! You can donate online: <https://www.catholichawaii.org/DPRF>

**WORD OF LIFE:** “Christ invites us to trust in his invisible grace that prompts us to the generosity of supernatural charity, as we identify with everyone who is ill: “Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me” (Mt 25:40.)” Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith “Samaritanus bonus: On the Care of Persons in the Critical and Terminal Phases of Life.” (© 2020, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.)

## WEEKLY READINGS

**Apr 18 Sun: 3<sup>rd</sup> Easter Sunday**

Acts: 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps:4; 1 Jn:2:1-5a; Lk:24:35-48

**Apr 19 Mon: Easter Weekday**

Act:6:8-15; Ps:119: 23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn:6:22-29

**Apr 20 Tue: Easter Weekday**

Acts:7:51-8:1a; Ps:31: 3cd-4, 6 & 7b & 8a, 17 & 21ab; Jn:6:30-35

**Apr 21 Wed: Easter Weekday**

Acts:8:1b-8; Ps:66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a; Jn:3:35-40

**Apr 22 Thur: Easter Weekday**

Acts:8:26-40; Ps:66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn:6:44-51

**Apr 23 Fri: Easter Weekday**

Acts:9:1-20; Ps:117:1bc, 2; Jn:6:52-59

**Apr 24 Sat: Octave of Easter**

Acts:9:31-42; Ps:116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Jn:6:60-69

## OVERCOMING BLUNDERS

Once in a while we make bad choices. Really bad choices. They make us feel like all is lost. What could make us feel better? We’d feel better if we knew that other people have made worse mistakes than we did and that they somehow overcame their bad choices.

Surely no one made worse choices than the people subjected to Peter’s sermon in Acts of the Apostles. Peter tells them God gave them Jesus, but they handed him over to Pilate and missed the opportunity to grant him freedom. They asked freedom for a murderer instead.

God overcame this blunder with the mightiest act in history: God raised Jesus from the dead. Peter and others witnessed the Risen Jesus.

Peter’s audience had made some really bad choices. They had the chance to spare Jesus from death, but instead they were responsible for it.

All was not lost. “Repent and be converted,” Peter told them, “that your sins may be wiped away.” And look who’s talking—a man who denied Jesus three times and who said, “I love you,” three times.

We have the same opportunity whenever we make bad choices. We can repent and change our ways. The God who raised Jesus has the power to forgive us.

God can raise us up from despair to hope. *Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year B © 2019 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner. Lectionary for Mass © 2001, CCD.*

## NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

An underlying lesson from all three readings this weekend is that the Risen Christ has wiped away our sins, not only for individuals, but throughout the world and its history. The terrible power of sin has now been reversed and our coming to perfection through the love of God is part of the Easter experience. As stewards of God’s love we are called to participate in Christ’s redemptive activity. The steward questions for us are many: How do we resist injustice at home or in the workplace? How do we confront violence in our language and attitudes? How do we bring Christ 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](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**

## MAHALO FOR SHARING YOUR TREASURE

## UNDOING SIN

A good word-processing program has an “undo” function. If you hit the wrong key or accidentally wipe out a paragraph you’ve been working on, you can hit “undo.” It will bring you back to where you were just before you made your mistake. You have to catch your mistake right away, but if you do, you can undo.

How we wish life came with an “undo” function. There are words, sentences, paragraphs, and entire days we’d like to undo in our past. Even if we catch them right away, it is hard to undo all the damage done by our sins.

When someone says, “I forgive you,” the news is hard to believe. When someone offers to undo us from the mess we’ve created, the news refreshes like spring rain.

Jesus forgives. This is some of the good news that comes from Easter. In dying for us and rising from the dead, Jesus offers forgiveness for our past. He invites us to the same journey he has traveled, from death to life. He symbolizes it by taking us on the journey from sin to forgiveness.

John writes in a letter, “If anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. He is expiation for our sins.”

Some of the people we have hurt may find it hard to forgive us, but Jesus is ready. What can he do? He can undo. *Lectionary Bulletin*

*Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year B © 2019 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner. Lectionary for Mass © 2001, CCD.*



# THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



## Resurrection

Loving Father,  
you raised Jesus from the dead  
and in that moment offered new life  
to the whole world.  
Creation was made anew in you.  
Help us to see your work in the world

in the countless ways you transform every  
dark thing  
and bring it into the light of your love.  
Transform our hearts,  
enlighten our minds,  
and help us to hope in you.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

April 18, 2021

Always Hope



*Today's readings: Acts 3:13–15, 17–19; Psalm 4:2, 4, 7–8, 9; 1 John 2:1–5a; Luke 24:35–48.* In Jesus, the Scripture texts about the suffering messiah are fulfilled. The people expected a different kind of messiah, a ruler who would overthrow the Romans, so many were not sure what to make of Jesus. After his death, many were no longer interested in him. Yet his disciples continued to proclaim his death and resurrection.

It is interesting that the disciples continued to emphasize Jesus' death. In today's world, people are uncomfortable with suffering and prefer that others overcome theirs quickly. An individual who has undergone a difficult experience might be told to "get over it" as quickly as possible. They might begin to understand that others do not want to share in their pain, leaving them to process the grief and

deal with their troubles in isolation. When suffering is something to get over and forget about, it has no possibility of being redeemed. No chance for hope is offered.

The Church has a tremendous gift to offer our culture. She offers the knowledge that suffering does not have the last word—that pain and death, and any darkness can be transformed. That suffering can be transformed does not diminish the pain. Imagine the terrible pain Jesus experienced on the cross. Nothing about that was okay. But we believe that pain can be transformed. That is the essence of resurrection. When we unite our sufferings to Jesus, when we invite him into them with us, we realize the possibility of resurrections in our lives.

Always there is hope.





## THIS WEEK AT HOME

**Monday, April 19**

### Stephen Speaks the Truth

One way to carry the Easter season forward is to look at the life of the early Christian community. In Acts, we hear how St. Stephen, the first martyr, was in conflict with the religious leaders because of his work in the name of Jesus. This story would be wonderful for children to turn into a play or for adults to journal as a first-person account, envisioning themselves as participants in the story. *Today's readings: Acts 6:8–15; Psalm 119:23–24, 26–27, 29–30; John 6:22–29.*

**Tuesday, April 20**

### Saul

By Saul's presence at the stoning of Stephen, Saul gave his consent to the first martyr's execution. Saul, however, allowed God to transform him. As an apostle, Paul used his gifts to build up the Body of Christ. Think of the ways he brought the light of Christ to others. He was initially one of the Church's persecutors. No matter what we have done, God is always ready with mercy and forgiveness. God is always ready to call us to do his work in the world. *Today's readings: Acts 7:51–8:1a; Psalm 31:3cd–4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab; John 6:30–35.*

**Wednesday, April 21**

### The Bread of Life

Jesus is the Bread of Life, and in him is our hope. He shares his very self with us in the Eucharist, that we might have eternal life. When you attend Mass, receive this gift, listening for what God is calling you to do as you are given food for your journey. The Eucharist is called the source and summit of our faith. How can you make it more central in your life? *Today's readings: Acts: 8:1b–8; Psalm 66:1–3a, 4–5, 6–7a; John 6:35–40.*

**Thursday, April 22**

### Bread from Heaven

Jesus shows the people that God has been preparing them for him. As he explains that life comes through eating the bread that is his Body, his very self, he recalls the manna that brought life to the people of Israel in the desert. When Catholics read Scripture, we look at the law and the prophets and the whole of salvation history in light of what has happened in Jesus. Read Exodus 16. Think about how it enriches your understanding of Jesus' words. Then bake a loaf of bread. Think about what it might mean for Jesus to be such a fundamental food. *Today's readings: Acts 8:26–40; Psalm 66:8–9; 16–17, 20; John 6:44–51.*

**Friday, April 23**

### Saul, Why Do You Persecute Me?

St. Paul's conversion story is frequently depicted in art. Read Acts 9:1–20 aloud. Spend an hour with your family, each drawing or painting what you hear and sharing your art reflection with one another. You could also choose to act out the scene. Search online for other depictions of this moment in history, and see how your reflection is similar to those of other artists. *Today's readings: Acts 9:1–20; Psalm 117:1bc, 2; John 6:52–59.*

**Saturday, April 24**

### Trusting the One Who Gives Life

In today's Gospel, many turn away from Jesus because his teachings are difficult. Peter says, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." I personally have often found comfort in Peter's words. It is not always easy to follow Jesus. Sometimes his teachings are difficult. How can Peter's words become your words? How can they become your prayer? *Today's readings: Acts 9:31–42; Psalm 116:12–13, 14–15, 16–17; John 6:60–69.*



Every April, Catholic parishes and schools across the United States participate in National Child Abuse Prevention Month. While dioceses work year-round to prevent abuse, during this month a special emphasis is placed on the importance of learning how to protect the vulnerable from this evil.

Together, for the next nine days, let's pray that the vulnerable are protected from abuse, and that survivors of abuse may be accompanied on their paths to healing.

---

# Novena

---

## for Protection and Healing from Abuse

### Intercessions

- Day 1:** May the most vulnerable be protected from all types of abuse and exploitation.
- Day 2:** May those who have been sexually abused receive comfort and healing.
- Day 3:** May those who work with children and young people be vigilant in protecting them from harm.
- Day 4:** May those who provide help for the abused act with wisdom and compassion in their healing ministries.
- Day 5:** May all families strive to provide safe and nurturing environments for children and young people.

**Day 6:** May all those who have committed abuse acknowledge the harm they have done, repent, and accept justice that ultimately comes from God.

**Day 7:** May those who have been abused receive the courage to tell their story, and may they be believed and supported.

**Day 8:** May Church leaders, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, promote justice and healing for survivors of abuse.

**Day 9:** May our Holy Father, Pope Francis, fulfill his role as good shepherd and protect the most vulnerable in his flock.

### Prayers

*Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be, Prayer for Healing*

### Prayer for Healing

God of endless love,  
ever caring, ever strong,  
always present, always just:  
You gave your only Son  
to save us by his blood on the cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,  
join to your own suffering  
the pain of all who have been hurt  
in body, mind, and spirit  
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters  
who have been gravely harmed,  
and the cries of those who love them.

Soothe their restless hearts with  
hope,  
steady their shaken spirits with  
faith.

Grant them justice for their cause,  
enlightened by your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,  
heal your people's wounds  
and transform brokenness into wholeness.

Grant us the courage and wisdom,  
humility and grace, to act with justice.

Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.

Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

