

PARISH CALENDAR

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2021

This is he of whom John spoke!

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



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NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

1 Samuel:3: 3b-10, 19: Samuel responds to God's call.

1 Corinthians:6: 13c-15a, 17-20: The body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.

John: 1:35-42: The disciples heard and followed

(Everyone who attends Mass must wear a Masks)

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-MjmZpe7Cq/

EXTENSION OF DISPENSATION FROM SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION: "One of the most difficult decisions I have had to make as a bishop was the suspension of public Masses due to the coronavirus pandemic from mid-March to late May, 2020. Since then the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days has been dispensed. In light of the ongoing pandemic. **I am extending the dispensation through Tuesday, February 16, 2021, the day before Ash Wednesday.**

While I am extending this dispensation for the sake of those who are at higher risk if they should be infected with COVID-19 virus, **I would like to urge all our parishioners who can safely do so to return to worship at Sunday Mass.**

Bishop Larry Silva - December 6, 2020



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE 48TH ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE: Thursday, January 21st at 6 pm, Mass with Bishop Larry Silva; Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7 pm to 12 midnight. Please register for Mass and Adoration time @ <https://bit.ly/RespectLifeMassandAdorationJan21>. **On Friday January 22nd from 4 pm-6pm there will be Virtual event.** This year's theme "For We are God's Masterpiece." To participate the virtual event, **RSVP by January 7th** to Janet Hochberg at (808)225-4511, or email: janet@hilifealliance.org, Monday-Friday between 9 am -4 pm An event login will be sent to you no later than Wednesday, January 20th.

WORD OF LIFE: "When we encounter Christ, experience his love, and deepen our relationship with him, we become more aware of our own worth and that of others. His love for each person is cause for great joy, and growing understanding of this priceless treasure motivates us to share his love with others. Our lives are often changed by the witness of others so too, others' lives may be changed by our witness and authentic friendship with them." USCCB, Secretariat of Pro-life Activities; "How to Build a Culture of Life" (www.respectlife.org/culture-of-life)

WEEKLY READINGS

Jan 10 Sun: The Baptism of the Lord

Isa:55:1-11; Is:12; 1 Jn :5:1-9; Mk:1:7-11

Jan 11 Mon: Ordinary Weekday

Heb:1:1-6; Ps:97: 1 & 2b, 6 & 7c, 9; Mk:1:14-20

Jan 12 Tue: Ordinary Weekday

Heb:2:5-12; Ps: 8: 2ab, & 5, 6-7, 8-9; Mk:1:21-28

Jan 13 Wed: Ordinary Weekday

Heb:2:14-18; Ps:105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9; Mk:1:29-39

Jan 14 Thur: Ordinary Weekday

Heb:3:7-14; Ps:95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11; Mk:1:40-45

Jan 15 Fri: Ordinary Weekday

Heb:4:1-5, 11; Ps:78:3, & 4bc, 6c-7, 8; Mk:2:1-12

Jan 16 Sat: Ordinary Weekday

Heb:4:12-16; Ps:19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mk:2:13-17

Reflecting on God's Word

This is one of the key moments in the life of Jesus. Up north in his hometown of Nazareth he must have heard about John. At some point an inner voice must have said, "Go south, go to the desert. Go listen to this preacher John."

When he came to the desert, he may have stood in a long line before that moment came when he entered the water and John baptized him. Mark gives us only the briefest account of their meeting, but does present John as expecting someone mightier than he who would baptize with the Holy Spirit.

It is this same Holy Spirit who came down on Jesus as he was coming out of the water. At that moment, the heavens were torn open, heaven reached down to touch the Galilean, and the Spirit descended like a dove. Have you ever seen a gull descend to snatch a fish or a hawk swoop down to seize its prey? By contrast, the image of a descending dove is one of beauty and grace, of gentle alighting.

The words do not announce Jesus to others, as in Matthew's account, but they are spoken only to him: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased" (1:11), echoing the words the Lord speaks in the first song of the Servant in the book of Isaiah.

The descent of the dove did not mean an easy life for Jesus, but God had penetrated his being in a way that would then drive him into the desert to begin his mission of confronting the powers of sin and death. This gentle dove came—and continues to come—with a mighty power.

—James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.

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NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

On this weekend after the Feast of the Epiphany, the Gospel reading reminds us of Jesus' baptism. It gives meaning to our own baptism into Christ Jesus. Jesus' baptism is a reminder that he is not only our Lord but also our brother. He was baptized, just as we are. He shares in our humanity. Good stewards recognize that their baptisms call them to conform their daily lives to Jesus' teachings, and to live their lives as Jesus did. Through their baptism, they have been given the necessary gifts to share with others the new creation that Christ brings. The stewardship question is whether we can recognize our own baptismal gifts, and like Jesus, use those gifts to bring the hope of Christ to the lives of 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

SIMPLE GIFTS

The best things in life are free. The sun, the rain, the wind, and the ground on which we tread are given to us without measure.

We buy products that we think will bring pleasure. Often they do. Sometimes they don't. Sometimes we squander our money and time on what we think will bring us relief. But it only causes us remorse. Perhaps the product is not as good as we thought. Perhaps we were being selfish. Perhaps we denied other people an opportunity for enjoyment by taking some for ourselves.

We forget about the simple pleasures of life: breathing deeply, being with a friend, or humming a tune.

Through the prophet Isaiah, God invited thirsty Israel to come to the water. Why spend money on what fails to satisfy? Come to the water of God's wisdom, mercy, and goodness. Drink from God's water source and slake your thirst.

Today we remember how Jesus went to the waters of the Jordan, how he heeded God's voice and took delight in God's favor. He invites us to do the same. Drink from God's wisdom in prayer and sacred conversation. It's one of the best things in life. And it's free. *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*

We are baptized
in the SPIRIT
of the LORD



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FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



Priests, Prophets, Kings

Loving Father,
at our Baptism we were anointed
in Christ's name
to be priests, prophets, and kings.
Our mission is his.
Help us to worship you, Lord God,
and to offer our whole lives to you.
Embolden us to share your love
and salvation.

Empower us to seek your kingdom
of justice and peace.
When the light of our faith wavers,
and our white garments become stained
and torn,
cleanse us and renew your Spirit within us.
Guide us each day along the way of your Son
so that we, your beloved children,
may be pleasing to you in all that we do.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, January 10, 2021

Our Mission



Today's Readings: Isaiah 55:1–11; Isaiah 12:2–3, 4bcd, 5–6; 1 John 5:1–9; Mark 1:7–11 or Isaiah 42:1–4, 6–7; Psalm 29:1–2, 3ac–4, 3b, 9–10; Acts 10:34–38; Mark 1:7–11. Jesus, in his humanity, had to discern how to best offer his life to God. He drew inspiration from the promises God had made to Israel and, through Israel, to all people—promises of prosperity, justice, and peace. Jesus may have especially identified with the mysterious servant spoken of by the prophet Isaiah. This servant bravely brings God's salvation to everyone. As John the Baptist urged people to prepare for the next stage of salvation, his words would have resonated with Jesus, who was baptized as a sign of his commitment to the mission that was taking shape within him.

Our Baptism immerses us into the life of Christ, into his earthly ministry, his sacrificial death, and his union with God the Father. As members of Christ's body, we ask ourselves, "What is my mission? For what good work has God's Spirit descended upon me?" Perhaps God is calling us to spend time with someone who is struggling. Perhaps our mission is to change an unhealthy work environment. Our mission might be to address injustice in our community. In all these ways and more, we, God's beloved children, participate in the mission of Christ. In fulfilling our mission we, too, will hear God declare that he is well pleased with us.



THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

During Ordinary Time this year we will hear most often from the Gospel of Mark. However, the Gospel passage for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time is always from John. Matthew, Mark, and Luke present Jesus' identity through the lens of his ministry, but John's focus is mostly on Jesus' identity as God's divine Son.

The Christmas season is filled with feast days that highlight Jesus' divinity. The passages from John's Gospel that we hear on the Second Sundays in Ordinary Time transition us from an emphasis on Jesus' identity to his public ministry. As we accompany Jesus in his ministry, today's passage reminds us to stop and spend time with the Lord so as to discover and rediscover all that he is.

Gospel/Ignatian Contemplation

Popularized by St. Ignatius of Loyola, Gospel contemplation is a way to pray with the Scriptures. It works best with passages in which there is some action, such as a healing. Because Mark's Gospel is filled with short passages in which people are doing something, it is well suited for Gospel contemplation.

To begin, read the passage you have chosen several times. Note the people, setting, and any dialogue. Let the scene take ever clearer shape in your mind. Then imagine that you are there, in the story. You might be one of Jesus' disciples, a person in the crowd, or someone who seeks healing. Notice who is with you, what you say and do, and, most especially, how you interact with Jesus and how he interacts with you. Gospel contemplation is one way to meet our Lord in our sacred texts. It might be helpful for those who are hesitant to try it to remember that the Gospels were written so that we, like generations before us, may encounter Christ and find salvation in him.

The Gospel of Mark

Since it contains very little teaching and few parables, the Gospel of Mark is the shortest and most fast-paced of our four Gospel accounts. It is also the darkest. The shadow of the cross looms from the first chapter as we hear Jesus begin his ministry right after John the Baptist has been arrested (1:14). Jesus' first miracle is casting out a demon, a symbol of the evil he must confront (1:21–26). Chapter 2 consists entirely of stories in which people challenge Jesus and object to his or his disciples' actions. By chapter 3 people are already plotting his death (3:6). As the Gospel continues, Jesus will face opposition from his family, the villagers of his hometown, and his disciples.

The portrait of Jesus that emerges from this threatening narrative is a Jesus who struggles and suffers. He is the messiah, but he is a suffering messiah. "Suffering messiah" is a contradiction, an oxymoron. No one expected the messiah, God's chosen one, to suffer and be killed. Christians today are so familiar with the story of Jesus' passion and death that we forget how shocking it was, how horrible and horrifying. St. Mark reminds us.

As we move through the Gospel of Mark and hear how Jesus is challenged, misunderstood, ridiculed, and physically attacked, we're reminded that true discipleship has costs. Seeking the reign of God brings us into opposition with others who either don't understand how we're trying to live or who downright reject the kingdom of God that we seek. Jesus knows this. He has been through it. He now stands with us as we continue striving for his kingdom, confronting evil in all its forms until at last he raises us up to life with him in his kingdom forever.

