

PARISH CALENDAR

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

March 28, 2021

Jesus became obedient even up to death.

Saturday, March 27	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, March 28	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 8:30 a.m.	Mass
	..... 10:00 a.m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, March 29	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
	..... 7:00 p.m.	Mass
Tuesday, March 30	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, March 31	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, April 1	..... 8:00 a.m.	NO MORNING MASS
	..... 7:00 p.m.	MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
Friday, April 2	..... 8:00 a.m.	NO MORNING MASS
		PARISH OFFICE CLOSED - GOOD FRIDAY HOLIDAY
	..... 2:00 p.m.	STATIONS OF THE CROSS
	..... 7:00 p.m.	GOOD FRIDAY
Saturday, April 3	..... 8:00 p.m.	EASTER VIGIL

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Acts:10:34a, 37-43: Peter preached about Jesus' baptism, the anointing with the Holy Spirit
Colossians:3:1-4: Think about what is above. When Christ appears, then you shall appear with him in glory.
John:20:1-9: Mary Magdalene and the disciples went to the tomb and found it empty.

(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/

Effective Easter Sunday, April 4 (or as of the Easter Vigil, April 3), I am ending the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, which has been effect since mid-March, 2020. However, anyone who is sick, may have been exposed to anyone with COVID-19, or who has health condition that would endanger themselves or others by being present in church, continues to be dispensed."

Bishop Larry Silva - March 5, 2021

Reflecting on God's Word

Someone once told me that people come to church on Palm Sunday because they get something. But I like to think that palm says something they recognize as true.

"He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness," writes Paul, quoting the words of an early Christian hymn. "He humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross," follow soon after (Philippians 2:7, 8). Emptying and humbling are the two key words embracing the trajectory of the life of Jesus Christ, the Son of God: from incarnation to passion and death.

He poured himself out for us and for our salvation, certainly suffering physically—from the beating, the scourging, the crowning with thorns, being struck with a reed, spat upon, prodded, pushed, and stumbling up the hill to Golgotha. Then he was stretched out on a crossbeam, nailed to it, and lifted up, his body suspended between heaven and earth. Finally, he suffocated, unable to raise himself to take in more air.

There was also the inner suffering of abandonment, of seeing his disciples run off, of realizing that all those who had cried "Hosanna" a few days earlier had either been silent or had cried out, "Crucify him." Only the women had remained with him.

Today, when we take home a piece of palm, it invites us to prepare to renew our baptismal promises on Easter. Then we can add our voices to that solitary voice almost two millennia ago, saying, "Truly, this is the Son of God!" (Mark 15:39).

—James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY WEEK/EASTER MASS SCHEDULE: The Holy Week/Easter Mass Schedule are as follows: **Holy Thursday (4/1) @ 7 p. m. / Good Friday (4/2) - Station of the Cross at 2 p. m., Good Friday @ 7 p. m., Easter Vigil (4/3) @ 8 p. m. & Easter Sunday Masses @ 8 a. m. & 10 a. m.** All services will be Live Stream, please plan early there are 40 seats in the church, we will have an additional 20 seats out under the banyan tree.

OPERATION RICE BOWL: SERVING THE SUFFERING CHRIST: As we enter Holy Week and celebrate Palm Sunday, let's reflect on how our Lord suffered from our indifference; those who proclaimed him king of Jerusalem were the same who called to crucify him. We recognize we are all one human family. Are we contributing to the suffering of our sisters and brothers with our indifference to their realities? How does our faith inspire us to care for them and share the gifts that God has bestowed on us? Visit www.crsricebowl.org to learn 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 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 28 Sun: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

John: 12:12-16; Isa:50:4-7; Ps:22; Phil:2:6-11; Mk:14:1-15:47

Mar 29 Mon: Holy Week

Isa:42:1-7; Ps:27: 1, 2, 3, 13-14; Jn:12:1-11

Mar 30 Tue: Holy Week

Isa:49:1-6; Ps:71: 1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 & 17; Jn:13:21-33, 36-38

Mar 31 Wed: Holy Week

Isa:50:4-9a; Ps:69:8-10, 21-22, 31 & 33-34; Mt:26:14-25

Apr 1 Thur: Holy Thursday

Exo:12:1-8, 11-14; Ps:116; 1 Cor: 11:23-26; Jn:13:1-15

Apr 2 Fri: Good Friday

Isa:52:13-53:12; Ps:31; Heb:4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn:18:1-19

Apr 3 Sat: Easter Vigil

Gen:1:1-2:2; Ps:104; Gen:22:1-18; Ps:16; Rom: 6:3-11;

Mk:16:1-7

NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

This weekend we participate in the proclamation of the passion and death of Jesus according to the Gospel of Mark. In the extended version of this weekend's Gospel reading, Jesus is at Gethsemane, praying to his Father, in much emotional distress. He knows he can save himself. He can escape over the Mount of Olives in the dead of night and make his way safely into the Judean desert. Instead, Jesus chooses obedience to his Father and waits for his persecutors. As Saint Paul puts it in the second reading, Jesus is "obedience to his Father and waits for his persecutors. As Saint Paul puts it in the second reading, Jesus is "obedient to the point of death." Jesus' obedience is a lesson for those who are good stewards of their life in Christ. Let us reflect on how we might be more obedient to the will of God instead of our own will. **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

The Mystery of Suffering

The speaker of today's first reading is a victim. He speaks, but people beat him, pull out the hairs of his beard, slap and spit on him. Why? He suffers all this because he has spoken God's Word. Every morning God speaks to him and enables him to speak to others. This Word gets him into trouble.

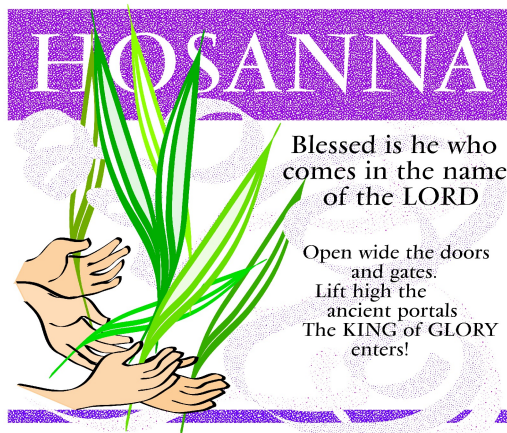
But the speaker does not quit. Nor does he curse God, who gives him these pointed words. He remains firm, committed to the Word God gives him, even in the face of resistance.

Although Isaiah wrote about the difficulties faced by faithful Israel in the midst of enemies, Christians read through these lines and see the image of Jesus. He received God's Word, spoke it with eloquence, and suffered at the hands of his enemies.

Do your words ever get you into trouble? Does it happen even when you say the right thing? If so, you stand in a long line of those who suffer because they are servants of God.

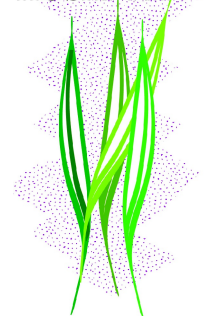
The victim on the cross hangs in full view in our churches. Christians can face the agony of suffering as it befell Jesus and as it comes to us, because we know there is something more.

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PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION



Make Us a Gift

Father,
through the gift of your Son,
you have continued the work begun
at creation,
drawing all you have made to yourself,
redeeming the world,
bringing all into the light of your love
through your own self gift.
Help us to enter into the mysteries of these
holy days.

Give us the strength to follow where
the Shepherd leads,
embracing our cross,
relinquishing all that is not love,
offering all we have received back to you,
that we might participate in the world's
re-creation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, March 28, 2021
Seeing Ourselves in the Story



Today's readings: Procession: Mark 11:1–10 or John 12:12–16; Mass: Isaiah 50:4–7; Psalm 22:8–9, 17–18, 19–20, 23–24; Philemon 2:6–11; Mark 14:1–15:47. As Holy Week begins, we herald Jesus as he triumphantly enters Jerusalem. We cry, “Hosanna!” The excitement of his coming reaches us across time and space. Jesus is the one for whom Israel has been waiting. He will bring about the longed-for kingdom of justice and peace.

From jubilant welcome, the mood shifts quickly, and before long the crowd shouts again, this time not “Hosanna,” but “Crucify him!”

One way that we can reflect upon the events of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection is to imagine ourselves in the

story. If you were part of the crowd, what might have made you excited about Jesus as he entered? What might you have felt as public opinion changed, and people became fearful of him? Are you one of the disciples? How do you feel in the garden as Jesus prays? What is it like when he is arrested? Another perspective you might take is that of the women. They had come with Jesus to Jerusalem and were witnesses to all that had happened. What would it be like to see the passion through their eyes?

Entering into Holy Week, make space for silence, prayer, and reflection. Prepare yourself to celebrate the greatest of all mysteries, the moment that redeemed all of history: the resurrection.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 29 Perfumed Oil

Jesus uses Mary's actions, anointing his feet, to again discuss his burial; like the grain of wheat, his death will bring about much fruit. Everything in Jesus' life at this time is pointing toward the laying down of his life. Look online for paintings of Mary anointing Jesus' feet and use them to enrich your reflection today. *Today's readings: Isaiah 42:1–7; Psalm 27:1, 2, 3, 13–14; John 12:1–11.*

Tuesday, March 30 Light to the Nations

In Isaiah we hear about the servant whose role is to restore Israel and be a light to the nations. This was the great hope of the people. Even those closest to the one we recognize as that servant reject him. Judas begins the work of his betrayal, and Jesus predicts Peter's denial. Because he was fully human, Jesus knew the sting of rejection. He models the kingdom of peace and justice that he inaugurates. *Today's readings: Isaiah 49:1–6; Psalm 71:1–2, 3–4a, 5ab–6ab, 15 and 17; John 13:21–33, 36–38.*

Wednesday, March 31 Betrayed

Jesus knew Judas would betray him but did not seek to protect himself. Isaiah's servant gives his back to those who beat him and his cheeks to those who pluck his beard, trusting that God will vindicate him. Throughout the passion, Jesus accepts what is coming because of this same trust. The evil and injustice in the world are disturbing. Jesus recognizes the brokenness and does not struggle against those who hurt him. But the entirety of his life is bringing about the kingdom of justice and peace, doing the work that will heal the world of its brokenness. How can we follow in this path? *Today's readings: Isaiah 50:4–9a; Psalm 69:8–10, 21–22, 31 and 33–34; Matthew 26:14–25.*

Thursday, April 1 I Have Given You a Model to Follow

Time and again, Jesus upended the expectations of the people around him. "You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am," he says. Those words convey power and authority. What does the master and teacher do? He empties himself of all that the world values. At the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, the priest washes feet. If you do not usually attend this Mass, try to do so. The beauty of this moment strikes even young children. *Today's readings: Exodus 12:1–8, 11–14; Psalm 116:12–13, 15–16bc, 17–18; 1 Corinthians 11:23–26; John 13:1–15.*

Friday, April 2 By His Wounds We Were Healed

Because Jesus was fully human, he knew all aspects of the human experience, including rejection, suffering, and death. If we jump from this moment to the resurrection, we fail to appreciate that Jesus is with us in our darkest times, waiting with us while we hope in God's ability to transform even those moments. Take time in quiet prayer, reflecting on the cross and Jesus' merciful love. *Today's readings: Isaiah 52:13–53:12; Psalm 31:2, 6, 12–13, 15–16, 17, 25; Hebrews 4:14–16, 5:7–9; John 18:1–19:42.*

Saturday, April 3

At the Easter Vigil, the readings take us through salvation history, from creation to the discovery of the empty tomb. We see how God prepared the world for its redemption. *Today's readings: Genesis 1:1–2:2; Psalm 104:1–2, 5–6, 10, 12, 13–14, 24, 35 or Psalm 33:4–5, 6–7, 12–13, 20–22; Genesis 22:1–18; Psalm 16:5, 8, 9–10, 11; Exodus 14:15–15:1; Exodus 15:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 17–18; Isaiah 54:5–14; Psalm 30:2, 4, 5–6, 11–12, 13; Isaiah 55:1–11; Isaiah 12:2–3, 4, 5–6; Baruch 3:9–15, 32–4:4; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Ezra 3:6–17a, 18–28; Psalm 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 or Isaiah 12:2–3, 4bcd, 5–6 or Psalm 51:12–13, 14–15, 18–19; Romans 6:3–11; Psalm 118:1–2, 16–17, 22–23; Mark 16:1–7.*



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