

# PARISH CALENDAR

Sixth Sunday  
of Easter

May 9, 2021

The Lord shows His salvation  
from day to day!

Saturday, May 8	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, May 9	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 8:30 a.m.	Mass
	..... 10:00 a.m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, May 10	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass - St. Damien of Molokai
	..... 7:00 p.m.	Mass - St. Damien of Molokai
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, May 11	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, May 12	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, May 13	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Friday, May 14	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Saturday, May 15	..... 10:00-12 pm	<b>Confession - 87-1511 Nakii St.</b>
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

## NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

**Acts:10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48:** Peter preaches to the gentiles.

**1 John:4:7-10:** God's love calls us to love one another.

**John:15:9-17:** Love one another as I have loved you.

**(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

As a nation, we are a mobile people. Not only do we travel around during vacations, for special events, and for visiting family and friends, but we readily move from one place to another for college, work, health reasons, and finally retirement. While previous generations usually stayed with one job and in one house for practically all of their lives, today it is common to move from one place to another, to a different state or even to a different country. This mobility carries over into our relationships. We can find that our lives take us from one set of friends to another, from one close relationship to another.

So Jesus' admonition to remain in his love can sound quite challenging to people whose lives are characterized by change and impermanence. The word "remain" is sometimes translated as "abide." The meaning of this invitation is to "take up permanent residence." Last week Jesus called us to "remain" in his word; this week, to "remain in my love" (John 15:9).

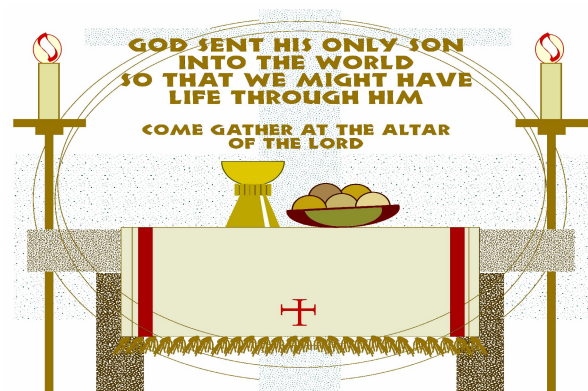
Jesus tells us how to do this (by keeping his commandments), why we should do this (so that his joy might be in us and our joy complete), what specifically we should do (love one another as I have loved you, that is, by laying down my life for you), and what is to be gained by doing this (an ongoing friendship with him that bears fruit and gains whatever we ask the Father in his name). Not a bad exchange for settling down . . . in his love.

—James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN:** Next week our special collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign connects people with Christ and builds Catholic communities in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money collected remains here in the Diocese of Honolulu to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the Gospel message! To learn more [www.usccb.orgccc](http://www.usccb.orgccc).

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** The Building Committee is working to relocate the existing Restrooms and Pantry to the Rectory Building. Volunteers are needed to assist in renovating the Rectory. Work will involve the construction of a new ramp, install new Men and Women toilet facilities, repair/removal of damaged bay-window, repair flooring, electrical work, plumbing work, masonry work, drywall work and painting. Skilled and Unskilled volunteers in any area noted above is asked to come out and join us. We have a preliminary meeting for all volunteers to be held here at the church on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am, after the 10:am Mass. More detail information will be given at the meeting. If you cannot make the meeting and want to be participate, please call Chris Kalili at 808 840-9038 or Krissy Kalili at 808-840-9039 or Patrick Gomes at 808-347-2384 for more information. Thank you

**MAY IS NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH:** May is National Foster Care Month! As Catholics, we believe that every person is created in God's image, deserving to be treated with dignity and respect. USCCB provides foster care services to unaccompanied, refugee, and immigrant children. Join us in praying for all foster parents and children. Learn more about becoming a foster parent to immigrant youth. <https://www.usccb.org/committees/migration/open-your-home-refugee-youth-today>

**WORD OF LIFE:** "O' Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "A Prayer for Pregnant Mothers"

## WEEKLY READINGS

**May 9 Sun: 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts: 10:1, 2-3, 3-4; Ps:98; 1 Jn:4:7-10; Jn:15:9-17

**May 10 Mon: Easter Weekday**

Acts:16:11-15; Ps:149:1b- 2, 3-4, 5-6a & 9b; Jn:15:26-16:4a

**May 11 Tue: Easter Weekday**

Acts:16:22-34; Ps:138: 1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Jn:16:5-11

**May 12 Wed: Easter Weekday**

Acts:17:15, 22-18:1; Ps:148:1-2, 11-12, 13-14; Jn:16:12-15

**May 13 Thur: Easter Weekday**

Acts:18:1-8; Ps:98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn:16:16-20

**May 14 Fri: Saint Matthias, Apostle**

Acts:1:15-17, 20-26; Ps:113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Jn:15:9-17

**May 15 Sat: Easter Weekday**

Acts:18:23-28; Ps:47:2-3, 8-9, 10; Jn:16:23b-28

## NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

In today's Gospel, Jesus commands his disciples, whom he calls "friends," to love one another as he loves them. Jesus uses the word "love" as a verb or a noun nine times. He also employs the word "command" or "commandment" five times. His command to love one another is explicit. Those who understand the depth of Christ's love for us have reason to be joyful. We are called to be stewards of this loving friendship; to love one another as Jesus loves us. Do we give serious attention to what this love requires of us? What is the price of this friendship with the Lord? Are we willing to pay this price to keep Christ's friendship? **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

### Where Love Comes From

Who can explain love? One day you meet someone, and your heart is filled with a love you never knew was in there. Where does it come from? How did it get there? What prompted it to come out? Why does it feel this way?

Love warms us like nothing else. It inspires us to be good to others—and not just to the person we love. The love we have for one person is so great that it spills out in our actions and attitudes toward others. You become a more loving person to all because you became a loving person toward one.

Love comes from God. God is love. God loved us first before we loved any other person and before we loved God. John writes, "Love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God." When we love someone—whether or not we realize it—we are experiencing God. God loves first.

Some people have another experience of God. They imagine God as an angry, authoritarian figure. Or they go to church and find God—well, boring. John suggests the problem might not be with God. It might be with us. "Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love."

It takes time to get to know God. But if we take time, we will experience love. Then we'll know where love comes from.

*Lectonary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year B © 2019 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights*

### Living God's Word



Sometimes we may feel that we are not even capable of loving as Jesus loved. In today's first reading we see that God is so eager to enter our hearts and enable us to love that the Holy Spirit falls upon those listening, even though they have not yet been baptized.

Ask God to help you love as Jesus loves.

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GOD is LOVE

# SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



## To Bear Fruit

Father,  
you tend to the vine,  
caring for it with incredible gentleness.  
Each branch is beloved;  
each branch is protected;  
each branch is filled with your life.  
Fill us with your Spirit that we might

remain in you and you in us.  
Grant that we bear fruit,  
bringing you to others  
so that your joy might be in us  
and our joy might be complete.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

May 9, 2021  
Bearing Fruit



*Today's readings: Acts 10:25–26, 34–35, 44–48; Psalm 98:1, 2–3, 3–4; 1 John 4:7–10; John 15:9–17.* Jesus tells his disciples, “It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit.” Today’s Gospel continues last week’s reading about the vine grower and the true vine. As we reflect on the true vine, we might consider our responsibility to bear fruit in our lives.

Throughout Jesus’ earthly life, everything he said and did pointed to the kingdom of God. If we model our lives on him, they also will point to the kingdom. But what does it mean to “go out and bear fruit”? To bear fruit requires turning away from all that is darkness, all that is not God, so that we might participate in the light fully. In the light of God’s

love, we acknowledge our friendship with Jesus and are empowered to take up our cross and follow Jesus.

What is the sign that we have remained in Christ’s love? It is that our joy is complete. Joy is unlike worldly happiness, which can depend on external conditions. Joy endures throughout difficulty, since our hope is in Jesus.

How might we bear fruit and keep Jesus’ commandments? What does he command? Love as I love. How do we do it? We lay down our life. Jesus expresses it simply, yet it is not easy. And so he invites us. He invites us to remain in his love so that his life will be within us and we will be able to love as he does. He invites us into the relationship that gives us the ability to bear fruit.





## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, May 10

#### St. Damien of Molokai

St. Damien ministered to the people of Hawaii, including people who had leprosy. He eventually contracted the disease, realizing he was infected when he did not feel pain when boiling water was poured on his hand. St. Damien is a model of self-sacrifice and service to those at the margins of society. Who is at the margins of our culture? How are you called to step out of your comfort zone to serve them? *Today's readings: Acts 16:11–15; Psalm 149:1b–2, 3–4, 5–6a and 9b; John 15:26–16:4a.*

### Tuesday, May 11

#### A Living Vine

Placing a living vine in your prayer area may help you reflect on the vine and the branches. Watching the growth, consider how the plant is connected, how the life within it is the same. Imagine all those in heaven and on earth, united through Jesus as part of the true vine. *Today's readings: Acts 16:22–34; Psalm 138:1–2ab, 2cde–3, 7c–8; John 16:5–11.*

### Wednesday, May 12

#### Paul at the Areopagus

When Paul preaches at the Areopagus, he is participating in the mission that Jesus gave him. He is preaching the Good News to all nations. He is also giving us a model. He sees the shrine to the Unknown God and realizes that the Athenians, though they did not know it, already were called into relationship with the one God, the God of Israel. We too know that God calls all people into relationship. Sometimes when we are in dialogue with people who hold beliefs different from ours or people who profess no belief at all, it is helpful to remember that God is already in relationship with them and to strive for common ground and respectful engagement. *Today's readings: Acts 17:15, 22–18:1; Psalm 148:1–2, 11–12, 13, 14; John 16:12–15.*

### Thursday, May 13

#### The Ascension of the Lord

The Ascension is a feast of joy, joy in the Father glorifying Jesus. It is also a feast of anticipation, because we hope that we too will be raised. We hope that by believing in Jesus and by living in imitation of him, we too might be citizens of heaven. *Today's readings: Acts 1:1–11; Psalm 47:2–3, 6–7, 8–9; Ephesians 4:1–13; Mark 16:15–20.*

#### Our Lady of Fatima

The optional memorial of Our Lady of Fatima is celebrated today in dioceses that will observe the Ascension on Sunday. Look up instructions or a video online, and make one or more knotted rosaries. Making rosaries is also a way to interest children in this devotion to the Blessed Mother. *Today's readings: Acts 18:1–8; Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4; John 16:16–20.*

### Friday, May 14

#### St. Matthias

In selecting a person to replace Judas, the community wanted to choose from among those who had been present from Jesus' baptism in the Jordan through his passion. Do you think that Matthias felt ready or worthy? Do you always feel ready for what God is calling you to do? Can Matthias' example help you to remember that God gives us what we need to respond in love to our call? *Today's readings: Acts 1:15–17, 20–26; Psalm 113:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 7–8; John 15:9–17.*

### Saturday, May 15

#### Plant a Mary Garden

Consider planting a Mary garden. This garden can be small enough for an apartment or larger for a yard. If plenty of space is available, rose bushes, hydrangeas, and larger plants can be planted. For those with smaller spaces, a container garden or a terracotta bowl can be just as lovely a way to honor Mary. Marigolds, bachelor's buttons, petunias, and pansies are among the plants people have used to honor Mary. *Today's readings: Acts 18:23–28; Psalm 47:2–3, 8–9, 10; John 16:23b–28.*

