

PARISH CALENDAR

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

The Lord ascends
with the sound of a trumpet!

Saturday, May 15	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, May 16	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 8:30 a.m.	Mass
	..... 10:00 a.m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, May 17	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 7:00 p.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, May 18	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, May 19	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, May 20	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Friday, May 21	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Saturday, May 22	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass - St. Rita of Cascia
	..... 10:00-12 pm	Confession - 87-1511 Nakii St.
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Acts:2:1-11: The disciples are filled with the Holy Spirit.

1 Cor:12:3b-7, 12-13: There are many gifts in the one body of Christ.

John:20:19-23: Jesus appears to the disciples, bestowing peace and the Holy Spirit.

(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-MjmZpe7Cg/

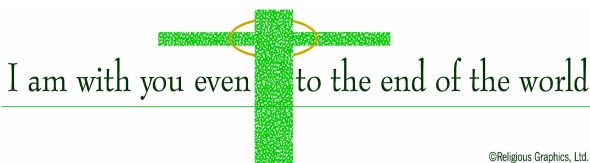
Reflecting on God's Word

These days most corporations and churches have vision and mission statements. Often they begin with a model vision that the institution strives to live up to. They go on to state what the institution seeks to do—how it puts its vision into practice. A parish vision and mission statement might say: "We are the Body of Christ. Utilizing the gifts of each member, we collaborate to bring more and more people into God's kingdom of freedom, justice, holiness, and love."

On this feast we are given the ultimate vision and mission statement for the Church. It goes something like this: Christ is now working with and for us "at the right hand of God" (Mark 16:19). Through the power of the Holy Spirit we are to be Christ's witnesses "to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). We seek to do so by "proclaiming the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15) and "building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God" (Ephesians 4:12-13).

—Virginia Stillwell

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The LORD JESUS
after he spoke to them
was taken up into heaven
and took his seat
at the right hand
of GOD

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAWAII'S MASK MANDATE STILL IN PLACE:

In reference yesterday's announcement on the new guidance from the CDC about the use of face mask [outdoor/indoor] for those that are fully vaccinated, Governor David Ige announced that he is keeping the mandate in place for now. He is reviewing the guidelines and will be announcing appropriate adjustments in the near future. The governor also acknowledged that while it "may be OK and safe" for vaccinated individuals to forgo the use of a mask in public, keeping the mandate in place benefits the broader community.

SO, at this time we will also continue requiring the use of face masks on all our churches, work places and schools. Mahalo!

Deacon Modesto R. Cordero

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN: Today we take up the collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). Your support helps the CCC connect people to Christ and builds Catholic communities in the United States and around the world using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half the funds we collect remain here in the **Diocese of Honolulu** to support local efforts. Be a part of this campaign to spread the Gospel message. Support the collection today! To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/cc

WORD OF LIFE: "Everyone is in need of reassurance, and if we, who have touched 'the Word of life' (1 Jn 1:1) do not give it, who will? How beautiful it is to be Christians who offer consolation, who bear the burdens of others and who offer encouragement: messengers of life in a time of death!" Pope Francis, 2020 Easter Vigil Homily © 2020 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved

WEEKLY READINGS

May 16 Sun: The Ascension of the Lord

Acts: 1:1-11; Ps:47; Eph:4:1-13; Mk:16:15-20

May 17 Mon: Easter Weekday

Acts:19:1-8; Ps:68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn:16:29-33

May 18 Tue: Easter Weekday

Acts:20:17-27; Ps:68: 10-11, 20-21; Jn:17:1-11a

May 19 Wed: Easter Weekday

Acts:20:20-38; Ps:68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab; Jn:17:11b-19

May 20 Thur: Easter Weekday

Acts:22:30; 23:6-11; Ps:16:1-2a & 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Jn:17:20-26

May 21 Fri: Easter Weekday

Acts:25:13b-21; Ps:103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn:21:5-6

May 22 Sat: Saint Rita of Cascia, Religious

Phil:4:4-9; Ps:1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Lk:6:27-38

NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

Before he ascended into heaven, Jesus instructed his disciples to proclaim the Gospel to all of creation. In the first reading, after Jesus' ascent, the angels ask his disciples "Why do you stand here staring at the skies?" The angels want them to look around themselves and be assured that Christ is working through them. The Ascension does not memorialize Christ leaving us. But instead, Christ working through us, his mystical body, his church. As stewards of this legacy, we too are called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our words and actions; in how we live and how we treat others. Are we sharing the life of Christ with others in our day-to-day lives? In what ways do we see ourselves proclaiming the Gospel? In what ways can we do better? 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



Make disciples of all nations
+ baptizing them
in the NAME of the FATHER
and of the SON and of
the HOLY SPIRIT

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SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



Make Us a Gift

Loving Father,
you sent your Son into the world
that we might see you by seeing him.
He offered his life as a gift
for the life of the world.
On the third day, you raised him to life,
a life so powerful it could never again die.
Grant us the grace to offer our lives
as a gift for the life of the world,
so that, dying with Jesus, we might
rise with him.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sunday, May 16, 2021
We Hope to Follow



Today's readings: Acts 1:1–11; Psalm 47:2–3, 6–7, 8–9; Ephesians 4:1–13; Mark 16:15–20. After the resurrection, Jesus appeared again and again over a forty-day period. He explained the Scriptures to his disciples, they touched him, and they shared meals together. Often it took them time to recognize him.

On the fortieth day, Jesus commissioned the apostles to preach the Gospel to all creatures and to baptize in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Sometimes it seems that these first witnesses were the lucky ones. They saw Jesus, heard his voice and teachings, and perhaps even touched his wounds. Having seen, how could they have done anything but believe? And yet until the Holy Spirit descended at Pentecost, they were afraid. They had seen what had happened to him, and even though he had

risen, they could not have been eager to face persecution themselves. But even though Jesus was gone, he had not abandoned them.

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, that we too will be taken up to Jesus because we belong to him. We hope that by believing in Jesus and by living in imitation of him, we too might be citizens of heaven, raised up by the Father.

Our lives become gifts to God when we die to ourselves and unite ourselves to Jesus. May our prayer be one of offering our whole lives to the Father so that dying with the Lord, we might rise with him. Where he has gone, we hope to follow.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, May 17

Transformed by the Spirit

In the reading from Acts, the men begin to speak in tongues after Paul lays hands on them. Our lives should also look markedly different because the Holy Spirit is within us. Where do you see the Holy Spirit at work in your life? When making big decisions, do you rely on the guidance of the Spirit? How can you invite God to be part of your process of discerning your best way forward? *Today's readings: Acts 19:1–8; Psalm 68:2–3ab, 4–5acd, 6–7ab; John 16:29–33.*

Tuesday, May 18

Bearing Witness

As Paul looks at the possibility of his future martyrdom, his words echo the words of Jesus before the passion. Both focused on the people they served, the people who were their mission. Jesus, sent by God, and Paul, sent by the risen Christ, both call all people into the light so that the plan of God might be fulfilled. God is always sending us too. How are you called to “bear witness to the gospel of God’s grace”? *Today's readings: Acts 20:17–27; Psalm 68:10–11, 20–21; John 17:1–11a.*

Wednesday, May 19

Spring and New Life

As spring progresses in the northern hemisphere, the natural world abounds with beauty. Take some time to walk in nature and experience the beauty of God’s creation. Is this a time when it is easy for you to experience God’s presence? How can you take more time for listening in this way? Care of creation is one of our duties as human beings, to whom God entrusted the natural world. Is there something simple you can do to care for God’s creation today? *Today's readings: Acts 20:28–38; Psalm 68:29–30, 33–35a, 35bc–36ab; John 17:11b–19.*

Thursday, May 20

Peacemakers

The reading from Acts portrays an event in which religious people react to Paul’s actions out of their conviction. So stirred up are the factions that they have a difficult time responding peacefully. Sometimes people who love the Church can be like this. Strong emotions arise when people become defensive, when it seems like their ways of being in relationship with God are challenged. Yet we are called to be peacemakers, even as we are called to speak the truth and give prophetic witness. Christ’s peace is received in the Eucharist. How can you live out this call to make peace within the Church? *Today's readings: Acts 22:30, 23:6–11; Psalm 16:1–2a and 5, 7–8, 9–10, 11; John 17:20–26.*

Friday, May 21

Our Lives as a Gift

The number of times Peter declares his love for Jesus corresponds to his three denials of the Lord before the crucifixion. With these affirmations, Jesus tells Peter to “feed my sheep.” No matter what we have done in the past, God is waiting to redeem it. Everyone’s life can be offered as a gift to God, the giver of life. *Today's readings: Acts 25:13b–21; Psalm 103:1–2, 11–12, 19–20ab; John 21:15–19.*

Saturday, May 22

Preparing for Pentecost

Consider planning a celebration for Pentecost. Gather party supplies in red, the liturgical color of the day. The celebration could be a birthday party, since Pentecost is often considered the birth of the Church. Decorate with doves or tongues of fire. Prayer cards could highlight the gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, knowledge, understanding, counsel, fear of the Lord, piety, and fortitude. *Today's readings: Acts 28:16–20, 30–31; Psalm 11:4, 5 and 7; John 21:20–25.*



500 YEARS OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE PHILIPPINES

Hawaii Celebration Virtual Gatherings



APRIL 24, 2021 | Saturday, 10 AM - 11 AM

Speakers: Fr. Edgar Brillantes and Fr. Adrian Gervacio

Topic: Mercy: Today's Pathways to Mission

MAY 29, 2021 | Saturday, 10 AM – 11 AM

Speaker: Dr. Clementina Ceria-Ulep

Topic: Joy: A Convincing Sign of Mission

JUNE 26, 2021 | Saturday, 10 AM – 11 AM

Speaker: Sister Rosalinda Barrozo

Topic: Missionary Transformation

The topics are based on the Pastoral Letter of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines for the Year 2021, entitled: "Becoming Jesus' Missionary Disciples." The speakers will share their reflections on the topics in their pastoral experiences as priests, lay person and woman religious respectively in the context of Hawaii. Participants will be given opportunities of interactive sharing.



VIRTUAL GATHERINGS WILL BE ON ZOOM. DETAILS ON HOW TO JOIN WILL BE ANNOUNCED THROUGH PARISH BULLETINS AND PULPIT

