

## PARISH CALENDAR

Palm Sunday of the  
Passion of the Lord

April 2, 2023

Blessed is He who comes  
in the name of the Lord.

Saturday, April 1	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, April 2	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass <b>(Live Stream)</b>
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, April 3	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
	..... 7:00 p.m.	<b>Rehearsal - Holy Thursday</b>
Tuesday, April 4	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, April 5	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
	..... 7:00 p.m.	<b>Rehearsal - Easter Vigil</b>
Thursday, April 6		<b>NO MORNING MASS</b>
	..... 7:00 p.m.	<b>MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER</b>
	..... 9:00 pm-12am	<b>ADORATION</b>
Friday, April 7		<b>NO MORNING MASS</b>
		<b>PARISH OFFICE CLOSED</b>
	..... 2:00 p.m.	<b>STATIONS OF THE CROSS</b>
	..... 7:00 p.m.	<b>GOOD FRIDAY - THE LORD'S PASSION</b>
Saturday, April 8	..... 8:00 p.m.	<b>EASTER VIGIL</b>



### NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

**Acts:10:34a, 37-43:** Peter preached about Jesus' baptism, the anointing with the Holy Spirit, works of kindness and healing, and his crucifixion and resurrection from the dead.

**Col:3:1-4:** Think about what is above. When Christ appears, then you shall appear with him in glory.

**Jn:20:1-9:** Mary Magdalene and the disciples went to the tomb and found it empty.

**We continue to Live Stream the Sunday Mass @ 9:00 a.m. @ <https://www.stritananakuli.org/livestream>**

### EXTREME LIFE

On Palm Sunday we experience the greatness and the poverty of the human spirit. As Jesus entered Jerusalem, the crowds acclaimed him as the Son of David. But as he stood trial before Pilate, the same crowds called for his crucifixion.

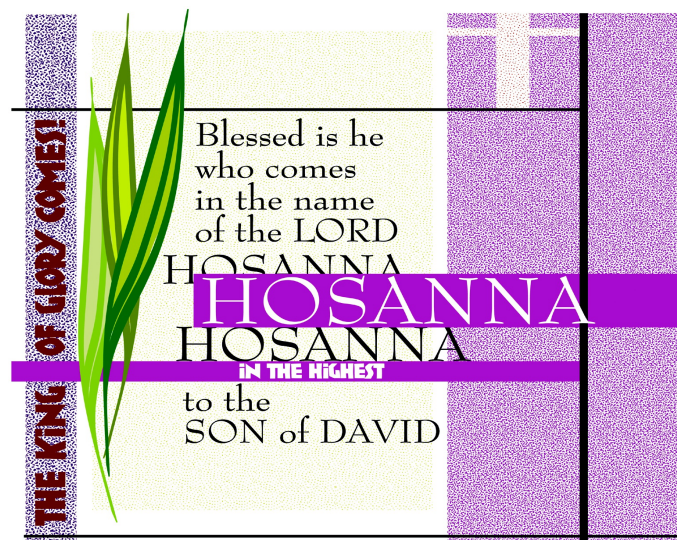
On Palm Sunday, near the end of Lent, we have come in touch with the greatness and poverty of our own lives. Throughout this season we have reflected on our sin, but we have also experienced God's grace in communion, community, and Scripture.

On Palm Sunday, we also hear about the greatness and poverty of Jesus. Jesus was in the form of God, but he took on human form. He had all greatness as God, but he did not cling to it.

St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians says, "Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave." Jesus humbled himself to become like us and to experience what we experience—even death. "Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name."

Sometimes in a single day we experience unfettered joy and inconsolable grief. A child is born, but someone dies. We receive mercy from a stranger, but we fail to love our neighbor. The extremes of human life are vast. But Christ came to us embracing both extremes and all that is in the middle. All, all of human life he redeems and makes his own.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Rachel Vineyard Weekend - Friday, April 28 to Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. Arrive at 5:30 pm on Friday/Departure, on Sunday at 5:00 pm.**

If you or a friend are hurting from a past abortion and are searching for a confidential, non-judgmental, safe place of healing and support to express and reconcile painful emotions and begin the healing process, look no further... and join us on our next retreat!

Both women and men are impacted by abortion and greatly benefit from the retreats. Singles, couples and family members of aborted children have come to Rachel's Vineyard for peace and inner healing. Call us today if you need someone to talk to. To register, contact Lisa Shorba at (808) 490-2571 or email [rvinhawaii@gmail.com](mailto:rvinhawaii@gmail.com).

A fee of \$175/person (covers room, meals/refreshments and retreat materials). Need-based scholarships are available. Space is limited. Registrations are strictly confidential. For more information visit [www.rachelsvineyard.com](http://www.rachelsvineyard.com).

**RICE BOWL: MODERN DAY SIMON OF CYRENE** Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. As we walk with Jesus this week, we remember the countless women, children and men who carry heavy crosses even today: crosses of hunger, of vulnerability to climate change, or of a lack of resources. How—like Simon of Cyrene—can you help to carry the crosses of our sisters and brothers in your local community and around the world? Visit [www.crsricebowl.org](http://www.crsricebowl.org) to learn more.

**WORD OF LIFE:** "Despite our best efforts, it can sometimes be difficult to recognize the profound value of human life when we see its full weakness and fragility. Yet, the faithful care of human life until its natural end is entrusted to every person." *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "The Witness of the Good Samaritan: Palliative care and Hospice"*

## WEEKLY READINGS

**Apr 2 Sun: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

Is:50:4-7; Ps:22; Phil:2:6-11; Mt:26:14-27:66

**Apr 3 Mon: Monday of Holy Week**

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

**Apr 4 Tue: Tuesday of Holy Week**

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

**Apr 5 Wed: Wednesday of Holy Week**

Is:50:4-9a5; Ps:69: 8-10, 21-22, 31 & 33-34; Mt:36:14-25

**Apr 6 Thur: Holy Thursday**

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

**Apr 7 Fri: Good Friday**

Is:52:13-53:12; Ps:31; Heb:4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn:18:1-19:42

**Apr 8 Sat: Easter Vigil**

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

Mk:16:1-7



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## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

### MAHALO FOR SHARING YOUR 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

## 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.

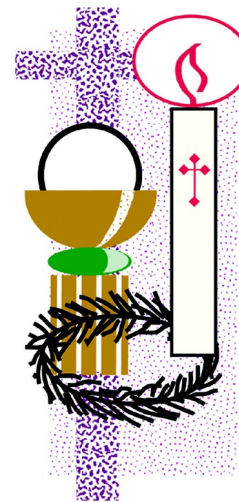
But the speaker does not quit. Nor does he curse God, who gives him these pointed words. He remains firm, committed to the Word God gives him, even in the face of resistance.

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.

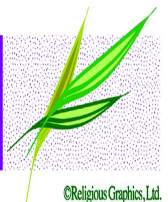
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HOSANNA  
Hosanna  
HOSANNA

Enter into the  
Passion and Glory  
of the Lord



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# PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



## Open Us, Lord

God of salvation,  
you sent your beloved Son to dwell among us  
and show us the way, the truth, and the life.  
His humble obedience in pouring out his love  
for us on the cross  
unlocked the path to eternal life with you.  
Give us the strength to follow Jesus  
through Holy Week

to share in his passion and glory.  
Open our hearts to receive his gift of saving  
love anew  
so that we might in turn share it with  
all the world.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Sunday, April 2, 2023**

## Actions Speak Louder Than Words



*Today's readings: Procession: Matthew 21:1–11. Mass: Isaiah 50:4–7; Psalm 22:8–9, 17–18, 19–20, 23–24; Philemon 2:6–11; Matthew 26:14–27:66.* Today marks a major turning point in the liturgical year, and the way the liturgy is celebrated signals the transition. The assembly processes and waves palm branches just as did the crowds that gathered to welcome Jesus to Jerusalem. In the Liturgy of the Word, we participate in the proclamation of the Gospel account that follows that day, detailing the arrest, trial, conviction, torture, crucifixion, and death on the cross. It is heart-wrenching and mystifying.

In looking back at the last three Sundays of Lent, we recall that Jesus reveals his full identity to the woman from Samaria, the man blind from birth, and Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. On trial, however, he is mute before Pilate. His humility and obedience to God reveal his divinity.

Holy Week offers us the opportunity to walk alongside our Lord from the cross to the garden. This week is sacred. Approach it like a week-long retreat. Make arrangements to fully participate in the liturgies of Holy Week and to prayerfully accompany our Lord through it all.



## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, April 3 Faithful Friends

Mary anoints the feet of Jesus with perfumed oil and dries them with her hair. This tender gesture took place at a banquet held in Jesus' honor for restoring her brother Lazarus to life. We can look to Jesus and his authentic friendship with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, to emulate in our relationships. *Today's readings: Isaiah 42:1–7; Psalm 27:1, 2, 3, 13–14; John 12:1–11.*

### Tuesday, April 4 Wear the Armor of Faith

Both the prophet Isaiah and the psalmist recall the hand of God in our lives from the moment we are created in our mother's womb. The Gospel passage highlights our tendency to forget our origins in God and turn away in betrayal. Reflect on how your Lenten practices have helped you form habits that have strengthened your armor of fidelity. *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, April 5 Spy Wednesday

Wednesday of Holy Week is referred to as “spy Wednesday” because the Gospel reading from Matthew reveals that Judas will betray Jesus. Look for an opportunity to upturn the ignominy of this day. Invite someone to attend Mass with you on Easter. Share your faith in Jesus with someone who doubts. Send an Easter card promising prayer to someone who needs spiritual support. *Today's readings: Isaiah 50:4–9a; Psalm 69:8–10, 21–22, 31 and 33–34; Matthew 26:14–25.*

### Thursday, April 6 Holy Thursday

The season of Lent ends as the sun sets today and the Sacred Paschal Triduum commences. Jesus, fully aware that “he had

come from God and was returning to God,” chooses the intimate gesture of washing his disciples' feet (John 13:5). He draws as close as possible to those he loves. As he did for his disciples, he does for us tonight at the Mass of the Lord's Supper. *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 7 Bend on Knee

In union with Christians around the world, the faithful assemble on Good Friday to recall the final hours of Jesus' life—when he is condemned to die, beaten, forced to carry his cross, and publicly crucified. Approaching the cross, the faithful offer a gesture of veneration. We touch, kiss, bow, or genuflect to the instrument of our salvation. God steadfastly invites us to draw close. Today we do that on bended knee. *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 8 Keep Vigil

We continue our journey through the Sacred Paschal Triduum after sundown at the Easter Vigil. Through Scripture readings, psalms and prayers, we deliberately recount the entire plan of salvation from God's handiwork in creation to Jesus' overcoming the power of death in resurrection. Listen carefully to the story unfold. It is a magnificent synthesis not to be missed. *Today's readings: Genesis 1:1–2:2 or 1:1, 26–31a; 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 or 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18; 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; Ezekiel 36:16–17a, 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; Matthew 28:1–10.*

