

# PARISH CALENDAR

Fifth Sunday  
of Lent

April 7, 2019

From His holy temple,  
the Lord has heard my voice!

Saturday, April 6	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass, Aloha Sunday
Sunday, April 7	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass, Aloha Sunday
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass, Aloha Sunday
	..... <b>10:45 a. m.</b>	<b>Religious Education</b>
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass, Aloha Sunday
Monday, April 8	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, April 9	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
	..... 7:00 p. m.	<b>Leadership Meeting - Church</b>
Wednesday, April 10	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, April 11	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
	..... 7:30 p. m.	<i>Prayer Meeting - Church</i>
Friday, April 12	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
	..... <b>7:00 p. m.</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross - Eucharistic Ministers</b>
Saturday, April 13	..... 4:00-4:45 p. m.	Confession
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

## NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

**Isa:50:4-7:** *God has given me a well-trained tongue*

**Phil:2:6-11:** *He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave.*

**Luke:22:14—23:56:** *This is my body, which will be given for you*

Dear Father Alapaki & Friends of St. Rita's Community,

I am so overwhelmed on the kindness shown and the overflowing generosity with donations toward the Lourdes Pilgrimage 2019 on my behalf! A total of \$3,474 was raised for the pilgrimage!

The moneys will be used accordingly. On April 29<sup>th</sup> and May 8<sup>th</sup>, airfare to/from Honolulu to Los Angeles; as well as hotel and food in Los Angeles on those two nights; and companions' travels from Los Angeles to Lourdes.

With humble sincerity and heartfelt gratitude, I thank you! Your prayers have sustained me throughout the past two years in my difficult battle with cancer. Your generous donations at such short notice will lessen the burden on our family financially for the trip.

And to Laura Manuel one of my many good friends from St. Rita's Parish. . . . Thank you for all that you do for me. Your unselfish commitment of time and effort to be at every Mass one weekend last month on my behalf is greatly appreciated.

Blessings! You are all in my prayers as I embark on this spiritual pilgrimage to the miraculous Lourdes!!

Sincerely in Christ,  
Fran Duhaylonsod

"I am the resurrection  
and the life.  
He who believes  
in me will live... "



John 11:25, NIV



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION:

Thank you for your generous support of the Catholic Relief Services Collection and for helping **Jesus in disguise**. Your contributions make a difference for the poor and marginalized around the world. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Just visit [www.usccb.org/nationalcollections](http://www.usccb.org/nationalcollections), and click on the "How to Give" link on the left.

**OPERATION RICE BOWL: ENCOUNTER ONA:** We encounter Ona in Gaza, where, despite lack of economic opportunity, people pursue their dreams by building businesses to better their lives. How do your daily choices impact others throughout the world? How can your choices support the dignity of workers? Visit [www.crsricebowl.org](http://www.crsricebowl.org) for more.

**WORD OF LIFE:** "God creates every person for eternal union with Himself and continually invites us to embrace a loving relationship with Him. Every person is chosen." *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities 2018-2019 Respect Life Reflection*

## WEEKLY READINGS

### Apr 7 Sun: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Eze:37:12-14; Ps:130; Rom:8:8-11; Jn:11:1-45

### Apr 8 Mon: Lenten Weekday

Dan:13:1-9; Ps:23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Jn:8:12-20

### Apr 9 Tue: Lenten Weekday

Num:21:4-9; Ps:102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21; Jn:8:21-30

### Apr 10 Wed: Lenten Weekday

Dan:3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dan:3: 52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Jn:8:31-42

### Apr 11 Thu: Lenten Weekday

Gen:17: 3-9; Ps:105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn:8:51-59

### Apr 12 Fri: Lenten Weekday

Jer:20:10-13; Ps:18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7; Jn:10:31-42

### Apr 13 Sat: Lenten Weekday

Eze:37:21-28; Jer:31:10, 11-12abcd, 13; Jn:11:45-56

## Bigger Than Life

We might exclaim as we witness surprising, opulent life styles, "What a life!" or "Now, that's living." Well, we haven't heard the half of it. Today's stories are just bigger than life. Copyright © 2004, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

## NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

Strong words come from Saint Paul in today's second reading. He reveals in no uncertain terms that life in Christ is our goal. Everything else, he maintains, is "rubbish." compared to deepening our relationship with the Lord? What about putting recreational activities ahead of attending Mass? Or preferring uninterrupted hours playing the latest video games or watching TV to spending time in a bible study group, choir practice or serving in a soup kitchen? Or keeping late hours at work over sharing the gospel with friends and neighbors? To what extent do we exercise stewardship over our relationship with Christ? (*International Catholic Stewardship Council*)

## Reflection

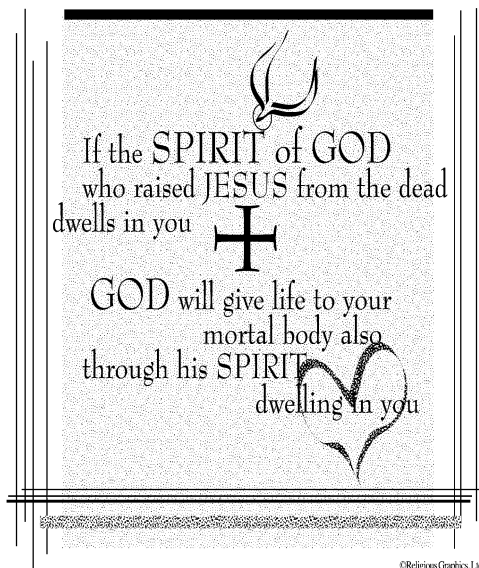
The other readings today provide the setting for this Gospel, which is surely the jewel in the crown of this Sunday's readings. The first reading from Ezekiel speaks of the resurrection of the body—the clothing of flesh on bone, the opening of graves. There is nothing God cannot or will not do for the exiled people languishing in Babylon. The knowledge that they brought exile upon themselves is coupled with the humiliation of the exile itself. Over against the people's despair stands the action of God. When the people think it cannot get any worse than this, Ezekiel goes to great lengths to say what God will do. Ezekiel is the great prophet of hope for the exiled community. The actions of Israel will be trumped by the saving action of God. "I have promised and I will do it," says the Lord. And this is how Israel in exile will know that God is the Lord. Throughout his book of prophecy, after each amazing act of God, Ezekiel adds the affirmation akin to this one, "You shall know that I am the LORD."

The new life so evident in the promise of Ezekiel and realized in Jesus is addressed by Paul. The "flesh" he identifies here refers to a life outside of Jesus' saving resurrection. Jews did not conceive of humans as divided between body and spirit. The division for Paul was between the unredeemed (flesh) and redeemed (spirit). We are expected to live the new, redeemed life that is ours in baptism. More than the physical resuscitation of Lazarus, our new life is a transformation, an entirely new way of being. This is where Christ will lead us, if we let him. Then we can say with Martha, "Yes, Lord, I do believe." . Copyright © 2004, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

Jesus, who has been set before us this Lent as the source of living water and light of the world, is today declared the resurrection and the life. The great signs narrated in John's Gospel lead up to this last great sign. There are other stories in other Gospels of people being raised from the sleep of death—the soldier's daughter, the widow's only son. John does not offer us these miracle stories. He gives us the protracted story of the raising of Lazarus. We may be understandably intrigued by Lazarus, but John keeps our attention focused on Jesus.

The Resurrection suffuses the Gospel narratives. The Gospels are the work of believing communities of the Resurrection. Each Gospel was first proclaimed and passed on through the community's oral tradition. Only later were they written down. The Gospels contain numerous accounts of persons who came whole and alive in Jesus' presence.

In this narrative, Jesus declares himself the resurrection and the life. He makes himself abundantly clear. He says that those who believe in him will come to possess life, even though they will physically die. Physical death is not final. The believer who possesses life in Christ lives with him now and will live with him forever. The person who is one with Christ in life will possess life through and beyond death. Then Jesus pointedly asks Martha, "Do you believe this?" Martha's response echoes that of the believing community at large. She speaks for us, confessing him as Lord, Messiah, and Son of God.



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