

PARISH CALENDAR

Fourth Sunday
of Easter

April 30, 2023

The merciful love of God,
fills the earth!

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|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Saturday, April 29 | 5:00 p.m. | Mass |
| Sunday, April 30 | 7:00 a.m. | Mass |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Mass (Live Stream) |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Mass |
| Monday, May 1 | 8:00 a.m. | Mass |
| | 9:30-11:00 a.m. | Food Pantry Open |
| Tuesday, May 2 | 8:00 a.m. | Mass |
| Wednesday, May 3 | 8:00 a.m. | Mass |
| | 9:30-11:00 a.m. | Food Pantry Open |
| Thursday, May 4 | 8:00 a.m. | Mass |
| Friday, May 5 | 8:00 a.m. | Communion Service |
| | 6:30-11:00 p.m. | Fr. Alapaki's Aloha Party |
| Saturday, May 6 | 10:00-12 pm | Confession - 87-1511 Nakii St. |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Mass |



NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Acts:6:1-7: *There were complaints that certain widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.*

1 Pt:2:4-9: *Christ is the cornerstone, precious to God. All who believe are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own"*

Jn:14:1-12: *Jesus told the disciples that he would prepare a place for them in heaven.*

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

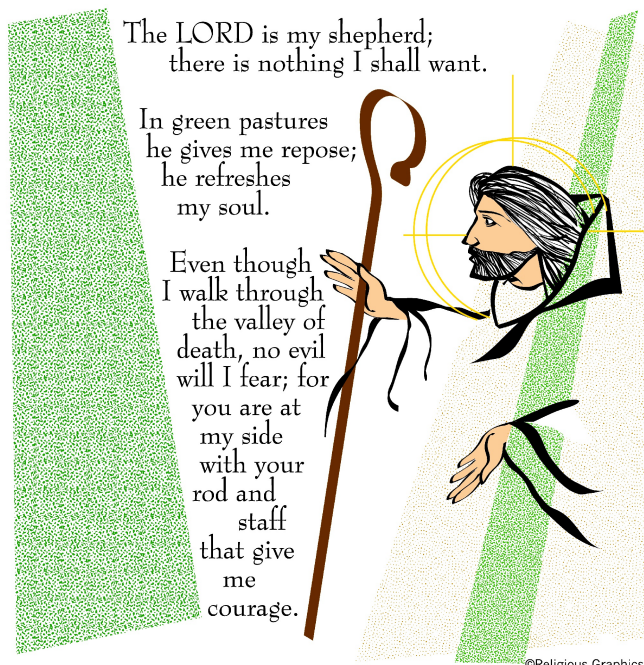
DOING GOOD FEELING GOOD

Doing the right thing does not always feel good. You might take a stand for what you believe. Or you go out of your way to assist someone in need. But even in these circumstances, something can still go wrong. Others do not appreciate your sacrifice. You suffer ridicule. You experience loss. You know it is right to do good, but unfairly you do not always feel good.

The First Letter of Peter says, "If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. For to this you have been called."

The good we do is already a sign of our progress in the spiritual life, even if it does not feel that way. In the past, we may have avoided what is good if it seemed to threaten peace. We might have kept quiet about injustice in the workplace, the offenses of a neighbor, or the inappropriateness of derisive humor. Our silence gave consent. We were like sheep going astray. But in Christ we know better. We do what is right even if it is unpopular. We speak up for the oppressed. We take time to defend human rights. We act with boldness we did not know before. We obtain this strength for doing good from the Shepherd of sheep, who guides and protects the flock. Faith in Christ brings comfort and courage. It makes us feel loved, confident, and strong to suffer for doing what is good, even when it is unpopular.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIOCESAN PRIEST RETIREMENT FUND: Today our Special Collection will be for the Diocesan Priest Retirement Fund. This is a different collection from the *Religious Retirement Fund* that is done each December. In concert with next weekend's Good Shepherd Sunday, we are asked to prayerfully consider giving generously to this collection that will directly support our priest who are in their retirement years. They have given their lives shepherding our communities, and we pray that they are adequately cared for in this next chapter of their lives.

SISTERS OF THE SACRED HEARTS AT REGINA PACIS

CONVENT: The parishioners of St. Rita will be remembered expressly in the prayers and works of the Sisters of the Sacred hearts at Regina Pacis Convent during the week of **May 14 to 20, 2023**. You may send your prayer intentions to the Sisters by phone (808)737-5822, via e-mail; reginasscc@cs.com or by mail to Regina Pacis Community 1120 Fifth Avenue - Honolulu, HI 96816. The Sacred Hearts sisters are Sisters of Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, their chapel is open from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to anyone who wishes to spend some time in prayer. The sister's invite you to join in the Perpetual Adoration at home by uniting yourself with the Sister at adoration in their chapel.

WORD OF LIFE: "People often say, 'I could never handle a child with a disability.' But the beauty of parenting is that you aren't given a child with **a** disability. You are given **your** child with a disability. Your child enters the world in a relationship with you, and that changes everything. You are not called to 'handle' a disability. You are called to love a particular person, and caring for him or her grows out of that love." **USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, A Perfect Gift**
www.respectlife.org/a-perfect-gift

WEEKLY READINGS

Apr 30 Sun: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts:2:14, 22-33; Ps:16; 1 Pt:1:17-21; Lk:24:13-35

May 1 Mon: Easter Weekday

Acts:11:1-18; Ps:42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn:10:11-18

May 2 Tue: Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Acts:11:19-26; Ps:87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn:10:22-30

May 3 Wed: Saints Philip and James Apostles

1 Cor:15:1-8; Ps:19: 2-3, 4-5; Jn:14:6-14

May 4 Thur: Easter Weekday

Acts:13:13-25; Ps:89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn:13:16-20

May 5 Fri: Easter Weekday

Acts:13:26-30; Ps:2: 6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab; Jn:14:1-6

May 6 Sat: Easter Weekday

Acts:13:44-52; Ps:98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn:14:7-14

NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

Saint Peter plays a prominent leadership role in the first two readings, urging his listeners to be baptized and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit; and encouraging them to follow in the footsteps of Christ. We have just renewed our baptismal promises at Easter and the Holy Spirit dwells in us in a special way. Are we good stewards of those baptismal vows? Have we renewed our commitment to follow in Jesus' footsteps? Have we opened our hearts to discern the will of God in our lives? Take some time to reflect on the importance of our baptismal renewal and our lives as disciples of the Lord. (International Catholic Stewardship Council)

GOOD NEWS - BAD NEWS

"What do we do now?" That question arises whenever bad news comes our way. We follow our routine life but then hit a bump in the road. Something we were not expecting has appeared on the path. The road on which we felt so secure does not feel the same any more. "What do we do now?"

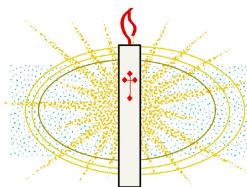
That is how people reacted on the first Pentecost after they had heard the end of Peter's sermon. Peter had just explained to them the core message about Jesus' life, death, and Resurrection. The people swallowed hard because this good news felt like bad news.

Peacefully, they had been following their routines, paying little attention to the message of this prophet Jesus who had lived among them. But then witnesses said he had risen from the dead. They realized the fullness of his message. "What do we do now?" they wondered.

Peter's solution is direct: "Repent and be baptized."

Sometimes the good news of Easter feels like bad news. We regret we did not do enough for Lent. We confess the limitations of our commitment to Jesus. We realize we need the help that comes from his word alone. What do we do now?

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I came
that you
may have life

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We are
the
LORD's
people,
the
sheep
of his
flock

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



The Lord Is My Shepherd

The LORD is my shepherd;
there is nothing I lack.
In green pastures he makes me
lie down;
to still waters he leads me.
He guides me along right paths
for the sake of his name.
Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
for you are at my side with your rod
and your staff that give me courage.
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff comfort me.
—Psalm 23:1–4

Sunday, April 30, 2023
Good Shepherd Sunday

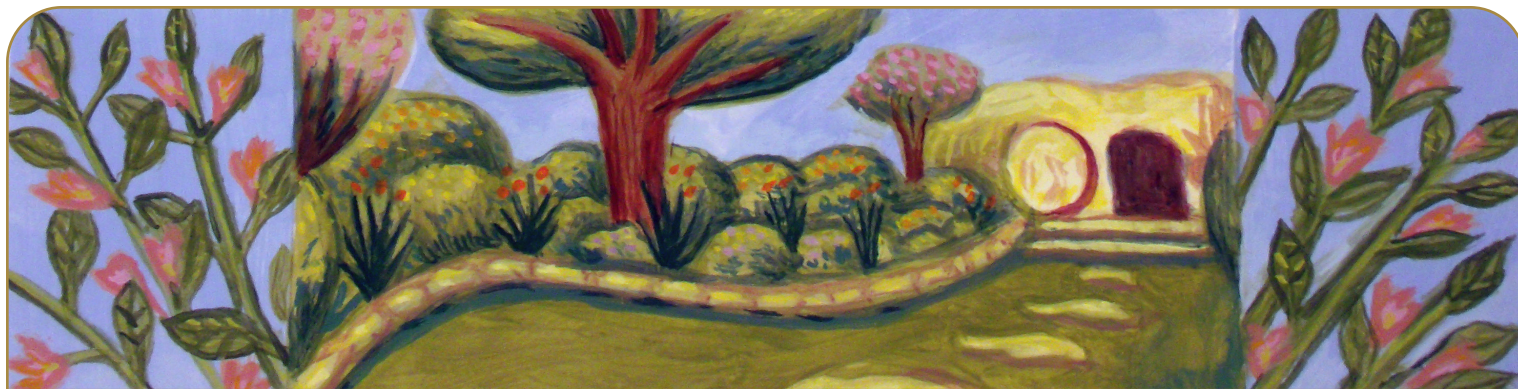


Today's readings: Acts 2:14a, 36–41; Psalm 23:1–3a, 3b–4, 5, 6 (1); 1 Peter 2:20b–25; John 10:1–10. The Fourth Sunday of Easter is often referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday. As part of John 10 is proclaimed, we hear Jesus boldly claim his identity as the Good Shepherd. Since young children are especially drawn to this image of Jesus, faith formation programs explore it to help children discover the voice of God calling each of his sheep by name. This relational analogy of Jesus the Good Shepherd calling his flock by name to follow him through the sheepfold gate resonates deeply. Listeners to this reading can contemplate all the ways a shepherd cares for his sheep, provides for all their needs, protects them, seeks them out if they stray, and

guides their paths. Children easily see themselves as the sheep and intuit that Jesus' offer of love, care, and protection is for each of us.

This analogy communicates God's unceasing desire to be close to us. God entered into humanity and became one of us so that we might know and believe the possibility of true relationship with him. God knows each of us. God knows every part of us. God calls each of us by name. He leads us in right paths and stays by our side as protector and provider.

Good Shepherd Sunday offers a beautiful opportunity to place ourselves in this rich image and discover anew that we are called and beloved by Jesus, our Good Shepherd.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, May 1

St. Joseph the Worker

Today marks the second special date the Church has set aside to lift up and honor St. Joseph, the earthly father to Jesus of Nazareth. As a carpenter, Joseph serves as a model for the virtue of work and provision for his family. He did this quietly, without drawing attention away from his spouse, Mary, or his son, Jesus. His steadfast faithfulness led him eventually to be named the patron of the universal Church. St. Joseph the Worker, pray for us. *Today's readings: Genesis 1:26—2:3 or Colossians 3:14–15, 17, 23–24; Psalm 90:2, 3–4, 12–13, 14 and 16; Matthew 13:54–58.*

Tuesday, May 2

The Father and I are One

Today's Scripture passage locates Jesus in the temple at Jerusalem, once again surrounded by his fellow Jews imploring him to explain himself. We can sense Jesus' exasperation with their lack of perception despite his many efforts to show and tell them his true identity. He concludes boldly, "The Father and I are one" (John 10:30). Take this essential truth to prayer today. Can you empathize with his contemporaries and their struggle to comprehend? *Today's readings: Acts 11:19–26; Psalm 87:1b–3, 4–5, 6–7; John 10:22–30.*

Wednesday, May 3

Feast of Sts. Philip and James

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the path to life. Our key link to God the Father, Jesus came to show the way to experience a relationship with the One who desires to be with us. Through following Jesus to the Father, we also become key links in the relationship chain. The apostles Philip and James were some of the first links in this unbroken chain of those who call themselves disciples of Jesus. *Today's readings: 1 Corinthians 15:1–8; Psalm 19:2–3, 4–5; John 14:6–14.*

Thursday, May 4

The Panoramic View

The pairing of today's first reading and Gospel offers the aerial view of the plan of salvation. Paul paints the broad strokes of God's covenant with the people of Israel leading to Jesus. Jesus echoes his divine role when he claims that his purpose is the fulfillment of Scripture (John 13:18). Step back and take in the panoramic view to contemplate God's plan and our role in it as disciples in this time and place. *Today's readings: Acts 13:13–25; Psalm 89:2–3, 21–22, 25 and 27; John 13:16–20.*

Friday, May 5

In My Father's House

Chapter 14 of John's Gospel is often chosen for proclamation at the Mass of Christian Burial. The words of consolation, encouragement in faith, and promise of a place of rest with God for all of eternity are just the words many need to hear when grief is fresh and there is wonder about the care of our souls after death consumes our hearts. Jesus' assurance to his beloved disciples speaks to us today. Light a candle in remembrance of departed loved ones. Sit in prayer with this passage from John's Gospel. Allow it to sink in and comfort you today. *Today's readings: Acts 13:26–33; Psalm 2:6–7, 8–9, 10–11ab; John 14:1–6.*

Saturday, May 6

Filled with Joy

Luke paints a picture of the disciples Paul and Barnabas as active evangelizers, "The disciples could not but be filled with joy and the Holy Spirit" (Acts 13:52). Pope Francis calls us to follow their example as missionary disciples. The most effective approach is exuding the contagious joy of our life in God. Practice joy today. Attend to how you radiate joy in your words, actions, and gestures. *Today's readings: Acts 13:44–52; Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4; John 14:7–14.*

