

PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday, December 25	..... 5:00 p.m.	NO MASS
Sunday, December 26	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass (<i>Live Stream</i>)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, December 27	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, December 28	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, December 29	..... 8:00 a.m.	Parish Office Closed - Christmas Holiday
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Mass
Thursday, December 30	..... 8:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Closed
Friday, December 31	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Saturday, January 1	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mary Mother of God - Mass
		No Evening Mass

Feast of the
Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

December 26, 2021

Give thanks to the Lord,
call on His Name!

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Isa:60:1-6: Darkness covers the earth, and heavy clouds hang over the people.

Eph: 3:2-3a, 5-6: In Christ Jesus, Gentiles and Jews are co-heirs of the family fortune and co-sharers in the saving promise.

Mt:2:1-12: The magi from the east followed the star until it stopped still over the house.

(Everyone who attends Mass must wear a Masks)

We continue to live streaming the Sunday Mass at 9:00 a. m. @

<https://www.stritananakuli.org/livestream> or

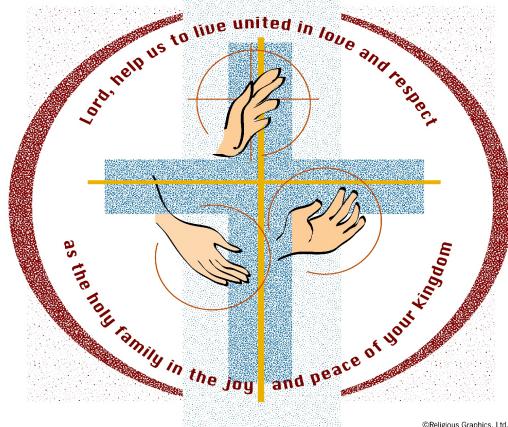
[Https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCepqtr_VuHL7R-MjmZpe7Cg/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCepqtr_VuHL7R-MjmZpe7Cg/)

“A request from Bishop Larry Silva for input regarding the synodal nature of the church”

In preparation for the 2023 Synod of Bishops, Pope Francis has asked every diocese in the world to conduct a consultation process between October 17, 2021 and February 2022. In Hawaii, the process involves discussion of one key question:

How can all the members of the Catholic Church be more effective in proclaiming the living Jesus Christ to the world?

You are asked to discuss this question with as many different groups as you are able (e.g., parish groups and councils, lay organizations, clubs and institutes, households, workplace groups, youth groups, senior groups) Find the full process explained at the Diocese of Honolulu website, www.catholichawaii.org under “News & Events.” Also at the website are Scripture readings, a synod prayer and useful questions to get the dialogue started. Finally send a brief summary of your discussion to <https://bit.ly/SynodResponse> no later than February 28, 2022. Responses will be distilled into a diocesan report and submitted to the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The Vatican will collect the reports from around the world in preparation for the October 2023 Synod of Bishops with Pope Francis.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

WORD OF LIFE: "Like every other human family, the Holy Family had to confront real and concrete challenges. Yet, 'in every situation, Joseph declared his own "fiat" (PC 3). His "yes" to the Lord meant that regardless of the hardship and personal sacrifice to himself, he consistently chose to put the needs of Mary and Jesus before his own. Joseph's devotion helps reveal to us our own call to show special care for the lives of those whom God has entrusted to us." *Excerpts from *Patris corde*, © 2020, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved. USCCB, Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "2021 Respect Life Reflection"

WEEKLY READINGS

Dec 26 Sun: THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

1 Sam:1:20-22, 24-28; Ps:84; 1 Jn:3:1-2, 21-24; Lk:2:41-52

Dec 27 Mon: Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

1 Jn:1:1-4; Ps:97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn:20:1a, & 2-8

Dec 28 Tue: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

1 Jn:1:5- 2:2; Ps:124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8; Mt:2:13-18

Dec 29 Wed: Fifth Day within the Octave of the nativity of the Lord

1 Jn:2:3-11; Ps:96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Lk:2:22-35

Dec 30 Thur: Sixth Day within the Octave of the nativity of the Lord

1 Jn:2:12-17; Ps:96; 7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Lk:2:36-40

Dec 31 Fri: Seventh Day within the Octave of the nativity of the Lord

1 Jn:2:18-21; Ps:96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn:1:1-18

Jan 1 Sat: Mary , The Holy Mother of God

Num:6:22-27; Ps:67; Gal: 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

OFFERING WHAT WE HAVE

If you took a toddler to church and left the child there for the pastor to raise, you might be accused of negligence. But when we hear that Hannah performs a similar action in the First Book of Samuel, we are to emulate the holiness of her family.

Hannah had gone childless throughout her life, but Eli, the Old Testament priest at the temple in Shiloh, prophesied that she would conceive a son. Hannah promised she would give the son back to God. Eli's prophecy came true, and Hannah made good on her promise. She brought a bull, some flour, some wine — as well as her son — and gave them all to Eli. She later bore five more children. The first son, Samuel, eventually succeeded Eli as priest of the temple.

Although Hannah's specific actions would seem strange today, the general intent of her spiritual life remains an admirable model. Hannah asked God for a particular petition. When God granted her heart's desire, Hannah returned thanks to God by offering in sacrifice some of what she treasured.

All our families strive to be holy. Not every mother has a son. Not every son becomes a priest. But every family can learn the basics of a friendship with God. If you want something, ask. If you receive it, give thanks. When you give thanks, do it with a sacrifice of something you treasure.

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The ultimate aim of Saint Paul's Letter to the Colossians is to teach the community how to deepen its relationship with Christ Jesus. His list of virtues summarizes the ideals of communal stewardship: compassion, kindness, humility; gentleness and patience. For Paul, practicing these virtues opens our hearts to Christ as individuals and as a worshiping community. This is how the Christian community ought live. This is how its members should behave in their dealings with others, particularly with fellow believers. As we approach a new year, how might we embrace one of these virtues more fully in order to deepen our relationship with Jesus?"

(International Catholic Stewardship Council)

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 website 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

HONORING YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER

Our first experience of family is dependence. As children we need the help of parents. As children we get lots of attention. We do not earn it. We just receive it because of who we are. Then our eyes are opened. We recognize the sacrifice our parents have made. We see how they thought less of themselves in order to give us life. Our respect for them grows.

Today we remember the care that Mary and Joseph gave to Jesus. We recognize the sacrifice they made. We imagine the many ways they thought less of themselves to improve the life of the son entrusted to their care. Our respect for them grows too.

Sirach proclaims that those who honor their parents atone for their sins and keep themselves from evil. Their prayers reach God's ears. The benefits of satisfaction return to those who honor their fathers and mothers.

The Christmastime feast of the Holy Family celebrates the model of home life, but it also reminds us to honor our parents. Kindness to them will not be forgotten.

How will you honor your parents this coming year? How will you keep their memory?

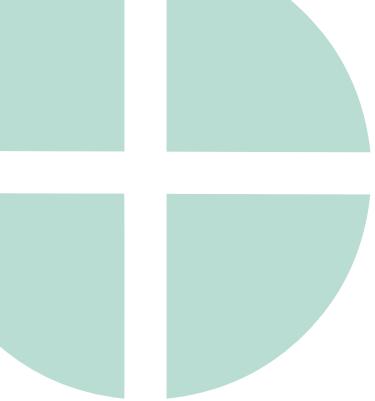
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LORD
Bless us all
in the coming year

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The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

DECEMBER 26, 2021



"Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family and its beauty in God's plan."

—*Amoris Laetitia*, 325

We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family on the first Sunday after Christmas!

This feast day is a reminder to us of the example Mary and Joseph set for all of us in welcoming Jesus into their lives. The Holy Family serves as a model for us all in which to live in faith and simplicity.

Prayer for Family Commitment

Dear God our Father, you have called all Christian families to be a sign of your love to the world.

Help us to be generous with the gifts of life and love that you have showered on our family. May we share them so that our homes become true signs of unitive and fruitful love.

Let us never forget to thank you each day for all that sustains us and to look to Christ, who comes to us in the events of family life, in the sacraments of the Church, and in service to the poor.

In all of this, our family becomes a living expression of your Church, a hallowed home of life and love. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may all of us—spouses, parents, and children—share, as members of his Body, in Jesus' mission to build a civilization of love. Father, we ask this in Jesus' name in union with the Holy Spirit. Amen.



Catholic
Current

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BULLETIN

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



Help Us to Grow

Father,
through the holy family,
you have made all families holy.
You have given them as a model for us
as we walk through life together.
Help us to be ever more merciful.

Help us to forgive one another and
to do small things with great love.
Help us to grow together in holiness.
Give us the wisdom to imitate Mary,
holding all great mysteries in our hearts.
Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, December 26, 2021
All Families Are Made Holy



Today's readings: Sirach 3:2–6, 12–14; Psalm 128: 1–2, 3, 4–5; Colossians 3:12–21 or 3:12–17; Luke 2:41–52 or 1 Samuel 1:20–22, 24–28; Psalm 84:2–3, 5–6, 9–10; 1 John 3:1–2, 21–24; Luke 2:41–52. Little is known about the life Jesus, Mary, and Joseph lived in Nazareth. From the time they returned from Egypt until the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, the only story that appears in Scripture about the family is the founding of Jesus in the temple. A close reading of this text shows that they were observant Jews and they went to Jerusalem each year for Passover. It also can be seen that they traveled with their extended family, so they had other significant relationships in their lives. They had regular family struggles. Mary asks, "Why have you done this to us?" She sounds like many mothers who are

raising adolescents. Their family life is a model for ours, but it must have been very ordinary indeed.

Imagine what that can mean for us.

Jesus knows our hearts and our struggles because he lived them too. God entered into a family and set the family apart as a place of sanctification. The holy family makes all families holy. The family is an ordinary place filled with ordinary love, peace, mercy, justice, and forgiveness. It is a place to grow in holiness. This week, as you go about your routine, imagine how you are connected to Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, across time and space, to their home in Nazareth. If you are preparing a meal or folding the laundry, you are doing holy work, just as they did.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, December 27

St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of St. John, apostle and evangelist. He and his brother were early disciples of Jesus and witnesses to the resurrection. He traveled to Ephesus, where he composed his Gospel and letters, and later wrote the Book of Revelation from the island of Patmos. It is traditional to bless wine and cider on the Feast of St. John. *Today's readings: 1 John 1:1–4; Psalm 97:1–2, 5–6, 11–12; John 20:1a, 2–8.*

Tuesday, December 28

The Holy Innocents

When Herod massacred all baby boys under two years of age, he sought to eliminate the threat the messiah posed to his power. His horrific, violent act epitomizes a truth we know even today: those who benefit most from the world's brokenness and injustice will always oppose the transformation God has promised. The infant Jesus needed protection, protection God provided in the person of St. Joseph. The deaths of the children were profound violations of the law of God. God is the God of life. God raised the infants to be saints, that the profound injustice of their deaths might be transformed: from death to life, that is the way of our God. *Today's readings: 1 John 1:5–2:2; Psalm 124:2–3, 4–5, 7b–8; Matthew 2:13–18.*

Wednesday, December 29

Simeon: Waiting in Hope

God had promised Simeon that he would not see death until he had seen the salvation of Israel. The child Jesus, not yet six weeks old, is brought to the temple to be dedicated to the Lord. What must it have been like for him to feel the fulfillment of the promise? What desires of your heart are you awaiting God to fulfill? *Today's readings: 1 John 2:3–11; Psalm 96:1–2a, 2b–3, 5b–6; Luke 2:22–35.*

Thursday, December 30

Anna the Prophetess

Anna the prophetess "spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Israel." The hope that she has held onto has been realized before her eyes, and she cannot keep it to herself. She goes out into the world to be the bringer of the Good News, to bring hope. When we celebrate Christmas, we are making present the incarnation through which God continues to bring about a renewed world. Christians are to testify about our hope, just as Anna did. How can you share your hope today? *Today's readings: 1 John 2:12–17; Psalm 96:7–8a, 8b–9, 10; Luke 2:36–40.*

Friday, December 31

Word Made Flesh

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." The evangelist John tells us the cosmic significance of the birth of Jesus. Because John uses the language of philosophy and poetry, it can be hard to grasp what he means. But because he uses these elevated ways of speaking, it is possible to approach the inexplicable mystery that is contained in the incarnation. Read today's Gospel. What word or phrase sticks out to you most? Copy it and meditate on it as you pray this week. *Today's readings: 1 John 2:18–21; Psalm 96:1–2, 11–12, 13; John 1:1–18.*

Saturday, January 1

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

"Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." Mary's central place in this great mystery of God dwelling among us led her to a place of contemplation. Though she was the one chosen to bring Jesus into the world, she did not have all the answers. Praying the Rosary, we have the opportunity to contemplate like Mary, deepening our reflection while our words proclaim the memorized prayers. Pray the Rosary today and ask Mary to help you to hold all these things in your heart. *Today's readings: Numbers 6:22–27; Psalm 67:2–3, 5, 6, 8; Galatians 4: 4–7; Luke 2:16–21.*



March for Life 2022
Equality Begins in the Womb
Activities: January 12 – 22, 2022

We Pray....We March....We Pray....We March....We Pray...We March
Choose your day(s) to March....or March with us Everyday

Planned Activities

Jan 12: Opening “March for Life” Mass – Bishop Larry – Co-Cathedral 7 PM

Jan 13 – 14: Novena at your Parish Church (discretion of Pastor)

**Jan 15 – 20: Novena and Jericho March around State Capitol – praying Rosary
(Anytime between 10AM – 2 PM)**

Jan 20: Novena Closing Mass – Bishop Larry – Co-Cathedral at 5 PM

**Jan 21: Jericho March around the State Capitol (7 times) Sing/praising God
(March assembles in front of Capitol 1:30 PM; ends 4:00 PM)**

For More Details

Contact: Your Parish Respect Life

Coordinators or

Catholic Diocese Respect Life Office

vstreff@rcchawaii.org/gstreff@rcchawaii.org

