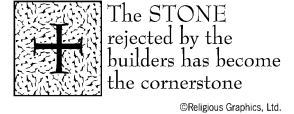


PARISH CALENDAR



Saturday, May 6	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, May 7	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, May 8	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, May 9	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, May 10	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass - St Damien de Veuster
	..... 7:00 p.m.	Mass - St Damien de Veuster
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, May 11	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Friday, May 12	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
Saturday, May 13	..... 10:00-12 pm	Confession - 87-1511 Nakii St.
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass



NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Acts:8:5-8, 14-17: With great success, Philip went to Samaria to proclaim the Christ and work miracles.
1 Pt:3:15-18: Jesus “suffered for sins once.” He was put to death as far as fleshly existence goes but received life according to the spirit.
Jn:14:15-21: Jesus assured the disciples that he would not leave them orphaned but would ask the Father to send “another Advocate” to be with them always.

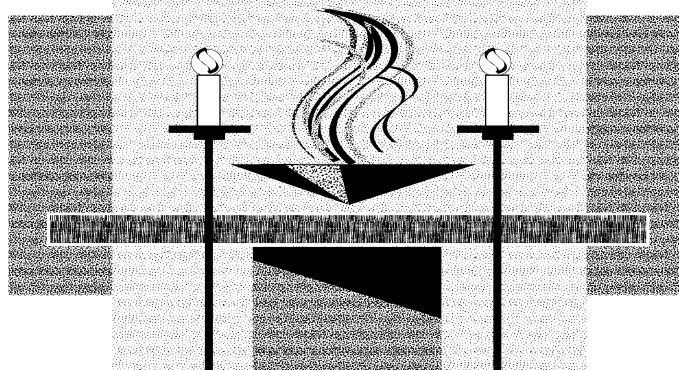
We continue to Live Stream the Sunday Mass @ 9:00 a. m. @ <https://www.sritananakuli.org/livestream>

BEYOND IMAGINING

It started with an argument about dinner. Three weeks ago we heard the happy story of the blissful teamwork among the early Christians. They loved one another, shared things in common, and their numbers grew. Well, the honeymoon is over. As the numbers increased, so did disagreements. It all started with an argument about dinner. Greek widows were not getting enough to eat before the food ran out. The Twelve were too busy preaching to manage meals. But they had to have charity at home if they were to preach authentically, so they appointed seven leaders to straighten out the problems with dinner. That is how we first got deacons in the church. Deacons may have started as table ministers, but they did not end that way. Not long after this story we find them preaching the Gospel near and far with all the fervor of the Twelve. The Word of God spread because of the work of deacons, but it never would have happened if there had not first been an argument about dinner. Arguments do not have to lead to anger and broken relationships. They can lead to solutions with better results than anyone ever imagined.

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We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, a people of the Lord's own,
so that you may announce the praises of
the Lord who called you into the light.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAHALO: We wish to thank everyone who made “Fr. Alapaki’s Aloha Party” a great success. For all those who made a monetary donation those who provided pupus’, desert, paper goods and cases of water, and those who worked on the center pieces for the tables and tent decor, also to those who entertain from the music group and halau. To the clean up and set up crews and the Knights of Columbus who took care of our parking. We especially thank the Committee who worked and planned to put on such a great event. **MAHALO AND GREAT JOB EVERYONE!**

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: “Without a foundational, practical formation, it is difficult for our consciences to guide us well in concrete situations. As Catholics, we have the immense gift of the teaching authority of the catholic Church and can turn to it for help forming our consciences. For example, learning about Christian moral principles, reading the **Catechism of the Catholic Church**, or researching what the Church says about a challenging teaching will help us grow in knowledge of the truth.” **USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, Understanding Conscience**”

WEEKLY READINGS

May 7 Sun: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts:6:1-7; Ps:33; 1 Pt:2:4-9; Jn:14:1-12

May 8 Mon: Easter Weekday

Acts:14:5-18; Ps:115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16; Jn:14:21-26

May 9 Tue: Easter Weekday

Acts:14:19-28; Ps:145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21; Jn:14:27-31a

May 10 Wed: Easter Weekday

Rom:5:1-8; Ps:33:2-3, 6-7, 8-9, 20-21; Jn:10:11-18

May 11 Thur: Saint Damien De Veuster

Acts:15:7-21; Ps:96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10; Jn:15:9-11

May 12 Fri: Easter Weekday

Acts:15:22-31; Ps:57: 8-9, 10 & 12; Jn:15:12-17

May 13 Sat: Easter Weekday

Acts:16:1-10; Ps:100:1b- 2, -3, 5; Jn:15:18-21

NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

In the reading from the Acts of the Apostles we see how the first community of Christians gathered together to discern and resolve how to care for each others’ needs. A good stewards of the sisters and brothers who gathered around the Eucharistic table, the community of faith selected those among them who were to ensure that no one was neglected. How do we resolve to serve the needs of our parish family? How do we ensure that those who might be perceived to be the least of our brothers and sisters are not left alone and neglected. (International Catholic Stewardship Council)

STONES THAT LIVE

A good artist can take something other people overlook and make it beautiful—a leaf, a pebble, or even a scuff or a scratch. An artist knows how to set something simple in an environment where its inner beauty shines.

God is the ultimate artist. God can take each of us, no matter how beautiful or ugly we are outside or inside, and turn us into a vision of glory.

The First Letter of Peter calls us stones, material that can be overlooked or used for building. Jesus was a living stone that many people rejected. But God the artist found what was precious in Jesus the stone. The letter says, “like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices.” If we come to Christ, the living stone, he will fashion us into something remarkable.

Other people may not appreciate our inner beauty. They may not notice the gifts we have. They may not know how we can grace their lives. They may even make us feel useless. But God finds us most useful. We are living stones, pleasing to God through Jesus Christ.

Some people overlook what good Christians think and do. They build arsenals rather than feed the hungry. They sever relationships rather than grant forgiveness. They squander time rather than use it for the good. But God appreciates the good we do and builds us up as living stones.

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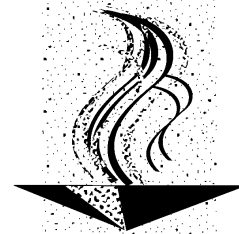
I am going
to prepare
a place for you.
Then I will
return and
take you so myself,
so that where I am
you also may be.

John 14:2-3

Exult
you just
in the LORD

Praise from
the righteous
is fitting

Give thanks
to the LORD



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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



The Way

Eternal God,
you sent your Son to become one of us
and teach us how to be in relationship
with you.

Thank you for showing us the way
to you through Jesus.

He is the great gift of our lives.

Help us remain close

to one another in Christian friendship.

Strengthen the bonds of love in
our family.

Unite us as one in our faith community
and assist us as we seek

to show others the way, the truth,
and the life.

Through Christ the risen Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 7, 2023
The Way, The Truth, The Life

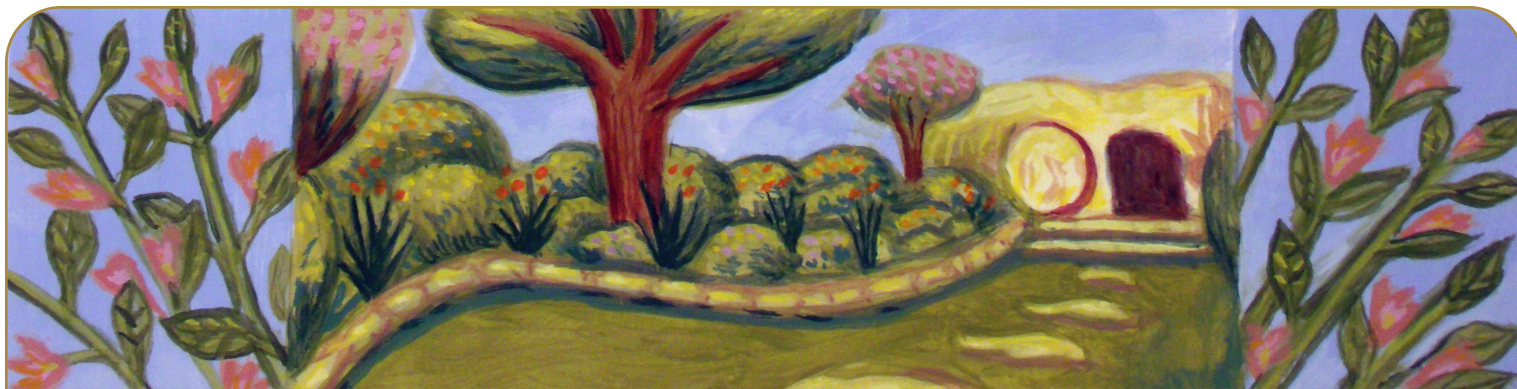


Today's readings: Acts 6:1–7; Psalm 33:1–2, 4–5, 18–19; 1 Peter 2:4–9; John 14:1–12. When we read the words of Jesus with two thousand years of salvation history in our rearview mirror, it all seems clear. Jesus repeatedly tells the disciples exactly who he is, who sent him, and where he is going. He promises his disciples, whom he loved with human and divine power, that they will remain close for all eternity. Human death will not destroy the bonds of love and relationship.

This promise, first spoken to the disciples shortly after Jesus washed their feet, extends to believers across the generations as well. He offers a compass so that we can always stay close. “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6). There

it is: we remain close to God by remaining close to Jesus. Last Sunday, Jesus told us that he is the gate. Today he tells us he is the “way” and the “truth” and the “life.” Follow his way. Believe his truth. And you will have life eternal.

At that moment of revelation, the disciples responded with questions and confusion. But with the advantage of knowing the full story, we can proceed with confidence, faith, and trust. In the opening prayer for Mass today, we ask God to “constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us” that we baptized Christians may “bear much fruit” in our lives and eventually “come to the joys of life eternal.” Persevere in following the footsteps of Jesus, confident they lead to eternal joy with him.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, May 8 God First

Our message for today is captured in the response to Psalm 115, “Not to us, LORD, not to us / but to your name give the glory” (115:1). Across all time people fall into the trap of worshipping false gods and the temptation has only grown with the emergence of social media and celebrity. The first commandment that God gave so long ago spells it out clearly. The first disciples and all those who follow are called to point the way to the Triune God. Attend to how you spend your time today and where you place your energy: Who or what do you place first in your life? If not God, is it time for realignment? *Today’s readings: Acts 14:5–18; Psalm 115:1–2, 3–4, 15–16; John 14:21–26.*

Tuesday, May 9 Be Persistent

Paul and Barnabas demonstrate unstoppable persistence in their single-focused mission to bring the good news to all who will listen. They tenaciously give witness to all the ways God has accompanied and supported them through trials and tests. Our primary call as baptized Christians is to live in such a way that we are constantly giving glory to God. Small gestures count as much as large gestures. How do you give glory to God in the small details of your day? *Today’s readings: Acts 14:19–28; Psalm 145:10–11, 12–13ab 21; John 14:27–31a.*

Wednesday, May 10 Remain

God deeply desires to be close to us. Jesus reveals this desire when he proclaims the he is the vine and we are the branches. Read John 15:1–8 carefully and count how many times Jesus uses the word *remain*. Jesus ardently implores his disciples and all of us to remain close to him. We can see the closeness of God in the new spring growth of branches, leaves, and flower buds. Jesus uses the familiar image of the vine and

the branches to help us visually comprehend the closeness he desires. He is the vine, we are the branches. Look for the signs of God in creation. Can you see them? *Today’s readings: Acts 15:1–6; Psalm 122:1–2, 3–4ab, 4cd–5; John 15:1–8.*

Thursday, May 11 Love and Joy

Jesus’ words to his disciples read like a Christmas card. He encourages them to know and feel the love of God that he knows with his Father. Place yourself in the room with the disciples. Jesus wishes this knowledge of love for each of us. Receive it as a gift and allow it to unwrap great joy in your heart. Follow his example and tell someone you love them today. *Today’s readings: Acts 15:7–21; Psalm 96:1–2a, 2b–3, 10; John 15:9–11.*

Friday, May 12 Love One Another

Jesus’ words move from invitatory to commanding. In this next passage from John’s Gospel he tells the disciples straight out, “This is my commandment: love one another” (John 15:12). Parents say it to their children. Marriage counselors say it to husbands and wives. Pastors say it to parishioners. We are called to stick together as a family with love as the binding agent. Tack the commandment on a note card where you will see it over and over again. *Today’s readings: Acts 15:22–31; Psalm 57:8–9, 10 and 12; John 15:12–17.*

Saturday, May 13 Called and Chosen

When walking as a disciple feels hard, remember the assurances Jesus offered to his followers in John 15:19, “I have chosen you.” God calls and chooses us to be joyful and courageous witnesses in the communities where we are planted. We are not alone; God walks with us. Look for an opportunity to share your faith with someone new today. *Today’s readings: Acts 16:1–10; Psalm 100:1b–2, 3, 5; John 15:18–21.*

