

PARISH CALENDAR

Fifth Sunday
of Easter

May 15, 2022

The Lord
has worked wonder for us!



Saturday, May 14	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, May 15	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, May 16	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, May 17	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 7:00 p.m.	Liturgy Meeting (Virtual)
Wednesday, May 18	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, May 19	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Friday, May 20	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
Saturday, May 21	..... 10:00-12 pm	Confession - 87-1511 Nakii St.
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Acts:15:1-2, 22-29: The apostles and elders, in agreement with the whole church, decided to choose representatives.

Rev: 21:10-14, 22-23: An angel carried the visionary to the top of a mountain to view the holy city Jerusalem

John:14:23-29: "Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever loves me will keep my word."

(Masks are optional but encouraged)

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/

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

A while ago the Lysol® brand of cleaning products was promoting a new toilet brush, one that has the liquid cleanser and disinfectant stored inside the handle. Television became its midwife, promoting it as the new generation of toilet bowl cleaners. The ad concluded with a series of housewife testimonials, the final one of which attested, "It has changed my life!" It was but another appeal to our hidden longing that our lives be made new. Or consider the abundance of television makeover programs, even a surgical makeover—the "extreme" makeover. Each of us in some way longs to be made new, sometimes vicariously and sometimes personally.

One of the paradoxes of life is that the more we seek ourselves, the more we lose ourselves; and the more we are willing to lose ourselves, the more we find ourselves. It is, of course, only another way of speaking about love. It seems to be a simple rule of thumb. If your life is in chaos or disarray, if you find yourself unsettled and discombobulated, then forget about your own life and begin to focus on the lives of others. It is how love works, if indeed love does any work at all. It is love that makes us new. It is the ultimate makeover, simply because God is love.

Weapons and war will never create peace; only compassion will, and justice, and heartfelt care for all of humanity. Punishment and the inhumane conditions of prison life will never remake the soul of one who is incarcerated, only hope for a future and a nurturing of the human spirit will. More liturgical regulations and prescriptions will never bring deepening faith life to our eucharistic assemblies; only love for one another will, and the healing we so desperately need.

—Rev. Joseph J. Juknialis

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIOCESAN PRIEST RETIREMENT FUND (MAY 7-8):

Mahalo for your generous donation to the "Diocesan Priest Retirement Fund." We are truly grateful for your support for our Retired diocesan priest. Mahalo for being there for them. You can still give on online at www.catholicahawaii.org/dprf.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: Jesus says "I give you a new commandment: love one another." Learn how to love your spouse more on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experiences on: **June 24-26 East Hawaii/July 8-10 - Maui/ August 12-14 - Molokai/November 18-20 - Oahu:** Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at www.hawaiiwwme.org

WORD OF LIFE: "Everyone is in need of reassurance, and if we, who have touched "the Word of life" (1 Jn 1:1) do not give it, who will? How beautiful it is to be Christians who offer consolation, who bear the burdens of others and who offer encouragement: messengers of life in a time of death!" **Pope Francis, 2020 Easter Vigil Homily © Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.**

WEEKLY READINGS

May 15 Sun: Fifth Sunday Of Easter

Act:14:21-27; Ps:145: Rev:21:1-5a; Jn:13 :31-33a, 34-35

May 16 Mon: Easter Weekday

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

May 17 Tue: Easter Weekday

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

May 18 Wed: Easter Weekday

Acts:15:1-6; Ps:122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Jn:15:1-8

May 19 Thur: Easter Weekday

Acts:15:7-25; Ps:96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10; Jn:15:9-11

May 20 Fri: Easter Weekday

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

May 21 Sat: Easter Weekday

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

REHAB HEAVEN

Many cities have had to build anew because of tragedies that befell them. Floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, and hurricanes have wiped away centuries of civilization. In times of war, aggressors have done the same thing. New buildings sometimes mask the difficulties of the past, the need that forced a people to build again. Many individuals have personally endured trauma that forced them to start again. They have had to relearn how to walk, use their hands, speak, or think. Whether they endured physical damage to their bodies or emotional damage to their minds, they touched bottom and started all over again.

Near the end of the Book of Revelation, John envisions an entirely new Jerusalem. This one comes down out of heaven, and it becomes the dwelling place of God. The One who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." But new things often come at a price. We may not want to pay, but often we have to. Starting over again is a challenge no one wants to face. Whether your hard drive crashes or your basement floods, no one wants to have to start over.

But when we do, good things can happen. We sort out what is really important. We learn about our capacity for times of distress. And we reinvigorate our belief in the One who brings us from death to life, the One who proclaims, "Behold, I make all things new."

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NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

In today's Gospel Jesus makes a bold and clear statement to his disciples. "I give you a new commandment: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." We are called to love others as a sign of our discipleship in Jesus Christ. That includes even those "others" we might prefer to forget. We are so often tempted to draw lines between those who we will love and those who we consider not worthy of our love. This week take time to reflect on Jesus' love command. How often do we heed Jesus' love command? What change in our lives must take place in order for us to obey this command? (**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 web-site 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

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Everyone needs a little encouragement now and then. When you are hired or chosen for some special work, you feel excited about the new responsibility. In time, though, the work becomes challenging. You doubt your ability to continue. The vision of success fades.

Possibly, everything is all right. When enthusiasm wears down and hard work steps up, it is normal to wonder about success. In this situation, perhaps all someone needs is a little encouragement.

At one point in their missionary journey, the apostles Paul and Barnabas retraced their steps. They went back to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch. They met again with the disciples they had formed, and the apostles exhorted the new believers to remain firm in their faith. Hardships are not just normal. Hardships are necessary, they say. To help out, Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for each community. They also gathered the community to pray and fast at the time these elders were appointed. With organization, prayer, and sacrifice, Paul and Barnabas strengthened the disciples. If you have helped someone in the past, this may be a good time to offer additional encouragement. Ask how it is going. Provide direction if you can. Pray. Fast. Give encouragement to those whose strength may be weakening. It is necessary to undergo hardships to enter the reign of God. **Lectionary Bulletin Inserts:**

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



The Glory of God

Compassionate God,
you shower us with an enduring love.
May we open our eyes and hearts to
your works.

In your goodness, you have promised
to wipe away every tear from our eyes
and bring us to a place free of pain.
May we open ourselves to embrace
your command to love one another.
Grant that we see you in our brother
and sister
and love them as you have loved us,
and in so doing, glorify you.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 15, 2022
God's Dwelling among Us



Today's readings: Acts 14:21–27; Psalm 145:8–9, 10–11, 11–13; Revelation 21:1–5a; John 13:31–33a, 34–35. Have you ever noticed something wondrous for the first time and then learned that it had been present for quite a while? That occurs in our relationship with God and his work in our lives. Often, people are so absorbed with the many events in their lives that they miss the goodness and love that God sends their way.

The reading from Revelation tells us that God has made his home among us: “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. . . . God himself will always be with them as their God.” In his place among us, God is present through

the most difficult times. “He will wipe every tear from their eyes,” we are told. But there is more. “There shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain.”

In the Gospel, Jesus tells us that it is by our love that we will be recognized as disciples. Through our love the presence of God becomes known to family, friends, and the community. Who in your life noticeably manifests the love of God? Make it a point this week to stop for a moment to appreciate God’s presence in your life. Pray for the grace of awareness to be God’s presence for those who most need to know they are loved today.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, May 16

A Healing Love

Jesus tells his followers that those who keep his commandments love him. The love that Jesus proclaims is rooted in the reality that all of us are created in the image of God. This love recognizes our frailty and failures and our need for healing. This love also recognizes the best of who we can be for one another. Such love forgives and provides for healing. How will you show the love of God today? *Today's readings: Acts 14:5–18; Psalm 115:1–2, 3–4, 15–16; John 14:21–26.*

Tuesday, May 17

The Gift of Peace

What does it mean that Jesus offers the disciples peace? Peace doesn't mean the absence of challenges, conflicts, or worry; the power of peace is that it exists in the midst of all these things. The person who is at peace trusts that someone greater holds your life as precious in every moment. Peace can help you put matters in perspective so that, rather than worrying or being fearful, you remember, as Sr. Thea Bowman said, "who you are and whose you are." *Today's readings: Acts 14:19–28; Psalm 145:10–11, 12–13ab, 21; John 14:27–31a.*

Wednesday, May 18

Remain in Jesus

Jesus tells us that he is the true vine and we are the branches. Jesus' entire life and ministry was rooted in his relationship with his Father and his desire is to share that relationship with us so that we can nourish others. The simplest way to maintain our viability as a life-giving branch on the vine is to remain rooted in our relationship with Christ. Prayer and the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, are ways we can remain in Jesus. *Today's readings: Acts 15:1–6; Psalm 122:1–2, 3–4ab, 4cd–5; John 15:1–8.*

Thursday, May 19

Joy

"Joy is the infallible sign of the presence of God," said Teilhard de Chardin, SJ. In today's Gospel, Jesus offers love as the simple ingredient for joy. This love is grounded in Christ. Consider how your life would be more joyful if you allowed yourself to rest in the love of God. Sometimes it is difficult to accept that God offers us his love unconditionally. When we accept that, it is easier to love ourselves and God. *Today's readings: Acts 15:7–21; Psalm 96:1–2a, 2b–3, 10; John 15:9–11.*

Friday, May 20

Loved and Chosen

The Gospels this week have focused on being rooted in our relationship with God. Love, peace, and joy are only possible because of that relationship. Today Jesus adds another layer: he sends his followers out to continue his mission. Today it would be good to pray for the grace to be courageous to accept that we are chosen and loved, and to share the love we have known through him. *Today's readings: Acts 15:22–31; Psalm 57:8–9, 10 and 12; John 15:12–17.*

Saturday, May 21

Reality Check

Today's Gospel offers a reality check regarding discipleship. Not everyone will appreciate the Christian message that you share, and some may rebuke you for spreading the Gospel. Living as a Christian can mean facing persecution. Jesus tells us to remember that he experienced these challenges. When discipleship is the hardest, take comfort in knowing that your witness provides a source of life and hope. *Today's readings: Acts 16:1–10; Psalm 100:1b–2, 3, 5; John 15:18–21.*

