

PARISH CALENDAR

The Solemnity
of the Ascension
of the Lord

Praise the Lord, who ascends
to the highest heaven!

Saturday, May 28	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, May 29	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a. m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, May 30	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	PARISH OFFICE CLOSED - MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY
	..... 8:00 a.m.	FOOD PANTRY CLOSED
Tuesday, May 31	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, June 1	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, June 2	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
Friday, June 3	..... 8:00 a. m.	Communion Service
Saturday, June 4	..... 10:00-12 pm	Confession - 87-1511 Nakii St.
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Acts:2:1-11: On Pentecost the Holy Spirit was sent to the disciples in the form of fiery tongues.

1 Cor: 12:3b-7, 12-13: The apostle Paul wrote that there are many gifts but the same Spirit.

John:20:19-23: Jesus appeared and told the disciples, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. . . Receive the Holy Spirit."

(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/

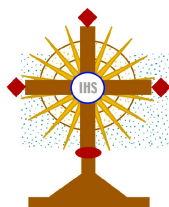
REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

These days most corporations and churches have vision and mission statements. Often they begin with a model vision that the institution strives to live up to. They go on to state what the institution seeks to do—how it puts its vision into practice. A parish vision and mission statement might say: "We are the Body of Christ. Utilizing the gifts of each member, we collaborate to bring more and more people into God's kingdom of freedom, justice, holiness, and love."

On this feast we are given the ultimate vision and mission statement for the Church. It goes something like this: Christ is now working with and for us "at the right hand of God" (Mark 16:19). Through the power of the Holy Spirit we are to be Christ's witnesses "to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). We seek to do so by "proclaiming the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15) and "building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God" (Ephesians 4:12–13).

—Virginia Stillwell

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I am with you
even to the end
of the world

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Men of Galilee,
why do you stand there
looking at the sky?
This Jesus who has been
taken up from you
into heaven will return
in the same way as you
have seen him going
up to heaven.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: "I am with you always, until the end of the age." Is god in your marriage? Participate in a 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

SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION

CAMPAIGN: Today we take up the collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). Your support helps CCC engage and build Catholic communities in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money collected remains here in the Diocese of Honolulu to find local communications efforts. Be part of this campaign to spread the Gospel message. Support the collection today! To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/cc. Envelopes are the back of church and your parish envelope packets.

WORD OF LIFE: "The Lord says to us, "Do not fear: I am with you" (Isaiah 41:10). He speaks these words not as one who merely observes our pain, but as one who experienced immense suffering. And the very wounds that bear witness to his suffering indicate the essence of our identity and worth: we are loved by God. Reflecting on the healed wounds of the Risen Christ, we see that even our most difficult trials can be the place where God manifests his victory. He makes all things beautiful. He makes all things new." **USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "Be Not Afraid" NBRE © CCD. Used with permission.**

WEEKLY READINGS

May 29 Sun: Sixth Sunday Of Easter

Act:1:1-11; Ps:47: Eph:1:17-23 or Heb:9:24-28;10:19-23; Lk:24:46-53

May 30 Mon: Easter Weekday

Acts:19:1-8; Ps:68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn:16:29-33

May 31 Tue: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Zep:3:14-18a; or Rom:12:9-16; Isa:12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Lk:1:39-56

Jun 01 Wed: Saint Justin, Martyr

Acts:20:28-38; Ps:16:1-2a, & 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Jn:17:20-26

Jun 02 Thur: Easter Weekday

Acts:22:30; 23:6-11; Ps:16:1-2a & 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Jn:17:20-26

Jun 03 Fri: Saint Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs

Acts:25:13b-21; Ps:103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn:21:15-19

Jun 04 Sat: Easter Weekday

Acts:28:16-20, 30-31 Ps:11:4, 5 & 7; Jn:21:20-25

NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

Today we celebrate the feast of the Ascension of our Lord, a feast which, in part, celebrates the confidence he placed in his close followers to continue his ministry. In the Gospel reading Jesus reminds his followers of the purpose of his mission, and commissions them to continue his work by proclaiming his word and be living courageously that which they preached. He also promises them the Holy Spirit who he said would strengthen them for the task ahead. As stewards of Jesus' life and ministry, a good question for us to reflect on this week might be this: Has Christ's confidence in the quality of our own witness been well placed?(**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

BEYOND THE VEIL

Most stage productions begin with the curtain drawn. You take your seat and stare at a common curtain. Behind it could be anything — a fantastic set that invites you to a faraway place, or a familiar one that makes you think of your neighborhood. The curtain entices you to wonder what lies behind. When it parts, you are transported.

Veils were once a common style for women to wear, especially at weddings. A man could see enough of the woman through the veil to heighten his anticipation of her appearance. When the veil was lifted, it revealed a beautiful face.

The Letter to the Hebrews uses the image of a veil to help us understand the ascension of Jesus. The temple in Jerusalem had a veil that set apart the Holy of Holies. Only the high priest could go beyond the veil to experience the mysterious presence of God.

Hebrews says Jesus is "a great high priest" who has entered the true sanctuary, heaven itself. And he opened a way for us to follow him through the veil. What was the "veil" to the "sanctuary" of heaven? The flesh of Jesus Christ. The divine Word of God became veiled in human form, and because of this veil, "we have confidence of entrance into the sanctuary."

The Ascension of the Lord celebrates the fulfillment of God's promise to open a way for us to heaven.

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Proclaim
the
Gospel

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SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



The Promise We Cling To

Wondrous God,
you have given us much to celebrate.
Jesus' rising from the tomb
offered victory over death,
giving us hope for eternal life.
As we celebrate Jesus' returning to you,
we pray for the enlightenment
of our hearts
that we will continue to be witnesses
of Easter joy in all the places you
send us.
When challenges beset us,
may we remember the promise of Jesus
to remain with us always.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 26 or 29, 2022

Awaiting the Gift



Today's readings: Acts 1:1–11; Psalm 47:2–3, 6–7, 8–9 (6); Hebrews 9:24–28; 10:19–23 or Ephesians 1:17–23; Luke 24:46–53. Throughout these Easter weeks, the Gospels tell of the risen Jesus spending time with his disciples. As Christ prepares to return to the Father, he reminds his followers of his teachings and recalls what they have seen and heard. During these talks, Christ points out his followers' calling and helps them see that they are truly loved.

Finally, just before he is to ascend, Jesus points to Scripture: "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance . . . would be preached in his name for all the

nations." It would be up to these followers to preach and teach in Christ's name. They would not do that alone, for they were to await the Spirit. While awaiting the arrival of the Spirit, they praised God.

Like those disciples, we too must seek the Spirit as we act as the hands and feet of Christ in the world. In prayer, we ask for the Spirit to guide our words and our actions, for we cannot act alone while doing God's work. Only if we depend on God will others experience our deeds as filled with the love of God. Our reliance on the Spirit in the ordinary moments of our lives makes a difference. Pray for the grace to allow the Holy Spirit to live in and through you.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, May 30

Take Courage

Jesus tells his disciples, “In the world you face persecution. But take courage, I have conquered the world.” When we spread the Gospel, we do so knowing that Jesus has gone before us, and that his persecution, death, and rising, offer eternal life. We do not face the trouble in our lives by ourselves; our faith reminds us that we are never alone. *Today’s readings: Acts 19:1–8; Psalm 68:2–3ab, 4–5acd, 6–7ab; John 16:29–33.*

Tuesday, May 31

Blessed Encounters

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Once Mary hears about her cousin Elizabeth being with child, as she is herself, the Gospel tells us she travels in haste to be with her. Elizabeth’s greeting was both a comfort and affirmation for Mary. Today remember and pray in gratitude for the people in your life who, in times of challenge, support you. *Today’s readings: Zephaniah 3:14–18a or Romans 12:9–16; Isaiah 12:2–3, 4bcd, 5–6; Luke 1:39–56.*

Wednesday, June 1

What Is the Truth?

For his disciples and for us, Jesus prays, “Sanctify them in the truth.” The prayer commits us to being and saying what is true. Pray for the grace to know the truth in your life, and to be a witness of what is true—that is, every human being is created in the image of God and deserves to be treated with respect and dignity. Imagine a world that recognizes this truth. *Today’s readings: Acts 20:28–38; Psalm 68:29–30, 33–35a, 35bc–36ab; John 17:11b–19.*

Thursday, June 2

Being One

What would our world look like if we believed that we are all called to be one as Jesus is with his Father? In and through our baptism, we are united with God and others in our faith community, and because of this union, we are to be a witness to others. How would striving for unity with all Christians change the way you pray, the way you live, and the way you make present God’s love in our world? *Today’s readings: Acts 22:30; 23:6–11; Psalm 16:1–2a and 5, 7–8, 9–10, 11; John 17:20–26.*

Friday, June 3

God Is Good and Kind

One of the songs from the musical *Godspell* was adapted from today’s Psalm 103 “Bless the Lord, O my soul.” The song and psalm remind us to remember the goodness and kindness of God. When was the last time you paused to thank God for something good in your life? When have you felt God’s abundant kindness in your life? *Today’s readings: Acts 25:13b–21; Psalm 103:1–2, 11–12, 19–20ab; John 21:15–19.*

Saturday, June 4

Stories to Guide Us

Scripture is a living, breathing revelation of God’s life with humanity. Stories in the Bible are rooted in a certain time and place. But each of those stories holds a truth that is still relevant today. In our living out of our faith we continue to breathe life into the words of Scripture. Take some time soon to sit down with Scripture, discover the stories of our ancestors in faith, get to know Jesus better, and embrace the challenge of discipleship. *Today’s readings: Acts 28:16–20, 30–31; Psalm 11:4, 5 and 7; John 21:20–25.*





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All Respect Life Coordinators and Supporters
join us to pray for the
End of Abortion and Peace in Our World

Promote the Gospel of Life

The Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH IN AIEA

TUESDAY, MAY 31, 2022

6:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

MASS, BENEDICTION AND ADORATION

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT PARISH RESPECT LIFE
COORDINATORS JARED AND AMY ZICK

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