

Fifth Sunday
of Lent

March 29, 2020

From His holy temple,
the Lord has heard my voice!

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Mat: 21:1-11: Many in the crowd spread cloaks and palm branches before him.

Isa:50:4-7: The suffering one knew the Lord God was with him.

Phil:2:6-11: god exalted him, and all proclaim him Lord.

Mat:26:14-27:66 The passion and death of Jesus.



THE SPIRIT OF GOD DWELLS IN YOU

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**Resources in
Response to
COVID-19**

Resources for Catholics at Home During COVID-19

Many Dioceses, parishes, and Catholics begin to feel the effects of remaining at home due to the coronavirus. Below is a list of websites for Mass, prayers, and daily reflections to help us all during this trying time. Please note, this list will be updated as more resources become available.

Online Mass

Oahu

Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace

Sundays at 9 AM, Bishop Larry Silva presiding

<https://www.facebook.com/HonoluluCathedralBasilica> or www.hictv.com

Sacred Heart, Punahou

Sundays at 8 AM

<https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartpunahou>

St. John Apostle and Evangelist

Saturdays at 5 PM

<https://www.facebook.com/saintjohnmililani/>

St. Joseph, Waipahu

Every day at 7 AM

<https://www.facebook.com/StJosephChurchWaipahu/>

Vatican News Live Stream of Pope Francis' Masses: www.youtube.com/channel/UCxIsefyl9g9A5SGWA4FuGIA

Catholic TV Mass. . . www.watchthemass.com/

EWTN Daily Mass. . . <https://www.ewtn.com/tv/schedule>

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. . . www.nationalshrine.org/mass/

Catholic Faith Network Masses. . . www.catholicfaithnetwork.org/masses

Prayers

Pope Francis' Prayer with Mary for COVID-19 . . .

<https://www.catholicnews.com/services/englishnews/2020/text-of-popes-prayer-to-mary-during-coronavirus-pandemic.cfm>

Archbishop Gomez Prayer for COVID-19. . .

<http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/usccb-president-reflection-and-prayer-during-coronavirus.cfm>

Spiritual Communion. . . (<https://www.archny.org/acts-of-spiritual-communion/>

COVID-19: A Prayer of Solidarity. . .

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/covid-19-prayer-of-solidarity.cfm>

Light a Candle Online (from the National Shrine of St. John Neumann).

www.stjohnneumann.org/faith-miracles/light-a-candle-online

The following publishers have generously made their resources available to support prayer during these difficult days. We thank them for their generosity and pastoral concern.

Liturgical Press:

[Www.giveusthisday.org/Digital](http://www.giveusthisday.org/Digital)

Magnificat: [Www.us.magnificat.net/free](http://www.us.magnificat.net/free)

Bayard: . . . www.livingwithchrist.us/#covid

The Word: <https://wau.org/meditations/>



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPERATION RICE BOWL: Opportunity to Dream: Young people must be provided good nutrition to be able to pursue their dreams. Did you have the opportunity to dream? What can you do to give young people the opportunity to dream? Visit www.crsricebowl.org for more.

WORD OF LIFE: "With great openness and courage, we need to question how to widespread is the culture of life today among individual Christians, families, groups and communities in our Dioceses. With equal clarity and determination we must identify the steps we are called to take in order to serve life in all its truth" (The Gospel of Life 95).

WEEKLY READINGS

Mar 29 Sun: 5th Sunday of Lent

Eze:37:12-14; Ps:130; Rom:8:8-11; Jn:11:1-45

Mar 30 Mon: Lenten Weekday

Dan:13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Ps:23;1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Jn:8:1-11

Mar 31 Tue: Lenten Weekday

Num:21:4-9; Ps:102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21; Jn:8:21-30

Apr 1 Wed: Lenten Weekday

Dan:3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dan:3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Jn:8:31-42

Apr 2 Thur: Lenten Weekday

Gen: 17: 3-9; Ps:105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn:8:51-59

Apr 3 Fri: Lenten Weekday

Jer:20:10-13; Ps:18: 2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7; Jn: 10:31-42

Apr 4 Sat: Lenten Weekday

Eze:37:21-28; Jer:31:10, 11-12abcd, 13; Jn:11:45-56

Bigger Than Life

We might exclaim as we witness surprising, opulent life styles, "What a life!" or "Now, that's living." Well, we haven't heard the half of it. Today's stories are just bigger than life.

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NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

Jesus called to his friend from the dead, "Lazarus, come out!" It is the same call our Lord makes to us unceasingly: "Come out!" Jesus calls us from our tomb of doubt and unbelief from the darkness of our fear and anxieties; from the depths of our weaknesses and lack of hope. Christian stewards pray for an open heart so that they may hear the voice of the Lord, heed the continuous call to come away from their former way of living and reprioritize their lives in the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Do we believe Christ has the power to transform our lives? Do we take time to listen for his call?(International Catholic Stewardship Council)

STEWARDSHIP OF 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

MAHALO FOR SHARING YOUR TREASURE

Reflection

The other readings today provide the setting for this Gospel, which is surely the jewel in the crown of this Sunday's readings. The first reading from Ezekiel speaks of the resurrection of the body—the clothing of flesh on bone, the opening of graves. There is nothing God cannot or will not do for the exiled people languishing in Babylon. The knowledge that they brought exile upon themselves is coupled with the humiliation of the exile itself. Over against the people's despair stands the action of God. When the people think it cannot get any worse than this, Ezekiel goes to great lengths to say what God will do. Ezekiel is the great prophet of hope for the exiled community. The actions of Israel will be trumped by the saving action of God. "I have promised and I will do it," says the Lord. And this is how Israel in exile will know that God is the Lord. Throughout his book of prophecy, after each amazing act of God, Ezekiel adds the affirmation akin to this one, "You shall know that I am the LORD." The new life so evident in the promise of Ezekiel and realized in Jesus is addressed by Paul. The "flesh" he identifies here refers to a life outside of Jesus' saving resurrection. Jews did not conceive of humans as divided between body and spirit. The division for Paul was between the unredeemed (flesh) and redeemed (spirit). We are expected to live the new, redeemed life that is ours in baptism. More than the physical resuscitation of Lazarus, our new life is a transformation, an entirely new way of being. This is where Christ will lead us, if we let him. Then we can say with Martha, "Yes, Lord, I do believe."

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If the SPIRIT of GOD
who raised JESUS from the dead
dwells in you, GOD will give life
to your mortal body also,
through his SPIRIT dwelling in you

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I am the
RESURRECTION
and the LIFE

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



Unbind Us

Father of life, Lord of the living,
just as your Son called Lazarus forth from
the tomb,
so he commands us to step away from all
that binds us.
Revive our sense of evil
so that we will confess the ways
we are wrapped up in sin.

Liberate us from ignorance and apathy,
and enliven our desire for justice, healing,
and peace.

Send us forth to proclaim your saving power
to all who are entombed.

Free us from the death-dealing power of sin
so that we may bear witness to your Spirit
dwelling within us.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, March 29, 2020

From the Grave



Today's Readings: Ezekiel 37:12–14; Psalm 130:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 7–8; Romans 8:8–11; John 11:1–45. At the time of Ezekiel, God's people did not believe in an afterlife. Ezekiel's prophecy would have given some people hope in a future beyond the grave, but others would have struggled to believe. At the time of Jesus, even those who had come to believe in the resurrection of the dead thought God would raise the just all at once and as part of completing his reign.

By raising Lazarus, Jesus reveals God's life-saving presence had already become active in a new, though unexpected way. The spirit of God that sustains all creation, that gave life to the first human being and filled prophets like Ezekiel, flowed outward from Jesus to free people from sin

and death. All who embrace Jesus as the resurrection and the life encounter God's life-saving and life-changing Spirit.

The gift of God's Spirit, however, is not only a promise that God will one day open our graves and breathe life into us again. Our new lives in the Spirit begin now. We participate in the life-giving power of God whenever we work to free those who are trapped, bound, entombed: victims of domestic violence, refugees, the chronically ill, the homebound, the unborn. By standing with them, by standing for life, we reveal the continuing action of the Spirit. God opens graves and raises people to new life, not only in the future but today.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 30 In Our Hands

In the reading from Daniel, Susanna's life is at risk when all are tricked into turning against her. An injustice is almost committed. The woman in the Gospel passage who is caught by the religious elders seems guilty, but we sense another injustice: the woman seems more like a pawn to be used against Jesus than someone deserving of deadly punishment. Both passages warn us against making hasty judgments. The next time you disagree with someone, ask questions that help you understand that person's point of view. *Today's Readings: Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; John 8:1-11.*

Tuesday, March 31 From Above

God does not merely oppose sin and death, he subverts it. When the Israelites repent of their ingratitude, God turns the object of their punishment into an instrument of healing. Centuries later, Jesus turns the cross, an instrument of death and a symbol of Roman power, into the means of salvation and freedom. Most of all, by dying, Jesus turns death into life. Spend some time today reverencing a crucifix. *Today's Readings: Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21; John 8:21-30.*

Wednesday, April 1 The Living Truth

When the king orders the three men thrown into the furnace, the men enter the fire knowing that their allegiance is to the God of Israel and no one else. By embracing that truth, the men are saved from a fiery death. Because Jesus is the Son of God, those who believe in him, who embrace who he is, will be saved from death forever. Pray with Daniel 3:52-90 or write your own hymn of praise. *Today's Readings: Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; John 8:31-42.*

Thursday, April 2 Unlikely as It Sounds

God's extraordinary promises to Abraham seemed laughable. When Sarah gave birth to Isaac, however, Abraham and Sarah would have laughed for joy. In the Gospel reading, the response is far more serious when Jesus speaks of what God will do. In both cases, people struggle to believe God's word. What God says frequently astounds and challenges us. How has God astounded or challenged you this Lenten season? *Today's Readings: Genesis 17:3-9; Psalm 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; John 8:51-59.*

Friday, April 3 Blasphemous Works

Although we think of Jesus as an innocent victim, his opponents followed the law when charging him with blasphemy: Jesus claimed a relationship with God that surpassed all others. In response to his opponents, Jesus asks that they examine his ministry to see if his works conform to the will of God. Jeremiah, likewise, expressed his confidence that he had faithfully answered God's call. What do your works say about you? *Today's Readings: Jeremiah 20:10-13; Psalm 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7; John 10:31-42.*

Saturday, April 4 Dwelling

In Ezekiel's prophecy, God declares that he will gather all his people displaced by war, ensure their security, and dwell with them forever. In Jesus, however, God comes to his people before they and the land are ready. The people are divided and a foreign nation occupies their land. God often comes to us when we are unprepared, but perhaps that is the very reason God arrives. Without God's guidance, we would never be ready for God to dwell with us. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, confess the ways you are unprepared for God. *Today's Readings: Ezekiel 37:21-28; Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13; John 11:45-56.*





ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII
DIOCESE OF HONOLULU
WITNESS TO JESUS

Creating a Sacred Home Environment for the Live-Stream Viewing of Mass

Fourth & Fifth Sundays of Lent: March 22 & 29, 2020

In the days prior to Sunday Mass:

- Read the Sunday readings from the Holy Bible at <http://usccb.org/bible/readings>
- If preferred, listen to the proclamation of the readings at <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings-audio.cfm>
- Parents of young children: help your child prepare for the Mass readings by watching/discussing the child-friendly video at https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCJ-wlL3_xXbF--5a9rW3sg
- Consider setting up your online viewing area to allow for standing, sitting, kneeling.
- Set up a simple sacred space near your online viewing area to include a crucifix and Holy Bible. Additional touches would include a candle and purple cloth (the liturgical color for Lent) to adorn your sacred space.
- If needed, provide sufficient copies of the Mass texts for Lent. (Refer to the Mass texts on pp. 2 -3 of this document.)

Before Mass:

- Dress as you would for Mass - your Sunday best! Gather reverently at your viewing area and sacred space a few minutes early.

During the live-stream:

- Participate in the Mass, following the Mass texts.
- During the Communion rite – when we would receive the Precious Body and Blood of Christ – recite the Spiritual Communion prayer (provided in the Mass texts document below.)

After Mass:

- Share ways that you will live the gospel in the days ahead. Share the Good News with others through social media.

Mass Texts in the Season of Lent

Penitential Rite

Priest: Invocation..Lord have mercy. All: Lord, have mercy.

P: Invocation..Christ have mercy. All: Christ, have mercy.

P: Invocation..Lord have mercy. All: Lord, have mercy.

Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
[bow] *and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.*

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son
is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Preface Dialogue

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit

Lift up your hearts, We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. It is right and just.

Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Memorial Acclamation

When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come again.

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Save us, Savior of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love you above all things and I desire you with all my heart.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already in my heart
and unite myself to you completely.
Please do not let me ever be separated from you.