

St. Rita Catholic Church

**89-318 Farrington Hwy.
Nanakuli, Hawaii 96792**

**Parish Office: (808) 668-7833
Website: <http://www.stritananakuli.org>**

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Pastor: | Rev. Paulo Kosaka, OFM Cap | |
| Deacon: | Deacon Harold S. Levy, Jr. | |
| Office Manager: | Mele Ahuna | |
| Bookkeeper: | Lalla Andres | |
| Religious Education: | Karen Victor | 808-672-5437 |
| O. C. I. A. | Don Gerry | 860-908-5954 |
| Youth Minister: | Ivan Okuda | 808-3086261 |
| Knights of Columbus: | Bill Kozak | 609-381-1193 |
| Outreach Coordinator: | Carlin Ujimori-Kaeo | 808-668-7833 |
| Outreach/Facsimile/Prayer-line | | 808-668-7716 |

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday at **5:00 PM**

Sunday at **7:00 AM, 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM**

Confessions: Saturday from 3:15 to 4:00 PM *at the church* or by appointment

Infant Baptism: Contact Parish Office

Sacrament of Matrimony: Contact the Pastor 6 months before the wedding date for an appointment.

Funerals: Contact the Pastor before going to the Mortuary

We, the people of God of St. Rita Parish in Nanakuli, are united in our belief and in our commitment to Jesus Christ. In the spirit of aloha we respond to Christ's mission of love and freedom with our care, concern and communal action. This is expressed in the stewardship of our treasure through tithing and in the gift of our time and talents through shared ministries.

As a fast growing rural parish with a large Hawaiian population we feel a special calling to stand together in truth and justice for indigenous people of this land. As part of the universal Church, our outreach extends beyond our boundaries to the global community and we affirm the human dignity of all peoples. As a parish family we enthusiastically participate in bringing about God's reign of peace. We continue to evangelize, welcome and invite all of God's people to St. Rita Parish.

IF YOU ARE NEW TO THE PARISH HAVE A NEW PHONE NUMBER
 HAVE A NEW ADDRESS NEED OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

NAME _____ PHONE(HM) _____ (WK.) _____

ADDRESS _____
 STREET CITY STATE/ZIP

Second Sunday of Lent

March 1, 2026

Redeem us, O God of Israel!

PARISH CALENDAR

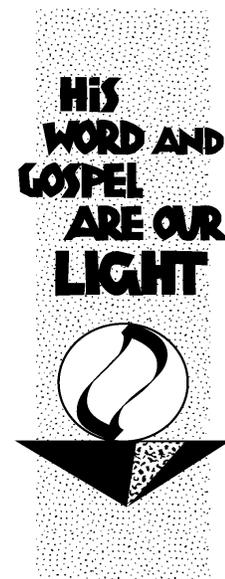
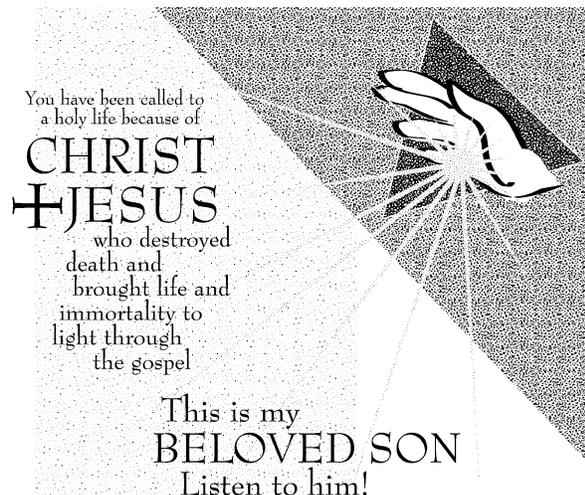
| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Saturday, February 28 | 5:00 p.m. | Mass, Aloha Sunday |
| Sunday, March 1 | 7:00 a.m. | Mass, Aloha Sunday |
| | 9:00 a. m. | Mass (Live Stream) Aloha Sunday |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Mass, Aloha Sunday |
| Monday, March 2 | 7:30 a.m | Liturgy of Hours/Rosary |
| | 8:00 a.m. | Mass |
| Tuesday, March 3 | 7:30 a.m | Liturgy of Hours/Rosary |
| | 8:00 a.m. | Mass |
| Wednesday, March 4 | 7:30 a.m | Liturgy of Hours/Rosary |
| | 8:00 a. m | Mass |
| | .. 9:30am -11:30 am | Food Pantry Open |
| | 7:00 p. m. | Pastoral Council Meeting - Kamiano Trailer |
| Thursday, March 5 | 8:00 a.m | Communion Service |
| Friday, March 6 | 7:30 a.m | Liturgy of Hours/Rosary |
| | 8:00 a. m | First Friday Mass |
| | 9:00 a. m.-7:00 p.m | First Friday Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament |
| | 7:00 p. m. | Station of the Cross - Prayer Group |
| Saturday, March 7 | 8:00 a. m | First Saturday Mass |
| | 3:15-4:00 p.m. | Confession - Church |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Mass |

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Ex:17:3-7: *The Israelites grumbled against Moses for leading them out of Egypt. They were thirsty, and there was no water in the desert, so Moses struck a rock with his staff, and water flowed out for the people to drink.*

Rm:5:1-2, 5-8: *“The love of God has been poured out into our hearts,” and that love is immeasurable; “While we were still sinners Christ died for us.”*

Jn:4:5-42: *Jesus met a Samaritan woman at the well. She offered him water from the well, and he, in turn, offered her the living water of eternal life. As a result, she and many others came to know that Jesus is the Savior.*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CRS RICE BOWL: EMPOWERING GROWTH IN

GHANA: By supporting CRS Rice Bowl, you help parents and caregivers in Ghana to receive training in health, nutrition and early childhood development. That means, young children in these communities are better able to thrive and meet critical milestones in their growth. Visit www.crsricebowl.org/week-1 to read this week's. Story of Hope.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: Today we hear the story of the Transfiguration, where the disciples saw Jesus in a dazzling new light. When was the last time you truly looked at your spouse and saw the radiant gift God gave you? A Marriage Encounter weekend can help you see each other with fresh eyes. **The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience is a non-residential weekend, April 24-26, on Oahu.** This "commuter" weekend is ideal for couples who want to return to their families each evening. Two other weekend experiences are scheduled in Hawaii this year. To apply or for more information, visit www.hawaiiwwme.org or contact Brian and Claudine Perry at (808) 276-5721. Space is limited.

WORD OF LIFE: *"The Gospel of Life is "meant to be a precise and vigorous reaffirmation of the value of human life and it's inviolability, and at the same time a pressing appeal addressed to each and every person, in the name of God: respect, protect, love and serve life, every human life! Only in this direction will you find justice, development, true freedom, peace and happiness!" (The Gospel of Life 5)*

WEEKLY READINGS

Mar 01 Sun: 2nd Sunday of Lent

Gn:12:1-4a; Ps:33; 2 Tm:1:1b-10; Mt:17:1-9

Mar 02 Mon: Lenten Weekday

Dn:9:4b-10; Ps:79:8, 9, 11, & 13; Lk:6:36-38

Mar 03 Tue: Lenten Weekday

Is:1:10, 16-20; Ps:50: 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 & 23; Mt:23:1-12

Mar 04 Wed: Lenten Weekday

Jer:18:18-20; Ps:31: 5-6, 14, 15-16; Mt:20:17-28

Mar 05 Thur: Lenten Weekday

Jer:17; 5-10; Ps:1:1-2, 3, 4, & 6; Lk:16:19-31

Mar 06 Fri: Lenten Weekday

Gn:37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Ps:105: 16-17, 18-19, 20-21; Mt:21: 33-43, 45-46

Mar 07 Sat: Lenten Weekday

Mi:7:14-15, 18-20; Ps:103: 1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Lk:15:1-3, 11-32



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sunday Collection | \$ 4, 884.00 |
| Ash Wednesday | 1, 471.60 |
| Candles | 85.00 |
| Mass Intentions | 80.00 |
| Outreach | 45.00 |
| Prayers for the Sick | 25.00 |
| Total | \$ 6, 590.60 |

RESTRICTED COLLECTIONS

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Building Fund | \$ 695.00 |
| Repairs & Maintenance | 5.00 |
| Total | \$ 700.00 |

MAHALO FOR SHARING YOUR TREASURE

www.BCCHawaii.com

I OFFER MY LIFE

Retreat

What does it mean to truly hold nothing back?

In the hustle of daily life, we often offer only pieces of ourselves—our time, our energy, our spare moments.

But what happens when we offer the whole?

Join us for a transformative weekend retreat, where we will explore the profound theme: "I Offer My Life."

This is an invitation to pause, breathe, and surrender the burdens of control.

Through quiet reflection, guided sessions, and shared community, we will explore what it means to live a life fully offered—in service, in love, and in faith.

MARCH 20-22, 2026 in Honolulu



Funeral Photo & Video Services

"Preserve memories of the love shared, the stories told, & the legacy of loved ones."

Photography♥Videography
Memorial Slideshow♥Drone

★Earn rewards for referrals

•\$150 for every successful photo AND video referral.

•\$100 for every successful photo OR video referral.

Rewards require a minimum 4-hour booking.

www.visionaryviewsllc.com/funeral



Jerome Adarna Jr.
(808)342-7508
Jerome@visionaryviewsllc.com



This bulletin is made possible by your advertisers at ***no cost*** to the church. Please consider advertising and support the advertisers whenever possible. Call (808) 674-8388 for advertising space.



MILL TOWN DENTAL CLINIC

DR. MARILOU CABALO CABABAT



OUR SERVICES :

- ✔ Family & Cosmetic Dentistry
- ✔ White Fillings, Same Day Crowns
- ✔ Digital Dental Office
- ✔ Metal Free Dentures
- ✔ Implants
- ✔ Invisalign

(808) 678-8300

Located at the
Filipino Community Center in Waipahu

OFFICE HOURS

Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri
8am-12pm and 1pm-5pm
Closed Wednesday

Weekend Appointments Available



- Most Insurances Accepted, Including Devoted Plans
- Payment Options Available
- No Insurance, No Problem! Ask about our New Patient Special!

Armas 
Financial Services

I can help with your:

- Medicare Advantage Plans
- Prescription Drug Plans
- Medicare Supplemental Plans
- Dental Plans & Vision Plans
- Life Insurance & Final Expense

**NO-Cost Consultation with
NO Obligation to Enroll**



Angie Armas
808-382-6290
8am - 5pm

94-210 Pupukahi St. Ste. 203, Waipahu



Professional Image

PRINTING • COPYING • GRAPHICS

Making Hawaii Look Good In Print

- ◆ Color Copies
- ◆ B/W Copies
- ◆ Bindery/Finishing
- ◆ Litigation Copying
- ◆ Document Scanning
- ◆ Offset Printing
- ◆ Mounting, Laminating
- ◆ Oversize B/W & Color
- ◆ Graphic Design/Layout
- ◆ CD, DVD, USB Duplication
- ◆ U.S. Postal Service Partner
- ◆ and More!

KAPOLEI MARKETPLACE • 590 FARRINGTON HWY
MON THRU FRI: 8AM-7PM • SAT: 9AM-4PM
TEL: 674-8388 • KAPOLEI@PROIMAGEHAWAII.COM

WORSHIP, LIVE, LEARN, OR WORK IN WAIPAHU?

Call and make an appointment to visit our caring, friendly staff at our Waipahu Community Office and become a member!

Building Better Financial Futures



MATANUSKA VALLEY
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
HAWAII ALASKA

Federally insured by NCUA 

Phone: 677-6206

94-226 Leoku St., #4,
Waipahu, HI
www.mvfcu.coop



Alissa F. Jose
Assistant Office
Manager
Email: josea@mvfcu.coop

Second Sunday of Lent A March 1, 2026

Ka Leo O Ke Kahuhipa – Aloha ‘Ohana Aloha Nu’ia

Scripture Reflections

Old Testament: Genesis 12:1-4a Background Context: The First Reading taken from **Book of Genesis** presents to us, the call of **Abram**. At the time of **Abram** in the ancient Near East, family, land and ancestors were central to one’s identity and security. (***Abram** would later be called **Abraham** meaning father of many nations Genesis 12: 17).

When God told **Abram** to leave his country of **Ur of Chaldees – Ur-Kasdim**, his kinsfolk, and his father’s house it was not a small command. It meant leaving behind security, status and certainty and trusting completely in God’s command and promise. This passage marks a turning point in the Scriptures.

In the ancient world people were often superstitious and they feared God, until now people felt distant from God. But God took the initiative and drawing close called one person, **Abram** to begin a new journey of faith and blessing for the whole world. God’s call is clear but open ended, **“Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father’s house to a land I will show you.” Genesis 12:1.**

Abram is not given a map or full details, instead he is given a promise of land, of blessing, of great future. **“I will make you a great nation and I will bless you...and all the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you.” Genesis 12:3.** Most importantly, God statement made it clear that through **Abram** and his obedience all the peoples of the world would be blessed.

Application to Life: **Abram’s** journey is not just for himself; it is for others. In the context of **Lent** this reading gives us a lot to reflect on. **Lent** is a time of leaving behind what holds us back and moving toward God with trust. Like **Abram** we are called to step out of our comfort zones, habits, attitudes, or securities that keep us from growing in faith as God invites us.

God may not tell us exactly where our spiritual journey of repentance and conversion will lead, but God assured us of His presence to assist us. What was **Abram’s** response? The Scripture simply states, **“So Abram went as the Lord had directed him.” Genesis 12:4.** **Abram** does not argue or delay, he simply trusted and obeyed.

This **Lent** we are invited to imitate **Abram’s** faith, to listen, to trust and to take the step necessary to follow God’s divine plan. God is calling us to this **Lent** and like Abram, our

obedience can be a source of blessings not only for ourselves but for others as well. **What things or persons** hinders our spiritual journey; God is asking to us to leave behind this **Lent?**

New Testament: 2 Timothy 1:8a-10 Background Context: St. **Paul** wrote to **Timothy** his young companion in Ephesus at the time **Paul** was in prison and knew his life may soon end. **Paul** knew that **Timothy** was facing fear, pressure and opposition as the leader of the early church community in Ephesus. **Paul** encouraged Timothy **“beloved bear your hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.” 2Tim 1: 8b.**

Paul encouraged **Timothy** not to be ashamed of the Gospel or of **Paul’s** suffering but to remain faithful and be courageous in his ministry in Christian community in Ephesus. **Paul** reminded **Timothy** that suffering for the Gospel is not meaningless. It is shared **“with the strength that comes from God.” 2 Timothy 1:** Christian life is not always easy, but we are never alone and God provides the strength we need to be faithful.

Application to Life: The God who called us also gave us abundance of His grace to endure our daily challenges to be faithful to our Christian faith. We are reminded by **Paul** as he did for **Timothy** that our faith is not based on our own ability but on God’s power working within us. **Paul** then spoke further about God’s great plan of salvation.

God saved us in **Jesus Christ** and called us to a holy life, not because of our good works but because of God’s own purpose and grace, given to us in **Jesus Christ** before the world began. What an amazing love we have received from God that we are in the plan of God before we even came to be! It is so important in our daily life that we spend few minutes before we go about our daily task to first pray. Then in the evening before we rest for the day to pray, for only by doing so we can truly come to the awareness and blessedness that is ours as God’s children.

This grace of who we are was given to us through **Jesus Christ** before the time began, death has been defeated and life and immortality has been brought to light. For many people death is the greatest fear. It has shaped how they live, what they pursue, and what they avoid. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we do not need to fear death nor let our frailty discourage us. We are to unite all our daily crosses we bear with Jesus Christ.

For the faithful, death is no longer the dead end, because of **Jesus Christ** life has a purpose and meaning beyond this world we see or touch. Let us not be afraid to speak and share our own faith at home or at work. Let us overcome our fear of being different or perhaps suffering failure on our part, for knowing we are weak and sinner too. **Paul** invites

us to rely not on our own strength but on God's power. Most of all when we fall, we are to rise again and go forward and strive to be faithful.

This **Lent** let us strive to trust that Jesus has already overcome death, that we can live with greater freedom, courage and confidence, to face many of our life's challenges and most of all by the Sacrament of Reconciliation we can always again recommit our lives to Jesus Christ as His disciple.

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9 Background Context: In the gospel taken from Matthew, we see that Jesus took **Peter, James and John** and led them up the high mountain by themselves. They were chosen by Jesus to witness firsthand who Jesus truly is, the "**the beloved Son of God**".

The amazing event of the **Transfiguration** was shared with **Peter, James and John** not because they deserved it more than other disciples but because they were to be equipped to witness firsthand the horrible passion of Jesus which they were to intimately witness and share in the Garden of Gethsemane.

For in the Garden of Gethsemane the same disciples were led by Jesus closer by Him, to watch and pray with Him. The sorrowful and broken face of Jesus' humanity will be revealed. Sadly **Peter, James and John** fell asleep, failing to keep watch as Jesus requested.

The **glory of Transfiguration** happened at a crucial moment - time, just after Jesus had spoken about His coming suffering, rejection and death on the cross. Jesus revealed His glory to strengthen to them before, His passion. The light on the mountain prepared them for the darkness of the cross.

Application to Life: Transfiguration reminds us that suffering is not the end of the story.

This momentary vision of Jesus in His glory was given to strengthen **Peter, James and John** to face trials awaiting them and to strengthen their faith, which the sufferings and crucifixion of Jesus would bring. For the very same reason, it is retold to us today, in the early part of our Lenten journey, to encourage us to persevere in our **Lenten** sacrifices. It reminds us that very soon, the Easter glory will be upon us.

We like **Peter**, having experienced such glory, desired to remain on the high mountain. Such desire reflects our human reaction, we too desire for good and fulfilling events to last, for we too want to hold on to moments of joy, clarity and spiritual comfort. The **Transfiguration** story teaches us that true faith is lived not only in ease and glory but in the daily "**nitty-gritty**" of difficulty where our courage is needed. We are reminded that our

lives are to be daily shaped in the form of the Cross of Jesus Christ, before the fullness of glory is attained. This **Lent** when we encounter moments of temptation and the challenge to overcome our complacency, let us remember it is a grace-filled moment to live out our faith.

Lent is spiritual journey involving sacrifice, self-examination, and the cross. In our own lives we too have many moments of the “**mountain moments**” in our times of prayer, peace clarity, or joy when God feels close to us. We too like **Peter** would like to remain in such surroundings but we are simply “**to rest for a moment as necessary**” but then go forth bravely following Jesus Christ to Jerusalem.

For true faith is lived in the valleys in our daily struggles, doubts, responsibilities and sufferings. **Transfiguration** tells us that our transformation daily to be more and more in the image of Jesus Christ is possible.

If we continue to listen to Jesus and follow Him through the cross, we are being led toward **Resurrection**. The glimpse of glory on the mountain gave us the hope to keep walking in the footsteps of Jesus Christ. This **Lent** let us take **one step** of trust like **Abram**, **one step** of courage like **Timothy** and **one step** of listening like the **disciples** Peter, James and John and keep walking toward **Easter!**

ST. RITA PARISH STATIONS of the CROSS - EVERY FRIDAY at 7:00pm

OUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION for the **Month of March** will take place **First Friday, March 6th**. Mass at **8:00am** followed by Eucharistic Adoration from **9:00am – 6:30pm**. There will be **no Eucharistic Adoration in the month of April** because **Good Friday** which falls on the **First Friday of April**.

LENTEN CONFESSIONS: St. Rita Parish Lenten Confessions will be on, **Tuesday, March 10th at 7:00pm**. Sacrament of Reconciliation to prepare our hearts for the Sacred Easter.

St. Rita Pastoral Council Meeting: Wednesday, March 4th at 7:00pm. Kamiano Trailor.

HAWAI'I CATHOLIC MINISTRIES ANNUAL APPEAL: The Appeal Envelopes can be found in the pews or at the entrance of the church. Do participate in any way you can, it is not about the amount, but your generosity given. Do participate and let us assist each other to accomplish our parish goal of \$ 13,840.00.

St. Rita Parish Lenten Recollection

Saturday, March 14th. 9:00am – 12:30pm. Open to all high school age and above. Sign-up by turning in the sign in sheet by March 7th. We need to prepare for the lunch being served.

Have a blessed week! 4 God Bless you! A family of n cap