



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.) _____

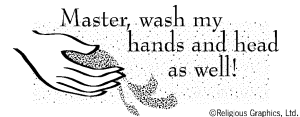
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PARISH CALENDAR

March 29, 2026

Glory and honor and praise
to you, Son of David!

Saturday, March 28	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, March 29	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a. m.	Mass (<i>Live Stream</i>)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, March 30	..... 7:30 a.m	<i>Liturgy of Hours/Rosary</i>
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 7:00 p.m.	Holy Thursday Rehearsal
Tuesday, March 31	..... 7:30 a.m	<i>Liturgy of Hours/Rosary</i>
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, April 1	..... 7:30 a.m	<i>Liturgy of Hours/Rosary</i>
	..... 8:00 a. m	Mass
	.. 9:30am -11:30 am	Food Pantry Closed
	..... 7:00 . p.m.	Rehearsal - Easter Vigil
Thursday, April 2		NO MORNING MASS
	..... 7:00 p. m.	MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
	.. 9:00 pm-12am	ADORATION
Friday, April 3		PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
	..... 2:00 p. m.	STATIONS OF THE CROSS
	..... 7:00 p. m.	GOOD FRIDAY - THE LORD'S PASSION
Saturday, April 4	..... 8:00 p.m.	EASTER VIGIL



NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Act:10:34a, 37-43: Peter preached about Jesus' baptism, the anointing with the Holy Spirit, works of kindness and healing, and his crucifixion and resurrection from the dead All who believe in him are forgiven.

Col:3:1-4: Think about what is above. When Christ appears, then you shall appear with him in glory. **Or**

1 Cor:5:6b-8: A little yeast does its work all through the dough. Throw out the old yeasts to make fresh dough.

Jn:20:1-9: Mary Magdalene and the disciples went to the tomb and found it empty. They did not yet understand that Jesus would rise from the dead.

10:05 AM
03/20/26
Accrual Basis

St. Rita Church - Nanakuli
Profit & Loss
October through December 2025

	<u>Oct - Dec 25</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
40000 · OFFERTORY COLLECTION	70,916.24
42000 · OTHER REGULAR INCOME	6,897.01
47000 · UNUSUAL (NON-SCHEDULED) INCOME	6,529.77
Total Income	<u>84,343.02</u>
Gross Profit	84,343.02
Expense	
50000 · EMPLOYMENT COSTS	42,465.22
51000 · PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	113.10
51700 · LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	3,750.00
52000 · SUPPLIES AND OTHER SERVICES	8,337.36
53000 · REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	4,886.90
54000 · UTILITIES	4,997.15
55000 · CONTRIBUTIONS AND ASSESSMENTS	18,157.44
56000 · INTEREST EXPENSE	2,271.84
57000 · TAXES	103.05
Total Expense	<u>85,082.06</u>
Net Ordinary Income	-739.04
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
70000 · TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED ASSETS	60,951.50
Total Other Income	<u>60,951.50</u>
Net Other Income	60,951.50
Net Income	<u>60,212.46</u>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CRS RICE BOWL: CALLED TO SHARE BREAD

FOR LIFE: Holy Week, the heart of the liturgical year, invites us to journey with Christ through his Passion, Death and Resurrection. As we witness the Last Supper and Jesus' gift of the Eucharist, we are reminded of our call to be bread broken for others. Let us draw strength from the Bread of Life and dedicate ourselves to serving our sister and brothers who bear heavy crosses, bringing hope and resurrection to the world. Visit www.crsricebowl.org/holy-week to learn more.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD: Healing the Pain of

Abortion...One Weekend at a time: If you or a friend are hurting from a past abortion and are searching for a confidential, non-judgmental, safe place of healing and support to express and reconcile painful emotions and begin the healing process, look no further, and come join us? Both women and men are impacted by abortion and greatly benefit from the retreats. Singles, couples and family members of aborted children have come to Rachel Vineyard for peace and inner healing. You are not alone. Retreat are held at a private retreat center for 3 days and 2 nights. See flyer and brochure at the front of church for more information.

WORD OF LIFE: "With great openness and courage, we need to question how 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: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Is:50:4-7; Ps:22; Phil:2:6-11; Mt:26:14-27:66

Mar 30 Mon: Monday of Holy Week

Is:42:1-7; Ps:27:1, 2, 3, 13-14; Jn:12:1-11

Mar 31 Tue: Tuesday of Holy Week

Is:49:1-6; Ps:71: 1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 & 17; Jn:13:21-33, 36-38

Apr 01 Wed: Wednesday of Holy Week

Ex:12:1-8, 11-14; Ps:116; 1 Cor:11:23-26; Jn:13:1-15

Apr 02 Thur: Holy Thursday

Ex:12:1-8, 11-14; Ps:116; 1 Cor:11:23-26; Jn:13:1-15

Apr 03 Fri: Good Friday

Is:52:13-53:12; Ps:31; Heb:4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn:18:1-19:42

Apr 04 Sat: Holy Saturday

Gn:1:1-2:2; Ex:14:15-15:1; Is:55:1-11; Rm:6:3-11;

Mt:28:1-10



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A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

*We are at the doorsteps of Holy Week where we remember Christ's passion. Jesus humbled himself and let go of everything, emptying himself for us. During this time of Lent, how have we joined the Lord? Has our prayer, penitential practices and almsgiving moved us to humble ourselves before the Lord? Have we let go of things that keep us from being authentic stewards for Christ Jesus? How have we "emptied" ourselves so that when we do approach the table of the Lord, we can be nourished by His body and blood? As disciples of the Lord Jesus and stewards of His gift of faith, it is time to evaluate our lives under the cross.? **International Catholic Stewardship Council***

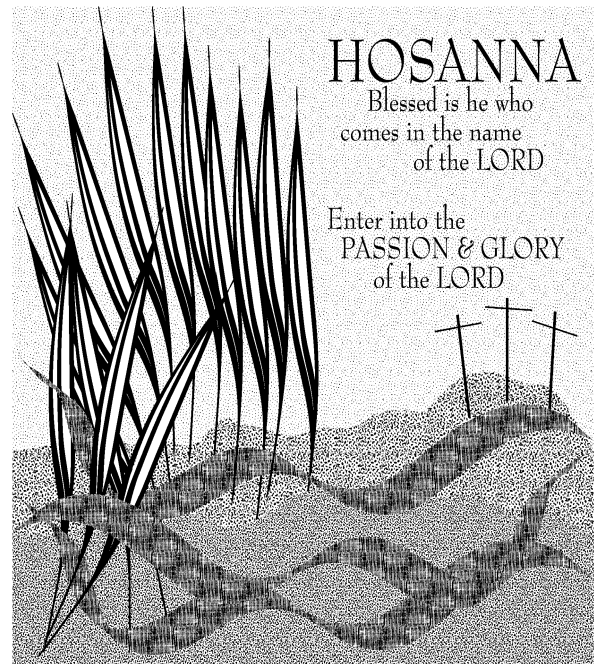
STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Sunday Collection	\$ 4, 680.00
Candles	95.00
Mass Intentions	50.00
Outreach	95.00
Total	\$ 4, 920.00

RESTRICTED COLLECTIONS

Building Fund	\$ 569.00
Repairs & Maintenance	70.00
Catholic Relief Service	110.00
Total	\$ 749.00

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Palm Sunday – Passion Sunday A, March 29, 2026

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

Today we celebrate **Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday**, which places before us striking contrast, **joyful procession** (triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem) and painful **Passion** (the rejection, betrayal, suffering and death of Jesus). The loud joyous “**Hosannas**” rang out of the voices of the people who waved the palms branches and laid their cloaks on Jesus’ path. Yet heavy silence of betrayal would soon echo loudly out of the mouths of that same crowd, calling out loudly “crucify Him!”

As we listen to today’s scripture readings, we are invited to walk closely with Jesus on the path of humble, obedient and faithful love.

Old Testament: Isaiah 50: 4-7

Background Context: The reading comes from **the Servant Songs of Second Isaiah (Duetro-Isaiah)**, written during **Isreal’s exile in Babylon, 6th Century BC**. The Israelites were tired, discouraged and burdened by suffering. In this setting the prophet speaks of **the Servant of the Lord**, one who listens closely to God, speaks words of hope and remains faithful even when obedience leads to pain - death.

For Christians, this **Servant** clearly points to **Jesus**, and this **Servant** began by stating that God has given him “**a well train tongue, that I might speak to the weary a word that will rouse them.**” (Isaiah 50: 4). This tells us that his words are not self-made, they come from obedient listening to God. His strength is rooted in prayerful attention to God.

True service always begins with listening to God’s guidance - commandments. The passage then turns into suffering. The **Servant** is beaten, insulted and humiliated, yet he does not resist or turn away in fear. What keeps him steady is his deep trust in God. “**The Lord God helps me,**” He knows that even if people reject him, God will not abandon him.

Application to Life: On **Palm Sunday – (Passion Sunday)**, this reading calls us look beyond the joyful procession of palm waving, commemorating the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem riding on a donkey. Even though the crowds waved palms and placed their cloaks on Jesus’ path crying our loudly in joy, “**Hosanna**”, Jesus knew that the road ahead leads to rejection and the Cross.

“**Hosanna**” is a Hebrew plea meaning “**save us, please**” – drawn from the **Book of Psalms, Psalm 118**. It is a prayer for deliverance, shaped by **Passover** memory (Exodus from Egypt) and by hope of national restoration. When we too enact the entry of Jesus into

Jerusalem by our cries of “**Hosanna**” as we wave our psalm leaves, let us recall our own plea, “**save us, please**” Lord Jesus Christ by your Passion (suffering and death-Cross).

Like the **Servant** foretold in prophet Isaiah, Jesus would not turn back, He walks forward in resolute obedience trusting the Father completely. This passage challenges us to examine at our discipleship. Does our discipleship reflect that of one who courageously walk with Jesus or one which crumbles quickly at any encounter with the any hardship - Cross?

Many of us become quickly tired, discouraged and carry silent burdens, yet we must not forget that it is precisely by our trials – cross we bear that our faithfulness in Jesus Christ is made manifest to the world.

Do we listen – pray to God daily, especially in silence and quieting of our souls? Do our words heal or harm the weary among us? And when faith becomes too costly, do we trust God enough to remain faithful? Even if the path that leads to suffering – Cross?

New Testament: Philippians 2: 6-11

Background Context: The **Letter of St. Paul to the Christian faithful in Philippi** is one of the earliest Christian hymns of praise of **Jesus** and Lord and the called to live faithfully. The hymn described not just who **Jesus** is, but He is the Lord, and the path **Jesus** freely chose to do the Father’s Will.

Though **Jesus** was in the form of God, **Jesus** did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Paul informed the Christian faithful that rather, **Jesus** emptied Himself, taking the **form of a slave, became human**. Taking the role of a **servant**, amazingly revealed to us the heart of God. Not domination but self-giving love coming from the heart of God.

God does not come to us in force, but through humility. **Jesus’ humility** goes even further, **Jesus** became obedient unto death, even death on the Cross. The Cross was a sign of shame and rejection, yet Jesus accepted it out of love for us and trust in the Father. **Jesus** therefore is exalted above all creation.

Application to Life: **Jesus’** obedience was not weakness. It was courage rooted in love, because of this God highly exalted Him. The **name of Jesus** is lifted up so that every knee may bend and every tongue proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord.

This passage invites us to examine our way of living – our discipleship. We often hold onto status, recognition or control. **Jesus** showed us another way. A way of self-emptying and service for others. Our Christian life is not about climbing higher or seeking status but about emptying oneself for others in love as Jesus has done.

As we reflect on this passage, we are reminded that humility is not losing ourselves but rather finding dignity in God. When we choose love, service and obedience we share in both the Cross and glory of Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 26: 14-27:66 or 27: 11-54

Background Context: “I never expected it from them (him/her)”. Some stage in life, we all have experienced betrayal. And more often than not, it is by someone close to us. But what hurts most is not the betrayal itself but the memories, shared meals, laughter and trust we had with that person.

Betrayal hurts more when it comes from someone close to us. That is the pain we step into **the Passion narrative** this Palm Sunday - Passion Sunday. The same city, Jerusalem that welcome Jesus with palms and cloaks laid before Him, will soon be shouts for His death at the temple courtyard.

At the heart of the story is **the betrayal**, not by strangers but by friends. **Judas** is one of the twelve, he knows **Jesus** personally. **Judas** heard **Jesus'** teachings and seen **Jesus'** compassion. Yet he chooses to hand **Jesus** over for thirty pieces of silver (price for a slave). **Judas'** betrayal is not loud or violent. It began quietly with the decision made in his heart day after day.

This reminds us that betrayal **often starts small** and **unnoticeable, love grows cold and self-interest takes over**. During the Last Supper **Jesus** knew who and what **Judas** is about to do. Still **Jesus shared** meal - bread with him in fellowship, still **Jesus washed Judas's** feet, **Jesus** did not push **Judas** away. **Jesus** gave every chance for **Judas** to turn back. Later in the Garden of Gethsemane **Judas** arrived with the soldiers and identified **Jesus** with a **kiss**.

A kiss- a sign meant for affection and loyalty. In that painful moment **Jesus** looked at **Judas** and said something shocking. “**Friend**”, **Jesus** even called **Judas** friend as he is being betrayed. This is not weakness; it is divine love. **Jesus** refused to let betrayal define the relationship. **Jesus** does not respond with anger or revenge, but with truth and dignity.

Jesus' love remained open even when it was rejected. However, we must not only focus on **Judas**. The tragedy of **the Passion** is not only **Judas'** betrayed, but also **Peter's denial**, **the crowd** choosing **Barabas**. **Everyone fails** in some way, yet **Jesus** remains faithful, silence before **His** accusers, obedient to the Father to the very end.

Application to Life: On Palm Sunday (**Passion Sunday**), we are invited to see ourselves in the story-gospel narrative. At times we too have betrayed **Jesus**, not always with dramatic acts but through our compromise, our fear or our indifference.

Yet the **Passion** (sufferings) still reminds us of that **Jesus** calls friend. Jesus' love does not end at our failures. The question is whether we will turn back to **Jesus** with repentance and trust or walk away in despair. **Palm Sunday (Passion Sunday)** began with **palms in our hands** and **will end with the Cross before our eyes**. Between the two stands the Savior who loved even when betrayed and called sinners as friends.

Palm Sunday (Passion Sunday) asks us a serious question, will we wave palms only to welcome our Savior, crying out "**Hosanna**" or do we follow **Jesus** into Jerusalem and to the Cross. This **Holy Week** choose one concrete act of faithfulness. **Return** to confession, **forgive** someone you have avoided or **stay in prayer** when it becomes uncomfortable. We know that betrayal, failure or fear do not have the last word. Life and Resurrection is the goal. Let love and obedience to God the Father lead us all to the joy of Resurrection!

**THE COMING HOLY WEEK and the EASTER TRIDUUM – HOLY THURSDAY,
GOOD FRIDAY, EASTER VIGIL and EASTER SUNDAY.**

Monday, March 30th 10:am Funeral Mass +Fr. Roland Pacudan (St. Jude).

7:00pm Rehearsal for Elect (St. Rita)

Tuesday, March 31st. 7:00pm Chrism Mass (St. Teresa Co-Cathedral)

Wednesday, April 1st. 8:00am Mass (st. Rita)

7:00pm rehearsal for Easter Vigil. Elect, Sacrament Candidates.

And all participating in Easter Vigil Mass.

Holy Thursday, April 2nd 7:00pm The Lord's Last Supper-Mass

The Church opened until 12 midnight for silent prayer vigil before **the Altar of Repose (Holy Eucharist is placed there until Good Friday Service)**.

(Jesus spent His time in the Garden of Gethsemane in prayer, seeking strength Jesus said to His disciples, "**Could you not spend an hour with me?**" **Matthew 26:40**).

Good Friday, April 3rd 2:00pm and 7:00pm Good Friday Services

Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 3rd 8:00pm

Easter Sunday, April 4th 8:00am and 10:00am Easter Mass. NO EASTER EVENING MASS

Have a blessed week in the Lord! 4 J. Paulo Jimenez