



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

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

I am the vine,
you are the branches!

PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday, May 2	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass, Aloha Sunday
Sunday, May 3	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass, Aloha Sunday
	..... 9:00 a. m.	Mass (Live Stream), Aloha Sunday
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass, Aloha Sunday
Monday, May 4	..... 7:30 a.m	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Tuesday, May 5	..... 7:30 a.m	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, May 6	..... 7:30 a.m	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	..... 8:00 a. m	Mass
	.. 9:30am -11:30 am	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, May 7	..... 8:00 a.m	Communion Service
Friday, May 8	..... 7:30 a.m	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	..... 8:00 a. m	Mass
Saturday, May 9	..... 8:00 a. m	Mass
	..... 3:15-4:00 p.m.	Confession - Church
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

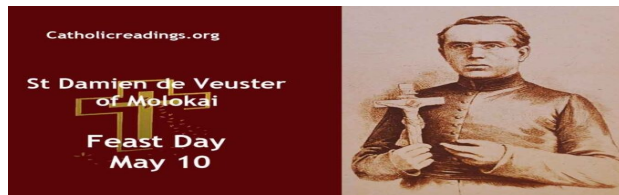


NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

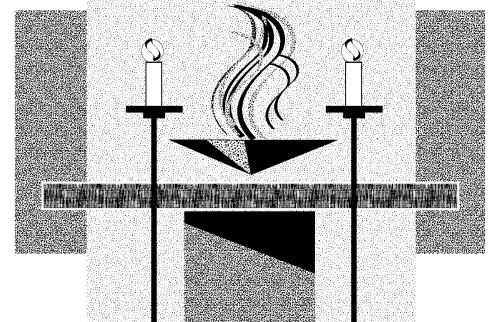
Acts:8:5-8, 14-17: *With great success, Philip went to Samaria to proclaim the Christ and work miracles. When the apostles heard about Philip's work, they sent Peter and John to pray that the Samaritans receive the Holy Spirit.*

1 Pt:3:15-18: *Jesus "suffered for sins once." He was put to death as far as fleshly existence goes but received life according to the spirit.*

Jn:14:15-21: *Jesus assured the disciples that he would not leave them orphaned but would ask the Father to send "another Advocate" to be with them always. Jesus said that he would still reveal himself to those who love him.*



We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of the Lord's own, so that you may announce the praises of the Lord who called you into the light.



Mahalo Nui Loa: *to our St. Rita Parishoners for the generous donation collected last week for the late +Deacon Jerome Vito's Aiga. The amount of \$1251.00 was collected and given to Lefu'a Vito Aiga.*

Parish Air-Conditioners:

Please be patient in our current situation; with 2 of our older units in the church (front & back) that are not working. We are replacing them as soon as possible. They've been serviced and repaired in prior months, it is no longer cost effective to continue repairing them, since they will break down again. Thank you for your continued patience.



Follow the QR Code for On-line Giving at Stritananakuli.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORD OF LIFE: "In this Year of Saint Francis, may he help us to see the beauty of life in all of creation, in particular, in the weakest and most vulnerable among us. Together, let us pray for the protection of human life and the courage to defend it." *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "Saint Francis: Visionary of Life"*

WEEKLY READINGS

May 03 Sun: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts:6:1-7; Ps:118; 1 Pt:2:4-9; Jn:14:01-12

May 04 : Mon: Easter Weekday

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

May 05 : Tue: Easter Weekday

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

May 06: Wed: Easter Weekday

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

May 07 Thur: Easter Weekday

Acts:15:7-21; Ps:96: 1-2a, 2b-3, 10; Jn:15:9-11

May 08 Fri: Easter Weekday

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

May 09 Sat: Easter Weekday

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



A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

In the reading from Acts of the Apostles we see how the first community of Christians gathered together to discern and resolve how to care for each other's needs. As good stewards of the sisters and brothers who gathered around the Eucharistic table, the community of faith selected those among them who were to ensure that no one was neglected. How do we resolve to serve the needs of our parish family? How do we ensure that those who might be perceived to be the least of our brothers and sisters are not left alone and neglected?

International Catholic Stewardship Council

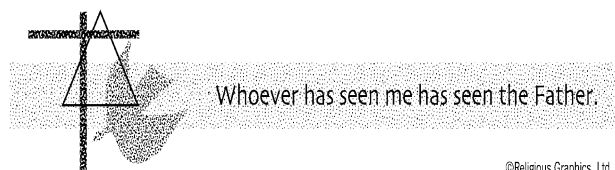
STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Sunday Collection	\$2,636.00
Outreach	\$70.00
Total	\$2,706.00

RESTRICTED COLLECTIONS

Building Fund	\$570.00
Repairs / Maintenance	25.00
Joe Dutton	5.00
Total	\$600.00

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Assistant Office
Manager

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5th Sunday of Easter A May 3, 2026

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

MAY Is the MONTH of MARY

May is traditionally dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, honoring her role as Mother of God (Jesus Christ) and spiritual Mother of all Christians.

Catholic Church dedicates the entire month of May to Mary, reflecting Mary’s unique role in the salvation history and her maternal care for humanity. This tradition connects the natural renewal of spring with spiritual renewal. Symbolizing Mary as the “**Mystical Rose**” and “**Lily of Purity**” guiding the faithful toward grace and devotion. (EWTN).

Our parish of St. Rita will have the Rosary prayed 30 minutes before every mass with the Litany of Blessed Virgin Mary. Everyone is encouraged to join the parish for the Rosary prayers. Let us pray the Rosary and meditating on the Mysteries of the Rosary may we all be renewed spiritually in praying and meditating on the life of Jesus Christ.

Scripture Reflections

1stReading: Acts 6: 1-7

Background Context: The passages of Acts we read serves as a transition passage in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles. This passage today concludes the phrase on the twelve apostles and introduces new leaders, especially Stephen. It also prepares for the spread of the Gospel beyond Jerusalem as we will read in Acts 8 and onward.

Today’s 1st reading informs us of **the first serious disagreement** that arose within the early Christian community - Church of Jerusalem. That community was **formed of two groups**; 1. **Jewish born** and brought up in Palestine and 2. **Jews who had been born and brought up abroad outside Palestine** and had eventually returned home.

“A complaint by the Hellenist arose against the Hebrews” The Greek word “**murmuring – gaggysmus**” (Greek), recalled the Israelites **complaint** in the wilderness indicates internal tensions, not persecution from the outside, but conflict within.

The **first group spoke in Aramaic** and in their worship read the **Scripture in Hebrew** in the language which it had originally written while the **second group spoke Greek** the common language spoken throughout the Roman Empire. These had separate Synagogues and **read the Scripture from Greek translation.** “**It is not right that we should neglect the word of God to serve the tables.**” This is not a rejection of service

but distinction of roles. **Two essential ministries emerged out of the tension, the Word (Kerygma) and the Service (Diakonia).** (The word Deacon comes from the word for Service-Diakonia).

“They asked the community to appoint seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and wisdom,” that is people who were holy and with common sense. These would look after relief while the Apostles will engage in full time in what was essential, to pray and to preach the Gospel. **(Acts 6:4).**

This shows spiritual maturity is required for administrative roles. **Leadership is not mere functional but theological.** In fact, all the seven people chosen bear Greek names; one of them Nicolas of Antioch had been first a pagan and then a Jew and finally joined the Church. All seven has Greek names suggesting representation of Greek Hellenistic group and practical solution to cultural imbalance.

“We would devote ourselves to prayer and ministry of the Word.” This established; prayer as foundational and preaching as apostolic mission. Of the seven the **Book of the Acts** speaks at length about **Stephen** who is the first Christian to lay down his life for the faith and about **Philip** who became a preacher. **(Acts chapters 6, 7, & 8).**

Application to Life: One thing clear, **“tension and conflict”** are nothing new in the life of the Christian Church. From the very beginning, we see that **“tension and conflict”** were present. We should not be surprised or discouraged when we ourselves find that our Church is not perfect.

The important lesson is that the early Church came together rather than cause the **“tension and conflict”** to divide them. That they sought solution rather than excuses. Perhaps when we experience differences or feel slighted by some member of the parish, we should first pray on the situation and then with Christian charity approach the situation to be resolved.

Clearly the reality of human and cultural differences was always present in the Church but this incident in the early Church forms the vibrant life; for everyone, the apostles the Christians of both groups, the seven deacons all had but one thought in mind, the good of the community, the Church. Let us not let human differences be the cause to divide but rather an opportunity to seek what is the path for good of the Church and in prayer be moved by the Spirit and not by selfish interests.

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2: 4-9 **Background Context:** In today’s 2nd reading Peter compared the **Church members** – baptized Christians to a building - a temple and explained to all

the Christians the role that Jesus Christ has in the Church, and the role that each Christian member is called to play in it. This letter is addressed to Christians in; **Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia**. They are regions in Asia indicating a **Diaspora Christian** audience largely Gentiles but influenced by Jewish Scripture.

“Come to him a living stone rejected by men but chosen and precious before God.”

Peter’s words showed similar comparisons to Paul who time and again made use of the same terms in his letters, before Peter’s letter was written.

Application to Life: The emphasis is clear **that Jesus Christ is the foundation stone** on which the Church is built, while **the Christians are the stone with which the Church is gradually build up.**

We know that stones in nature are dead things but **the cornerstone of the Church** that is **Jesus Christ is a living foundation** and so Peter emphasized what we Christians should be; **living stones united to the life from Jesus Christ** the foundation flowing into all of us united to Jesus Christ.

We the living stones then must bear witness to Jesus Christ to whom we are united and are built up. Peter called us to **“let yourselves be built into a spiritual house...”** Are we striving to be what Peter described each one of us to be?

Peter reminded us that **“You are a chosen race a royal priesthood a holy nation,”** and he even went on to surprise us stating that in the Church - we are all called to be holy priests and to offer spiritual sacrifices. We as such are all called to offer to God not just an occasional offering of one’s own life, but a life lived in Jesus Christ. Here we recall our Baptism when we were made, **“priests, prophets and kings”** as the member of the Body of Christ the Church.

Gospel: John 14: 1- 12

Background Context: Today’s gospel passage is part of the **“Farewell Discourse” John 13-17** and traditionally associated with the community – Church shaped by John. The Gospel reflects the Johannine community possibly expelled from synagogue (**John 9:22**). John 14 begins immediately after prediction of Peter’s 3-fold denial (**John 13:38**). So, the passage’s mood is; troubled, confused and uncertain. Yet **Jesus responded with consolation and revelation**. It is **moving to see the tenderness of Jesus** speaking to His apostles during **the Last Supper** to listen to His words, all consoling, all encouraging and tender words, even as He was soon to enter into His passion-suffering and death.

Application to Life: In this sad farewell address, Jesus promised His apostles share in His glory in heaven together with the Father. Jesus told them that He goes ahead to prepare a place for them. What consoling words are spoken by Jesus even as His dreadful hours are quickly approaching...His suffering and death on the Cross.

Jesus reassured us all that **He is the Way to the Father**, that He is **the Truth** and **the Life**. In this Jesus revealed the 3-fold identity; **the Way**, the path to God, **the Truth**, the full revelation of God, and **the Life**, the source of divine life.

How often have we reflected on this beautiful statement made by Jesus Christ? This is one of the strongest **Christological** claims in the Gospel, that is who truly Jesus Christ is! Jesus leads His Church – all the baptized into Heaven across the desert of this world.

There is no danger of our Lord missing the way or failing; Jesus not only knows the way well, but **He is the Way**. Only through Him can we go to the Father. (**John 14:6**). Jesus not only speaks the truth, but **He is also the Truth**. Away from Him there is nothing but falsehood. Jesus not only lives and gives life, but **He is the Life, our very life. (Colossians 3:4)**. Separated from Jesus Christ there is nothing but death. *Have a blessed week in the Lord! St Paul's of Nap.*

ATTACHED BELOW (Parish Financial Report from April Bulletin 2026 reprinted by request with larger font).

St. Rita Church - Nanakuli
Profit & Loss
July through September 2025

04/11/26
Accrual Basis

	Jul - Sep 25
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
40000 - OFFERTORY COLLECTION	69,642.97
42000 - OTHER REGULAR INCOME	6,084.57
47000 - UNUSUAL (NON-SCHEDULED) INCOME	5,434.91
Total Income	81,162.45
Gross Profit	81,162.45
Expense	
50000 - EMPLOYMENT COSTS	40,846.15
51000 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	113.10
51700 - LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	275.00
52000 - SUPPLIES AND OTHER SERVICES	6,286.00
53000 - REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	2,133.07
54000 - UTILITIES	4,761.30
55000 - CONTRIBUTIONS AND ASSESSMENTS	16,033.03
56000 - INTEREST EXPENSE	2,316.53
57000 - TAXES	300.00
Total Expense	73,064.18
Net Ordinary Income	8,098.27
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
70000 - TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED ASSETS	114,135.50
Total Other Income	114,135.50
Net Other Income	114,135.50
Net Income	122,233.77