



# 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  
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PARISH CALENDAR

June 21, 2026

The Lord is the strength  
of His people!



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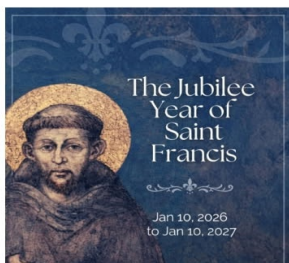
Saturday, June 20	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, June 21	.....7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a. m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, June 22	..... 7:30 a.m	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Tuesday, June 23	..... 7:30 a.m	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, June 24	..... 7:30 a.m	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	..... 8:00 a. m	Mass
	..9:30am -11:30 am	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, June 25	..... 8:00 a.m	Communion Service
Friday, June 26	..... 7:30 a.m	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	..... 8:00 a.m	Mass
Saturday, June 27	..... 8:00 a. m	Mass
	..... 3:15-4:00 p.m	<b>Confession - Church</b>
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

**NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:**

**2 Kgs:4:8-11, 14-16a:** *A woman of influence provided a room for Elisha. In gratitude, he promised the woman, who had no child, that with a year she would bear a baby boy.*

**Rm:6:3-4, 8-11:** *As Jesus conquered sin through death and resurrection, so his faithful have died to sin and come alive in God through baptism.*

**Mt:10:37-42:** *Jesus told his apostles that people who seek only themselves come to ruin. Those who deny themselves for his sake discover themselves. Those who welcome prophets receive great rewards; those who welcome holy persons welcome the Lord.*



**AN EVENING  
TO CELEBRATE  
SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

*"Give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries. In this time afflicted by conflict and division... make us peacemakers." – Saint Francis of Assisi*

*Please join us in honoring the legacy of  
Saint Francis of Assisi*

**Date:** June 24, 2026

**Time:** 6pm

**Location:** Holy Trinity Church (The church holds a first-class relic of Saint Francis of Assisi, making it an official designated Franciscan site.)

The Adult Faith Formation Committee at Holy Trinity Church warmly invite you to an evening in celebration of the Jubilee Year of Saint Francis. Join us as we gather in the spirit of Saint Francis of Assisi, embracing his message of peace, humility, and love for all creation. The evening will feature our very own Franciscan, Father Mike Dalton. Father Mike will share his insight of Saint Francis of Assisi. Please join us in fellowship and opportunity to honor enduring legacy of Saint Francis of Assisi.

All are welcome. We look forward to sharing this meaningful evening with you.



We are ONE  
in CHRIST  
JESUS

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:** *Happy Father's Day to all the dads, grandfathers, and father figures who help build loving homes.* One of the greatest gifts a father can give is a strong marriage and Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers couples a chance to renew and strengthen that bond. WWME has been recognized by the Vatican as an International Private Association of the Faithful, a milestone that reflects its mission and impact. The next residential experience in Hawai'i is July 10-12, 2026, at St. Anthony Retreat Center in Kalihi Valley, Oahu. Application are available at [www.hawaiiwwme.org](http://www.hawaiiwwme.org) or contact Brian and Claudine Perry at (808)276-571 or email [brian.claudine.perry@wwme.org](mailto:brian.claudine.perry@wwme.org) Space is limited.

**WORD OF LIFE:** *"Through our prayers and through the intercession of St. Joseph, patron of fathers, may fathers come to know the irreplaceable role they hold in their lives of their children, and the responsibility they share in welcoming God's gift of new life!"* Most Reverend Shelton J. Fabre, Bishop of Houma-Thebodaux *"Fathers' Irreplaceable Role in Welcoming Life"*

## WEEKLY READINGS

**Jun 21 Sun: 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Jer:20:10-13; Ps:100; Rms:5:12-15; Mt:10:26-33*

**Jun 22 : Mon: Ordinary Weekday**

*2 Kgs:17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Ps:60:-3, 4-5, 12-13; Mt:7:1-5*

**Jun 23 : Tue: Ordinary Weekday**

*2 Kgs:19:9b-11, 21, 31-35a,36; Ps:48: 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11; Mt:7:6, 12-14*

**Jun 24: Wed: The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist**

*Is:49:1-6; Ps:139; 1b-3, 13-14b, 14c-15; Act:13:22-26; Lk:1: 57-66, 80*

**Jun 25 Thur: Ordinary Weekday**

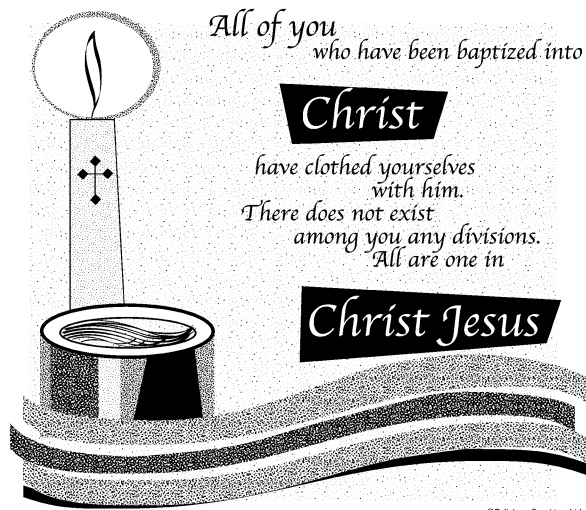
*2 Kgs:24:8-17; Ps:79: 1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9; Mt:7:21-29*

**Jun 26 Fri: Ordinary Weekday**

*2 Kgs:25:1-12; Ps:137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6;Mt:8:1-4*

**Jun 27 Sat: Ordinary Weekday**

*Lam:2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Ps:74: 1b-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-21; Mt:8:5-17*



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## A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

*Jesus minces no words with his disciples: if we acknowledge Jesus publicly, Jesus will remember us before God, our Father. If we deny Jesus, he will forget us. It is very rare that a Christian will denounce Jesus publicly. But we can deny Jesus in more subtle ways. There are many people who conveniently forget all about Jesus Christ and the work of his Kingdom in their daily lives, in moments of weakness, spiritual immaturity or when times get tough. Good stewards strengthen their confession of Christ by praying and attending Mass regularly, examining their lives and going to confession frequently, reminding themselves daily that Christ resides in them. Take a look at your own daily life. Do you acknowledge Christ before others? How often do you remind yourself that Jesus lives in you?*

**International Catholic Stewardship Council**

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

<b>Sunday Collection</b>	<b>\$ 3,347.00</b>
<b>Blessing (House)</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Candles</b>	<b>45.00</b>
<b>Mass Intention</b>	<b>112.00</b>
<b>Outreach</b>	<b>45.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,649.00</b>

## RESTRICTED COLLECTIONS

<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>\$1,402.00</b>
<b>Repairs &amp; Maintenance</b>	<b>50.00</b>
<b>Catholic Communication Campaign</b>	<b>50.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,502.00</b>

## MAHALO FOR SHARING YOUR TREASURE

### A Prayer for Fathers:

*Heavenly Father: You entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, his earthly foster father. Bless all fathers and father figures as they lovingly care for their families. Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience. Support them in their daily work, and help them to love and guide their children in a way that reflects Your perfect love. May they be inspired by the courage and humility of St. Joseph. Amen.*



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## Hau 'Oli Makuakane – Happy Father's Day

**Hau 'Oli Makuakane – Happy Father's Day to all our fathers!** On this **Father's Day** we honor all our earthly fathers and doing so we first and foremost honor **Our Heavenly Father** from whom all blessings come! St. Paul eloquently stated; **“For this reason, I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.” Ephesians 3:15.**

On this **Father's Day** let us not forget this truth that all Christian fathers must strive to be not only good earthly providers - fathers but also strive to be good **Christian fathers in the image of God our Father!**

Now **fatherhood** is by no means only biological. We as Catholic Christians address priests and pastors as **“father,”** signifying the **spiritual fatherhood of Catholic priests** over their parishioners under his care. Some non-Catholic Christians object to this venerable Catholic practice by misunderstanding Jesus who stated, **“call no man your father,” Matthew 23:9.**

Was Jesus forbidding anyone being called a **“father?”** Jesus was not objecting to anyone being called a **“father”** just as children do of their **“fathers.”** Jesus was objecting to anyone on earth who would replace the **One God the Father and His special place of Fatherhood.** Jesus accepted earthly children calling their parent **“father.”**

St. Paul in his letter **1 Corinthians 4:15** explains this when he addressed the Corinthian Christians as he refers to himself as a father to them. **“Your father”** as St. Paul claimed his **“spiritual fatherhood”** over them.

On this **Father's Day** we call upon God's blessings on all fathers. May the fathers keep guard their hearts from all evil for they are **“the door keepers of their homes”** where most precious gifts **God the Father** had entrusted dwell, his wife and children.

Like **St. Joseph the Patron of all fathers and the guardian of Jesus and Mary,** may our earthly fathers be the source of many blessings for their homes. Fathers do not forget that **“you are the salt of the earth...light of the world” Matthew 5: 13-16.**

## Scripture Reflections

**Our Scripture readings invite us to reflect on courage, faith and the transformative power of God's love in the face of fear and adversity.**

**Old Testament: Jeremiah 20: 10-13 Background Context:** Today's 1<sup>st</sup> Reading is taken from the **Book of Prophet Jeremiah**. He was called to be a prophet at the early age of 20 and Jeremiah's message was rejected from the start. He was accused of being a traitor to Israel and his life was threatened at every step as a prophet.

It was a very tense and volatile moment in Israel's history as the powerful **Babylonian Empire led by King Nebuchadnezzar** was encroaching from the north conquering nations on their path and now stood nearby as Israel became a vassal state. **King Jehoiakim** sat on the throne in Jerusalem in fear and was influenced by the corrupted court.

**Prophet Jeremiah** was severely persecuted and in particular by the wicked temple priest named Pashhur, a wicked man who enjoyed great influence in the court and the king. On several occasions Jeremiah was at a point of being put to death and often beaten and left to die.

Jeremiah expressed this plight - condition **"For I hear the whispering of many; terror on every side! Denounce, let us denounce him!" Jeremiah 20:10**. The expression **"terror on every side"** is ironic, in few verses earlier Jeremiah had used this exact phrase against Pashhur (**Jeremiah 20:3**), but now Jeremiah feels surrounded by terror himself.

Even prophet Jeremiah's close friends distanced themselves and watched for his downfall: **"Perhaps he can be deceived."** This revealed Jeremiah's profound isolation and anguish that he endured, even public's - peoples' constant mockery at his prophetic words from God. The opposition was not only political; it was personal.

For even his close friends turned against him and caused deep lament, his calling and cursing the day he was born and were hoping he would make a mistake.

Yet prophet Jeremiah stood firm stating, **"But the Lord is with me like a mighty warrior" Jeremiah 20:11**. Here we witness a dramatic shift that occurred in prophet Jeremiah's heart as his fear gave away to confidence. The Hebrew phrase can be translated, **"the Lord with me as a powerful champion."**

God is portrayed as **a divine warrior who fights on behalf** of His servant. **"Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord for He has delivered the lives of the needy from the hands of the evildoers" Jeremiah 20:13**. The lament of Jeremiah suddenly became cries of praise pouring forth from a confident heart!

**Application to Life:** The story of **prophet Jeremiah** was **one of heroic obedience to God**.

**King Jehoiakim** was portrayed later in the book as living in incestuous relationships, murdering those who were in oppositions to him and seized properties of those he murdered. God sent the young prophet Jeremiah to boldly criticize and condemn the king's policies, his evil deeds and insisted on repentance and strict adherence to God's Law.

In the time of **Babylonian Empire** Isreal was a vassal state and paid tributes but when another vassal state **Egypt** rebelled against the Babylonian Empire in **601 BC**. King Jehoiakim did the same and allied himself to the Egyptians assuming that with the Egyptian assistance Isreal could repel the powerful Babylonian Empire, even as prophet Jeremiah brought God's stern warning not to do so.

God's message was clear, the King Jehoiakim, the Temple and his people must first seek repentance of their grave wickedness – sins and most of all to heed God's warning at their most crucial time of existence as a nation. The bitter words of warning being the fall of Jerusalem and of the Temple and the exile that would follow if God's word was not obeyed.

They were told to be obedient to God and trust God by surrendering to the Babylon King Nebuchadnezzar instead of seeking alliances with the Egyptians. If the King and the court would not repent and accept the surrender to the Babylonians, calamities and destruction would befall the king and Israel.

What is the lesson or how does it related to us in our 21<sup>st</sup> century that is event that took place over 2,600 years ago when God summoned prophet Jeremiah and sent him to King Jehoiakim and to the Israelites?

On this **Father's Day** I would like to make a simple analogy of **the fathers of every family as a "king Jehoiakim"** and **"Isreal as the household-ohana."** It's not a perfect analogy but **the father** in each household - ohana is **"the king"** and the **household – ohana** is **"his kingdom,"** where God has given him the moral authority to guide and care for with his life.

Just like the king in a kingdom, the father can make a difference that has grave consequences to the household-ohana. The father's choices, decisions and actions will have a lasting effect on **"his kingdom and his subjects, that is those under his care."**

If the father is just and faithful to his wife and places God at the center of the household – ohana, God will bless and make a dwelling in such **"kingdom – household-ohana"** but if the father wields or holds no leadership in his duty as a Christian father and allows immorality to come in and our under his roof - kingdom-household-ohana, then the whole kingdom will suffer the evil consequences of his failure, destruction and collapse.

Though mothers are indispensable parts of a good and loving ohana, fathers are vital to a strong and moral character of the ohana! Finally, King Jehoiakim and the Israelites had to place their complete trust in God in the face of such challenging times, but we are no different today, we still have to place our complete trust in God. Throughout the Scriptures both in Old Testament (Hebrew Scripture) and New Testament, one important ingredient is necessary for faith...**it is Trust!** Look at the portrait of Divine Mercy, below the Risen Jesus coming forth to bless, these are the words written, **“JESUS I TRUST in YOU.”** Are you striving to be such a father, God intended? On this **Father’s Day**, reflect about it, it’s never too late.

**New Testament: Romans 5: 12-15 Background Context:** Today’s 2<sup>nd</sup> reading like that of last Sunday, is taken from the letter of **Paul to the Christians in Rome**. They answered an age-old question of sin in the world. Paul taught that from the moment man (Adam & Eve) abandoned God through sin, there took place a battle that still goes on between good and evil, love and hatred, light and darkness, God and the devil.

Therefore, he states that just as sin came into the world through **one man – Adam** and death through sin and so death spread to all because all sinned. Paul referred to Adam in the **Book of Genesis**. Adam functioned as **the representative head of humanity**. Adam’s disobedience a condition of alienation – break from God came into human existence.

**“Sin was indeed in the world before the law was given...”** Yet Paul addressed an objection, if the **Law of the Moses** has not yet been given, how could people be guilty?

**Paul’s answer**, sin existed before the Law of Moses, the prove was that people died **between Adam and Moses**. Even without the **Mosaic Law**, death already reign universally. This demonstrated to Paul that the humanity’s problem was deeper than merely breaking explicit commandments – the Mosaic Law.

Paul then stated; **“Adam was type of one who was to come.”** The **Greek** word **“typos”** means **a pattern of foreshadowing**. **Adam** and **Christ** are **parallel figures**; **Adam** affected all humanity through his disobedience; **Jesus Christ** affected all humanity through His obedience.

**Application to Life:** The sin of Adam and our sins caused real havoc in the world, but the good that is **Jesus Christ**, His gift of salvation came forth by His suffering and death and in fact far surpassed all the evil caused by sin.

Tragically we live in a time – era when sin is either **trivialized or tossed out** of our conscience. Many, even Christians think that our sins have no consequences or that God

forgives us because God is love and cheapened God's grace won for us by His death and resurrection. Jesus' blood poured out from His broken body on the Cross is precious, it is not cheap.

Paul reminded us that sin is real and sin caused great rapture-break from God. To bring us sinner back to God, God His only Son, Jesus Christ and fully entered our **human life - Incarnation** and took upon Himself our sins and expiated them on the Cross.

The price was paid at a high cost, **the life of the Son of Man**, Jesus Christ in total obedience to the Father even to death on the Cross. Perhaps the greatest weapon the cunning devil can wield upon us and lead us to Hell is the attitude that sin does not exist and there is always tomorrow to repent, tomorrow that may never come to many.

Paul in Romans strived to tirelessly rally the Christian community in the City of Rome which stood at the center of many pagan cultures from the known world that prized strength, power, wealth and sensual pleasures and to revel in sin and its pleasures.

Paul warned them that sin is real and so is eternal death and all pleasures of sin is fleeting and brings no true and lasting joy.

We Christians in 21<sup>st</sup> century no longer may have to face dramatic and sensational open battles fought in the colosseums of Rome to bear witness to Jesus Christ, yet in the depth of each one of our hearts we must struggle and resist evil if we are to strive to wholeheartedly embrace Jesus Christ and His teachings. This struggle against evil is not easy. We who are called in by our Baptism must share daily in the life of Jesus Christ and would encounter many struggles yet one day soon be welcome into His victory - resurrection.

On this Father's Day, may all our fathers be lead us to win the battle fought in our hearts by their examples of Christian living of fatherhood.

**Gospel: Matthew 10: 26-33 Background Context:** Chapter 10 of Matthew, from which the Gospel of today is taken, could be called "**instruction for the disciples,**" because it contains a series of guidelines given by Jesus to His disciples at various times during their preaching tours which Matthew groups together in this chapter.

Here are Five guidelines meant to help the disciples and each one of us in witnessing to Jesus Christ. According to Jesus there is one particular point to which they should pay special attention in their work: **to witness to Him at all times.**

**Application to Life:** This witnessing to Jesus Christ should be the concern of every Christians striving to live faithfully the baptismal promises. May the examples of our earthly fathers reflect and guide us as Jesus instructed His disciples.

**Guide One: “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered” Matthew 10:26.**

Jesus assured His disciples and all of us that truth cannot be hidden forever. Though opponents may temporarily suppress the Gospel and the truth that it teaches, God’s truth will eventually be revealed.

**Guide Two:** The instruction: **“What I say to you in the dark, tell it in the light,” Matthew 10:27.** Jesus instructs that the His disciples and we must proclaim publicly what they and we have received from Jesus. The Gospel is not meant to remain secret; it meant to be a light and salt of the earth.

**Guide Three: “Do not fear those who can kill the body but cannot kill the soul” Matthew 10: 28.** Perhaps this is one of the strongest statements in the passage of the gospel today. We know human persecutors can harm the body, but they cannot destroy a person’s- our ultimate relationship with God. Jesus contrasted human power with divine authority. The emphasis is not on terror before God but on recognizing God’s supreme sovereignty. The disciple’s and our deepest loyalty belong to God rather than to any earthly powers.

**Guide Four: “Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?” Matththew 10:29.** Sparrows were among the cheapest birds sold in ancient markets, yet Jesus states that not even one of them falls to the ground apart from the Father’s knowledge.

**Guide Five: “Even he hairs of your head are all counted,” Matthew 10: 30.** Now this vivid image expressed God’s intimate knowledge and care for each one of us.

The argument is from the lesser to the greater: If God cares for insignificant sparrows, God certainly cares for His human children, **“You are of more value than many sparrows.”** Is meant to strengthen disciples and all of us that must face fear and anxiety when opposition comes in our loyal discipleship in following Jesus Christ today.

**MAHALO NUI LOA to ST. RITA PARISH RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY: Cami, Ivan and Rose who worked on laminating St. Joseph prayer cards for Father’s Day Blessings!**

**LOOKING AHEAD: RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY meeting will take place Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00pm at the Kamiano Traylor.**

*Have a blessed week in the  
a point of an cap level.*