



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
O. C. I. A.	Don Gerry
Youth Minister:	Ivan Okuda
Knights of Columbus:	Bill Kozak
Outreach Coordinator:	Carlin Ujimori-Kaeo
Outreach/Facsimile/Prayer-line	

808-672-5437
860-908-5954
808-3086261
609-381-1193
808-668-7833
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

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Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 16, 2025

I place my hope in God!

PARISH CALENDAR



Saturday, November 15	 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, November 16	 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	 9:00 a. m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, November 17	 7:30 a.m	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
Tuesday, November 18	 7:30 a.m	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
Wednesday, November 19	 7:30 a.m	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	 8:00 a. m	Communion Service
	.. 9:30am -11:30 am	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, November 20	 7:30 a.m	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	 8:00 a. m	Communion Service
Friday, November 21	 7:30 a.m	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	 8:00 a. m	Communion Service
Saturday, November 22	 3:15-4:00 p.m.	Confession - Church
	 5:00 p.m.	Mass

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

2 Sm:5:1-3: Because David was so loved as a leader, the elders of all the tribes anointed him king of Israel at Hebron. King David shepherded the people from then on.

Col:1:12-20: God's Son brought the people into the reign of forgiveness and love. He heads the body, the church, and his primacy in all things, making peace through the blood of his cross.

Lk:23:35-43: The soldiers made fun of Jesus on the cross, offered him bitter wine, told him to save himself if he was the Christ, and told him to put an inscription over his head: "this is the King of the Jews."

PRAYERS FOR ALL SOULS:

+Frank Paishon	+Catherine Paishon	+Christopher Paishon	+Helen Tanimoto
+Edward Awong	+Gertrude Awong	+Noreen Awong	+Henry Mandac
+Betty/+Art Joao	+Kay Manlapit	+Juliet Branigan	+Richard Stevens
+Harriet Spencer	+Thomas Wolf	+Carol Brandes	+Bob Winners
+Monica Kaluhiwa	+James Okuda(Son)	+Marianito Gascon	+Rocky Gascon
+Paulina Ramos	+Stephan Fermin	+Loretta Lyman	+James Okuda (Father)
+Peter Okuda	+Aline Patane	+Edward Patane	+Carolina Patane
+James Tucker	+Mildred Tucker	+Jimmy Tucker	+John Murray
+Helen Danielouits	+Tom Sweeney	+Claire Murray	+Luther Heath
+Robert/+Helen Ahuna	+Helen N. Ahuna	+Arnold Pahinui	+Abel/+Ellen Pahinui
+Iokepa Ahuna	+Elena Leandro	+Larry/+Gladys Welsh	+Gilbert Laguatan
+Robert Pahinui	+William Pahinui	+Bill/Adele Greenleaf	+Rob/+Nancy Ahuna
+Harold N. Ahuna	+Larry/+Muriel Talisayan	+Thomas Talisayan	+Ida Sprinkle
+Harold/+Lorriane Ahuna	+Margaret Greene	+Thomas Greene	+Lahoma Lessary
+Homer Sprinkle	+Antonio DelosSantos, Sr.	+Delores Terlecki	+Nani Reyes
+Virginia Schippmann	+Fr. Alapaki Kim	+Loretta Rodrigues	+Charimaine Kapahua
+Eleanor Kapahua	+Anita Letreta	+Olga Jean Cartajena	+Jean Sampaio
+Raymond Sampaio	+Arnold/+Irene Ujimori	+Barbara Carlos	+Debbie Kaeo



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN

DEVELOPMENT: Please be generous in this week's special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, over 11% of the population lives in poverty. Through this collection, you support programs that address the root causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the country. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect remain in our diocese to fund local antipoverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and those working on the margins. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at www.usccb.org/cchd.

WORD OF LIFE: "We can't imagine loving a child whom we conceived more than we love Andrew. It is amazing how he fits our personalities so well. . . . adopting Andrew has made us more aware of God's power and of his love for us. We realize that he always has a perfect plan for our lives." *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "The Witness of the Good Samaritan: Palliative Care and Hospice"*

WEEKLY READINGS

Nov 16 Sun: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mal:3:19-20a; Ps:98; 2 Thes:3:7-12; Lk:21:5-19

Nov 17 Mon: Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

1 Mc:1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Ps:119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158; Lk:18:35-43

Nov 18 Tue: Ordinary Weekday

2 Mc:6:18-31; Ps:3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Lk:19:1-10

Nov 19 Wed: Ordinary Weekday

2 Mc:7:1, 20-31; Ps:17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b & 15; Lk:19:11-28

Nov 20 Thur: Ordinary Weekday

1 Mc:2:15-29; Ps:50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Lk:19:41-44

Nov 21 Fri: The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1 Mc:4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chr:29:10cd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd; Lk:19:45-48

Nov 22 Sat: Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

1 Mc:6:1-13; Ps:9:2-3, 4 & 6, 16 & 19; Lk:20:27-40

NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

In today's Gospel Jesus suggests that his disciples must be prepared to suffer ridicule, persecution and perhaps even death if they are to follow him, Sometimes we may wonder if enduring ridicule and scorn are what we really signed up for when we received the sacraments of initiation. Would we not rather sneak through life as painlessly as possible? Good stewards take their faith seriously and find comfort in the closing words of today's Gospel: "You will be hated by all because of my name but not a hair on your head will be destroyed. By your perseverance you will secure your lives." Let us make it part of our daily prayer routine to ask the Holy Spirit for the courage to act in Jesus' name no matter the consequences. International Catholic Stewardship Council

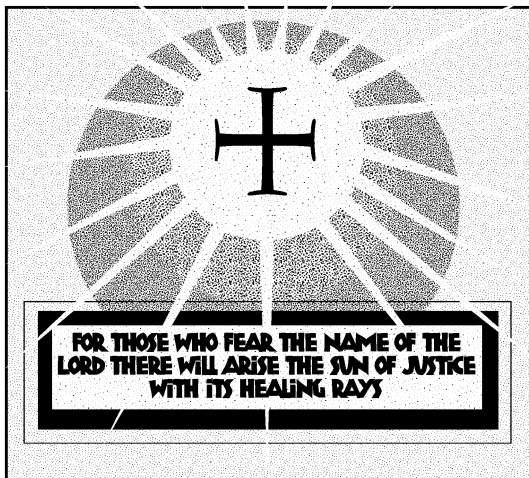
STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Sunday Collection	\$ 3, 124.00
All Soul's	482.00
Baptism	300.00
Candles	65.00
Outreach	45.00
Total	\$ 4, 016.94

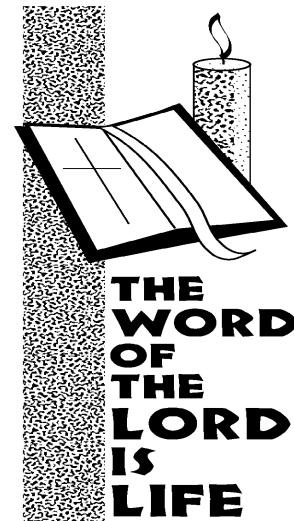
RESTRICTED COLLECTIONS

Building Fund	\$ 375.00
Archdioceses of Military Service	75.00
Total	\$ 450.00

MAHALO FOR SHARING YOUR TREASURE



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33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time C November 16, 2025

Ka Leo O Ke Kahuipa Aloha 'Ohana Nui'ia

St. Rita Knights of Columbus will meet this 3rd Sunday at Kamiano trailor after the 9:00am Mass.

We extend Our Prayers and Condolence to James & Marie & Hampp – Iriate Ohana.

The funeral **Scripture Service** was held this Saturday, November 15th (8:30am – 1:30pm) here at St. Rita Catholic Church, for their son **+Maikah James Hampp - Iriate. Eternal Rest Grant Unto +^QMikah O Lord & Perpetual Light Shine Upon Him. May +^QMikah and the Souls of All the Faithful Departed in the Mercy of God, Rest in Peace, Amen.**

Throughout the Month of Poor Souls – November, let us keep in our prayers All the Souls of our loved ones who have gone before us. Novena Masses are being offered, and Novena Prayers are prayed 30 minutes before all masses.

Diocese of Honolulu Priests' Annual Convocation will be held ^{this}~~next~~ week. All pastors are mandated to attend this Convocation. I will be attending the Convocation and, in any emergency, please call Immaculate Conception Church, Ewa at (808) 681-3701 for referral for available retired priest on call.

Stewardship Corner: TIME & TALENT

Mahalo to Parish Grounds Ministry Kirk Adams and Ivan Okuda for our parish grounds well-groomed with trimmed trees and cut grass. Add to that they have been watering our grass in the late afternoon after the sun has begun to set.

Mahalo to Church Cleaners, Kathy Pashion and crew who continuously keep the interior of the church clean and organized.

We ask All Our Parishioners to Keep in Your Prayers, Fr. Mike Gantley our Judicial Vicar who is in the Hospital with Cardiac related illness. Fr. Mike has been to St. Rita on many occasions in the past to assist the parish. We pray for his quick recovery.

St. Rita Food Pantry Blessings, we extend our mahalo to **Fr. Michel Dalton OFM Cap, Pastor of Holy Trinity Church & Parishioners.** Also, to **Fr. Peter Miti, Pastor of Resurrection of the Lord Church & Parishioners.**

They have on more than several occasions donated Food to Our St. Rita Parish Food Pantry. Mahalo and God bless you all for your thoughtfulness and generosity!

Scripture Reflections

Have you ever felt like the world is falling apart and wondered where God is in all this?

Today we celebrate the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time C. We draw close to the end of the **Liturgical Year C**, the Church invites us ~~thru~~ through the Scripture readings chosen for this Sunday to reflect on the life's ultimate realities – **death, judgment, heaven or hell**. That our choices in this wonderful but brief life have eternal consequences.

Old Testament: Malachi 3: 19-20a

Background Context: The **Book of prophet Malachi** is the shortest in the bible. Just 3 pages and it is the last book in the Old Testament. It was written in **450BC**, and it is one of the **twelve minor prophets**.

The name **“Malachi”** means **“My Messenger”** in Hebrew. It is widely believed that it was composed by an anonymous writer because of the sharp reproaches he leveled against the priests and the ruler of the people, the author probably wished to conceal his identity. To do this he made a proper name out of the Hebrew expression for **“My Messenger.”**

The historical value of the prophecy is considerable, in that it gives us a picture of life in the Jewish community who returned from Babylonian exile, between the period of Haggai and the reform measures of Ezra and Nehemiah.

Tragically the Israelites had made a sorry return for divine love. The priests, who should have been leaders, had dishonored God by their blemished sacrifices – again fell back into their old ways of sin.

The Israelites who had just returned from exile were called to rebuild the Temple and to hope for renewed blessings but instead disappointments soon followed as corruption of old reappeared among priests and leaders of Israel. Grave injustices continued as though nothing had changed and as always, the poor suffered the most.

Thus, many Israelites became disappointed by what was happening around them. Some even began to question **if God still cared and whether serving God was worth it**, since the wicked seem to prosper while the righteous suffered. They wondered **where is the God of justice?**

In response to this tragic condition, God answered the anguish of the people through **prophet Malachi** who proclaimed; the day is coming, **“lo, the day is coming blazing like an oven, when all the proud and all the evildoers will be stubble...”** (Malachi 3: 19).

When **once and for all, wickedness will be wiped out from the face of the earth**, as the

fire destroys both the stalk and the root of the plant. That is wickedness will never sprout again, when God will set everything right.

Application to Life: Prophet Malachi words are addressed to both the poor who lived righteously and faithfully and to the unjust priests and rulers. Malachi words announced **both judgment and hope.**

His warning of the **“blazing like an oven”** recalled and emphasized the prophetic **image of purification** rather than destruction. That God’s justice would not be a blind rage; rather it would be **a refining fire that purges evil** so that the righteousness and the faithful might shine.

“The sun of justice with its healing rays” (Malachi 3:20) points toward the coming Messiah, whose light will conquer evil and whose mercy would restore creation. This passage from **Malachi** invites us to examine the motive of our hearts. Do we strive to live as if God truly sees us? That God judges not only our external actions but even the motives of our hearts?

We probably all heard of the saying, **“You can take a man out of a jungle, but you cannot take the jungle out of the man.”** This means that a person’s fundamental nature, upbringing, or ingrained behaviors will remain with them regardless of changes in their environment or social standing. Such may be true, unless one goes through a true conversion and change of heart.

Perhaps one of the greatest tragedy, anguish and sufferings that the Israelites ever endured was the **Babylonian Exile (597 – 538BC)**, which the Israelites brought upon themselves through their total disregard of their Covenant and obedience to God as the Chosen People.

Yet God never annulled His faithfulness to them and always brought them back to rebuild and prosper as His Chosen People. **Yet we see in our reading from Malachi that many Israelites, especially the priests and the leaders never learned from the ordeal - sufferings (Babylonian Exile),** upon returning to Jerusalem. They went back to repeating the same old mistake - disobedience to God and to their injustice and oppression of the poor amongst them.

What a lesson for us that we too need to not simply regret or feel remorse for the evil we may have done, but we must also uproot that source – root of evil and replace that evil with the good. That is to seek conversion – metanoia not only on the external level but especially in the interior conversion of our hearts.

Prophet Malachi challenges us to persevere in goodness, change from within. Truly this is not easy, and this is a spiritual journey that would take lifelong conversion, yet Jesus Christ has provided all the means to obtain them, through the Sacraments, especially the **Sacrament of Confessions-Penance, Holy Mass-Eucharist and devotions**. There is no reason why anyone of us would fail, unless we refuse to do any of our part.

Malachi's message to us all is clear, don't lose heart. Hope is no wishful thinking; it is trusting that God is still at work in us and we are to be His co-workers in the world. To unceasingly be renewed and be sanctified in our daily life even in the chaos we may find surrounding us today.

Just as dawn (morning sun rises) follows even the darkest night, God's light – **"sun of justice with its healing rays"** will come and God's justice though may seem delayed, but it is certain. Let us therefore remain steadfast, humble and faithful, in the challenging times we live in, thus always allowing Jesus to be our light, to purify our hearts and bring healing to the world - our families, church and community.

New Testament: 2 Thessalonians 3: 7-12

Background Context: Many Thessalonians Christians were preoccupied with the date of Parousia (the Second Coming of Jesus Christ from heaven); thus, many became wrongly convinced by the rumors and hearsay that Jesus' Second Coming at the end of the world would take place during their lifetime. These rumors grew so strong that some members of the church went to the extreme of giving up their daily tasks-duties.

Paul reminded the Christians in Thessalonica about the importance of work and responsibility – **kuleana**. Some members of the community had become idle - lazy, spending their time gossiping and depending on others instead of working and doing their share. Paul used his own example to correct them.

Even though he had the right to receive support as an apostle, he chose to work hard making tents, (his trade) to show them how to live responsibly and not to be a burden to anyone.

Application to Life: Paul's message is clear, that our faith in Jesus Christ does not mean we stop doing our daily duties. He warned **"that if anyone was unwilling to work, neither should that one eat," 2 Thessalonians 3:10**. Those words might sound harsh, but Paul's is wisely stating that laziness harms both the person and the community – the church. Funny that while growing up those wise words of Paul remind me of my grandmother who

used to say similar things to us, who saw the value in doing something worthwhile rather than simply **“hanging out”** as most kids like to do, perhaps even adults too.

Paul is clear, that every disciple is called to contribute in some way through work, service or prayer, using their God given **time, talent and treasure**. What we may often forget is that our labor, when done with love and honesty no matter how humble in the eyes of the world, becomes a way to serve others and glorify God!

Now that means all honest work glorifies God, not only those the world may see dignified, in God’s eyes all work is dignified when done with God in mind.

Paul is right to warn against idleness. **Proverb 16:27 warned, “Idle hands are the devil’s workshop.”** The concept is that a lack of productive activity leaves the mind and hands open to negative influences and harmful actions.

It’s a fact that households with absent parental guidance or presence often end up becoming the beginnings or the source of trouble for children.

But the reality is not only young but all people who are unoccupied easily become vulnerable to temptations and are more likely to engage in mischief or evil deeds. Paul wisely called such behavior **“by not keeping busy but minding the business of others” 2 Thessalonians 3:11**, like we say, stop being **niele**. Some say mind your own business and stop being nosy, maybe much of gossiping then may stop.

Truly timeless is our human nature, just as over 2,000 years ago, what Paul found destructive to the church, family and the community are no different today. Paul urged by his own example – **“a model for you”** to instead, **“in Lord Jesus Christ to work quietly and to eat their own food” 2 Thessalonians 3:12**. He meant a peaceful, hardworking life for it reflects a Christian maturity and gives good example to others and glorifies God.

We are challenged to see work not just as a duty but as gift from God. It is a way to use our **time, talents and treasure** to help build up our families, churches and communities. Whether we are students, workers, parents, housewives, elders, bedridden and sick or homebound, our life and its efforts do matter. Laziness and constant complaining only steals our joy and weakens our witness to Jesus Christ. Through our daily work we can bring Jesus Christ’s presence into the world – our families and church and to those around us.

Gospel: Luke 21: 5-19

Background Context: It was said that during World War II the British government launch a simple slogan; **“Keep calm and carry on.”** It was meant to give people courage while bombs fell over their cities. The message was clear, **“stay steady, stay faithful, and do not give into fear”**. In many ways that is what Jesus told his disciples in today’s gospel, which can be rather unsettling for some Christians.

Jesus never hid the reality of suffering and the cost to be His faithful disciple. Here Jesus spoke of wars, disasters and persecutions **“nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be powerful earthquakes, famines, and plagues from place to place...” (Luke 21:10-11)** But most painfully betrayal may come from those we trust the most even from our own family and closest friends. **“You will be handed over by parents, brothers, relatives and friends and they will put some of you to death,” (Luke 21: 16).**

The world Jesus described feels uncertain and truly frightening, mixing fear and hope as the future seems so unclear. Yet amid these trials and hardship, Jesus tells us that He will be with us, **“but not a hair on your head will be destroyed,” (Luke 21:18).**

This statement is hyperbole - adjective words in exaggeration to make a strong point for how can one’s hair be unharmed in such horrific times?

Application to Life: Jesus promised that these difficult times of trials will give us an opportunity to testify and show what truly matters. When everything seems to fall apart, where do we place our trust, but in Jesus Christ by our testimony - witness.

The point is Jesus is reminding us to not rely on human success or impressive **“Temples”** what we may build with human power but to ground ourselves in our faithfulness to alone Him. Endurance is not just passive it is an active perseverance, choosing again and again to lean on God (Jesus Christ) when we feel lost or afraid.

Jesus even acknowledged that the sting of betrayal for His sake is real as He stated clearly that even those ones we love may betray, hurt or abandon us, the wounds may run deep. Yet, Jesus reminded us that God remains faithful, thus **“not a single hair is harmed - forgotten by God.”**

The suffering is not the end, when our hearts ache and our world feel uncertain, God is still working within our pain. Real victory is not escaping trials but walking through them with faith knowing that God never leaves us. So, when everything around us trembles, may we stand firm in trust. For **the Sun of Justice** – Jesus Christ still rises in our lives; and His light will never fade from us! Have a blessed week in the Lord! Fr. Paulo ofm cap.

