



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

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

ADDRESS _____
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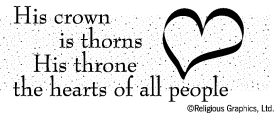
Solemnity of Our Lord
Jesus Christ the King

November 23, 2025

The Lord sits as King forever!

PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday, November 22	 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, November 23	 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	 9:00 a.m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, November 24	 7:30 a.m.	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Tuesday, November 25	 7:30 a.m.	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, November 26	 7:30 a.m.	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	.. 9:30am -11:30 am	Food Pantry Closed
Thursday, November 27	 7:30 a.m.	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	 8:00 a.m.	Mass - Thanksgiving
		PARISH OFFICE CLOSED - THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
Friday, November 28	 7:30 a.m.	Liturgy of Hours/Rosary
	 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
		PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday, November 29	 3:15-4:00 p.m.	Confession - Church
	 5:00 p.m.	Mass



NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Is:2:1-5: On that day, “they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks” prophesied Isaiah. “One nation shall not raise the word against another.” He went on “Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Rm:13:11-14: Paul urged the Romans: “It is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.”

Mt:24:37-44: Matthew’s Jesus said that the Son of Man will come at an hour no one can expect. Therefore, all people must stay awake, keep a watchful eye, and be prepared.

PRAYERS FOR ALL SOULS:

+Vicente Bale	+Tomasa Bale	+Francisco Bale	+Maria Bale
+Pepito Bale	+Rexsol Bale	+Fausto Bale	+Edgar Bake
+Edwin Medina	+Anna Lisa Medina	+Haruo Baba	+Hatsue Baba
+Granpa Baba	+Grandma Baba	+Grandpa Suzuki	+Grandma Suzuki
+Randolph Kamahale	+Leone Kamahale	+Englebert Kamahale	+Elizabeth Kamahale
+Leonard Oreta	+Rose Marie Oreta	+Bonifacio Ganitano	+Noah Ervin
+Rosemary Balicao	+Mohammed Sahim	+Fortunato Barit	+Alipia Barit
+Felomina Pascual	+Apolivaria Barit	+Juanita Barit	+Faustino Agdeppa, Jr
+Lance Halemano	+Tavae Felise	+Lisa Hoover	+Cassandra Stewart
+Michael Stewart	+Faustino Agdeppa	+Norma Agdeppa	+Lalla/+Ralpj Schwatz
+Mercedes Orda	+Vinancio Orda	+Emiliano Nisperos	+Ermogena Nisperos
+Argelito Nisperos	+Chester Fernandez	+Ardress Fernandez	+Kathleen Awa
+Oliva Nisperos Sorio	+Frederick Lynn	+Carlina Schumann	+Aresenia Nisperos
+Totoy Viloria	+Romeo Tadina	+David Kahanaoi, Sr.	+David Kahanaoi, Jr.
+Francis/+Elsie Kaaa	+Manuel/+Maria Coito	+Coito/+Kaaa Ohana	+Kahanaoi Ohana
+Robert Milliora, Jr.	+Peggy/+Frank DeRego	+Mary/+Joseph Rafael	+Ruth Milliora,
+Robert Milliora, Sr.	+Frank DeRego, Jr.	+EtheK/+Louise Gomes	+Dyno Gomes
+Cyrilla/+John Rupp	+Queenie Kamana	+May Villacruz	+Louis Villacruz

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN

DEVELOPMENT: Thank you for your generous support of last week for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. As a parish, we raised \$ To support those on the margins who live in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections and click "how to give" under "Resources." #iGiveCatholicTogether also accepts funds for the collection.

WORD OF LIFE: "Having received the gift of the Gospel of Life, we are the people of life and a people for life. It is our duty to proclaim the Gospel of Life to the world. To proclaim Jesus is to proclaim life itself. Gratitude and joy at the incomparable dignity of the human person impel us to bring the Gospel of life to the hearts of all people and make it penetrate every part of society." *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary"*

WEEKLY READINGS

Nov 23 Sun: Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

2 Sm:5:1-3; Ps:122; Col:1:12-20; Lk:23:35-43

Nov 24 Mon: Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest and Companions, Martyrs

Dn:1:1-6, 8-20; Dn:3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Lk:2:1-4

Nov 25 Tue: Ordinary Weekday

Dn:2:31-45; Dn:3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61; Lk:21:5-11

Nov 26 Wed: Ordinary Weekday

Dn:5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Dn:3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67; Lk:21:12-19

Nov 27 Thur: Thanksgiving

Sir:50:22-24; Ps:113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; 1 Cor:1:3-9; Lk:17:11-19

Nov 28 Fri: Ordinary Weekday

Dn:7:2-149; Dn:3:75, 76, 77, 78, 49, 80, 81; Lk:21:29-33

Nov 29 Sat: Ordinary Weekday

Dn:7:15-27; Dn:3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87; Lk:21:34-36

NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

In today's Gospel we hear of the rulers who sneered at Jesus, the soldiers who jeered at him, the criminal who reviled him, and the people who just stood by. At our own parish church the cross stands high. Yet, every Sunday there are those who sit in front of it and are not moved by it. There are people who walk right by the cross, unmoved by it. Perhaps they've walked by it so many times they no longer give it a second thought. Could it be they are unmoved because the heart of this unbelieving thief is in them? Good stewards walk by the cross, notice it and ask themselves: "All this you did for me, what have I done for your?" **International Catholic Stewardship Council**

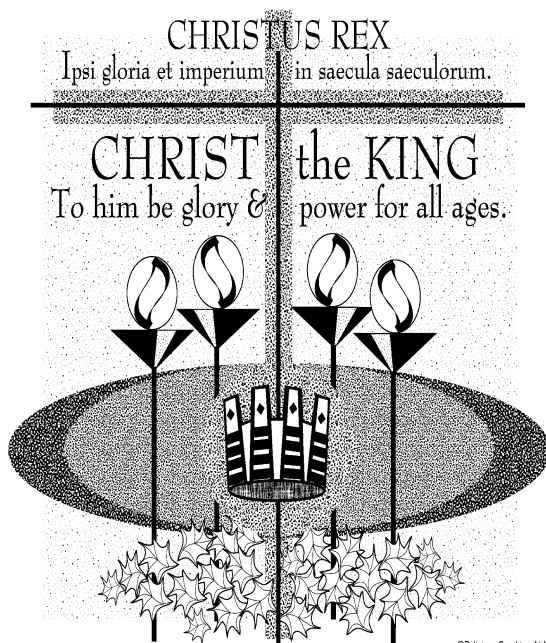
STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Sunday Collection	\$ 3, 976.75
Candles	65.00
Funeral	300.00
Outreach	45.00
Total	\$ 4, 566.75

RESTRICTED COLLECTIONS

Building Fund	\$ 830.00
Repairs & Maintenance	80.00
Total	\$ 910.00

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Solemnity of Christ the King C November 23. 2025

Na Leo Kahuhipa – Aloha Nu'ia

Today we celebrate the **Solemn Feast Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**. This feast was instituted by **Pope Pius XI on 1925** in his encyclical letter, **Quas Primas**. It was in response to the growing threat of secularism and atheism. This solemnity reminds us that while the world powers and governments come and go Jesus Christ reigns as King forever. The principle biblical verse associated with the Feast is from **Philippians 2: 10-11**.

Old Testament: 2 Samuel 5:1-3

Background Context: In our first reading from **2 Samuel**, David is made king over the united Isreal after the period of division and hardship. The Israelites came together acknowledging their relationship with David and said, **“here we are, your bone and your flesh” 2 Samuel 5:1** and accepted David as their king. This event is rooted in God’s plan as David was chosen to unify the 12 tribes of Isreal and guide them in justice and peace.

Historically David’s 40-year reign (**1010BC-970BC**) was seen as the ideal in Isreal’s memory even though he was imperfect human leader. The Church reads this story on the Feast of Christ the King, because David’s kingship is symbol – called a type of Kingship of Jesus Christ.

Where David brought all the tribes of Isreal together, Jesus Christ brings together all people and creation. David’s forty-year reign pointed toward the eternal reign of Jesus Christ whose Kingdom is everlasting.

Application to life: Just as Isreal recognized the need for unity and for a shepherd - king, **“you shall shepherd my people Isreal and shall be a commander of Isreal” 2 Smauel 5:2**. We Christians are called to unite under Jesus Christ our true Sheperd - King. David ruled **“before the Lord”** making an agreement, rooted in God. **Our King Jesus Christ rules over us with mercy, truth and sacrificial love - death on the Cross, inviting us all to live under His reign of peace and justice and grace.**

Celebrating the Solemn Feast of Christ, the King, then is not only looking back to David’s but forward to the fullness of God’s Kingdom in Christ Jesus, one of justice, humility and love for all. David’s anointing as the king points us to the hope and call to live as the servants of the true King Jesus Christ working for unity and calls to surrender to the gentle Lordship our King each day.

New Testament: Colossians 1: 12-20

Background Context: The second letter taken from Paul to the Colossians is perhaps one of the most beautiful descriptions of who Jesus Christ truly is. Paul began by encouraging believers to give thanks to the Father who has made us worthy to share in an inheritance of His holy people. This means God has invited us as His sons and daughters – children not because we earned it, but because God has chosen to love us. Paul then gave the imagery of **“one being pulled out of darkness and brought into bright sunlight.”**

Through Jesus, we have received forgiveness, freedom and a rebirth to a new identity as God’s children. Jesus is **“the image of the invisible God”** meaning that if we want to know what God is like, we look at Jesus. Jesus showed us God’s heart, God’s compassion and God’s power. Paul also states that everything in creation, heaven and earth, visible and invisible was made through Jesus and for Jesus. Paul also called Jesus the Head of the Church.

Application to Life: Just as the head guides the body, Jesus Christ leads and nourishes us. Through His death on the Cross, Jesus has brought forgiveness and peace, thus restored our broken relationship with God. This passage invites us to see Jesus not just a teacher or a miracle worker but as the center of everything, Our Lord and Savior!

When life feels scattered or we are confused let us remember that **“in Jesus Christ He holds all things together”** which brought peace to our hearts. We are also called to gratitude in our daily prayer as we should include in all our prayer the prayer of thanksgiving for bringing us out of darkness - sin to His wonderful light-grace.

Finally knowing that Jesus Christ is the **“Head of the Church”** should assist us to trust that the Church, despite her many struggles and human frailties will never cease to be guided by the power and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit as Jesus Christ promised. When we keep Jesus Christ at the center of our daily life, our faith becomes rooted and strong and filled with hope in all that we face daily as His disciples.

Gospel: Luke 23: 35- 43

Background Context: In the 1920’s the anti-Catholic government in Mexico under the dictator Plutarco Elias Calles dominated the Mexican government and led a fierce anti-Catholic persecution. Churches were closed and many priest and nuns were imprisoned during the fierce persecution of the Catholic Church. **Blessed Fr. Miguel Pro** a Mexican Jesuit priest secretly returned from Spain upon his ordination as priest. He secretly ministered to the many hidden Catholics by traveling house to house celebrating mass, hearing confessions and bringing hope and strength to the frightened Catholic faithful. Often, he wore disguises to avoid arrest, sometime as mechanic,

sometimes as businessman or day laborer. In whatever that helped him to reach his people.

Eventually **Fr. Miguel Pro** was caught and sentenced to death on false charges of treason and sedition by a firing squad at the prison courtyard, in Mexico City. On the day of his execution he refused the blind fold and with his arms out stretch like Jesus Christ on the Cross, as the volley of rifle gunshots were fired; he boldly cried out, **“Viva Cristo Rey” – “Long live Christ the King”** a powerful testament to his faith and it became a battle cry for all who refuse to be frighten to denounce the Catholic Faith, this event inspired many to remain steadfast to the faith. The date was **November 23, 1927**, a day before the actual **Feast of Christ the King!**

The firing squad expected fear; instead, they saw a man whose courage came from a King who saves not by coming down from the Cross but by giving His life in love on the Cross.

In the gospel taken from Luke, Jesus hangs on the Cross while people mocked at Him, **“if you are the king save yourself.”** The soldiers laughed, the leaders of the people sneered and one of the criminals crucified by His side joined the insult, while the other criminal acknowledging his sins – crime, simply gazed at Jesus and pleaded for mercy.

Application to Life. If we look up to Jesus on the Cross, we will see love waiting for us. He is the King that does not force us but waits for us to turn to Him, just as He waited for **“the good thief.”** The two criminals beside Jesus represent the way of looking at life. **One chose bitterness** demanding a miracle to suit his expectation **while the other chose trust** and cried out, **“Jesus remember me when you come to your Kingdom.”** This simple plea becomes one of the most beautiful prayers in the Scripture. It reminds us of that Jesus Christ’s Kingship shines brightest when wounded people return to Him in humility.

Some have wondered what would have happened if Jesus came down from the Cross? Jesus could have; He had the power to do so but is He had done so He would have saved Himself not us. The Cross is His throne because Jesus Christ revealed not fear but love, a love strong enough to stay, to suffer and to save, Jesus Christ is our Savior and Lord!

We know that earthly kings show power by dominating, Jesus Christ the King show power by lifting us sinners up, even when He Himself is nailed down. Truly His kingship is not about escape but embrace. Not about punishing but forgiving. Jesus does not wait for perfect people He waits for our hearts to turn toward His Heart in conversion. No matter how late, broken or how lost we feel, Jesus Christ whispers the same promise He whisper to the **“good thief.” “Today you will be with me”** it is the voice of the King who reigns by

mercy not might. Even when we feel forgotten or unworthy Jesus waits for us to return to Him promising mercy, forgiveness and love. His healing and His life. On this **Solemn Feast of Christ the King**, let us shift our focus away from the voices around us to the voice of Jesus the King who calls us by name and never ceases to love us.

As we celebrate the **Solemn Feast of Christ the King**, the Church invites us to ask a simple question “**who is the true King of my life?**” Where do I resist Jesus Christ’s leadership? For Christians when our faith is repeatedly marginalized in public life, we can easily fall into the habit to compartmentalizing our life of faith.

We may honor and place Jesus Christ as our King on Sundays, but throughout the week, we act as if we have no King. Maybe, we love Jesus Christ our King our private lives, but we often find ourselves shrinking from acknowledging Kingship of Jesus Christ in public life.

On this **Solemnity of Christ the King**, we declare to the world and remind ourselves that Jesus Christ is the Lord of the Church and of the entire universe. Let us, like Blessed Fr. Miguel Pro boldly proclaim to the world not only in words alone but in the witness of our daily choices we make. “**Viva Cristo Rey – Long Live Christ the King**”

LOOKING AHEAD:

Our Parish Thanksgiving Mass, this coming Thursday (Thanksgiving Day) November 27th at 8:00am. Come let us give thanks to God for all He has done for us in the Eucharistic Celebration of the Mass!

Beginning **next Sunday, November 30, is the First Sunday of Advent!** Our spiritual journey of 4 weeks into Advent will begin in preparation for the Solemn Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ - Christmas. **Advent like Lent, uses violet – purple colors** to signify our **time of penance and conversion of our hearts.**

Mark your calendar for St. Rita Parish Advent Confessions-Penance Service on Tuesday, December 9th at 7:00pm. Next Sunday, materials regarding preparing oneself for celebrating the Sacrament of Confessions will be made available in the bulletin.

Penance – Confession dates and times for: 1). **Sacred Heart, Waianae** on Monday, December 1st at 7:00pm. 2). **St. Joseph, Waipahu**, on Tuesday, December 2nd at 6:30pm. 3). **St. Jude, Makakilo**, on Thursday, December 4th at 7:00pm. 4). **Our Lady of Good Counsel, Ewa Beach** on Thursday, December 11th at 7:00pm and 5). **Immaculate Conception, Ewa** on Friday, December 12th at 7:00pm. **Make your schedule to go to Confession** and prepare your hearts-souls for the amazing Feast of Christmas! Do not be caught off guard, still carrying the weight of sin and guilt. Have a blessed week in the Lord!