

# ST. RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH

655 HAIKU RD., HAIKU, HAWAII 96708

## ST. GABRIEL MISSION

WAILUANUI, KEANAE



March 14, 2021  
Fourth Sunday of Lent (D)  
2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23  
Eph 2:4-10  
In 3:14-21

And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil.  
JOHN 3:19



### You Decide

We normally take great pride in making our own decisions. When we did this as children, it was a sign that we were growing up: as adolescents, it was a proclamation of independence. Now as adults, when making decisions we demonstrate that we are self-directed. The problem doesn't seem to be in decision-making decisions we demonstrate that we are self-directed. The problem doesn't seem to be in decision-making itself but in the options given to us that require a decision. And there is the rub. Often these are options not of our choosing. This can make decision-making very difficult.

Today's Gospel is all about making decisions. Options are placed before us. We either choose Jesus and the extraordinary way of life that he has outlined for us, or we go along with the movements of society. This could include making money at any cost, denying hospitality to those who knock on our door, harboring an attitude of superiority over others. We either choose to live in faith with the insights that our faith provides, or we simply accept the values that surround us each day through the media, namely: the first. What's mine is mine. What's in it for me? Not in my back yard.

If we look carefully, we will realize that the way of life Jesus promises is based on the dignity of each person, who is made in the image and likeness of God. Actions that diminish, demean, damage, or destroy human life are contrary to the teaching, life, and example of Jesus. Accepting his way brings forth a new society called "the reign of God." Rejecting it will undermine the foundations of the society we have. Which will it be? You decide.

St. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### For Reflection

- How might you have compromised your religious values in order to get by in life?
- Might God be asking you to choose something new?



CKEIK 740 AM or online @  
RELEVANTRADIO.COM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES  
Grades 1-12 Religious Education HOME STUDY options are available. Monthly meetings that will focus on the current liturgical season will be scheduled. Please contact Christine, 815-735-0612 or ematheis2014@gmail.com

THIRFT SHOP  
Hours of Operation  
Donation Drop Off  
Sunday: 9:45 am ~ 12:00 noon  
Tuesday: 8:00 am ~ 12:00 noon



~OFFICE~  
655 Haiku Road Phone: 575-2601  
Haiku, HI 96708  
St. Rita's Website:  
<http://stritahaiku.com/>

Text App to 88202 to download  
our Parish App

~STAFF~

Pastor

Rev. Chacko Muthoottil

Secretary: Faythe Urayanza  
stritahaikur@gmail.com

Office Hours:  
Mon, Wed & Fri 8:00am-1:00pm

Bookkeeper: Esther Yap  
eyap@trcehawaii.org

RE Director: Christine Matheis  
# 815-735-0612  
ematheis2014@gmail.com

~MASS SCHEDULE~

~ST. RITA~

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. ~ Vigil  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

7:00 a.m. ~ Tuesday - Friday

~ST. GABRIEL~

1st & 3rd Sundays: 11:00 a.m.

~RECONCILIATION~

ST. RITA ~ Saturday: 3:30 ~ 4:00 p.m.

ST. GABRIEL ~ Before Sunday Mass

~ANONING OF THE SICK~

Please contact the Office

~BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS,

~FUNERALS~

Please contact the Office

~MINISTRIES~

MINISTRY OF SONG: CHOIR

Wayne Freitas

Tuesday ~ 6:00 p.m.

PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND

COMMUNION TO HOSPITAL

### MARCH READINGS, MEETINGS & EVENTS

- March 13: Saturday Vigil Mass  
Readings: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23  
Eph 2:4-10  
Jn 3:14-21  
3:30 ~ 4:00 p.m. ~ Sacrament of Reconciliation @ St. Rita Church  
5:00 p.m. ~ Vigil Mass @ St. Rita Church  
2nd Collection ~ Catholic Relief Services
- March 14: Sunday  
Readings: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23  
Eph 2:4-10  
Jn 3:14-21  
8:30 a.m. ~ Mass @ St. Rita Church  
9:45 ~ 11:00 a.m. ~ Religious Education / Kids  
2nd Collection ~ Catholic Relief Services
- March 15: Monday  
Readings: Is 65:17-21  
Jn 4:43-54  
7:00 a.m. ~ Mass @ St. Rita Church  
Lenten Weekday
- March 16: Tuesday  
Readings: Ez 47:1-9, 12  
Jn 5:1-16  
7:00 a.m. ~ Mass @ St. Rita Church  
Lenten Weekday
- March 17: Wednesday  
Readings: Is 49:8-15  
Jn 5:17-30  
7:00 a.m. ~ Mass @ Sat. Rita Church  
Lenten Weekday
- March 18: Thursday  
Readings: Ex 32:7-14  
Jn 5:31-47  
7:00 a.m. ~ Mass @ St. Rita Church  
Lenten Weekday
- March 19: Friday  
Blessed Virgin Mary  
Readings: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16  
Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22  
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a  
7:00 a.m. ~ Mass @ St. Rita Church  
5:30 p.m. ~ Divine Mercy Prayer  
6:00 p.m. ~ Stations of the Cross  
Vigil Mass  
Saturday  
Readings: Jer 31:31-34  
Heb 5:7-9
- March 20: Saturday  
Vigil Mass  
Saturday: 5:00 p.m. ~ Vigil  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m.
- ~ANONING OF THE SICK~  
Please contact the Office
- ~BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS~  
Please contact the Office
- ~MINISTRIES~  
MINISTRY OF SONG: CHOIR  
Wayne Freitas  
Tuesday ~ 6:00 p.m.
- PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD  
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS  
COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND  
COMMUNION TO HOSPITAL

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK BROTHERS & SISTERS

Lito Urayanza  
James Gonzalez-Wesley  
Rosemary Robbins  
Debbie Raborito  
Rosamond Prince  
Stanley Lee  
Mark Potter  
Rachel Cravalho  
Robert Robello  
Susan Redpath

Our monthly payment for our Land

2nd Collection ~ St. Rita's Debt Reduction ~

9:45 ~ 11:00 a.m. ~ Religious Education / Kids

8:30 a.m. ~ Mass @ St. Rita Church

Jn 12:20-33

Readings: Jer 31:31-34  
Heb 5:7-9

March 21: Sunday

Our monthly payment for our Land

2nd Collection ~ St. Rita's Debt Reduction ~

5:00 p.m. ~ Vigil Mass @ St. Rita Church

3:30 ~ 4:00 p.m. ~ Sacrament of Reconciliation

Jn 12:20-33

Readings: Jer 31:31-34  
Heb 5:7-9

March 20: Saturday

Vigil Mass

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. ~ Vigil

Sunday: 8:30 a.m.

~ANONING OF THE SICK~

Please contact the Office

~BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS~

Please contact the Office

~MINISTRIES~

MINISTRY OF SONG: CHOIR

Wayne Freitas

Tuesday ~ 6:00 p.m.

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~ OUR LAND, OUR CHURCH ~	
Debt Reduction Fund	
Thank you for continuing to support this effort to pay for our land. Please use the debt reduction envelopes for proper accounting. Envelopes are available by the door of the church. Mahalo!	
Mortgage payment due April 1st, 2021	\$ 1,753.77
March collections	\$ (169.92)
Balance	\$ 1,583.85
Balloon payment due January 31, 2022:	\$ 15,000.00
Real Property tax assessment	\$ 1,200.00
Fundraising:	\$ (4,030.00)
Donation:	\$ (2,750.00)
Balance	\$ 9,720.00



March 5, 2021

DIocese of HONOLULU  
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII  
WITNESSES TO JESUS



Peace be with you!



As we continue on our Lenten journey, we look forward to the joyful celebration of the Paschal Mystery, the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, the greatest event in the history of the world. We have been living in this strange time of the pandemic, and now with decreasing numbers of cases, increasing accessibility to vaccines, and "herd immunity" on the horizon, we should be able to celebrate Easter in a more normal fashion this year. Since our Sunday encounter with the Risen Lord in the Eucharist is the source and summit of who we are as Christians, it is important that we return to our weekly celebrations.

Effective Easter Sunday, April 4 (or as of Easter Vigil, April 3) I am ending the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, which has been in effect since mid-March, 2020. However, anyone who is sick, may have been exposed to anyone with COVID-19, or who has a health condition that would endanger themselves or others by being present in church, continues to be dispensed.

At the same time, I realize that we must stay vigilant about our health protocols, and so the following norms must continue to be observed:

- Mask must be worn by all who attend Mass or other liturgical services.
- Social distancing and no-touch greetings and Sign of Peace remain the norms.
- Holy Communion is to be given only under the species of Bread.
- Sanitization is to continue between Masses.
- Social gatherings after Mass should still not take place.

God Bless you all, and have a blessed Lent, a joyful Easter Triduum, and a grace-filled Easter Season!

Bishop Larry Silva



# 4th Sunday OF LENT

"Whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God." - Jn 3:21

### Religious Education Classes

March 21st	Kids ~ Grades 2-12 ~ 9:45 ~ 11:00 am / Church Hall
March 28th	Adults ~ 9:45 ~ 11:00 am / Church Hall
April 11th	Kids ~ Grades 2-12 ~ 9:45 ~ 11:00 am / Church Hall
April 25th	Adults ~ 9:45 ~ 11:00 am / Church Hall

St. Rita	INCOME	3/7/2021	Collection	\$ 1,699.00
	Debt Reduction/Land	\$\$\$		\$ 335.00
	Candles	\$\$\$		\$ 55.00
	Thrift Shop	\$\$\$		\$ 370.55
	Shepherd's Care	\$ 16.00		\$ 934.00
	100th Jubilee	\$\$\$		\$ 50.00
	Mass Intentions	\$\$\$		\$ 25.00
	Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 30.00		\$ 65.00
	Ash Wednesday	\$\$\$		\$ 25.00
	Pastor's	\$\$\$		\$ 945.00
	TOTAL	\$	\$ 241.00	\$ 4,503.55

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Next Sundays  
Readings: \*\*\*\*\*  
March 21, 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT  
JER 31: 31-34  
PS 51: 3-4, 12-15  
HEB 5: 7-9  
JN 12: 20-33



- + Vytautas Liesuonaitis
- + Abel & Irene Gouveia
- + Gretchen Nakula
- + Isaac James Honokapu
- + Nathan Pereira



### March Mass Intentions

Mahalo to our Church  
Cleaner! Thank you  
for your generous  
Time, Talent and  
Treasure! May God  
Richly Bless You!



Inserted in today's bulletin is the St. Rita's Church Financial Statement of Activities VS Budget. 7/1/2020—12/31/2020. If you have any questions, please see: Winona Martinez, Diane Nifong, Shirley Ann Hoopai, Fr. Chacko or Esther Yap.

### PRO LIFE CORNER


"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." ~ John 3:16

Do you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential non-judgmental help is available.

Call Project Rachel's national toll-free number: 888-456-HOPE (4673) [www.hopeafterabortion.com](http://www.hopeafterabortion.com)



### We are accepting Donations for our Easter Flowers! If you would like to make a donation "In Memory Of" please ask for an envelope or just put "Flowers" on your own envelope and drop it in the collection box. Thank you!



This Lent CRS takes us to Timor-Leste. A small Asian country, slightly larger than the state of Connecticut. It's on the other side of the world near Australia, and it's one of the newest countries - only 18 years old. Many families in Timor-Leste live in rural areas and work as farmers. But challenges like changing weather patterns make it difficult to grow enough food. They depend on rice as a main part of their meals, and hunger and malnutrition are a big problem. More than one-third of people in Timor-Leste don't have reliable access to enough nutritious food. This especially affects children and their ability to develop to their full potential. With training from CRS, families are starting home gardens to grow different vegetables, beans and other foods that are rich in nutrients like Vitamin A and iron. Eliza and her husband Paulino have six children. They have started a home garden and began to grow different crops based on the rainy and dry seasons. They also started raising Chickens, which provide additional protein to their meals and income from selling eggs.



This weeks 2nd Collection will be for the "Catholic Relief Services." Thank You!  
Next weeks 2nd Collection will be for our land, "St. Rita's Debt Reduction." Thank You!

Today we are faced with many challenges..Loneliness, isolation, anxiety, fear of the pandemic, relationship problems, depression, financial difficulties, doubts about our faith...or maybe you would like to deepen your faith with adult teachings of the church. Fr. Mike Tolentino and the Neocatechumenal Way invite you to a faith formation beginning January 25th, 2021 on Mondays and Thursdays in the St. Joseph gym starting at 7:00 p.m. for eight weeks. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME COME AND LISTEN**



"BE NOT AFRAID I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS"

A WORD FROM Pope Francis  
Saint Joseph appears as a strong and courageous man, a working man, yet in his heart we see great tenderness, which is not the virtue of the weak but rather a sign of strength of spirit and a capacity for concern, for compassion, for genuine openness to others, for love. We must not be afraid of goodness, of tenderness!



My friend's parish is having a St. Joseph's Day Altar. What is that?  
According to tradition, the altar to St. Joseph originated in the Middle Ages by Sicilians who invoked their patron saint during an extended drought and famine. When rain finally brought relief, the people expressed their gratitude in two ways: by displaying a table with the foods they harvested and by distributing their gratitude to those most in need. Over time, the custom of an altar around the March 19 feast day of St. Joseph gained popularity and is now embraced by the faithful of any nationality wishing to share their good fortune with those who have less. The mealless feast usually includes baked items, beans, nuts, fruits, and seafood presented in ways that symbolize elements of the faith. Prayerful rituals and children portraying the Holy Family add to the celebration and heritage. Whether the altar is modest or elaborate, at home or in church, it's a labor of love meant to strengthen the bonds of family and friends in its preparation and to strengthen one's faith and charity in its execution.  
Fr. Byron Miller, OSB  
Sundays@stjosephs.org