



Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus

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January 11, 2026 - The Baptism of the Lord (A) Living as Beloved Sons and Daughters of God



Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7; Psalm 29:1-2,3-4,3,9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Matthew 3:13-17

We are all beloved sons and daughters of God. We call ourselves children of God. This identity is bestowed upon us through Baptism. Let us reflect on this great honor by considering the Baptism of our Lord. Jesus came to be baptized not because he was a sinner but to fulfill what was said about him long ago. He was baptized to show that he is the Christ, the chosen one of God (cf. Isaiah 42:1-4).

During his baptism at the Jordan River, the Father publicly declares his identity, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Mat. 3:17). With this declaration from heaven, Jesus begins his ministry, performing miracles and showing kindness that prove he is the beloved Son. For example, when he meets the Samaritan woman at the well, he crosses social lines to offer her living water and share truths about God (cf. Jn. 4:1-42). The effect of being God's beloved children through Baptism is something we can follow: being strengthened in our identity, treating others with love and purpose, and sharing the kindness we have received.

We know John's baptism is a water baptism, a sign of turning back to God. Jesus stands with sinners to be baptized, even though he does not need to change. This shows that Jesus is not only God with us but also a savior who shares the life of those he came to save. The Lord's baptism reveals who he is and how he carries out his mission. His mission is not about power or judging others but about standing with people and showing kindness. This kindness is not merely gentle or quiet; it is a strong, life-changing force that challenges common ideas of strength. Through his caring presence, Jesus brings new life and hope to those around him. His way is different from the world's, which seeks control and status. Instead, Jesus uses kindness to invite us to do the same, encouraging us to treat others with strong love and to feel God's mercy and closeness rather than his anger.

The contrast between Jesus' choice to stand with sinners and today's pursuit of status is striking. In an era when personal gain often overshadows community and empathy, the power of solidarity modeled by Jesus challenges us. Instead of seeking recognition, consider a public figure who, despite opportunities for acclaim, chooses anonymity to support charitable causes quietly. This act mirrors Christ-like power, showing that true strength and influence come from humility and selfless devotion to others, not from pursuing prestige.

Through our baptism, we are immersed in the life of the Triune God by the Holy Spirit and become Christians, meaning "anointed ones." The Father's words to Jesus are also meant for us, not in a voice we can hear but still real: "you are my beloved..., with whom I am well pleased." This is our identity and a lasting mark that brings us into God's family. Nothing can take it away, not even sin. It is as permanent and unique as a fingerprint, a personal identifier that time cannot erase. No matter what happens, this identity as 'beloved of God' remains with us. It is God's gift, not something we earn.

This gift of being 'beloved of God' grows within a community of faith alongside other baptized Christians.



This identity brings us together and heals division and loneliness. There is no us and them but a family living with God. Like our Lord Jesus, this honor calls us to stand with those who endure poverty and suffering. Our journey with him, shown in our loving care for those



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most in need, makes our identity as beloved sons and daughters of God shine.

Let us pray that we remain faithful to our calling as God's children and that the Father might call us what He calls His Son, "this is my beloved... with whom I am well pleased!" To embody this prayer in daily life, consider a simple ritual. This week, light a candle each evening as a symbol of Christ's light guiding your path, or sprinkle a few drops of holy water on your forehead each morning as a reminder of your baptismal promise. These small actions can remind us of our commitment to live as beloved children of God.

As we reflect on these practices, let us ask ourselves: What one act of courageous kindness can I do this week that embodies the love and kindness Jesus showed to all and that manifests my life as a beloved child of God?

Fr. Manny Hewe, Pastor



We worship what we believe, we live what we worship!

**95th Parish Foundation Anniversary Prayer
A Journey of Joyful Witness to Doing all things with Love.**

Almighty and gracious God, You are the source and foundation of all creation. In Your goodness, You brought all things into being and sustain us each day. We give You thanks as we celebrate the 95th anniversary of the Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish.

We are grateful for Your constant presence, guidance, and blessings over the years. We honor those who established our parish, the joys we have shared, the ministries that have grown, and the many lives touched and transformed within our community and beyond.

As we remember, reflect, and celebrate, we thank You for the grace that has sustained us through every challenge. Your care has united us as one Body in Christ, and we are grateful for the love that binds us together.

Grant our pastor and deacons wisdom, our ministry leaders fervor for service, our volunteers joy in ministry, and inspire all parishioners to participate actively in the parish's pastoral and sacramental life.

As we look to the future, we ask for Your guidance to help us love more deeply, grow in unity, and renew our commitment to serve those in need of Your mercy. Open our hearts to new ways to share Your love through our words and deeds, so that our renewal shows others Your kingdom, as our Lord Jesus commanded us to witness.

Inspired by St. Therese of the Child Jesus, may we serve with humility and joy, always doing even small things with great love for Your glory. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, pray for us.

Help Support St. Theresa School

STS will be selling Zippy's tickets after Sunday masses this weekend - Jan. 10 & 11 -

Mahalo for your generosity!

Order of Christian Initiation will resume our formation on Tuesday - January 13.

Thank you for all your support, and we ask that you keep our catechumen in your prayers as they continue their journey to be fully initiated in the Catholic faith.

Tuesday evening, Jan. 13th at 6:30 PM ~ room 210

For more information, please contact the parish office @ (808)521-1700.

Weekly Offering Report

For December 29, 2025 - January 4, 2026



Weekly Collections Online Giving

SUNDAY Mass Offering	\$ 10,776.50	\$ 1,316.59
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*** Looking for convenient, safe and secure way of giving to our church? We have online giving feature in our website, just click on the link and go through the easy-to-follow steps to go about it. We also have a Giving Kiosk beside the statue of St. Damien. Please have a look at these methods for your church contributions. We thank you for your continued support in fulfilling the mission of the Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa. ***

We will provide a complete report on the donations and updated expenses for the church fence and security project as soon as they are available. In the meantime, we would like to encourage you to reflect and pray to consider donating more towards the church fence and security project the construction of which is in progress.

Please continue to pray with us for the completion of this important project for the safety and security of our church and school.

Parish Savings with the Diocese as of November 30, 2025 \$ 25,098.87

Outstanding PV Loan with the Diocese as of November 30, 2025 \$ 283,904.02

Second Collections:

January 10-11 for the Repairs & Maintenance

January 24-25 for the Church in Latin America and Black & Indian Mission

Mahalo for your generosity.



Attention: Youth Ministry

The Youth Ministry will be gathering this Friday, January 16th, at 7pm. The topic for our Life Night will be "Young & Bold: Answering the Call of God".

All middle school and high school students, and parents are invited to come.

Thank you and may you have a blessed new year!



Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa
of the Child Jesus
ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF HONOLULU



OHANA PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

Saturday, January 24
9:00 to 10:45 a.m.

Pre-registration after mass
at Church Lanai
January 10 & 11

ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY
5 days before distribution
<https://www.cocathedral.org/>

St.TheresaSchool@Beavers808
 Sttheresaschool808
Website: www.stshi.org

SCHOOL OFFICE STAFF AND FACULTY MEMBERS

- Principal/Music 1-8 - Conception (Bernie) Gora
- Vice Principal/Math 8 & Discovery - Lauren Ramirez-Asaeda
- Executive Administrative Assistant/LA 6 - Faith Leasiolagi
- Admission Clerk/Office Assistant - Stephanie Lou Ondayog
- Dean of Discipline/Athletic Director/4 & 5 Health/Art - Francine Caetano-Fontanilla
- Preschool Director/Teacher - Magdalena Collins
- PK-8 PE & MS Health - Jayven Bumanglag
- Preschool Aide - Elaine Jane Gonzalez
- Kindergarten Aide & Resource Teacher - Lenie Macadangdang
- Kindergarten Teacher - Leilani Tanaka
- PK, Kindergarten Religion & Liturgy Coordinator - Sr. Ana Fua Dela Cruz, SPC
- 1st Grade - Marvin Macadangdang
- 2nd Grade/Sacramental Prep - Faith Afu
- Creative Music K-3 - Johnelle Silva
- 3rd Grade Teacher - Sibel Mestanova
- 4th Grade Teacher - Laura Gabriel
- 5th Grade Teacher - Taiena Finau
- Middle School Social Studies & Math 6 - Alyssa Yabes
- 7 & 8 Language Arts/7 & 8 Home Economics - Dr. Frances Wong
- Middle School Religion - Shaun Agtarap
- Math 7 - Christian Raquepo
- Middle School Japanese/7 & 8 Arts/ Marketing - Tiani Quon
- MS Science - Peter Park
- Permanent Sub - Bernadette Lopez
- Maintenance - Edwin Kaaihue
- Custodian - Romeo John Cabarrubias

2nd Offering *this Weekend* is for
January 10 & 11, 2026



**the Repairs
and
Maintenance
of our
Parish Buildings**

Mahalo for your generosity!



PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

(Closed during Lunch break from 12:00 - 1:00 pm)

Saturdays
from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

Sundays
from 7:30 am - 11:30 am

MASS SCHEDULES

Sunday Mass

6:30 am, 8:30 am, 10:30 am & 6:00 pm

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm

Daily Mass

Mon - Thurs: 6:30 am
Fri - Sat: 8:00 am

Vietnamese Mass (VHM)

Daily Mass:
Mon. Tues. & Thur. at 5:30 pm
Saturday Vigil at 7:00 pm
Sundays at 3:30 pm

Holy Hour/Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession

Wednesdays

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena at 6:00 pm
Holy Hour/Benediction & Confessions at 6:15 pm
(First Wednesdays of the month with Bishop)

PASTORAL TEAM & PARISH STAFF

Fr. Manuel Hewe

Pastor

Sr. Mercedita Estrella, SPC

Dir. of R.E. & Pastoral Associate

Tyra Lamb

Safe Environment Liaison

Pinky Mendoza

Office Coordinator

Jennifer Asuncion

Office Secretary

Francis Leasiolagi

Deacon

Jonathan Lam

VHM Deacon

Fr. Anthony Tran

VHM Chaplain

Ryan and Ashley Agcaoili

Coordinators of Youth Ministry

Grace Young

Communications Coordinator

Bernie Gora

Director of Music

Earl Morita

Church Grounds Maintenance

Ray Lamb

Deacon

Samy Ratum

Facilities Custodian

Roy Matsuo

Retired Deacon

Noraliza Tapec

On-Call Church Custodian

Marlowe Sabater

Deacon

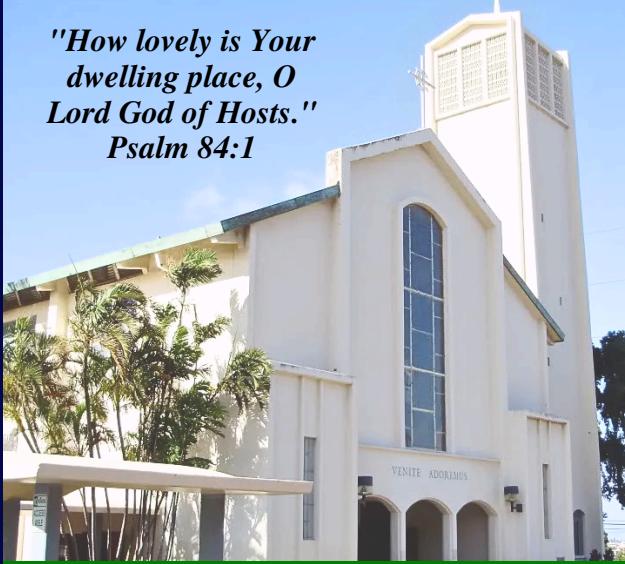
Felipe Tan

Accountant

Joan Mabag

Custodian

*"How lovely is Your
dwelling place, O
Lord God of Hosts."
Psalm 84:1*



Daily Mass Readings

www.usccb.org

January 12, 2026

*Monday of the First Week in
Ordinary Time*

1 Samuel 1:1-8; Mark 1:14-20

January 13, 2026

*Tuesday of the First Week in
Ordinary Time*

1 Samuel 1:9-20; Mark 1:21-28

January 14, 2026

*Wednesday of the First Week in
Ordinary Time*

1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20; Mark 1:29-39

January 15, 2026

*Thursday of the First Week in
Ordinary Time*

1 Samuel 4:1-11; Mark 1:40-45

January 16, 2026

*Friday of the First Week in Ordinary
Time*

1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a; Mark 2:1-12

January 17, 2026

Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbot

1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1;
Mark 2:13-17

January 18, 2026

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6; 1 Corinthians 1:1-3;
John 1:29-34