



Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus

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October 26, 2025 - Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

The Lord Hears the Cry of the Poor

Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18; Psalm. 34:2-3,17-18,19,23; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

"The Lord hears the cry of the poor" (Psalm 34:7). The poor and lowly ones are at the center of the heart of God. God has big ears and a heart when the poor cry out to him. God hears and answers their cries, tears, and pains in due time and sometimes in ways we least expect.

The passage from the Book of Sirach proclaims that God listens to the grievances of the poor and does not forsake their cries. It assures us that God will render justice and show no partiality to them (cf. 35:16-18). St. Paul echoes a similar assurance: a conviction that God stands by him and gives the reward that a good and a poor servant deserves (cf. 2 Tim. 4:17-18). This makes him resilient despite being abandoned by his collaborators and treated as a criminal because of the Gospel. And even though he becomes poor because of his ministry, he's resolute to continue serving to the end—fighting the good fight, running the race, keeping the faith (cf. 2 Tim. 4:7-8).

Our Lord Jesus reinforces this message through the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector. Both went to the temple to pray, but it's the Tax Collector who wins God's favor because of his profound humility. The Pharisee, a devout observer of the Law, leads a life of regular prayer, tithing, and fasting. One might assume he would easily please God, but Jesus rebukes him for his prayer that reveals self-righteousness. The Pharisee says, "O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity – greedy, dishonest, adulterous – or even like this tax collector" (Lk. 18:11). He presents himself to God as someone who does not need his mercy, his sense of justice and self-righteousness leading him to despise others and arrogantly separate himself from the rest of humanity.

In contrast, the Tax Collector, a declared public sinner with no moral integrity due to his status, knows that he is undeserving and has no self-justice to boast about. He enters the temple with his head bowed down, so in-touched with his unworthiness, begging the Lord for something he cannot give to himself: "O God, be merciful to me a sinner" (Lk. 18:13). His prayer has nothing to prove before God except his dire need for mercy. Because he genuinely humbles himself, God approves his prayer, and he goes home justified.

When we pray like a poor person — not expecting an answer because we have prayed a lot and because of our good deeds — but humbly and patiently wait, God is pleased to accept our prayer. In prayer, we don't bring our self-sufficiency, but present ourselves before God, conscious and living in the truth that we are weak, with nothing to brag, nothing to prove about except our need for mercy; such prayer pierces the clouds and reaches its purpose to receive the mercy of God (cf. Sir 35:21). Only when we humble ourselves, recognize our unworthiness, and surrender to God's providence, we go home justified.

Furthermore, our prayer, no matter how intimate our encounter with God's mercy is, is rendered empty if it doesn't lead us to the practice of charity. Prayer should not remain within, but goes out to others, because we are not just recipients of mercy, for it's not a collectible item to store, but a grace to share, especially with the poor and needy. We are called to be active channels of mercy, the living presence of God's love and compassion to all we encounter! Prayer, therefore, attains its goal when it is followed by our charity to the poor, making it a lived reality, as demonstrated by the saints.

In a few days, we will celebrate All Saints Day; let us be reminded of our divine call



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to holiness. The Church teaches that all the baptized are called to a life of holiness (cf. LG, #39). Sainthood is not a privilege reserved for a select few; it is a path open to all who believe in Christ. The saints are ordinary people who, in their humility, strive to follow the teachings and life of Jesus Christ, particularly his life of loving service to those in need. Let their example inspire us to realize that holiness is not a distant goal, but a present reality within our reach, to be lived with humility and love.

Let us not forget that God has given us the internal capacity to live a holy life through the gift of the Sacrament of Baptism and nourished through our communion with the Body of Christ. Our challenge is to eliminate self-importance, surrender our pride to God, refrain from placing undue burdens on others, and make an everyday decision to live out the gift of holiness with joy and gratitude by intentionally practicing any of the cardinal virtues: prudence, fortitude, justice, and temperance. Then and only then, like the tax collector, we will go home justified, made righteous in the sight of God.

Fr. Manny Hewe, Pastor



PILGRIMS OF HOPE:

Self-Examine and Self-giving

"A prayer for generosity is a prayer to lose yourself and find yourself again in Christ" (St. Ignatius of Loyola)

Our lives can be compared to cell phone batteries. We may start with a full charge of 100 percent, which represents our full potential to live life to the fullest. However, much like batteries, we often don't utilize all of that capacity.

For those who have crossed the 50-year mark, it signifies that half of their life's battery has already been used. Unlike a phone battery, we cannot simply recharge our life's battery to gain more time. This realization of life's finite nature should not just inspire but urgently compel us to reflect thoughtfully on how we live. Engaging in self-examination encourages us to consider how we will use the remaining 50 percent of our lives. Will we use it wisely and meaningfully, or will it slip away unnoticed?

For a person of faith, recognizing that we cannot recharge life's battery compels us to make each moment beautiful and meaningful, rather than wasteful and neglectful. We must choose joy over regret and resentment, as each moment is unique and will never return. St. Paul advises us to rid ourselves of bitterness, fury, anger, shouting, and slander, along with malice, because they are exhausting and debilitating physically and emotionally. They are toxic to our spiritual growth (cf. Eph 4:31). Often, our greatest adversary is ourselves.

As we let go of bitterness and resentment, we must also cultivate gratitude for the blessings God has given us. This intentional embrace of gratitude is not just a suggestion, but a necessity for a meaningful life. It is an invitation for each of us to go beyond ourselves and expand our world. We cannot follow Christ if we are not selfless.

A person who constantly thinks only of themselves will be trapped in self-pity and may become critical of others, leading to emptiness and unhappiness. God does not want us to be enslaved by selfishness; He desires for us to experience the freedom of being His children. That is why He invites us to learn the selfless giving demonstrated by our Lord Jesus. Self-giving leads not only to profound fulfillment but also to the joys of heaven (cf. Jn. 12:25). Fr. MAH.

St. Ignatius' Prayer for Generosity

Dear Lord, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, save that of knowing that I do your will. Amen.

2nd Offering this Weekend (Oct. 25-26) is for the World Mission Sunday



Mahalo for your generosity!



You are invited to join the OCIA as they continue their formation journey and become familiar with the Catholic faith as we will be learning about "The Four Marks of the Church"



If you are interested in deepening your relationship with Christ, please join us.

Tuesday, October 28th at 6:30pm in Room 210 (school building)



Mahalo and may you have a blessed week!

Weekly Offering Report

For October 13, 2025 - October 19, 2025



SAINT THERESA SCHOOL
CONTACT INFORMATION
 Office Phone: 808-536-4703



St.TheresaSchool@Beavers808
 Sttheresaschool808

Website: www.stshi.org

Weekly Collections Online Giving

SUNDAY Mass Offering	\$ 10,401.50	\$ 465.83
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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 September 30, 2025 **\$ 28,604.33**
Outstanding Parish Loan with the Diocese as of September 30, 2025 **18,652.99**
Outstanding PV Loan with the Diocese as of September 30, 2025 **\$ 289,656.65**

Second Collections:

October 25 - 26 for the World Mission Sunday
 November 8 - 9 for the Archdiocese for the Military Services USA
 (every 3 yrs)

Mahalo for your generosity.



CCST Fence Project



West Honolulu Vicariate Presents
JUBILEE YEAR 2025 SPIRITUAL CONFERENCES
 @ Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa (with Holy Hour and Confession)

November 19, 2025 @ 6:00 PM - Speaker: Fr. Steve Nguyen
 Theme: **GRATEFUL HEARTS: A PATHWAY TO HOPE**

December 17, 2025 @ 6:00 PM - Speaker: Fr. Manny Hewe
 Theme: **WAITING: AN ACT OF HOPE**

“Christian waiting is filled with meaningful presence because the gifts of Jesus Christ are not only meant for the future; they also have an impact on our present. Although Jesus is present in a hidden way, He communicates with us through various means. Learning to wait patiently is a way of growing in hope.”

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



FRIDAY; OCT. 31 @ 6 PM ROSARY PROCESSION

Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa



- **MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY
CULMINATING ACTIVITY**
- **ALL SAINTS DAY CELEBRATION**

- wear white attire
- bring statues or images of saints
- bring flowers

**Join
Us!**

**YOU'RE
INVITED!**



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

Ray Lamb

Deacon

Roy Matsuo

Retired Deacon

Marlowe Sabater

Deacon

Fr. Anthony Tran

VHM Chaplain

Bernie Gora

Director of Music

Ryan and Ashley Agcaoili

Coordinators of Youth Ministry

Grace Young

Communications Coordinator

Samy Ratum

Facilities Custodian

Noraliza Tapeç

On-Call Church Custodian

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

October 27, 2025

**Monday of the Thirtieth Week in
Ordinary Time**

Romans 8:12-17; Luke 13:10-17

October 28, 2025

**Feast of Saints Simon and Jude,
Apostles**

Ephesians 2:19-22; Luke 6:12-16

October 29, 2025

**Wednesday of the Thirtieth Week in
Ordinary Time**

Romans 8:26-30; Luke 13:22-30

October 30, 2025

**Thursday of the Thirtieth Week in
Ordinary Time**

Romans 8:31b-39; Luke 13:31-35

October 31, 2025

**Friday of the Thirtieth Week in
Ordinary Time**

Romans 9:1-5; Luke 14:1-6

November 1, 2025

Solemnity of All Saints

Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14; 1 John 3:1-3;
Matthew 5:1-12a

November 2, 2025

**The Commemoration of All the Faithful
Departed (All Souls)**

Wisdom 3:1-9; Romans 5:5-11 or
Romans 6:3-9; John 6:37-40

Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa
Annual Financial Report
July 2024 through June 2025



	Jul '24 - Jun 25	Jul '23- Jun 24	Budget '25
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
40000 · OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS	\$ 640,063.81	\$617,727.00	646,330.00
42000 · OTHER REGULAR INCOME	\$ 232,699.06	\$208,569.59	245,421.00
47000 · UNUSUAL (NON-SCHEDULED) INCOME	\$ 51,859.33	\$55,138.88	15,000.00
Total Income	\$924,622.20	\$881,435.47	906,751.00
Expense			
50000 · EMPLOYMENT COSTS	\$ 305,738.66	261,279.12	306,570.04
51000 · PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$ 2,728.06	2,751.68	3,472.00
51500 · INSURANCE	\$ 150,715.00	132,914.00	165,000.00
51700 · LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	\$ 6,035.00	7,475.86	14,300.00
52000 · SUPPLIES AND OTHER SERVICES	\$ 151,136.65	144,678.75	104,920.00
52900 · FUNDRAISING EXPENSE	\$ 2,500.00	6,195.89	0.00
53000 · REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	\$ 150,979.74	37,786.83	22,699.00
54000 · UTILITIES	\$ 87,453.84	71,281.80	73,200.00
55000 · CONTRIBUTIONS AND ASSESSMENT	\$ 187,009.40	139,080.00	166,265.00
56000 · INTEREST EXPENSE	\$ 10,939.23	19,183.16	13,750.00
57000 · TAXES	\$ 300.00	1,475.95	300.00
58000 · DEPRECIATION	\$ 92,296.74	82,502.13	80,121.04
Total Expense	1,147,832.32	906,605.17	950,597.08
Net Ordinary Income	(223,210.12)	(25,169.70)	(43,846.08)
Other Income			
71100 · Temporarily Restricted Donation	\$ 236,292.41	161,615.73	-
Net Other Income	\$ 236,292.41	161,615.73	-
Net Income	\$13,082.29	136,446.03	(43,846.08)

PARISH LOANS

	As of 6/30/2025	As of 6/30/2024
PARISH SAVINGS WITH THE DIOCESE	\$ 97,763.62	\$ 158,709.20
PARISH LOAN TO TO THE DIOCESE	\$ 44,385.43	\$ 144,024.53
PARISH PV LOAN TO THE DIOCESE	\$ 298,205.14	\$ 331,727.24