



Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus

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October 5, 2025 - Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) ***Stir Into Flame the Gift of Faith!***

Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4; Psalm 95:1-2,6-7,8-9; 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14; Luke 17:5-10

We often question God's ways when tragedies disrupt our peace. When God seems silent, we can feel discouraged and even think he is absent, which more often than not causes bitter complaints. The common complaint will be: "If God is really good or if God loves me, why does this tragedy happen to me?"

This unsettling thought is captured in the cries of the Prophet Habakkuk. He echoes a similar question in today's first reading, "How long, O Lord? I cry for help, but you do not listen?" He questions whether God cares for his people (cf. Hab. 1:1-3). There is war and violence, misery and death all around their place. The mighty Babylonians are now about to demolish the people of Israel. How can God allow things like these to happen?

At first hearing, it may appear that Prophet Habakkuk is blaming God's silence. However, his words are not those of a person who does not believe in God. His complaint is a prayer of lamentation, trying to understand God's workings and where God is when tragedy happens. God was not displeased with his lamentation. He heard Habakkuk and answered him with gentle and reassuring words, as if telling him, "Be patient because I have a plan. I will intervene at the right time. I ask of you now is faith, and if you have it, you will live" (cf. Hab. 2:4)

Faith is the key that can provide insight into the mystery of pain, sorrow, and anguish that we all experience at different times in our lives. While faith is a gift from God, it also comes with responsibilities that require us to nurture and uphold it. As St. Paul reminds us, we should "stir into flame the gift of God" (2 Timothy 1:6).

One effective way to rekindle our faith is by opening our senses, hearts, and minds to the world around us. The world is filled with God's grandeur, love, and beauty. Nature has been described as a sacrament, a sign of God's goodness. God can awaken our faith only if we learn to truly see, listen, and reflect. As the responsorial psalm tells us, "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts" (Psalm 95:8). Only those who are self-referential and closed off can remain unmoved by the beauty of a rainbow, a sunrise, or a sunset. When we cultivate this awareness, the flame of faith burns more brightly.

Another way to stir into flame the gift of faith is to humble ourselves and entrust ourselves to God's mercy. It begins with the petition of the disciples, "Lord, increase our faith" (Luke 17:5). It must be our prayer now and always. Notice our Lord Jesus' reply: "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea, and it would obey you'" (Lk. 17:6). Our Lord compares faith to a tiny mustard seed, whose power does not depend on its size but on its great potential hidden within itself. He reminds us that it's not the quantity of our faith that matters, but its quality. Even a small, genuine faith can wield incredible power, for God has not given us a spirit of timidity but rather a spirit of power, love, and self-control (cf. 2 Timothy 1:6-7). With even a little genuine faith, we can accomplish what would ordinarily seem impossible.

It is important to remember that when we face difficulties and challenges in life, these struggles can never compare to the sacrifice that Jesus made for us. His grace far surpasses any problems we encounter. Jesus continually offers Himself for us in an unbloody



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manner through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, making His grace available to us. As His servants, we should remain grateful and strive to keep the flame of our faith alive. We are servants and do not claim to be the masters of our destiny; instead, in Him, we live, move, and have our being (cf. Acts 17:28).

Our patron St. Therese of the Child Jesus reminds us to entrust ourselves, like a child, to God, our Father. She wrote in her diary: "We must abandon the future into the hands of God; Jesus may hide, but we know He is there; No harm can come to me since, in whatever happens, I see only the tender hand of Jesus."

Fr. Manny Hewe, Pastor



**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 Saving Death and Resurrection of Christ"

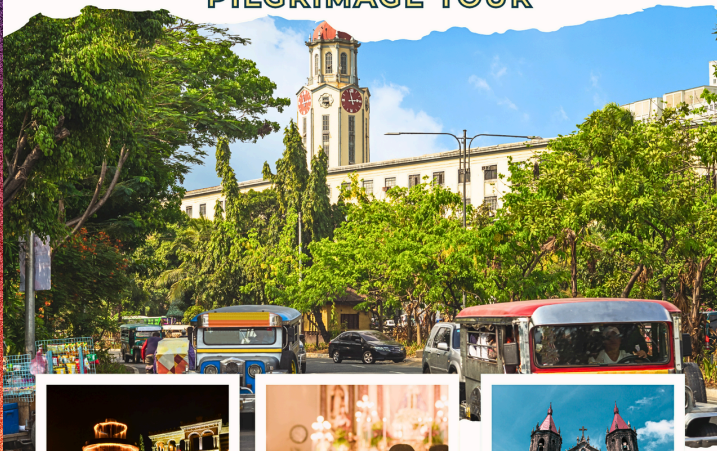


**If you are interested in
deepening your relationship with
Christ, please join us at 6:30pm
this Tuesday in Room 210.**



Mahalo and may you have a blessed week!

PHILIPPINES PILGRIMAGE TOUR



January 25-February 10, 2026

INCLUSIONS

- ✓ 16 days/15 nights
- ✓ Round-trip air fare & all accommodations
- ✓ 15 breakfasts, 8 lunches, and 7 dinners included
- ✓ Manila, Bicol, Iloilo, Cagayan de Oro, Tarlac, Bulacan, Pampanga, Bacolod and more!

\$4800

USD PER
PERSON

For more information, please contact Nita Ayag (808-778-9636) or Jenny Asuncion (808-940-5618)



PILGRIMS OF HOPE:
**PRAYER TIME: Recharges,
Refills, Maintains, and Awakens
the Memory of the Heart**

"Do you create moments of prayerful rest at home?" "Do you create moments of holy silence with yourself and your family?"

If our cell phone is so busy for 24 hours, it will definitely run out of battery. It has to be charged. If you are on medication and ran out of meds, you need to call for a refill. If you drive your car for a long ride every day, you need both gas and regular maintenance to keep it running smoothly.

Recharge, refill, and maintenance are necessary because if we don't, our day will suddenly come to a stop or be interrupted without notice. They are essential to keep life moving forward. If they are necessary, how about the need for our spiritual life?

Mary, the sister of Martha, found the necessary way to recharge, refill, and maintain her spiritual life through sitting at the feet of the Lord. Our Lord Jesus commended it as a better part and said it should not be taken away from her (cf. Lk. 10:41-42).

Our time with God in prayer is a better part that recharges, refills, and maintains our union with God. It awakens the memory of the heart. The memory of our heart is the memory of a loving God who cares for us. This is what we try to awaken, make alive, so that we may be confident that someone is with us, caring and loving, and blesses our every effort in life.

Imagine how we can face the problems and burdens in life if we lose contact with Him, who is our true strength, and how we can receive that strength unless we seek in quietness the presence of God.

Fr. MAH

**2nd Offering on October 4th & 5th
is for the**



Mahalo for your generosity!



Weekly Offering Report

For September 22, 2025 - September 28, 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	\$ 9,764.00	\$ 1,158.82
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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 August 31, 2025	\$ 73,005.31
Outstanding Parish Loan with the Diocese as of August 31, 2025	27,270.44
Outstanding PV Loan with the Diocese as of August 31, 2025	\$ 292,534.35

Second Collections:

October 4 - 5 for the Ohana in Christ Diocesan Appeal
 October 11 - 12 for the Repairs and Maintenance

Mahalo for your generosity.

CCST Fence Project - conceptual view



- 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



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

October 15, 2025 @ 6:00 PM - Speaker: Fr. Royd Mweemba
 Theme: **PILGRIMS OF HOPE IN COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION**

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

November 8, 2025 - Honolulu Country Club
5:30PM - 10PM



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

Bernie Gora

Director of Music

Ryan and Ashley Agcaoili

Coordinators of Youth Ministry

Grace Young

Communications Coordinator

Samy Ratum

Facilities Custodian

Noraliza Tapecc

On-Call Church Custodian

Felipe Tan

Accountant

Joan Mabag

Custodian

Ray Lamb

Deacon

Roy Matsuo

Retired Deacon

Marlowe Sabater

Deacon

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



Daily Mass Readings

www.usccb.org

October 6, 2025

*Monday of the Twenty-seventh Week in
Ordinary Time*

Jonah 1:1–2:1-2, 11; Luke 10:25-37

October 7, 2025

Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary

Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 10:38-42

October 8, 2025

*Wednesday of the Twenty-seventh Week
in Ordinary Time*

Jonah 4:1-11; Luke 11:1-4

October 9, 2025

*Thursday of the Twenty-seventh Week
in Ordinary Time*

Malachi 3:13-20b; Luke 11:5-13

October 10, 2025

*Friday of the Twenty-seventh Week in
Ordinary Time*

Joel 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Luke 11:15-26

October 11, 2025

*Saturday of the Twenty-seventh Week in
Ordinary Time*

Joel 4:12-21; Luke 11:27-28

October 12, 2025

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Kings 5:14-17; 2 Timothy 2:8-13;
Luke 17:11-19



HAPPY FEAST DAY!
ST. THERÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS: Patroness of Mission
Model of Pilgrim of Hope
Feast Day: October 1

St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus is a co-patron saint of missions, alongside St. Francis Xavier. Her love for God, which is central to her mission, is a consuming fire. In her diary, she wrote, "I understood that the Church has a Heart, and this Heart is BURNING WITH LOVE. I realized that it is Love alone that inspires the members of the Church to act; if Love were to ever become extinct, apostles would no longer preach the Gospel, and martyrs would not shed their blood. I understood that Love encompasses all vocations, that Love is everything. It embraces all times and places... in a word, that it is."

Her constant desire is to make love known and embraced—a yearning that inspired her to dream of becoming a priest, an apostle, and a martyr. She expressed, "I feel I have the courage of a crusader. I would like to die on the battlefield to defend the Church." Her experience of being loved by the Lord, along with her deep love for Him, forms the foundation of her missionary work. She longs to die as a martyr so that she can truly live and be united with Jesus. This intimate connection with God lies at the heart of a missionary spirit. The late Pope St. John Paul II emphasized that we can only understand or fulfill our mission by recognizing Christ as the one who sends us to spread His message (cf. *Redemptoris Mater*, no. 8).

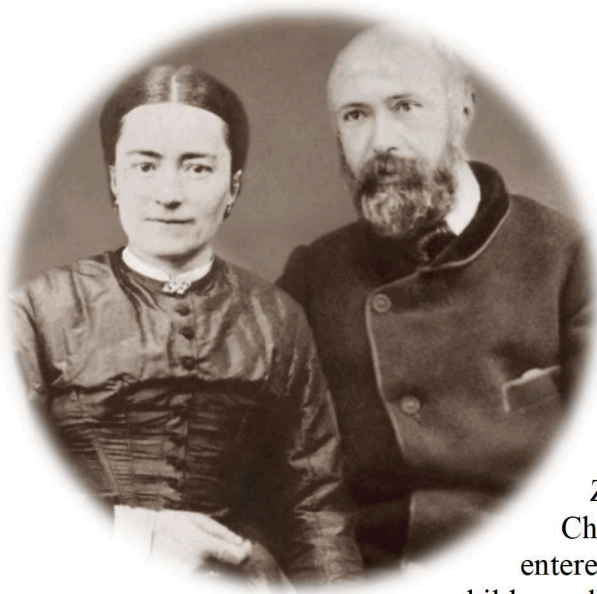
St. Thérèse's mission extends beyond the confines of a Carmelite monastery. Despite her physical limitations, she actively participates in the Church's missionary efforts. She dedicates her life and sufferings to sinners, priests, missionaries, those in purgatory, and individuals without faith. Her selfless acts of prayer and sacrifice, which she refers to as "the little way," are more impactful than words can express. The "little way" represents a path of spiritual growth and service to others through small, everyday actions performed with great love.

In her diary, she wrote, "Ah! It's a prayer. It is a sacrifice that gives me all my strength; these are the invincible weapons that Jesus has given me. They can touch souls much better than words, as I have often experienced. The zeal of a Carmelite embraces the whole world. I want to be a daughter of the Church as our Holy Mother St. Teresa was and pray for the Holy Father's intentions, which I know will embrace the whole world. This is the general goal of my life."

She believes prayer and sacrifice are more powerful tools for touching souls than mere words alone. She embraces her role as a daughter of the Church and prays for the Holy Father's intentions that encompass the entire world. The mission is not primarily about what we do, but who we are; it is not so much about reaching out to distant places, but about our hearts being fully united with the Lord. St. Thérèse possessed a passionate missionary heart, fueled by the strength and hope that prayer and sacrifice provide.

Despite her profound suffering and illness that prevent her from fulfilling ordinary duties within her convent, she remains a beacon of joy. She never burdens her community with complaints or regrets but wholeheartedly trusts in God, like a child entrusting everything to their Father. Her joyful attitude in the face of suffering—attributed to her deep faith and love for God—is not only a source of hope but also a powerful testimony of faith and love.

St. Thérèse's joyful disposition serves as an example for the Pilgrims of Hope as we navigate through life's adversities and trials. In a world filled with challenges and temptations toward pessimism, a pilgrim guided by hope radiates inner joy stemming from our love for Jesus. Her attitude is an ideal model for all of us as pilgrims of hope. St. Thérèse, pray for us! (Fr. MAH)



STS. LOUIS AND ZÉLIE MARTIN
Patron Saints of Mental Illness, Marriage, Parenting,
Infertility, Child Loss, and Widowers
Feast Day: July 12

Louis Joseph Estasnislao Martin was the son of a garrison captain. At the age of 20, he sought admission to the Hermitage of St. Bernard, but his application was postponed due to personal circumstances. He eventually became a distinguished watchmaker.

Zélie Guerin, a skilled lacemaker, also aspired to join the Sisters of Charity but returned home before she could do so. When her sister entered religious life, Zélie resolved to marry and prayed for many children, all of whom she intended to consecrate to God.

When Louis and Zélie first met on a spring day, Zélie recognized Louis as the one God had prepared for her. They got married on July 12, 1858, and lived an exemplary Catholic life. Their wedding date was later recognized by the Church as the feast day of the first couple canonized together.

During their years of marriage, Louis and Zélie ran a successful lacemaking business in Alençon. Louis had given up his own trade to assist his wife. Together, they had nine children, all of whom they baptized shortly after birth. After losing four of their children to childhood illnesses and the negligence of wet nurses, since Zélie was unable to breastfeed, they placed their hope in being reunited with them in Heaven.

Both were intentional in raising their surviving children with virtuous habits. Zélie prayed about and reflected on each child's strengths and weaknesses, nurturing them toward spiritual growth and holiness. They actively pursued holiness by participating in the Church's devotions and traditions. They refrained from working on Sundays and were generous with both their time and money toward those in need. They consistently prayed for the souls of the deceased and attended Mass every morning at 5:30 a.m., faithfully making their First Friday Communion.

In their final years, both faced significant crosses of suffering. Zélie once said, "I wish that you would not worry too much about me and that you would be resigned to the will of God." After her death, Louis continued to raise their daughters.

"I feel that my mission is soon to begin to make others love God as I do. To teach others in my little way. I will spend my heaven in doing good upon earth."

♥ St. Therese of the Child Jesus, July 17, 1897

