



Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus

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February 15, 2026 - Sixth Sunday in the Ordinary Time (A)

~ Blessed are you who follow the Law of the Lord! ~

Sirach 15:15-20; Psalm 119:1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37

Being faithful to the Law of the Lord is always life-giving. God's laws, especially the Ten Commandments, express his friendship and concern for his people. God's love for us becomes practical through his laws. They guide us, put our lives in order, and save us from harming ourselves and others. Ultimately, they are for the salvation of our souls. However, God does not impose his laws on us. He wants us to respond freely. Our freedom to obey his commandments leads us to choose life, but ignoring them brings "death," since we cannot choose the consequences. The Book of Sirach says this well, "before men are life and death; whichever he chooses will be given him" (Sir 15:17). Our choice to follow is a blessing, for God, who is the highest Good, made laws for the benefit of man.

Let us look to the source of our blessedness, the Lord Jesus, who fulfilled the Law down to the least of all the commandments, for he is, in fact, the only one who could keep it perfectly. Let us renew our confidence in him who said, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter will pass from the Law until all things have taken place" (Matt 5:17).

Jesus is our strength, who fulfilled all of God's laws by sacrificing his very life on the cross for love of God and the human race, for each one of us, to save us! He already prepared the way for us so that we, too, who are destined to share in the holiness of God through the merits of his sacrifice on the cross, will find joy and freedom to follow God's commandments. The Catechism of the Catholic Church beautifully articulates this by saying, "in Jesus, the Law no longer appears engraved on tablets of stone but "upon the heart" of the Servant who becomes "a covenant to the people," because he will "faithfully bring forth justice." Jesus fulfills the Law to the point of taking upon himself "the curse of the Law" incurred by those who do not "abide by the things written in the book of the Law, and do them," for his death took place to redeem them "from the transgressions under the first covenant" (CCC 480).

Blessed are those who follow the Law of the Lord! It is indeed blessed, but we all need the power of God's Spirit to obey the Law and grow in holiness. We must pray for this (cf. Rom 8:4). This week, consider reflecting on three invitations of faith to fulfill God's commandment of love:

1. Go beyond mere external observance of the laws. If we focus only on the letter of the Law, we often ask: "What is the minimum requirement?" Then we look for exemptions or excuses. Going beyond external observance means not only avoiding violent crimes like murder but also rejecting anger, the root of murder. It is not only the act of adultery that must be shunned but also lustful thoughts, which are the seeds of adultery. It is not only about avoiding false oaths but also about any dishonest motive behind words. We are to return to the roots of God's commandments: love for God and love for our neighbor. Only then do we ask: "What more can I do?"

2. Surpass the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees. The Pharisees and Scribes followed the Law and did what they were supposed to do. They observed religious rituals, served as community leaders, and were highly respected. So they were good. However, Jesus expects us to be better than merely good. The goodness of the Pharisees was superficial. They focused on



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appearances. They did not commit murder, but their hearts were filled with animosity. Being good on the outside does not mean we are good on the inside. To surpass their righteousness is to become holy as the heavenly Father is holy.

3. Be holy as your heavenly Father. This means imitating the ways of Jesus Christ. Through him, we have received God's wisdom, which neither eye has seen nor ear has heard, but which God planned before all ages for our glory (cf. 1Cor 2:7). We imitate Jesus, the wisdom of God. To imitate Jesus is to care for the least and the weak, to work for justice and peace, to promote fellowship and unity, to live gospel values, and to love the church he loves. These are constant invitations and ongoing realities in our lives. We know we cannot suddenly become as holy as God. We are pilgrims on the path of holiness, moving little by little each day. Like our patron, St. Therese of the Child Jesus, if we do small things consistently and with great love, we shall enter that mighty flame of God's holiness.
Fr. Manny Hewe, Pastor

A Journey of Joyful Witness to Doing all things with Love.



We worship what we believe; we live what we worship. Gestures in the Holy Mass: BOWING & GENUFLECTING

In the celebration of Mass, we raise our hearts and minds to God. As creatures of body and spirit, we do not confine our prayer to our minds and hearts. It is also expressed through our bodies. When our bodies are engaged in prayer, we pray with our whole person. Using our entire being in prayer helps us pray with greater attentiveness. The gestures have profound meaning and, when performed with understanding, can enhance our participation in the Mass.

BOWING signifies reverence, respect, and gratitude. In the Creed, we bow at the words commemorating the Incarnation. We also bow before receiving Communion. The priest and other ministers bow to the altar, a symbol of Christ, when entering or leaving the sanctuary. As a sign of respect in our speech, we bow our heads at the name of Jesus, at the mention of the Three Persons of the Trinity, at the name of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and at the name of the saint whose feast or memorial is being observed (see GIRM, no. 275).

GENUFLECTING is a sign of adoration; we genuflect by bending the right knee. Many people also make the Sign of the Cross as they bend their knees. Traditionally, Catholics genuflect when entering and leaving the church if the Blessed Sacrament is present in the sanctuary. The priest and deacon genuflect to the tabernacle when entering and leaving the sanctuary.

Come, join us!

	Stations of the Cross every Friday @ 6:30 PM Feb. 20, 27, Mar. 6, 13, 20 & 27 at the Church				



Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

There will be no OCIA session this Tuesday. We will resume *next Tuesday*, with our topic being ***"God Calls Us to Pray"***

Tuesday evening, February 24th at 6:30 PM
(school's faculty workroom)

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



Weekly Offering Report

For February 2, 2026 - February 8, 2026



f St.TheresaSchool@Beavers808

Sttheresaschool808

Website: www.stshi.org

Weekly Collections Online Giving

SUNDAY Mass Offering	\$ 7,118.00	\$ 845.71
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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 December 31, 2025 **\$ 28,870.44**

Outstanding PV Loan with the Diocese as of December 31, 2025 **\$ 281,028.46**

Second Collections:

February 14-15 for the St. Theresa School Assistance

March 7-8 for the Facilities Improvement

March 14-15 for the Catholic Relief Services

Mahalo for your generosity.

Note: Tax letter will be available next weekend.

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



Ash Wednesday

REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE DUST, AND TO DUST YOU SHALL RETURN.



February 18

Mass Schedule: 6:30 am
8:00 am - with STS
5:30 pm
7:00 pm - Vietnamese Mass

**Novena to OLPH, confession and Holy Hour are cancelled.*

**2nd Offering this weekend
February 14th & 15th is for the**

St. Theresa School Assistance



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

Bernie Gora
Director of Music

Ray Lamb
Deacon

Roy Matsuo
Retired Deacon

Marlowe Sabater
Deacon

Fr. Anthony Tran
VHM Chaplain

Ryan and Ashley Agcaoil
Coordinators of Youth Ministry

Grace Young
Communications Coordinator

Earl Morita
Church Grounds Maintenance

Samy Ratum
Facilities Custodian

Noraliza Tapecc
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

February 16, 2026
*Monday of the Sixth Week in
Ordinary Time*
James 1:1-11; Mark 8:11-13

February 17, 2026
*Tuesday of the Sixth Week in
Ordinary Time*
James 1:12-18; Mark 8:14-21

February 18, 2026
Ash Wednesday
Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2;
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

February 19, 2026
Thursday after Ash Wednesday
Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25

February 20, 2026
Friday after Ash Wednesday
Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15

February 21, 2026
Saturday after Ash Wednesday
Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32

February 22, 2026
First Sunday of Lent
Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19
or 5:12, 17-19; Matthew 4:1-11

“Let your ‘Yes’ mean ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No’ mean ‘No.’”

– MATTHEW 5:37



HAWAII
Catholic Ministries
Annual Appeal



Sometimes it is difficult to be told what to do. Our independent natures balk, and we question, “Why do I have to do this or don’t do that?” In today’s Gospel, Jesus isn’t just enumerating what we should and shouldn’t do. He is inviting us into a deeper understanding and relationship with him, one that extends beyond external adherence to the rules and legalese.

During Lent, we abstain from meat on Fridays. Why? Because this is what the Church dictates? Is it just another example of the hoops we jump through as Catholics? Not even close. It’s much more beautiful. Foregoing steak on Friday is one very small way we can deny ourselves and experience the mortification Christ felt on the cross. It’s an opportunity to more fully understand Jesus’ sacrifice and appreciate his suffering on our behalf. It’s so much more than “because the Church says so.”

Lent is approaching. It is a time for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Let us prepare for this holy season by spending a few extra minutes a day in prayer, thinking of ways we can deny ourselves to better identify with the suffering Christ, and provide support to the Church’s ministries and programs, by making a gift to the *Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal*.

Biblical Truth, Human Dignity & Today's Public Policy

How we understand the human person shapes everything — our relationships, our culture, and even our laws. This presentation brings together two important perspectives: a biblical vision of human dignity through Theology of the Body, and a practical look at current legislative issues affecting families in Hawai'i today. Together, these talks will help you connect faith and citizenship, understand what's happening at the Capitol, and gain tools to thoughtfully engage the issues that matter most.



February 28, 2026 (Saturday)

St. John Apostle & Evangelist, Mililani

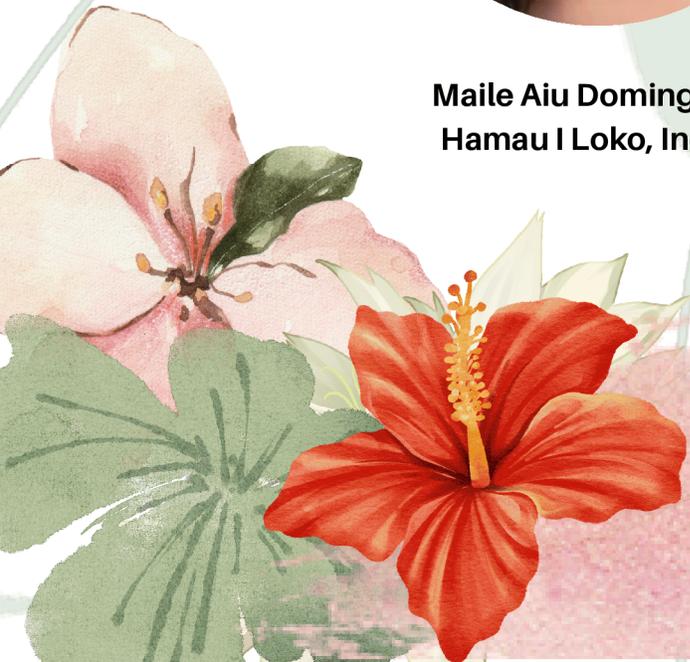
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM



Maile Aiu Domingo
Hamau I Loko, Inc



Eva Andrade
Hawaii Catholic Conference



Sponsored by:

**Respect Life Office, Diocese of Honolulu
Deacon Gary & Val Streff**