



Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus

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July 26, 2026 - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12; Psalm 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130; Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 13:44-52

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we call God our Father in heaven and ask, "May your Kingdom come, and your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Jesus longed deeply for the Kingdom of God, and we are meant to share that longing. If we want what Jesus wants, everything else will fall into place. That's why we say, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and all its righteousness, and all good things shall be added unto you" (Matt 6:33).

What is the Kingdom of God? In Greek, "basilea tou Theo" means the reign of God. This phrase has two meanings: it describes God's rule in our hearts and our eternal home. These two ideas belong together. The Church helps us understand both the journey and the destination.

Jesus says the Kingdom of God is like a hidden treasure or a valuable pearl, showing how precious it is. Finding it brings true joy, and giving up everything for it fulfills our deepest hopes. We are called to build our lives on its values: peace, love, humility, forgiveness, justice, and unity.

We are responsible for how we use our blessings and how we live. Our choices matter and have real consequences. Jesus warns that those who act unjustly and do not repent will face judgment. The angel will separate people and cast some into a fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth (cf. Matt 13:42). This is a sad and tragic outcome. But the good news is that we always have the chance to choose the Kingdom. It is always open to us, and we are all called to become like Jesus (cf. Rom 8:29).

Solomon's story inspires us. In a dream, God told Solomon he could ask for anything he wanted. Even though he was young, he did not ask for wealth, fame, or a long life. Instead, he asked for a wise and understanding heart to lead his people well. God was pleased with his choice and gave him wisdom, wealth, honor, and a long life (cf. 1 Kings 3:7-12). This story reminds us to put God first.

How do we know if we have truly chosen God and made Him our top priority? We see it in our first thoughts each morning, when we pray and thank the Lord. We show it by honoring God throughout the day, staying faithful, and looking for ways to serve. At night, we thank God for both our successes and our failures. We trust Him to care for us through the night and to help us grow in His love each new day.

How can we tell if we are taking God for granted and not putting Him first? It shows when our first thoughts in the morning are about ourselves and our plans. We notice it when we work only for our own success, seek praise, and look for meaning in worldly achievements. At night, we might complain about not having enough time to relax. We also show this by going to bed thinking only about ourselves, worrying about the future, and stressing over tasks and deadlines.



As a Church, we are nourished by the Body and Blood of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, and we trust in the power of God's Kingdom. Our patron, St. Therese, spoke with



confidence: "I understand, and I know from experience that 'The Kingdom of God is within you.' Jesus does not need books or teachers to instruct souls; He teaches without the noise of words. Never have I heard Him speak, but I feel that He is within me at each moment; He is guiding and inspiring me in what I must say and do."

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. On Offering Prayers and Mass Intentions

The Church urges us to 'pray unceasingly,' which strengthens our relationship with God and invites His guidance and blessings (cf. 1 Thess. 5:16-17). Prayer is not only a duty but also a privilege, shared by all through public and private worship. By praying for the common good, we deepen our unity with one another and with God (cf. 1 Thess. 5:23-25).

Offering Mass intentions is a privilege and a sacred honor. The celebration of the Holy Eucharist is the highest form of worship and the center of our Christian life, in which the Church prays to the Father. During Mass, the priest, 'in persona Christi,' offers prayers and sacrifices for the faithful. This spiritual connection with Christ and the Church makes Mass intentions meaningful offerings. Intentions may include prayers for a departed loved one, for someone's health, or for special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries.

By offering Mass intentions, we participate in the Church's prayer life and receive spiritual benefits. The accompanying monetary offering supports the parish's needs and reflects our shared responsibility and community spirit. This act of giving, both spiritual and material, demonstrates our faith and love for God and one another.

To request a Mass intention, you may schedule it through the parish office or use the special envelopes at the church entrance. Write your intention on the envelope and include your offering. Please note that your offering will be included in the "collective intentions," where multiple intentions are united in a single Mass.

(Fr. MAH)

2nd Offering next weekend -8/1 & 2- is for the



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
HAWAII

When you give to Catholic Charities Hawai'i, you are helping people in need to help themselves, regardless of their faith or culture.

Mahalo for your generosity!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

*Join the family!
Register now!*

**Start of Classes
August 9, 2026
8:30 am - 10:00 am**



Registration forms are available at the side entrance of the church or you may register online at www.cocathedral.org/re. For more information you may contact the office @ 808-521-1700 or Sr. Mercy, SPC @ 808-387-4313. We would be happy to assist you.



SCAN ME

Weekly Offering Report

For July 13, 2026 - July 19, 2026



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



St.TheresaSchool@Beavers808



Sttheresaschool808

Website: www.stshi.org

SUNDAY Mass Offering	\$ 10,153.50	\$ 313.73
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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. ***

Parish Savings with the Diocese as of June 30, 2026 **\$ 281,193.90**

Outstanding PV Loan with the Diocese as of June 30, 2026 **\$ 263,448.52**



CHURCH FENCE PROJECT REPORT

- **Materials & equipment rental**—steel, concrete, paint, machinery **\$ 196,421.99**
- **Labor & Miscellaneous expense**—fabrication, installation, dredging **\$ 139,602.76**
- **Total Cost** **\$ 336,024.75**

The Fencing Project is our proactive effort to mitigate potential harm to our parishioners, schoolchildren, school and Church staff and personnel, guests, and other legitimate visitors. Our Security Camera installation complements this effort.

Thank you for your support! May God bless you all!!!

Second Collections:

August 1-2 for the Catholic Charities Hawaii
 August 15-16 for the St. Theresa School Assistance

Mahalo for your generosity.

Join our
95th Anniversary
Pilgrimage
to the different
shrines of France,
Barcelona, and
Rome from
April 1-15, 2027



Please visit the
parish website at
www.cocathedral.org
for more
information.

- Principal/Music 1-5 - Conception (Bernie) Gora
- Vice Principal/ELA 5 - Lauren Ramirez-Asaeda
- Administrative Assistant - Faith Leasiolagi
- Admissions Office Assistant - Stephanie Lou Ondayog
- Preschool Director/Teacher - Magdalena Collins
- Preschool Aide - Elaine Jane Gonzalez
- Preschool Aftercare - Janna Isidro
- Kindergarden Teacher - Taiena Finau
- Kindergarden Aide - Lenie Macadangdang
- 1st Grade - Marvin Macadangdang
- 2nd Grade - Faith Afu
- 3rd Grade Teacher - Sibel Mestanova
- 4th Grade Teacher - Laura Gabriel
- 4 Religion/4 & 5 Art - Francine Caetano-Fontanilla
- 5th Grade/Math 5-8 - Christian Raquero
- 5-8 Science/STEM - Delwin Dang
- 6th Grade/Social Studies 5-8 - Alyssa Yabes
- 6-8 ELA/6-8 Home Economics - Dr. Frances Wong
- 7th Grade/Religion 5-8 - Shaun Agtarap
- 8th Grade/Japanese 5-8/Art 7-8 /PR Media - Tiani Quon
- PK-8 PE - Jayven Bumanglag
- Creative Music K-3 - Johnelle Silva
- Music 6-8 - Kukahi Lee
- Maintenance - Edwin Kaaihue
- Custodian - Romeo John Cabarrubias



:We are in need of volunteers:

Anyone interested to help please call the Parish office
at (808)521-1700 so we can put you on the schedule.
Mahalo!

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

Fr. John Akau

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Anthony Tran

VHM Chaplain

Sr. Mercedita Estrella, SPC

Dir. of R.E. & Pastoral Associate

Ryan and Ashley Agcaoili

Coordinators of Youth Ministry

Tyra Lamb

Safe Environment Liaison

Grace Young

Communications Coordinator

Pinky Mendoza

Office Coordinator

Bernie Gora

Director of Music

Earl Morita

Church Grounds Maintenance

Jennifer Asuncion

Office Secretary

Ray Lamb

Deacon

Samy Ratum

Facilities Custodian

Francis Leasiolagi

Deacon

Roy Matsuo

Retired Deacon

Noraliza Tapeç

On-Call Church Custodian

Jonathan Lam

VHM Deacon

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

July 27, 2026

*Monday of the Seventeenth Week in
Ordinary Time*

Jeremiah 13:1-11; Matthew 13:31-35

July 28, 2026

*Tuesday of the Seventeenth Week in
Ordinary Time*

Jeremiah 14:17-22; Matthew 13:36-43

July 29, 2026

*Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary, and
Lazarus*

Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21; John 11:19-27 or
Luke 10:38-42

July 30, 2026

*Thursday of the Seventeenth Week in
Ordinary Time*

Jeremiah 18:1-6; Matthew 13:47-53

July 31, 2026

*Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola,
Priest*

Jeremiah 26:1-9; Matthew 13:54-58

August 1, 2026

*Memorial of Saint Alphonsus Liguori,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24; Matthew 14:1-12

August 2, 2026

Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:1-3; Romans 8:35, 37-39;

Matthew 14:13-21