



Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus

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August 23, 2026 - Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Church: A Mystery Rooted in Love and Devotion to Jesus Christ

Isaiah 22:19-23; Psalm 138:1-2,2-3,6,8; Romans 11:33-36; Matthew 16:13-20

"And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it" (Mt. 16:18).

Though Peter was not perfect and made mistakes, Jesus still chose him to lead the Church. This shows that God is not looking for perfect people but for those willing to receive His grace; He accepts sinners who have felt His love and have been forgiven. With God's help, Peter became a powerful leader. This gives us hope that God offers a fresh start to anyone who has fallen, so they too may become witnesses of His love and mercy.

We place our trust in the enduring strength of the Church founded by Jesus, who promised that evil would never prevail against it. St. Peter, as the first Pope and Vicar of Christ, embodied this promise and strength. Each Pope since has carried on this legacy, and Pope Leo XIV leads us today. He guides the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, reflecting the four marks Jesus established. The Church is united in one Lord, one faith, and one baptism, mirroring the unity of the Triune God. Although its members are fallible, the risen Lord guides the Church through the Holy Spirit, sustains His presence, and brings the fullness of faith, built on the foundation of the Apostles. This is our Church, carrying forward Jesus' mission and including all believers. Above all, it is a mystery rooted in love and devotion to Jesus, from which all else in the Church should flow. St. Paul reflects on this mystery: "Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God. How inscrutable are his judgments and how unsearchable his ways" (Rom. 11:33). The Church is more than an institution; it is founded on love for Jesus, a relationship that deepens as we live and share our faith.

When Jesus established His Church, He called Peter and the Apostles to a personal commitment by asking, "Who do you say I am?" (Mat. 16:15). Peter responded, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (Mat. 16:16). This question remains central to our faith and invites each of us to consider our response. Jesus is not simply another holy figure; He is the Christ, the Savior, and the Son of the living God. To truly belong to the Church, we must offer ourselves to Jesus Christ with humility (cf. Mt. 16:15). Confessing Jesus as Christ is not merely a verbal declaration but a way of life. It involves practicing honesty when it is uncommon, demonstrating compassion when others do not, and upholding truth and caring for the poor, following Jesus' example.

Together with St. Peter, we are the building blocks of the Church. While Peter is the foundation, we are the stones that form this spiritual home. Jesus, the head of the Church, desires to work through each of us, as He did with Peter and the Apostles. We are called to reflect on how God acts through us to strengthen His Church. Even if we feel insignificant, Jesus can accomplish great things through us. Our calling is to find our place in the Church and to use the gifts God has entrusted to us. Being Catholic is more than a title; it is an invitation to grow in faith, turn from sin, and help build up the Church.



The Greek philosopher Aristides, who lived in ancient times, gave an account of the Christians to the Emperor Hadrian, stating that "they love one another and



(Continuation from page 1)

never fail to assist widows; that they rescue orphans from those who would do them harm; that if a man has any possessions he gives them freely to someone who has nothing; that when they see a stranger they take him home as if he were their real brother; that whenever they hear that one of their number is in prison or being persecuted because he has proclaimed the name of their Redeemer, all of them provide him with what is necessary. This is a new kind of person, and there is something divine about them."

This account powerfully illustrates the ideal of the Church. It reveals our identity and transformation through the grace of Baptism, as well as the support and nourishment we receive from Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Through participation in the Eucharist, we grow as the Church and increasingly reflect what we receive.

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. What does it mean to be late for Mass?

At what time does the Mass actually start? When do you consider someone late? Is it acceptable to arrive just after the Mass has started, before the readings, or even right before Communion?

Remember that Holy Mass is about meeting God, showing respect, and being ready; it does not begin when you enter the building, but when the Church holds it at the appointed time. You are expected to arrive before Mass begins. Since the Church always announces the time, you should know when the service will begin. The schedule is public and easy to access.

The period before Mass is a time of preparation; it gives you the opportunity to collect your thoughts, express your intentions to God, and achieve a state of quiet. Silent prayer helps prepare you for this special meeting. You will miss something valuable if you arrive after Mass has already started.

Mass is not simply another event or performance; it is a sacrifice, and as a baptized Catholic, you are expected to take part in it. You should take part alongside the priest in the offering, not merely watch. If you are late, you will find it more difficult to take full part. Jesus Christ is already present before Mass begins and does not arrive when you do. Being late may indicate a lack of respect for His presence, since the encounter has already taken place. If you arrive late, you will miss key parts of Mass, such as the sign of the Cross, the penitential rite, and the collect. By missing these moments, you miss out on the Church's prayer. You are late because you have not fully joined in, not because God is keeping you away. If you would not be late to meet an important person, then you should not be late for God.

Try to arrive early, take a moment to sit in quiet, prepare your heart, and pray before Mass begins. Use this time to make your offering. Show respect during worship and be fully present from the very beginning, treating this time with the Lord as holy.

(Fr. MAH)



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

Blessing for Expectant Mothers

During all Masses on
Saturday, August 29
and
Sunday, August 30

*We pray for all mothers preparing
to welcome new life.*



CCST Family Faith Formation Team



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

In Partnership


OHANA PRODUCE PLUS Food Distribution

Saturday, August ~~28th~~ 29th
9:00 to 10:45 a.m.



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

Weekly Offering Report

For August 10, 2026 - August 16, 2026



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	\$ 4,174.50	\$ 845.00
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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:

September 5-6 for the Catholic University of America

September 19-20 for the Facilities Improvement

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.

SCHOOL OFFICE STAFF AND FACULTY MEMBERS

- 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
- Kindergarten 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



The Order of Christian Initiation
Faith Formation sessions have
started once again.

The OCIA is a process for those seeking to be baptized into the Catholic Church, as well as those desiring to receive the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. However the faith formation sessions are open for everyone wanting to know more about their Catholic faith.

Come join us!

Our topic this week is
"**God comes to meet us**", as we
discover how God has been working in our lives
and how He has been reaching out to us.

Tuesday - August 25th at 6:30pm - parish rectory

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



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

August 24, 2026

Feast of Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

Revelation 21:9b-14; John 1:45-51

August 25, 2026

*Tuesday of the Twenty-first Week in
Ordinary Time*

2 Thessalonians 2:1-3a, 14-17;

Matthew 23:23-26

August 26, 2026

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

2 Thessalonians 3:6-10, 16-18;

Matthew 23:27-32

August 27, 2026

Memorial of Saint Monica

1 Corinthians 1:1-9; Matthew 24:42-51

August 28, 2026

*Memorial of Saint Augustine, Bishop
and Doctor of the Church*

1 Corinthians 1:17-25; Matthew 25:1-13

August 29, 2026

*Memorial of the Passion of Saint John
the Baptist*

1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Mark 6:17-29

August 30, 2026

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 20:7-9; Romans 12:1-2;

Matthew 16:21-27

Legacy Sunday --- Beginning Your Legacy Journey

"Where your treasure is, there also will your heart be."

— Matthew 6:21

Legacy Sunday is an invitation to reflect on the values and faith you wish to pass on to future generations. Through thoughtful planning, you can care for your loved ones, ensure your wishes are honored, and leave a legacy that reflects your faith and gratitude for God's blessings.

What is legacy planning?

Legacy planning is the process of preparing for the future by creating or updating important documents such as a will, trust, powers of attorney, beneficiary designations, and health care directives. It provides peace of mind for you and your family while ensuring your intentions are clearly communicated.

I don't consider myself wealthy. Is legacy planning still important?

Absolutely. Legacy planning is not about the size of your estate—it is about caring for the people and causes that matter most to you. Every adult should have a plan in place, regardless of age or financial circumstances.

Can I include my parish or another Catholic ministry in my plans?

Many Catholics choose to include their parish or Catholic ministry in their estate plans after providing for their loved ones. These planned gifts become a lasting expression of faith and gratitude and help ensure that the ministries they cherish today continue to serve future generations.

Where can I learn more?

The Hawai'i Catholic Community Foundation is available to provide educational resources and information about:

- Wills and trusts
- Powers of attorney
- Beneficiary designations
- Charitable gift planning
- Health care directives
- Other legacy planning resources

For more information, please contact:

Hawai'i Catholic Community Foundation

Phone: 808-585-3331

Email: hccf-admin@rcchawaii.org

Website: <https://www.hawaiicatholiccommunityfoundation.org/legacy-society/>

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace."

— 1 Peter 4:10

Every gift we receive from God - our faith, our families, our talents, and our resources - is entrusted to us for a purpose. Through thoughtful legacy planning, we have an opportunity to care for those we love while continuing to share God's gifts with future generations.



Scan to View
Legacy Sunday Video



**Hawai'i Catholic
Community Foundation**

OUR CALLING • MAKING DISCIPLES • SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE