

# Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa

## 5-YEAR PARISH PRIORITY PLAN

### 2019-2023

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*Focus on Hospitality,  
Prayer, Formation,  
and Service*



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Dear parishioners and friends of the Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus,

St. Therese said, “I will spend my heaven doing good upon earth.” I find these words of our patron saint a piece of profound advice to lovingly care for both the material and spiritual blessings that God so graciously bestowed upon us. To spend our heaven by doing good on earth is undoubtedly an invitation of faith to live our lives as faithful stewards of the blessings of this earth.

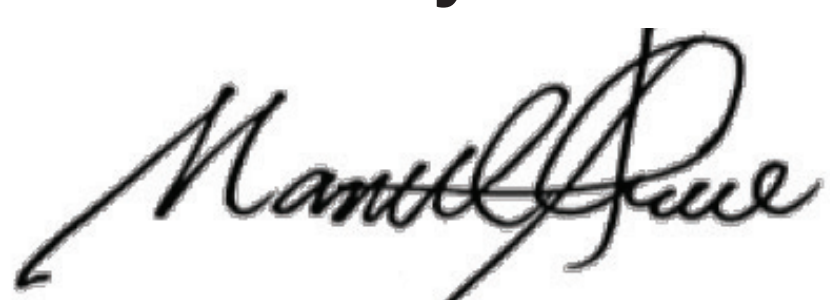
Our Lord Jesus Christ sacrificed himself to us on the cross to save and grace us with new life and continues to give himself in the Eucharist. He set his goals for us which are also our mission: to get to heaven, to be disciples, to follow the Ten Commandments and the Precepts of the Church, to love our neighbor as ourselves, and other values of the Gospel. It is our task as good stewards to carefully plan on how to nurture and keep these goals burning in our community.

We are thankful for the blessings of substantial land and the number of facilities at the Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Church. We have been trying to be good stewards of these blessings by maintaining them well. Our facilities need to be used more than ever before for the sake of ministry. There is much work to be done in the vineyard of the Lord, and we are called to do it in a meaningful and intentional way.

For the past several months, the parish pastoral council and the leadership of various ministries, with some additional help, had embarked on a planning process for our parish that outlines our goals and objectives for the next five years. We received input from our parishioners during town hall meetings, and we have carefully weighed our priorities. This Parish Priority Plan will be the guiding document for all decisions made at a staff level and will also guide the parish pastoral and finance councils in their work. There is still much work to be done and that is why we felt the need to prioritize and plan.

I am asking that you peruse this document carefully so that you know the direction our parish is heading. We have so much going for us and we continue to receive God’s grace in abundance to make it happen. Thank you for your commitment to the parish and may we always remember the words of our patron saint: to spend our heaven doing good on earth.

Sincerely in Christ,



Fr. Manny Hewe  
Pastor





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### Our Sacred Purpose

We the people of the Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, seek to be an example of the presence of God through our Christian Catholic worship, education, service and stewardship of all God's gifts.

We celebrate our diversity of age, culture, language, and viewpoints as a sign of God's all-powerful and ever-present love in our community of faith. We strive to witness the gospel of Jesus Christ to evangelize and to respond in love, to be a welcoming place to all who seek the grace, fellowship, and love of God

### The Values that Guide our Community

**Hospitality:** *We believe we encounter Christ in ourselves and every person that we meet.*

- We will greet and acknowledge the presences of those around us at Masses and other parish events.
- We will promote an inviting environment to increase parishioner participation in the life of the parish.
- We will foster a culture of encounter where the invested, the inquiring, and those on the margin meet Christ.

**Prayer & Liturgy:** *We worship our God together in the Eucharist.*

- We will welcome all to join us in the weekly Eucharistic Liturgy.
- We will deepen our relationship with Christ through intentional times of prayer each day.
- We will commit our time in the presence of the Lord in Adoration.

**Formation:** *We will continue to be formed in the faith to understand the person of Christ and His role in our lives.*

- We will inspire faith by providing a variety of formation opportunities, so all can fully participate in the life of the parish.
- We will provide opportunities for our youth to encounter the Love of Christ and be formed in the faith.
- We will focus on all areas of discipleship for adults in our community to grow together.

**Service:** *We believe God provides us with every blessing; therefore, we will care for and share the unique gifts God has given us.*

- We will share our relationship with Christ with those we meet.
- We will make annual commitments to giving, praying, and serving to enrich our spiritual lives.
- We will promote the prudent use of our financial resources both personally and as a parish.





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Contribute  
to the needs  
of the holy  
ones, exercise  
hospitality.

Romans 12:13

### Hospitality – We Believe We Encounter Christ in Ourselves and Every Person We Meet.

The Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa has a desire to develop a tradition where all people will encounter Jesus Christ. As a community of disciples, we must foster a culture of encounter where those involved, those who are not involved and those who do not yet know our parish find a welcoming community where faith is ignited and strengthened. In all that we do, we must break down the walls that divide us, connect people, and see that in a united community, all things are possible through Christ who strengthens us.

#### **Goal: Organize the Hospitality Ministry to promote a culture of Aloha Spirit**

Some of the important milestones and strategies that will aid in the fulfillment of this priority are:

- Define the function of the Hospitality Ministry and appoint a Coordinator by October 2019.
- Create and strengthen a welcoming committee to welcome new parishioners (tour, orient, and mentor) by December of 2019.
- Recruit additional ushers to be at the door before Mass to welcome parishioners by December 2019.
- Create awareness of the role of parishioners to be the source of a warm and welcoming spirit in our Christ environment (ongoing).

#### **Goal: : Improve our church and school communication efforts to include digital, print, and social media efforts**

Some of the important milestones and strategies that will aid in the fulfillment of this priority are:

- Create a committee to evaluate all current communication efforts to ensure we are using these to their full potential and develop a communication plan for the parish by March 2020.
- Continue to explore a plan for all digital media (e.g., Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) to promote events, ministries, and spiritual efforts.
- Continue to provide a quarterly Stewardship Report of Time, Talent, and Treasure and to highlight ministries and community outreach efforts (to be emailed to parishioners).
- Create a particular Christmas and Easter mailing program to invite and encourage all parishioners to attend masses (by Christmas 2020).

#### **Goal: Sustain and strengthen the welcoming spirit of the school**

Some of the important milestones and strategies that will aid in the fulfillment of this priority are:

- Provide opportunities for students to do morning greetings (by Fall 2019).
- Assign a class to welcome parents during the weekly school assembly (by Fall 2020).
- Develop creative ways to manifest the Christian Aloha Spirit (by Fall 2021).





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#### Prayer & Liturgy: We Worship Our God Together in the Eucharist.

The Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa has a desire to develop further a tradition where Jesus Christ is visible in all people. As a community of believers, we must foster a culture of involvement with believers and non-believers alike. In all that we do, we should be able to see the importance of community involvement.

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; tell God your needs and don't forget to thank him for his answers.

Philippians 4:6

#### **Goal: Increase involvement of all parishioners in Liturgical Ministries by 50 percent and build intentional communities**

Some of the important milestones and strategies that will aid in the fulfillment of this priority are:

- Develop a community among the members of each team: prayer & Holy Hour, potluck sponsored by ministry group, fellowship, and food (by Fall 2019).
- All current Liturgical Ministers will invite people to participate in Liturgical Ministries (by Fall 2019).
  - Establish best practices for Liturgical Ministries, including scheduling, registration requirements, and expectations.
- Continue to provide more opportunities for youth (ages 10-18) to serve at Mass as ushers, greeters, lectors, choir members, and cantors.

#### **Goal: Increase attendance at Mass and Church Events by 10 percent each year**

Some of the important milestones and strategies that will aid in the fulfillment of this priority are:

- Provide exceptional hospitality at weekend masses, including the following:
  - All Liturgical Ministers will greet parishioners after Mass (verbal)
  - Create a Welcome Table that is staffed by a new Welcoming Committee
  - Aloha Night to welcome new parishioners
  - Provide training on hospitality to all Liturgical Ministers
  - Have all ushers to escort parishioners to their pews if they need help
  - All ministers should understand that they are on the Hospitality Committee
- Engagement Before Mass
  - Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet or the Rosary before Mass.
  - Install a bulletin board at the main entry with a variety of activities to inform parishioners about upcoming events (by Spring 2020).
- Engagement During Mass
  - Explore how technology is used during Mass to engage parishioners better.
  - Have families do the presentations of the gifts (especially new families) and to take up the offertory gifts.
  - Incorporate Children's Liturgy of the Word for children ages 4 to 5 in the 10:30 am Mass (by August 2020).
- Engagement After Mass
  - Provide refreshments after Mass, quarterly (either after one Mass or all masses).
  - Utilize the period between the 8 am and 10:30 am masses for community-wide Religious Education opportunities: weekly RE Classes and monthly community events.
  - Have an occasional Praise and Worship event after one of the Masses (either the 10:30 am or the 6:00 pm evening Mass) by Fall 2021.

#### **Goal: To have at least 60 percent of registered households commit their time to prayer as a Domestic Church each year (Domestic Church: Faith-filled Marriage & Family)**

Some of the important milestones and strategies that will aid in the fulfillment of this priority are:

- Create a family resource for praying a Holy Hour (by Advent 2019).
- Ask parishioners and school families to commit to daily personal prayer as a Domestic Church, creating a way for them to engage in prayer each week (by Lent 2020).
- Encourage parishioners, families, and students to explore new ways of praying, including the rosary, scripture study, meditations or reflections, and other devotions via a social media outreach (by Advent 2020).
- Establish a committee to organize and maintain a Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration (by Lent 2021).
- Share printed spiritual materials at home, in the bulletin, and the school folders to strengthen the Domestic Church in their homes (by Advent 2021).



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Do not be  
conformed to  
this world, but  
be transformed  
by the renewing  
of your minds.

Romans 12:2

### Formation – We Will Continue to Be Formed in the Faith to Understand the Person of Christ and His Role in Our Lives.

Oh, how deep, how complex, how mysterious, and how beautiful is our faith in Christ Jesus! From the time we are born, until the time we die, we are called to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ; we are called to become saints who live eternally with our Lord in heaven. As an expression of love for each person, the Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa desires to share our greatest treasure, Jesus Christ. This conversion after encountering Christ happens as we fill our minds and hearts with Word and Sacrament, as we weigh all of our decisions against the fundamental question: Is this making me a better disciple of Jesus Christ on the path to heaven or not?

#### **Goal:** To increase participation in at least 1-2 distinct faith formation offerings each year

Some of the important milestones and strategies that will aid in the fulfillment of this priority are:

- We envision a parish that has faith formation opportunities for adults aged 18 and over.
  - Weekly Bible Study participation to increase by 50 percent (coordinated by the parish).
  - Offer online Bible Study classes (by December 2019).
  - Quarterly social/fellowship with brief catechesis (by October 2019).
  - Establish a Men's Ministry (by Lent 2020).
- We envision a parish Family Faith Formation program to establish a core team of families (4 to 5) to organize family-centered activities geared toward active participation in Church life.
  - Whole family catechesis once a month.
  - Family retreats twice a year (by Lent 2021).
  - Develop a program for singles and single parents (parish & school).
- We envision a parish where couples are supported in their marriage.
  - Provide opportunities for fellowship with other couples (by February 2020).
  - Marriage Enrichment sessions (by September 2021).
  - Theology of the Body for married couples (by Spring 2022).
- We envision a parish that supports Young Adults seeking to deepen their faith.
  - A personal invitation from the pastor or the deacons to attend an information session (by Fall 2020).
  - Young Adults Retreat (by Lent 2021).
  - Establish Small Faith Communities in Fall 2020.
- We envision a parish where our youth come together to learn about their faith.
  - Recruit a Youth Director/Coordinator (by Fall 2019).
  - Revitalize our middle and high school youth ministry (by Spring 2020).
  - Implement a summer Bible School program (by Summer 2021).





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#### **Service – We Believe God Provides Us with Every Blessing; Therefore, We Will Care for and Share the Unique Gifts God Has Given Us.**

Our Blessed Mother lived her life in a spirit of fidelity and service and responded generously to God's call to be the Mother of Jesus Christ. Our Lord, Jesus Christ, offered His life out of love for us. Taking the model of Jesus Christ and His mother, Mary, we at the Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa desire to be generous with our time, talent and treasure knowing that everything we have belongs to God and not to us. Filled with hearts of gratitude for all that God has blessed us with, we will work to build up our families and His Church through what we have been given.

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

#### **Goal: Create a presence in our local community to serve, evangelize, and invite people into our parish and school communities**

Some of the important milestones and strategies that will aid in the fulfillment of this priority are:

- Create an annual social event for the community, such as a Cultural Food Festival, Parish Carnival, or Fun Day (by Summer 2021).
- Develop ways to support outward evangelization to the surrounding communities through personal invitations and social media (by January 2021).
- Strengthen and expand the social outreach ministries as well as partner with a local soup kitchen or shelter to provide meals at least once a month (by Summer 2019).
- Establish a committee to create and execute service projects within our local community (by January 2020).
- Have an annual "Evangelization 101" gathering for parishioners to learn and become comfortable sharing about the Love of Christ to those around us in our daily lives, including personal sharing on social media by July 2020. Utilize online resources such as formed.org and Bishop Barron's Word on Fire.
- To educate our parishioners about the role and mission of our parish school as an opportunity for evangelization in our community (by July 2020).

#### **Goal: Inspire parishioners to offer their talent to at least one parish activity in addition to attending weekend Mass toward embracing "Stewardship as a Way of Life"**

Some of the important milestones and strategies that will aid in the fulfillment of this priority are:

- Provide a monthly presentation where each ministry (in rotation) can share with the congregation about what they do and how they serve in the community, inviting parishioners to take part. This might also include a "Spotlight Ministry of the Month" in the bulletin, on the website, and on the social media.
- Personal invitation to parishioners to commit to new and recommit to ministries annually (ongoing).
- Continue the Annual Ministry Fair.
- All current ministries are to identify their growth areas and strengths and share with parishioners on how they help us live out our mission and share the love of Christ in the world (by Summer 2020).

#### **Goal: Make financial goals toward embracing "Stewardship as a Way of Life"**

Some of the important milestones and strategies that will aid in the fulfillment of this priority are:

- Maintain Children's Stewardship Education Program on time, talent, and treasure.
- Continue Annual Stewardship of Treasure commitment, promoting the Online Giving program.
- Establish a parish tithe to domestic and international causes (by Summer 2023).





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CO-CATHEDRAL OF ST THERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS  
712 N SCHOOL ST  
HONOLULU, HI 96817-3098

*Focus on Hospitality,  
Prayer, Formation,  
and Service*

### Priority Plan Leadership Team

Father Manny Hewe, Deacon Raffy Mendoza, Deacon Francis Leasiolagi, Parish Council Members  
and All-Parish Leaders