



March 19, 2024

A Joint Letter on the  
St. Therese Center, Henderson, Nevada

Dear Friends in Christ,

After much prayer and consultation between the Archdiocese of Las Vegas and the Dominican Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, a collaborative decision has been reached to phase down the operations of the Saint Therese Center in Henderson, Nevada, pending a final closure in the near future. This difficult decision was not taken lightly and was only made after a discussion with donors, personnel, and Council and Curia members of both the Archdiocese of Las Vegas and the Western Dominican Friars. As the Saint Therese Center is a ministry of the Archdiocese of Las Vegas operated under the care and direction of the Dominican Friars, we issue this joint letter.

The Saint Therese Center was established 25 years ago to minister to those with HIV/AIDS. With the blessing of new advancements in treatment for those afflicted with HIV/AIDS, the mission of the center has changed significantly. The mission now is one primarily of food distribution, a service replicated in a number of regional venues.

While the Saint Therese Center has performed admirably with limited means and dated facilities, there are numerous other nonprofits that have been organized for the specific purpose of distributing food to the needy, including Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada. These entities are well equipped to more effectively reach those in need. Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada, as well as other food pantries and ministry sites in the Henderson area, stand ready to assist present and new clients with food assistance and additional social services needed by the individuals being served at the Saint Therese Center.

We are grateful for our longtime supporters who have shown love and care through this ministry. The Archdiocese of Las Vegas and the Western Dominican Friars wish to thank Father Joseph O'Brien, O.P., Brother Lupe Gonzalez, O.P., and all who have partnered with the Saint Therese Center over the years as volunteers in ministry, through your donations and with your prayers.

Prayerfully beseeching God's blessings upon you this Lenten Season, we remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend George Leo Thomas, Ph.D.  
Archbishop of Las Vegas

Very Rev. Christopher Fadok, O.P.  
Prior Provincial, Dominican Province of the  
Most Holy Name of Jesus