FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Modesto Firefighters Battle Church Fire

Early this morning the Modesto Fire Department responded to a structure fire at the Holy Family Catholic Church in North Modesto. Multiple reports and conditions upon arrival warranted the call of a second alarm. The response brought seven engines, one truck, 3 chief officers, and the fire investigator for a total of 29 personnel. Upon arrival crews found heavy smoke coming from the attic of a 120' by 30' social hall behind the church. Firefighters initiated an aggressive interior attack large hose lines and ventilation from the roof. An interior search was conducted and fortunately nobody was found to be inside the building at the time of the fire. The fire was brought under control in 20 minutes and crews remained on scene for 2 hours ensuring the fire was out and conducting overhaul operations. The fire is currently under investigation with an estimated fire loss of $175,000 and no injuries were reported. Unfortunately, the Church was in the process of a holiday boutique and the hall was full of product that was destroyed.