

Welcome

To our communities of faith

Our Divine Saviour Catholic Church

12th Street and Love Avenue
Tifton, GA

And

St. William Catholic Church
807 S. Merrimac Dr.
Fitzgerald, GA 31750

Second Sunday of Lent
March 1, 2026

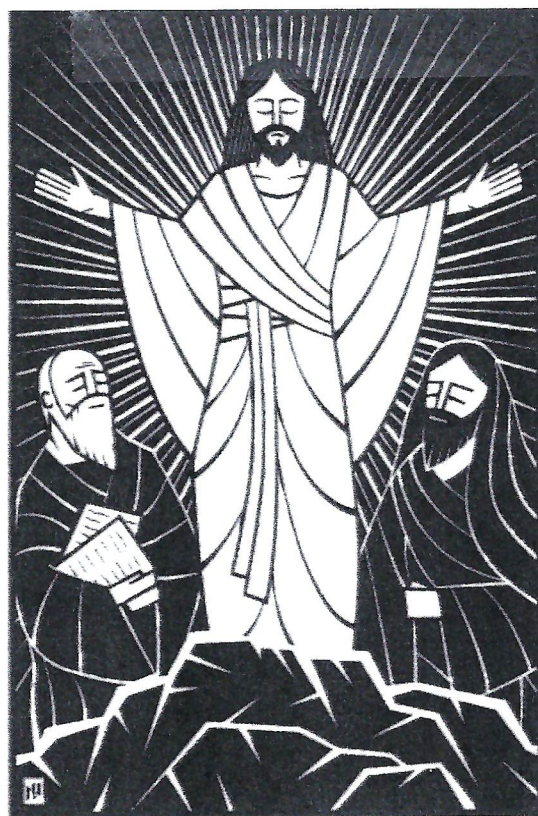
Pastor

Rev. Peter Oyenugba, MSP

Deacon

J. Brian Bergeron

**Lord, let your mercy be on us, as
we place our trust in you.
Psalm 33**



In the Gospel story Jesus leads Peter, James, and John up a high mountain, a favorite place in the Gospel of Matthew for revelation.

There, the presence of God shines through Jesus and he is transformed.

Moses and Elijah, representatives of the Law and the prophets, appear with Jesus.

Our Divine Savior

Office phone: 229-382-4600
Fax: 229- 382-7611

Email: ods@friendlycity.net
Website: odstifton.org

Office Address: 211 E. 12th Street
Church Address: 1205 Love Avenue, Tifton, GA 31794
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 212, Tifton, GA 31793

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday.....10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Friday.....Closed

Any new parishioners who would like to register,
Please call the parish office

Pastor	Fr. Peter Oyenugba, MSP poyenugba@dio.sav ods@friendlycity.net	382-4600	X109
Deacon J. Brian Bergeron	Jbb@jesusrocksministry.com		
Parish Secretary	Nayelly Balderas	382-4600	
Parish Secretary	Joann Prostko ods@friendlycity.net	382-4600	X101
Bookkeeper	Kevin Frizzell		
Finance Committee	John Wyatt		
Knights of Columbus	Gary Burtle	386-4330	
Council of Catholic Women	Carolyn Slade	238-2510	
CCW Cabinet Merchandise	Diana Balderas Carolyn Slade	472-3819 457-0873	
Liturgical (liturgy)	Margo Martin	402-0741	
Grupo Guadalupano	Margarita Zermefio	326-5352	
CCD Coordinator	Jackie Beals & Mayra Moreno		
EDGE Youth Ministry	Jackie Beals	382-4600	
Hispanic CCD Coordinator	Mayra Moreno	382-4600	
Parish Activity Center rental	Office	382-4600	
Choir Contact	Clare Jarboe		

Parish Council

Claudia Mejia	Claudiaaguilar77@hotmail.com
Martha Solis	marlettfol@gmail.com
Tania Bautista	Tbautista122898@gmail.com
Debbie Blakey	deborahblakey@hotmail.com
Juan Carlos Diaz	
Gary Burtle	gburtle@uga.edu
Bob Kemerait	pkemerait@gmail.com
Amalia Ramirez Silos	Amaliaramirez83@yahoo.com

Requests for Prayers

Please pray for the sick and those who have requested our prayers:

Maria Alanis, Allison Brannan, Rachel Brantley, James Brown, Mary Brown, Brady, Patricia Busby, Erica Carroll, Mary Carroll, Tommy Carroll, Sean Winn Carampatan, Laurie Creel, Margarie D’Souva, Tina DeWees, Lela Dillehay, Curtis Esmel, Carlos & Carrie Fletcher, Lauren Judy Fraelich, Rodolfo Hernandez-Labastida, Chloe Kendrick, David LaForest, Isaac Lindsey, Randy Long, LaVonia Mathis, Raeleigh Jane McCartha, Bob McDuffie, Andrew Meredith, Susana Melgar, Butch Parker, Charles Phenicie, John Potlanus, Katy Podagrosi, Miller Blake Prostko, Nancy Quynn, Marian Robinson, Jaxen Roberts, Rosalie Rohrer, Arlene Ruse, Josephine Sehrsamski, Marlena Smith, Sterling Saunders, Robbi Scarbrough, Wayne Scarbrough, John B. Sherlock, James Smith, Kaylon Spurlock, Jamie Thompson, Jennifer Unis, Dowson Bedore, Debra Vazquez, Sonia Webb, James Wyatt

Please Pray for our Military:

Andrew Byrd, Anthony Caucci, Jonathan Elder, Clayton F. Gibbs, Terry Jones, James Olands, Angel Olivos, Bong Tanesco, Aurelio Tovar, Gregory Camargo, Michael Gibbons, Jackson Bergeron

March 1, 2026
Second Sunday of
Lent

Readings:

Genesis 12:1-4
2 Timothy 1:8-10
Matthew 17:1-9

Theme:

Transfiguration – with the Spirit of Jesus within us, we will be transformed.

Question of the week:

In your neighborhood or community, who is waiting to hear the Good News?

March 8, 2026
Third Sunday
of Lent

Readings:

Exodus 17:3-7
Romans 5:1-2
John 4:5-42

Theme:

Jesus is the Living Water.

Question of the week:

Through what means do you experience Christ’s power in your Life?

Announcements: February 28 & March 1

Activity Center Rental Fee:

As of January 1, 2025 the fee to rent the Activity Center will be \$800 plus a \$200 deposit which will be returned if there is no damaged to the property.

CCW News:

The CCW is sponsoring a RADA Cutlery fundraiser effective immediately. RADA sells reasonably priced cutlery items, along with soup mixes, dips, cheese ball mixes, gourmet popcorn, cookbooks and more. Catalogs will be available in the Church vestibule. You may also order on-line at: <https://radafundraising.com?rfsn=5276229.0684f0>. This will take you right to the ODS site. 40% of the proceeds are paid to the OCS CCW. Thank you

The Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, March 7th from 6:00 am to 12:00 noon in the Parish Activity Center. Please drop off goods to sell on Thursday, March 5th from noon until 4:00 pm. Friday, March 6th from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM. No goods will be accepted on the day of the sale, Saturday, March 7th. If you need assistance in transporting your good, call Carolyn Slade at 229-457-0873.

Attention High School Seniors: The college scholarship application packets will be available for students starting January 27th for the "Joe and Martha Day AND the Jared A. Gibbs Scholarships. You can pick up your application packet from Mr. Guzman in the Guidance office. Please consider applying for these scholarships. If you have any questions, please call Janet Vanags at 229-392-6770 or Mary Anne Gibbs at 229-392-7676.

Harvest of Hope Campaign:

If you are writing a check to the Harvest of Hope Campaign, please make your check out to Harvest of Hope and not Our Divine Saviour. Thanks for your generosity.

OUR DIVINE SAVIOUR:

Thank you to all who continue to pledge and contribute to the Harvest of Hope campaign. Currently better than 35% of our parish is participating and we are almost 78% of the way to reaching our suggested goal.
TOTAL PLEDGED: \$131,895 PLEDGE BALANCE: \$103,282
ONE-TIME DONATIONS: \$50,002

ST. WILLIAM: There have been 18 donors or 56.25% of registered parishioners.

TOTAL PLEDGED: \$4,300.00 PLEDGE BALANCE: \$3,890.00 TOTAL GIVEN: \$1,215

The Lenten Penance Service will be held at ODS on Thursday, March 12th at 7:00 pm.

Lenten Fasting an Abstinence Guidelines:

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence. Fasting is required for Catholics ages 18-59: one full meal and two smaller meals that together do not equal another full meal. No snacking between meals. Abstinence is required for Catholics ages 14 and older. All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat for Catholics age 14 and older. Those who are ill, elderly, pregnant, nursing or whose health would be affected are excused from fasting and/or abstinence. These practices help us grow in prayer, repentance, and charity as we prepare for the celebration of Easter.

Stations of the Cross during Lent:

Stations of the Cross will be held on Fridays during Lent. The schedule is:

5:00 pm Stations of the Cross (English)

5:30 pm Mass at ODS

6:00 pm 1 Hour Eucharistic Adoration

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross (Spanish)

ODS 11th Annual International Food Festival:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The ODS Eleventh Annual International Food Festival will be held on April 25, 2026. We are always looking for new countries to be represented. Our first meeting will be Wednesday, March 4th at 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Please join us. If you cannot attend the meeting but can prepare a dish for the festival, please contact one of the people listed below with the authentic dish from your native country.

Carolyn Slade, email is csslade@gmail.com or Priscilla Carpenter, email is ki4gae@yahoo.com or phone 229-848-6699.

Dear Padre

March 1, 2026

I've been to Latin Masses, and people do not socialize in church and seem more respectful than at a regular parish Mass, where people are leaving before Mass is finished, and there seems to be constant talking. Why is there such a contrast?

I'd like to caution you about two assumptions. The first is about judging people who leave Mass early. We can't know what is in a person's heart. Some people work on Sundays or have other unavoidable commitments that require them to leave at a certain time.

The second assumption is that socializing before and after a parish Mass is disrespectful. The celebratory and welcoming culture of a Christian community that has gathered together to celebrate the Eucharist gives glory and praise to God. It is not disrespectful of the Eucharist, but rather a powerful witness to the unity, the community, and the faith of the people of God who gather with their Lord and Savior.

There are Eucharistic gatherings that encourage silence, such as the Latin Mass you have experienced as well as Eucharistic Adoration and Forty Hours Devotion. We need both—silence as we worship together and joyful interaction with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Both give glory to God.

All that being said, to those who enjoy socializing or who must leave the Mass before the final note of the final hymn: do be considerate of those praying near you. They might be praying for you! ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

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Good News!

March 1, 2026

Second Sunday of Lent (A)

Genesis 12:1–4a / 2 Timothy 1:8b–10 /
Matthew 17:1–9

ANN M. GARRIDO

Have you ever noticed that mountains and clouds seem to “go together”? When I was a child, I thought it was because the mountains' height pierced the sky. Turns out, it's a bit more complicated. Mountains “create” their own clouds. When moving air comes across a mountain front, it forces the warm air to rise to cooler zones and water droplets in the air to condense. The phenomenon is so common that these clouds have their own name: lenticular. They are known for being bright—even colorful—with rays of light peeking out from behind.

It's no wonder why, throughout history, people have sought to ascend mountains as part of their spiritual journey. It was a way to get closer to the “heavens”—to those radiant clouds. Recall the prophet Elijah, who climbs Mount Sinai seeking a face-to-face encounter with God. Or Moses, who, with three of his closest friends, ascends Mount Sinai to meet God in a radiant cloud that hovers over the top of the peak.

So, it's also no wonder why Jesus, with three of his closest friends, might also climb a mountain and meet Elijah and Moses there. No wonder why that mountain would be covered in a bright cloud that thunders with God's voice, and why, in that moment, Scripture describes heaven and earth as mysteriously yet visibly mingling in the person of the transfigured Jesus.

The story of the transfiguration reminds us that just like mountains and clouds were meant for one another, heaven and earth were meant for one another. Jesus stands at the point where the two meet. ●

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Querido Padre

1 de marzo de 2026

He asistido a misas en latín, y la gente no socializa en la iglesia y parece más respetuosa que en una misa parroquial normal, donde la gente se marcha antes de que termine la misa y parece que no dejan de hablar. ¿Por qué hay tal contraste?

Me gustaría advertirte sobre dos suposiciones. La primera es sobre juzgar a las personas que se van de la misa antes de tiempo. No podemos saber lo que hay en el corazón de una persona. Algunas personas trabajan los domingos o tienen otros compromisos ineludibles que les obligan a marcharse a una hora determinada.

Además, algunas personas piensan que socializar antes y después de la misa es una falta de respeto. Esto no siempre es cierto. La cultura festiva y acogedora de una comunidad cristiana que se ha reunido para celebrar la Eucaristía da gloria y alabanza a Dios. No es una falta de respeto a la Eucaristía, sino más bien un poderoso testimonio de la unidad, la comunidad y la fe del pueblo de Dios que se reúne con su Señor y Salvador.

Hay reuniones eucarísticas que fomentan el silencio, como la misa en latín que has experimentado, así como la adoración eucarística y la devoción de las cuarenta horas. Necesitamos ambas cosas: el silencio mientras adoramos juntos y la interacción alegre con nuestros hermanos y hermanas en Cristo. Ambas dan gloria a Dios.

Dicho esto, a quienes disfrutaban socializando o deben abandonar la misa antes de la última nota del himno final: sean considerados con quienes rezan a su lado. ¡Quizás estén rezando por ustedes! ●

P. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR

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Buenas noticias

1 de marzo de 2026

Segundo domingo de Cuaresma (A)

Génesis 12, 1-4a / 2 Timoteo 1, 8b-10 / Mateo 17, 1-9

ANN M. GARRIDO

¿Alguna vez han notado que las montañas y las nubes parecen «ir juntas»? Cuando era niña, pensaba que era porque la altura de las montañas atravesaba el cielo. Resulta que es un poco más complicado. Las montañas «crean» sus propias nubes. Cuando el aire en movimiento se encuentra con la cara de una montaña, obliga al aire cálido a ascender a zonas más frías y a las gotas de agua del aire a condensarse. El fenómeno es tan común que estas nubes tienen su propio nombre: lenticulares. Son conocidas por ser brillantes, incluso coloridas, con rayos de luz asomando por detrás.

No es de extrañar que, a lo largo de la historia, la gente haya buscado ascender a las montañas como parte de su viaje espiritual. Era una forma de acercarse a los «cielos», a esas nubes radiantes. Recordemos al profeta Elías, que sube al monte Sinaí en busca de un encuentro cara a cara con Dios. O a Moisés, que, junto con tres de sus amigos más cercanos, asciende al monte Sinaí para encontrarse con Dios en una nube radiante que se cierne sobre la cima.

Por lo tanto, tampoco es de extrañar que Jesús, junto con tres de sus amigos más cercanos, también subiera a una montaña y se encontrara allí con Elías y Moisés. No es de extrañar que esa montaña estuviera cubierta por una nube brillante que retumbaba con la voz de Dios y que, en ese momento, las Escrituras describieran el cielo y la tierra como misteriosa pero visiblemente entremezclados en la persona de Jesús transfigurado.

La historia de la transfiguración nos recuerda que, al igual que las montañas y las nubes estaban destinadas la una para la otra, el cielo y la tierra también lo estaban. Jesús se encuentra en el punto donde ambos se unen. ●

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EVENTS of the WEEK

Saturday, February 28

2nd Collection: ODS Building Fund

Mass at ODS [**+Robin McDanel**] 5:00 pm
(CCW)]

Spanish CCD 5:45 pm
Spanish Mass at ODS (For ODS Parishioners).. 7:00 pm

Sunday, March 1

2nd Collection: ODS Building Fund

Mass at ODS (For ODS Parishioners) 9:00 am
CCD at ODS.. 10:15 am
Mass at St. William (**Catholic Extension**) 11:30 am
Spanish Mass at ODS [**+Fransisca Bautista**] 2:00 pm
(Benito Estrada)]

Monday, March 2

NO Mass at ODS

Tuesday, March 3

Mass at ODS 5:30 pm

Wednesday, March 4

Mass at ODS 8:00 am

International Food Festival Meeting 7:00 pm

Thursday, March 5

Mass at ODS 8:00 am

Friday, March 6

Stations of the Cross (English) 5:00 pm

Mass at ODS [**+Cristina Alejo**]
+Jose Torro] 5:30 pm

1 Hour Eucharistic Adoration 6:00 pm

Stations of the Cross (Spanish) 7:00 pm

Saturday, March 7

CCW Rummage Sale 6:00 am to 12:00 pm

Mass at ODS [**+Loreto Abantao**] 5:00 pm

Spanish CCD 5:45 pm

Spanish Mass at ODS [**+Alberto Ramirez**]
(Norma Ramirez)] 7:00 pm

Sunday, March 8

Mass at ODS [**+Harriet Stolberg**]
(Eloise Stone)] 9:00 am

CCD at ODS 10:15 am

Mass at St. William (**Catholic Extension Society**) 11:30 am

Spanish Mass at ODS (For ODS Parishioners) 2:00 pm

ODS LITURGY TEAM

Saturday, March 7, 2026 – 5:00 pm

PRESIDER: Fr. Peter Oyenugba, MSP
LECTOR : Jim Laycock
LECTOR Jim Laycock
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Jose Abantao
..... Jhoy Abantao, Susan Benson
SACRISTAN Pat Stephens

Sunday, March 8, 2026 – 9:00 am

PRESIDER: Fr. Peter Oyenugba, MSP
LECTOR : Bob Kemerait
LECTOR Bob Kemerait
EUCRISTIC MINISTER Veronica Ogolowa,
..... Pius Ogolowa, Ben Fraelich,
..... Mary Moultrie, Bill McDaniel
SACRISTAN: Olga Montalvo

Knights of Columbus News:

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Fish Fry on Friday, March 20th at 5:00 pm. Please come and join us!



Protecting Our Youth: Diocesan policy requires all diocesan Adult employees and every volunteer and employee who minister to the youth of the diocese attend VIRTUS (safe environment) awareness training undergo a background check, and read and sign the Diocesan "Code of conduct for working with minors" prior to commencing their ministry. The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People, toll free reporting hotline: (888) 357-5530.

ODS Weekly Offertory	(2/22/26):	\$4,488
ODS Offertory collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$196,785
ODS Building Fund	(2/22/26):	\$30.00
ODS Building Fund collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$19,123
St. William Offertory	(2/22/26):	\$470
St. William Collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$18,153