

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

The Epiphany of the Lord **January 4, 2026**

Pastor

Rev. Peter Oyenugba, MSP

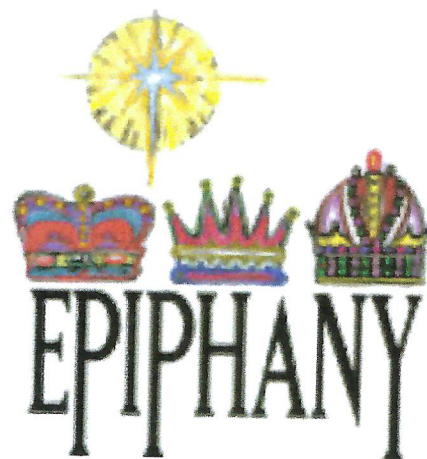
Deacon

J. Brian Bergeron

Deacon

Eric Windmoller

**Lord, every nation on earth will
adore you.
Psalm 72**



The Gospel reading today links Jesus to God's promise to Israel.

The royal title given by the Magi to Jesus points to his role as Messiah.

In ancient times, the birth of a great person was often associated with astrological events.

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 father_peter@odsparishtifton.org	382-4600	X109
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	472-3819	
	Carolyn Slade	457-0873	
Liturgical (liturgy)	Margo Martin	402-0741	
Grupo Guadalupano	Margarita Zermeño	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, Curtis Esmel, Carlos & Carrie Fletcher, Lauren Judy Fraelich, Rodolfo Hernandez-Labastida, Chloe Kendrick, David LaForest, Isaac Lindsey, Randy Long, LaVonja Mathis, Raeleigh Jane McCartha, Bob McDuffie, Andrew Meredith, Susana Melgar, Thomas Norris, Butch Parker, Charles Phenicie, John Potlanus, Katy Podagrosi, Miller Blake Prostko, Nancy Quynn, Marian Robinson, Jaxen Roberts, Rosalie Rohrer, Arlene Ruse, Josephine Sehranski, 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

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

*January 4, 2026
Epiphany of the
Lord*

Readings:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephes. 3:2-3

Matthew 2:1-12

Theme:

*The mystery of the
incarnation – Jesus
is a gift to all
humanity.*

Question of the week:

*How this past week
did you
demonstrate God's
love at home and at
work?*

*January 11, 2026
Baptism of the
Lord*

Readings:

Isaiah 43:1-7

Acts 10:34-38

Matthew 3:13-17

Theme:

*We must do what
God wants, even
when we don't
understand fully.*

Question of the week:

*How do you
experience Gods
words "You are my
own. My favor is
upon you."?*

Announcements: January 4 & 5

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 damage 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

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.

Many, many thanks to those who have contributed and/or pledged to the campaign. The latest report shows that our diocese has surpassed its \$25M goal (in pledges). You may see Bishop Parkes's latest video on the diocesan website. Our parish continues to be generous. Donations and payments on pledges now total \$64,696. Because we met our Annual Catholic Appeal and have pledged more than half of our goal for Harvest of Hope, we will receive our first share of the amount collected in April. \$19,708.78 will be deposited to our parish's savings and loan account with the diocese. (So far, \$2,589,390.34 has been shared with parishes to fund their projects.) As we honor our pledges throughout the next three years, we will continue to receive half of it back. If we meet our Harvest of Hope goal (we are 68% of the way there) and all pledges are honored, we stand to receive a little more than \$104,000 from this campaign. So, if you have not yet made a pledge or donation, please know it is certainly not too late. And thank you again for your generosity.

There will be NO CCD on January 4th.

There are 2026 calendars at the entrance to the church. Please take one per family.

The next UNO Night will be held on Wednesday, January 14th at 6:00 pm in the Activity Center.



Dear Padre

January 4, 2026

I recently lost my husband of sixty years. I prayed for him through his four-year illness. Since he has died, I cannot pray. Any advice for me?

My heartfelt condolences on your profound loss. When someone we love dies, a part of us dies too. Sometimes, the trauma is so severe that it can even affect our relationship with God.

Psychiatrist Elisabeth Kübler-Ross identified five stages of grief. In the denial stage, some people can't accept the reality of the death. It becomes too much to handle. In the anger stage, some may question their belief in God—especially if their prayer requests (such as, "Please God, if you heal my loved one, I will...") weren't successful in the bargaining stage. People in the depression stage feel overwhelmed by the reality of the loss and may not always feel like connecting with others—even with God in prayer. However, in the acceptance stage, emotions stabilize, and a person comes to terms with their new reality. Nothing makes up for the absence of a loved one, but people manage to cope and live on.

It's because you loved so deeply that the loss feels so deep. God accepts you completely; God understands how you feel. He wants you to be at peace and live life fully. Our compassionate God yearns to help console you and offer assistance in your healing process until you can embrace him again in prayer. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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Good News!

January 4, 2026

The Epiphany of the Lord (A)

Isaiah 60:1-6 / Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 /

Matthew 2:1-12

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

“We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage” (Matthew 2:2) describes the spark that sent the Magi on their journey. Something unusual in the sky, interpreted as a sign of something wonderful—in response, they changed direction in their lives and devoted themselves to a completely different path. As wonderful as it might well be, a special star in the heavens is not the ordinary experience of how we learn to follow the Lord or discern his will. If only there could be a sign in God's universe for each of us, beckoning us forward, clarifying what we need to do, setting down the path that needs to be followed. Perhaps life would be much simpler. Or perhaps not?

Would it truly be less complicated if everything were made clear and certain? Is the manifestation of God's grace and blessings confined to the straight and narrow, or can we also experience God in the chaos—"in the weeds," so to speak. Human experience seems to suggest that life is more "gray" than "black and white." There is real grace in the journey, in making mistakes, even in choosing something that is incomplete. Thankfully, God's grace does not need perfection to be powerful. We can know and follow God's will for us in the ordinary moments of day-to-day living. We do not need the extraordinary or the dramatic. ●

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Querido Padre

4 de enero de 2026

Recientemente perdía mi esposo después de sesenta años de matrimonio. Oré por él durante sus cuatro años de enfermedad. Desde que falleció, no puedo orar. ¿Tienes algún consejo para mí?

Mi más sentido pésame por tu profunda pérdida. Cuando alguien a quien amamos fallece, una parte de nosotros también muere. A veces, el trauma es tan severo que puede incluso afectar nuestra relación con Dios.

La psiquiatra Elisabeth Kübler-Ross identificó cinco etapas del duelo. En la etapa de negación, algunas personas no pueden aceptar la realidad de la muerte. Se vuelve demasiado difícil de manejar. En la etapa de ira, algunos pueden cuestionar su fe en Dios, especialmente si sus peticiones en oración (como «Por favor, Dios, si curas a mi ser querido, yo...») no tuvieron éxito en la etapa de negociación. Las personas en la etapa de depresión se sienten abrumadas por la realidad de la pérdida y es posible que no siempre tengan ganas de conectarse con los demás, ni siquiera con Dios en la oración. Sin embargo, en la etapa de aceptación, las emociones se estabilizan y la persona llega a aceptar su nueva realidad. Nada compensa la ausencia de un ser querido, pero las personas logran sobrellevarlo y seguir adelante.

Es porque amabas tan profundamente que la pérdida se siente tan profunda. Dios te acepta completamente; Dios entiende cómo te sientes. Él quiere que estés en paz y vivas la vida plenamente. Nuestro Dios compasivo anhelaba ayudarte a consolarte y ofrecerte asistencia en tu proceso de sanación hasta que puedas abrazarlo de nuevo en la oración. ●

P. Byron Miller, CSsR

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Buenas noticias

4 de enero de 2026

La Epifanía del Señor (A)

Isaías 60, 1-6 / Efesios 3, 2-3a, 5-6 / Mateo 2, 1-12

P. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

«Vimos su estrella al salir y hemos venido a adorarlo» (Mateo 2, 2) describe la chispa que impulsó a los Magos a emprender su viaje. Algo inusual en el cielo, interpretado como una señal de algo maravilloso: en respuesta, cambiaron el rumbo de sus vidas y se dedicaron a un camino completamente diferente. Por maravilloso que pueda ser, una estrella especial en los cielos no es la experiencia habitual de cómo aprendemos a seguir al Señor o a discernir su voluntad. Ojalá hubiera una señal en el universo de Dios para cada uno de ustedes, que les invitara a avanzar, les aclarara lo que tienen que hacer y les marcara el camino que deben seguir. Quizá la vida sería mucho más sencilla. ¿O quizá no?

¿Sería realmente menos complicado si todo estuviera claro y fuera seguro? ¿La manifestación de la gracia y las bendiciones de Dios se limita al camino recto y estrecho, o también podemos experimentar a Dios en el caos, «entre la maleza», por así decirlo. La experiencia humana parece sugerir que la vida es más «gris» que «blanca o negra». Hay una gracia real en el camino, en cometer errores, incluso en elegir algo que es incompleto. Afortunadamente, la gracia de Dios no necesita la perfección para ser poderosa. Podemos conocer y seguir la voluntad de Dios para nosotros en los momentos ordinarios de la vida cotidiana. No necesitamos lo extraordinario ni lo dramático. ●

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EVENTS of the WEEK

Saturday, January 3

2nd Collection: ODS Building Fund

Mass at ODS [+Robin McDaniel] 5:00 pm
(Margo Martin)]

Spanish Mass at ODS (For ODS Parishioners) . 7:00 pm
Sunday, January 4

2nd Collection: ODS Building Fund

Mass at ODS (For ODS Parishioners) 9:00 am

NO CCD at ODS.. .. .

Mass at St. William (St. William Parishioners) . 11:30 am

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

Monday, January 5

NO Mass at ODS

Tuesday, January 6

Mass at ODS 5:30 pm

Wednesday, January 7

Mass at ODS 8:00 am

Thursday, January 8

Mass at ODS 8:00 am

Friday, January 9

Mass at ODS 5:30 pm

1 Hour Eucharistic Adoration 6:00 pm

Saturday, January 10

2nd Collection: Black & Indian Mission

Mass at ODS [+Guillermo Abantao] 5:00 pm
(Abantao Family)]

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

Sunday, January 11

2nd Collection: Black & Indian Mission

Mass at ODS (For ODS Parishioners) 9:00 am

CCD at ODS 10:15 am

Mass at St. William (St. William Parishioners) . 11:30 am

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

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 LITURGY TEAM

Saturday, January 10, 2026 – 5:00 pm

PRESIDER: Fr. Peter Oyenugba, MSP
LECTOR : Judy Tyno
LECTOR Judy Tyno
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Jose Abantao
..... Jhoy Abantao, Dr. Anthony Burke
SACRISTAN Eloise Stone

Sunday, January 11, 2026 – 9:00 am

PRESIDER: Fr. Peter Oyenugba, MSP
LECTOR : Margo Martin
LECTOR Margo Martin
EUCRISTIC MINISTER Veronica Ogolowa
..... Pius Ogolowa, Bill McDaniel
..... Morris Scarbrough, Theresa Scarbrough
SACRISTAN: Ann Timbs

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Let us resolve to bring [God's] love everywhere, never forgetting that each of our sisters and brothers is a dwelling place of God and that his presence is manifested above all in the little ones, in the poor and the suffering, who ask us to be thoughtful and compassionate Christians.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 25, 2025



ODS Weekly Offertory	(12/25 & 28/25):	\$8,599
ODS Offertory collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$144,495
ODS Building Fund	(12/28/25):	\$5
ODS Building Fund collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$15,372
St. William Offertory	(12/24 & 28/25):	\$770
St. William Collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$13,236

Monday

January 5
St. John Neumann,
Bishop
1 Jn 3:22–4:6
Mt 4:12–17, 23–25

Tuesday

January 6
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:7–10
Mk 6:34–44

Wednesday

January 7
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:11–18
Mk 6:45–52

Thursday

January 8
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:19–5:4
Lk 4:14–22a

Friday

January 9
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:5–13
Lk 5:12–16

Saturday

January 10
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:14–21
Jn 3:22–30

Sunday

January 11
The Baptism
of the Lord
Is 42:1–4, 6–7
Acts 10:34–38
Mt 3:13–17