

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 15, 2026

Pastor

Rev. Peter Oyenugba, MSP

Deacon

J. Brian Bergeron

Deacon

Eric Windmoller

***Blessed are they who follow the law
of the Lord!
Psalm 119***



Jesus gave six examples of how to follow the Law. Four of them are read in this Sunday's Gospel.

He declared that the sin really begins with the decision, before the action is taken.

The Law is God's gift of life. The wholeness of Jesus' followers is a choice of life.

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
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 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

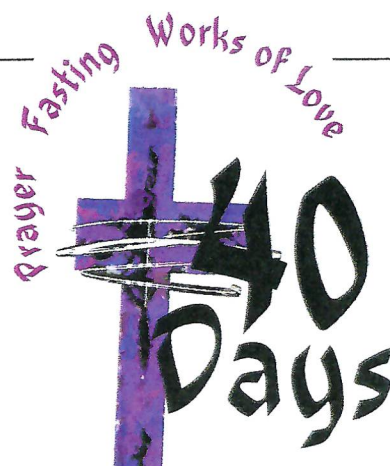
Requests for Prayers

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, Lela Dillehay, Curtis Esmel, Carlos & Carrie Fletcher, Lauren Judy Fraelich, Rodolfo Hernandez-Labastida, Chloe Kendrick, David LaForest, Isaac Lindsey, Randy Long, LaVonnia Mathis, Raelleigh 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 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, 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



*February 15, 2026
 Sixth Sunday in
 Ordinary Time*

Readings:

Sirach 15:15-20
 1 Corinth. 2:6-10
 Matthew 5:17-37

Theme:

*God's
 Commandments
 are a way of Life.*

Question of the week:

*Do you accept
 God's love through
 his laws?*

*February 22, 2026
 First Sunday of
 Lent*

Readings:

Genesis 2:7-9
 Romans 5:12-19
 Matthew 4:1-11

Theme:

*Temptation – What
 would Jesus do?*

Question of the week:

*When you yourself
 pause to be alone
 with God, what
 distracts and
 prevents you from
 dwelling in that?*

Announcements: February 14 & 15

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 ODS Council of Catholic Women will be sponsoring a Rummage Sale on Saturday, March 7th to raise money for The Joe and Martha Day Scholarship. The CCW is asking parishioners to put aside any usable goods that you wish to donate to the CCW for the sale.

WHAT is ACCEPTABLE: furniture, cooking utensils, toys, puzzles, board games, wooden or metal signs, picture frames, books, holiday items, linens, tools, sports equipment, glassware, dishes, leather goods, artwork, jewelry (please do not polish sterling silver), yard/garden tools, gently used shoes and boots.

WHAT is NOT ACCEPTABLE: clothing, soiled linens, used candles, mattresses, or anything broken or dirty. The drop off days will be March 5 and 6 (Hours will be announced later).

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:

We continue to advance toward our Harvest of Hope goal. We are within reach of 77% of our goal of \$233,335.00 to be given during the next two or three years. According to the January 22nd report, 33.20% of our parish has given or pledged (84 donors). We have so far given a total of \$76,021.62 and have received \$19,708.78 to be applied toward our own parish projects. Thank you to all who have participated.
TOTAL PLEDGED: \$130,865.42 PLEDGE BALANCE: \$103,107.80

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

UNO NIGHT:

The next UNO NIGHT will be held on Tuesday, February 17th at 6:00 pm in the Activity Center.

There will be NO Mass on Tuesday, February, 17th.

There will be NO CCD the weekend on February 14 and 15.

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.

ASH WEDNESDAY Mass schedule:

12:00 noon at St. William

6:00 pm English mass at ODS

8:00 pm Spanish mass at ODS

Dear Padre

February 15, 2026

My grandkids' parents don't want them to be baptized. Can I do it myself secretly so as not to cause problems?

Your concern is understandable, but secret baptisms are prohibited in the Catholic Church. The decision to baptize a child is determined by his or her parents. To secretly usurp their decision may cause problems of its own. For an infant to be baptized, "The parents or at least one of them or the person who legitimately takes their place must consent," and "There must be a founded hope that the infant will be brought up in the Catholic religion" (*Code of Canon Law*, 868 §1). An exception is permitted when the child's life is in immediate danger: "An infant of Catholic parents or even of non-Catholic parents is baptized licitly in danger of death, even against the will of the parents" (CCL 868 §2). Here, the Church's pastoral concern is for the child to receive the immediate graces from the sacrament; the question of raising the child in the faith becomes moot in a life-or-death situation.

"Since the earliest times, baptism has been administered to children, for it is a grace and a gift of God that does not presuppose any human merit.... Entry into Christian life gives access to true freedom" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1282). Continue to pray that your family may see baptism as a sign of God's love, which offers true freedom for humanity. ●

Fr. Byron J. Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about Dear Padre.

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Good News!

February 15, 2026

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Sirach 15:15–20 / 1 Corinthians 2:6–10 /
Matthew 5:17–37 or 5:20–22a, 27–28, 33–34a, 37

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

"Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No'" (Matthew 5:37). This teaching of Jesus seems to get lost, perhaps because it comes at the end of a long listing of commandments. Regardless, it seems to get right to the point, almost making the other commandments unnecessary or perhaps clarifying them. Either you are going to be a child of your heavenly Father and live like one, or you are not. If you are a child of God, you would not contemplate any evil behaviors, let alone actually do them.

That is the clarity of the teaching of Jesus. It is authentic. It is compelling. It invites a response. Yet, there are those who were present with him who did not understand. Who missed the point. Who insisted on another way. Who could not discern the simplicity of the truth. To each of these men and women, including some with the religious title of scribe or Pharisee, he observed, "And if the light in you is darkness, how great will the darkness be" (Matthew 6:23). Even sadder is that not only did they miss the point, they also simply walked away.

Do you want to say more than a simple "Yes" or "No"? Do you want to say, "Yes, but... I can't do it now." Or "I can't forgive this particular person." Or "I can't welcome this particular stranger." Or "I can't love him or her or them."

Have you also missed the point? Do you also want to walk away? ●

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Querido Padre

15 de febrero de 2026

Los papás de mis nietos no quieren que los bauticen. ¿Puedo hacerlo yo mismo en secreto para no causar problemas?

Tu preocupación es comprensible, pero los bautismos secretos están prohibidos en la Iglesia católica. La decisión de bautizar a un niño la toman sus padres. Usurpar en secreto su decisión puede causar problemas. Para que un bebé sea bautizado, «los padres, o al menos uno de ellos, o la persona que legítimamente los sustituya, deben dar su consentimiento», y «debe haber una esperanza fundada de que el bebé será educado en la religión católica» (Código de Derecho Canónico, 868 §1). Se permite una excepción cuando la vida del niño corre peligro inmediato: «Un bebé de padres católicos o incluso de padres no católicos es bautizado lícitamente en peligro de muerte, incluso en contra de la voluntad de los padres» (CCL 868 §2). En este caso, la preocupación pastoral de la Iglesia es que el niño reciba las gracias inmediatas del sacramento; la cuestión de criar al niño en la fe se vuelve irrelevante en una situación de vida o muerte.

«Desde los primeros tiempos, el bautismo se ha administrado a los niños, ya que es una gracia y un don de Dios que no presupone ningún mérito humano... La entrada en la vida cristiana da acceso a la verdadera libertad» (Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, 1282). Sigue orando para que tu familia vea el bautismo como un signo del amor de Dios, que ofrece la verdadera libertad a la humanidad. ●

P. Byron J. Miller, CSSR

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Buenas noticias

15 de febrero de 2026

Sexto domingo del tiempo ordinario (A)

Eclesiástico 15, 15-20 / 1 Corintios 2, 6-10 / Mateo 5, 17-37 o 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

P. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

«Que tu “sí” sea “sí” y tu “no” sea “no”» (Mateo 5:37). Esta enseñanza de Jesús parece perderse, tal vez porque aparece al final de una larga lista de mandamientos. En cualquier caso, parece ir directa al grano, casi haciendo innecesarios los demás mandamientos o tal vez aclarándolos. O eres hijo de tu Padre celestial y vives como tal, o no lo eres. Si eres hijo de Dios, no contemplarías ningún comportamiento malo, y mucho menos lo llevarías a cabo.

Esa es la claridad de la enseñanza de Jesús. Es auténtica. Es convincente. Invita a responder. Sin embargo, hay quienes estaban presentes con él y no lo entendieron. Quienes no captaron el sentido. Quienes insistieron en otra forma. Que no pudieron discernir la simplicidad de la verdad. A cada uno de estos hombres y mujeres, incluidos algunos con el título religioso de escribas o fariseos, les dijo: «Y si la luz que hay en ti es oscuridad, ¡cuán grande será la oscuridad!» (Mateo 6, 23). Aún más triste es que no solo no entendieron el mensaje, sino que simplemente se marcharon.

¿Quieres decir algo más que un simple «sí» o «no»? ¿Quieres decir: «Sí, pero... ahora no puedo hacerlo»? ¿O «No puedo perdonar a esta persona en particular»? ¿O «No puedo acoger a este desconocido en particular»? ¿O «No puedo amarlo a él, a ella o a ellos»?

¿También has perdido el sentido? ¿También quieres marcharte? ●

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EVENTS of the WEEK
Saturday, February 14

Mass at ODS (For ODS Parishioners)..... 5:00 pm
 NO Spanish CCD

Spanish Mass at ODS (For ODS Parishioners).. .. 7:00 pm
Sunday, February 15

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, February 16

NO Mass at ODS

Tuesday, February 17
 NO Mass at ODS

Wednesday, February 18
ASH WEDNESDAY

Mass at St. William.....12:00 pm
 Mass at ODS (English)..... 6:00 pm

Mass at ODS (Spanish)..... 8:00 pm
Thursday, February 19

Mass at ODS8:00 am
Friday, February 20

Mass at ODS 5:30 pm
 1 Hour Eucharistic Adoration 6:00 pm
Saturday, February 21

Mass at ODS [+Fr. James O’Kielty 5:00 pm
 (Eloise Stone)]

Spanish CCD 5:45 pm
 Spanish Mass at ODS (For ODS Parishioners).7:00 pm
Sunday, February 22

Mass at ODS (For ODS Parishioners)..... 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

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	(2/08/26):	\$
ODS Offertory collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$177,600
ODS Building Fund	(2/08/26):	\$
ODS Building Fund collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$18,448
St. William Offertory	(2/08/26):	\$
St. William Collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$15,441

ODS LITURGY TEAM

Saturday, February 21, 2026 – 5:00 pm

PRESIDER: Fr. Peter Oyenugba, MSP
LECTOR :
LECTOR
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:Greg Harten
 Michelle Harten, Pat Stephens
SACRISTAN Jhoy Abantao

Sunday, February 22, 2026 – 9:00 am

PRESIDER:..... Fr. Peter Oyenugba, MSP
LECTOR :
LECTOR
EUCRISTIC MINISTER Ben Fraelich
 ary Moultrie, Maria Ramirez,
Halario Ramirez, Chrisann Krohn
SACRISTAN: Mary Moultrie

Prayer to St. Valentine

*Dear Saint and glorious martyr,
 Teach us to love unselfishly and
 to find great joy in giving.
 Enable all true lovers to bring
 out the best in each other.
 Let them love each other in God
 and in God in each other.*

Love

*Love is patient and kind,
 It doesn't envy or boast
 and it's never proud.
 Love is not rude or selfish,
 It doesn't get angry easily,
 or keep track of wrongs.
 Love doesn't delight in bad
 things but it rejoices in the
 truth. Love always protects,
 trusts, hopes and perseveres.
 Love never fails.*

- St. Paul to the Corinthians