

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

Ascension of the Lord
May 17, 2026

Pastor

Rev. Peter Oyenugba, MSP

Deacon

J. Brian Bergeron

**God mounts his throne to shouts of
joy: a blare of trumpets for the
Lord.
Psalm 47**



Jesus commission his disciples to
baptize in his name, reminding
them that he is always present
through his Spirit.

Jesus told his disciples that what
they do for the least among them
they do for him.

Jesus is here on earth, in us and in
the least of our sisters and brothers.

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@jesusrockministry.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 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 Herandez-Labastida, Chloe Kendrick, David LaForest, Isaac Lindsey, Randy Long, LaVonnia 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 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, Suzanne Norwood, Sandra Hendricks, June Hendricks, Rebekah Carpenter, Misael Sausedo Mendez

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

*May 17, 2026
 Ascension of the
 Lord*

Readings:

Acts 1:1-11
 Ephes. 1:17-23
 Matthew 28:16-20

Theme:
*We are to be Jesus’
 witnesses.*

Question of the week:
What will I do this week to give witness to Christ in me and my neighbor?

*May 24, 2026
 Pentecost Sunday*

Readings:

Acts 2:1-11
 1 Corinth. 12:3-7
 John 20:19-23

Theme:
We have been given the breath of God – the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Question of the week:
Share about the times when you felt the power of the Spirit?

Announcements: May 16 & 17

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

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.

2026 Annual Catholic Appeal:

OUR DIVINE SAVIOUR:

Thank you to those who have contributed recently to the Annual Catholic Appeal. We are making fine progress toward our goal of \$24,014. Recent donations total close to \$3,000 (one-time donations and payments on pledges). We are approaching 50% of our target. Envelopes are available in the vestibule. *Please make your checks payable to Annual Catholic Appeal.* Many thanks to those who have already donated or pledged.

ST. WILLIAMS:

Thank you to those who have contributed to the Annual Catholic Appeal. A total of \$1,015 has been given, which is 37.5% of our target amount of \$2,707. Envelopes are available to those who wish to pledge or contribute. *Please make your checks payable to Annual Catholic Appeal.*

The Rosary will be prayed every Tuesday in May at 6:00 pm after the 5:30 pm mass.

2026 High School Seniors:

Attention all High School Seniors: Our Divine Saviour Graduation Mass will be held on Sunday, May 24th at the 9:00 am mass. Graduating seniors who are planning to attend this mass please text or call MaryAnne Gibbs at 229-392-7576 for further information.

2026 International Food Festival:

On behalf of Our Divine Saviour Church, Father Peter wishes to thank Priscilla Carpenter, the International Food Festival organizers, and everyone who used their talents to help make the festival a success. The money from T-shirt sales, food sales, advertising on shirts, and donations totaled \$10,750. Some of this money was used to improve the electrical wiring in the Activity Center, and the rest will go toward enhancing the lighting in the sanctuary, the altar, and the podium area. The festival was enjoyed by all who attended.

Book Club:

The next book club selection is "The Politics of Jesus: Rediscovering the True Revolutionary Nature of Jesus' Teachings and How They Have Been Corrupted" by Obery M. Hendricks Jr. We will meet to discuss it on Monday, July 6 at 7 pm. If you would like to join us, please obtain a copy of the book, read it and contact Margo Martin (229-402-0741) for the meeting location.

Lost and Found:

A pair of EAR BUDS/PODS were found this past weekend in a pew at church. They are in a colored case. Please call the office and you can verify the color of the case to see if they are yours.

Dear Padre

May 17, 2026

I am scared of the end times and predictions of these dates. I feel saved, but I don't truly know if I would be accepted into heaven. What are the Catholic teachings on the end times/rapture?

No one but our heavenly Father knows the precise time of our Lord's return. (See Mark 13:32-37.) If this uncertainty about when Jesus will return evokes more apprehension than anticipation, it doesn't help that prophets of doom make predictions based on a distorted understanding of apocalyptic literature in the Bible. An example of this literary form includes the Book of Revelation. It contains elements of a final judgment and cosmic struggle between good and evil written in highly symbolic and imaginative language; however, it wasn't intended to provide a literal description or timeline of how the world ends. In 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, St. Paul also uses apocalyptic imagery to say that all the faithful will be "caught up" ("rapt up") to meet the Lord at his Coming. Some use this single text to vividly imagine true believers being "raptured" from the earth and escaping the destruction of humankind at the end times, but it's a misinterpretation. For Catholics, these apocalyptic passages offer hope and guidance: despite the powerful forces of evil, Christ will overcome. His death and resurrection already ushered in the last age. We don't know how long this age will last before the final consummation, hence the need to be watchful and prepared. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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Good News!

May 17, 2026

The Ascension of the Lord (A)

Acts 1:1-11 / Ephesians 1:17-23 / Matthew 28:16-20

MIGUEL DULICK

Even by the Ascension, after forty days of eating and drinking with the resurrected Lord, the obtuseness of the Apostles still frustrates Jesus. In Acts, they're ready for a fight, "to restore the kingdom to Israel" (Acts 1:6). Matthew reports that "they worshiped, but they doubted" (Matthew 28:17). Pentecost cannot come soon enough, when they will be baptized with the Holy Spirit, and all will be made known.

So the next nine days are crucial. The apostles and other disciples, 120 persons in all, prepare for the arrival of the Holy Spirit, a spiritual retreat, the original "nova." Only then can the apostle go and "make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19).

Jesus, who brought heaven down to earth in the Incarnation, now ascends, taking earth up to heaven, with his resurrection. Saint Paul gives us a hint of how special this interchange is when he wishes for the Ephesians to receive from Jesus "a Spirit of wisdom and revelation" (Ephesians 1:17).

Our own obtuseness can block the Holy Spirit when we think we have all the answers. When I first preached in Honduras, in the village where I live, I was so prepared. I said everything I could think of, all that I had learned in my courses for a masters degree in divinity. But then, when I heard the prayers and insights of poor and simple folks, supported by a rich, personal knowledge of the Lord himself, I cut my sermons in half and let the "saints," as St. Paul liked to call the people, finish the job. Thank you, Holy Spirit! ●

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Querido Padre

17 de mayo de 2026

Me dan miedo el fin de los tiempos y las predicciones sobre estas fechas. Me siento salvado, pero no sé realmente si seré aceptado en el cielo. ¿Qué enseña la Iglesia católica sobre el fin de los tiempos y el rapto?

Nadie, excepto nuestro Padre celestial, conoce el momento exacto del regreso de nuestro Señor. (Véase Marcos 13, 32-37). Si esta incertidumbre sobre cuándo regresará Jesús provoca más aprensión que expectación, no ayuda que los profetas del fin del mundo hagan predicciones basadas en una comprensión distorsionada de la literatura apocalíptica de la Biblia. Un ejemplo de esta forma literaria es el Libro del Apocalipsis. Contiene elementos de un juicio final y una lucha cósmica entre el bien y el mal escritos en un lenguaje muy simbólico e imaginativo; sin embargo, no pretendía ofrecer una descripción literal o una cronología de cómo acabará el mundo. En 1 Tesalonicenses 4, 16-17, San Pablo también utiliza imágenes apocalípticas para decir que todos los fieles serán «arreatados» («raptados») para encontrarse con el Señor en su venida. Algunos utilizan este único texto para imaginar vívidamente a los verdaderos creyentes siendo «raptados» de la tierra y escapando de la destrucción de la humanidad en el fin de los tiempos, pero se trata de una interpretación errónea. Para los católicos, estos pasajes apocalípticos ofrecen esperanza y orientación: a pesar de las poderosas fuerzas del mal, Cristo vencerá. Su muerte y resurrección ya marcaron el comienzo de la última era. No sabemos cuánto durará esta era antes de la consumación final; de ahí la necesidad de estar atentos y preparados. ●

P. Byron Miller, CSsR

Buenas noticias

17 de mayo de 2026

La Ascensión del Señor (A)

Hechos 1, 1-11 / Efesios 1, 17-23 / Mateo 28, 16-20

MIGUEL DULICK

Incluso en la Ascensión, después de cuarenta días de comer y beber con el Señor resucitado, la torpeza de los apóstoles sigue frustrando a Jesús. En Hechos, están listos para luchar, «para restaurar el reino a Israel» (Hechos 1, 6). Mateo informa que «adoraron, pero dudaron» (Mateo 28, 17). Pentecostés no puede llegar lo suficientemente pronto, cuando serán bautizados con el Espíritu Santo y todo se dará a conocer.

Así que los siguientes nueve días son cruciales. Los apóstoles y otros discípulos, 120 personas en total, se preparan para la llegada del Espíritu Santo, un retiro espiritual, la «novena» original. Solo entonces el apóstol puede ir y «hacer discípulos de todas las naciones» (Mateo 28, 19).

Jesús, que trajo el cielo a la tierra en la Encarnación, ahora asciende, llevando la tierra al cielo, con su resurrección. San Pablo nos da una pista de lo especial que es este intercambio cuando desea que los efesios reciban de Jesús «un espíritu de sabiduría y revelación». Nuestra propia torpeza puede bloquear al Espíritu Santo cuando creemos que tenemos todas las respuestas. Cuando prediqué por primera vez en Honduras, en el pueblo de montaña donde vivo, estaba muy preparado. Dije todo lo que se me ocurrió, todo lo que había aprendido en mis cursos de máster en Teología. Pero entonces, cuando escuché las oraciones y las reflexiones de gente pobre y sencilla, respaldadas por un rico y personal conocimiento del mismo Señor, reduje mis sermones a la mitad y dejé que los «santos», como a san Pablo le gustaba llamar a la gente, terminaran el trabajo. ¡Gracias, Espíritu Santo! ●

EVENTS of the WEEK

Saturday, May 16

Mass at ODS [+Arnold Davis]5:00 pm
(Wyatt Family)]

Spanish Mass at ODS [+Violeta delez Acebedo] .7:00 pm
(Santos Family)

Sunday, May 17

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

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

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

Monday, May 18

NO Mass at ODS

Tuesday, May 19

Mass at ODS 5:30 pm

ROSARY.....6:00 pm

Wednesday, May 20

Mass at ODS [+los difuntos de la Familia Manriquez
Ramirez]..... 8:00 am

Thursday, May 21

Mass at ODS [+los difuntos de la Familia Manriquez
Ramirez]8:00 am

Friday, May 22

Mass at ODS [+los difuntos de la Familia Manriquez
Ramirez] 5:30 pm

1 Hour Eucharistic Adoration6:00 pm

Saturday, May 23

2nd Collection: Catholic Communication Campaign

Confirmation at ODS..... 11:00 am

Mass at ODS [+Spencer Stolberg]5:00 pm
(Eloise Stone)]

Spanish Mass at ODS [+los difuntos de la Familia
Manriquez Ramirez] ...7:00 pm

Sunday, May 24

2nd Collection: Catholic Communication Campaign

Graduation Mass at ODS [+Charles & Joan Carroll] .9:00 am
(Prostkos's)

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

Spanish Mass at ODS [+Juan Manriquez Ramirez] .2:00 pm

ODS LITURGY TEAM

Saturday, May 23, 2026 – 5:00 pm

PRESIDER: Fr. Peter Oyenugba, MSP

LECTOR:.....

LECTOR :.....

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Jose Abantao

..... Jhoy Abantao, Dr. Anthony Burke

SACRISTAN Jhoy Abantao

Sunday, May 24, 2026 – 9:00 am

PRESIDER:..... Fr. Peter Oyenugba, MSP

LECTOR :.....

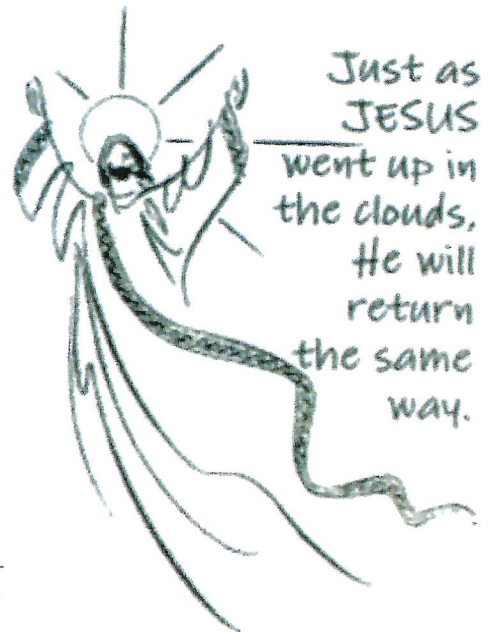
LECTOR.....

EUCRISTIC MINISTER Ben Fraelich

..... Mary Moultrie, Maria Ramirez

..... Halario Ramirez, Chrisann Krohn

SACRISTAN:..... Leticia Mendosa



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	(5/10/26):	\$5,281
ODS Offertory collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$268,306
ODS Building Fund	(5/10/26):	\$335
ODS Building Fund collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$23,788
St. William Offertory	(5/10/26):	\$616
St. William Collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$24,045