

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

**Twenty-third Sunday in
Ordinary Time
September 6, 2026**

Pastor

Rev. Peter Oyenugba, MSP

Deacon

J. Brian Bergeron

**If today you hear his voice, harden
not your hearts.
Psalm 95**



The Gospel passage from Matthew contains practical advice for dealing with disagreements within the community and the theological foundation for this advice.

The meaning of "binding and loosing" is the power of admission and excommunication.

Today's passage gives the theological reason for such power. Where two or three are gathered together in unity, whether in prayer or deliberation, they will be heard by God.

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@diosav.org ods@friendlycity.net	382-4600 X109
Deacon J. Brian Bergeron	Jbb@jesusrocksmistry.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	457-0873
CCW Cabinet Merchandise	Mary Beth Cary	344-5772
	Victoria Perez	706-944-0807
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, LaVonia Mathis, Raeleigh Jane McCartha, 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, Lela Dillehay

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

*September 6, 2026
23rd Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

Readings:

Ezekiel 33:7-9

Romans 13:8-10

Matthew 18:15-20

Theme:

*We are called to
help one another
grow as a
community of faith.*

Question of the week:

*How do you make
sure you follow the
way of Love as
described by Paul
in today's reading?*

*September 13 2026
24th Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

Readings:

Sirach 27:30

Romans 14:7-9

Matthew 18:21-35

Theme:

*We are called to
forgive others as
Jesus forgives us.*

Question of the week:

*Name a time this
past week when
you forgave
someone.*

Announcements: September 5 & 6

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 CCW purchased a AED for the church. If you are interested in learning how to use the Automatic Electronic Defibrillator we are looking into teaching a class in English and Spanish. This is only a how to class not a certificate class. There is a sign-up sheets in the front entrance of the church if you are interested.

The Council of Catholic Women will hold its first meeting of the year on September 8th at 1:30 in the Parish Hall. Currently, we are seeking women from ODS to join this active group. This is a group whose mission is to serve both here and abroad. It will not be necessary to attend monthly meetings. You may choose to be a member and help on certain projects. Please consider joining us and taking action to show love and service to people in our church and our community. Contact Janet Vanags at vanags01janet@gmail.com. Thank you.

Harvest of Hope Campaign and Annual Catholic Appeal:

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. And please write your check to the "Annual Catholic Appeal". Thanks for your generosity.

Annual Catholic Appeal Update:

HIP HIP HOORAY, and CONGRATULATIONS, and MANY, MANY THANKS TO ALL THE GENEROUS ODS PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS YEARS ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL. We have surpassed our goal of \$24,014 by a whopping amount of \$20,524. God will surely bless all who have dug deep and given to the campaign. For those of you who still have a pledge balance remaining, and for those who have planned to give before the campaign ends, your donation will still be put to good use in the current year. Perhaps we can help make up the deficit for our brothers and sisters in other parishes who are not able to reach their goal. Generosity and Solidarity are important virtues for all of us to work on. May God bless all who have and/or will participate.

Book Club:

The next selection to be discussed by the book club is "Creation and the Cross" by Elizabeth Johnson. You are invited to read the book and join us for the discussion on Monday, September 14th at 7pm. September 14 just happens to be the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. The Holy Spirit at work?? You may contact Margo Martin for mor information. 229-402-0741.

FR. Peter's Birthday celebration:

Mark your calendars!! Help celebrate Fr. Peter's birthday on Friday, September 11th at 7pm in the Activity Cener. It will be a potluck so bring a dish to share with others.

The Parish Office will be CLOSED on Monday, September 7th in observance of Labor Day.

The next UNO Night will be held on Wednesday, September 9th at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

K of C News:

Mark your calendar! The Knights of Columbus annual "Pig Pickin" will be held on Friday, October 9th starting at 6:00 pm in the Activity Center.

Dear Padre

September 6, 2026

I had not been to confession for decades until recently, and I've probably committed mortal sins I can't remember. I want God's forgiveness, but I'm unsure how to get it at this time.

You ask if God has forgiven you for sins that you may have committed in the past but that you don't remember now. You say you have been to confession recently.

A mortal sin has three criteria: it is seriously wrong; the person knows it is seriously wrong; and the person is free to commit the sin or not. In the case you are describing, you don't even remember what the mortal sin might have been, or even if there was one. So, no, you don't have to confess something you don't remember. Also, you have already gone to confession recently, and you sound truly repentant for your past sins. You do not indicate that you were deliberately trying to hide any sins from the priest. So, you have already been forgiven, not only for the sins you remembered but also for those you don't remember. That is why usually we will say something like "for these sins and for those I may have forgotten" when we go to confession.

The bottom line is that confession is for you to experience God's mercy. It is not to test how good your memory is. Be at peace. God loves you and particularly wants you to experience the peace that comes from his forgiveness. ●

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR / DearPadre.org

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Good News!

September 6, 2026

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Ezekiel 33:7-9 / Romans 13:8-10 / Matthew 18:15-20

ANN M. GARRIDO

As someone who works in the field of conflict management, I like to think that all situations can be worked out if we go about it in a skilled manner. If we use the right words. Ask the right kinds of questions. It's embarrassing to admit that even the best "tools" in my "conflict belt" sometimes still effect little change. Today's gospel can be consoling in a strange way. It acknowledges that even when we use all the tools we have on hand to heal a relationship, it doesn't always work out. Sometimes, we may need to become strangers to one another, at least for a while—like a Jew to a Gentile or a tax collector.

Of course, when Jesus says "treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector," it is important to consider how Jesus treated Gentiles and tax collectors. He healed the centurion's servant. He ate in Zacchaeus' house. Jesus did not see Gentiles and tax collectors as enemies and did not treat them as such. Rather, Jesus understood Gentiles and tax collectors as those with whom he might start a relationship should the opportunity present itself. The past cannot be rewritten, but perhaps a different kind of future is still possible.

Is there a relationship in your life that feels beyond healing at this point and from which perhaps you need some distance? Is it still possible to treat the other person with the kindness Jesus showed toward Gentiles and tax collectors? ●

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Querido Padre

6 de septiembre de 2026

No me había confesado en décadas hasta hace poco, y probablemente he cometido pecados mortales que no recuerdo. Quiero el perdón de Dios, pero no estoy seguro de cómo obtenerlo en este momento.

Me preguntas si Dios te ha perdonado los pecados que puedes haber cometido en el pasado pero que ahora no recuerdas. Dices que te has confesado recientemente.

Un pecado mortal tiene tres criterios: es gravemente malo; la persona sabe que es gravemente malo; y la persona es libre de cometer el pecado o no. En el caso que describes, ni siquiera recuerdas cuál pudo haber sido el pecado mortal, ni siquiera si hubo alguno. Por lo tanto, no, no tienes que confesar algo que no recuerdas. Además, ya te has confesado recientemente y parece estar verdaderamente arrepentido de tus pecados pasados. No indicas que estuvieras intentando ocultar deliberadamente ningún pecado al sacerdote. Por lo tanto, ya has sido perdonado, no solo por los pecados que recordabas, sino también por aquellos que no recuerdas. Por eso solemos decir algo como «por estos pecados y por aquellos que pueda haber olvidado» cuando nos confesamos.

La conclusión es que la confesión es para que experimentes la misericordia de Dios. No es para poner a prueba lo buena que es tu memoria. Quédate en paz. Dios te ama y, sobre todo, quiere que experimentes la paz que proviene de su perdón. ●

P. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR

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Buenas noticias

6 de septiembre de 2026

Vigésimo tercer domingo del tiempo ordinario (A)
Ezequiel 33, 7-9 / Romanos 13, 8-10 / Mateo 18, 15-20

ANN M. GARRIDO

Como persona que trabaja en el ámbito de la gestión de conflictos, me gusta pensar que todas las situaciones se pueden resolver si lo abordamos con habilidad. Si usamos las palabras adecuadas. Si hacemos las preguntas adecuadas. Es vergonzoso admitir que incluso las mejores «herramientas» de mi «cinturón de conflictos» a veces siguen sin lograr grandes cambios. El evangelio de hoy puede resultar consolador de una forma extraña. Reconoce que, incluso cuando utilizamos todas las herramientas que tenemos a nuestro alcance para sanar una relación, no siempre funcionan. A veces, puede que tengamos que convertirnos en extraños los unos para los otros, al menos por un tiempo —como un judío para un gentil o un recaudador de impuestos.

Por supuesto, cuando Jesús dice «trátalo como tratarías a un gentil o a un recaudador de impuestos», es importante tener en cuenta cómo trataba Jesús a los gentiles y a los recaudadores de impuestos. Él sanó al siervo del centurión. Comió en la casa de Zaqueo. Jesús no veía a los gentiles y a los recaudadores de impuestos como enemigos y no los trataba como tales. Más bien, Jesús entendía a los gentiles y a los recaudadores de impuestos como personas con las que podría entablar una relación si se presentara la oportunidad. El pasado no se puede reescribir, pero tal vez aún sea posible un futuro diferente.

¿Hay alguna relación en tu vida que te parezca imposible de sanar en este momento y de la que tal vez necesites distanciarte? ¿Sigue siendo posible tratar a la otra persona con la amabilidad que Jesús mostró hacia los gentiles y los recaudadores de impuestos? ●

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EVENTS of the WEEK

Saturday, September 5

2nd Collection: ODS Building Fund

Mass at ODS **[+Whitney Cheevers]** 5:00 pm
(Ed & Vickie Lubbers)]

NO Spanish CCD

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

Sunday, September 6

2nd Collection: ODS Building Fund

Mass at ODS **[+Maria Santibanez]** 9:00 am
(Claudia Mejia)]

NO English CCD

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

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

Monday, September 7

Happy Labor Day- OFFICE CLOSED

NO Mass at ODS

Tuesday, September 8

CCW meeting 1:30 pm

Mass at ODS 5:30 pm

Wednesday, September 9

Mass at ODS 8:00 am

UNO NIGHT 6:00 pm

Thursday, September 10

Mass at ODS 8:00 am

Friday, September 11

Mass at ODS 5:30 pm

1 Hr. Eucharistic Adoration 6:00 pm

Fr. Peter's B-day celebration 7:00 pm

Saturday, September 12

Mass at ODS **[+Rachelle Navarro]** 5:00 pm

Spanish CCD 5:45 pm

Spanish Mass at ODS **[+Juana Lara]** 7:00 pm

Sunday, September 13

Mass at ODS **[+Pauline Lubbers]** 9:00 am
(Ed & Vickie Lubbers)]

English CCD 10:15 am

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

Spanish Mass at ODS **[+Juan Sanchez Hidalgo]** .. 2:00 pm
(Debbie Blakey)]

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) 259-4316 or 912-201-4074.

ODS Weekly Offertory	(8/30/26):	\$
ODS Offertory collected to Date	(7/01/26):	\$48,755
ODS Building Fund	(8/30/26):	\$
ODS Building Fund collected to Date	(7/01/26):	\$4,657

St. William Offertory	(8/30/26):	\$
St. William Collected to Date	(7/01/26):	\$4,212

ODS LITURGY TEAM

Saturday, September 12, 2026 – 5:00 pm

PRESIDER: Fr. Peter Oyenugba, MSP
LECTOR: Adriana Chavez
LECTOR : Adriana Chavez
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Jose Abantao,
..... JHoy Abantao, Susan Benson
SACRISTAN Pat Stephens

Sunday, September 13, 2026 – 9:00 am

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

