

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2026

Pastor
Rev. Peter Oyenugba, MSP

Deacon
J. Brian Bergeron

***The Lord is my shepherd; there is
nothing I shall want.***
Psalm 23



The Gospel today portrays Jesus as the gateway through which we enter the Church.

Besides drawing on a common image from everyday life at the time of Jesus, today's Gospel evokes several passages from the Hebrew Scriptures.

The author of today's Gospel understands that God has become the shepherd in 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 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, 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, Marlana 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

*April 26, 2026
 Fourth Sunday
 Of Easter*

Readings:

Acts 2:36-41
 1 Peter 2:20-25
 John 10:1-10

Theme:

We enter life to the full through Christ.

Question of the week:

In what ways is Christ an example you follow when dealing with others?

*May 3, 2026
 Fifth Sunday
 Of Easter*

Readings:

Acts 6:1-7
 1 Peter 2:4-9
 John 14:1-12

Theme:

Jesus, our cornerstone.

Question of the week:

How are the promises of this Gospel passage made real in your own life?

Announcements: April 25 & 26

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 Religious Cabinet will be open April 25 and 26. We have special commemorative plates and incredible angel figurines along with items to celebrate First Communion, Confirmation, Mother's Day and Father's Day.

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:

The latest progress report for the Harvest of Hope campaign (March 26) indicates that our generous parishioners continue to honor their pledges and also give one-time cash gifts. We have so far given 78.35% of our goal of \$233,335, with two years left in the campaign. As our share, we will receive another deposit in our savings with the diocese in April.

ST. WILLIAM:

Current Harvest of Hope figures:

TOTAL PLEDGED: \$4,300.00 PLEDGE BALANCE: \$3,687.00 TOTAL GIVEN: \$1,418

Annual Catholic Appeal goal: \$2,707.

ODS 11th Annual International Food Festival:

Thank you to everyone who helped out at the International Food Festival, especially the cooks. It was a HUGE success again this year!

2026 Annual Catholic Appeal:

OUR DIVINE SAVIOUR:

We have made a start on our obligation to the Annual Catholic Appeal. So far \$6,154 has been given toward our goal of \$24,014 with a pledge balance of \$770. Envelopes are available in the vestibule if you would like to make your pledge this week. *Please make your checks payable to Annual Catholic Appeal.* Thanks to those who have pledged or contributed and to all of you who continue to honor your Harvest of Hope pledges.

ST. WILLIAMS:

St. William's target goal for the Annual Catholic Appeal is \$2,707. So far, there have been 6 donations which equal \$1,015. Thank you for supporting the Annual Catholic Appeal. Envelopes are available to those who wish to pledge or contribute. *Please make your checks payable to Annual Catholic Appeal.*

Book Club:

The next selection for the Book Club is "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World" by Joanna Weaver. You are invited to obtain a copy of the book, read it and meet us for the discussion on Monday, May 4th at 7:00 pm. Please contact Margo martin (229-402-0741) for the location of the meeting.

There will be NO 7:00 pm Spanish Mass on April 25th.

CCD News:

First Communion will be held at Our Divine Saviour on Saturday morning, May 2nd. Please keep these students in your prayers this week as the great ready to make their First Holy Communion Sacrament.

The last CCD classes will be held the weekend of May 2nd and 3rd.

Dear Padre

April 26, 2026

Should Christians avoid practicing qi gong or tai chi? Or even meditation in which you empty your mind? Thank you.

This is one of those questions that has been debated for a long time. Social media offers many so-called experts with vastly different opinions. It can be very confusing, particularly if you are looking for a black-and-white answer, a yes or a no.

The pope who provides us with the most helpful direction to answer this question is Pope Benedict XVI. He did not forbid Eastern spiritual practices entirely but warned against their integration into Christian life without proper discernment. His perspective was rooted in a theological understanding that Christian spirituality is a unique path focused on a relationship with Christ. He emphasized that our Catholic spiritual tradition is distinct from the goals and methods of non-Christian traditions; without preparation and without awareness of the challenge they present, could lead to spiritual error if not approached with caution and discernment.

So, the answer is nuanced. If you are using the practice as a spiritual practice, you should proceed with the utmost caution. If, on the other hand, you are using these practices for the more common physical or psychological—not spiritual—reasons, then it is permissible. ●

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

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Good News!

April 26, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter (A)

Acts 2:14a, 36–41 / 1 Peter 2:20b–25 /

John 10:1–10

MIGUEL DULICK

It is “**Good Shepherd Sunday**,” and the gospel quotes Jesus: “I am the gate for the sheep.” It seems the oddest of Jesus’ “I am” identities, until you realize that the shepherd himself was often the literal gate of the sheep’s pen, as he would lay his own body across the entrance to keep the sheep secure and safe from any predators. Actually, the predators that worry Jesus the most are other shepherds—“strangers” who came before him, all of whom Jesus flatly denounces as “thieves and robbers.”

Does that scare us today? Are we vulnerable to attacks, even from those supposedly in charge of our care? When Jesus opens the gate, we go in and out through him, through Jesus, to find pasture. We follow him because we recognize “his voice.” In the synodal Church that Pope Francis called us to, and to which we continue to be called by Pope Leo XIV, every voice is welcome and needed so that the Holy Spirit will fill the whole Church with truth.

Here in Honduras, where I live, folks with little education can offer profound witness to the love of God. It comes from their own intimacy with Jesus, recognizing his voice in their daily life. They are often the poor victims of widespread corruption, like “a thief [who] comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy.” Here in Honduras, we take refuge in Jesus, that we “might have life and have it more abundantly” (John 10:10). ●

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Querido Padre

26 de abril de 2026

¿Deben los cristianos evitar practicar el qi gong o el tai chi? ¿O incluso la meditación en la que se vacía la mente? Gracias.

Esta es una de esas preguntas que se han debatido durante mucho tiempo. Las redes sociales ofrecen muchos supuestos expertos con opiniones muy diferentes. Puede ser muy confuso, sobre todo si buscas una respuesta clara, un sí o un no.

El papa que nos proporciona la orientación más útil para responder a esta pregunta es el papa Benedicto XVI. No prohibió por completo las prácticas espirituales orientales, pero advirtió contra su integración en la vida cristiana sin el discernimiento adecuado. Su perspectiva se basaba en una comprensión teológica de que la espiritualidad cristiana es un camino único centrado en la relación con Cristo. Hizo hincapié en que nuestra tradición espiritual católica es distinta de los objetivos y métodos de las tradiciones no cristianas. Creía que la práctica de esas tradiciones no cristianas, sin preparación y sin conciencia del desafío que representan, podía conducir a un error espiritual si no se abordaba con precaución y discernimiento.

Por lo tanto, la respuesta es matizada. Si utilizas la práctica como una práctica espiritual, debes proceder con la máxima precaución. Si, por el contrario, utilizas estas prácticas por razones físicas o psicológicas más comunes, y no espirituales, entonces es permisible. ●

P. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR

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Buenas noticias

26 de abril de 2026

Cuarto domingo de Pascua (A)

Hechos 2, 14a, 36-41 / 1 Pedro 2, 20b-25 / Juan 10, 1-10

MIGUEL DULICK

Es el «Domingo del Buen Pastor», y el evangelio cita a Jesús: «Yo soy la puerta de las ovejas». Parece la más extraña de las identidades «Yo soy» de Jesús, hasta que te das cuenta de que el propio pastor era a menudo la puerta literal del redil, ya que se tumbaba en la entrada para mantener a las ovejas a salvo y protegidas de cualquier depredador. En realidad, los depredadores que más preocupan a Jesús son otros pastores, «extraños» que vinieron antes que él, a los que Jesús denuncia rotundamente como «ladrones y salteadores».

¿Nos asusta eso hoy en día? ¿Son vulnerables a los ataques, incluso de aquellos que supuestamente se encargan de cuidar de ustedes? Cuando Jesús abre la puerta, entran y salen a través de él, a través de Jesús, para encontrar pastos. Lo siguen porque reconocen «su voz». En la Iglesia sinodal a la que nos llamó el papa Francisco, y a la que sigue llamándonos el papa León XIV, todas las voces son bienvenidas y necesarias para que el Espíritu Santo llene toda la Iglesia de verdad.

Aquí en Honduras, donde vivo, las personas con poca educación pueden ofrecer un profundo testimonio del amor de Dios. Proviene de su propia intimidad con Jesús, reconociendo su voz en su vida cotidiana. A menudo son víctimas pobres de la corrupción generalizada, como «el ladrón [que] viene solo para robar, matar y destruir». Aquí en Honduras, nos refugiamos en Jesús, para que «tenemos vida y la tengamos en abundancia» (Juan 10, 10). ●

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EVENTS of the WEEK

Saturday, April 25

2nd Collection: Catholic Home Mission

Mass at ODS [+Christina Stevens..... 5:00 pm
(Elosie Stone)]

International Food Festival 6:00 pm

NO Spanish CCD

NO Spanish Mass at ODS

Sunday, April 26

2nd Collection: Catholic Home Mission

Mass at ODS [+Whitley Norwood Cheevers..... 9:00 am
(Debbie Blakey)]

CCD at ODS..... 10:15 am

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

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

Monday, April 27

NO Mass at ODS

Tuesday, April 28

Mass at ODS 5:30 pm

Wednesday, April 29

Mass at ODS 8:00 am

Thursday, April 30

Mass at ODS 8:00 am

Friday, May 1

Mass at ODS 5:30 pm

1 Hour Eucharistic Adoration6:00 pm

Saturday, May 2

2nd Collection: ODS Building Fund

First Communion at ODS 10:00 am

Mass at ODS [+Charles Dillehay 5:00 pm
(Wyatt Family)]

Last Spanish CCD 5:45 pm

Spanish Mass at ODS [+Fulgencio Salas
+Benita Soriano
+Fulgencio Jr. Soriano)] . . 7:00 pm

Sunday, May 3

2nd Collection: ODS Building Fund

Mass at ODS [+Sheila Carpenter Holland.....9:00 am
(Debbie Blakey)]

Last CCD at ODS 10:15 am

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

Spanish Mass at ODS [+Fulgencio Salas
+Benita Soriano
+Fulgencio Jr. Salas)] . . . 7:00 pm

ODS LITURGY TEAM

Saturday, May 2, 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 3, 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	(4/19/26):	\$4,743
ODS Offertory collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$250,958
ODS Building Fund	(4/19/26):	\$5
ODS Building Fund collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$22,329
St. William Offertory	(4/19/26):	\$649
St. William Collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$22,520