

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 Baptism of the Lord January 11, 2026

Pastor

Rev. Peter Oyenugba, MSP

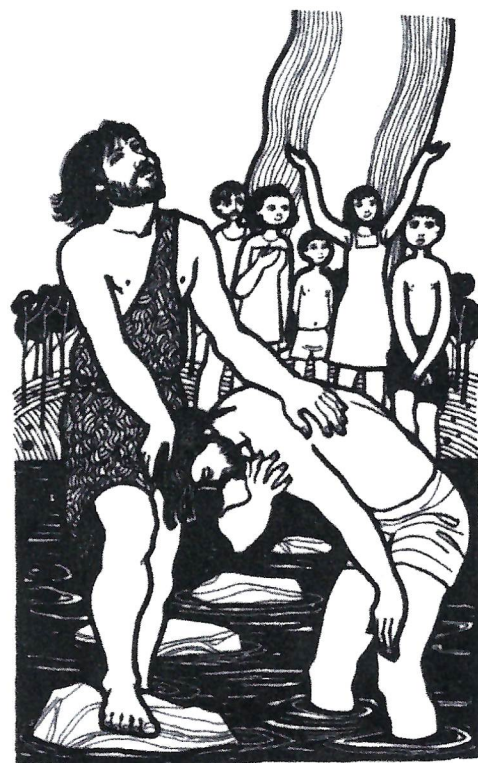
Deacon

J. Brian Bergeron

Deacon

Eric Windmoller

**The Lord will bless his people with
peace.
Psalm 29**



In the Gospel, Jesus went to John to be baptized in the River Jordan.

Jesus' baptism is a prophetic action, a sign for us that God's Kingdom is in our midst.

Participating in the rituals of his time, Jesus received through the tradition, a confirmation of his calling as God's Chosen One.

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, LaVonia 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 Sehramski, 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 11, 2026
Baptism of the
Lord*

Readings:

Isaiah 42:1-4
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 God's
words "You are my
own. My favor is
upon you."?*

*January 18, 2026
Second Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

Readings:

Isaiah 49:3-6
1 Corinth. 1:1-3
John 1:29-34

Theme:

*God's plan in
Christ begins to
unfold in human
history.*

Question of the week:

*Who is Jesus for
you?*



Announcements: January 10 & 11

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.

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 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.

There will be NO CCD the weekend of January 17 and 18.

The Parish Office will be CLOSED on Monday, January 19th .

Dear Padre

January 11, 2026

Why do our bishops not marry? Scripture plainly says that they must be the husband of one wife and have faithful children.

This is an excellent question and brings us face to face with an important truth: for Catholics, the sacred Scripture is not the singular source of our practice and discipline. We also look, with equal authority, to the living Tradition of the Church. The magisterium is entrusted with the authentic interpretation of both Scripture and Tradition.

With this theological and historical context as a necessary background to your question, the answer to your query is this: the lived Tradition of the Church does not support a married clergy, including bishops. Although the Scripture allows for it, and provides some general guidelines, the lived Tradition of the Church does not. The Roman Catholic Church has a celibate clergy and will continue to have a celibate clergy unless and until the magisterium, in union with the pope, determines otherwise. There have been some discussions about changing this discipline, but now there is not much momentum that would suggest any imminent change.

In the wider Orthodox Catholic Church, in union with Rome, there is a provision for a married clergy, but, even in these traditions, there is no exception made for married bishops. Bishops are and will continue to be celibate regardless of what Scripture may allow. ●

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

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Good News!

January 11, 2026

The Baptism of the Lord (A)

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 / Acts 10:34-38 / Matthew 3:13-17

MIGUEL DULICK

John, miracle son of Zechariah and Elizabeth, cousin of Jesus and known as “the Baptist,” offers a “baptism of repentance.” Then Jesus shows up. The eternal Son of God a penitent? John is shocked and resists, saying it is Jesus who should baptize him. But Jesus insists, “to fulfill all righteousness” (Matthew 3:15).

At the very beginning of his ministry, Jesus is humbling himself, much as he did toward the end, when he washed the feet of his disciples. Then it was Peter who would resist what seemed inappropriate by the standards of this world. Jesus is giving us an example, the way of the servant leader, as described in today’s beautiful passage from Isaiah. Jesus is the servant leader, the Father’s Son, over whom the Holy Spirit danced like a dove, and the Father, with his booming voice from the heavens, said of him, “This is my beloved Son!” (Matthew 3:17).

Jesus allowing himself to be baptized may seem like a contradiction, but given all that follows, we know he is offering his followers a consistent model of what he expects from those who choose to be his disciples. As St. Paul would later write to the Church in Philippi, “Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped” (Philippians 2:5-6). ●

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Querido Padre

11 de enero de 2026

¿Por qué nuestros obispos no se casan? Las Escrituras dicen claramente que deben ser maridos de una sola mujer y tener hijos fieles.

Esta es una excelente pregunta que nos enfrenta a una verdad importante: para los católicos, las Sagradas Escrituras no son la única fuente de nuestra práctica y disciplina. También consideramos, con igual autoridad, la Tradición viva de la Iglesia. Al magisterio se le ha confiado la interpretación auténtica tanto de las Escrituras como de la Tradición.

Con este contexto teológico e histórico como trasfondo necesario para tu pregunta, la respuesta a tu consulta es la siguiente: la Tradición viva de la Iglesia no apoya el sacerdocio casado, incluidos los obispos. Aunque las Escrituras lo permiten y proporcionan algunas pautas generales, la Tradición viva de la Iglesia no lo hace. La Iglesia católica romana tiene un sacerdocio célibe y seguirá teniéndolo a menos que el magisterio, en unión con el papa, decida lo contrario. Ha habido algunos debates sobre la posibilidad de cambiar esta disciplina, pero ahora no hay mucho impulso que sugiera un cambio inminente.

En la Iglesia católica ortodoxa más amplia, en unión con Roma, existe una disposición para el clero casado, pero, incluso en estas tradiciones, no se hace ninguna excepción para los obispos casados. Los obispos son y seguirán siendo célibes, independientemente de lo que permita la Escritura. ●

P. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR

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Buenas noticias

11 de enero de 2026

El Bautismo del Señor (A)

Isaías 42, 1-4, 6-7 / Hechos 10, 34-38 / Mateo 3, 13-17

MIGUEL DULICK

Juan, hijo milagroso de Zacarías y Elisabet, primo de Jesús y conocido como «el Bautista», ofrece un «bautismo de arrepentimiento». Entonces aparece Jesús. ¿El Hijo eterno de Dios, un penitente? Juan se sorprende y se resiste, diciendo que es Jesús quien debe bautizarlo. Pero Jesús insiste: «para cumplir toda justicia» (Mateo 3, 15).

Al comienzo de su ministerio, Jesús se humilla a sí mismo, al igual que lo hizo al final, cuando lavó los pies de sus discípulos. Entonces fue Pedro quien se resistió a lo que parecía inapropiado según los estándares de este mundo. Jesús nos está dando un ejemplo, el camino del líder servidor, tal como se describe en el hermoso pasaje de Isaías de hoy. Jesús es el líder servidor, el Hijo del Padre, sobre quien el Espíritu Santo danzó como una paloma, y el Padre, con su voz atronadora desde los cielos, dijo de él: «¡Este es mi Hijo amado!» (Mateo 3, 17).

Que Jesús se dejara bautizar puede parecer una contradicción, pero teniendo en cuenta todo lo que sigue, sabemos que está ofreciendo a sus seguidores un modelo coherente de lo que espera de aquellos que deciden ser sus discípulos. Como escribiría más tarde San Pablo a la Iglesia de Filipos: «Tened entre vosotros la misma actitud que tuvo Cristo Jesús, quien, aunque era de naturaleza divina, no consideró que la igualdad con Dios fuera algo a lo que aferrarse» (Filipenses 2, 5-6). ●

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EVENTS of the WEEK

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

Monday, January 12

NO Mass at ODS

Tuesday, January 13

Mass at ODS 5:30 pm

Wednesday, January 14

Mass at ODS 8:00 am

UNO Night 6:00 pm

Thursday, January 15

Mass at ODS 8:00 am

Friday, January 16

Mass at ODS 5:30 pm

1 Hour Eucharistic Adoration 6:00 pm

Saturday, January 17

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

Spanish Mass at ODS (For ODS Parishioners).... 7:00 pm

Sunday, January 18

Mass at ODS [+**Harriet Stolberg** 9:00 am
(Eloise Stone)]

NO CCD at ODS

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

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

ODS LITURGY TEAM

Saturday, January 17, 2026 – 5:00 pm

PRESIDER: Fr. Alfonso Gutierrez
LECTOR : Shawn Thomas
LECTOR Shawn Thomas
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Jose Abantao
..... Jhoy Abantao, Dr. Anthony Burke
SACRISTAN Eloise Stone

Sunday, January 18, 2026 – 9:00 am

PRESIDER: Fr. Alfonso Gutierrez
LECTOR : Debbie Blakey
LECTOR Debbie Blakey
EUCRISTIC MINISTER Veronica Ogolowa
..... Pius Ogolowa, Bill McDaniel
..... Morris Scarbrough, Theresa Scarbrough
SACRISTAN: Ann Timbs

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	(1/04/26):	\$7,445
ODS Offertory collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$151,940
ODS Building Fund	(1/04/26):	\$1,492
ODS Building Fund collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$16,864
St. William Offertory	(1/04/26):	\$636
St. William Collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$13,872

