

# Welcome

To our communities of faith

## Our Divine Saviour Catholic Church

12<sup>th</sup> Street and Love Avenue  
Tifton, GA

And

St. William Catholic Church  
807 S. Merrimac Dr.  
Fitzgerald, GA 31750

---

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**March 15, 2026**

---

*Pastor*

*Rev. Peter Oyenugba, MSP*

*Deacon*

*J. Brian Bergeron*

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



*At the start of today's Gospel story of the man born blind, the disciples believe that sin is the cause of the man's blindness.*

*The Pharisees accuse Jesus of sin because he healed the blind man on the Sabbath. The man with the new sight however sees more clearly, and calls Jesus a prophet.*

*The Pharisees refuse to believe; they are truly blind.*

**Our Divine Savior**

Office phone: 229-382-4600  
 Fax: 229- 382-7611

Email: [ods@friendlycity.net](mailto:ods@friendlycity.net)  
 Website: [odstifton.org](http://odstifton.org)

Office Address: 211 E. 12<sup>th</sup> 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 <a href="mailto:poyenugba@dio.sav">poyenugba@dio.sav</a> <a href="mailto:ods@friendlycity.net">ods@friendlycity.net</a>	382-4600 X109
Deacon J. Brian Bergeron	<a href="mailto:Jbb@jesusrocksministry.com">Jbb@jesusrocksministry.com</a>	
Parish Secretary	Nayelly Balderas	382-4600
Parish Secretary	Joann Prostko <a href="mailto:ods@friendlycity.net">ods@friendlycity.net</a>	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 Guadalupeño	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	<a href="mailto:Claudiaaguilar77@hotmail.com">Claudiaaguilar77@hotmail.com</a>
Martha Solis	<a href="mailto:marlettfol@gmail.com">marlettfol@gmail.com</a>
Tania Bautista	<a href="mailto:Tbautista122898@gmail.com">Tbautista122898@gmail.com</a>
Debbie Blakey	<a href="mailto:deborahblakey@hotmail.com">deborahblakey@hotmail.com</a>
Juan Carlos Diaz	
Gary Burtle	<a href="mailto:gburtle@uga.edu">gburtle@uga.edu</a>
Bob Kemerait	<a href="mailto:pkemerait@gmail.com">pkemerait@gmail.com</a>
Amalia Ramirez Silos	<a href="mailto:Amaliaramirez83@yahoo.com">Amaliaramirez83@yahoo.com</a>

**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, 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 Sehrsamski, 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

*March 15, 2026  
 Fourth Sunday of  
 Lent*

**Readings:**

**1 Samuel 16:1-7**  
**Ephes. 5:8-14**  
**John 9:1-41**

**Theme:**

*We are children of  
 the Light.*

**Question of the  
 week:**

*Share how you, as  
 a child of light,  
 produce goodness  
 and truth.*

*March 22, 2026  
 Fifth Sunday  
 of Lent*

**Readings:**

**Ezekiel 37:12-14**  
**Romans 8:8-11**  
**John 11:1-45**

**Theme:**

*New life in Christ  
 Jesus.*

**Question of the  
 week:**

*What keeps you  
 from fully being  
 your own most true  
 self in Christ?*

# Announcements: March 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

**Attention High School Seniors:** The college scholarship application packets will be available for students starting January 27<sup>th</sup> 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:

Thank you to all who continue to pledge and contribute to the Harvest of Hope campaign. Currently better than 35% of our parish is participating and we are almost 78% of the way to reaching our suggested goal.  
TOTAL PLEDGED: \$131,895 PLEDGE BALANCE: \$103,282  
ONE-TIME DONATIONS: \$50,002

**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

## 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.

## ODS 11<sup>th</sup> Annual International Food Festival:

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** The ODS Eleventh Annual International Food Festival will be held on April 25, 2026. We are always looking for new countries to be represented. For this fund raiser to be successful we need cooks from your native country. Please contact Carolyn Slade, email is [csslade@gmail.com](mailto:csslade@gmail.com) or Priscilla Carpenter, email is [ki4gae@yahoo.com](mailto:ki4gae@yahoo.com) or phone 229-848-6699 with the authentic dish from your native country. We also have ad space on our t-shirt available.

## Knights of Columbus:

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Fish Fry on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. If you will be taking out your plate that will be from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. If you will be dining in that will be from 6:00 to 7:00 pm.

**There will be NO Mass on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.**

**The Parish Office will be CLOSED on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.**

## 2026 Annual Catholic Appeal:

The 2026 Annual Catholic Appeal *Faith, Hope Charity* will begin this weekend. Our Divine Saviour Parish Goal is \$24,014 and St. William is \$2,707. With your help, we can assure the continued support of many important programs that help thousands in our diocese each year; education, of our children and seminary students, evangelization and Christian initiation, ongoing formation for our clergy, and more. We are blessed with much; let us be a blessing to others.

# Dear Padre

March 15, 2026

## ***I am left-handed. Why doesn't the church allow the sign of the cross to be made left-handed?***

A Catholic who is unable to make the sign of the cross with the right hand is certainly permitted to do so with the left. There is no rule against it. When Pope Saint John Paul II injured his right arm, he used his left hand to impart his blessing.

The sign of the cross is a sacramental, one of the symbols that identifies you as a Roman Catholic. Just like all such symbolic gestures, there is an expected uniformity. To use a secular example, at a University of Texas football game, fans of the Longhorns give the "hook-'em horns" sign. You wouldn't give the "thumbs-up" sign instead. It would be confusing.

It's true that at one time, the left hand was associated with evil. Jesus sends the goats to sit at his left and the sheep to his right. (See Matthew 25:33.) And, throughout the Scriptures, we read that Jesus sits at the right hand of God. (See Mark 16:19.) The word "sinister" is from the Latin *sinister*, meaning "left."

Left-handedness is no longer associated with evil. If you wish to make the sign of the cross with your left hand, you may. But do consider why you are doing it. Most left-handed people have no trouble using their right hand for many simple tasks. If your purpose is a bit rebellious, maybe realize that signifying unity with your brothers and sisters in Christ is more important. ●

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

© 2026 Liguori Publications / *Imprimi Potest* Fr. Kevin Zubei, CSSR, Provincial, Denver Province, the Redemptorists / Liguori Publications, a nonprofit corporation, is an apostolate of the Redemptorists. To learn more about the Redemptorists, visit [Redemptorists.com](http://Redemptorists.com). No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from *The New American Bible, Revised Edition* © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA. Visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) or call 800.325.7521.

# Good News!

March 15, 2026

## ***Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)***

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6–7, 10–13a / Ephesians 5:8–14 /  
John 9:1–41 or 9:1, 6–9, 13–17, 34–38

MIGUEL DULICK

Today's gospel, the healing of the man born blind, is a terrific story that includes many details. Notice that Jesus, who has his own agenda, "so that the works of God might be made visible through him," does not even wait for the man to ask to be healed. But the man is a willing subject, allowing mud and saliva to be smeared on his eyes, agreeing to go to Siloam and wash. And, he's a quick learner. At first, all he knows is "the man called Jesus" healed him. Soon, however, he's calling Jesus "a prophet." Then, as a "division" ("schism" in the original) opens among the authorities and even in his own family, he defends Jesus' divine calling when the Pharisees mock Jesus as a "sinner." Finally, expelled from the synagogue, the man finds Jesus waiting for him with the ultimate revelation: he sees before him the Son of Man, "and he worshiped him."

Now, maybe we weren't born blind, but I venture to say a lot of us are short-sighted. Do I "see the works of God"? Starting from "the man called Jesus," do I keep going forward in faith, defending Jesus when he is mocked by people, to a deeper, fuller reality than even my own family may not understand? All the way to adoration, worship, a total handing over of my whole self to the Son of Man? Or, as Thomas would later say, when his own eyes were opened, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). ●

© 2026 Liguori Publications / *Imprimi Potest* Fr. Kevin Zubei, CSSR, Provincial, Denver Province, the Redemptorists / Liguori Publications, a nonprofit corporation, is an apostolate of the Redemptorists. To learn more about the Redemptorists, visit [Redemptorists.com](http://Redemptorists.com). No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from *The New American Bible, Revised Edition* © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA. Visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) or call 800.325.7521.

# Querido Padre

15 de marzo de 2026

## **Soy zurdo. ¿Por qué la Iglesia no permite hacer la señal de la cruz con la mano izquierda?**

Un católico que no puede hacer la señal de la cruz con la mano derecha, sin duda puede hacerlo con la izquierda. No hay ninguna regla que lo prohíba. Cuando el papa San Juan Pablo II se lesionó el brazo derecho, utilizó la mano izquierda para impartir su bendición.

El signo de la cruz es un sacramento, uno de los símbolos que te identifica como católico romano. Al igual que todos los gestos simbólicos, se espera una uniformidad. Por poner un ejemplo secular, en un partido de fútbol americano de la Universidad de Texas, los aficionados de los Longhorns hacen el gesto de «hook-'em horns» (cuernos enganchados). No se haría el gesto de «pulgar hacia arriba» en su lugar. Sería confuso.

Es cierto que en otro tiempo la mano izquierda se asociaba con el mal. Jesús envía a las cabras a sentarse a su izquierda y a las ovejas a su derecha. (Véase Mateo 25, 33). Y, a lo largo de las Escrituras, leemos que Jesús se sienta a la derecha de Dios. (Véase Marcos 16, 19). La palabra «siniestro» proviene del latín sinister, que significa «izquierda».

Ser zurdo ya no se asocia con el mal. Si deseas hacer la señal de la cruz con la mano izquierda, puedes hacerlo. Pero considera por qué lo haces. La mayoría de las personas zurdas no tienen problemas para usar la mano derecha para muchas tareas sencillas. Si tu propósito es un poco rebelde, tal vez debas darte cuenta de que es más importante significar la unidad con tus hermanos y hermanas en Cristo. ●

*P. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR*

©2026 Liguori Publications. Imprimi Petrus P. Kevin Zuber, CSSR, Provincial, Provincia de Denver, Redemptoristas. Liguori Publications. Una corporación sin fines de lucro es un apostolado de los Redemptoristas. Para obtener más información sobre los Redemptoristas, visite Redemptorists.com. Ninguna parte de esta obra puede ser utilizada en ninguna forma, ni el permiso previo por escrito de Liguori Publications. Los textos eclesiales que aparecen en esta obra han sido tomados de The New American Bible, Edition Revisada © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970, Copyright © of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Todos los derechos reservados. Impreso en los Estados Unidos de América. Visite Liguori.org o llame al 800-325-9521.

# Buenas noticias

15 de marzo de 2026

*Cuarto domingo de Cuaresma (A)*

1 Samuel 16, 1b, 6-7, 10-13a / Efesios 5, 8-14 /  
Juan 9:1-41 o 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

MIGUEL DULICK

**El evangelio de hoy, la curación del ciego de nacimiento**, es una historia magnífica que incluye muchos detalles. Observen que Jesús, que tiene su propio plan, «para que las obras de Dios se manifestaran en él», ni siquiera espera a que el hombre le pida que lo cure. Pero el hombre está dispuesto a dejarse hacer, permitiendo que le untaran barro y saliva en los ojos, y aceptando ir a Siloé a lavarse. Y aprende rápido. Al principio, lo único que sabe es que «el hombre llamado Jesús» lo curó. Sin embargo, pronto llama a Jesús «profeta». Luego, cuando se produce una «división» («cisma» en el original) entre las autoridades e incluso en su propia familia, defiende la vocación divina de Jesús cuando los fariseos se burlan de él llamándolo «pecador». Finalmente, expulsado de la sinagoga, el hombre encuentra a Jesús esperándolo con la revelación definitiva: ve ante él al Hijo del Hombre, «y lo adoró».

Ahora bien, tal vez no hayamos nacido ciegos, pero me atrevo a decir que muchos de nosotros somos miopes. ¿«Veo las obras de Dios»? Partiendo del «hombre llamado Jesús», ¿sigues adelante con fe, defendiendo a Jesús cuando la gente se burla de él, hacia una realidad más profunda y plena que tal vez ni siquiera tu propia familia pueda comprender? ¿Hasta llegar a la adoración, al culto, a la entrega total de todo tu ser al Hijo del Hombre? O, como diría Tomás más tarde, cuando se le abrieron los ojos: «¡Señor mío y Dios mío!». (Juan 20, 28). ●

©2026 Liguori Publications. Imprimi Petrus P. Kevin Zuber, CSSR, Provincial, Provincia de Denver, Redemptoristas. Liguori Publications. Una corporación sin fines de lucro es un apostolado de los Redemptoristas. Para obtener más información sobre los Redemptoristas, visite Redemptorists.com. Ninguna parte de esta obra puede ser utilizada en ninguna forma, ni el permiso previo por escrito de Liguori Publications. Los textos eclesiales que aparecen en esta obra han sido tomados de The New American Bible, Edition Revisada © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970, Copyright © of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Todos los derechos reservados. Impreso en los Estados Unidos de América. Visite Liguori.org o llame al 800-325-9521.

**EVENTS of the WEEK**

**Saturday, March 14**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Catholic Relief Services**

First Communion Retreat ..... 7:00 am  
 Mass at ODS [+Jesus Hizon] ..... 5:00 pm  
 (Abantao Family)]

Spanish CCD ..... 5:45 pm  
 Spanish Mass at ODS [+Cristina Alejo  
 +Jose Torro] ..... 7:00 pm

**Sunday, March 15**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Catholic Relief Services**

Mass at ODS [+Francisco Agostini] ..... 9:00 am  
 (Eric & Joann Prostko)]

CCD at ODS..... 10:15 am  
 Mass at St. William (Catholic Extension) ..... 11:30 am  
 Spanish Mass at ODS[+Francisco Javier Sanchez Malacate  
 ..... 2:00 pm

**Monday, March 16**

NO Mass at ODS .....

**Tuesday, March 17**

**OFFICE CLOSED**

NO Mass at ODS .....

**Wednesday, March 18**

Mass at ODS ..... 8:00 am

**Thursday, March 19**

Mass at ODS ..... 8:00 am

**Friday, March 20**

K of C Fish Fry Dinner..... 6:00 pm

Stations of the Cross (English) ..... 5:00 pm

Mass at ODS ..... 5:30 pm

1 Hour Eucharistic Adoration ..... 6:00 pm

Stations of the Cross (Spanish) ..... 7:00 pm

**Saturday, March 21**

Mass at ODS [+Lawrence Steffel] ..... 5:00 pm  
 (CCW)]

Spanish CCD ..... 5:45 pm

Spanish Mass at ODS [+Familia Manriquez Ramirez]  
 ..... 7:00 pm

**Sunday, March 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	(3/08/26):	\$7,762
ODS Offertory collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$213,621
ODS Building Fund	(3/08/26):	\$130
ODS Building Fund collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$20,934
St. William Offertory	(3/08/26):	\$309
St. William Collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$19,119

**ODS LITURGY TEAM**

**Saturday, March 21, 2026 – 5:00 pm**

**PRESIDER:** ..... Fr. Peter Oyenugba, MSP  
**LECTOR :** ..... Judy Tyno  
**LECTOR :** ..... Judy Tyno  
**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:** ..... Jose Abantao  
 ..... Jhoy Abantao, Susan Benson  
**SACRISTAN :** ..... Pat Stephens

**Sunday, March 22, 2026 – 9:00 am**

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



**EASTER WEEK SCHEDULE:**

**April 2<sup>nd</sup> HOLY THURSDAY:**

6:00 pm ODS English Mass  
 8:00 pm ODS Spanish Mass

**April 3<sup>rd</sup> GOOD FRIDAY:**

6:00 pm Good Friday Services at St. William  
 5:30 pm ODS Stations of the Cross (English)  
 6:00 pm ODS Good Friday Services (English)  
 7:00 pm ODS Stations of the Cross (Spanish)  
 8:00 pm ODS Good Friday Services (Spanish)

**April 4<sup>th</sup> HOLY SATURDAY:**

8:00 pm Bilingual Mass

**April 5<sup>th</sup> EASTER SUNDAY:**

9:00 am ODS English Mass  
 11:30 am Mass at St. William  
 2:00 pm ODS Spanish Mass