

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



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 28, 2025

Pastor

Rev. Peter Oyenugba, MSP

Deacon

J. Brian Bergeron

Deacon

Eric Windmoller

**Blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways.
Psalm 128**

Today's Gospel is part of Matthew's infancy narrative.

The focus of Matthew's infancy narrative is to show that Jesus is the new Moses and the new Israel called out of Egypt.

The story of the Holy Family is not only the story of Joseph and Mary and the Boy Jesus. The Church's story of God's redeeming love continues on in the Feast of the Holy Family.

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 Zermefio	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, LaVonja 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 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

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

**December 28, 2025
Feast of the Holy Family**

Readings:

Sirach 3:2-7

Coloss. 3:12-21

Matthew 2:13-15

Theme:

We honor the relationship of parents and children.

Question of the week:

We are invited to let the word of Christ dwell with us and direct our daily lives. Which one speaks mostly loudly to you?

**January 4, 2026
Epiphany of the Lord**

Readings:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephes. 3:2-3

Matthew 2:1-12

Theme:

The mystery of the incarnation – Jesus is a gift to all humanity.

Question of the week:

How this past wee did you demonstrate God's love at home and at work?

Announcements: December 27 & 28

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 would like to congratulate the winners of the 2025 Christmas Wreath Raffle. The wreath and all the gift cards was won by Claudia Mejia. The Publix gift card was won by K. Bessa. The RADA Knife set was won by Sierra Wyatt. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to all of you for making this scholarship fundraiser a great success! Blessings and peace in the New Year.

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 will be NO Mass or Eucharistic Adoration on Friday, January 2nd.

There will be NO CCD on December 28th and January 4th.

The Office will be CLOSED from December 23rd thru January 2nd.

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.

Good News!

December 28, 2025

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (A)
Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 / Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 /
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

ANN M. GARRIDO

The most treasured prayer of Jesus' people has long been and remains the Shema: "Hear O Israel, the Lord is God. The Lord is One." Jewish spirituality is grounded not in seeing or touching or tasting, but in hearing. No one exemplifies fidelity to this way of being in the world more than Joseph, as evidenced in today's gospel. Joseph is one who listens to what God's messenger says to him and immediately acts on it. He responds to the call to flee with Mary and Jesus to Egypt. Then, he responds to the call to return home with his family to Israel. As many have noted, Joseph never speaks in Scripture, but he certainly listens, and he certainly acts on what he hears.

Christmas is perhaps the noisiest season of the year. At gatherings of family and friends with festive music in the background, it often feels as if we are shouting over one another to be heard. It is a season when it can be hard to have deep conversations, even with God. Indeed, it can be such a busy season that sometimes our regular prayer practices fall by the wayside. But, if we do not make space in our daily lives to listen, might we miss messages that are important, even urgent, for us to hear, as in the case of today's gospel? Messages that require immediate response? What would it look like to carve out a bit of silence in this holiday season, to be like Joseph and reground yourself in a spirituality of listening? ●

© 2025 Liguori Publications. Imprimi Potest: Fr. Kevin Zubel, 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. 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 or call 800-325-9521.

Buenas noticias

28 de diciembre de 2025

La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José (A)
Sirácida 3, 2-6. 12-14 / Colosenses 3, 12-21 o 3, 12-17 /
Mateo 2, 13-15. 19-23

ANN M. GARRIDO

La oración más preciada del pueblo de Jesús ha sido y sigue siendo el Shemá: «Escucha, Israel: El Señor es Dios. El Señor es uno». La espiritualidad judía no se basa en ver, tocar o saborear, sino en escuchar. Nadie ejemplifica mejor la fidelidad a esta forma de estar en el mundo que José, como lo demuestra el evangelio de hoy. José es alguien que escucha lo que le dice el mensajero de Dios y actúa inmediatamente. Responde a la llamada de huir con María y Jesús a Egipto. Luego, responde a la llamada de regresar a casa con su familia a Israel. Como muchos han señalado, José nunca habla en las Escrituras, pero sin duda escucha y actúa según lo que oye.

La Navidad es quizás la época más ruidosa del año. En las reuniones familiares y con amigos, con música festiva de fondo, a menudo parece que gritamos unos a otros para que nos oigan. Es una época en la que puede resultar difícil mantener conversaciones profundas, incluso con Dios. De hecho, puede ser una época tan ajetreada que a veces nuestras prácticas habituales de oración quedan relegadas a un segundo plano. Pero, si no hacemos espacio en nuestra vida cotidiana para escuchar, ¿podríamos perdernos mensajes importantes, incluso urgentes, que debemos escuchar, como en el caso del evangelio de hoy? ¿Mensajes que requieren una respuesta inmediata? ¿Cómo sería reservar un poco de silencio en estas fiestas, ser como José y volver a centrarte en una espiritualidad de la escucha? ●

© 2025 Liguori Publications. Imprimi Potest: P. Kevin Zubel, 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 sin el permiso previo por escrito de Liguori Publications. Los textos escriturales que aparecen en esta obra han sido tomados de *The New American Bible, Edición Revisada* © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity 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.

Dear Padre

December 28, 2025

A friend of mine took his life. He was a very staunch Catholic. His wife wanted to know if he could be buried or have a Mass in the Catholic Church.

Yes, your friend should most certainly receive a Catholic funeral and burial. "We should not despair of the eternal salvation of persons who have taken their own lives. By ways known to him alone, God can provide the opportunity for salutary repentance. The Church prays for persons who have taken their own lives" (*The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2283).

A person who is suffering with a mental illness or disorder, certainly a prerequisite for suicide, may not have the necessary mental freedom to choose something that is understood as grave or mortal. In other words, he or she does not have the necessary requirements for full and free consent of the will.

Not that long ago, suicide was often misunderstood. Thankfully, today we understand the havoc and suffering of mental illness, and that a person can be a victim, even if it might look like he or she is not. The great suffering of those who take their own lives must not be dismissed or discarded. The family members and friends of a person who suffers suicide should also not be judged but should only receive compassion and understanding. They, too, are victims, in the fullest sense of the word and in the truest understanding of what it means to be a fragile human being. ●

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

© 2025 Liguori Publications. Imprimi Potest: Fr. Kevin Zubel, 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. 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 or call 800-325-9521.

Querido Padre

28 de diciembre

Un amigo mío se quitó la vida. Era un católico muy devoto. Su esposa quería saber si podía ser enterrado o si se podía celebrar una misa en la Iglesia católica.

Sí, tu amigo debe recibir sin duda un funeral y un entierro católicos. «No debemos desesperar de la salvación eterna de las personas que se han quitado la vida. Por medios que solo él conoce, Dios puede dar la oportunidad de un arrepentimiento saludable. La Iglesia reza por las personas que se han quitado la vida» (*Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica*, 2283).

Una persona que sufre una enfermedad o trastorno mental, sin duda un requisito previo para el suicidio, puede no tener la libertad mental necesaria para elegir algo que se entiende como grave o mortal. En otras palabras, no tiene los requisitos necesarios para el consentimiento pleno y libre de la voluntad.

No hace mucho tiempo, el suicidio se malinterpretaba a menudo. Afortunadamente, hoy en día comprendemos el caos y el sufrimiento que causan las enfermedades mentales, y que una persona puede ser una víctima, aunque no lo parezca. El gran sufrimiento de quienes se quitan la vida no debe ser ignorado ni descartado. Los familiares y amigos de una persona que se suicida tampoco deben ser juzgados, sino que solo deben recibir compasión y comprensión. Ellos también son víctimas, en el sentido más amplio de la palabra y en el entendimiento más verdadero de lo que significa ser un ser humano frágil. ●

P. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR

© 2026 Liguori Publications. Imprimi Potest: P. Kevin Zubel, 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 sin el permiso previo por escrito de Liguori Publications. Los textos escriturales que aparecen en esta obra han sido tomados de *The New American Bible, Edición Revisada* © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity 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, December 27

Mass at ODS **[+Jared Gibbs]** 5:00 pm
(Al & MaryAnne Gibbs)]

Spanish Mass at ODS (For ODS Parishioners) . 7:00 pm
Sunday, December 28

Mass at ODS **[+Pat Black]** 9:00 am
(Eric & Joann Prostko)]

NO CCD at ODS.....

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

Spanish Mass at ODS **(Special Intentions for Guadalupe
& Jose Silva)** 2:00 pm

Monday, December 29

Office Closed

NO Mass at ODS

Tuesday, December 30

Office Closed

Mass at ODS 5:30 pm

Wednesday, December 31

Office Closed

Mass at St. William 6:00 pm

Spanish Mass at ODS 10:00 pm

Thursday, January 1, 2026

Office Closed

Mass at ODS 10:00 am

Friday, January 2

NO Mass at ODS

NO 1 Hour Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday, January 3

2nd Collection: ODS Building Fund

Mass at ODS **[+Robin McDaniel]** 5:00 pm
(Margo Martin)]

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

Sunday, January 4

2nd Collection: ODS Building Fund

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

NO CCD at ODS

Mass at St. William (St. William Parishioners) . . 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	(12/21/25):	\$8,599
ODS Offertory collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$135,896
ODS Building Fund	(12/21/25):	\$3,000
ODS Building Fund collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$15,367
St. William Offertory	(12/21/25):	\$519
St. William Collected to Date	(7/06/25):	\$12,466

ODS LITURGY TEAM

Saturday, January 3, 2026 – 5:00 pm

PRESIDER: Fr. Peter Oyenugba, MSP
LECTOR : Jim Laycock
LECTOR Jim Laycock
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Jose Abantao
..... Jhoy Abantao, Dr. Anthony Burke
SACRISTAN Eloise Stone

Sunday, January 4, 2026 – 9:00 am

PRESIDER: Fr. Peter Oyenugba, MSP
LECTOR : Jill Bergeron
LECTOR Jill Bergeron
EUCRISTIC MINISTER Veronica Ogolowa
..... Pius Ogolowa, Bill McDaniel
..... Morris Scarbrough, Theresa Scarbrough
SACRISTAN: Ann Timbs



January Holiday schedules:

December 31st New Years' Eve

6:00 pm Mass at St. William

10:00 pm Spanish Mass at ODS

January 1st 2026 New Years' Day

10:00 am English Mass at ODS

January 2nd

NO MASS