

St. Theresa’s Catholic Church

Fr. Paulinus Okpala, Pastor

807 South 3rd Street Cordele, Georgia
(229) 273-3446 (office) (585) 285-1864 (emergency)
Office Email: churchofthelittleflower@gmail.com
Website: churchofthelittleflower.church

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM Sunday: 9:30 AM (English) & 12:15 PM (Spanish)
Daily: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: Noon Wednesday: 6:00 PM
Adoration: Wednesday 5:00 PM Private Prayer: Wednesday 8:00 AM—7:00 PM

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (Feast)

We thank God for the gift of our families. Through them, we take part in the mystery of love before we even know what love means. Jesus, Mary and Joseph were three, but on the level of love they were one. That is the greatness of the Mystery of Bethlehem. Love can bring it all together. They were three, but love enabled them to make space for the mysterious hand that guided their family from beginning to end, in fortune and misfortune, in all their joys, comings and goings. The Holy Family is a hymn to simplicity and trust in others. Joseph trusted Mary, Mary trusted Joseph and Jesus trusted them both.

The Christian family life is the mystery of God’s love in the world. Life as a family is challenging but very fulfilling. This is because family originates from God, who is the Trinity Family and the foundation of all families. Christian families thrive to the extent that they reproduce the divine love among them. Made in God’s image, we are to find fulfillment in community, in the intricate network of relationships that makes each one of us dependent on others, and others dependent on us. In our families, God gives us challenges and opportunities to grow and mature in sacrificial love, preparing us for an everlasting, joyful life in God’s eternal family. No one can be joyful without maturing in love.

Without words, Jesus gives us a perfect example on the Cross. Family conflicts are often hinged on mutual blame. Naturally, family members have basic expectations of one another. There is generally no confusion of roles. But mutual blame sometimes persists, just because we are human. This is where the grace of God makes a big difference. We remember that being joined to Christ on the Cross now makes us human beings with a divine heart. The reconciling act of Christ on the Cross means taking the guilt of the family and ensuring peace. Our acceptance of being initiated into Christ is a commitment to keep trying to live with this kind of heart in all our relationships, especially in our families. May the loving heart of Jesus reign in all our homes. Amen.

God bless you all - Fr. Paulinus

Sacraments

Baptism, Marriage, & Anointing of the Sick– Call for appointment
First Communion/ Religious Ed– Resumes January 4, 2026
Confirmation– Resumes January 4, 2026
Youth Group—Next Meeting January 14, 2026 @ 7:00 pm
Confessions- Sunday: 8:45-9:15 am & 11:30 am to Noon;
Saturday: 4:15-4:45 pm; Wednesday: 5:15-5:45 pm; and by appointment

2026 Calendars ~ are available in the Narthex, please take what you need.

Mary Mother of God is Thursday, January 1m. Since this is a Holy Day of Obligation, we will have a Vigil Mass on Wednesday at 6:00 pm and Thursday Morning at 10:00 am.

Prayer List ~ please add Martha Torres –Silva to your prayers.

Religious Education ~ resumes next Sunday, January 4 at 11:00 am.

Youth Group ~ will meet on Wednesday, January 14 at 7:00 pm. All youth 6th grade and up are welcome to come and join the fun and fellowship. Dinner will be provided.

First Communion and Confirmations Students ~ If you were not Baptized here at St. Theresa, please make sure we have a copy of your certificate by Sunday, January 11, 2026. Sponsor forms for Confirmation students are due this day also.

Stand For Life ~ will be on Saturday, January 24 in front of Aldi’s on 16th Avenue from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm. Please come and support all life from conception to natural death.

Empowering God’s Children ~ our Religious Education class will present a Virtus program about teaching personal boundaries and computer safety to our students on January 18. Please contact Tammy Teel or Fr. Paulinus with any questions or if you do not want your child to participate.

2026 Envelopes ~ are available in the Narthex. If your address has changed, please make sure and update Parish Office.

Today’s readings begin on page 823 in the St. Augustine Hymnal.

Weekly Mass

December 27
5:00 pm Mass

December 28
9:30 am Mass
12:15 pm Mass

December 29
Noon Mass

December 30
Noon Mass

December 31
5:00 pm Holy Hour
6:00 pm Mass

January 1
10:00 am Mass

January 2
Noon Mass

Our Gifts to God:

Weekly Budget Goal: \$2,875 Last Year’s Offering: \$2,987.40
Last Sunday’s Offering :\$2,354.90 (In pew: \$2,110.00, Online:\$244.90)
Children’s Offertory: \$42
Harvest of Hope Goal: \$128,508
Pledges Remaining: \$30,092.97 Total Given: \$48,398.03

As you are gone, help our church carry on. Please remember your offering is essential to help us meet our budget. Give online: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/littletherese> or you may text “GIVE NOW” to 229.318.4127 or scan the QR Code

