

# 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

## Upon You the Lord Shines

We have become so used to electricity that we rarely notice the big difference it makes in our lives during the night. Today's feast of the Epiphany is about light, not the kind of light we need to light up our homes, but the kind of light that burns within us and throughout humankind. We can think of this kind of light as a vision: it is the gift of being able to see more deeply into our purpose for living. In place of deliberate blindness caused by selfishness and the shared darkness caused by human pride, we now have a child who brings God's very light into our lives. In the creed, we say, "God from God, light from light."

The route of the Magi is a symbol of our path to Christ. Almost always, we come from afar, across the desert of faith, surrounded by darkness. Some get disoriented, others get lost, but a few lift their eyes to the sky and, in the middle of the night, discover the star; we must follow it with all hope and persevere to the end. It takes humility to allow oneself to be guided. Sometimes, we assume that we can figure things out by ourselves. Some people call themselves "Social Catholics." They don't believe in going to Church because they think that all you need is to try and do good to people around you and show them love. But unfortunately, when they talk about love, they measure it by their own standards. The human standard of love is very low compared to God's.

God is the Love for whom we are made and in whom we find our deepest fulfillment. At Mass, as the heavenly Star, Jesus presents God's standard of love to us, inviting us into himself for our deepest peace and joy. The humble and wise thing to do is to follow this Star every day. Little wonder why the Magi are called wise men. We can learn from them.

Happy Feast of Epiphany to everyone.

Fr. Paulinus

### Sacraments

**Baptism, Marriage, & Anointing of the Sick**— Call for appointment

**First Communion/ Religious Ed**— Every Sunday 11:00 am—12 Noon

**Confirmation**— Every Sunday 11:00 am—12 Noon

**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

**Second Collection** ~ there will be a second collection next weekend, January 10 & 11 for Black and Indian Missions.

**Ladies Club** ~ will meet next Saturday, January 10 at 11:00 am in the Parish Hall. All ladies are welcome to come and help us support our Parish.

**2026 Calendars** ~ are available in the Narthex.

**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. Forms are in the Narthex.

Today's readings begin on page 828 in the St. Augustine Hymnal.

### Our Gifts to God:

Weekly Budget Goal: \$2,875

Last Year's Offering: \$2,987.40

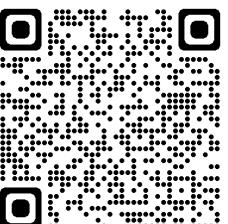
Last Sunday's Offering: \$1,853.01

(In pew: \$1,481.00, Online: \$382.01)

Children's Offertory: \$32

Christmas Offertory: \$2,018 2nd Collection: \$319

*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*



### Weekly Mass

January 3

5:00 pm Mass

Bobby Hooper+

January 4

9:30 am Mass

Augustino Hoang

Van Nhue

12:15 pm Mass

January 5

Noon Mass

January 6

Noon Mass

January 7

5:00 pm Holy Hour

6:00 pm Mass

January 8

No Mass

January 9

No Mass