

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

God's Word Shines His Light on our World

Jesus has come to be known as the Galilean, even though he was born in the southern Davidic city of Bethlehem in Judea. In fact, Nazareth, where he grew up, was one of the worst places in Galilee. Nathaniel said, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" (Jn. 1:46). Compared to Bethlehem, Galilee is a place filled with moral darkness. Jesus beginning his life and mission there is very symbolic.

Today's readings tell us that Jesus' proclamation of God's Word of truth is a light that scatters the darkness in our world and in our lives. It says, "*Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen.*" Matthew's gospel tells us that this light is the word of Jesus, who began his preaching in Galilee, a northern territory filled with pagan corruption because most of their original inhabitants had been driven away into exile and replaced with pagan peoples and cultures. It was real darkness. It would have been normal for a religious teacher, like Jesus, to do his preaching and teaching mainly in Jerusalem. But Jesus chose to begin his ministry in Galilee, a place filled with moral darkness. Since then, darkness has begun to be driven back all over the world, and we are sure that one day it will disappear completely through the power of the Word of God.

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is celebrated as the "Sunday of the Word of God." The emphasis today is on the vital importance of shining the light of God's Word on our lives every day. We can imagine what the world would have been without the light of God's word. To be able to shine the light of God's Word in the world, we must commit to shining this light daily on our own lives. Gradually, the cold ice of lies will melt away and darkness will disappear. You don't have to read the bible from cover to cover. Through the daily Mass readings, God answers our prayer to "give us this day, our daily bread." As God's Family, let us feed on this bread every day.

God bless you 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

Prayer List~ Please add Bill Epps to your prayers.

Stand For Life ~ thank you for everyone who supported the Stand For Life this weekend. Please continue your prayers for all those who are at the mercy of others.

Gold and Silver Anniversary ~ If you are celebrating your Gold or Silver Wedding anniversary this year, you are invited to attend a celebration Mass on Sunday, February 15 at 1:00 pm in Savannah. If you would like to attend, please contact 912-201-4069 or go to diosav.org/gold-and-silver no later than January 31.

Family Mass ~ our Religious Education will meet with parents and children on Sunday, January 25 at 11:00 am. Father will discuss how we prepare for the Mass and the different objects that are used during Mass and their meanings. As always, if you are interested you are welcome whether you have children in Religious Education or not. The more we know and understand about our Mass, the more special it becomes.

Youth Mass ~ will be next Saturday, January 31. It will be lead by the Youth of our parish.

St. Blaise Day ~ in honor of St. Blaise's Feast Day February 3, Father will do a special blessing of the Throats next weekend.

Social Sunday ~ we will have a special "Trivia Bee" next Sunday during Coffee and Donuts. The winner will receive a special prize. Study up and we hope to see you there!

Weekly Mass

January 24
5:00 pm Mass

January 25
9:30 am Mass
Joyce Fitzgibbons+
12:15 pm Mass

January 26
Noon Mass

January 27
Noon Mass

January 28
5:00 pm Holy Hour
6:00 pm Mass

January 29
No Mass

January 30
Noon Mass

Today's readings begin on page 891 in the St. Augustine Hymnal.

Our Gifts to God:

Weekly Budget Goal: \$2,875 Last Year's Offering: \$1,968.33

Last Sunday's Offering :\$2,077.75 (In pew: \$1,719.00, Online:\$358.755)

Children's Offertory: \$2

Harvest of Hope Goal: \$128,508

Pledges Remaining: \$28,375.80 Total Given: \$50,415.20

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

