

# St. Theresa's Catholic Church

**Fr. Paulinus Okpala, Pastor**

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## 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

## THERE ARE MANY ROOMS IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE

We live by serving one another. This is Jesus' central message today. In the gospel, he says that in his Father's house, there are many rooms. Whenever we read this passage, we often think about many comfortable rooms up in heaven, where we can relax and enjoy some rest, a separate space reserved for us alone, and cut off from the rest of the people. But that kind of image is very far from what Jesus is talking about here. The passage we read is from John, chapter 14, part of the long farewell discourse at the Last Supper before Jesus' death. Jesus used this long final discourse to teach his disciples the great mystery that was about to take place, his death and resurrection.

In simple words, Jesus' going to prepare a place for his followers was his death, and his coming back to take them was his resurrection. From that moment of his resurrection, the cornerstone of God's building, mentioned in today's second reading, was laid. This building is the new body of Christ, the Church. It is a living structure built of living stones. So, when Jesus says that there are many rooms in God's house, he is referring to this building. The Body of Christ, the Church is not a temporary building, but God's eternal dwelling place that joins heaven and earth in one forever. God's salvation plan is not an evacuation plan but a union, which the Mass celebrates in Communion.

The first reading offers more insight into the "many rooms". The church that was so peaceful three weeks ago is now dealing with conflicts and complaints of discrimination. To address this issue, the Church chose seven people, and they were called deacons, meaning "servants." This is key for understanding the meaning of the rooms. It means that there is room for everyone to serve in the Church. There are ministries enough for everyone to take part in. There should be no conflicts and competition in the Body of Christ because there is enough room for service. The many rooms refer to the many services to be rendered to the community, the Body of Christ. There is only room for service. Spend yourself serving one another. May the Spirit of Christ move us to keep serving one another. Amen.

Happy Easter 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  
**Men's Group**—Thursday 5:30—6:30 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

**Rosary** ~ May is the Month of Mary our Mother. We will pray the Rosary 30 minutes before each weekend Mass.

**Confirmation Retreat** ~ will be Saturday, May 9 at St. Teresa in Albany. We will leave from the Parish Hall at 9:15 am.

**Parish Workday** ~ will be Saturday, May 16 beginning at 8:00 am. We have lots to do so please make plans to help. Lunch will be provided.

**First Communion** ~ will be Sunday, May 17 at 12:15 pm. Please pray for the following as they prepare for this blessed sacrament: Juliana Acosta-Flores, Yanet Gonzalez. Bianca Jimenes, Briella Monrreal, Cataleya Monrreal, Berta Perez, Rocio Perez, and Francisca Terero,

**First Sunday Social** ~ is Sunday following Mass. We will have coffee and donuts and BINGO! Please come and join the fun and fellowship!

**Americus Seminarian Dinner** ~ will be Friday, May 22 at 6:30 pm at St. Mary's. Tickets are \$20 per person, \$25 per couple or \$40 per family. If you are interested in attending or making a donation, please contact Ron Akerman at 229.942.1653 or by email at ronakerman@mediacombb.net

**2026 Graduates** ~ we look forward to recognizing all High School and college graduates on Sunday, May 24. Please contact Tammy Teel at 229.313.9065 no later than May 17 to be recognized.

## Weekly Mass

May 2  
5:00 pm Mass  
Mary Tran Tuoi+

May 3  
9:30 am Mass  
12:15 pm Mass

May 4  
Noon Mass

May 5  
No Mass

May 6  
5:00 pm Holy Hour  
6:00 pm Mass

May 7  
Noon Mass  
Tom Brian+

May 8  
No Mass

Today's readings begin on page 871 in the St. Augustine Hymnal.

## Our Gifts to God:

Weekly Budget Goal: \$2,875 Last Year's Offering: \$3,134.80  
Last Sunday's Offering :\$3,135.08 (In pew: \$2,810.00, Online:\$325.08)  
Children's Offertory: \$71  
Annual Catholic Appeal:  
Goal: \$14,054 Total Given: \$6,915  
Harvest of Hope Goal: \$128,508  
Pledges Remaining: \$26,838.29 Total Given: \$52,172.71

*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*

