

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

They all ate and were satisfied

Have you ever wondered why God made us need food? Animals need food. Plants need food. Every living thing needs food to continue to live. Why? This is the point of today’s readings. God wants us to learn a big lesson from food: Something dies that others may live. Whether we eat beef, chicken, or corn, the food is giving up its life, though involuntarily, that we may live. This is the mystery of food and of life itself. Something is always dying that others may live. This is what we see in the natural food chain. Whenever you are about to eat, take time to reflect on the food lesson and mystery. Life goes on because another life is given up. The food on your plate says to you: “This is my body to be given up for you; learn to do the same for others.” It is a lesson that life is a mutual sacrifice. Parents naturally burn out their lives to support their children. And they are so glad to do it because it is the right thing to do. Food invites us to make sacrifices for other people.

God makes us need food every day because food is an image of God, our real Food. Just as we need food every day, we need God every day, both for our sustenance and our training to live like Him. The example of total self-giving that we find in food reflects who God is. The very law of God’s own inner Life is self-donation. From all eternity, the Father gives all of Himself to the Son, and the Son gives back all of Himself to the Father. This endless Gift is the Holy Spirit. The mystery of our life in Christ is that God is bringing us into this Family of Love, where total self-giving is the law of life. God has therefore extended to us the same self-donation that he has always done in Himself from all eternity. God gives Himself to us in Christ as our Food, so that we can have all of him in us and learn from him to give up ourselves for one another.

God’s ultimate purpose for creating hunger and other needs in our lives is to unite all his children together into one family of love, the Body of Christ. He wants our needs to knead us together in Christ. May our hunger and feeding build mutual love in our hearts. Amen.

God bless you all, Fr. Paulinus

Sacraments

Baptism, Marriage, & Anointing of the Sick– Call for appointment
First Communion/ Religious Ed– Resumes August 23, 2026
Confirmation– Resumes August 23, 2026
Youth Group - Resumes September 9, 2026
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

Welcome ~ Fr. Fred Williams who is filling in this weekend! We are glad to have you.
Parish Work Day ~will be Saturday, August 8 beginning at 8:00 a.m. Bring tools, gloves, and tarps. We have a lot to do. Lunch will be provided.
Fr. Paulinus’ 25th Priestly Ordination ~ is Tuesday, August 18. He will begin with Mass at 6:00 pm with a potluck dinner to celebrate afterwards. Everyone is invited to come and join him on this special day. We ask each family to bring your favorite side dish or salad to share. Meat and drinks will be provided.
Prayer List ~ Please pray for Rose York who fell and will need surgery.
Second Collection ~ will be next weekend for Latin America.
Religious Education ~ will resume on Sunday, August 23 at 11:00 am. Registration will begin next weekend. If you have questions, please contact Tammy at 229.313.9065.
Give Us This Day ~ It’s time for our annual renewal. The new books will be available with the November issue. The cost is \$40 for the year. Please contact Tammy Teel no later than August 23 if you would like to continue or begin your subscription. If you would like, you may add your payment to the collection basket, please write “Give Us This Day” in the memo.
Back To School Blessing ~ is this weekend. All students and teachers please come to receive a blessing for a great year!

Weekly Mass

August 1
5:00 pm Mass

August 2
9:30 am Mass
Jonathan DeMott
12:15 pm Mass

August 3
Noon Mass

August 4
Noon Mass

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

August 6
Noon Mass

August 7
Noon Mass

Today’s readings begin on page 920 in the St. Augustine Hymnal.

Our Gifts to God:

Weekly Budget Goal: \$2,875 Last Year’s Offering: \$1,946.90
Last Sunday’s Offering :\$2,652.33 (In pew: \$2,454.00, Online:\$198.33)
Children’s Offertory: \$64
Annual Catholic Appeal:
Goal: \$14,054 Total Given: \$9,181.20
Harvest of Hope Goal: \$128,508
Pledges Remaining: \$24,346.12 Total Given: \$55,282.05

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

