

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

The Lord Ascends into Glory

Today, we celebrate the great Solemnity of Ascension. Jesus' entry into the glory of his Father is the engine behind our faith. One way to not understand ascension is a departure from this world into the sky. This kind of view, because it is wrong, ultimately leads to loss of faith, or at least, to mere external conformism and fantasy. Holding on to what the Church and the Scriptures mean by Jesus' ascension into glory grounds our faith in the truth and enables it to endure and grow to maturity.

The Bible uses the terms sky, cloud, or heaven to refer to the realm of God, a realm that transcends space and time. For instance, when we say that God is eternal, it does not mean endless time, but that God is above and beyond time; when we say that God is everywhere, it doesn't mean that God is like oxygen that fills every space, rather that God is beyond space and so closer to all places and all of us. The Catechism says that "Our Father who art in heaven" "is rightly understood to mean that God is in the heart of the just as in his holy temple." (CCC #2794).

Jesus sitting at the right hand of God in heaven is a position of authority and power that enables him to direct the life and growth of the Church everywhere because he is now everywhere and within our hearts. He is the engine behind the life and growth of the Church and of every individual Christian. His physical presence has given way to his spiritual presence in his disciples. This is the meaning of the words: "Unless I go, the Advocate will not come; but if I go, I will send him to you." (Jn. 16:7).

Through his Spirit, he now operates in the Church and in his disciples. He is now able to spread himself, the Way, the Truth, and the Life of God to the ends of the earth through the missionary work of his disciples. The angel now says to the "men of Galilee" and all of us: why do you think your answers are in the sky? Heaven itself has come to you, filled you with grace, and empowered you to be a witness, an ambassador, and an example, of the salvation that Jesus invites all people to experience. Get to work and know that he lives right inside you.

Happy Feast of Ascension

Fr. Paulinus

Sacraments

Baptism, Marriage, & Anointing of the Sick– Call for appointment

First Communion/ Religious Ed– will resume in August

Confirmation– will resume in August

Youth Group–will meet Wednesday, May 24th at 7:00 pm

Confessions- Sunday: 8:45-9:15am & 11:30am to Noon;

Saturday: 4:15-4:45 pm;

Wednesday: 5:15-5:45 pm; and by appointment

Confirmation ~ Congratulations to Milo DeMott and Germain Vasques who received the sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday at St. Teresa in Albany.

First Communion ~ will be this Sunday at 12:15 pm. Please pray for the following as they prepare to receive the Lord: Max Rivero Patton, Bittney Argueta, Anna Argueta, Carlos Argueta, Christian Torres, Caroline Hooper, Elizabeth Hooper, Luz Ramirez– Rojas, Julian Ramirez– Rojas, Alice Rumsey, Armando Lerma, Anthony Lerma, Alexa Ramirez, Hailey Aguilar, Karen Sanchez, Litzzy Sanchez

2023 Graduates ~ Congratulations to the following who are graduating from High School this year: Nolan Coulter, Simon DeMott, and Kelly Gonzalez. College Graduate: Celine Pham

Second Collection ~ next weekend for Catholic Communications.

Memorial Day at Andersonville ~ This year celebrate Memorial Day by attending the outdoor Mass sponsored by the 4 th Degree Assemblies of the Knights of Columbus. The Reverend Stephen Pontzer, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Warner Robins, will be the celebrant. Deacon Mr. Daniel Gillan from St. Teresa Church, Albany is the homilist. Mass is at 11:00 am followed by a picnic. Everyone is welcome.

Homeschool Mass of Thanksgiving~ Welcoming all Catholic homeschoolers in the Diocese of Savannah for a Homeschool Mass celebrated by Bishop Parkes. Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 4 p.m. at St. Anne's in Richmond Hill, 10550 Ford Avenue. Please join us for a Homeschool Mass in thanksgiving for the opportunity and blessings of homeschooling. Graduating seniors will be recognized. Please contact Christina at homeschoolministry@stannerh.org if you have a graduating senior or with any questions. Please bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner to follow. Considering homeschooling? Please join us!

Today's readings begin on page 874 in the St. Augustine Hymnal.

Our Gifts to God:

Weekly Budget Goal: \$2,391

Last Year's Offering: \$1,956

Last Sunday's Offering : \$2,218

Online Offering: \$144.90

Children's Offering: \$25

Annual Catholic Appeal

Goal: \$10,590

Paid to date: \$10,819

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

Rosary ~ May is the Month of Mary our Mother. We will do the rosary each week 30 minutes before Mass.

Weekly Mass

May 20

5:00 pm Mass

May 21

9:30 am Mass

12:15 pm Mass

May 22

Noon Mass

May 23

Noon Mass

May 24

5:00 pm Holy Hour

6:00 pm Mass

May 25

Noon Mass

May 26

Noon Mass

