



# The Catholic Center

Serving the Athens and University of Georgia  
Communities Since 1952.



## ALL ARE WELCOME

### Mass Intentions

**Saturday**  
5PM - Marita Olian †

**Sunday**  
8AM - Christopher Shade  
10:30AM - Ray Kopaniasz †  
12:30PM - Kham Huynh †  
5PM - The Green Family

**Monday**  
5:30PM - Anita Picas †

**Tuesday**  
5:30PM - Pete & Jamie Frankson

**Wednesday**  
5:30PM - Ignazio Aznar † & Fr. Brian & Fr. Michael

**Thursday**  
5:30PM - Vincent Dooley †

**Friday**  
8:00AM - Patricia Dorward †

### Feed My Starving Children

**We need your help!** We are tracking behind last year and not on pace to hit our goals. Current donations: **\$59,763** vs. goal of **\$114,000**. **508** volunteers registered to pack vs. goal of **1,375**. With just **60 days before the event**, we have a long way to go! Please spread the word about our event and ask friends, family, and co-workers to join us in helping these kids have a chance at life. **Just 2 hours of your time will feed a child for 7 months!** We also need more sponsors and other churches so please contact Tom Spencer if you have contacts for either of them.

Go to: [give.fmssc.org/Athens](http://give.fmssc.org/Athens) to donate and register. If you have any questions contact Tom Spencer at [tspencer44@gmail.com](mailto:tspencer44@gmail.com) or 706-340-3785.

### Office

**Hours:** Mon – Fri: 10AM-4PM  
**Fax:** 706-543-2541

**Address:** 1344 South Lumpkin St.  
Athens, GA 30605  
**Connect:** [www.ugacatholic.org](http://www.ugacatholic.org)  
CC at UGA  
[@CatholicDawgs](mailto:@CatholicDawgs)

**Phone:** 706-543-2293

 

### Liturgical Schedule

**Mass:**  
Saturday: 5PM  
Sunday: 8AM, 10:30AM, 12:30PM, & 5PM  
Monday - Thursday: 5:30 PM  
Friday: 8AM

**Adoration:**  
Monday & Thursday: 9AM–5PM  
Tuesday & Wednesday: 9AM–10AM  
Friday: 8:30AM-9AM

**Confession:**  
Wednesdays: 4PM–5PM  
Saturday: 3:30PM-4:30PM

\*Please note all confessions will be held in the office.

### Weekly Calendar

**Sunday 3/15**  
8:00AM Mass  
9:30AM Baptism Prep Class  
10:30AM Mass  
10:30AM Talaske Family Baptism  
12:30PM Mass  
12:30PM Powell Family Baptism  
1:45PM Catholic Social Teaching  
2:30PM KoC Exemplification & Meeting  
5:00PM OCIA Second Scrutiny  
5:00PM Mass  
7:15PM Discernment of Spirits

**Monday 3/16**  
10:00AM Men's Bible Study  
5:30PM Mass  
7:00PM Confirmation

**Tuesday 3/17**  
12:00PM Staff Meeting  
5:30PM Mass  
8:00PM Seeking Water

**Wednesday 3/18**  
1:30PM Deanery Meeting  
4:00PM Reconciliation  
5:30PM Mass  
6:15PM Religious Education  
8:00PM Ignite

**Thursday 3/19**  
10:00AM Women's Bible Study  
5:30PM Mass  
6:30PM Choir Rehearsal  
6:30PM Full Initiation Meeting

**Friday 3/20**  
8:00AM Mass  
11:00AM Funeral/Reception for Marilyn Kehoe  
5:00PM KoC Fish Fry

**Saturday 3/21**  
9:00AM Choir Rehearsal  
9:00AM Confirmation Retreat  
3:30PM Reconciliation  
5:00PM Mass

### A Message from Fr. Michael

"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart" - 1 Samuel 16  
"If that man is a sinner, I do not know.  
One thing I do know is that I was blind but now I see." - John 9

Today's readings revolve around light, darkness, sight, and blindness. And it is a humbling recognition, realization, and invitation: if I am I blind, there is no way I can know that I am blind nor what the world actually looks like unless someone who is not blind can reveal to me something greater than my darkness. Only a person with sight can describe to someone who is blind something greater than blindness. Today's readings give the consideration that all of humanity walks blindly - spiritually speaking. We cannot reveal to one another something greater than the darkness we perceive.

But Jesus enters into the world, who is the light of the world, enlightening everything - as if a lamp is placed in a dark room and shines new realizations in that room; so, Jesus enters into the world and gives new perceptions to everything. There are plenty of realizations that are revealed as Jesus shines new possibilities: creation is a gift from God, the person in front of me is loved by God just like me, I am more loveable and forgivable and relationship-able than I realize. And the image intensifies: only by being grasped by the hand can this Light guide me to a brighter world.

As we continue through Lent, with just a little bit more time to go, we consider our Baptism. Baptism was the threshold God moved us through to leave behind the kingdom of darkness and enter into the Kingdom of Light. When God enters into my life in such a way, one of the main epiphanies given to me is who He sees me to be. God will take away my blindness and give me sight to show me who I am. And because I become a child of the Father by His free grace, I can only see the world in a new light; much like how an newly engaged person wakes up and sees everything in a new light. Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, quotes an ancient Christian hymn: "Awake, o sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light." Lent is an invitation for all Christians to renew the Baptismal promises that were ratified on the day of baptism, which are a fidelity given to God; that as His Love is revealed to me in my desert and moving me into the oasis of an unwearied unconditional Love, this wakes me up to give back the exact same responsibility to Him.

So, as Lent continues and inches closer to Easter, an invitation is a surrender and consideration: there is more to the world than I can see. In this humility, God opens a person's heart (and eyes) to see even more wonderfully His everlasting Love. When Jesus heals the man of his blindness, He makes reference to the origin of humanity, in the Genesis story God makes man out of the clay of the earth: in John's Gospel, Jesus re-creates humanity's vision out of the clay. But this is a God of humility which enlightens everything: Jesus Himself will be spat upon as He embraces His Cross. And in the mutual blindness because of a God who became blind in His suffering and death, perhaps I am saved from my blindness in the best way possible: here, I know I am seen.

## Announcements

### 24th Annual Vince Dooley Golf Tournament

Mark your calendars for our 24th annual Dooley Classic Golf tournament on Friday, September 4, 2026. More information will be available at a later date.

### Snacks for our Students

The Catholic Student Association Spring Retreat is on March 20-22. They are asking for donations of snacks such as individual bags of chips, granola bars, fruit snacks or similar individually wrapped items. Baked goods would also be appreciated.

### Parking Announcement

As many of you already know, parking is a major concern at the Catholic Center. We are working to find options to help with this problem. Please be respectful of our church neighbors. You may not park at Cloverhurst Apartments or Mi Casa Apartments at any time. You will be towed. Campus View Church is not open for parking at all on Sundays. They need the lot for their services. Please remember to never park in private parking lots or driveways or places where the curb is yellow. Parking is available on the side streets around the Center and at the South Parking Deck and Carlton Parking Deck. Please help us to be good neighbors to our UGA and Athens community.

### St. Joseph's Holy Week Mission

St. Joseph's Catholic Church is holding their 2026 Holy Week Mission. The mission will be on Good Friday and Holy Saturday, leading up to Easter Sunday. Registration is the day of at 8:30am at St. Joseph's. This is a two day event, day one (April 3rd) will be from 8:30 until 1:00pm. Day two (April 4th) will last from 8:30am until 4:30pm, on day two light breakfast and lunch will be provided. The mission will have groups travel to various apartments and shops, visiting nursing homes and spreading the mission of Christ. All are welcome to participate. For more information contact Evelyn Tejada at [evelynpa.tejada@gmail.com](mailto:evelynpa.tejada@gmail.com).

### St. Joseph's 5K & Fun Run

Join St. Joseph Catholic Parish School in their 27th Annual 5K & Fun Run at Sandy Creek Park ( on March 28, 2026. You can register by going to this link <https://runsignup.com/Race/GA/Athens/StJoesJog5K> or by scanning the QR code.



### Upcoming Penance Service

The Catholic Center will be hosting our Lenten Penance Service next Monday, March 23rd at 7pm. Confession will be heard from various Priests around the greater Athens area. Confessions will be held in both the Center Hall and the Chapel, all are welcomed to attend.

### Easter Flower Donations

Forms can be picked up in the Center Office or Chapel to donate a flower in honor or memory of a loved one. Please return the form by Tuesday, March 31. The suggested donation is \$20.

### Knights of Columbus Fish Frys

Come out for a delicious, meatless dinner provided by the Knights of Columbus, every Friday during Lent from 5PM until 7PM. Reservations are not needed. Cash, checks and credit cards are accepted. Pricing: \$7 light meal, \$11 full meal, \$30 family meal

### Volunteer to Cook for Sunday Night Dinners!

Did you know that most every Sunday during the school year, The Catholic Center prepares dinner for the student community to join in fellowship and enjoy time spent together after our 5pm student Mass? Come join us in helping prepare our weekly Sunday night dinners for our students and community members. If you would like to assist in this fun and rewarding ministry, please sign up at Sign-Up Genius at <https://tinyurl.com/studentdinner26>

### Pope Leo XIV Corner

"This man loves the Samaritan woman as no-one has ever done before. While she was looking for her daily water, He wants to give her new, living water, capable of quenching every thirst and calming every anxiety, because this water flows from the heart of God, the inexhaustible fullness of every expectation... It is not a reproach, but a promise: "I am here to make you know God, who gives Himself as a gift to you". Yes, really for you, who did not know Him, who considered yourself estranged and condemned. This gift will transform you: you yourself will become a spring gushing forth for eternal life." (From Pope Leo's Homily on March 8)

To view the entire message, go to The Holy See website at [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va).

## We Lift Up in Prayer

Charlotte & Joel Alesi	Barton Elizabeth Dooling	Gene Larkin	Annette Richt
Timothy A. Almy	Carol Douglas	Lynn Langston	Bryan Rieken
Judy Balcomb	Claire Fetch	Patti Law	Sophia Rodriguez
Megan Barton	Pam Forker	Elena Lyons	Aeriel Ross
Erin Benbry	Luke Frankson	Rick Madera	Amy Scobey
Peter Bryan	Hersina Gomes	Gina Maherka	Suzette Scobey
Grace Burger	Jean Griffith	Daniel Matonak	Deborah Scott
Grace Byrne	Cheri Griggs	Christian Matonak	Christopher Shade
Joanne Cabrera	Bob Henry	Carol Mazurek	Cindy Shapland
Jeanette Campbell	Albert Hromalik, Sr.	Amy McConnell	Derek Smith
Judy Balcomb	Ryan Hughes	Marlynn McCullough	Eileen Speight
Lucille Carberry	Ann Hunt	Scott Melina	Alyssa Thomas
Elizabeth Bertrand Carlson	Daniel Inman	Bénédicte Milward	Nile Thomson
Mollie Carow	Kelly Jordan	Michael Olmert	Natalie Vaughn
Deana Dietzler Chiusano	Milton Jordan	Dan Perrine	Patsy Vickery
Lora Bernstein Cooley	Peter Kalla	Mary Pinto	James Waring
Patti D'Avella	Victor Kalla	Ed Powell	Mike Wasco
Joy Davis	Sarah Kurtz	Dolorus Pritchitt	
Tony DiPietro	Dan Lackey	David & Maura Randol	

With deepest sympathy, our community prays for the souls of the faithful departed and for their loved ones especially Ray Kopaniasz and Lou Richt.

### The Pope's Prayer Intention for March

For disarmament and peace: Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

## Financial Giving Updates

Thank you so much for your generous contributions to our offertory throughout the year. Your support of the Catholic Center and our ministries is heartwarming. Thank you for sharing your time, treasure, and talent.

#### March 1, 2026

\$19,490.00 - Offertory  
\$5,348.01 - Donation  
\$1,748.00 - Alms

#### March 8, 2026

\$15,533.66 - Offertory  
\$18,052.68 - Donation  
\$376.00 - Alms

## Clergy & Staff

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Giao Nguyen

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