



The Catholic Center
 Serving the Athens and University of Georgia
 Communities Since 1952.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Mass Intentions

- Saturday**
5PM - Terry & Ben Stephens †
- Sunday**
8AM– Georgianne DePasquale
10:30AM– Lou Richt †
12:30PM - Valentino Anthony Simpao †
5PM - David Albares †
- Monday**
5:30PM - Hussein Naas Epayeb †
- Tuesday**
5:30PM-Elaine Gaudin †
- Wednesday**
5:30PM – Antonio Alonso †
- Thursday**
5:30PM- Fr. Brian & Fr. Michael
- Friday**
8:00AM - Antonio Alonso †

Feed My Starving Children

Event Dates: May 15 –17
 Current donations: **\$87,537** vs. goal of **\$114,000**.
1,069 volunteers registered to pack vs. goal of **1,375**.
 We're making progress but with just **33** days before the event, we still need lots of help with both goals!
 Please spread the word about our event and ask friends, family, organizations you belong to, and work colleagues 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!** And it's a fun volunteer opportunity for everyone including families with children **as young as 5**.

Go to: give.fmssc.org/Athens to donate and register.
 Please contact Tom Spencer at tspencer44@gmail.com ; 706-340-3785 with questions.

Office



Hours:
 Mon – Fri: 10AM-4PM

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 706-543-2541

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 Athens, GA 30605

Connect:
www.ugacatholic.org
 CC at UGA
 @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–9:30AM
Confession: Wednesdays: 4PM–5PM Saturday: 3:30PM-4:30PM	*Please note all confessions will be held in the office.

April 12, 2026 • Divine Mercy Sunday

Weekly Calendar A Message from Rachel Lichtenwalner

Sunday 4/12
 8:00AM Mass
 10:30AM Mass
 12:30PM Mass
 1:30PM Feed My Starving Children Meeting
 5:00PM Mass
 6:00PM Student Dinner

Monday 4/13
 10:00AM Men's Bible Study
 5:30PM Mass
 7:00PM Confirmation
 8:00PM CSA Truthly Event

Tuesday 4/14
 12:00PM Silver Angels
 5:30PM Mass
 8:00PM Ablaze

Wednesday 4/15
 12:00PM Staff Meeting
 3:00PM G&G Wedding
 4:00PM Reconciliation
 5:30PM Mass
 6:15PM Religious Education
 8:00PM Ignite

Thursday 4/16
 10AM Women's Bible Study
 5:30PM Mass
 6:00PM FAM Bracelet Making
 6:30PM Choir Rehearsal
 7:00PM Full Initiation

Friday 4/17
 8:00AM Mass
 4:15PM Senioritis

Saturday 4/18
 8:30AM First Communion Retreat
 11:00AM Full Initiation Retreat
 3:30PM Reconciliation
 5:00PM Mass

Dear Catholic Center Community,
 Nearly 100 years ago, our Lord came to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska and expressed His desire that the second Sunday of Easter be celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. Since 2000, the Church has been officially celebrating this feast of the infinite, boundless, ever-pursuing mercy that Christ poured out on the Cross and continues to offer us.
 If you notice your heart putting up walls today at the idea of His mercy, as Fr. Michael says, I want to reverence that. Because I get it. I have been there. And in some ways, I am still there.

Why is it so hard sometimes to receive God's mercy?

This is the question I keep coming back to in my own life.

I have not determined the answer, but I ponder a few reasons that could explain my resistance—and maybe you have resonated with them at some point. Maybe now.

Truly, deep down, do I believe that I have to earn the Father's love or perform to maintain it? When I "screw up," do I believe that I have to carry the burden, and carry it alone? It was my fault, right? Can I not let go of my guilt? If it's hard to forgive myself, how can I welcome this Divine Mercy? Do I feel so far gone, so wounded, so broken, that I believe His mercy cannot rescue me?

If we find it hard to receive God's mercy, do we even know what His mercy is? If I really understood His mercy, wouldn't I rejoice, turn to surrender, and leave behind my ways of self-sufficiency?

Definitely calling myself out here.

Should you find yourself in a similar internal battle as me, let us use today to start anew. Let us speak truth over ourselves and remind ourselves what Christ's mercy means.

Our poverty attracts His mercy. God does not see it and minister to it out of passive tolerance. He sees your need for help, pardon, and salvation, and He wants to tend to it. He is filled and moved with compassion.

Mercy does not ignore sin; it destroys it. Remember what we celebrated one week ago. Jesus did not die for our offenses so they would be overlooked. He took upon Himself their debt, their weight, because we cannot. He fully paid for our transgressions and bought our redemption.

When the enemy tricks us into thinking we do not need or cannot have God's mercy, hold onto these truths, friends. Christ told St. Faustina that His mercy is "inconceivable," and it really does feel that way. But it is real. It is a free gift. All He asks of you is that you receive it and allow yourself to be transformed by it.

Peace,
 Rachel Lichtenwalner



Announcements

The Biggest Thank You!

Our student space which is so lovingly coined "The Upper Room" is finally completed. This has been a work in progress since September...7 months of hard work! We want to express our deep gratitude to all those who made this possible.



We especially thank; Kevin with TNT Electric, Advanced Plumbing, Chris Gunter with Venture Technology, Impact Fire Protection, and Jordan with Catholic Mutual Insurance. A special shout out to Robbie Love, Alex, Danny and the entire crew of Chandler Design Group for leading this project. Thank you to Bob Chirello and Kathy Bryan and the rest of the CC staff.



Archbishop's Annual Appeal

Thank you to all of you who have returned your appeal commitment for this year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal. We are very grateful for your generosity. To date, we are at 71% of our Parish's goal, which is \$88,900!

Our goal this year is to have 100% participation! Any funds raised more than the goal are returned right here to The Catholic Center!

If you have not yet returned your commitment card, or pledged online, we prayerfully ask you to do so. Pledge envelopes can be dropped in the offertory basket at any Mass, brought into our office, and pledges can be made securely online at <https://lifeofthechurch.com/donate/>. Please select "Annual Appeal" and remember also to select The Catholic Center as your parish.

Green Mass and Presentation

Please join us on **April 22nd at 5:30PM** for a "Green Mass" or mass for creation/Laudato Si Mass, in honor of Earth Day at the Catholic Center.

The following day, **April 23rd, at 6:30PM**, we will have a guest speaker, Kat Doyle, the Director of Justice and Peace ministries in the Office of Life, Dignity and Justice at the Archdiocese of Atlanta. She will give a brief overview of Catholic Social Teaching and discuss how the care of creation is grounded in both Catholic Social Teaching and Eco spirituality. All are welcome.

KoC Blessing Bags

Our collegiate Knights of Columbus men are collecting materials for blessings bags for the homeless. They are asking for toiletries, socks, water, gloves, backpacks and granola bars to pass along to the homeless of Athens. They will be collecting items from April 10th until April 19th. Donations can be dropped off at the office or after this weekend's masses.

Silver Angels Meet Tuesday 4/14

The Silver Angels will meet on Tuesday, April 14th, at 12PM in the Center Hall. All those 60 and older are invited for lunch, fellowship. We will be doing Catholic Trivia!

RE Schedule

RE Classes will resume for Pre-K and Kindergarten on Sunday, April 19th. This will be our last RE Class of the year. 1st through 8th grade RE classes will be on April 15th and 22nd, 6:15-7:15PM. Our last Confirmation class and High School Youth Group will be on Monday, April 13th, 7:00-8:45PM.

G-Day Game Notice

UGA Football will host its annual spring G-Day game this Saturday, April 18th at 1PM. The Catholic Center will still have Mass at 5PM. Prepare to leave for Mass a little early if you are going to the Vigil Mass. There will **not** be football parking at the Catholic Center for the G-Day game.

Are You Graduating This May?

The Catholic Center would like to celebrate this milestone with you and your family. We will have a Baccalaureate Mass at 12PM followed by lunch on Friday, May 8, for graduates. Please RSVP by scanning this QR code.



Pope Leo XIV Corner

"Easter is the new creation brought about by the Risen Lord; it is a new beginning; it is life finally made eternal by God's victory over the ancient enemy. We need this song of hope today. It is ourselves, risen with Christ, who must bring him into the streets of the world. Let us then run like Mary Madgalene." (From Pope Leo's Homily on April 5th)

We Lift Up in Prayer

Charlotte & Joel Alesi
Timothy A. Almy
Judy Balcomb
Megan Barton
Erin Benbry
Peter Bryan
Grace Burger
Grace Byrne
Joanne Cabrera
Jeanette Campbell
Judy Balcomb
Lucille Carberry
Elizabeth Bertrand Carlson
Mollie Carow
Deana Dietzler Chiusano
Lora Bernstein Cooley
Patti D'Avella
Joy Davis
Tony DiPietro

Barton Elizabeth Dooling
Carol Douglas
Claire Fetch
Pam Forker
Luke Frankson
Hersina Gomes
Jean Griffith
Cheri Griggs
Isaiah Harris
Bob Henry
Albert Hromalik, Sr.
Ryan Hughes
Ann Hunt
Daniel Inman
Kelly Jordan
Milton Jordan
Peter Kalla
Victor Kalla
Sarah Kurtz

Dan Lackey
Gene Larkin
Lynn Langston
Patti Law
Tom Long
Elena Lyons
Rick Madera
Gina Maherka
Daniel Matonak
Christian Matonak
Carol Mazurek
Amy McConnell
Marlynne McCullough
Scott Melina
Bénédicte Milward
Michael Olmert
Dan Perrine
Mary Pinto
Ed Powell

Dolorus Pritchitt
Noah Quintanilla
David & Maura Randol
Annette Richt
Bryan Rieken
Sophia Rodriguez
Aeriel Ross
Amy Scobey
Suzette Scobey
Deborah Scott
Cindy Shapland
Derek Smith
Eileen Speight
Mike Teofilo
Alyssa Thomas
Nile Thomson
Natalie Vaughn
Patsy Vickery
Julie T. Wallace

With deepest sympathy, our community prays for the souls of the faithful departed and for their loved ones especially James Ledvinka and Stephen Matt.

The Pope's Prayer Intention for April

For priests in crisis: Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

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 29, 2026

\$12,382.50 - Offertory
\$5,404.76 - Donation
\$226.97 - Alms

April 5, 2026

\$26,030.00 - Offertory
\$11,368.00 - Donation
\$1,984.00 - Alms

Clergy & Staff

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