



The Catholic Center

Serving the Athens and University of Georgia
Communities Since 1952.



ALL ARE WELCOME



Mass Intentions

- | | |
|--|--|
| Saturday
5PM - Irene & Louis Przeslaski † | Tuesday
5:30PM— Rosemary Knecht |
| Sunday
8AM—Family of Ascencio Lara
10:30AM - Maria & Victor Reyes †
12:30PM -Mike Risher †
5PM— All Catholic Center Members | Wednesday
5:30PM - Elizabeth Cromer † |
| Monday —All Souls in Purgatory | Thursday
5:30PM- Fr. Brian & Fr. Michael |
| | Friday
8:00AM - Betsy Edmonds |

Silver Angels

Our first Silver Angles luncheon of 2026 will be this Tuesday, January 13th at noon. All those 60 and older are welcome to attend for an afternoon of good food, and fellowship. This week we will be honoring two of our members with their quilts of valor and thanking them for their service to our country. There is no cost to attend and reservations are not needed. For more information, contact the Catholic Center office at 706-543-2293.

Office

Hours: Mon – Fri: 10AM-4PM	Fax: 706-543-2541
Address: 1344 South Lumpkin St. Athens, GA 30605	Connect: www.ugacatholic.org CC at UGA @CatholicDawgs
Phone: 706-543-2293	 

Liturgical Schedule

Mass: Saturday: 5PM Mass Sunday: 8AM, 10:30AM, 12:30PM, & 5PM	Adoration: Adoration will resume after the break.
Monday - Thursday: 5:30 PM	Confession: Wednesday: 4:00PM-5:00PM Saturday: 3:30PM-4:30PM
Friday: 8AM Mass	*Confession will be in the Center Office

January 11, 2026 • The Baptism of the Lord

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 1/11
8:00AM Mass
10:30AM Mass
12:30PM Mass
1:30PM Feed My Starving Children Meeting
5:00PM Mass
6:00PM Sunday Night Student Dinner

Monday 1/12
UGA Classes Resume
10:00AM Men’s Bible Study
10:00AM Chapel Decorating Committee
11:00AM Golf Tournament Meeting
5:30PM Mass

Tuesday 1/13
12:00PM Silver Angels
5:30PM Mass
8:00PM Seeking Water

Wednesday 1/14
4:00PM Reconciliation
5:30PM Mass
6:15PM Religious Education
8:00PM Ignite

Thursday 1/15
10:00AM Women’s Bible Study
5:30PM Mass
6:30PM Choir Rehearsal
7:00PM Full Initiation Meeting

Friday 1/16
8:00AM Mass
11:00AM Funeral/Reception for Elizabeth Cromer
5:00PM Senioritis
7:00PM CSA Back to School Party

Saturday 1/17
3:30 Reconciliation
5:00PM Mass

A Message from Fr. Brian

Friends,

This weekend we enter Ordinary Time, the season in which we walk with Jesus through His public ministry. We will read at Mass the Gospel of Matthew, which we will hear proclaimed throughout the year. The ministry of Jesus begins with John the Baptist and the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan. If you can, take some time to read the Gospel of Matthew, whether by listening to an audiobook or reading it chapter by chapter. As disciples, we are invited to read the Word of God, for it is one of the primary ways the Lord speaks to us. A disciple is a student, one who is learning from the rabbi. What have you learned recently? What have you learned this past year? What lessons have been life-giving?

Ordinary Time unfolds the ministry of Jesus, His three years traveling throughout Israel, teaching, healing, and proclaiming the Kingdom of God. We, too, are His disciples, learning from Him as we journey through this season. Life with Christ is a life of discipleship. Perhaps you can lean into prayer and allow it to lead you and those around you closer to Christ.

What are the ways of Christ? Keep that question in the back of your mind as you read through the Gospel of Matthew. Or as you attend Mass and allow the scriptures to wash over you. If you can make it through the genealogy at the beginning, you are golden!

Lean into your discipleship this year. Whether it is reading the Gospel of Matthew, letting go of a vice, embracing stillness, or caring for the poor, there are many ways to draw nearer to Christ and live as His disciple.

Welcome to Giao Van Nguyen, a seminarian who will be with us this semester. He is studying English here at UGA. You can learn a bit about Giao in his note below.

Peace,
Fr. Brian

I am Giao Van Nguyen, I come from Vietnam. I was born and grew up at Nghe An Province, Vietnam. I was born into a family of twelve people. Including my parents, five sisters, four brothers, and me. I graduated from Nghe a College of Teachers in 2013. When I graduated from college, I did some work to support myself as well as my family. In 2017, I applied for a Visa of the US and on August 15, 2018, I came to the US.

When I was a child, I usually contacted and communicated with seminarians, brothers, and sisters. I joined with many young people in our parish to serve Mass every day and attended many activities at my parish. Through the religious life, I realize that their life is peaceful and I follow them to help poor people. I thought that they were a good example for me to pursue and become a priest in the future to serve God and the Church, especially for poor people.

My family and pastor in the parish helped me to understand more and more how to live a great vocation. My parents taught me how to pray with God and how to recite the Rosary. My mom told me that, “if you wanted to be a priest, you should participate in daily Mass and recite the Rosary.” I believe that my family is the biggest support and encouragement for me to pursue a vocation. When I was a child my father usually told me the story about Vietnamese Martyrs to show me how to keep the faith with God and how to be faithful with the Church in any circumstances. Nowadays, I feel happy when pursuing my vocation. I feel God is with me on my journey to the priesthood.

Announcements

This Weekend's Second Collection

The Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Atlanta has served the Hispanic population for over sixty years. Today, it continues to offer pastoral, social and legal assistance to a Hispanic population estimated at over 500,000 residents. The archdiocese, recognizing the Hispanic presence, tries to respond to the needs of the Hispanics in their language and cultural context. It is important to note that all contributions will benefit Hispanic ministries within our archdiocese.

Archbishop's Annual Appeal

A letter from Archbishop Gregory Hartmayer was mailed this past week to all previous donors to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. He is asking for the continued support of the many important programs that help thousands in our archdiocese each year. The Archdiocese goal for the 2026 appeal is \$11,740,000 and 100% participation. Please respond generously when you receive your letter.

To donate online: lifeofthechurch.com/donate

Catholic Center Job Opening

We are seeking a part-time Sacramental Assistant to work with adults and families preparing to receive the sacraments. The person in this role assists the Sacramental Coordinator with various aspects of adult faith formation (including OCIA) and Baptism preparation. The ideal candidate is organized, a good communicator, rooted in their Catholic faith, and passionate about accompanying others along their journey with Christ. They should also be able to be in Athens year-round. Check the Catholic Center website (ccatuga.org) for the full job description. Please send resume and cover letter to bulletin@ccatuga.org.

Gianna's Hope

Have you or someone close to you experienced a miscarriage or infant loss? We are here to support you and your family. Gianna's Hope is a ministry dedicated to walking with moms who have experienced a loss at any point in their pregnancy or after birth. We are here to help you at any point in your healing journey. Please be on the lookout for our upcoming meeting at St. Joseph's! Email us at: GHopeAthens@gmail.com

Hearing Assistance

We are pleased to offer hearing assistance during Mass. Please see the instructions in the Chapel or visit <https://ugacatholic.org/announcements/>.

Office Closure

The Catholic Center will be closed Monday, January 19th in observance of MLK day. We will still have mass at 5:30pm.

RE Resumes this Week

Our Religious Education for grades 1-8 resumes this Wednesday at 6:15PM. We look forward to seeing all of our students after the break!

Volunteer to Cook for Sunday Night Dinners!

We are looking for volunteers to help cook Sunday night dinners for our students! Any assistance would be greatly appreciated by our students who attend 5PM Mass and stay for dinner and fellowship. Follow the link below to sign up to help on Sunday(s) from 3-5! <https://tinyurl.com/studentdinner26>

Catholic Center Registration Updates

Welcome back to a new semester and new year for all of our returning students and families. If you are new to the Catholic Center, please complete the family registration form on the link below:

Member Registration: <https://ugacatholic.org/welcome/>

If you are a UGA student and have not completed the CSA Registration, follow the link below to register:

Student Registration: <https://ugacatholic.org/student-registration/>

If you are registered and need to update you contact information or wish to receive the bulletin to your email, email Jenni at stewardship@ccatuga.org

Pope Leo XIV's Message

This past week the 2026 SEEK Conference was held across the country in Columbus, Fort Worth, and Denver. Participants were welcomed on night one of the conference with a video from Pope Leo himself. Pope Leo encouraged listeners and watchers to ask themselves a simple question: What do you seek? The same question Jesus asked His disciples. You are engorged to listen to his full message using this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/popeleoseek>



February 14, 2026, at Oconee Veterans Park - 3500 Hog Mountain Road, Watkinsville, GA 30677

Celebrate Valentine's Day- Run a 5K!

Pre-registration Closes January 26th (T-Shirt Included)
\$20 - Individual
\$80 - Team and Family (up to 5)

Race Day Schedule

8:00-9:15 am Registration
9:30 am 5K Run/Walk
10:30 am Awards Ceremony
Light Breakfast

January 27th - February 11th
\$25 - Individual
\$100 - Team and Family (up to 5)

Awards - One-of-a-kind pottery from Blue Bell
Overall M/F, Masters M/F,
Top 2 Runners in Each Age Division

*NOTE - *shirt or sizes not guaranteed after Jan 26th*

Shirt & Number Pick Up @ Center
Noon - 5:00 pm on February 13th
8:00 - 9:15 am on February 14th (Race Day)



Proceeds Will Benefit
Catholic Student Association Ministries and Activities

Phantom Runner

If you do not want to run, but still want to support the race, consider signing up to be a phantom runner. Your donation will support a student who will run for you.

COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION - PRINT CLEARLY
OR

Register Online at: <https://runsignup.com> or scan this QR code



Mail entry form and check to:
Catholic Center
Memo: 5K Human Race 2026
1344 South Lumpkin Street
Athens, GA 30605

Name (Print)	Phone #	
Email	Birthdate	Gender
Address		
City	State	Zip
Signature		

Circle T-Shirt Size

AS AM AL XL XXL
YS YM YL

Phantom Runner? Yes No

T-Shirt not guaranteed for race-day registration

Waiver: In consideration of accepting this entry, I, the signee, intending to be legally bound, hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators waive and release any kind of rights and claims for damages I may have against beneficiary organizations, the Catholic Center at UGA, or their sponsors, officials, workers, representatives, successors, assigns, for any and all injuries suffered by me in this event. If I use a stroller in the race, it will be at my own risk.



1344 South Lumpkin Street
Athens, GA 30605-1344

The 48th Annual 5K Human Race hosted by the Catholic Center at the University of Georgia is almost a month away. This year, our race celebrates love! It will be held on **Saturday, February 14th, 2026, at Oconee Veterans Park**. The Catholic Center is looking for sponsors to help support our Valentine's Day race. We appreciate your support and thank you for your sponsorship of the 5K Human Race!

What exactly am I sponsoring?

All the money raised from the 5K goes back to the Catholic Center and our college students. With your financial support, the Catholic Center can proudly serve meals to over 200 college students every Sunday night. In addition, the Catholic Center is a home away from home for many college students at UGA. Funds provided from the 5K allow our students to go on retreats to places like Heritage Purification Center and Camp Hidden Lake, and host events like student. This past semester, thanks to support like yours, our students were able to have renowned Catholic Speaker Jason Evert come and speak to our students. These opportunities create a flourishing Catholic environment for our students. This is only possible thanks to the "love" of people like you.

What does being a sponsor look like?

We have 6 different sponsor levels: Presenting Sponsor (\$5000), Diamond Sponsor (\$2500), Platinum Sponsor (\$1000), Gold Sponsor (\$500), Silver Sponsor (\$250), and our Bronze Sponsor (\$100). For our Gold and above sponsorships, you can provide a logo to appear on shirts.

In addition, you can also be a phantom runner. A phantom runner does not run in the 5K; rather, they sponsor a student runner. A phantom runner is only \$20 and allows a college student to participate in our 5K without having to pay the entrance fee and worry about any financial stresses that would limit their participation.

To be a sponsor for our race, please scan this QR Code or visit our website at <https://ugacatholic.org/ministries/5k-human-race-committee/>



Questions? Please contact the office at 706.543.2293 or email Kathy Bryan at adminasst@ccatuga.org

Thank you for supporting the 5K Human Race!

We Lift Up in Prayer

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

With deepest sympathy, our community prays for the souls of the faithful departed and for their loved ones, especially Elizabeth Cromer, Michael C. Fink, and Bethany Matonak.

The Pope's Prayer Intention for January

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

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.

December 28, 2025

\$29,235.00 - Offertory

\$2,667.00 - Donation

\$814.00 - Alms

January 7, 2025

\$19,392.00 - Offertory

\$12,292.00 - Donation

\$1,366.00 - Alms

Clergy & Staff

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