



SAINT MARYS, GA
**Our Lady
Star of the Sea**
 CATHOLIC CHURCH
 THE HOLY SITE FOR
 THE 2025 JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE



**Saint
Francis of Assisi
Catholic Mission**
 FOLKSTON, GA



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. - Mt 2:10-11a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

CLERGY

Rev. Mariusz Fuks
 Pastor
 Pastor@weareolss.org

Rev. Mr. Timothy Hughes
 Permanent Deacon
 deacontim@weareolss.org

Rev. Mr. Paul Lang
 Permanent Deacon
 deaconpaul@weareolss.org

Rev. Mr. Henry Nieves
 Permanent Deacon
 deaconhenry@weareolss.org

Holy Rosary
 30 minutes prior to Mass

First Fridays Mass
 8:00 AM at Historic Chapel

**Fridays Eucharistic
Adoration**
 Fridays from 5:00PM
 to 6:30 PM

OLSS SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:00 PM
 (except on Holy Saturday)

OLSS DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday No Service
 Tuesday 5:30 PM
 Wednesday - Friday 8:00 AM

SFOA SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 8:30 AM

SFOA DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday 5:00 PM

OLSS CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
 or by appointment

SFOA CONFESSIONS

30 minutes before Mass
 or by appointment

OFFICE HOURS & PHONE

Monday / Friday 9:00AM - 2:00PM
 Church Office 912-882-4718
 Office Email- office@weareolss.org

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Susan Bayless
 Parish Secretary
 office@weareolss.org

Phoebe Ricard
 Parish Bookkeeper
 bookkeeper@weareolss.org

MINISTRY STAFF

Scott Dixon
 Music Director
 music@weareolss.org

Bryant & Kristie Shepard
 Directors of Religious Education
 religioused@weareolss.org

COUNCILS

OLSS Pastoral Council
 Darlene Logan - President
 parishcouncil@weareolss.org

**SFOA Pastoral &
Finance Council**
 Tina Baxter - President
 sfoaparish@weareolss.org

OLSS Finance Council
 Kevin Wagner - President
 financecouncil@weareolss.org

WELCOME, VISITORS!

We extend a warm welcome to the individuals and families who are celebrating with us today. We invite you to register with our Parish Family. You can fill out a registration form online or find one in the narthex.

MASS INTENTIONS

Offering Mass for a special Intention is a long-standing tradition in the Catholic Church. It is usually considered that special graces are obtained for whom the Mass is said. Masses are offered for many reasons: for the souls in purgatory, in remembrance for someone who is deceased, or in honor of a birthday or anniversary. If you would like to have a Mass said for someone, go to the Parish Office to get on the schedule. Cards are then given to you so that you can mail them to whomever you choose to so they may also participate in the Mass. The stipend or offering given, (**\$10 or more**) signifies the sacrificial nature of giving of something of yourself to associate more intimately with Christ who offers himself in the Eucharist.

MASS INTENTIONS

01/03/26—Saturday Vigil: 5:00PM Mass

Jenny Ford

01/04/26—EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8:30 AM (St. Francis of Assisi)

Pro Populo / For the People

11:00 AM (Out Lady Str of the Sea)

+ Timothy & Matthew Ford

01/05/26—NO MASS

01/06/26—Tuesday 5:30PM—Communion Service

01/07/26—Wednesday 8:00AM Mass at OLSS

01/08/26—Thursday 8:00AM—Communion Service

01/09/26—Friday 8:00AM—Mass

01/10/26—Saturday Vigil 5:00PM Mass

Pro Populo / For the People

01/11/26—THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

8:30 AM (St Francis of Assisi)

11:00AM (Our Lady Star of the Sea)

+ Matthew Basirico

Epiphany Blessing: The Epiphany household blessing is a centuries-old tradition that invokes God's blessing on all who enter one's home.

All you need for an Epiphany blessing is chalk. There are a few different formulas for blessings out there, but the essence of the ritual is always the same: the head of the household calls down God's blessing on the house and everyone who comes into it, and an inscription is made above the door in chalk.

The inscription reads: the first two digits of the year + C + M + B + the last two digits of the year. The initials C, M and B represent the names of the magi — Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar — and also signify the Latin phrase Christus mansionem benedicat: "May Christ bless the house."



For those families requesting a Letter of good standing, participation letter from the office for school registrations, Sacraments, Godparent verification, etc. you must meet the following criteria;

1. Be officially registered in our parish for at least six months. Considerations will be taken for military families new to the parish and will be addressed on case-by-case basis.
2. Be in good standing which means you and your family regularly attend Mass and contribute to our offertory program. You must use your assigned envelope/giving number for these donations to be recorded properly. We understand that sometimes people are unable to give to the parish; however, placing your envelope even if its empty in the basket helps us determine that someone is in fact participating in the life of a parish.
3. If you have moved away and are not actively participating in our parish life, and if we have not seen you at mass for weeks and months, we may be unable to issue you with the above mentioned documents. Additionally, your standing within the parish may differ from those who consistently attend and share with our community their Time, Talent and Treasure.

Sacrament of Baptism in OLSS

A newborn child should be baptized within the first few months of life. A child who has reached the age of kindergarten should receive some basic instruction/preparation before reception of the Sacrament. In order to have a child baptized at Our Lady Star of the Sea, at least one parent must be a practicing Catholic, and registered in the OLSS Parish. A child to be baptized should normally have two Godparents, a male and a female. In order to serve as a Godparent, a person must be a practicing Roman Catholic, fully initiated, and at least sixteen years of age. A Godparent must supply a letter from his/her proper pastor indicating suitability to serve as a Godparent for Baptism. Parents are asked to attend a Baptism Preparation Class which lasts approximately one hour.

Sacrament of Marriage in OLSS

Those preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage need to contact the church office for a list of instructions at least six months in advance of the anticipated wedding date. Definite plans for a particular date should not be made until such contact has been completed. Only when a priest or deacon has decided that he will officiate at the marriage, will a definite date be set. There is a requirement for marriage preparation classes. Options for these will be discussed when you meet with the priest or deacon you have chosen as your celebrant

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

All the names of the sick we receive will be entered on the prayer list for one month, and then removed. If you would like your loved one to remain on the prayer list longer, please let us know, and we will happily oblige.

**Matt Metty, Frank & Mary Anne Greco,
Diane Harrel, Dr. Christopher Scuderi,**

Toby Cook

**Jude Pappas, Lori Homick,
Larry & Lori Toomey.**

God our Father, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness. Hear the prayers we offer for our sick brothers and sisters. May all who suffer pain, illness, or disease realize that they have been chosen to be saints and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany of our Lord. From the early days of the Church, this feast has been considered as an important feast receiving at times more attention than the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord. Celebrated on the 6th of January and in some areas on the first Sunday in the month of January, this feast recalls the arrival of the magi or the three kings to Bethlehem in search of the King of the Jews. The word 'epiphany' comes from the Greek word epiphania, meaning a 'showing' or 'manifestation'. Epiphany celebrates God's revealing or manifesting of Jesus' identity as true God, Messiah, and Saviour of the world.

In the First Reading, Prophet Isaiah consoles the people in exile as he speaks of the restoration of New Jerusalem. In the New Jerusalem, the glory of God would be seen, not only upon the Jewish nation but also upon the Gentiles. The prophet invites Jerusalem to rise to its feet and witness all the wonderful things God has in store for it. The darkness and thick clouds of human pride and ignorance are replaced with light.

In the Second Reading Paul tells the Ephesians of the commission of God's grace that was given to them and prior to the glorious Resurrection of Jesus, the salvation of the Gentiles had remained a mystery. Now, by the grace of the Heavenly Father and the power of the Holy Spirit, the mystery had been revealed to the holy apostles and prophets. Paul tells them that God's revelation is universal and sees himself as the steward of God's grace.

The Gospel Reading of today gives us the story of the three wise men that followed the star that led them to the Child Jesus. To the Magi, the light of the star was a small reflection of the fullness of the Light of the world

symbol of hope, joy, and of peace. To them, the star was what awaited them at the end of their journey. Matthew in the Gospel narrates the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem of Judea and the arrival of the Magi during the reign of King Herod. The Magi were pagans who did not know anything about the true God of the Jews.

They came to Jerusalem, the capital of Judah, a totally new place, expecting of course the whole city and the country rejoicing at the birth of the prince. Instead, they find suspicion and hatred in the reigning king, the hatred which would in a few days turn to murder.

The Magi found the religious leaders full of the knowledge of the past history but totally indifferent to the present and the future. King Herod, after consulting the chief priests and scribes, learned that it has been prophesied that the King would be born in Bethlehem, the land of Judea, the birthplace of King David. He told the wise men to continue their journey and when they had found the Child Jesus, to report back to him so that he too could go and pay homage to the King. Again the star led the Wise Men, not only to the town but also to the house where Jesus dwelled. When the guiding star stopped over the house, the Magi were overwhelmed with joy. They entered the house and found the Child Jesus with Mary His mother and Joseph and worshipped the King. They offered him gifts worthy of a king.

We are not told what their names were or how many of them there were or their place of origin. Tradition settled on three, presumably because there were three kinds of gifts. They were also given names, Gaspar, Balthazar, and Melchior. The name Caspar means treasurer, Melchior meaning splendor, Balthazar meaning God protects the king.

On finding him they pay their homage and present him three symbolic gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh. All three gifts are ordinary offerings given to a king. The three gifts had a spiritual meaning: gold as a symbol of kingship on earth, frankincense or incense as a symbol of priesthood, and myrrh, the embalming oil as a symbol of death.

The presentation of the details of the birth of Jesus in a way indicates the future events that will take place in Jesus' life. He will be rejected by Israel and accepted by the Gentiles. Herod, the Chief Priests and the Scribes and all of Jerusalem represent those Jews who reject the messianic king. The Magi represent the Gentiles who recognize his divine presence and accept him. Matthew is not attempting to show us what really happened historically and factually at the birth of Jesus. The meaning is very clear that God, in the person of Jesus is reaching out to the whole world.

The Epiphany is the celebration of the universal destination of our Christian message. This narrative highlights two truths. First of all, it reveals the royal Messiahship of Jesus and secondly, of God's revelation to the Gentiles. The Feast of Epiphany is a reflection that Jesus is the Light of the world. Through his birth, we see the arrival of the Light into the world. Through the Magi, we see the light of hope, joy, and of peace to come. All in all, today's feast is telling us that for God there are no outsiders.

WHAT'S GOING ON ?

Tue 1/6	SFoA Ladies Cursillo 9:30AM—Social Hall
Wed 1/7	SFoA Men's Cursillo 9:00AM—Social Hall OLSS Legion of Mary 5:30PM—RE Room #8 OLSS Hospitality 6:00PM—RE Room #5 OLSS Men's Bible Study 6:30PM—RE Double Room
Thu 1/8	OLSS Ladies Cursillo 5:30PM—RE Room #5 OLSS OCIA 6:00PM—RE Double Room OLSS Knights of Columbus 6:00PM—RE Room #8
Fri 1/9	OLSS Adoration 5:00PM—Main Church OLSS Mens Cursillo 5:00PM—RE Room #5

OFFERTORY UPDATE

OLSS COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

DECEMBER 21, 2025	DECEMBER 22, 2024
COLLECTION - \$ 9,767.00	COLLECTION - \$ 5,643.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 510.00	MAINTENANCE - \$ 10,450.00

DECEMBER 28, 2025	DECEMBER 29, 2024
COLLECTION - \$ 8,137.22	COLLECTION - \$ 7,770.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 645.00	MAINTENANCE - \$ 691.00

SFOA COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

DECEMBER 21, 2025	DECEMBER 22, 2024
COLLECTION - \$ 1,206.00	COLLECTION - \$ 685.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 913.00	MAINTENANCE - \$ 374.00
DECEMBER 28, 2025	DECEMBER 29, 2024
TBD	TBD
TBD	TBD

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	Lectors	Altar Servers	Ushers
Sat 1/3	Jim Moore Mary Ann Moore	Bryant Shepard	Ron Logan Darlene Logan Don Petrine Dante Russo
Sun 1/4	Karen Jenkins Brian Benton	John Michael Hopkins Isaac Dominici Samuel Dominici Nathaniel Eddy	Keith Danos Colleen Danos Carl Boria Roberto Garza
Tue 1/6	Karen Hill		
Wed 1/7	- _____ -		
Thu 1/8	- _____ -		
Fri 1/9	Elisabeth Sepulveda		
Sat 1/10	Elisabeth Sepulveda Gene Niksa	Waylon Wilkins Colton Wilkins Landon Wilkins	David Costa Diane Costa Dennis Foster
Sun 1/11	Ray Meaux Hunt Thornhill	Evan Gomez Joaquin Gomez Samuel Dominici Dean Sjostedt	Ken Sylvester John Nevins John Nevins Roberto Garza

COUNTERS SCHEDULE

Sunday 1/4	Diane Costa, David Costa, Julie McKeown, Chrissy Bundrick, Richard Foy
Sunday 1/11	Trisha Jenkins, Renee Gentle, Robert Cappello, Bill Tobias, Roberto Garza

Readings for the week of January 4, 2026

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30
Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

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BUSINESS IN OUR
BULLETIN
912-882-4718

Kathy Levy

Coastal Real Estate Specialist GA & FL

Kathy@atlanticsaltrealty.com

CIPS, GRI, MRP, Green, SRES, RSPS, SFR

Mobile: 904-557-6071 Office: 912-576-1800

PARISHIONER

**FAMILY
PRACTICE**

Carlos A Levy, MD
Ashley Levy, FNP-C

100 Lakeshore Dr, Suite B
St Marys, Ga 31558
(912) 882-4254

PARISHIONER

**KINNEY
& HENDRIX, LLC**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

REAL ESTATE; WILLS, TRUSTS, AND ESTATE PLANNING; PROBATE

1815 Osborne Rd.
St. Marys, Georgia 31558
(912) 882 5678
Fax (912) 882 3758
mhendrix@khfirmga.com
www.khfirmga.com



MILES P. HENDRIX, ESQ.

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Couples celebrating their **25th**
or **50th** wedding anniversary
in 2026 are invited to the

**GOLD and SILVER
JUBILEE
Anniversary Mass**

February 15, 2026, 1 pm
Cathedral Basilica of St. John
the Baptist, Savannah

BE AWARE OF A FRAUD/ SCAM EMAILS FALSELY PURPORTING
TO BE SENT FROM FATHER MARIUSZ

Unfortunately Many Parishioners have been receiving fraudulent e-mails from someone pretending to be me, Fr. Mariusz. Please be aware that our staff, to include myself, NEVER ask for any material favors, money, gift cards, gift certificates etc., through e-mail or text message. Please do not respond to these emails, delete them, report them as spam.

**NEVER EVER TAKE ANY ACTIONS
REQUESTED IN THE E-MAILS OR TEXTS !!!**

Please be very Cautious and careful since this was not the first time they tried to do it and probably not the last time they will try to do it.

Sincerely; Fr. Mariusz - Pastor



European Travel Designed
For Your Expectations

Kim Mikula-Travel Planner

813.763.6340
Kmtravelplanner801@gmail.com

OLSS Parishioner

