

Our Lady Star of the Sea

CATHOLIC CHURCH

106 East Dillingham Street
Saint Marys, Georgia 31558

*Saint
Francis of Assisi
Catholic Mission*

700 Kingsland Road
Folkston, Georgia 31558



JANUARY 7, 2024

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.

- Mt 2:10

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

Fr. Mariusz Fukś, Pastor

GENERAL PARISH INFORMATION

Directory

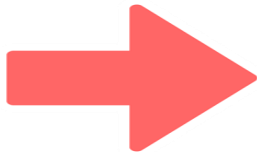
Church Office.....912-882-4718
Church Fax.....912-882-5845
Email.....office@weareolss.org
Pastor's Email.....pastor@weareolss.org
Website.....www.weareolss.org
Office Hours.....Mon-Fri.:9am – 2pm
After Hours Emergency.....912-342-0708

Staff

Rev. Fr. Mariusz Fukspastor@weareolss.org
Pastor
Rev. Mr. Timothy Hughesdeacontim@weareolss.org
Rev. Mr. Paul LangDeacon.plang@gmail.com
Rev. Mr Henry Nievesdeaconhenry@weareolss.org
Susan Baylessoffice@weareolss.org
Parish Secretary
Cate Spickelmierolssmusic@weareolss.org
Music Director
Bryant & Kristie Shepardreligioused@weareolss.org
Directors of Religious Education
Bill Whitlock (OLSS)parishcouncil@weareolss.org
OLSS Pastoral Council President
Tina Baxter (SFoA)sfoaparish@weareolss.org
SFoA Pastoral Council President
Lloyd Streit (OLSS)streitlloyd@gmail.com
OLSS Parish Finance President
Bob Schlag (SFoA)sfoaparish@weareolss.org
SFoA Parish Finance President
Bulletin Editor- Fr. Mariuszpastor@weareolss.org

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA WEEKLY SCHEDULE

FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY PLEASE
FOLLOW THE SCHEDULE ON THE RIGHT



SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI WEEKLY SCHEDULE



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 SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

01/06/24 - Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM
For the repose of the soul of Margaret Messino
01/07/24 - THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
8:30 AM - (St. Francis Mission)
11:00 AM - (Our Lady Star of the Sea)
Pro Populo / For the People
01/08/24—NO MASS
01/09/24—Tuesday 5:30 PM Adoration & Communion Service
01/10/24—Wednesday 8:00 AM Communion Service at OLSS
01/10/24—Wednesday 6:00 PM Communion Service at SFoA
01/11/24—Thursday 8:00 AM Mass
01/12/24—Friday 8:00 AM Communion Service
01/13/24—Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM
For the repose of the soul of Margaret Messina
01/14/24—Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 AM (St. Francis Mission)
11:00 AM (Our Lady Star of the Sea)
Pro Populo / For the People

Cursillo Weekend Applications for Men (1/25-28/2024) and Women (2/1-4/2024) are now due to your sponsor, a Cursillista, or Chrissy Bundrick. Please turn in asap both team and candidates.

You are all invited to Ultreya "Happy New Year" January 15, 2024, 6pm. Small meal provided.

The next **Virtus Training** will be on Saturday August 26, 2023, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the Social Hall. To register for the training please go to www.virtusonline.org and click on first registrant box. Any questions, please contact Norberto Caez at caez@tds.net or (912)673-6085 after 4:00 PM



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Lily Vidal, Keith Foster, Chris Rzepczynski, Luke Brooks, Stan Wojnar, Chris

Wojnar, Glen Franklin, Dan Riley, Tina Hood, Sanford Adams, Doris Adams, Brian McLain, Brian Lewis, Tammy Gabrinetti, Maureen Heath, Buddy Miller, Clifford Morris, Sheila Williams, Tess Rivera, Mary Glasgow, Ron Carr, Doris A. Adams, Doris Thomas, Ron McBee, Cheryl Burke, Joseph and Deborah Mroz, Ducky Marx, Janet Gusgeski, Carole Linker, Michelle Ng, Braeden Hormann, Donald Koski, Christopher Clay Field, Lana Miltenberg, Logan Hackney, Kathy Mulcahy, Jennifer Moran, Mac and Peggy Maurin, Michael Manfredi, Robert Allatin, Rhonda Avilles, Ivy Luna, Ron Petry, Linda Perry, Matthew Rowan, Denis McShane, Linda Jordan, Evelyn Meaux, Kieran Gaughan Jr., David Bliton, Annie Hyver, Elizabeth Newcity, Buck Johnson. Mary Fouraker, Leo Provanzano, Greg Williamson, Tom Meyer, Steve Puckett, Samantha Evans, Ferdinand Von Behren, Lauren Sullivan, Jim Kline, Gale Herring, James Ventella, Jarrod Conley, Leny Logan, Anna Rotondi, Bob & Marie Devine, Agnes Rodman, Mike Blackerby, Michelle Logan, Jim Kane, Robert Morris, Everett Harvell, Tommy Evans, Emily Edmonds, Mary Panfil, Emma Maniscalco, Mita Byers, Mely Andino, Benjamin Solamon, Anna DeMartino, Fr. Leahy, Marie & Tony Franzese, Katy Sherrill, Nathaniel Evans, Xavier Van Moer, Jim Walsh, Tim Roberson, Judy Bailey, Enzo and Maria Lopez, Joyce Rinck, Kitty Rodriguez, David Cocomazzi, Carol Campbell, Thurston Armstrong, Frank & Ruth McNeil, Dr. Patrick Moreo, William David (Dub) Shepard, Lenda Morris, Rhonda Peterson, Daniel Brausch, Gael Aodue, Emma Sizemore, Tom O'Shaughnessy, Claire Walsh

TO ADD A NAME TO THE PRAYER LIST PLEASE EMAIL; OFFICE@WEAREOLSS.ORG

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH SERVICES

Good Samaritan Food Pantry: Our Lady Star of the Sea parish with the wonderful support of the parishioners provide food for families and individuals in need in our community. We are open Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays from 9am - 12pm

Altar Servers: Always looking for new altar servers and experienced altar servers. For more information contact Jason Dominici at dominici.jason@gmail.com

Catholic Youth Ministry: For more information email Kristie and Bryant Shepard at relregioused@weareolss.org

RCIA: Adults interested in learning about the Catholic Church call Ray Meaux at 912-882-2343

Bereavement Ministry: A group of volunteers who deliver food to grieving families at the time of their loss and/or assist the church in providing hospitality after a funeral service. Contact person is Victoria Brooks 912-322-6857

Shut-ins & Hospitalized Family Members: When You or your loved one is getting ready for a planned surgery or procedure or things unplanned happens and we end up in the hospital Please Notify Parish Office at 912-882-4718

Religious Education: Sundays during the school year September 10, 2023 ~ May 12th, 2024, 9:15am-10:30am at the Religious Ed Building. Email Bryant and Kristie Shepard at relregioused@weareolss.org

Ladies Auxiliary: uses their skills and talents in a wide variety of roles. Anyone who is ill or in the hospital, if they would like a prayer blanket, Contact Sally Caez at caez@tds.net /912-552-1155

The Knights of Columbus (K of C) is a global Catholic fraternal service order founded by Fr. Michael J. McGivney on March 29, 1882, It has grown to support refuge relief, Catholic education, local parishes and dioceses, and global Catholic social and political causes. Membership is limited to practicing Catholic men. For more info Contact Norberto Caez- KofC@weareolss.org

Ushers: Provide a welcoming presence to parishioners and visitors as they enter the church. If interested in becoming an usher, please church office at 912-882-4718

Father's Hospitality Angels: Volunteers dedicated to serving our priest and parish through sacramenta receptions, welcoming newcomers, children's movie nights, Senior Home Outreach, and much more. We host many fundraising events throughout the year to fully support our ministry and special projects. If you would like to spread your wings and join us, we meet the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6PM in the Social Hall or call Victoria Brooks for more information - 912-322-6857

- Women's Cursillo group Tuesday mornings 9:30 at SFoA.
- Men's group Wed. 4:30 - 5:30 SFoA.

Today we celebrate the second of four great manifestations of God in our midst. The word *epiphany* comes from Greek and it means a ‘showing’ or ‘manifestation’. We call today’s feast the Epiphany of the Lord, In today’s feast, we see the same recently born baby, but the material and social surroundings are hardly touched on. The emphasis here is different. Here are strangers, foreigners, total outsiders coming to give royal homage to this tiny child.

Story or history?

We may question the story of the “wise men” as a factual report or is it just a story? Primarily, it is a story. A report is concerned with hard facts. But a story, especially a biblical story, is concerned much more with meaning. In reading any Scripture story, including Gospel stories, we should not be asking, “Did it really happen like that?” Instead, we should be asking, “What does it mean? What is it saying to us?” The truth of the story is in its meaning and not in the related facts.

Epiphany

Certainly in this story the facts are extremely vague and not at all sufficient for a news report. In this story it is difficult to give satisfactory answers to the questions of Who? What? Why? When? Where? How? Although Jesus is still an infant and still in Bethlehem, we do not know how long after his birth this incident is supposed to have taken place. We are not told because it does not matter. It is not relevant to the meaning of the story.

Magi

Who were these “wise men” and where did they come from? In the Greek text they are called *magoi*, which is usually rendered in English as “Magi”. Magi were a group or caste of scholars who were associated with the interpretation of dreams, Zoroastrianism, astrology and magic. In later Christian tradition they were called kings. We are not told what their names were or how many of them there were. Tradition settled on three individuals, presumably because there were three kinds of gifts. And they were also given names – Caspar, Balthazar, and Melchior. Caspar was represented as black and thus Magi were understood to represent the whole non-Jewish, Gentile world which came to Christ. We are told, too, that they came “from the east”. This could be Persia, Eastern Syria or Arabia – or any distant place.

A star in the east

There is talk of following a star. Was there indeed at this time a comet or supernova or some significant conjunction of planets which would be particularly meaningful to these men? The star is to be seen as a symbol – a light representing Jesus as the Light of the whole world. God, in the person of Jesus, is reaching out to the whole world. More than that, the religious leaders of his own people – the chief priests and experts in the scriptures, although clearly aware of where the Messiah would be born, made no effort whatever to investigate King Herod, an ambitious and ruthless man was prepared to travel there, but only to wipe out even the remotest threat to his own position. These pagan foreigners, on the other hand, went to great lengths to find the “King of the Jews” and “pay him homage”. As part of that homage they offered their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. In later tradition, the gold came to symbolise the kingship of Christ, the incense his divine nature, and the myrrh his redemptive suffering and death. They also came to signify virtue, prayer and suffering



No outsiders



Today’s feast is telling us that for God there are no foreigners, no outsiders. From his point of view, all are equally his beloved children. We all belong to one single family which has one Father, “our” Father. It means that every one of us is a brother and sister to everyone else. The facts of today’s story may be vague, but the message is loud and clear. We thank God today that there are no “Chosen People”, whether they be Jews or Christians. Let us try to understand more deeply God’s closeness to us, which is also a reason for us to be close to each other.

Where are the stars?



The wise men saw the star and followed it. The people in Jerusalem did not. How, and to what is God calling you? Obviously, at this stage there are many things which we cannot change. It is not too late to look for our star and begin following it from where we are now. The wise men did not know where the star would lead them. They just followed it until it brought them to Bethlehem – and to Jesus. They never regretted their decision. If we can only have the courage and the trust to follow their example, we will have no regrets either. If we have not already done so, today is the day to make that start



OLSS COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

DECEMBER 24, 2023	DECEMBER 25, 2022
COLLECTION - \$ 18,507.58 	COLLECTION - \$ 15,685.79
MAINTENANCE - \$ 180.00 	MORTGAGE - \$ 65.00

DECEMBER 31, 2023	JANUARY 1, 2023
COLLECTION - \$ 40,225.50 	COLLECTION - \$ 8,863.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 1,050.00 	MORTGAGE - \$ 1,795.00

SFOA COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

DECEMBER 24, 2023	DECEMBER 25, 2022
COLLECTION - \$ 975.00 	COLLECTION - \$ 8,520.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 455.00 	MORTGAGE - \$ 0.00

DECEMBER 31, 2023	JANUARY 1, 2023
COLLECTION - \$ 786.00 	COLLECTION - \$ 990.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 328.00 	MORTGAGE - \$ 1,119.00

Thank You for your support

Epiphany House Blessing

If you wish, you can celebrate Epiphany at home with a blessing using the initials of the magi's traditional names (Casper, Melchior, Balthasar), four crosses, and the new year's numerals.

Materials: a piece of chalk and a small container of holy water. Gather with family members, friends, and perhaps some neighbors at the front door.

Leader: In the (+) name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We sign this doorway with four crosses and the numerals of the new year. [20+ C + M + B + 24]

Let us pray: May Christ bless this house!

ALL: Amen!

Each room of the house is sprinkled with holy water.

Living room: Where two or three are gathered in your name, Lord, you are present. Bless this room, O Lord.

ALL: Amen!

Kitchen: Give us this day our daily bread. Bless this room, O Lord. ALL: Amen!

Dining room: Prepare us for the heavenly banquet. Bless this room, O Lord. ALL: Amen!

Bedrooms: Stay with us Lord, when night has come. Bless this room, O Lord. ALL: Amen!

Bathroom: Cleanse us from all sin. Bless this room, O Lord. ALL: Amen!

All return to the front door to pray together.

Leader: Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father

The leader sprinkles all present with holy water.

Bless this household through all days to come, Father, Son, and Holy spirit, forever and ever.

ALL: Amen!

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.

PARISHIONER

LAUNCH

PRINTING & PROMOTIONS

www.launchprintingandpromotions.com

912-882-4731

GREG & SUE LOCKHART - PARISHIONERS



Patricia Whalen
LPC, NCC, CST

Licensed Professional Counselor
National Certified Counselor
Christian Sex Therapist

Hablo Español

708 Osborne St.
Suite 104
Saint Mary's, GA 31558

phone:
(470) 270-9268

email:
pjwhalen@hopeforshatteredhearts.com

website:
<https://www.hopeforshatteredhearts.com>

912 - 882 - 4718

**If you are
reading this,
so are your
potential
customers.**

ADVERTISE HERE

912 - 882 - 4718

**PILGRIMAGE
TO
POLAND WITH
FR.
MARIUSZ**

SCAN

