



Our Lady Star of the Sea

CATHOLIC CHURCH

106 EAST DILLINGHAM STREET,
SAINT MARYS, GEORGIA 31558

Saint
Francis of Assisi
Catholic Mission

700 KINGSLAND DRIVE,
FOLKSTON, GEORGIA 31537

Fr. Mariusz Fuks, Pastor

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the
Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” - Mt 28:19-20

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.

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 Fuks.....Pastor
Rev. Mr. Timothy Hughes.....Deacon
Rev. Mr. Paul Lang.....Deacon
Rev. Mr. Henry Nieves.....Deacon
Susan Bayless.....Parish Secretary
Cate SpickelmierMusic Director
Bryant & Kristie Shepard.....Religious Education
religioused@weareolss.org

Pastoral Council

Bill Whitlock (OLSS).....Parish Council President
Tina Baxter (SFoA).....Parish Council President

Finance Council

LLoyd Streit (OLSS).....Parish Finance President
Bob Schlag (SFoA).....Parish Finance President

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Mondays No Daily Mass
Tuesdays 5:00 pm Rosary & Adoration,
5:30 pm Daily Mass
Wednesdays 7:30 am Rosary, 8:00 am Daily Mass
Thursdays 7:30 am Rosary, 8:00 am Daily Mass
Fridays 7:30 am Rosary, 8:00 am Daily Mass
Saturdays 4:30 pm Rosary, 5:00 pm Mass
(except on Holy Saturday)
Sundays 10:30 am Rosary, 11:00 am Mass
Confessions
Saturday 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm or by Appointment
1st Fridays 8:00 am Mass @ Historic Chapel
9:00 am - 9:00 pm Adoration of
the Blessed Sacrament
1st Saturdays 10:00 am Adoration, Rosary, Mass

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Wednesdays 6:00 pm Daily Mass
Sundays 8:30 am Mass
Confessions **30 minutes before Mass or by Appointment**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Braeden Hormann, Donald Koski, Cathy Mulcahy, Christopher Clay Field, Barbara Danielson, Lana Miltenberg, Logan Hackney, Kathy Mulcahy, Ann Chartrand, Marguerite Paddock, Jenna Pethel, Jennifer Moran, Marie Stoner, Mac and Peggy Maurin, Michael Manfredi, Sherri Lynn Jokic, Robert Allatin, Rhonda Avelles, Ivy Luna, Ron Petry, Linda Perry, Matthew Rowan, Denis McShane, Fr. Eric Vogt, Carol Riley, Linda Jordan, Evelyn Meaux, Kieran Gaughan Jr., Bruce Giegerich, David Bliton, Annie Hyver, Elizabeth Newcity, Buck Johnson. Mary Fouraker, "Skipper"



Boone, Lithornia Simmons, Leo Provanzano, Greg Williamson, Mary Angela Morrissey, Tom Meyer, Peggy Hurley, 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, Ianthe Brathwaite, 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, Barbara Trudeau, 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

It's often been noted that the Gospel of John is the gospel where "nothing happens." Either the narrator is talking his way through mysteries of cosmic proportions, or else Jesus is. But in terms of plot, action, setting, and drama, we don't have a whole lot to go on much of the time. Nobody has yet made a movie of the fourth gospel, because it doesn't have the grand spectacle of healings, miracles, teachings, and sheer stage presence of your average synoptic gospel story.

Once you're past Cana, the temple cleansing, the man born blind, and Lazarus, the rest is conversation. In fact, the bulk of those stories is talk, too, the miraculous occupying a relatively minor place in the scheme of things. It must be said that all this Johannine talk is mighty engrossing, for those actively seeking the wisdom of Christ. But John wrote for the initiated and journeying disciple, and he wasn't going to waste words playing catch-up for the newcomer.

So during the long Easter season when John's testimony is featured, the real drama is supplied by the Acts of the Apostles. The activity of the Early Church is where things are happening. While John patiently unpacks the mystical vision, the first leaders of the church are out there unleashing the Holy Spirit on an unsuspecting world. The word of God seems to be coming at the assembly of the faithful from parallel universes: one doing, the other contemplating. We might even say that while the apostles are out there in motion, Jesus is supplying the commentary from a timeless or eternal perspective. The average contemporary churchgoer isn't used to being intellectually challenged in this way, having to draw together the active and contemplative into a common posture of faith. It's the preacher's job to give coherence and cohesion to these disparate parts.

Jesus is ascended into heaven. What do his disciples do now? Not too long ago we heard about their first reaction, which was to stop and stare upwards. We might forgive them this momentary lapse of initiative. If Jesus had been your constant companion for three years, minus a significant three days, it may never have occurred to you that his departure was in the offing. Jesus' presence was such an absolute fulfillment that his physical absence must have seemed like an unthinkable event, an unfillable void at first.

So their eyes followed him until he was completely out of view. Then the angels barked at them to stop staring at nothing and to get going. So they did. They got right to the heart of the task of discipleship, which was to get together in one place and to pray.

Does that sound disappointing? Does that seem rather anticlimactic? After the Passion and death and Resurrection of Jesus, followed by countless apparitions and weeks of deeper teaching, concluded with the grand exit of the Ascension, we might well ask: Is a session of prayer the best they could do? Why didn't they run into the streets and jumpstart Pentecost? Why didn't they turn the upper room into a war room of tactical planning for the church to come? Why not sit down and outline the first gospel at least? I can think of a dozen things that would seem more purposeful and productive than a prayer meeting. We've sat through so many of those, and whatever came out of them that we could hold in our hands or claim as an achievement?

Yet the disciples didn't feel the need for a mission statement or a fundraiser or a building committee or even the inkling of a doctrinal pronouncement. The one thing needful in that initial hour of being church was to devote themselves, as it says in Acts, to prayer. If you and I have never attacked prayer with single-hearted devotion, then we can't compare our experience of praying to theirs. We can't imagine that, in a book that describes the actions of apostles, how prayer can be a very active form of engagement.

During the last discourse in John's Book of Glory, Jesus moves seamlessly from instruction to prayer. In a book long on dialogue, his final words are saved for his Father. Truthfully, Jesus has said everything there is to say to his followers. He has already taught them far more than they are capable of understanding presently. So he lifts his eyes from those gathered around the table and directs his last words to the only One who knows what it means to say: "The hour has come."

At this special hour, Jesus prays for his disciples precisely because he is soon to leave them. His prayer for them becomes a vital connection between heaven and Earth, the present and the future, the church and the Spirit that will guide it. The last prayer of Jesus is a sort of Jacob's ladder upon which grace will travel relentlessly.

He prays it once at the last supper where the 12 apostles are gathered. He prays it continuously over every table at which his followers gather in each new generation. We who are in the world need this prayer of Jesus to keep us in unity with him and his Father. It also serves to remind us that prayer is first and last and at the center of what we do as church. Without prayer at the heart of us, we would truly become sheep without a shepherd.

When we share the mission of Christ, we have much to rejoice about. Even suffering becomes a cause for rejoicing, because all wounds in Christ are glorified and can no longer harm us. The letter of Peter reminds us that suffering is a given, and no one escapes it. So why not transform it, transfigure it, to give praise to God as one more prayer lifted in the name of Christ Jesus?

Related scripture links

Jesus on prayer: *Matt. 6:5-13; 7:7-11; Luke 11:1-13; 18:10-14; John 15:7; 16:26*
 Pray unceasingly: *1 Thess. 5:17; Phil. 4:6; Eph. 6:18-20; Col. 4:2; Heb. 7:25*

The VIRTUS Protecting God's Children training is required for all volunteers and employees in the Diocese of Savannah.

The following sessions have been added to the schedule:

June 11, 2023 – St. Francis Xavier CHURCH
 1:00pm – 4:00pm

June 24, 2023—Our Lady Star of the Sea CHURCH
 9:00am-12:00pm

July 23, 2023 – St. Francis Xavier CHURCH
 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Seating is limited and pre-registration is required online. Registration Instructions can be found at <https://diosav.org/how-do-i/register-for-virtus-training>

A LAPTOP or DESKTOP is recommended for registration.

No one under the age of 18 is allowed to be present. Child care is not provided.

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

05/20/23 - 5:00 pm Saturday Vigil

*For the response of the soul of
 Andrew Whitlock*

05/21/23 - THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

8:30 AM - (St. Francis)

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

*For the repose of the soul of
 Christine Napolitano*

05/22/23 - Monday: Confirmation Mass at 6:00 PM

05/23/23 - Tuesday: 5:30 PM

Blessing for Karen Ford

05/24/23 - Wednesday: 8:00 AM

*For the repose of the soul of
 Marie Zielenbach*

05/24/23 - Wednesday in SFOA 6:00 PM

Birthday blessing for Lawanda Jones

05/25/23 - Thursday: 8:00 AM

Blessing for Zachary England

05/26/23 - Friday: 8:00 AM

For the repose of the soul of Jim Meyer

05/27/23 - Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM

*For the repose of the soul of Geraldine
 Freudiger and Kathleen Wetherhold*

05/28/23 - PENTECOST SUNDAY

8:30 AM - (St. Francis Mission)

Birthday blessing for Celia McNease

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

Healing for Michelle Yaxis

**The directory photos are here. Please
 come to the office to pick up the
 pictures that you ordered.**

Our 2022-23 8th Grade Religious Education Class and the class from Kings Bay will be celebrating their Confirmation on Monday, May 22 at 6PM. Congratulations to:



Lauren Zoey Bautista—St. Lucy
Helena Lucero Capulong—St. Dymphna
Addison Savannah Davis—St. Therese of Lisieux
Nathaniel Ford Eddy—St. John Paul II
Blake Alston Giesbrecht—St. Gemma Galgani
Stephanie Nicole Greer—St. Mother Teresa
Katherine Maria Una Hernandez—St. Cecelia
Aiden Rui Rego—St. Sebastian
Isabel Marie Sepulveda-Nieves—St. Joan of Arc
Gavin Streit—St. Joseph
Ella Ann Von Behren—St. Dymphna
Lauren Patricia Wagner—St. Therese of Lisieux
Samantha Amme Capulong—St. Anne
Scarlett Oliva Richardson—St. Dymphna
Amanda June-Kaye Arter—St. Francis of Assisi

A reception in the Social Hall will follow. All are welcome.

From a homily on the Song of Songs by Saint Gregory of Nyssa, bishop

The glory you gave to me, I have given to them

When love has entirely cast out fear, and fear has been transformed into love, then the unity brought us by our savior will be fully realized, for all men will be united with one another through their union with the one supreme Good. They will possess the perfection ascribed to the dove, according to our interpretation of the text: *One alone is my dove, my perfect one. She is the only child of her mother, her chosen one.*

Our Lord's words in the gospel bring out the meaning of this text more clearly. After having conferred all power on his disciples by his blessing, he obtained many other gifts for them by his prayer to the Father. Among these was included the greatest gift of all, which was that they were no longer to be divided in their judgment of what was right and good, for they were all to be united to the one supreme Good. As the Apostle says, they were to be bound together with the bonds of peace in the unity that comes from the Holy Spirit. They were to be made one body and one spirit by the one hope to which they were all called. We shall do better, however, to quote the sacred words of the gospel itself. *I pray, the Lord says, that they all may be one; that as you, Father, are in me and I am in you, so they also may be one in us.*

Now the bond that creates this unity is glory. That the Holy Spirit is called glory no one can deny if he thinks carefully about the Lord's words: *The glory you gave to me, I have given to them.* In fact, he gave this glory to his disciples when he said to them: *Receive the Holy Spirit.* Although he had always possessed it, even before the world existed, he himself received this glory when he put on human nature. Then, when his human nature had been glorified by the Spirit, the glory of the Spirit was passed on to all his kin, beginning with his disciples. This is why he said: *The glory you gave to me, I have given to them, so that they may be one as we are one. With me in them and you in me, I want them to be perfectly one.*

Whoever has grown from infancy to manhood and attained to spiritual maturity possesses the mastery over his passions and the purity that makes it possible for him to receive the glory of the Spirit. He is that perfect dove upon whom the eyes of the bridegroom rest when he says: *One alone is my dove, my perfect one.*



Our Lady
Star of the Sea
CATHOLIC CHURCH



*Congratulations
and Thank You*

OLSS

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Total Given - \$34,621.15
% of Target - 105.37
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% Participation - 32.98

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL



OLSS COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

MAY 14, 2023	MAY 15, 2022
COLLECTION- \$ 6,064.50	COLLECTION - \$ 5,767.50
MAINTENANCE - \$ 253.00	MORTGAGE - \$ 690.00



SFOA COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

MAY 14, 2023	MAY 15, 2022
COLLECTION- \$ TBA	COLLECTION - \$ 850.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ TBA	MORTGAGE - \$ 290.00

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