



# Our Lady Star of the Sea

CATHOLIC CHURCH  
THE HOLY SITE FOR THE  
2025 JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

SAINT MARYS, GA

*Saint*  
*Francis of Assisi*  
*Catholic Mission*



FOLKSTON, GA

**August 31, 2025**

• 22ND SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME •

**"THE ONE  
WHO HUMBLER  
HIMSELF WILL  
BE EXALTED."**

## 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**  
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM



## OLSS SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday ..... 5:00 PM  
(except on Holy Saturday)  
Sunday ..... 11:00 AM

## 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  
30 Minutes before Mass  
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  
religiouse@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

## BULLETIN EDITOR

Fr. Mariusz Fuks  
pastor@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

08/30/25 - Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM Mass  
+ Peg Maurin

08/31/25 - XXII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
8:30 AM - (St. Francis Mission)  
*Pro Populo / For the People*  
11:00 AM - (Our Lady Star of the Sea)  
+ Bruce McCurdy

09/01/25 - Monday: NO MASS

09/02/25 - Tuesday: 5:00 PM Adoration follow by Mass

09/03/25 - Wednesday:  
8:00 AM Mass at OLSS  
*Dante Russo Sr. 's 100th Birthday*  
6:00 PM Mass at SFOA

09/04/24 - Thursday: 8:00 AM Mass  
+ Dorothy Cade & Lena Preioni

09/05/24 - First Friday: 8:00 AM Mass - Historic Chapel  
+ William Lamar Warren  
5:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration

09/06/24 - Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM Mass  
*Pro Populo / For the People*

09/07/24 - XXIII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
8:30 AM (St. Francis Mission)  
11:00 AM (Our Lady Star of the Sea)  
+ Ronald King

*From the  
Pastor's  
Desk*



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.

**Jose Nieves, Peg Hudock, Larry Mourey, Fran Schneider, Joe Flynn, Yates & Mary Harrill**

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

## OCIA REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA), formerly RCIA, is the preparatory class for adults looking to gain more information and join the Catholic Church. If you are interested, or know someone who may be interested in joining us this year, please use the QR code to complete the registration form. Classes will begin the first Thursday after Labor Day (September 4, 2025), and meet every Thursday at 6:00 PM in the Religious Education building. If you have any questions, please send an email to [ocia@weareolss.org](mailto:ocia@weareolss.org).



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!!!

It's that time of year!!! School has already begun, so we're gearing up for another great year of Religious Education! Classes will begin the first Sunday after Labor Day, September 7th, at 9:15 AM. Pick up is at 10:30 AM. To Register, go to [www.weareolss.org](http://www.weareolss.org) and hover over the Ministries tab at the top. Go to **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** and click. From there, you'll be able to register! Classes are for students in Kindergarten through 8th grade. For those in high school, use the same link and register for Catholic Youth Ministry. CYM meets on the same Sundays we have RE, from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM for food, fellowship, and fun! We look forward to another great year. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at [religioused@weareolss.org](mailto:religioused@weareolss.org).

Bryant and Kristie Shepard  
Directors of Religious Education

## VIRTUE STARTS HERE

"Unless you begin at the rock-solid, painful truth," spiritual writer William O'Malley maintains in his gloriously simple book *Holiness*, "you're pumping your legs like Elmer Fudd long beyond the cliff's edge." Getting familiar with and embracing the rock-solid truth about ourselves is what humility is all about. It's the essential virtue, the one without which all the others just can't attach to us. Humility allows us to self-empty and make room for theological virtues like faith, hope, and love as well as spiritual fruits like peace, patience, gentleness, kindness, and the rest. If you want "in" on the ground floor of the spiritual life, you can't bypass the prerequisite of humility.

The greater you are, the more humility you need, says Ben Sira, an esteemed wise man doubtless acquainted with the need for a daily slice of humble pie. Jesus reminds us that exaltation is quickly followed by humiliation - so it's best to humble ourselves before others get a crack at us. In the pursuit of holiness, the more successful we seem to be the more we need to keep in mind O'Malley's assertion that "every rock, rutabaga, and rabbit fulfills God's intentions" quite perfectly, too. It's no great shakes to do what's right. Jesus confirms that in another parable when describing dutiful servants as those who complete their tasks only to claim: "We have done what we were obliged to do" (Luke 17:10).

The poet James Russell Lowell pinpoints the attitude of humility when he speaks of an encounter with the Sacred Presence he once had. "I could not any more have doubted that He was there than that I was. Indeed, I felt myself to be, if possible, the less real of the two." Maybe that is what Saint Paul was driving at when he said, "It is no longer I, but Christ who lives in me." Might you and I ever be less central to our own identity than God-in-us? If we will not be emptied of ourselves, we can't become full of grace.

If we insist on our preeminence, our own righteousness, well, there's a word for that: self-righteous. In *Holiness* O'Malley notes that self-righteousness leads to arrogance, the sort of arrogance that allowed Pontius Pilate to coolly ask, "What is truth?"- and then promptly send Truth out to be executed. O'Malley has formulated a law to cover such occasions: "The Less You Know, the More Certain You Can Be."

How can we know more? We must "be" less. Wisdom comes to the humble, the same way it came to Ben Sira and to our meek Lord, the Lamb of God, who because he did not deem equality with God something to be grasped would one day be the name above every other name. Aim high? Start low.



## 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 Boys:** Always looking for new altar boys and experienced altar boys servers. For more information contact Jason Dominici at [olssaltarservers@weareolss.org](mailto:olssaltarservers@weareolss.org)

**Catholic Youth Ministry:** For more information email Kristie and Bryant Shepard at [relregioused@weareolss.org](mailto:relregioused@weareolss.org)

**OCIA:** Adults interested in learning about the Catholic Church email [ocia@weareolss.org](mailto:ocia@weareolss.org)

**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 9:15am-10:30am at the Religious Ed Building. Email Bryant and Kristie Shepard at [relregioused@weareolss.org](mailto:relregioused@weareolss.org)

**Ladies Auxiliary:** Fostering friendship in our faith community! Open to all women, ages 18 – 108! Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 6PM in the Social Hall. Funds generated at our Annual Christmas Bazaar are used to provide college scholarships, support the Youth Ministry and Vacation Bible School. We also provide prayer blankets for anyone who is ill or in the hospital – contact Darlene Logan (225) 772-2797 or Tricia Jenkins (912) 552-5683 for a blanket or additional information.

**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.

**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 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

**Legion of Mary:** A lay organization to help the world by active works and prayers and to serve Jesus through Mary. Contact Maureen Van Horn 912-322-8672 or [MaureenVanhorn@tds.net](mailto:MaureenVanhorn@tds.net)

## PARTYING WITH ANGELS

While the first reading from Sirach and the Gospel focus on humility ("Humble yourself . . . and you will find favor with God" [Sirach 3:18] and "go and take the lowest place" [Luke 14:10], with a surprise reversal of the humble being exalted), the reading from Hebrews surprises us in a different way. The author uses apocalyptic imagery to show how much the relationship between God and humanity has changed. He starts with images of fire, storms, and trumpet blasts - images that may remind you of an erupting volcano: something you want to view from very far away. Even God's words brought fear and trembling.

It may not be surprising that God is beyond human comprehension, but Hebrews says no. God doesn't want to be so far beyond us that we only approach in fear. Using more images from the end-time, the author gives us a picture of the baptized partying with angels and all the just who have died. And of course God is the host. Let's look at some of those images to see how our relationship with the Lord has grown.

The heavenly Jerusalem reminds us that the Church is our home - not just our parish church building but the whole community of faith. How "at home" are you with your fellow parishioners? Do you regularly gather with that family for prayer? A church community can be a place to support those who are sick or jobless or depressed. It is also a place to be supported, to see God's love in action. The angels in Hebrews may be a symbol of that support.

The "firstborn" and "spirits of the just" could remind us of those who went before us and now rest in the Lord. They had their own struggles in life, and now live in glory. They help us to keep our true goal in mind, to remember the real meaning of life, and to look forward to eternal life with hope.

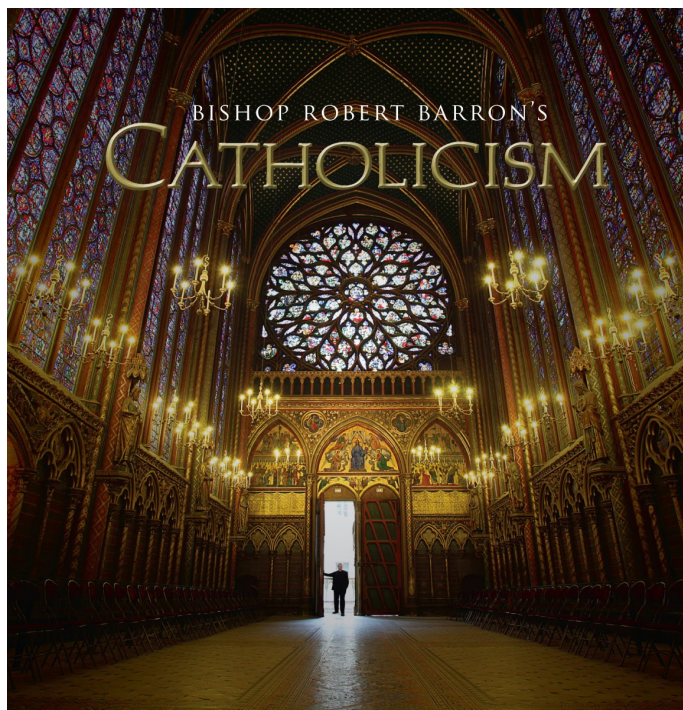
Jesus came to show us how much God loves us and how close God can be. When he shed his blood on the cross (the final sign in our reading), he renewed the covenant with God's people. So we no longer have to accomplish our salvation; it has already been offered to us by Jesus' death and resurrection. We accept that gift not just by a verbal statement of faith, but by a life lived as Jesus showed us, in love of God and our neighbor.

Tim Schmitt

## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY



**BRIAN BORIA,  
SEAN CREO,  
BRITTANY HUGHES,  
SHANE MILLER,  
KAMDEN OLSEN,  
ALEX FRANQUES,  
ROBERT FRANQUES JR**



BISHOP ROBERT BARRON'S  
**CATHOLICISM**

Please come and explore the depths of our Catholic faith as we dive into Bishop Robert Barron's widely acclaimed video series "CATHOLICISM".

TOPICS: "Arguments for God's Existence", "The Teachings of Jesus", "The Mother of God", "The Mystery of the Church", "Conversion and Mission", and more are presented by Bishop Barron, followed by group discussion.

**WHERE: St. Francis of Assisi Church, 700 Kingsland Dr.,  
Folkston, GA**

WHEN: 10 Weekly sessions.

#1 ~ September 10, 2025,

#10~ November 19, 2025 - 5:45-8:15 PM

COST: NO COST for participation.

Refreshments: Potluck dinner & desserts. Beverages will be provided.

Recommended Resource Materials: Bible, The Catechism of the Catholic Church, "CATHOLICISM" Series Study Guide, (available from Word On Fire Publishing (WWW.WordOnFire.ORG.)

Note: Resource Materials are recommended but are not necessary for participation.



**The Parish Choir Needs You!**

Our church is in need of more singers, no experience necessary, just the love for music and community! We are looking for more singers for Saturday's Vigil mass and Sunday's 11AM Mass. Rehearsal are Wednesdays nights. See Scott for more details. All are Welcome !

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	Lectors	Altar Servers	Ushers
<b>Sat</b> 08/30	Elisabeth Sepulveda	Colton Wilkins Waylon Wilkins Landon Wilkins	Dante Russo James Pappas Don Petrine Dennis Foster
<b>Sun</b> 08/31	Tom Jenkins Karen Jenkins	Issac Dominici Evan Gomez Samuel Dominici	Steve Galloway Joyce Galloway Mike Recore John Nevins
Tue	- _____ -		
Wed 09/03	- _____ -		
Thu 09/04	- _____ -		
Fri 09/05	Elisabeth		
<b>Sat</b> 09/06	Elisabeth Sepulveda Richard foy	Bryant Shepard	David Costa Diane Costa Greg Glaz James Pappas
<b>Sun</b> 09/07	Judy Buchanan Hunt Thornhill	Isaac Dominici Samuel Dominici	Keith Danos Colleen Danos Ken Sylvester Carl Boria

### OFFERTORY UPDATE

### OLSS COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

AUGUST 24, 2025	AUGUST 25, 2024
COLLECTION - \$ 7,629.22	COLLECTION - \$ 11,017.09
MAINTENANCE - \$ 287.61	MORTGAGE - \$ 1,215.00

### SFOA COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

AUGUST 24, 2025	AUGUST 25, 2024
COLLECTION - \$ 1,252.00	COLLECTION - \$ 1,130.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 316.00	MORTGAGE - \$ 222.00



**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

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**912-882-4731**  
**GREG & SUE LOCKHART**  
 PARISHIONERS

**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

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 912-882-4718

BE AWARE OF A FRAUD/ SCAM EMAILS FALSLY 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

