



Our Lady Star of the Sea

CATHOLIC CHURCH

106 EAST DILLINGHAM STREET
SAINT MARYS GEORGIA 31558

FR. MARIUSZ FUKS, PASTOR

*Saint
Francis of Assisi
Catholic Mission*

700 KINGSLAND ROAD
FOLKSTON, GEORGIA 31558

“IF YOUR BROTHER SINS AGAINST YOU, GO AND TELL
HIM HIS FAULT BETWEEN YOU AND HIM ALONE. IF HE
LISTENS TO YOU, YOU HAVE WON OVER YOUR
BROTHER.” —MT 18:15

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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
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After Hours Emergency.....912-342-0708

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 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

Ron Carr, Doris A. Adams, Doris Thomas, Ron McBee, Cheryl Burke, Hailey Moody, Joseph and Deborah Mroz, Felicia Fink, Lee Blais, Ducky Marx, Janet Gusgeski, Carole Linker, Peggy Schwarting, Michelle Ng, Braeden Hormann, Donald Koski, Cathy Mulcahy, Christopher Clay Field, Lana Miltenberg, Logan Hackney, Kathy Mulcahy, Ann Chartrand, Marguerite Paddock, Jenna Pethel, Jennifer Moran, Mac and Peggy Maurin, Michael Manfredi, Sherri Lynn Jokic, Robert Allatin, Rhonda Avides, Ivy Luna, Ron Petry, Linda Perry, Matthew Rowan, Denis McShane, Fr. Eric Vogt, Carol Riley, Linda Jordan, Evelyn Meaux, Kieran Gaughan Jr., David Bliton, Annie Hyver, Elizabeth Newcity, Buck Johnson. Mary Fouraker, Lithornia Simmons, Leo Provanzano, Greg Williamson, 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, 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

Can we talk?

Culture-wide, we have lost the art of dialogue. There's no such thing as a thoughtful sharing of perspectives for the purpose of advancing understanding. Instead we have so-called "talk" shows: shout-fests and diatribes in which we ridicule opponents and promote our own narrow and blinkered agenda.

News reporting has become infected with the "get 'em" mentality. As the media skewers the latest celebrity with addiction issues, politician with poor zipper control, or religious leader operating under the influence of dreadful theology, I feel less disgust for the individual under fire than the reporter and the intended consumer of these news items. The culture of contempt satisfies the triumphalist tendency in us. After watching the nightly news, we feel morally superior to most people on the planet—particularly those who set themselves up as our betters. Isn't that a great rush?

Some years ago a theologian noted that if Jesus were alive today, his enemies wouldn't bother to crucify him. They'd simply make fun of him in the press. There's a deep truth to that. The new execution style is character assassination. Once we've destroyed a person's good name, we have effectively eliminated them.

But let's say you couldn't care less about what happens to fellow human beings who make bad choices and are publicly humiliated in turn. Is there any other reason to be concerned about the culture of contempt? Yes. It's not simply that we make blood sport of chasing society's sinners with our cell phone cameras. The acceptability of contempt is making it increasingly hard across the board to sympathize, empathize, or even listen to other people in a civil manner.

If a brother sins

Instead of earnestly seeking to discover what makes those with whom we disagree tick, we throw them to the lions and enjoy the spectacle. And the occasion of sin grows and spreads to infect our relations across political parties, religious affiliations, ethnicity and race, and, of course most especially, borders. Not learning to talk civilly to one another across our differences means diplomacy has no foothold in the national consciousness. All we can imagine doing in the hour of conflict is to bomb the heck out of the other side.

A long time ago, Jesus argued, with good rabbinic tradition behind him, to settle disputes as privately and reasonably as possible. "Talk to your brother," he advised. What a concept. Talk doesn't mean rant or disparage or shame or dominate. It means sharing and also listening. But as Jesus knew well, you can't begin to settle serious conflicts by jumping into a dialogue without special training. Matthew 18 is an extended prep course in how Christians should handle their differences. A brief summary situates today's passage: Learn humility, love the lost, talk to your brother, and forgive without limits.

No talk show in the world would keep its ratings under those conditions!

We have to talk

It's not as if we have a choice about handling disagreement and conflict. In a sinful world there's plenty of it around, and left unaddressed it leads to tension and eventual explosion. But before we say one word to a sister or brother, we have to take lessons in the school of humility - "become like a little child," as Jesus says. Entry into the Kingdom is dependent on developing this quality, and the only useful dialogue comes from the person who approaches others unarmed and vulnerable, like a child.

Next, we must develop the mindset of the shepherd with the 99 contented sheep. We have to believe that regaining the stray is worthwhile and desirable—in other words, we have to be committed to the unity of the flock. If we don't give a rip about people who disagree with us and if we'd prefer the disgruntled would just get lost, then we can't have a meaningful dialogue and there's no point in trying.

Third, we come to Jesus' advice about how to talk to the lost brother or sister: Do it privately and with care. Sometimes that will be enough. If not, try a good old intervention with another friend or two. In circumstances when to harbor the secret wrong would put others at risk, going public may be necessary—but the purpose must remain for the good of the stray sheep and never to serve up a dish of entertainment. Finally, Jesus says, if the person remains obdurate, treat that one like a Gentile or tax collector. And then remind yourself how Jesus treated Gentiles and tax collectors: as people still deserving of healing, access, and hope. It is no wonder Jesus moves directly from this lesson to a teaching on forgiveness and a parable about mercy. Dispensing with offenders is not high on the list of Christian prerogatives

Owe nothing but your love

Ezekiel says those in the know owe sinners a heads-up on their condition. That is part of the debt of love we owe to our neighbor, but it has to be handled with the comprehensive outline above in mind. We cannot wish evil on a neighbor, as Saint Paul says. If we want to live in a world full of neighbors and not adversaries, we have to learn to talk.

Related scripture links

Where guilt lies: *Lev. 19:17-18*

The need for witnesses: *Deut. 19:15*

Lessons on settling disputes: *Matt. 18:1-5 (child), 10-14 (sheep), 15-20 (talk), 21-35 (forgive)*

Catechism links

If another sins: *CCC 553; 1088; 1373; 1444; 2472*

The debt of love: *CCC 1824; 2055; 2196; 2845*

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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

09/09/23 - 5:00 pm Saturday Vigil

Pro Populo

09/10/23 - XXIII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:30 AM - (St. Francis)

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

Birthday blessing for Maureen Van Horn

09/11/23 - Monday: **NO MASS**

09/12/23 - Tuesday: 5:30 PM Mass

*For the repose of the soul of
Stanislaw & Janina Kuchta*

09/13/23 - Wednesday 8:00 AM

*For the repose of the soul of
Jan & Helena Kuchta*

09/13/23 - Wednesday 6:00 PM Mass at ASFOA

09/14/23 - Thursday 8:00 AM Mass

*For the repose of the soul of
Marian Kuchta*

09/15/23 - Friday 8:00 AM Mass

*For the repose of the soul of
Jozef Klikuszowian*

09/16/23 - Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM

*For the repose of the soul of
Maria Garcia*

09/17/23 - XXIV SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:30 AM - (St. Francis Mission)

Blessing upon Angela Sparkman

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

Grace of healing upon Justin Spenser

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Love and Truth

I think even the most devout, the most pious Catholic reading this could summon to mind, if asked, one or even two examples of Catholic teaching for which they have desperately looked for a loophole.

Don't worry, I won't make you share with the group. But bring it to your mind now: the doctrine you once resented, or perhaps still do. The commandment you don't fully understand, the one you bristle against. The rule you find the hardest to follow. The belief you hate explaining to your friends.

If it disappeared from scripture or dropped out of the catechism, would your life really be easier? Would you be happier?

I am thinking of mine. For a long time, I searched high and low for a way around this particular teaching. I read books and Scripture and tradition, I prayed and reflected and tried to argue with myself. For a time, I gave up complying with it entirely. I threw it to the wind, with a shoulder shrug and a self-satisfied assurance to myself that God, being a loving father, does not want his child to be unhappy.

But reader: I was miserable. I was so, so miserable, and I stayed that way until I finally accepted that God is, indeed, a loving father, and desires nothing less than the unhappiness of his children. And so, to ward it off, he has given us the truth, and asked us to share it amongst ourselves like a cherished heirloom, a priceless inheritance.

To share truth, you must show love. To show love, you must share truth. One demands the other. Because this is what Christ does for us, and this is the mission of the Church in this world. Loosening and binding. Bearing witness. Giving testimony. Speaking truth, and in speaking truth, showing love.

"If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts."
Psalm 95

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SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

If I tell the wicked, "O wicked one, you shall surely die," and you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way, the wicked shall die for his guilt, but I will hold you responsible for his death. (Ez 33:8)

Psalm:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 95)

Second Reading:

Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law. (Rom 13:10)

Gospel:

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother."
Mt 18:15

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 church office at 912-882-4718

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 sacramental 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

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

October 20-22, 2023 | Near Augusta, GA

Do you or someone you know have emotional, spiritual or psychological pain due to a past abortion? If so, there is a ministry just for you. At a Rachel's Vineyard Ministry retreat you can find help, hope, and healing through their post-abortion weekends.

For more information:

912-306-0406 | rachelsvineyard.org
stephaniemay135@gmail.com

Complete confidentiality will be honored at all times. Take the risk and find the peace and healing you have been searching for.



“The Ladies Auxiliary and the Knights of Columbus will prepare a Fellowship Meal on September 23, 2023, after 5:00 PM mass at the Social Hall. The meal will consist of Spaghetti Dinner, dessert, and games.”

OLSS COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023	SEPTEMBER 4, 2022
COLLECTION- \$ 8,496.50	COLLECTION - \$ 8,113.98
MAINTENANCE - \$ 2,852.00	MORTGAGE - \$ 4,513.00

SFOA COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023	SEPTEMBER 4, 2022
COLLECTION- \$ 1,100.00	COLLECTION - \$ 1,120.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 1,018.00	MORTGAGE - \$ 1,227.00

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