

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

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

• 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

**“WHICH DID HIS
FATHER’S WILL?”**

©LPI

CLERGY

Rev. Fr. Mariusz Fuks
Pastor
Pastor@weareolss.org

Rev. Mr. Timothy Hughes
Permanent Deacon
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Rev. Mr. Paul Lang
Permanent Deacon
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Rev. Mr. Henry Nieves
Permanent Deacon
deaconhenry@weareolss.org

OFFICE HOURS & PHONE

Monday / Thursday 9:00AM - 2:00PM
Friday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Church Office: 912-882-4718
Office Email: office@weareolss.org

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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Parish Secretary
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Phoebe Ricard
Parish Bookkeeper
bookkeeper@weareolss.org

MINISTRY STAFF

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Music Director
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Bryant & Kristie Shepard
Directors of Religious Education
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COUNCILS

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

SFOA Pastoral
Tina Baxter - President
sfoaparish@weareolss.org

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

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

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
or by appointment

SFOA CONFESSIONS

30 minutes before Mass
or by appointment

Holy Rosary

30 minutes prior to Mass

First Fridays Mass

8:00 AM at Historic Chapel

Fridays Eucharistic Adoration

5:00 PM to 6:30 PM



This Sunday we joyfully celebrate the Feast of Our Lady Star of the Sea, the patroness of our parish. This is a special day for our parish - a time to thank God for the many blessings we have received and ask our Blessed mother to continue guiding us always toward her Son, Jesus Christ. May this feast renew our love for our parish and strengthen the bonds that make us one family of faith.

THE MONTH OF OCTOBER IS DEDICATED TO THE HOLY ROSARY

The Legion of Mary invites all parishioners to join us in praying the rosary on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, October 7th, held in Mary's Grotto outside the main Church at 6:15 PM. We hope you will be able to attend to honor our Blessed Mother.



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.

WEEKLY MASS / SERVICE SCHEDULE

09/26/26 - Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM Mass

For the grace of healing for Diane Ford

09/27/26 - XXVI SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:30 AM MASS - (St. Francis Mission)

Pro Populo / For the People

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

+ Victoria Viqui Flores Uribe

09/28/26 - Monday: NO MASS

09/29/26 - Tuesday: 5:00 PM - Adoration, Rosary & Mass

09/30/26 - Wednesday:

8:00 AM Mass at OLSS

+ Alfred L. Meunier

5:00 PM Mass at SFOA

Special Intention of Jack Raferty

10/01/26 - Thursday: 8:00 AM Mass

+ Jim Samoska

10/02/26 - Friday: 8:00 AM Mass

+ Fidias De Leon

10/03/26 - Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM Mass

+ Shawn Ewen

10/04/26 - XXVII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NO 8:30 AM MASS IN FOLKSTON

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

+ Ludwika Glod

5:00 PM MASS - (Saint Francis of Assisi)

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 for at least four months. 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.

Ed Smeder

Leah Rae Semko

Craig Connor

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

GOD'S DUBIOUS FAIRNESS

Some of us can't balance a checkbook - although in these days of online payments and direct deposit, who writes checks anyway? But we spend enough time in the kitchen, at least, to know how to measure things, or have enough arithmetic under our belts to know when a sum is equal to its parts. One thing's for sure: God's mercy *doesn't* add up. There's far too much of it around, most of it undeserved.

Do we want what we deserve, then? Not if we're honest. As the psalmist points out, in our younger days many of us weren't as smart as we are now. We made errors in judgment, which is to say we often failed to judge at all in our eagerness to embrace life's enticements. Few would want to be judged on the merits of our first 20 years. Or our first 40. Some of us would rather be taken at face value now than by what we did last week!

A scorekeeping God would do that: keep credit-and-debit columns on each of us. If everything we ever did was weighted equally, no matter when or under what circumstances we acted, we'd all be doomed right now. We might as well lock the doors of the church and go home to embrace our ruin. But the merciful God responds with a complex algorithm of grace we can't comprehend. Intention and deliberation affect our culpability, according to sacramental theology. Having an informed conscience matters. Our current state of contrition and intention for future amendment factor in. The gravity of an issue, venial or mortal, is a question to be asked.

Above and beyond and around all the parts of our dilemma as sinners is the sum of the whole, which is God's desire to save. God's determination to rescue the lost is much, much greater than our feeble power to get lost in the first place. Because God resolves to be the God who saves, the sum will be freedom from sin and death no matter what our actions merit. It's as if God writes the happy total at the bottom of the page and then erases whatever necessary to make it so.

God's not as worried about the math as we are. This is the God who multiplies a basket of food and feeds 5,000, or counts 1,000 years as a day. It's not that God can't add but that the algorithm of grace is so much finer than what we arrive at on our own. "The wages of sin is death": One plus one equals two, but who wants this dreadful solution? Better to grant God the courtesy of doing the higher and more gracious math.

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WHAT'S GOING ON ?

Mon 09/28	OLSS - Knights of Columbus - 6:00 PM - Double Room OLSS - Women's Book Club - 6:30 PM - Rm #5
Tue 09/29	SFOA - Ladies Cursillo - 9:30 AM - Social Hall OLSS - The Homily Continue - 6:00 PM - Social Hall
Wed 09/30	SFOA - Men's Cursillo - 9:00 AM - Social Hall OLSS - Legion of Mary - 5:30 PM - Rm#8 OLSS - Men's Bible Study - 6:30 PM - Double Rm
Thu 10/01	OLSS - Ladies Auxiliary - 9:00 AM - Rm#5 OLSS - Men's Cursillo - 5:00 PM - Rm#4 OLSS - Ladies Cursillo - 5:30 PM - Rm#5 OLSS - OCIA - 6:00 PM - Double Room
Fri 10/02	First Friday of the Month 8:00 AM Mass at Historic Chapel OLSS - Women's Book Study - 9:00 AM - Double Rm OLSS - Eucharistic Adoration - 5:00 PM - Church
Sun 10/04	NO SFOA 8:30 AM MASS OLSS - CYM - 8:00 AM - RE Building OLSS - RE CLASSES - 9:15 AM - Re Building OLSS - Donuts Social - 12:00 PM - Social Hall SFOA - Mass with the Bishop - 5:00 PM

Throughout the month of October, every Wednesday at **St. Francis of Assisi**, we will have a Holy Hour beginning one hour before Mass, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

During this time of Eucharistic Adoration, we will also pray the Holy Rosary, honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary in a special way during the month traditionally dedicated to the Rosary.

Please join us for this beautiful time of prayer before our Eucharistic Lord.



SFOA LECTOR SCHEDULE

Sunday 09/27	Lynn Crews Art Fouraker
Sunday 10/04	Butch Crews Lewart Simmons

COUNTERS SCHEDULE

Sunday 09/27	Dennis Conlon, Patty Zawislek, Chrissy Bundrick, Richard Foy, David Bowman
Monday	Pauline Wentworth, Robert Capello, Roberto Garza, Larry White, Kathy White



faith, hope, charity

2026 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Thank you to those who have made their gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal. If you have not yet made your contribution please consider doing it. The envelopes are available in the Narthex.

	GOAL	TOTAL GIVEN	AMOUNT NEEDED TO REACH THE GOAL
OLSS	\$ 43,968.00	\$ 32,017.29	\$ 11,950.71
SFOA	\$ 4,824.00	\$ 4,886.00	GOAL REACHED

"Each one should give as much as he has decided on his own initiative, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:7

OFFERTORY UPDATE

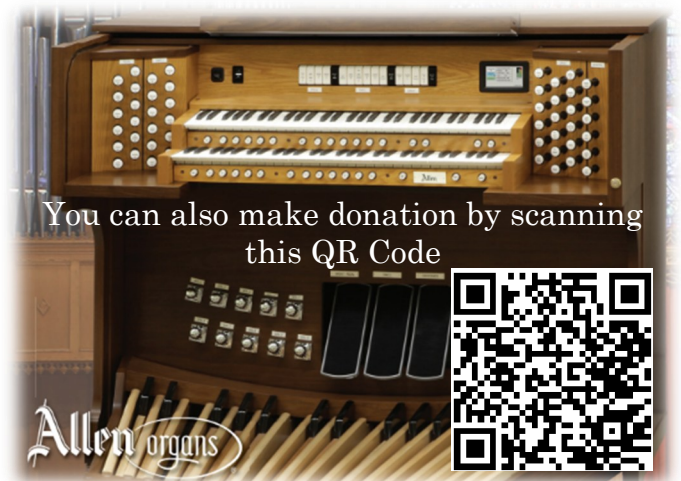
OLSS COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026		SEPTEMBER 21, 2025
COLLECTION - \$ 9,981.00	↑	COLLECTION - \$ 8,533.72
MAINTENANCE - \$ 2,217.00	↑	MAINTENANCE - \$ 450.00

SFOA COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026		SEPTEMBER 21, 2025
COLLECTION - \$ 952.00	↓	COLLECTION - \$ 960.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 489.00	↓	MAINTENANCE - \$ 515.00

ORGAN FUND
NEED TO RAISE \$ 130.000
AS OF TODAY WE RAISED \$ 51,565



You can also make donation by scanning this QR Code

We need to raise at least 40 to 45% of the estimated \$130,000 cost before signing a contract with the company that will build our new organ. I humbly ask for your continued prayers and financial support. Every gift, no matter how small, brings us one step closer to making this project a reality.



YARD SALE

Saturday, October 10, 7:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Father's Angels are accepting donations for our annual yard sale!

We are in need of gently used items:

Furniture/ tools/ household items/ toys holiday items/ electronics/ etc.

Drop Offs: Monday-Friday 9 am-2 pm
Call 912-322-6857 for large item pickup

Proceeds are used for senior center outreach, kids movie nite, and special projects to benefit the parish. Father's Angels thank you for your continued support!

OUR PARISH IN FOLKSTON, GEORGIA
INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

CELEBRATING THE
800TH ANNIVERSARY
OF HIS DEATH (THE TRANSITUS)
1226 – 2026

FAITH | PEACE | CREATION | SIMPLE LIVING



**SUNDAY
OCTOBER 4, 2026**



**HOLY MASS
AT 5:00 PM**
CELEBRATED BY
BISHOP STEPHEN PARKES



PARISH DINNER
FOLLOWING MASS
IN THE PARISH HALL



ALL ARE WELCOME!

NEXT SUNDAY OCTOBER 4th, THERE WILL BE NO 8:30 AM MASS.
MASS ON THAT SUNDAY WILL BE CELEBRATED AT 5:00 PM

Happy feast day of our patron saint, Our Lady, Star of the Sea (Stella Maris)!

The history behind this much-loved title of Mary is intriguing; however, the devotion extends much deeper than the name. You may already have a strong devotion to Mary, Star of the Sea, or maybe you are less familiar with this title and want to learn more, but regardless of where you stand, here are some facts about Stella Maris that you may or may not have known.

Behind the Name

The title “Stella Maris” first arose back in the 5th Century when St. Jerome translated Mary’s Hebrew name Miryam, which means “drop of the sea” to the Latin “Stilla Maris”. Mary later went from a “drop in the ocean” to the “star of the sea” when “Stilla Maris” became “Stella Maris”. This was most likely due to transcription error, or a peasant dialect and it stuck throughout the centuries.

Spiritual Significance

Mary, Star of the Sea, has been a beloved title for those who make a living by or on the sea, as she is the calmer of storms and a guiding light. Before the time of GPS technology, sailors solely relied on key stars to help them navigate where they were going. During the Middle Ages, the North Star actually went by the name “Stella Maris”. Sailors can always rely on the North Star to lead them, as it remains fixed in the same location throughout the night. Similarly, Mary remains firm in heaven helping to guide souls and offering her protection.

A Guiding Light

Just as sailors call upon Mary to intercede as a guide and protector as they face stormy seas, we can do the same as we sail the stormy seas of life. St. Bernard of Clairvaux so beautifully wrote,

“If the winds of temptation arise; If you are driven upon the rocks of tribulation look to the star, call on Mary; If you are tossed upon the waves of pride, of ambition, of envy, of rivalry, look to the star, call on Mary. Should anger, or avarice, or fleshly desire violently assail the frail vessel of your soul, look at the star, call upon Mary.”

Mary is our guiding star to Jesus and can calm the storms in our own lives. Just as sailors back in the Middle Ages did not have access to a navigation system that could lead them to safety during their travels, we do not have access to a map that will lead us straight to heaven. However, we can call upon Mary, the greatest saint in heaven, to lead us to Jesus and the shores of heaven.

Modern Devotion

Throughout the centuries and into the modern day, strong devotion to Mary as Star of the Sea has led to many churches, schools, lighthouses, and colleges including the name “Stella Maris”. Many hymns and prayers also emerged during the Middle Ages, such as the beautiful Gregorian chants Ave Maris Stella and Alma Redemptoris Mater.

Our Lady, Star of the Sea, pray for us!



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PARISHIONERS

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	Lectors	Altar Servers	Ushers
Saturday 09/26	1. Gene Niksa 2. Richard Foy	Colton Wilkins Landon Wilkins Waylon Wilkins Bryant Shepard	David Costa Diane Costa Ronald Logan Darlene Logan
Sunday 09/27	1. Greg Lockhart 2. Lucia Feijo	Bryant Shepard Evanisto Gomez Joaquin Gomez John M Hopkins	David Bowman Carl Boria John Nevins
Tuesday 09/29	Tricia Jenkins		
Wednesday 09/30	Karen Cataldi		
Thursday 10/01	Bonnie Carr		
Friday 10/01			
Sat 10/03	1. Bonnie Carr 2. Bryant Shepard	Bryant Shepard	Dennis Foster James Pappas Saulo Capulong Kenneth Sylvester
Sun 10/04	1. Karen Cataldi 2. Karen Jenkins	Samuel Dominici Evan Gomez John Michael	Clyde Miller Robert Cappello David Bowman Saulo Capulong

SEPTEMBER 27th, 2026

Priesthood
PRAY FOR YOUR PRIESTS
SUNDAY

European Travel Designed
For Your Expectations
Kim Mikula-Travel Planner

813.763.6340
Kmtravelplanner801@gmail.com

OLSS Parishioner



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