



# 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



## OFFICE HOURS & PHONE

Monday / Friday 9:00AM - 2:00PM  
Church Office 912-882-4718  
Office Email- [office@weareolss.org](mailto:office@weareolss.org)

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

**Susan Bayless**  
Parish Secretary  
[office@weareolss.org](mailto:office@weareolss.org)

**Phoebe Ricard**  
Parish Bookkeeper  
[bookkeeper@weareolss.org](mailto:bookkeeper@weareolss.org)

## MINISTRY STAFF

**Scott Dixon**  
Music Director  
[music@weareolss.org](mailto:music@weareolss.org)

**Bryant & Kristie Shepard**  
Directors of Religious Education  
[religiouse@weareolss.org](mailto:religiouse@weareolss.org)

## COUNCILS

**OLSS Pastoral Council**  
Darlene Logan - President  
[parishcouncil@weareolss.org](mailto:parishcouncil@weareolss.org)

**SFOA Pastoral & Finance Council**  
Tina Baxter - President  
[sfoaparish@weareolss.org](mailto:sfoaparish@weareolss.org)

**OLSS Finance Council**  
Kevin Wagner - President  
[financecouncil@weareolss.org](mailto:financecouncil@weareolss.org)

**BULLETIN EDITOR**  
Fr. Mariusz Fuks  
[pastor@weareolss.org](mailto:pastor@weareolss.org)

## CLERGY

**Rev. Mariusz Fuks**  
Pastor  
[Pastor@weareolss.org](mailto:Pastor@weareolss.org)

**Rev. Mr. Timothy Hughes**  
Permanent Deacon  
[deacontim@weareolss.org](mailto:deacontim@weareolss.org)

**Rev. Mr. Paul Lang**  
Permanent Deacon  
[deaconpaul@weareolss.org](mailto:deaconpaul@weareolss.org)

**Rev. Mr. Henry Nieves**  
Permanent Deacon  
[deaconhenry@weareolss.org](mailto: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

## 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.

*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.

## 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

09/06/25 - Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM Mass

+ *Pro Populo / For the People*

09/07/25 - XXIII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:30 AM - (St. Francis Mission)

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

+ *Ronald King*

09/08/25 - Monday: NO MASS

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

09/10/25 - Wednesday:

8:00 AM Mass at OLSS

*Special Intentions*

5:00 PM Mass at SFOA

09/11/24 - Thursday: 8:00 AM Mass

+ *George Niksa*

09/12/24 - Friday: 8:00 AM Mass

Birthday Blessing for Lucy Bryant

09/13/24 - Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM Mass

+ *Josephine Russo*

09/14/24 - XXIV SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:30 AM (St. Francis Mission)

*Pro Populo / For the People*

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

+ *David Bliton*

## 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.

### Jude Pappas

**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 begin this Sunday, 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

## YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN 100%

Half measures will never do. That is today's gospel response to the idea of the "good-enough Christian": one who basically colors inside the moral lines and meets the minimum requirements of church membership. Good-enough isn't good enough. Being the Body of Christ makes us sharers in the life of Jesus! And he was never known to do things halfway. That isn't the popular answer, I know. Joseph Champlin wrote a thoughtful book 20 years ago titled *The Marginal Catholic: Challenge, Don't Crush*. He cautioned pastoral ministers to go slowly, invite warmly, and back off immensely when it comes to ecclesial rule-enforcement. We choose between representing "the cruel or compassionate church," in Champlin's terms.

Certainly we're all in favor of compassion here. Challenging people too far ahead of where they are will surely be a compelling excuse for some to bail off the path of righteousness altogether. But it's perhaps more dangerous to give our assemblies the impression that Christianity has an agreeable comfort zone and it's right where they happen to be sitting. The satisfied Christian courts disaster. The plain truth is: Not being "bad" isn't the goal. Being a disciple of Jesus is the goal, and that's a lot harder.

Consider the person constructing a tower with only a vague idea of the bottom line. That tower doesn't get built - but it does garner a few laughs at the would-be builder's expense. Abandoned worksites around the country today bear witness that quite a few people haven't thought through the cost of their ambitions lately.

If our intention is to follow Jesus, we have to be thoughtful about the dimensions of this proposition. What does it cost to follow Jesus? Chances are you can see a symbol of that from where you're sitting: the cross. Discipleship is an expensive proposition. It costs everything you have and everything you are. Renounce all your possessions, Jesus says. This is no time to talk tithing; Jesus expects you to render the whole enchilada.

Why is the price so high? Because the stakes are just as high. This earthen shelter of ours isn't for keeps. It's a collapsible tent, struck down in a handful of decades. It's a watch in the night, says the psalmist, come and gone. And the life of the body isn't only corruptible in terms of time but also in terms of virtue. We stand to lose everything worth having if we're not willing to pit everything we have as ballast against that inevitable corruption. Jesus isn't asking us to throw our stuff away. He's begging us not to throw our lives away. Take a few moments. Consider your blueprints. What are you building, and what are you willing to spend?



## 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)

## FREE TO LOVE

St. Paul must have understood today's Gospel very well. Like Jesus, he knew what being a disciple would cost. It landed him in prison. Yet he seems to have no regrets; he accepts that imprisonment as part of his discipleship. Also like Jesus, he is not afraid to ask others to take that discipleship seriously. And he is not ashamed to ask a favor: Would Philemon accept his runaway slave, Onesimus, back into his home? Not just as a slave, but as a member of his family. He shamelessly calls himself a prisoner for Christ five times in the short letter (three times in our reading). If that didn't tug Philemon's heartstrings, Paul also calls himself an old man.

In the Gospel, Jesus talks about the cost of discipleship. Paul takes that a step further; he reminds us to accept that cost freely. He could have ordered his friend to free the slave. Paul was an apostle, a leader in the early church. Instead of giving an order, he called on Philemon to respond freely to his request. Perhaps we can learn from that example.

Like Paul, when Jesus commands us to love one another, he leaves us free to accept that challenge. Remember, he always says, "Love one another, as I have loved you" (John 13:34). Jesus was never compelled to cure anyone or forgive their sins. No one ordered him to feed the hungry with loaves and fishes or raise Lazarus from the dead. Yet how often do we go to church because we were told we have to? Do we volunteer for the picnic only because the pastor twists our arm? Or do we love Jesus so much that we volunteer to help without being asked? Do we love Jesus enough to invite others to follow him?

We can live life just doing what we have to. Or when Jesus offers us a new motive - love for God because God loves us - we can choose to follow him freely. In John's Gospel, there is no Agony in the Garden. He shows us that Jesus chose to obey his Father and willingly took up the cross. Let us ask the Spirit to fill us with the freedom to love.

Tim Schmitt

## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY



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



## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	Lectors	Altar Servers	Ushers
<b>Sat</b> 09/06	Elisabeth Sepulveda Richard foy	Bryant Shepard	David Costa Diane Costa Greg Glaz James Pappas
<b>Sun</b> 09/10	Judy Buchanan Hunt Thornhill	Isaac Dominici Samuel Dominici	Keith Danos Colleen Danos Ken Sylvester Carl Boria
Tue	Karen Hill		
Wed 09/13	- _____ -		
Thu 09/14	- _____ -		
Fri 09/15	Elisabeth Sepulveda		
<b>Sat</b> 09/16	Elisabeth Sepulveda Richard Foy	Waylon Wilkins Landon Wilkins Colton Wilkins	Darlene Logan Ron Logan James Pappas
<b>Sun</b> 09/17	Ray Maux Greg Lockhart	Samuel Dominici Evan Gomez Joaquin Gomez	Robert Capello Clyde Miller Mike Recore John Nevins

### OFFERTORY UPDATE

### OLSS COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

AUGUST 31, 2025	SEPTEMBER 1, 2024
COLLECTION - \$ 7,934.22	COLLECTION - \$ 10,385.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 1,065.00	MORTGAGE - \$ 5,922.00

### SFOA COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

AUGUST 31, 2025	SEPTEMBER 1, 2024
COLLECTION - \$ 770.00	COLLECTION - \$ 1,225.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 324.00	MORTGAGE - \$ 1,044.00

Feast Day of Our Lady Star of the Sea will be celebrated on Saturday, September 27 after 5 PM Mass in the social hall. Everyone is invited to attend, dinner will be served.

Please RSVP the office 912-882-4718  
or email - office@weareolss.org



**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 !



**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

**LAUNCH**  
**PRINTING & PROMOTIONS**  
[www.launchprintingandpromotions.com](http://www.launchprintingandpromotions.com)  
**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

**MILES P. HENDRIX, ESQ.**  
 PARISHIONER

PARISHIONER



**Our Lady Star of the Sea**

990 followers • 110 following



WE ARE ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC and APOSTOLIC CHURCH founded by JESUS CHRIST in 33 AD.



**Saint Francis of Assisi**

1 likes • 1 follower



ADVERTISE  
 YOUR  
 BUSINESS IN  
 OUR  
 BULLETIN  
 912-882-4718



Customized European Travel

  
 Kim Mikula  
 kimtravelplanner80@gmail.com  
 813.763.6340



PARISHIONER

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

