



*Saint  
Francis of Assisi  
Catholic Mission*

FOLKSTON, GA



**DECEMBER 14, 2025**

• 3RD SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT •

**GO AND  
TELL WHAT  
YOU HEAR  
AND SEE.**

## 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  
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## MINISTRY STAFF

**Scott Dixon**  
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](mailto:parishcouncil@weareolss.org)

**SFOA Pastoral & Finance Council**  
Tina Baxter - President  
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**OLSS Finance Council**  
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**BULLETIN EDITOR**  
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## CLERGY

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

**Rev. Mr. Timothy Hughes**  
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**Rev. Mr. Paul Lang**  
Permanent Deacon  
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**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**  
See the info inside



## 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

## 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

12/13/25 - Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM Mass  
*Blessings for the Wheeler Family*

12/14/25 - GAUDETE / III SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
8:30 AM - (St. Francis Mission)  
*Pro Populo / For the People*  
11:00 AM - (Our Lady Star of the Sea)  
+ Peg Maurin

12/15/25 - Monday - NO MASS

12/16/25 - Tuesday: 5:00 PM  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
Rosary & Mass at OLSS

12/17/25 - Wednesday:  
8:00 AM Mass at OLSS  
+ Jake Cade  
5:00 PM Mass at SFOA  
+ Joseph Grasisy

12/18/25 - Thursday: 8:00 AM Mass at OLSS  
+ John Munda

12/19/25 - Friday: 8:00 AM Mass at OLSS  
Jenny Ford

12/20/25 - Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM Mass  
+ Andrew Whitlock

12/21/25 - IV SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
8:30 AM (St. Francis Mission)  
*Pro Populo / For the People*  
11:00 AM (Our Lady Star of the Sea)  
+ David Bliton

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.

**Toby Cook**

**Jude Pappas, Lori Homick,  
Larry & Lori Toomey.**

**Mike Perry, Carissa Himes, Anne Greco**

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

## *Advent Penance Service*

Our Advent Penance Service will take place at  
Our Lady Star of the Sea on  
Friday, December 19 at 6:00 PM.

It was not easy to coordinate and bring several priests to our parish during this busy season, so we warmly encourage everyone to take advantage of this special opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for Christmas. May this grace-filled time help us welcome the Lord with renewed hearts.



Please note the following changes to our adoration schedule during the Christmas season:

No adoration on Fridays of:  
December 12th  
December 19th  
December 26  
January 2

Friday adoration will resume on January 9th, from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM.

## NEW RULES

Consider John the Baptist for a moment: What a résumé! Luke alleges that John's kinship with Jesus is biological. That alone is worth some bragging rights. "James, the brother of the Lord" certainly uses the genetic tie to his advantage in the church to come. But in the days of John, being kin to Jesus wasn't yet the trump card it would later be. In the beginning, in fact, Jesus might well have profited from claiming ties to the more celebrated and powerful John. John emerges from the wilderness with a mystery wrapped around him more astonishing than his attire. Was he a graduate of the reclusive Essenes out at Qumran, who awaited a Righteous Teacher to turn around a hopelessly misguided religious leadership? Did he perhaps pen one of the ancient Dead Sea Scrolls we now possess? Whatever his training, John was a master of what we call desert spirituality: austere and solitary, careless of worldly comforts and advantages, fearless in speaking truth to power, uncompromising when delivering God's sovereign word. John laid his ax at the root of the biggest tree in the land and struck. The tree crashed down on his head, literally.

Before the end, however, John had them all jumping through his hoops. He commanded repentance in the name of God and declared the sign to be immersion in the river. Many came out of the cities and towns and lined to take the plunge, and still others to watch the baptisms with increasing anxiety. Believe John or not, you had to reckon with him. Even Jesus would find himself compared with John, suspected to be his ghost, and in today's gospel felt the need to distinguish himself from his forerunner.

When reflecting on all John was and did - a man who made a king tremble with fear and fascination! - we're not surprised that Jesus names him the greatest man ever born. This is Jesus, remember: He has no reason to win the esteem of crowds by flattering a man they admire. First he exalts John. Then he deflates him—or at least changes the terms of greatness altogether. John is the greatest man ever born in the normal course of things. But because Kingdom values depend on being "born again," even the lowest member of the new reign will be exalted ahead of John.

Being born anew means embracing the Good News that the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the dead are raised. In other words it means accepting that the rules have changed. Even the great John, in his prison cell, had trouble with that one. If the rules have changed, we can't march ahead. We'll have to consent to be led.



**CHRISTMAS**  
**MASSES & DEVOTIONS**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19TH  
6:00 PM - ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

**CHRISTMAS**

\* A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH  
4:00 PM - CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS / OLSS  
7:30 PM - CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS / SFOA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25TH  
12:00 AM - CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS / OLSS  
11:00 AM - CHRISTMAS DAY MASS / OLSS

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**

\* HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST  
6:00 PM - VIGIL MASS / SFOA  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 1ST  
11:00 AM - MASS / OLSS

## WHAT'S GOING ON ?

Mon 12/15	OLSS - 6:00 PM - Ultreya - SOCIAL HALL
Tue 12/16	SFOA - 9:30 AM - Ladies Cursillo - SOCIAL HALL
Wed 12/17	SFOA - 9:00 AM - Men's Cursillo - SOCIAL HALL OLSS - 5:30 PM - Legion of Mary - RE BUILDING ROOM #8 OLSS - 6:30 PM - Men's Bible Study - RE BUILDING - DOUBLE ROOM
Thu 12/18	SFOA - 1:00 PM - Hands in Hands - Folkston Park Nursing Home OLSS - 5:30 PM - Ladies Cursillo - RE BUILDING - ROOM #5 OLSS - 6:00 PM - OCIA - RE BUILDING - DOUBLE ROOM
Fri 12/19	OLSS - 5:30 PM - Men's Cursillo - RE BUILDING - ROOM #5 OLSS - 6:00 PM - Advent Penance Service - MAIN CHURCH
Sat 12/20	OLSS - 10:00 AM - Baptism Class - RE BUILDING ROOM #8
Sun 12/21	SFOA - 9:30 AM - Breakfast Social - SOCIAL HALL OLSS - 12:00 PM - Donut Social - SOCIAL HALL

## OFFERTORY UPDATE

## OLSS COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

DECEMBER 7, 2025	DECEMBER 8, 2024
COLLECTION - \$ 11,610.00	COLLECTION - \$ 17,470.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 6,196.00	MAINTENANCE - \$ 2,196.00

## SFOA COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

DECEMBER 7, 2025	DECEMBER 8, 2024
COLLECTION - \$ 1,310.00	COLLECTION - \$ 820.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 1,447.00	MAINTENANCE - \$ 786.00

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	Lectors	Altar Servers	Ushers
Sat 12/13	Richard Foy Elisabeth Sepulveda	Joaquin Gomez Evan Gomez Samuel Dominici	Don Petrine Saul Capulong Dennis Foster Dante Russo
Sun 12/14	Lucia Feijo Brian Benton	Waylon Wilkins Colton Wilkins Landon Wilkins Dean Sjostedt	Ken Sylvester John Nevins Clyde Miller Robert Cappello
Tue 12/16	Karen Hill		
Wed 12/17	Richard Foy		
Thu 12/18	- _____ -		
Fri 12/19	Elisabeth Sepulveda		
Sat 12/20	Richard Foy Elisabeth Sepulveda	Waylon Wilkins Colton Wilkins Landon Wilkins	Dave Costa Diane Costa Don Petrine Dante Russo
Sun 12/21	Judy Buchanan Tom Jenkins	Isaac Dominici Joaquin Gomez Samuel Dominici Nathaniel Eddy	Keith Danos Colleen Danos Carl Boria Roberto Garza

## SFOA LECTOR SCHEDULE

Sunday 12/14	Kathleen Rodgers Anne Kidd
Sunday 12/21	Lawanda Jones Susan LaSalle

## COUNTERS SCHEDULE

Sunday 12/14	Diane Costa, Dave Costa, Richard Foy, Rene Gentle, Chrissy Bundrick
Monday 12/22	Jon Preble, John Nevins, Mary Jane May, Trisha Jenkins, Donna Ponteliona

The Parish offices will be closed from Tuesday, December 23rd through Friday, December 26. We will return on Monday, December 29th The food pantry will also be closed on those dates.



ADVERTISE YOUR  
BUSINESS IN OUR  
BULLETIN  
912-882-4718

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GREG & SUE LOCKHART  
PARISHIONERS



Couples celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup>  
or 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary  
in 2026 are invited to the

## GOLD and SILVER JUBILEE Anniversary Mass

February 15, 2026, 1 pm  
Cathedral Basilica of St. John  
the Baptist, Savannah

RSVP BY JANUARY 31  
912-201-4068  
diosav.org/gold-and-silver

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

SCAM  
WARNING

European Travel Designed  
For Your Expectations  
Kim Mikula-Travel Planner

813.763.6340  
Kmrtravelplanner801@gmail.com

OLSS Parishioner

