



SAINT MARYS, GA
**Our Lady
Star of the Sea**
 CATHOLIC CHURCH
 THE HOLY SITE FOR
 THE 2025 JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE



**Saint
Francis of Assisi
Catholic Mission**
 FOLKSTON, GA



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."
 - Mt 1:21

DECEMBER 21, 2025

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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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**
 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

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
 religioused@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

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*

12/22/25 - Monday - NO MASS

12/23/25 - Tuesday: 5:00 PM
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Rosary & Mass at OLSS

12/24/25 - Wednesday: Christmas Vigil
4:00 PM Mass at OLSS
7:30 PM Mass at SFOA

12/25/25 - Thursday: Christmas Day
12:00 AM Midnight Mass at OLSS
11:00 AM Mass at OLSS

12/26/25 - Friday: 8:00 AM Communion Service

12/27/25 - Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM Mass
+ *Gabriel Aaron Valot*

12/28/25 - FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
8:30 AM (St. Francis Mission)
11:00 AM (Our Lady Star of the Sea)
Pro Populo / For the People



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 it's 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.

**Matt Metty, Frank & Mary Anne Greco,
Diane Harrel, Dr. Christopher Scuderi,**

Toby Cook

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

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



Both the residents and staff of Folkston Park Nursing Home greatly appreciated and recognized the generosity of the parishioners of SFOA & OLSS

THANK YOU to those who gave their Time, Talents and Resources, contributing to Sunday's Caroling by singing songs, giving treats, providing presents and sharing the Joy of Christmas this year. It was a Blessing to all!



THE RIGHTEOUS PERSON'S DILEMMA

Joseph had a problem, and it wasn't a small one: The girl about to become his wife was pregnant. He wasn't the father, so the law was clear: Honor could be restored to both households by stoning.

Regrettable, messy, a bad sort of public excitement, but over quickly. All that would be left is the task of finding another marriageable girl.

This bloody business wasn't really the problem. The trouble was that Joseph was a righteous man. Righteousness is a technical term in Judaism. In Hebrew it's a form of measurement. A righteous weight is a true one. A righteous path leads directly to the destination. A righteous sacrifice is performed by the book. Righteousness means meeting the prescribed standard. The opposite of righteousness is dishonesty.

A righteous man, therefore, might well go by the book and stone the girl. But what if "the book" had conflicting standards? On the one hand, faithless women should be stoned. On the other hand, the girl Mary wasn't the faithless kind. Stoning the innocent was murder, and murder was prohibited by that same book. Could restoring honor possibly be more important than a potentially innocent girl's life?

In the end Joseph resolves his dilemma by taking the advice of an angel in a dream. Great counsel if you can get it! More of us should pray for such guidance when faced with moral discernment. But the deeper issue of how to be righteous - how to discover the right standard - remains. With so much dishonesty around us, the truth can seem hard to acquire.

Take Job. He claimed to be righteous, yet his friends weighed his great suffering as testimony against him. Whose perspective can you trust? Job called on God to decide. The Servant of the Lord in Isaiah's prophecies is also called righteous yet condemned by his peers. Unlike Job, his vindication is posthumous. Tamar is considered more righteous than Judah - but her avenue to justice is not something we'd recommend to our daughters. Which leads to the question: Is Christian righteousness different from the Jewish kind?

Saint Paul says it is. Bible scholar John McKenzie notes that Paul "found himself with an [Old Testament] vocabulary which had to be expanded to fit the fullness of his insight into the Christian mystery." So Paul stitched together the observation that both Noah and Abraham are deemed righteous by placing their faith in God, not by meeting a standard. Faith rectified the discrepancy between where they were and where they ought to be. We don't have to "know" what's right or make the judgment call by reason alone. If we place our trust in God, like Joseph, we will be led straight to the truth.



Our Lady Star of the Sea

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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 12/22	OLSS - 5:30 PM - Legion of Mary - RE BUILDING - ROOM #8
Tue 12/23	OFFICES CLOSED - NO MEETINGS
Wed 12/24	OFFICES CLOSED - NO MEETINGS
Thu 12/25	OFFICES CLOSED - NO MEETINGS
Fri 12/26	OFFICES CLOSED - NO MEETINGS



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

No adoration on Fridays of:
December 26
January 2

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

OFFERTORY UPDATE

OLSS COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

DECEMBER 14, 2025	DECEMBER 15, 2024
COLLECTION - \$ 8,179.00	COLLECTION - \$ 11,326.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 5,145.00	MAINTENANCE - \$ 480.00

SFOA COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

DECEMBER 14, 2025	DECEMBER 15, 2024
COLLECTION - \$ 761.00	COLLECTION - \$ 920.00
MAINTENANCE - \$ 479.00	MAINTENANCE - \$ 323.00

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	Lectors	Altar Servers	Ushers
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
Tue 12/23	Karen Hill		
Wed 12/24	Elisabeth Sepulveda Hunt Thornhill	Issac Dominici Samuel Dominici John M. Hopkins	John Nevins Dave Costa Diane Costa
Thu 12/25 12am	Richard Foy Greg Lockhart	John M. Hopkins Nathaniel Eddy Blake Shepard	John Nevine Mike Recore Dante Russo
Thu 12/25 11am	Brian Benton Lucia Feijo	Evan Gomez Joaquin Gomez Vince Gomez	John Nevins Carl Boria - _____ - - _____ -
Sat 12/27	Gene Niksa - _____ -	Bryant Shepard	Dennis Foster Don Petrine Dante Russo - _____ -
Sun 12/28	Hunt Thornhill Judy Buchanan	Evan Gomez Joaquin Gomez Samuel Dominici Nathaniel Eddy	Mike Recore, Ken Sylvester John Nevins Clyde Miller

SFOA LECTOR SCHEDULE

Sunday 12/21	Lawanda Jones Susan LaSalle
Wednesday 12/24	Lynn Crews Susan La Salle

COUNTERS SCHEDULE

Monday 12/22	Jon Preble, John Nevins, Mary Jane May, Teresa David, Donna Ponteliona
Monday 12/28	Pauline Wentworth, Julie McKeown, Donna Ponteliona, Roberto Garza, Bill Tobias

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

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

**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.

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912-882-4731
GREG & SUE LOCKHART
PARISHIONERS



Couples celebrating their **25th**
or **50th** 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

BE AWARE OF A FRAUD/ SCAM EMAILS FALSELY 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



European Travel Designed
For Your Expectations

Kim Mikula-Travel Planner

813.763.6340
Kmtravelplanner801@gmail.com

OLSS Parishioner

