

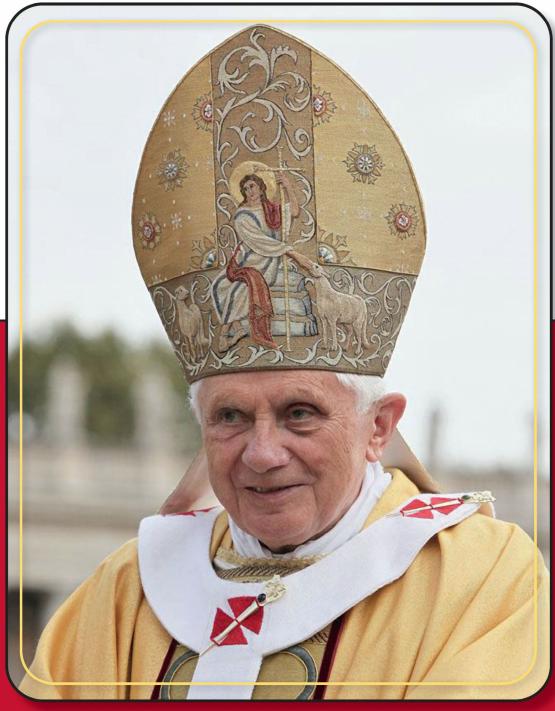
Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. Photos: lukbar/Getty Images, MariaArefyeva/Getty Images

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD.

Prayer at the Manger:

With the Magi Let your light shine on us, O God, as the star showed the way to those who searched for Christ. Fill us with wisdom; help us walk in your ways, now and forever. Amen.

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 fine one in the narthex, and return it to the church office.



POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI

APRIL 16, 1927 – DECEMBER 31, 2022

IN MEMORIAM

In Memoriam

POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI

April 16, 1927 - December 31, 2022

Papacy: April 19, 2005 – February 28, 2013

Joseph Alois Ratzinger was born in Marktl am Inn, Bavaria, on April 16, 1927—Holy Saturday—and baptized that same day—the first person baptized in the new Easter water. It was a sign of blessing, he wrote in a memoir, that his life from the beginning was thus immersed in the Easter mystery. He entered the minor seminary in 1939 at the age of twelve, but his studies were interrupted by World War II, when the seminary was closed and Joseph, along with most of his class, was drafted into the army at the age of sixteen.

After the war he resumed his education in philosophy and theology, and together with his brother, Georg, was ordained a priest in 1951. During the course of a twenty-year career as a professor of dogma and theology at several German universities, he earned a reputation as a gifted lecturer and learned scholar, and was present as a *peritus*, or theological advisor, at all four sessions of the Second Vatican Council.

He was ordained an archbishop in May of 1977 and elevated to the College of Cardinals a month later. He settled in Rome in 1981 and went on to become one of the most influential men in the Roman curia. Of the many offices he held, he was best known as the Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, an authoritative advisor on doctrinal issues during his predecessor's pontificate. When he was elected the 265th successor of Peter in 2005 at the age of seventy-eight, he became the first German pope since Victor II in the eleventh century. A central theme of his papacy was the staunch defense of core Christian values against what he saw as moral decline across much of Europe. At the same time, he sought to improve relations with other religions, trying to determine if a "cultural synthesis" was possible without losing the identity of the faith while engaged in discourse with the Lutheran World Federation, Judaism, Islam, the Anglican Communion, and Christian Orthodox Churches. He also spoke out against human rights abuses and ongoing political conflicts and warfare, and advocated better protection of the environment. He called for a radical rethinking of the global economy, criticizing the growing divide between rich and poor, and pressed for a "true world political authority" to oversee the economy and work for the common good.

Ever true to his episcopal motto, "Fellow Worker in the Truth," Pope Benedict XVI's teaching and prolific writings always defended traditional Catholic doctrine and values.

On February 11, 2013, Pope Benedict XVI announced that on February 28, 2013, he would resign as supreme pontiff due to his advanced age and deteriorating health and that a conclave would be convened shortly thereafter to elect a new pope. He returned to Rome and remained there as Pope Emeritus after Jorge Bergoglio succeeded him as Bishop of Rome.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

Compliments of J.S. Paluch Company

GENERAL PARISH INFORMATION DIRECTORY Church Fax:912-882-5845 E-Mail:office@weareolss.org Pastor's Email: pastor@weareolss.org Website:www.weareolss.org Office Hours:Mon—Fri: 9AM—2PM After Hours Emergency:912-882-3760 STAFF Rev. Fr. Mariusz Fuks, Pastor Rev. Mr. Timothy Hughes...... Deacon Rev. Mr. Henry Nieves...... DeaconParish Bookkeeper Bill Whitlock (OLSS),......Parish Council President Tina Baxter (SFoA)...... Parish Council President Lloyd Streit (OLSS)Parish Finance President Bob Schlag (SFoA)......Parish Finance President Bryant and Kristie Shepard...... Religious Education MASS SCHEDULE Sunday:(OLSS) 11:00AM / (SFoA) 8:30AM Vigil:(OLSS) 5:00PM (except on Holy Saturday) Tuesday:5:30PM Wednesday—Friday:8:00AM Wednesday (SFoA)...... 6:00PM First Fridays:8:00AM in the Historic Chapel First Saturdays Devotions and Mass:10:00AM Holy Days of Obligation:TBA

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday (OLSS):3:30PM—4:30 PM

Wednesdays & Sundays (SFoA):30 minutes before Mass First Friday Adoration:9:00AM—9:00PM

CONFESSIONS

Monday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10: Mt 3:13-17

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28 or Heb 1:1-6 and 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39 Thursday: Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45 Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12 Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17 Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

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, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9AM—12PM.

Altar Servers: Always looking for new altar servers and experienced altar servers. For more information contact the church office at 912-882-4718.

Catholic Youth Ministry: For more information email Kristie and Bryant Shepard at religioused@weareolss.org.

RCIA: Adults interested in learning about the Catholic Church call Parish Office 912-882-4718.

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.

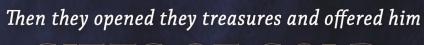
Shut-ins & Hospitalized Family Members: When you or your loved one is getting ready for a planned surgery or procedure or things unplanned happens and you end up in the hospital. Please notify Parish Office at 912-882-4718.

Religious Education: Sundays during the school year September 11, 2022 through May 14, 2023, 9:15AM-10:30AM in the Religious Education building. Email Bryant and Kristie Shepard at religioused@weareolss.org.

Ladies Auxiliary: The ladies of our parish use their skills and talents in a wide variety of roles. Contact Sally Caez at caez@tds.net.

Knights of Columbus (K of C): This is a global Catholic fraternal service order founded by Fr. Michael J. McGivney on March 29, 1882. It has grown to support refugee relief, Catholic education, local parishes and diocese, and global Catholic social and political causes. Membership is limited to practicing Catholic men. For more information contact Tom Jenkins or Norberto Caez at KofC@weareolss.org.

Ushers: Our ushers provide a welcoming presence to parishioners and visitors as they enter the church. If interested in becoming an usher, please contact parish office at 912-882-4718.



GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH.

Matthew 2:11

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS

Epiphany is a day when popular customs mostly overshadow scriptural accuracy. Matthew's Gospel never refers to kings coming to see Christ, nor to their number (only the gifts are enumerated), nor to their names. Matthew tells us only that some "magi" came with gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Magos referred to members of the Persian priestly class; later it had the connotation of magicians and astrologers. Matthew's magi report that they have seen a star rising; its light was visible to them far beyond the boundaries of Israel, an early and significant symbol for Jesus, the Light of the World. At the end of Matthew's Gospel (chapter 28), the followers of Jesus worship him, an act foretold in the actions of the Magi today. The eleven are told to make disciples of "all nations," nations symbolized by the Magi. Today we hear our own mission: to worship Jesus Christ, and to spread his Good News everywhere, every day.

STAR OF WONDER

In our day-to-day lives, we can experience epiphanies: new perceptions, unexpected insights, sudden changes in direction. In the liturgical year, Epiphany celebrates the appearance of a star in the heavens, a remarkable star followed by the Magi to Jesus, Mary and Joseph. They are not so different, our daily epiphanies and the Epiphany celebrated today. The arrival of the Magi certainly changed Mary and Joseph's perceptions of the world, the same way a helpless, tiny baby likely altered the Magi's insights as to what a star in the heavens would reveal. The story of the Magi—and the story of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—is filled with unexpected changes in direction, as God's plan continues to vary when it encounters people who cooperate with it, and others who attempt to thwart it. A deep and long reflection on this day we call Epiphany will uncover numerous epiphanies.

STAR OF LOVE

Like all of the Christmas season, Epiphany celebrates God's eternal and infinite love. In a special way, this day shows how God's love is truly all-inclusive. The magi were not Jews, not part of the Chosen People who expected that the Messiah was coming to save only them. Early on in his Gospel, Matthew tells us that God's love will not be limited by our human presumptions or boundaries. We still struggle with the fact that God is constantly epiphan-izing us to grow beyond the limits of our experience or expectations, to move beyond the boundaries of the world around us. Let us pray that we

might be given epiphanies to help us find grace where we didn't believe it existed, to aid us in understanding that God's love is most often shown by who is included, not who is excluded. May we open our eyes and hearts to know that the Christ-light shines everywhere.

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 60:1–6 Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 10–11, 12–13 Ephesians 3:2–3a, 5–6 Matthew 2:1–12

Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co. Inc.
Photos: © GREEN STUDIO / AdobeStoc
© Elena / AdobeStock
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
© 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Linda Perry, Matthew Rowan, Denis McShane, Fr. Eric Vogt, Carol Riley, Linda Jordan, Evelyn Meaux, Kieran Gaughan Jr., Bruce Giegerich, David Bliton, Annie Hyver, Kathleen Rogers, Elizabeth Newcity, Buck Johnson. Mary Fouraker, "Skipper" Boone, Micky Nieves, Lithornia Simmons, Leo Provanzano, Greg Williamson, Mary Angela Morrissey, 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, Ianthe Brathwaite, 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, Barbara Trudeau, Marie & Tony Franzese, Katy Sherrill, Nathaniel Evans, Xavier Van Moer, Jim Walsh, Tim Roberson, Judy Bailey, Enzo and Maria Lopez, Veronica Gillis, Joyce Rinck, Kitty Rodriguez, David Cocomazzi, Doris Adams, 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

FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

FORMED.org...A revolutionary online platform featuring some of the best Catholic videos, audio talks, eBooks and movies. This is a wonderful resource for personal Faith Formation. To sign up FREE visit formed.org and click on "sign up" and then click "Sign up as a parishioner" then enter *Our Lady Star of the Sea*, 106 East Dilingham Street, Saint Marys, GA 31558. Enter your email and create a password (You will use this to log in later). You can get Formed on your phone, tablet, Roku, Amazon Firestick, Apple TV. ENJOY!!!

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Life hands us many epiphanies or "wake-up calls." A few years ago, a young couple adopted a two-yearold child in a morass of red tape, complications, and court hearings. At the baby's baptism, the priest suggested appending an "adoption blessing," wherein the new relationship was expressed and affirmed. There is a place in that rite for the child to speak, and instead the priest said, "Can you give Daddy a kiss?" Standing in the midst of his church, the young adoptive father suddenly welled up with tears as he embraced the child. Afterward, he explained that through all the hassles and legal struggles he never until that moment in church understood that he was the parent of this child. The ritual claimed them for each other, gave expression to their relationship that the legal documents never could, and firmly cemented this child into the heart of a community as everyone erupted into heartfelt applause. This assembly witnessed in a powerful way what happens in every baptism: the mystery of adoption, the free flow of grace, the overwhelming sense of God's presence at the heart of our life's journey.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

ALL SHARE IN THE PROMISE

Picture a nativity scene in your mind's eye. The scene likely includes figures arriving on camels, some elaborately dressed, with jeweled boxes containing precious gifts. These magi arrived from distant lands to pay homage to the Christ Child. We know little about the magi, but we do know that these visitors were not Jews. They represent people of all nations who will be drawn to the Lord. "Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance." The Good News of Jesus cannot be limited to one people; all share in the promise of God's mercy through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

OLSS COMPARISONS FROM LAST YEAR

SFoA COMPARISONS FROM LAST YEAR

JAN 1, 2023		JAN 2, 2022		JAN 1, 2023		JAN 2, 2022	
Collection 4	\$ 8,863.00	Collection	\$ 4,917.50	Collection 4	\$ 990.00	Collection	\$ 440.00
Mortgage 4	\$ 1,795.00	Mortgage	\$ 80.00	Mortgage 4	\$ 1,119.00	Mortgage	\$ 768.00

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) signifies the sacrificial nature of giving of something of yourself to associate more intimately with Christ who offers himself in the Eucharist.

The **VIRTUS** Protecting God's Children training is required for all volunteers and employees in the Diocese of Savannah regardless of whether or not they come into contact with children..

The following sessions have been added to the schedule:

January 11—ZOOM Remote 6PM—9PM REGISTRANTS WILL BE SENT THE ZOOM MEETING LINK, ALONG WITH THE RULES FOR THE SESSION BY EMAIL 24 TO 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE CLASS. PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- NO ONE UNDER AGE 18 MAY BE IN THE AREA OF THE ADULT WHO IS TRAINING
 INCLUDING INFANTS AND TODDLERS.
- PARTICIPANTS MUST BE ABLE TO BEEN SEEN ON CAMERA DURING THE DISCUS-SION BY THE FACILITATOR IN ORDER TO VERIFY ATTENDANCE.
- THE SESSION BEGINS AT 6:00OM. NO PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE SESSION AT 6:01PM. HOWEVER, IF YOU ARE ADMITTED PRIOR TO THAT TIME AND YOUR DISCONNECTION IS LOST, LOG BACK ON AGAIN AND THE FACILITATOR WILL ADMIT YOU.

January 21—St. John the Evangelist School—Valdosta 9AM—12PM

Seating is limited and pre-registration is required online. Register at virtusonline.org. A LAPTOP or DESKTOP is recommended for registration. No one under the age of 18 is allowed to be present. Child care is not provided.

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

1/7/22—Saturday Vigil: <u>5:00PM</u> Pro Populo / For the People

1/8/22—The Epiphany of the Lord
Saint Francis of Assisi Mission: 8:30AM
Our Lady Star of the Sea: 11:00AM
Birthday blessings for Samuel Dominici

1/9/23—Monday: **NO MASS**Baptism of the Lord

1/10/23—Tuesday: <u>5:30PM</u>

For the Holy Souls in Purgatory

1/11/23—Wednesday: <u>8:00AM</u>

For the repose of the soul of Matthew Ford

1/11/23—Wednesday: 6:00PM at St. Francis of Assisi

1/12/23—Thursday: <u>8:00AM</u>

Blessings for Tim & Theresa Murphy

1/13/23—Friday: <u>8:00AM</u>

For the repose of the soul of Larry Sapp

1/14/23—Saturday Vigil: <u>5:00PM</u>

In Thanksgiving for the Von Behren family

1/15/23—Second Sunday on Ordinary Time
Saint Francis of Assisi Mission: 8:30AM
Pro Populo / For the People
Our Lady Star of the Sea: 11:00AM
For the repose of the soul of Andrew
Gombaski



SAVE THE DATE

Get yourself picture ready! We are pleased to announce that our church is in the process of putting together a directory of all our parishioners at both Our Lady Star of the Sea and St. Francis of Assisi. Professional photographs will be taken at OLSS March 2-7 and March 9-12. There will be a sign-up link on our website and in the bulletin at a later date. Stay tuned for more exciting details.

Epiphany House Blessing

If you wish, you can celebrate Epiphany at home with a blessing using the initials of the magi's traditional names (Casper, Melchior, Balthasar), four crosses, and the new year's numerals.

Materials: a piece of chalk and a small container of holy water. Gather with family members, friends, and perhaps some neighbors at the front door.

Leader: In the (+) name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We sign this doorway with four crosses and the numerals of the new year. [20 + C + M + B + 23]

Let us pray: May Christ bless this house!

ALL: Amen!

Each room of the house is sprinkled with holy water.

Living room: Where two or three are gathered in your name, Lord, you are present. Bless this room, O Lord.

ALL: Amen!

Kitchen: Give us this day our daily bread. Bless this room, O Lord. ALL: Amen!

Dining room: Prepare us for the heavenly banquet. Bless this room, O Lord. ALL: Amen! Bedrooms: Stay with us Lord, when night has come. Bless this room, O Lord. ALL: Amen!

Bathroom: Cleanse us from all sin. Bless this room, O Lord. ALL: Amen!

All return to the front door to pray together.

Leader: Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father . . .

The leader sprinkles all present with holy water.

Bless this household through all days to come, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, forever and ever.

ALL: Amen!

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA DECEMBER FINANCIALS

	DEC	FISCAL YTD		DEC	FISCAL YTD
COLLECTION	\$ 54,332.24	\$ 222,374.63	MORTGAGE	\$ 3,623.50	\$ 77,575.75
BUDGET	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 180,000.00	BUDGET	\$ 8,333.33	\$ 49,999.98
OVER/UNDER BUDGET	\$ 24,332.24	\$ 42,374.63	OVER/UNDER BUDGET	(\$ 4,709.83)	\$ 27,575.77

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI DECEMBER FINANCIALS

	DEC	FISCAL YTD		DEC	FISCAL YTD
COLLECTION	\$ 12,762.83	\$ 35,060.83	MORTGAGE	\$ 3,465.40	\$ 16,690.40
BUDGET	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 13,500.00	BUDGET	\$ 2,083.33	\$ 12,499.98
OVER/UNDER BUDGET	\$ 10,512.83	\$ 21,560.83	OVER/UNDER BUDGET	\$ 1,382.07	\$ 6,190.42

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI NEWS

Happy New Year and a sincere thank you to all those responsible for all of the services at SFOA including Fr. Mariusz, Deacon Tim, Deacon Henry, and Deacon Paul. Thank you to the maintenance folks that kept the water pipes from freezing, grass cut, walkways cleaned, church cleaned, garbage sent, and systems running. The gifts and furniture deliveries, visits to the homebound, to the Ukrainian families and food to the food bank. The angel tree gifts and deliveries. Thank you to the musicians and the choir.

Thank you to all for the beautiful flowers and Christmas decorations. Please take the pointsetta's home this Sunday Jan. 8 if you would like to take them home or give them to someone. Please know your very generous gifts of love are appreciate by the St. Francis of Assisi community.

SFOA Ultreya is the third Monday January 16 at 6pm. Butch will read his rollo. We plan to have a baked potato bar for dinner. All are welcome.

<u>Cursillo Weekends</u>: Cursillo Weekends are planned for men and women with the purpose to live what is fundamental for being Christian - love of God and love of neighbor. The encounter runs Thursday evening through Sunday afternoon. Talk to the Deacon's or a Cursillo participant if interested

Mens Weekend - Jan. 26 - Jan 29, 2023

Womens Weekend - Feb. 2 - Feb. 5, 2023

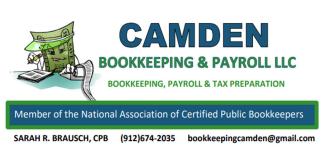
The office staff is working on the yearly **IRS financial statements**. Once the statements are complete, emails will go out to everyone informing you of their availability. If you have an account in "My Own Church" or our OSV Online Giving you will be able to log in and print a copy of your statement. If you have any questions on how to do this, please contact the office.







DR. CARLOS A LEVY, MD - PARISHIONER



SUREPAYROLL



@ duickbooks

SARAH BRAUSCH, CPB - PARISHIONER



BOB SPINO—PARISHIONER





PRINTING & PROMOTIONS

GREG & SUE LOCKHART - PARISHIONERS
912-882-4731

www.launchprintingandpromotions.com



