



Our Lady Star of the Sea

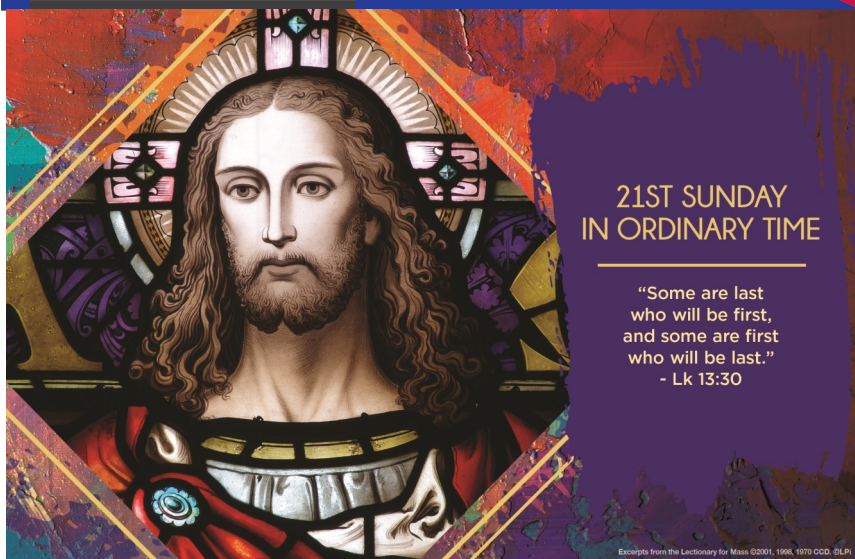
CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE HOLY SITE FOR THE 2025
JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

SAINT MARY'S, 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

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

Bryeant & 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
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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 Friday Mass

8:00 AM at Historic Chapel

Fridays Eucharistic

Adoration

5:30 PM—7:30 PM

OLSS SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil5:00PM

Sunday11:00 AM

OLSS DAILY SCHEDULE

MondayNo Service

Tuesday...Communion Service 5:30PM

Wednesday8:00AM

Thursday & FridayNo Services

SFOA SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday8:30 AM

SFOA DAILY SCHEDULE

WednesdayNo Service

OLSS CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM

SFOA CONFESSIONS

30 minutes before Mass

106 East Dillingham Street ~ Saint Marys, Georgia 31558 /
700 Kingsland Drive ~ Folkston, Georgia 31537

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 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

8/23/25—Saturday Vigil 5:00PM Mass

+ *Frank & Rose McNanna*

8/24/25—XXI SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:30AM (St. Francis Mission)

+ *Elizabeth Donahue Bartholomew*

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

Pro Populo / For the People

8/27/25—Wednesday 8:00AM Mass

+ *William Rabon Warren*

8/28/25—Thursday 8:00AM Mass

+ *Anthony Puchalsky*

8/29/25—Friday 8:00AM Mass

+ *Sy Selenke*

8/30/25—Saturday Vigil 5:00PM Mass

+ *Peg Maurin*

8/31/25—XXII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:30AM (St Francis Mission)

Pro Populo / For the People

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

+ *Bruce McCurdy*

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.

Fran Schneider, Joe Flynn, Ed Piwowar, Larry Mourey, Shawn Salser, Yates & Mary Harrill



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.

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of August 24, 2025

Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2 (Mk 16:15)/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8 (429)/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mk 6:17-29

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Mt 25:14-30

Next Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 (1a)/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14

The one absolutely necessary virtue is perseverance, to not give up on our journey. The mountain we struggle to climb is often our own weakness, failures, and sins. Persevere in prayer. Keep celebrating the sacraments. Embrace daily duties. With God's grace, you are strong enough to keep going. Perhaps the peak is not as far away as you might fear. Keep going!

In the first reading of today, Prophet Isaiah aims to console those people of Israel who had returned from exile and were depressed having witnessed the miserable state of Jerusalem and the poverty of their motherland. Their Temple was destroyed and they felt that God had abandoned them. The Prophet speaks to them perseveringly about the future glory of Jerusalem to which people from every nation will come. Their city would be the center from which the knowledge of the true God would go out in all directions. God's glory is associated with the things God does to lead people to salvation.

The second reading from the letter to the Hebrews tells us that we must expect hardship which is part of our training. We cannot win the ultimate prize unless we undergo such training. It is God our loving Father who sends us these trials and he is our trainer. He loves us and corrects us as good Fathers who will lovingly correct their children for their wrongdoings. Hence all difficulties must be seen as a gift of a loving father and an opportunity to bring forth the peaceful fruit of righteousness. So he advises us not to move away from their Christian duty but persevere in their Christian path as it is the path to salvation.

The Lord's message in today's Gospel was primarily intended for the Jews who had heard his teaching and refused to believe in him. However, the fate he foretells for them is the same fate that awaits all, Jews or gentiles, who fail to accept the Good News and live accordingly. Jesus tells us very clearly today

that it is not enough to follow him, have meals with him and listen to him. There is something more that has to be done. The response of Jesus comes to the question raised by the disciples whether only a few people are going to be saved. This also could be the result of the Jewish belief that only they would be saved. According to the Jewish tradition, there was little possibility for the pagans to be saved. The salvation of God's People, however, was virtually guaranteed, provided they kept the Law.

The Gospel tells us that salvation is not automatic. It requires cooperation and perseverance on our part to secure the kingdom of heaven. There should be the willingness to enter through the narrow gate. The best chance of success is to humble and serve others. What really counts is how to treat other people and accept them. It means that if we want to enter the kingdom of heaven we must mortify ourselves and make sacrifices in order to achieve our final goal. We have the hope that Jesus is the door through which we enter the kingdom. They are the indication that God loves us and corrects us as a loving parent through the pains and sufferings in our life.

Jesus does not at all say that only a few will be saved. He seems to ignore such a question as trivial and useless. The whole thrust of the Gospel is that Jesus came to bring God's love and freedom to the whole world. The primary role of the Christian community has never been simply to guarantee the "salvation" of its own members. It is not the function of the Church to turn all its energies in seeing that its members "save their souls" and sometimes pray for those in "outer darkness".

The next part of the discourse of Jesus deals, first of all, with the rejection of the Jewish People, which, for the most part, did not convert to following of Christ. This rejection made it possible for the pagan Nations to enter the Church and thus to take for themselves the place that had been left vacant by those who were the first to be called: "And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." We know that in Christ, the narrow door is symbolic of the hardships of life for those who follow Jesus.

Jesus links one virtue directly to salvation: perseverance, to not give up on our journey. The mountain we struggle to climb is often our own weakness, failures, and sins. Persevere in prayer. Keep celebrating the sacraments. Embrace daily duties. With God's grace, you are strong enough to keep going. Perhaps the peak is not as far away as you might fear. Keep going!



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 Boys: Always looking for new altar boys and experienced altar boys servers. For more information contact Jason Dominici at olssaltarservers@weareolss.org.

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

OCIA: Adults interested in learning about the Catholic Church email 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 happen and end up in the hospital, please notify the Parish Office at 912-882-4718.

Religious Education: Classes for children grades K-8 are on Sundays during the school year, 9:15am—10:30am in the Religious Ed Building. Email Bryant and Kristie Shepard at religioused@weareolss.org.

Ladies Auxiliary: Fostering friendship in our faith community! Open to all women, ages 18-108! Meetings are held the 2nd 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 & 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.

Knights of Columbus (K of C) is a global Catholic fraternal service order founded by Fr. Michael J. McGivney on March 27, 1882. It has grown to support refugee 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 call the church office, 912-882-4718.

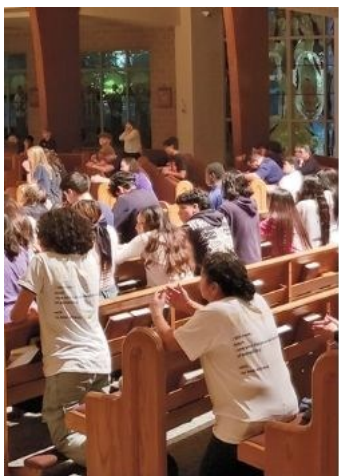
Father's Hospitality Angels: Volunteers dedicated to serving our priest and parish through receptions, welcoming newcomers, children's movie nights, Senior Home Outreach and much more. We host many fundraising events throughout the year to fully support our ministry and special projects. If you would 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 (912-322-6857) for more information.

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.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Mon 8/25	NO SERVICE OLSS Knights of Columbus 6:00PM—RE Building
Tues 8/26	SFoA—9:30AM—Ladies Cursillo OLSS—5:30PM—MASS & ADORATION
Wed 8/27	OLSS—8:00 AM DAILY MASS SFoA—9:00AM—Men's Cursillo OLSS—5:30PM Legion of Mary— RE Building SFOA—6:00PM—DAILY MASS
Thurs 8/28	OLSS—8:00AM DAILY MASS OLSS—5:30PM—Ladies Cursillo—RE Building OLSS—5:30—Mens Cursillo—RE Building
Fri 8/29	OLSS—8:00AM DAILY MASS OLSS—5:30PM to 7:30PM— ADORATION—MAIN CHURCH
Sat, 8/30	OLSS—5:00 PM—VIGIL MASS—MAIN CHURCH
Sun, 8/31	SFOA—8:30AM MASS OLSS—11:00 AM MASS

Consider what the world would look like if it came to be filled with people who had never been taught to reflect on their life challenges. We become this way with God. Even the most “devout” among us avoid confession and forego daily examinations of conscience. We keep things superficial in our prayer life, avoiding depth of heart and real intimacy with God. But when we do this, we rob ourselves of an opportunity to rely on God's fatherly strength, to fill ourselves with His goodness. We're saying: “No thanks, Father, I'm good. You can keep your discipline. You can keep your grace.”



DIOCESAN JUBILEE GATHERING

OCTOBER 11, 2025 | SACRED HEART, WARNER ROBINS

Adoration • Talks • Live Music • Activities
Exhibit Tables • Fellowship • Relics
Mass with Bishop Parkes

Fun for the whole family – activities for all ages!

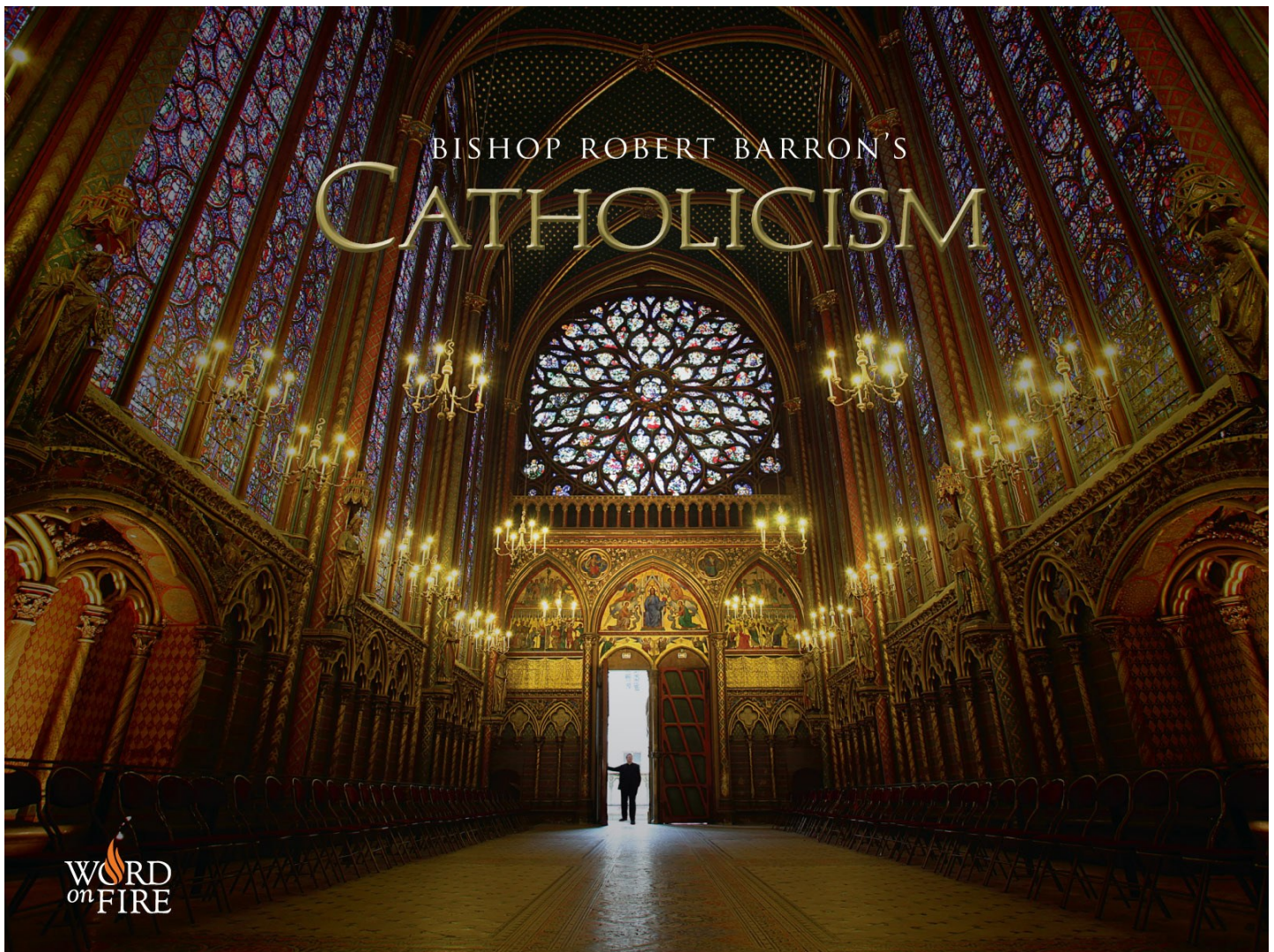
To view the schedule, register to attend, set up
an exhibit table, or carry a procession banner,
scan the QR code or visit **diosav.org/10-11**



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE of SAVANNAH
CELEBRATING 175 YEARS

FREE – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Includes Lunch





Please come and explore the depths of our Catholic faith as we dive into Bishop Robert Barron's widely acclaimed video series "CATHOLICISM".

TOPICS: "Arguments for God's Existence", "The Teachings of Jesus", "The Mother of God", "The Mystery of the Church", "Conversion and Mission", *and more* are presented by Bishop Barron, followed by group discussion.

WHERE: St. Francis of Assisi Church, 700 Kingsland Dr, Folkston, GA

WHEN: 10 Weekly sessions. #1 ~ September 10, 2025, 6:40-8:15 PM
#10~ November 19th

COST: NO COST for participation.

Refreshments: Potluck dinner & desserts. Beverages will be provided.

Recommended Resource Materials: Bible, The Catechism of the Catholic Church, "CATHOLICISM" Series Study Guide, (available from Word On Fire Publishing >> WWW.WordOnFire.ORG.)

Note: Resource Materials are *recommended* but are not necessary for participation.

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 will begin the first Sunday after Labor Day, September 7th, at 9:15 AM. Pick up is at 10:30 AM. To Register, go to 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.

Bryant and Kristie Shepard
Directors of Religious Education



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.





OFFERTORY UPDATE

OLSS COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

AUGUST 17 2025		AUGUST 18, 2024
COLLECTION		COLLECTION
\$ 8,822.00		\$ 7,892.00
MAINTENANCE		MAINTENANCE
\$ 225.00		\$ 422.00

SFOA COMPARISON FROM LAST YEAR

AUGUST 17, 2025		AUGUST 18, 2024
COLLECTION		COLLECTION
\$ 602.00		\$ 1,385.00
MAINTENANCE		MAINTENANCE
\$ 152.00		\$ 403.00

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 5PM Vigil mass and Sunday's 11AM Mass. Rehearsals are Wednesday nights. See Scott for more details. All are Welcome!

	LECTORS	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS
SAT. 8/23	K HILL; E. SEPULVEDA	B. SHEPARD	D. FOSTER; D COSTA; D PETRINE; D COSTA
SUN 8/24	B BENTON; H THORNHILL	E. GOMEZ; I. DOMINICI; S DOMINICI	S. GALLOWAY; J GALLOWAY; R CAPPELLO; R GARZA
TUES 8/26	K HILL		
WED 8/27			
THURS 8/28			
FRI 8/29	E. SEPULVEDA		
SAT 8/30	E SEPULVEDA; R FOY	C WILKINS; W WILKINS; L WILKINS	D RUSSO; J PAPPAS; D PETRINE; D FOSTER
SUN 8/31	T JENKINS; K JENKINS	I DOMINICI; E GOMEZ; S DOMINICI	S GALLOWAY; J GALLOWAY; M RECORE; J NEVINS



PARISHIONER



PARISHIONER



PARISHIONER



PARISHIONER



GREG & SUE LOCKHART

PARISHIONERS

**BE AWARE OF 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

