

*After hearing the king, they went on their way; and behold, the star, which they had seen in the east, went on ahead of them until it came to a stop over the place where the Child was to be found. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. (Mt. 2:9-10)*

As we now enter the Christmas season, we rejoice in the fulfillment of God's promise: the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Advent was a season of preparation and anticipation, and now, in this joyful season, we celebrate that Christ has come.

Our Advent theme, "Prepare Him Room," reminded us that we need to prepare and make room for Jesus. When we prepare a special place for Jesus, he enters with peace, gentleness, and companionship, transforming every heart, family, and community into a place of belonging, warmth, and peace.

There is certainly a comfort when we know Christ is present! His birth in Bethlehem was not just the start of His earthly journey but the beginning of a homecoming for all of humanity—a home rooted in His love and mercy.

Our parish is blessed to be a home for so many, a place where Christ dwells and welcomes all. As we gaze upon the manger this Christmas, let us reflect on how Jesus calls each of us to make our hearts His dwelling place, sharing His love with our families and neighbors.

May this Christmas season be filled with the hope, peace, and joy that only Christ can give. Thank you for being part of our parish family. Together, let us bring others to live the love of God in and through our faith.

Merry Christmas and blessings to you and your loved ones, now and always.

Msgr. Gary Smetanka

*Christmas blessings to you  
and your family*



WITH MARY, WE BRING PEOPLE TO CHRIST  
TO LIVE THE LOVE OF GOD

December 25, 2025

OLSOS.org

## Mass times & information

SAT	4:00 p.m. (Vigil)
SUN	8:00 a.m.
	9:30 a.m.
	11:30 a.m.
MON - THU	7:30 a.m.
FRI	8:30 a.m.

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MON - THU	8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
FRI	8:00 a.m. - Noon
SAT	Closed
SUN	Closed
Holidays	Closed

### FAITH FORMATION

313-884-5554

### BAPTISMS

Must be a Registered Parishioners. Please call the Faith Formation Office (313-884-7407) during the last months of pregnancy to arrange for Baptism classes and schedule the Sacrament.

*Everyone has a right to their own sacramental certificate. No one has the right to another person's certificate, except: the parent/guardian of a minor child. (Archdiocese of Detroit)*

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 3:00 pm or by appointment

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK / MINISTRY TO THE SICK

**The Church strongly encourages** people to receive the Sacrament (Anointing) of the Sick at the early stages of serious sickness or before serious surgeries.

In emergency situations needing the prompt attention of a priest, please call the parish office.

### MARRIAGE

Must be a registered member, in good standing, of OLSOS. Archdiocesan law requires advance notice of at least six months.

### PARISH REGISTRATION

Newcomers to the parish may register in the Parish Office or online at OLSOS.org.

Please notify the Parish Office of address changes.

**Adults over 21** need to be registered as an individual member to be considered a Catholic in Good Standing.

Hearing devices are available for use during Mass. Please ask an usher for assistance.



## Mary, Holy Mother of God A Holyday of Obligation

December 31, 2025: 4:00 pm

January 1, 2026: 9:30 am

For more information  
please call the parish office  
313-884-5554 or visit olsos.org.



### Support Our Parish Give Online!

Giving is now easier than ever with ParishSoft Giving! You can donate securely by **text, QR code, or online**:

- **Text-to-Give:** Simply text "GIVE" to **313-887-6612** and follow the quick setup instructions.
- **Scan to Give:** Use your phone's camera to scan the **QR code below** and be taken directly to our secure giving page.
- **Give Online:** Visit our website at [giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-1044](http://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-1044) to make a one-time or recurring gift.

Your generosity sustains our parish mission and outreach.

Thank you for your continued support!



During Advent, our school and parish community focused on making room for Jesus in our hearts and lives. As part of this reflection, students created a special "chair" in their classrooms—a symbol of welcome and openness. This chair reminded us to keep a space ready for Jesus and to extend that welcome to others in our community.



## Prayer Group

every Wednesday at 3:00 pm in the O.L.S.O.S. prayer and Eucharistic chapel on Morningside, to pray the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

We pray for world peace and all the parish intentions

## Adoration

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Wednesday - 11am - 2pm  
in the Parish Office Chapel

## Holy Hour

January 5th

7:00 pm in the church



Your 2025 Contribution Statements

Contribution statements will be sent no later than January 31st. These statements summarize your contributions for the 2025 tax year.





## Christmas Decoration Donations in Honor/Memory of...

† Bettejean Ahee  
† Edmund Ahee, jr.  
† Edmund Ahee, Sr.  
† John Ahee  
† Deceased Members of the Elmer Ambrose Family  
† Susan Amine Consuelo Argel  
† Mr. & Mrs. Seth Arnold  
† Anthony Arnone  
† Deceased Members of the Beaudin Family  
† Frank Berge  
† Stella Berge  
† Aaron Blair  
† Maureen Blair  
† Thaddeus & Lillian Bogdanski  
† Thomas Bogdanski  
† Dennis Bossack  
† Paul & Lottie Bossack  
† Deceased Members of the Brinkman Family  
† Sylvia Bryzik  
† Walt Bryzik  
† Henry Bucciero  
† Lynda Bucciero  
† Christine Bury  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Butts  
Sarah Catalfio  
† Deceased Members of the Chester Grzesik Family  
† Deceased Members of the Cieslak Family  
† Elsie & William Connors  
† Deceased Members of the DeLoof Family  
Mr. & Mrs. Eugenio  
Patricia Fayad  
† Deceased Members of the Ficaro Family  
† Anthony & Mamie Ficarra  
† Nate & Joe Ficarra  
† Eileen Finazzo  
† Ray & Rosalie Fix  
† Frank & Ella Fox  
† Thomas Fox  
Teresa Gallotti  
† Annis Wm. Gaynor  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Gerachty  
† Deceased Members of the Grech Family  
† Mr & Mrs. H. L. Groff  
Mr. & Mrs. Andi Hamolli  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Herman  
† Marshall Houle  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Hyduk  
† Ruth & Richard Jantz  
Celine Jasinski  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Kelly  
† Tom Kennedy  
Mr. & Mrs. John Kennedy  
† Robert Kissel  
† Leslie Komlosan  
† Deceased Members of the Kosch Family  
† Kippy Kosorski  
† Harry & Margaret Lampar  
† Mark Lampar  
† Ralph & Christine Lampar  
† Thomas Lawler  
Sedone Ledesma & Aimee Argel  
† Mary Lou LeFevre  
Michael LeFevre  
† Thomas & Josephine Lentine  
† Gerald Levitan  
† Ruth Levitan  
† Anthony & Frances Licata  
† Charles Licata  
† Elizabeth Licata  
† Lillian Licata  
† Deceased Members of the Lombardi Family  
† Edward Magreta  
† Irene Magreta  
† Lucy and Frank Mallat  
† Michael Jr. Martin  
† Helen A. Mastay  
† Ralph J. Mastay  
† Nancy McCall  
Nicholas McGowan  
† Ed Sr. Metry  
† Eddie Jr. Metry  
† Gilbert & Eva Metry  
† Hazel Metry  
† Deceased Members of the Morosky Family  
Mr. & Mrs. David Nielubowicz  
† David Nowakowski  
† Daniel Nwoke  
† Justina Nwoke  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Oliver  
Brian O'Neill  
† Deceased Members of the O'Shea Family  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Paluzzi  
† Jerry Partridge  
Michael Patten  
† Andrew Pflaum  
† Walter Jr. Pokladek  
† John & Virginia Reardon  
† Kevin Rauch  
† Leonard Renusch  
† Sonia Renusch  
Joanne Roose  
† Frank Scalise  
† Teresa Scalise  
† Rosella Schafer  
† Ted Schafer  
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Schena  
† Ruth & Larry Schena  
† Abigail Mary Schorer  
† Gabriel Shorer  
† Howard Schorer  
Serafina Schorer  
† Alfred & Margaret Schulte  
† Paul Schulte  
† Bill Shetler  
† Madeleine Shetler  
† Joe & Catherine Smetanka  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Snyder  
† Jessica Anne Solomon  
† Frank Sosnowski  
† Rose Marie Sosnowski  
† Ann Southwell  
† Eldon Southwell  
Joane Spring  
† Deceased Members of the Stark Family  
John Stephens  
Kathleen Stephenson  
† Deceased Members of the Suppanz Family  
Dr. & Mrs. Patrick Sweeney  
† Matilde Tanguay  
† Mr. & Mrs. Felix Tavern  
† Deceased Members of the Therssen Family  
† Antoni Tluczak  
† Stefania Tluczak  
† James Tranchida, Jr.  
† James & Eleanor Tranchida  
Mr. & Mrs. VanSteenkiste  
† Mary Ann Votruba  
† Francis Wagner  
† Sarah Wagner  
† Joseph Wasik  
Liz Watta  
Mr. & Mrs. Wenz  
† Elaine Westerman  
† Maria Witek  
† Ed Wujek  
† Thomas J. Youngblood  
† Goudy Zacks  
Lorna Zalenski  
† Joe & Mary Zelenak  
† Frank C.E. Zimmer  
† Margaret Zimmer  
† Robert A. Zink MD  
† Sharon Zinser  
† Clem Zmyslowski  
† Donna Zmyslowski

## Catechist Needed!

We are still looking for a 5th grade catechist beginning in January! If you love your faith and enjoy helping young people grow closer to God, we would love to have you join our team.

**Help  
needed**

All training and support are provided — a willing heart is all you need to make a lasting difference! You can even ask a friend to co-teach!

If interested, please contact Jack Novak

## MISSION TEXAS 2026

**This Mission Trip will be from June 15-30th and is designed for High Schoolers. We will be joining Strake Jesuit High School in Houston for all service projects.**

If you are interested, please contact Jack Novak.

### Probable Trip Inclusions

Service Projects  
in 5+ States

Texas Rangers  
Baseball Game

Silver Dollar City  
Amusement Park

Galveston  
Beach

Lifetime Memories  
and Friendships



## Vacation Bible School

August 10th-13th

More details to follow!



## Coping with Depression and Anxiety Talk

**Jan 14<sup>th</sup> - The Pointe - 7:00pm**

Join Dr. Agnes Ward, Licensed Psychologist, as she explores signs and symptoms of depression and anxiety. Coping mechanisms to manage difficult feelings will be discussed, including managing distressing emotions during the holiday season. Ways to cope will be discussed and resources will be provided. Participants will receive a St. Dymphna medal, patron saint of mental health.

**Questions for all events can be directed to:**

**Jack Novak:** Email: [j.novak@stargp.org](mailto:j.novak@stargp.org) | Phone: 313-558-7407

**Visit our Website:** [olsos.org/ff](http://olsos.org/ff)



# ST. CARLO ACUTIS LEGO EXHIBIT

## FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup> AFTER MASS

Come tour an exhibit dedicated to one of our newest saints. St. Carlo Acutis!

### Baptism

If you are looking to have your child baptized at Our Lady Star of the Sea, we encourage you to visit our baptism page on our website.

[olsos.org/sacraments/baptism](http://olsos.org/sacraments/baptism)



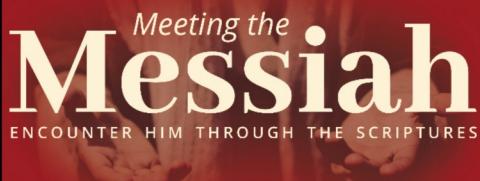
You can email any questions to:  
[Baptism@stargp.org](mailto:Baptism@stargp.org)



### Sacraments

We have over fifty 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders preparing for their First Reconciliation and First Communion and over thirty 8<sup>th</sup> Graders preparing for Confirmation.

Please keep these students in your prayers as they prepare to receive their sacraments!



### Adult Bible Study

**Many of us grew up believing that being a Christian simply meant going to church and saying grace before meals, but being a follower of Christ isn't about going through the motions. It's about having a deep, personal friendship with Jesus—a relationship that gives purpose and meaning to every part of your life. Meeting the Messiah will take you on a scriptural journey through the lives of men and women who met Jesus in person and whose lives were forever changed. Curtis Martin and Dr. Edward Sri invite you to encounter Jesus face-to-face through His word and hear the personal message He's been telling you all along: You are not alone. You are beloved. You are His.**

**Thursdays:**

**January 15<sup>th</sup> - February 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Morning Session: Evening Session:**

**9:30-11:00am 7:00-8:30pm**

**Ways to Sign Up:**

**Option 1: Scan the QR code**



**Option 2: Cut out and return slip**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CIRCLE YOUR SESSION**

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MORNING** **EVENING**

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**No Cost!**

**Please return to parish office.**

**Questions for all events can be directed to:**

**Jack Novak:** Email: [j.novak@stargp.org](mailto:j.novak@stargp.org) | Phone: 313-558-7407

**Visit our Website:** [olsos.org/ff](http://olsos.org/ff)



# OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL

## OPEN HOUSE + ART SHOW & MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

**January 25, 2026  
12:00 - 3:00 PM  
467 Fairford Rd. Grosse Pointe Woods**



### Preschool

#### 3 Year - Young 5

- Aftercare available for all students
- Young 5 literacy curriculum aligns with our K-5 curriculum
- Play-based program + introduction to academics
- Builds independence, confidence, emotional regulation

### Elementary

#### Kindergarten - 5th Grade

- 1:17 Teacher to Student ratio
- Differentiated, one-on-one instruction
- Special classes include Spanish, music, art, gym, and computers for all grades

### Middle School

#### 6th - 8th Grade

- High school and college prep-style environment
- National Junior Honor Society
- Unique leadership opportunities
- Resource Room offers academic support, K-8

**(313) 884-1070**

**[www.starschoolgrossepointe.org](http://www.starschoolgrossepointe.org)**

# CarePointe

A Community Support Group for Family and Friends of Loved Ones with Memory Loss



## WHEN

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of Every Month  
from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m

## WHERE

Our Lady Star of the Sea  
Catholic Church  
467 Fairford Rd.  
Grosse Pointe Woods

## WHAT TO EXPECT

- ♦ Meet Other Caregivers
- ♦ Share Your Experiences
- ♦ Learn from Others
- ♦ Find Support in a Welcoming Environment



## All Are Welcome

No Registration Required

For more information, visit us at [CarePointeSupport.org](http://CarePointeSupport.org)

[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CarePointeSupport) /CarePointeSupport Email: [Info@CarePointeSupport.org](mailto:Info@CarePointeSupport.org) Phone: 313.884.5554 Sponsored by AMen Fellowship

# Bereavement Group



## SEEING THE LIGHT OF DAY

A faith based group meeting

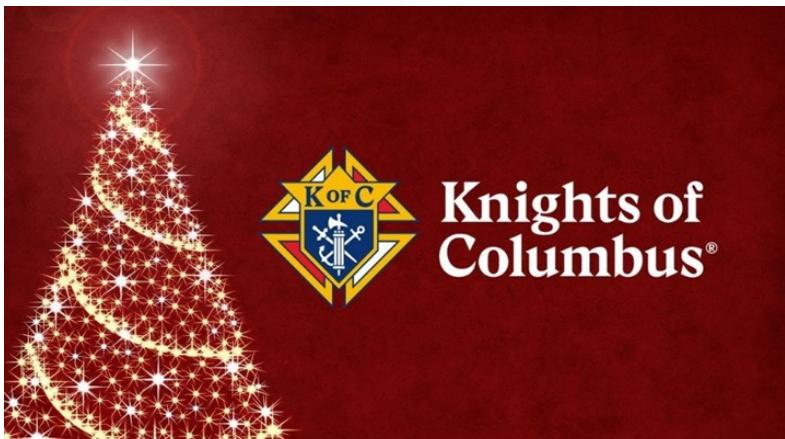
Our Lady Star of the Sea

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

1:00 pm - in the Pointe

Questions? Contact the Parish office 313-884-5554

**Thank You for Supporting Our  
St. Nick Breakfast – Tootsie Roll Drive  
Ham Sales -- Bottle and Can Drive**



**Join US! [KofC.org/join](http://KofC.org/join)**



Food & beverages will be provided. There will also be cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers. Open to all!

# SAVE THE DATE—MARCH 21, 2026 at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club

## Step Into the Spotlight - Support Our Lady Star of the Sea!



As we celebrate the joy and generosity of the Christmas season, we invite you to join us in supporting one of Our Lady Star of the Sea's most cherished traditions: the annual Auction. Each year, this beloved event unites our parish and school community to uplift the programs, enrichment, and faith-centric experiences that help our children thrive. The support generated through Spotlight will directly impact every student and every classroom. Whether you've been part of the excitement for years or are discovering this event for the first time, there are many meaningful ways you can participate and make a lasting impact.

For more information:  
[www.OLSOSAuction.org](http://www.OLSOSAuction.org)  
[info@olsosauction.org](mailto:info@olsosauction.org) 313.423.9104

### ★ Sponsorships & Advertisements

Sponsorships and advertisements are now available. Your support puts your family or business in the spotlight while helping to make this event a success. Opportunities offer outstanding visibility in print, online, and at the event.

### ★ Donate an Auction Item

Help us roll out the red carpet! We are seeking donations of unique experiences, gift cards, sports tickets, and one-of-a-kind items for our silent and live auctions. Contributions of all sizes, help support Our Lady Star of the Sea.

### ★ Support by becoming a Patron

Stand alongside our Honorary Chairs, Jim & Joan Tobin, and join the Spotlight Patron Campaign. Every gift, in any amount, helps light the way for our students and is received with sincere gratitude.

## SPOTLIGHT

An Evening Among the Stars



### Sponsors



JULIE HENRY-KELLY M.D., FAAO  
Board Certified Orthopaedic Surgeon  
Physical Therapy and Aquatic Therapy



## DIRECTORY

### PARISH OFFICE

467 Fairford Rd.,  
Grosse Pointe Woods,  
Michigan, 48236  
P (313) 884-5554  
F (313) 885-5591  
[www.olsos.org](http://www.olsos.org)  
[parish@stargp.org](mailto:parish@stargp.org)

### Emergencies

Call the parish office phone number, dial 5003

### PRIEST IN SOLIDUM

**Moderator**  
**Lead for OLSOS**  
**Msgr. Gary Smetanka**  
[msgr.smetanka@stargp.org](mailto:msgr.smetanka@stargp.org)

### WEEKEND ASSISTANT

**Fr. Brian Meldrum**  
[meldrum.brian@shms.edu](mailto:meldrum.brian@shms.edu)  
**Resides at:** Sacred Heart Major Seminary

### BULLETIN

[parish@stargp.org](mailto:parish@stargp.org)  
Submission of any article must be received at least 10 days prior to the bulletin date.

### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

**Debby Veltri**  
[d.veltri@stargp.org](mailto:d.veltri@stargp.org)  
**PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE**

### ASSISTANT

**Karin Gross**  
[k.gross@stargp.org](mailto:k.gross@stargp.org)

### BUSINESS/FACILITY MANAGER

**Steve Carozza**  
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### MUSIC MINISTER

**Aaron Kaleniecki**  
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### DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

**Annie Schunior**  
[a.schunior@stargp.org](mailto:a.schunior@stargp.org)

### MISSION & VISION

**Michael King**  
[m.king@stargp.org](mailto:m.king@stargp.org)

### FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

**Lou Zedan**

### WORSHIP

**Terry Varani**

### USHERS

**Paul Ventimiglia**

### SCHOOL OFFICE

P (313) 884-1070

### SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

**Danielle Trudel**  
[D.trudel@stargp.org](mailto:D.trudel@stargp.org)

### SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE

**ASSISTANT**  
**Andrew Sopiek**  
[A.sopiek@stargp.org](mailto:A.sopiek@stargp.org)

### FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

P: (313) 884-7407

### FAITH FORMATION

**COORDINATOR**  
**Jack Novak**  
[j.novak@stargp.org](mailto:j.novak@stargp.org)

### CONFIRMATION

**COORDINATOR**  
**Madeleine Kaiser**  
[m.kaiser@stargp.org](mailto:m.kaiser@stargp.org)

### CYO

**ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**  
**Loreto Manzo**  
[olstarsports@yahoo.com](mailto:olstarsports@yahoo.com)



## FAMILIES OF PARISHES

## Thresholds of Hope

### ST BASIL THE GREAT

Mass Times

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.  
Daily: MWFS 8:30 a.m. T 7:00 p.m.

### ST JOAN OF ARC

Mass Times

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 8:00, 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.  
Daily: MTWTHF 7:00 a.m. W 6:00 p.m.

### ST LUCY

Mass Times

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday: 10:00 a.m.  
Daily: MF 9:00 a.m. W 12:00 p.m.

### ST VERONICA

Mass Times

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
Daily: TWTH 7:45 a.m. (Convent)

### OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

Mass Times

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 8:00, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.  
Daily: MTWTH 7:30 a.m. F 8:30 a.m.