



308 East 22nd Avenue,  
Gulf Shores, Alabama 36542  
251-968-7062 | [office@olgal.org](mailto:office@olgal.org)

   [olgal.org](http://olgal.org)



# OUR LADY OF THE GULF CATHOLIC CHURCH

AUGUST 17, 2025 – TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## MASS AND DEVOTIONAL SCHEDULE



Saturday 4:30 p.m. Anticipated Mass  
Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m. Mass  
Weekdays (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday) 7:30 a.m. Rosary, 8:00 a.m. Mass  
Wednesday 4:30-5:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration, Confession 5:30 p.m. Healing Mass  
Confession: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 7:30 a.m., Wednesday 4:30 p.m., Saturday 4:00 p.m.  
\*Wednesday and Sunday Evening Masses are ad Orientem – Visit [olgal.org/ao](http://olgal.org/ao) for more information.

First Friday Adoration: September 5 – Please sign up at [olgal.org/adore-him](http://olgal.org/adore-him) or call the parish office. We need two guardians for each hour to ensure Adoration continues as scheduled.

## THE SACRAMENTS: ENCOUNTERS WITH CHRIST



The sacraments are sacred encounters with God, instituted by Christ, that nourish our faith and restore or strengthen our relationship with Him. Through these visible signs of grace, we experience His presence in profound ways. At Our Lady of the Gulf, we are blessed to celebrate all seven sacraments of the Catholic Church:

**Baptism:** The gateway to the Christian life, Baptism cleanses us from sin and welcomes us into God's family. A Baptismal Preparation Class is scheduled for **Thursday, October 2 at 6:00 p.m.** Contact Deacon Danny Rodgers to register: [baptism@olgal.org](mailto:baptism@olgal.org).

**Eucharist:** The source and summit of our faith, where at every Mass, we receive the true Body and Blood of Christ. To prepare for First Holy Communion, contact Danielle Lee: [CREd@olgal.org](mailto:CREd@olgal.org).

**Reconciliation (Confession):** A sacrament of healing, offering God's mercy and forgiveness. Confessions are scheduled for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 7:30 a.m., Wednesday 4:30 p.m., Saturday 4:00 p.m.

**Confirmation:** This sacrament strengthens us with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and deepens our commitment to Christ. For youth (Grades 9–12), contact Phil Gazzo: [teen@olgal.org](mailto:teen@olgal.org). For adults, contact Mike O'Neil: [ybcatholic@olgal.org](mailto:ybcatholic@olgal.org).

**Marriage:** A sacred covenant between a man and a woman, mirroring Christ's love for His Church. For marriage preparation or information on getting married at OLG, visit: [olgal.org/marriage](http://olgal.org/marriage).

**Holy Orders:** Through ordination, men are called to serve as deacons, priests, or bishops in the Church. Please continue to pray for vocations. If you think you might be called to Holy Orders, please reach out to Fr. Carucci as soon as possible.

**Anointing of the Sick:** A sacrament of healing and strength for those facing serious illness or advanced age. Anointing is available before or after Mass, or can be arranged at home or in the hospital. Contact our Caring Ministry Coordinator, Sara Pharmann: [olgcares@olgal.org](mailto:olgcares@olgal.org).

If you or a loved one need a sacrament, please contact the appropriate coordinator listed above, reach out to the parish office at [office@olgal.org](mailto:office@olgal.org), or call 251-968-7062. You can also visit our website for more information about each sacrament. We are here to walk with you on your journey of faith.

## MASS INTENTIONS AUGUST 16-23, 2025



Saturday	8/16	4:30 p.m.	†Brennan & Eckert Families
Sunday	8/17	8:00 a.m.	Missa Pro Populo
		10:30 a.m.	†Mary Kokemor
		7:00 p.m.	†Fr. Robert Fulton +
Monday	8/18	8:00 a.m.	†Kathleen McLoughlin
Tuesday	8/19	8:00 a.m.	†Alvin & Doris Bryant
Wednesday	8/20	5:30 p.m.	Healing Mass
Thursday	8/21	8:00 a.m.	Joel Rivera
Friday	8/22	8:00 a.m.	†Larry Crawford
Saturday	8/23	4:30 p.m.	†Lynn and Chuck Lightcap

If you would like to honor a loved one or commemorate a special occasion with a Mass intention or the Sanctuary Lamp, contact the Parish Office at [Intentions@olgal.org](mailto:Intentions@olgal.org) or 251-968-7062. Note: 8:00 a.m. Sunday Mass is always offered by the pastor for the people of his parish.

## ALTAR FLOWERS



This week's altar flowers are donated by the **Altar Rosary Society** in memory of Father Robert Fulton.

There are available dates to donate flowers for the altar in 2025. Flowers may be given in memory/ honor of someone or in thanksgiving for a special event in your life. For information, please contact Judie Flanigan at 251-554-4889 or [judithnflanigan@gmail.com](mailto:judithnflanigan@gmail.com).

## LITURGY OF THE WORD



Each week upon entering the church, kindly take a Mass handout, which provides reflections on the Liturgy of the Day, the seasonal Marian Antiphon, and the hymns.

**August 17, 2025 –**

**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Jeremiah 38:4–6, 8–10; Psalm 40:2, 3, 4, 18; Hebrews 12:1–4; Luke 12:49–53

**August 24, 2025 –**

**Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)**

Isaiah 66:18–21; Psalm 117:1, 2; Hebrews 12:5–7, 11–13; Luke 13:22–30

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERING

July Online Donations: ..... \$ 12,418.42  
August 10, 2025: ..... \$ 8,591.59

**Simplify Your Tithing – Give Online!** Support Our Lady of the Gulf with the ease and convenience of online giving. No more envelopes or checks—just a simple, secure way to give that saves you time and helps the parish reduce administrative costs. Join many of our parishioners who already give online. It's the most efficient and cost-effective way to support our mission.

To get started, scan the QR code, text GIVEOLG to 84576, or visit [OLGAL.org/give](http://OLGAL.org/give).



## WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS



**Welcome to Our Lady of the Gulf!** Welcome! Whether you seek a spiritual home, guidance, or community, you are valued here. Please explore our parish resources, and register at the office or via the QR code above if you haven't yet. We look forward to sharing this faith journey with you.

**To Our Visitors:** Thank you for attending. Although this parish consists of approximately 300 families, more than 2,000 people participate in Sunday Masses. To accommodate increased attendance, the church is planning to add 250 seats.

Support for the Building Fund can be provided through blue envelopes in the vestibule or online at [olgal.org/building-fund](http://olgal.org/building-fund). Contributions are appreciated.

## ANNUAL MASS ENROLLMENT

Honor a loved one in a special and lasting way through our Annual Mass Enrollment. This beautiful tradition offers a year of prayerful remembrance for deceased individuals. Enrolled names will be remembered at First Friday Masses and in the daily prayers of our parish community throughout the year. For a suggested donation of \$100.00 per year, you will receive a commemorative Mass folder, and your gift will help support the creation of our outdoor prayer garden – a peaceful space for reflection and devotion. To enroll a loved one or for more information, please contact the Parish Office.

Prayerfully Remembered This Year:

- |                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| • Anne McCormick            | • Fr. John Holleman |
| • Dennis Dentzer            | • Connie Roth       |
| • Merlin Roy Markel         | • Thomas Hayes      |
| • Mark Christopher Williams | • Andy Blomquist    |
| • Judy Sieg                 | • Matthew Flanigan  |
| • Nicholas Brandler         |                     |

## WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAY

Weekly Eucharistic Adoration and Confession take place every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m., with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and a priest available for Confession. The Healing Mass follows at 5:30 p.m. for those listed in the Parish Book of Healing; names can be added in the church vestibule or by contacting the Parish Office. Worship on Wednesday Meals and will resume September 17!



## FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: SEPTEMBER 5



On the First Friday of each month, we celebrate Daily Mass at 8:00 a.m., followed by Eucharistic Adoration from 8:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

**Guardians Needed:** To ensure the Blessed Sacrament is never left alone, we ask to have at least two adorers signed up every hour in advance.

**How to Help:**

- Choose the earliest hour you're available – if a slot shows "All Slots Full," that means the two-person minimum is met, but extra adorers are always welcome.
- If you can't make your scheduled hour, please arrange a substitute so we won't have to repose early.
- Scan the QR code to sign up or visit: You're welcome to drop in any time during Adoration – even outside your committed hour – to spend time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Thank you for your devotion!

## OLG CARE MINISTRY



### CARE MINISTRY: A PARISH FAMILY IN ACTION:

The Care Ministry is committed to extending the care and compassion of Our Lady of the Gulf beyond parish boundaries. In alignment with Christ's directive to love and serve others, our ministry seeks to bring peace and spiritual presence to individuals who are homebound, hospitalized, or otherwise unable to participate in Mass.

#### WHAT WE DO

**Visits & Fellowship:** Trained volunteers conduct regular visits to residences, hospitals, and nursing facilities, offering conversation, encouragement, and empathetic support.

**Prayer Support:** We provide spiritual assistance through prayer with and for those in need, distribute personalized prayer cards, and include intentions in the parish prayer chain.

**Communion & Sacraments:** Upon request, we deliver the Eucharist to those unable to attend Mass and facilitate arrangements for the Anointing of the Sick.

#### WHO WE SERVE

- Individuals who are elderly, ill, recovering from surgery, or otherwise unable to attend Mass.
- Families and caregivers seeking spiritual support for loved ones.
- Community members facing loneliness or adversity who would benefit from a supportive visit.

#### HOW YOU CAN HELP

- **Refer a Neighbor:** Please notify us regarding any parishioners absent from Mass or individuals in need so we may offer outreach.
- **Join Our Team:** No specialized training is required; orientation and ongoing support are provided to all compassionate volunteers.
- **Pray with Us:** Register to participate in prayers for the homebound and hospitalized; weekly intention lists are distributed.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Sara Fahrmann, Care Ministry Coordinator  
[olgcares@olgal.org](mailto:olgcares@olgal.org) | 314-753-8433

*"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."* — Galatians 6:2. We invite you to partner with us in supporting our wider parish family.



## SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST OR JOIN OUR PRAYER MINISTRY



If you have a prayer request, we would love to pray for you. Please contact Connie Bonner at [prayers@olgal.org](mailto:prayers@olgal.org) or call 251-968-7062.

Each week, we receive prayer requests for individuals and special intentions. These requests, along with universal prayer intentions, are shared with members of our Prayer Ministry, who lift them up in prayer throughout the week.

Would you like to be part of this ministry? Sign up to receive our weekly prayer intention emails by visiting [olgal.org/prayer-ministry](http://olgal.org/prayer-ministry). Let us join together in faith, bringing our prayers before the Lord.

#### PRAYER FOR TROOPS

Lord, hold our troops in Your loving hands, protect them as they protect us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

#### PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM STORMS

Almighty God, we come to you seeking protection from storms and natural disasters. Watch over our homes, our families, and our communities. Calm our fears and grant us strength and peace to endure.

#### PRAYER FOR LIFE

For those who are gravely ill or dying: May our Blessed Mother ease their pain and fears, and by her glorious Assumption, console them with the hope of eternal life.

#### THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTION

**August: For mutual coexistence:** Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

## A FAITH PROGRAM YOUR BUSY FAMILY WILL LOVE!

Are you a busy family with a packed schedule? We know it can be challenging to make it to multiple church programs. That's why we created **FAMILIES of FAITH** – a new, all-in-one program designed specifically for your busy life. No more running to separate programs on different days! Join us Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. for one convenient and fun-filled session that fits perfectly between the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses. Here's what to expect:

- We'll start with refreshments and a brief opening led by our Faith Formation Team: Danielle Lee, Phil Gazzo, and Jeanne Smith.
- Elementary Families: Grades K-6 students and their parents will learn and grow in faith together.
- Teen Programs: Middle School and High School students will participate in separate, age-appropriate groups.

Come discover how rewarding and joyful it can be to learn and pray as a family!



### ELEMENTARY KIDS AND PARENTS



#### Discover the Joy of Faith together!

You're invited to be part of **FAMILIES of FAITH**, our new faith formation program that brings the entire family together! Research shows that families who pray together are far more likely to continue their faith journey. This program replaces our traditional CCD format and is designed to be so much more – it's about building a vibrant Catholic community. Join our team on **Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.** for engaging, age-appropriate activities. These sessions will help your family deepen your knowledge of the faith and build a stronger relationship with God. Supplemental sessions will also be provided for those preparing to receive a sacrament. **For more information, visit [olgal.org/family-of-faith](http://olgal.org/family-of-faith). SIGN UP NOW!** Contact: Danielle Lee at [creed@olgal.org](mailto:creed@olgal.org) or 251-968-7062, ext. 6.



### MIDDLE SCHOOL: OLG CONNECT



#### Faith, Friends, and Fun for Middle Schoolers!

Are you in middle school and looking for a place to hang out, have fun, and make some great friends? Our new middle school ministry program, **OLG Connect**, is designed just for you! OLG Connect will now meet on **Sundays at 9:00 a.m.**, starting after our Fall Kickoff. It's a place where you can be yourself, talk about real-life stuff, and discover how your faith connects to everything you do. **For more information, visit [olgal.org/family-of-faith](http://olgal.org/family-of-faith). SIGN UP NOW!** Contact: Danielle Lee at [creed@olgal.org](mailto:creed@olgal.org) or 251-968-7062, ext. 6.



### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY: OLGTEEN



**OLGTeen Returns!** Teens, get ready! **OLGTeen** is back this fall with a new focus on what it means to live out your faith. This year, we'll be exploring the concept of "Biblical Community" and what it looks like to put your faith into action in your daily life. Join us on **Sundays at 9:00 a.m.**, beginning with refreshments in the parish hall. Don't miss out on amazing opportunities for annual events and trips, including:

- **ACYC**, the Archdiocesan Youth Conference
- The **Steubenville Conference** in Atlanta or Orlando
- And much more!

**Questions or ready to sign up?** Contact: Mr. Phil at [teen@olgal.org](mailto:teen@olgal.org) or 561-531-2777.



## ADULT FAITH FORMATION



### LECTIO DIVINA

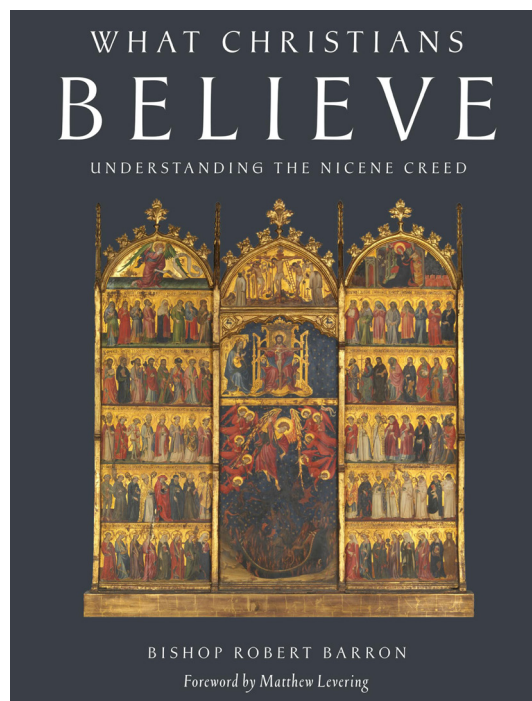
Join us for Lectio Divina every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Conference Room. This one-hour gathering offers fellowship and meaningful discussion of the upcoming Sunday readings. For more information, please contact group member Hank Petersen at 219-873-5983 or [hoosierhank33@gmail.com](mailto:hoosierhank33@gmail.com).



## WHAT CHRISTIANS BELIEVE



Join us this fall for a new class on Bishop Robert Barron's book, "**What Christians Believe.**" Led by Father Carucci, this is a great opportunity to explore the Nicene Creed and deepen your understanding of the faith. The class will be held on **Wednesday evenings** and **Thursday mornings**, starting **September 17**. For more details or to register, please scan the code to visit [olgal.org/what-christians-believe](http://olgal.org/what-christians-believe) or contact the Parish Office.



## LOOKING TO JOIN OR START A BIBLE STUDY?

Are you longing for a deeper connection to your faith and to your parish community? We are inviting both men and women of the parish to help form new Bible study and prayer groups! These groups will be led by parishioners, rooted in Scripture, and centered on Christ. This is an opportunity to grow in God's Word and walk alongside other parishioners who are also seeking brotherhood, honest conversation, and spiritual growth. Your presence could make all the difference as we build something meaningful together.

### Next Step: Interested Parishioner Meeting

A meeting will be scheduled soon for all interested parishioners. We'll get together to explore options and determine the best way to form these new prayer and Bible study groups. Please stay tuned for an announcement with the date and time of this important meeting! For more information, or if you have an idea, contact the parish office at [office@olgal.org](mailto:office@olgal.org) or 251-968-7062.



## CREATIVE COMMUNICATIONS TASK FORCE



Do you have a gift for **photography, video, or social media**? We're forming a **Creative Communications Task Force** to help capture and share the life, joy, and beauty of our parish – online and beyond!

Whether you're a pro behind the lens, love making reels, or just enjoy sharing good news – **we need you!**

Volunteers will support our parish by:

- Photographing parish events and liturgies
- Filming short videos and testimonials
- Helping with editing and content creation
- Supporting our Facebook, Instagram, and website.

**Students, retirees, and everyone in between – if you're passionate about telling stories through media, we'd love to hear from you.**

To learn more or sign up, contact **Suzette Taylor** at the parish office or email [communications@olgal.org](mailto:communications@olgal.org). Let's use our creativity to glorify God and inspire others!



## ANCHORS GROUP: FUN AND FELLOWSHIP FOR AGES 55+



Are you 55 or older and looking for fun ways to connect with others? Consider joining **Anchors**, a community that enjoys social events like dining out, day trips, discussions, and game days. We welcome new members and new ideas!

### Upcoming Events

- **"Lunch Bunch"**: Join us on the **third Wednesday of each month**. Our lunch locations change, so be sure to sign up for updates! On August 20, we are meeting Tuscany Pizza and Grill (Pelican Plaza) at 11:30 a.m.
- **Service Project**: On Monday, October 6 at 10:00 a.m. we will be helping at the Mary's Shelter Gulf Coast Thrift Store to refresh, clean and organize merchandise. A specific date will be announced soon.

To receive all updates regarding lunch locations and future activities, sign up for Anchors Flocknote by scanning the QR code or visiting [olgal.org/anchors](http://olgal.org/anchors). Contact Debbie Booker at [anchors@olgal.org](mailto:anchors@olgal.org) or 901-230-6439. We look forward to seeing you there and welcoming you to the fun!



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Join the Knights of Columbus at Our Lady of the Gulf! Looking for a meaningful way to serve? Now's the time to become a Knight! Our brotherhood of Catholic men is dedicated to faith, service, and fellowship – right here in Gulf Shores. Why Become a Knight?

- Serve causes that matter to our parish and community
- Deepen your faith alongside fellow Catholic men
- Build lifelong friendships in a spirit of charity

**Volunteer Opportunity: Shrimp Festival Beer Tent**  
Help us fundraise October 9-12, 2025:

- 4-hour shifts
- All tips support our charitable works
- Free Knights T-shirt provided

Ready to Learn More? Speak with a Knight after Mass or contact: Terry Markley, Grand Knight, at [gk@GulfShoresKofC.org](mailto:gk@GulfShoresKofC.org) or 314-753-8433. Visit [www.GulfShoresKofC.org](http://www.GulfShoresKofC.org) for details and to join our Council 10903.



## ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY



### Join the Altar Rosary Society!

All women of Our Lady of the Gulf Parish are invited to join the Altar Rosary Society. Our purpose is to help supply the needs of the sanctuary, build fellowship among the women of the parish, and support various parish activities.

We meet on the **first Tuesday of each month** in the Parish Hall. We begin each meeting by praying a decade of the Rosary, followed by a brief business meeting and refreshments. We offer two meeting times to accommodate different schedules:

- **Morning Session**: After the 8:00 a.m. Mass  
(Next meeting: September 2)
- **Evening Session**: At 6:00 p.m.

### Save the Date: Deanery Convention

Mark your calendars for the 88th Baldwin-Escambia Deanery Convention!

- **Dates**: October 5-7, 2025
- **Theme**: Through the Door of Hope
- **Location**: St. Margaret of Scotland Parish, Foley, AL
- **Guest Speaker**: Sr. Nancy Murray, OP, with a performance on the life of St. Catherine of Siena.

You can get registration forms in the Parish Office or online at [olgal.org/altar-rosary-society](http://olgal.org/altar-rosary-society).

For more information and to sign up for Flocknote messages, visit [olgal.org/altar-rosary-society](http://olgal.org/altar-rosary-society) or contact our President, **Lucy Markel**, at [altarrosary@olgal.org](mailto:altarrosary@olgal.org) or by phone at 228-216-2926.



## RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY



**Valuing the dignity of every human life.** You are invited to join a new parish ministry focused on supporting and recognizing the importance of life at all stages – from conception to natural death.

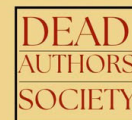
The mission is based on principles of community support, compassion, and proactive involvement through:

- Assisting individuals experiencing poverty or homelessness
- Supporting efforts to counteract human trafficking
- Encouraging a community spirit that values life.

OLG parishioners can contribute by working with local organizations committed to these causes. Participation can include volunteering, fundraising, or attending community events that help further these initiatives.

## SOUTH BALDWIN LITERACY COUNCIL

Our students are our inspiration. Your support makes it possible.



ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT FOR LOCAL LITERACY

**Friday, August 22, 2025**

**Foley Civic Center**

Doors Open at 5:00 PM, Trivia Begins at 6:00 PM  
Team Tickets \$200 / Individual Tickets \$25

SILENT AUCTION, LIVE AUCTION, & GAMES BETWEEN ROUNDS



The Respect Life Ministry has a few seats left for the South Baldwin Literacy Council Trivia Night on Friday, August 22. If you're interested in joining our team for a fun night supporting one of our community organizations, contact Alisa Andrews at [aandrews@olgal.org](mailto:aandrews@olgal.org).

Facebook and Flocknote too – Thanks!

Want to learn more or get involved? Visit: [olgal.org/respect-life-ministry](http://olgal.org/respect-life-ministry) or email: [respectlife@olgal.org](mailto:respectlife@olgal.org). With gratitude and hope, Alisa Andrews, Respect Life Ministry Coordinator



# 🚢 THANK YOU FOR AN INCREDIBLE MINISTRY FAIR! 💙

We are overflowing with gratitude for everyone who made this weekend such a success:

- 👥 Our amazing volunteers who gave their time, energy, and heart
- 🏡 Our parishioners who came out, joined new ministries, and met new friends
- 🎁 Our generous prize donors who provided raffle and door prizes:

- 🚢 Ike's Beach Service
- 🚢 Sail Wild Hearts at Perdido Beach Services
- ☕ Kitty's Kafe
- 🍹 Bahama Bob's

It was a beautiful weekend of fellowship, connection, and the Holy Spirit at work in our parish family.

📸 Enjoy these photos — but if you really want to see what an incredible weekend it was, visit our Facebook or Instagram pages for the full story!







## MARY'S SHELTER GULF COAST



Mary's Shelter is excited to be partnering with Carnival Cruise Line. Cruise with friends of Mary's Shelter and at no extra cost to you, Carnival will make a donation to Mary's Shelter. Specialty pricing is limited!



### 7-Day Western Caribbean Cruise

**SAIL DATE: March 1, 2026**

**First Deposit due: September 8th, 2025**

ONLY 50 Cabins – To secure your spot, deposits are required!

Rates are based on double occupancy.

Call the number below for more details.

**Madison Corl**

**251-986-6351**

Mary's Shelter

Post Office Box 18, Elberta, AL 36530

## EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION & CARING MINISTRY ANNUAL FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP

**Thursday, August 21, 5:30 p.m.**

Formation in the church **followed by a meal** in the Parish Hall. All EMHCs and members of our Caring Ministry are invited to this evening of prayer, reflection, and fellowship. We'll begin in the church for our annual formation, then share a meal together in gratitude for your service to Our Lady of the Gulf and our parish family. Please mark your calendar and join us!

## SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL TODAY!



Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are considered mission territories because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities for their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Please be generous. Find more information at [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).



## A NOTE ABOUT OUR SATURDAY EVENING MASS

For many years, we've lovingly referred to our Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass as the "Vigil Mass." Like many parishes, this name has been used out of tradition and familiarity. However, beginning this month, we will begin referring to it as the "Anticipated Mass." Why the change? While "Vigil Mass" is commonly used, the Church technically reserves that title for special liturgies with unique prayers and readings – such as the Easter Vigil. The regular Saturday evening Mass that fulfills our Sunday obligation is more accurately called an Anticipated Mass. Please know: nothing about the Mass itself is changing – just the way we refer to it in our bulletin and communications. We're simply aligning our language more closely with the Church's liturgical terms, out of love for the beauty and clarity of our faith. Thank you for embracing this small change as we continue to grow in understanding and faith together.

## MASS AD ORIENTEM

Occasionally at Our Lady of the Gulf, we celebrate Mass Ad Orientem – Latin for "toward the East." Rather than the priest "turning his back" to the people, this ancient posture reflects the deeper meaning of the liturgy: a procession into eternity, led by Christ through His priest, with the people journeying together as one.



Facing liturgical East – either the geographic direction or symbolically toward the altar and cross – reminds us that we're part of something cosmic and eternal. It shifts focus from the celebrant's personality to the mystery of the sacrifice taking place on the altar.

This posture, common throughout Church history, was never abolished by Vatican II. In fact, the Roman Missal still presumes it. While Mass versus populum (facing the people) is permitted, it can unintentionally emphasize the congregation itself, rather than opening our hearts to God who is "ahead and above."

In Ad Orientem, the priest calls the people to prayer, then leads them in offering it to God. He turns to proclaim the Word and give Communion, but he faces the Lord during the sacrifice.

Our hope is that this liturgical expression will draw all of us into a deeper reverence for the mystery of the Mass. – Fr. Carucci



## This Week on Formed

Week of August 17, 2025



### Saint Bernard of Clairvaux | Catholic Saints

Who was St. Bernard of Clairvaux? In this FORMED Now episode, Dr. Ben Akers is joined by Dr. John Sehorn to discuss this great saint and Doctor of the Church.



### The Queen Mother | Lectio: Mary | Episode 4

Mary serves as our Queen Mother. What does that mean? Join Dr. Brant Pitre as he explores the scriptural roots of this title.



### Mary, Queen of Heaven | Brother Francis

Based on the historical records and the personal testimony of his fellow friars, this is the amazing true story of the life of the famous stigmatic monk, St. Padre Pio, a contemporary saint who died in 1968.

Our parish has a Formed subscription.  
Visit [signup.formed.org](http://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.

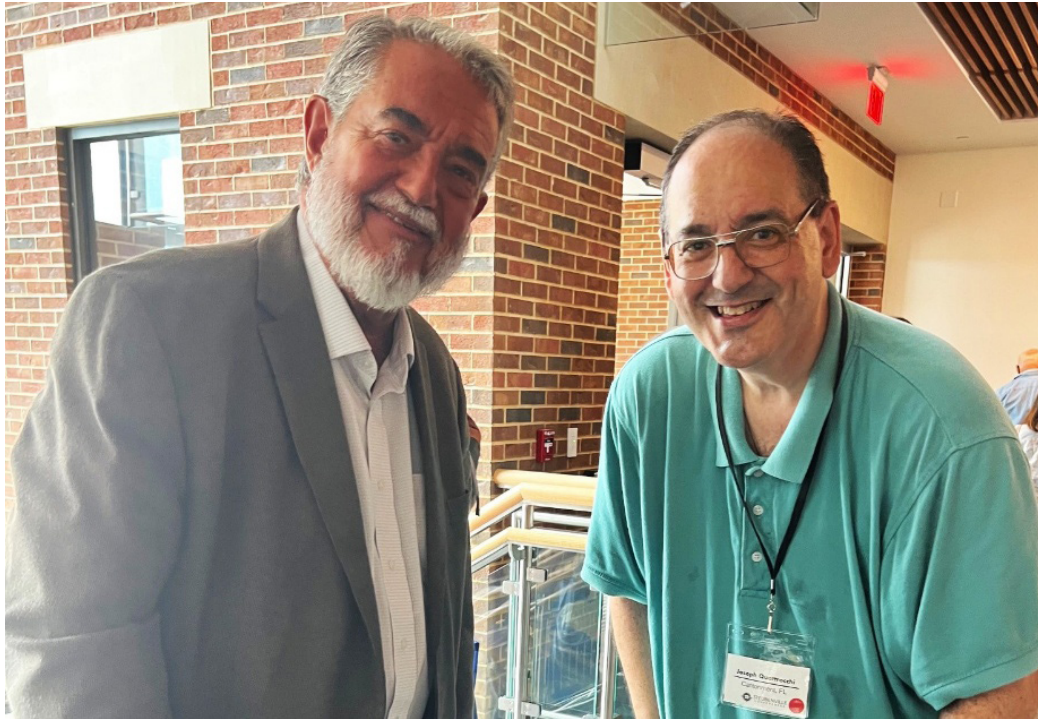
An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

## ADVERTISE IN OUR BULLETIN

Joseph from Dee Printing will be visiting during the week of August 18 to coordinate the parish bulletin. We kindly encourage parishioners and local businesses to consider sponsoring a display advertisement. These ads make it possible for the bulletin to be provided to our parish at no cost. If you are interested in placing an ad or would like more information, please contact Joseph directly at 614-832-5983 or via email at [joseph@deeprinting.com](mailto:joseph@deeprinting.com). Your support is greatly appreciated!



## CONTINUING THE JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE



With the recent passing of Pope Francis, many of us might have forgotten that we are still in a Jubilee Year of Hope. We are still called to be Pilgrims of Hope and are invited to pass through the Holy Door, originally located in Rome, but also present in every diocese. In the Archdiocese of Mobile, we have a number of designated Holy Doors, including the Cathedral-Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Mobile, and closer to home, St. Margaret of Scotland Parish in Foley. The opening of the Holy Door for pilgrims calls to mind the passage from John 10, "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and find pasture." Passing through the Holy Door expresses the decision to follow and be guided by Jesus, who is the Good Shepherd.

Joe Quattrocchi, our Director of Parish Advocacy, was recently at Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio for their summer conference series called, "Defending the Faith." It was also an opportunity for him to participate as a Pilgrim of Hope, as the university's small chapel, The Portiuncula, has been designated as an official site to visit during this Jubilee Year. This was the 30th anniversary year of the Defending the Faith Conference series, hosted by Dr. Scott Han, a noted scripture scholar and professor at the university.

Joe had an opportunity to meet and chat with Dr. Hahn August 2 during the conference as well as to taking plenty of notes during his multiple presentations. The following are some excerpts:

This is a great time to be alive and to be in the Church. As Americans, we should be filled with hope. One thing that all pilgrims need to have when they are journeying is a song in their heart. Songs that remind you how much God loves you. It's very easy to feel cut off and alone. Keep an inspirational song in your heart and you will never feel alone.

Throughout Church history, God has always been reaching out to us, His children, and wanting us to be close to Him. In the Old Testament there are 17 references as God being called Father and when we get to the New Testament, specifically during Jesus' Last Supper sermon, we read 51 references of God as our Father. This shows a God who wants to be part of our daily life and wants to give us hope. This year is also special because we celebrate the 1,700-year anniversary of the Nicene Creed. We say this creed every Sunday in order to transition from the Word and its teaching, to the celebration of the Eucharist. At the time it was being put together, there were Arians who wanted nothing to do with the belief that the Father and Jesus were One and they opposed the Nicene Creed, but over the many years of the Church we have seen that our creed is filled with hope. It is a creed that unites us from generation to generation.

During this age when some struggle with their identity and are confused with who they are, the creed helps us identify to whom we truly belong. The Nicene Creed helps us know and understand that we are beloved children of God, the Father. When we believe this truth and embrace our relationship with the Father, we will find great hope. Hope dissipates fear and helps us through our sufferings. Lean into hope. Lean into God's hope with your head and your heart. The more you lean into hope, the greater progress you will make in your spiritual journey. One final reason for us here to have hope is our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV. Like most of you, I was astonished that an American was named as the head of the Church. He has already created quite a stir among those on the fringes of their faith or who have stopped practicing. He is reaching people with hope who were disconnected or disenfranchised and they are beginning to return to practicing their faith. Brothers and sisters, St. Augustine told us that the soul is three-fold. Our soul has memory, intellect and it has a will. Let us combine all three of these elements with hope.



## CONTACT INFORMATION



### OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.  
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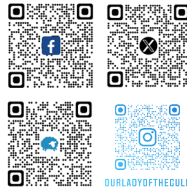
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### STAFF:

Pastor: Father David Carucci.....251-968-7062, ext. 2, FrCarucci@olgal.org  
Director of Communications: Suzette Taylor .....251-968-7062, ext. 4, Staylor@olgal.org  
Administrative Assistant: Michelle Durden .....251-968-7062, ext. 5, MDurden@olgal.org  
Coordinator of Religious Education: Danielle Lee .....251-968-7062, ext. 6, CReEd@olgal.org  
Director of Parish Advancement: Joe Quattrocchi..... JoeQ@olgal.org, 251-979-3270



### PARISH MINISTRIES AND GROUPS:

Scan this code to get more information about joining one of our Parish Ministries or Groups, or contact one of the Ministry Coordinators listed below.

#### Liturgical Ministries:

Music Ministry: Tom Gardner.....251-229-2210, music@olgal.org  
Altar Servers: Coordinator Position Open!

#### Eucharistic Ministers: Coordinator Position Open!

Lectors: Marylynn Dibble .....251-483-3303, dibblemarylynn@yahoo.com  
Ushers: Tom Birk .....251-752-4901, gulfvis@aol.com

#### Faith Formation Ministries:

K-8 Religious Education: Danielle Lee.....334-707-8125, CReEd@olgal.org  
OLGTeen High School Ministry: Philip Gazzo .....561-531-2777, Teen@olgal.org  
Walking with Purpose Women's Bible Study: Michelle Durden.....850-261-9870, MDurden251@gmail.com  
YBCatholic Adult Faith Formation: Fr. Carucci.....251-648-4892, FrCarucci@olgal.org  
Baptism Preparation: Deacon Danny Rodgers.....205-354-5600, baptism@olgal.org

#### Service and Outreach Ministries:

Pastoral Council: Fr. Carucci .....251-648-4892, FrCarucci@olgal.org  
Prayer Ministry: Connie Bonner.....937-215-9815, Prayers@olgal.org  
Hospitality Ministry: Jane O'Neil .....205-601-6009, Events@olgal.org  
Altar Rosary Society: Lucy Markel.....228-216-2926, altarrosary@olgal.org  
Knights of Columbus: Terry Markley.....gk@GulfShoresKofC.org  
Respect Life Ministry: Alisa Andrews .....respectlife@olgal.org  
Facilities and Maintenance: Mike O'Neil.....251-968-7062, maintenance@olgal.org  
Anchors 55 & Up Social Ministry: Debbie Booker.....901-230-6439, anchors@olgal.org  
Care Ministry: Sara Fahrman .....314-753-8433, olgcares@olgal.org  
Catholic Social Services: Mrs. Angela Hickey, Director.....251-947-2293, ahickey@mobarch.org  
Christian Service Center: Linda Chappelle.....251-968-5256, cscenter1991@gmail.com  
Mary's Shelter Gulf Coast: .....251-986-6200, kaytrattles@maryssheltergulfcoast.org

#### Catholic Schools:

St. Benedict Catholic School .....251-986-8143, kmccoolsbcs@gmail.com  
St. Michael Catholic High School.....251-459-0210, admissions@StMichaelCHS.org

### AA/AL-ANON

- AA meets on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:00 p.m. and Fridays at 12:00 p.m. in the Education Building. For more information, call Ward at 205-835-9273.
- Coastal Serenity Al-Anon Group now meets on Fridays at 12:00 p.m. in the OLG Religious Education Building. For more information, call Sharon at 330-285-0015.

### PLEASE MAKE ROOM FOR OTHERS

If you notice people standing in the back, kindly move toward the center of the pews. This small act of hospitality helps ensure everyone has a seat and can fully participate in the Holy Mass. Thank you for your kindness and consideration!

## Coming Up @



### SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

Catholic Home Missions

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

4:00 p.m. Confession  
4:30 p.m. Anticipated Mass

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

8:00 a.m. Mass  
10:30 a.m. Mass  
7:00 p.m. Mass

#### MONDAY, AUGUST 18

7:30 a.m. Rosary & Confession  
8:00 a.m. Mass

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 19

7:30 a.m. Rosary & Confession  
8:00 a.m. Mass  
9:00 a.m. Lectio Divina

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

11:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch  
at Tuscany Grill  
4:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration  
& Confession  
5:30 p.m. Healing Mass

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

7:30 a.m. Rosary & Confession  
8:00 a.m. Mass  
5:30 p.m. Communion Minister  
Formation and Fellowship

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

7:30 a.m. Rosary & Confession  
8:00 a.m. Mass

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

4:00 p.m. Confession  
4:30 p.m. Anticipated Mass

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

8:00 a.m. Mass  
10:30 a.m. Mass  
7:00 p.m. Mass



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