



Stella Maris Today (Sunday) we celebrate Our Lady, Star of the Sea. Her feast day is not on the General Roman Calendar, nor is her title Stella Maris from an apparition, but many parishes around the world on coastal areas have put

themselves under her

patronage. On New Year's Eve 1961, I was baptized at a parish in the Bronx named Star of the Sea, on mile-long "City Island" in the Pelham Bay, just south of the Whitestone Bridge, which opens into the mighty Atlantic. And here we are, in the parish which, in 1887, was the furthest west on the North American Continent, and the closest to the mighty Pacific. This world is a dangerous place, full of dark and roiling seas, but every "seafarer" can make it to the safe haven of heaven with the help of Our Lady, Star of the Sea, who holds out her Son to aid us on the perilous journey. The icon we venerate today, which replaces the Perpetual Help icon in the sanctuary during the novena, was "written" or painted by our iconographer, Pavel Tikhomirov. He depicts dark indigo waters roiling below, and storm winds screaming above, a little boat with a red cross on its sail. This ship is our life's ship, tossed about through life, but making its way bravely through the waters of earth towards the bright clouds of heaven. Mary, our hope and help, come to our aid! Show us your son, Jesus, to give us courage!

The Name of Mary In 388, St. Jerome, the great biblical and linguistic scholar, had retired to a monastic cell in Bethlehem to translate the Bible. He noted that Our Lady's name, Mary—"Miriam" in Hebrew—literally means either "drop of the Sea" or "Star of the Sea," depending on which Hebrew word you choose. In Hebrew, mar-yam means "drop of the sea," but ma'or means "star." Jerome translated mar-yam into Latin as stilla maris ("drop of the sea"), which is a good description of Mary: she is just a tiny drop in the ocean of God's mercy, but without her the ocean would be one drop less. Through her littleness—her complete trust in God's will—the floodgates of God's mercy

open to us. Some years after Jerome, a not-too-careful scribe wrote an "e" for an "i" and stilla maris ("drop of the sea") became stella maris ("star of the sea"). So which is it? What does Mary's beautiful name really mean? Well, it means lots of things, but splendid among them is "Star of the Sea," she who guides wayfarers home.



Navigation Before GPS, sailors had to navigate by following the stars. Without these shining points in the night sky, captains would never have been able to bring their crews home. The North Star in particular (because it alone always points in the one direction) saved the lives of these men. Without it, they were lost in a fathomless ocean, certain to die. The North Star was salvation for sailors and other travelers. Our Lady is that Star, guiding us to Jesus, our Salvation and our Home. Here are some excerpts from a sermon on Our Lady that St.

Bernard of Clairvaux delivered around the year 1140: "Mary is interpreted to mean 'Star of the Sea.' As the ray does not diminish the brightness of the star, so neither did the Child born of her tarnish the beauty of Mary's virginity. She is therefore that glorious star whose ray enlightens the whole earth, whose splendor shines out for all to see in heaven and reaches even unto hell. She, I say, is that shining and brilliant star, so much needed, set in place above life's great and spacious sea." Our Lady is so much needed. We simply cannot find our way to Jesus without her help, and with her help we can become great saints. Look to her when you lose your way!

Thérèse I am greatly looking forward to a talk on St. Thérèse this Wednesday by my friend and seminary professor, Dr. Anthony Lilles. He loves Our Lady with a burning affection, and he loves the saints as well, but above all the Little Flower, St. Thérèse. She is truly an extraordinary Carmelite, but extraordinary in her ordinary life. She shows us the secret of divine love, which is to do small things with great love, which we can all do. I urge you to give Dr. Lilles your attention, for the good of your soul, this Wednesday in the auditorium at 7pm. Fr. Joseph Illo

Star of the Sea Church
4420 Geary Blvd.
San Francisco, CA 94118
(415) 751-0450
www.starparish.com
Office Hours
M-TH 8:30am-5pm
Friday 8:30am-12pm, 1pm-5pm
Parish Gymnasium
345 8th Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94118

CLERGY

Fr. Joseph Illo, Pastor
Fr. Mike Konopik,
Parochial Vicar
Fr. Javier Ravasi,
In Residence
Deacon Albert Nimri,
Parish Manager

STAFF

Mariella Zevallos,
Director of Communica-
tions & Parish Life
Thelma Queri,
Bookkeeper
Karolina Zapolska,
Director of Sacred
Music Program

Juan Carlos Lopez,
Sacristan

Dennis Ow,
Maintenance

Front Desk
Lydia Gandasubroto



STELLA MARIS ACADEMY (K-8)

360 9th Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94118
www.stellamarissf.org
(628) 977-4836
John Monaco
Principal/Headmaster

NATIVITY HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)

350 9th Ave. San
Francisco, CA 94118
www.nativityhs.org
(415) 322-9229
hello@nativityhs.org

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION 24/7 - LITURGY & DEVOTIONS:

Daily Mass, M-F: 7am Latin, 12noon, 6pm. Saturday: 8:30am, 12noon Latin. Sat. Vigil Mass, 4:30pm. Sunday: 8am, 9:30am, 11:30am Latin, 7:30pm. Holy Day Mass: 7am Latin, 12noon, 6pm Sung Latin Mass. Confessions: 15 min. before Mass, (7am after Mass), Sat. 3:15-4:15pm.

Lauds: Mon-Fri 6:45am. Vespers: Mon-Fri 5:45pm. Holy Face Devotion: Tuesday 6pm. Sacred Heart of Jesus First Friday: 12 & 6pm (Latin). Divine Mercy: Sat. 3pm. Lady of Perpetual Help: Wed. 12noon. Lady of Fatima First Saturday 8:30am. Communal Rosary prayer after all daily Masses & Sunday 11am (Latin). Sunday: 2:30pm Rosary Walk at St. Mary's Cathedral.

Ave Maris Stella Hymn

Ave, maris stella,
Dei mater alma,
Atque semper virgo,
Felix cæli porta.

Sumens illud Ave
Gabrielis ore,
Funda nos in pace,
Mutans Evæ nomen.

Solve vincla reis,
Profer lumen cæcis,
Mala nostra pelle,
Bona cuncta posce.

Monstra te esse matrem,
Sumat per te precem
Qui pro nobis natus
Tulit esse tuus.

Virgo singularis,
Inter omnes mitis,
Nos culpis solutos
Mites fac et castos.

Vitam præsta puram,
Iter para tutum,
Ut videntes Jesum
Semper collætémur.

Sit laus Deo Patri,
Summo Christo decus,
Spiritui Sancto
Tribus honor unus. Amen

Prayer Intentions For the Sick



Mariana
Mendieta,
Margaret &
Mark Sellai, Shawn Mickle,
Justin Chin, Andrew Abdo,
Julie Johnson, Maria
Avedano, Denis Von
Kaeppler, Oliva Setiawaty,
O Lai Sau King, John
Brennan, Benjamin Tan,
Lourdes Washington, Jerr
Dewey, Pedro Mendoza,
Sonia Lee, Mary Ann
Brautigan, Dcn Albert
Nimri, Virginia Rosillo,
Zuleyka Sierra, Luca
Celentano, Fernandita
Dizon, Rhoda Chiu, Florita
Paras, John Campion and
all sick parishioners.

In Loving Memory of
Radwa Nemri, Marta
Porter, and Frances Zinck.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 09/26	8:30am	† Janice Illo
	12noon	Int. of Carolyn Obayashi
	4:30pm	Int. of Maria Linda McKenna (bday)
Sunday 09/27	8:00am	Int. of Sonia Lee (healing)
	9:30am	Int. of The Mitchell Family
	11:30am	People of the Parish
	7:30pm	† Michael Montanez
Monday 09/28	7:00am	Souls in Purgatory
	12noon	Int. of Abby Laporte Int. of Jay Strickwerda Int. of John Campion for healing Int. of Alfredo Rojas RubriChe (bday) † Radwa Nemri † Fr. Vito DeCaloris † Fr. Thomas J. Hayes, O.M.I † John Francis Doherty (anniv)
	6:00pm	Int. of Alise Adamson Int. of Sue and Bill Collins Int. of Sister Carol and The DMMM Sisters † Maria Silmaro † Kimberly Walsh
Tuesday 09/29	7:00am	Int. of Fr. Peter Prusakiewicz
	12noon	† Ping Foon and Keng Phay Hsum Wong
	6:00pm	Int. of Katherine Nguyen
Wednesday 09/30	7:00am	† Frances Irene Flynn (bday)
	12noon	Int. of Tess So
	6:00pm	† Robert Tobin
Thursday 10/01	7:00am	Int. of Joe and Joan Flanders
	12noon	Int. of Thelma Queri and Family
	6:00pm	Int. of Juan Carlos Lopez
Friday 10/02	7:00am	Int. of Fr. William Young (bday)
	12noon	Int. of Juan Carlos Lopez (bday) † For the souls of those who have jumped to their deaths from the Golden Gate bridge
	6:00pm	Int. of Katherine Nguyen
Saturday 10/03	8:30am	† Catherine Chow (bday)
	12noon	Int. of John Rey Hassan
	4:30pm	† Judy Sim (anniv)



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Therese of Lisieux had a profound love for the Eucharist. Her father would take her everyday to Mass with a stroll in the park, ending the outing in adoration at local chapels. She is quoted, "Heaven for me is hidden

in a little host where Jesus...is veiled for love."

We had a wonderful Adoration Awareness Weekend. We hope you are inspired to sign up for Holy Hour! Sign up here at

www.adorationpro.org/star or use QR code



A Mass and Sculpture Dedication Celebrating the 800th anniversary of St. Francis Assisi's Death.

Dedication and Blessing of Tim Schmalz's "It is Finished"

Sunday, October 4th, 2026 -St. Mary's Cathedral, 1111 Gough Street. Mass 11am, Dedication ~1:30pm

Join us as we celebrate the 800th anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi's death with the unveiling of a monumental, panoramic sculpture in the Cathedral Plaza.

ROOM FOR RENT

Priory West, a Catholic men's house in SF, has a private room available for \$1,600/mo. Shared responsibility & community life. Contact David: dave.gutierrez0@gmail.com / (732) 674-8475.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION

Join us on Saturday, October 3 for a Rosary Pilgrimage at Star of the Sea Parish after the 8:30am Mass. We pray the Rosary while processing through all the Marian Apparition Shrines with time for quiet reflection and the opportunity to light a candle.

Programs & Apostolates

GENERAL INFORMATION Parish office, 415-751-0450 www.starparish.com	BAPTISM, MARRIAGE & ALL SACRAMENTS 415-751-0450
Adoration Committee Laurie Murdock 415-244-8186 staradorationsf@gmail.com	Parish Finance Council Ryan Sebers ryan@starparish.com
Altar Servers Bryan Calmeyer bryancalmeyer@me.com	OCIA Order of Christian Initiation of Adults Andrea Waliszewski andrea@starparish.com
Filipino American Association (FAASTAR) Estrelle Chan 415-336-9193	Star of the Sea Preschool Stella Maris Academy 628-977-4836 www.stellamarissf.org
Foundation of Prayers for Priests Carmen Duran Register: foundationforpriests.org	Our Lady of Fatima, Star Pro-Life Apostolate Thursdays 6-7pm & Sat. 10-11am. 1522 Bush St. star.flocknote.com/Star-Pro-life
Young Adults Nathan Chan nathanjchan2@gmail.com star.flocknote.com/StarYoungAdults	Sacred Music Program Karolina Zapolska karolina@starparish.com
Lectors Fr. Joseph Illo, pastor Parish office: 415-751-0450	Star Outreach to the Poor Ed Katz 415-740-3939 Adam Weimer 628-278-2184
Legion of Mary Paul Palencia 415-858-3073 leopoldmpal@gmail.com	Ushers and Greeters Mariella Zevallos mariella@starparish.com
Marriage & Family Apostolate Christina Sullivan marriageandfamily@starparish.com	Knights of Columbus Mike Dumlao m_n_dumlao@yahoo.com
Tuesday Bible Study 3-4:30pm at Parish Rectory. Bill McCarty 415-876-8551	Holy Name Society (Divine Mercy Devotion) Thelma Queri 415-751-0450
Bulletin Announcements Ad submissions due: Tuesdays, 3pm. Contact bulletin editor: mariella@starparish.com	Volunteer Opportunities Serve and connect at our parish. All are welcome! mariella@starparish.com



Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Do you wish to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation?

September to May - Wednesdays: 7PM-8:30PM

Star of the Sea Gym 345 8th Ave - San Francisco

Contact Andrea Waliszewski: andrea@starparish.com

Register: flocknote.com/star



Keep Our Parish Prosperous

Your generous financial gifts ensure that Star of the Sea Catholic Church will continue thriving to provide a peaceful sanctuary for prayer, worship and evangelization in the Richmond District. Our doors are open 7 days a week!

WAYS OF SUPPORTING STAR OF THE THE SEA:

Offertory gifts online:
www.starparish.com/give

Offertory envelopes: Cash or check written to Star of the Sea. Place in the collection basket, or drop envelope in the parish office mailbox: Star of the Sea 4420 Geary Blvd, San Francisco, CA. 94118

Matching Contribution:
Double your gift to Star of the Sea with an equal contribution from your employer! As 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, we qualify to receive matches from companies all over the Bay Area. If your company offers this program, ask for a form to submit a matching request. For more information contact: Mariella Zevallos, mariella@starparish.com

MAXIMIZE YOUR IMPACT





STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH

Use Venmo for: Sunday offertory, lighting candles, church kiosk purchases.

Please add what the payment is for.

Thank you!

PLANNED GIVING ONE CHARITABLE GIFT, A LEGACY OF FAITH



GET STARTED WITH A PLANNED GIFT

Contact: Mariella Zevallos, 415-751-0450 | mariella@starparish.com
Consider listing Star of the Sea as beneficiary in your Will. It preserves the mission and values of the church in its ministry.

Receive news & updates from Fr. Joseph Illo, sign up to Flocknote.com/star. Get access to the best selection of catholic educational materials, sign up for formed.org (information below). Use Venmo to pay for candles, kiosk items, offertory, etc. Use your cellphone camera to scan the QR codes



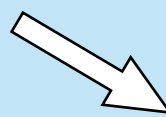
Formed.org/Sign up as parishioner/Create new account: find your parish (zip code 94118)/ Select Star of the Sea/next/Create a new account:Your name and email/sign up!



[youtube.com/
starparish](http://youtube.com/starparish)



[facebook.com/
starparishsf](http://facebook.com/starparishsf)



New in the parish? Please register!
Nuevo en la Parroquia? Regístrate!
flocknote.com/star



www.starparish.com

EUCCHARISTIC ROSARY CONGRESS

October 7–15, 2026

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Fr. Javier Olivera Ravasi
October 8, 7 PM



Fr. Joseph Illo
October 13, 6 PM



Fr. Mikhael Mihic
October 9, 7 PM



Fr. Vincent Woo
October 12, 7 PM



Sr. Mara Grace
October 11, 6 PM



Fr. Gerardo Vázquez
October 14, 7 PM

MORE INFO: STARPARISH.COM AND BROTHERSINPRAYER.COM

Together in Holiness 10th Annual Conference presented by the St. John Paul II Foundation and the Archdiocese of San Francisco. October 24, 11am - 6:15pm St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park. Married and engaged couples are invited. Strengthen your relationship with your spouse and discover God's plan for your family.

Registration: \$64/couple and \$5/child for on-site childcare.

Information: togetherinholiness.org/sanfrancisco or email christel@forlifeandfamily.org.



STAR of the SEA

MAKE A MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

16 approved apparitions of our Lady from around the world.

TO SCHEDULE A GROUP GUIDED

TOUR: (415) 751-0450

mariella@starparish.com

www.starparish.com/shrines

EUCCHARISTIC ROSARY CONGRESS

Rosary Leads Needed!

We are still in great need of Rosary Leads for the upcoming Eucharistic Rosary Congress. Please consider volunteering to lead a Rosary and help make this special week of prayer a beautiful and meaningful experience for our parish community. Please sign up by Wednesday, September 30 – one week before the Eucharistic Rosary Congress begins! To sign up please use the QR code.



Star of the Sea Speaker Series

Dr. Anthony Lilles

Professor of Sacred Theology
St. Patrick Seminary, Menlo Park

A Talk on:
**The Little Way of
St. Thérèse of
Lisieux**

**SEPT. 30
7PM
AUDITORIUM**



NAVIGATING THE INTERIOR LIFE SERIES



Copies of his book,
Living the Mystery of Merciful Love,
will be available for \$15



STEWARDS STATS

Time: 18 public rosaries were prayed after the daily and Sunday Masses last week.

Talent: Three volunteers helped at the rectory front desk last week.

Treasure: Sunday Offering \$ 9,120

To give online: www.starparish.com/give

Or use QR

