



## Our Lady Star of the Sea

Roman Catholic Community  
in the Diocese of Bridgeport

July 12, 2026



## 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word  
and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a  
hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." - Mt 13:23

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

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[www.ourladystaroftheseastamford.org](http://www.ourladystaroftheseastamford.org)



*This week the Sanctuary Candle  
burns in loving memory of  
Anthony Kurche & Augusto Scigliano  
requested by Grace Kurche*



## Mass Intentions

### SATURDAY, JULY 11

5:30pm **Marion Frances Ayles** (req. by family)

### SUNDAY, JULY 12

7:30am **Yolanda Ruiz** (req. by her daughters)

9:00am **Larry Criscoe** (req. by Mary Russo)

11:00am **Giuseppe, Rosa & Ben Grossi**  
(req. by Masone & Martino family)

### MONDAY, JULY 13

8:00am **Evelyn O'Brien** (req. by Betty Hogan)

### TUESDAY, JULY 14

8:00am **Lynn Kegelman** (req. by John McKeown)

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

8:00am **Finbar Clarke** (req. by the Glyn family)

### THURSDAY, JULY 16

8:00am **John Powers** (req. by Vito Tiriolo & family)

### FRIDAY, JULY 17

8:00am **Birthday Blessings on George Mathes**  
(req. by his family)

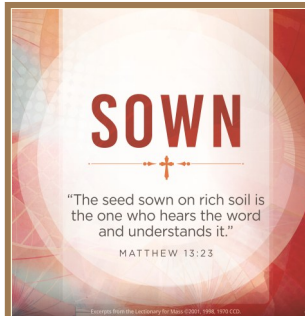
### SATURDAY, JULY 18

5:30pm **Lawrence O'Donnell**  
(req. by the McCambley family)

### SUNDAY, JULY 19

9:00am **Emerson Sigtryggsson**  
(req. by Sophia & Anna Karidas)

11:00am **Giacomo & Rosa Masone**  
(req. by Angela Masone & family)



Sometimes I feel capable of absorbing almost anything except God's Word. My mind soaks up song lyrics, sports trivia, and endless online content. But what was the reading at Mass this morning? I struggle to recall. That realization discourages me, and it leads to an uncomfortable question. What is my heart really for? Is it shaped for constant information and distraction, or is it truly designed for God? Am I capable of deeply receiving His Word?

Jesus speaks directly to this today with a simple image. **"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it."** By comparing the Word of the Kingdom to a seed, Jesus reveals something hopeful about us. The human heart is made for that seed. Soil and seed belong together. No matter how compacted, rocky, or overgrown the ground has become, the Sower never stops sowing.

God loves our hearts. He sees them as a farmer sees his fields, full of potential. Human hearts can indeed **"understand the Word."** Understanding does not mean mastering information. It means letting the Word sink in, interacting with it, and giving it a home. It means trusting that, beneath the surface, God is at work in quiet and hidden ways.

When we allow the Holy Spirit to loosen the soil of our hearts through prayer, repentance, and simplicity, the same Word that created the universe begins to bear fruit in us, 30, 60, even a hundredfold.

*Lord Jesus, Sower of life, soften the soil of my heart. Let Your Word take root in me again, and bring forth the fruit You desire. Amen.*

— Father John Muir ©LPi

### Mark Your Calendar

Some upcoming events at OLSS

|     |    |                                  |
|-----|----|----------------------------------|
| Jul | 12 | Annual OLSS Beach Mass - 7:30 am |
| Aug | 7  | First Friday Adoration           |
| Sep | 13 | OLSS Annual Parish Picnic        |



### Sacraments at Our Lady Star of the Sea

#### Confession

Saturday from 4:30 - 5:00 (EDT)  
and by appointment.

#### Baptism

Celebrated Sundays at 12:15pm.  
New parents must attend a Pre-Baptismal class.  
Contact the Parish Office to arrange.

#### Marriage

Please contact the Parish Office.



### WEEKLY COLLECTION

Weekend this year (06/28/26) \$ 4,563

Last Year (06/29/25) \$ 4,397

Peter's Pence (06/28/26) \$ 1,380

Weekend this year (07/05/26) \$ 8,086

Last Year (07/06/25) \$ 5,210

Monthly Utilities (07/05/26) \$ 885

Last Year (07/06/25) \$ 1,705

*Thank you for your generous support.*



### The OLSS Mass Book for 2027 is open.

Stop by, call or email the Parish Office to reserve your Masses for 2026 and 2027. Requested offering is \$15 for a mass (\$20 with card). Sanctuary Candle offering is \$25 for the week. Thank you for your support.

[olssparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:olssparishoffice@gmail.com), 203-324-4634

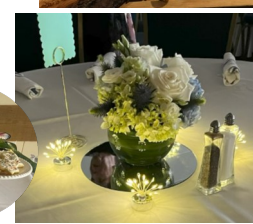
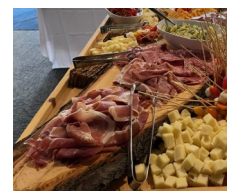


## Celebrate OLSS Gala— June 25, 2026

### What a night it was!

Thanks to the incredible teamwork of our parish women, the Celebrate OLSS Gala was a wonderful success. It was a beautiful expression of the light and love we share as a parish community. We are so grateful for their hard work and hope they will join together again to lead our upcoming Picnic and next year's Gala.

God's smile was evident in the breathtaking sunset!



### 10th Annual OLSS Beach Mass at West Beach

Sunday, July 12 @ 7:30 am

Join fellow parishioners at the Mass at West Beach.  
Bring a beach chair or blanket  
and a breakfast treat to share.

Questions?

Contact Anne Downey: [annekdowney@gmail.com](mailto:annekdowney@gmail.com)



Support Our Lady Star of the Sea  
this summer via your mobile phone,  
smart device or home computer.

Visit our website to get started!

[www.ourladystaroftheseastamford.org](http://www.ourladystaroftheseastamford.org)

*Thank you for your generous support.*



**OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA**  
1200 SHIPPAN AVENUE, STAMFORD, CT 06902  
203-324-4634

<https://www.ourladystaroftheseastamford.org/>

**Pastor**

**Rev. Peter K. Smolik**

[FrSmolik@diobpt.org](mailto:FrSmolik@diobpt.org)

**Faith Formation**

**Rev. Peter K. Smolik**

203-324-4634

**Trustees**

**Betty Brennan**

**Joseph Vermeer**

**Joseph Dineen**

**Parish Council Chair**

**Finance Chair**

**Richard Kondub**

**Director of Music**

**Michael Alderman**

**Parish Office**

[olssparrishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:olssparrishoffice@gmail.com)

Hours: Monday 12:00 noon—4:00 pm, Tuesday 11:00 am—3:00 pm

### MINISTRIES

**Evangelization - Marian Howley**

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**Fellowship - Deb Harrington**

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**Music - Michael Alderman**

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**Outreach - Meg Broderick**

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**Spirituality - Marikay Willson**

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**Youth - Siobhan O'Hara**

[olss.stamford.youth@gmail.com](mailto:olss.stamford.youth@gmail.com)



### Love thy Neighbor

During these hot summer days,  
please check in on your neighbors,  
especially those who are ill or  
elderly, to make sure they are safe  
and have food and water.



To make a gift or pledge, or to learn  
more about the Bishops Appeal,  
please visit:

[www.2026BishopsAppeal.org](http://www.2026BishopsAppeal.org)

or scan the QR code.

*Thank you for your support.*



*Celebrating the gift of  
new life in Christ  
through Baptism*

*Welcome  
Catalina Enriquez*