Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

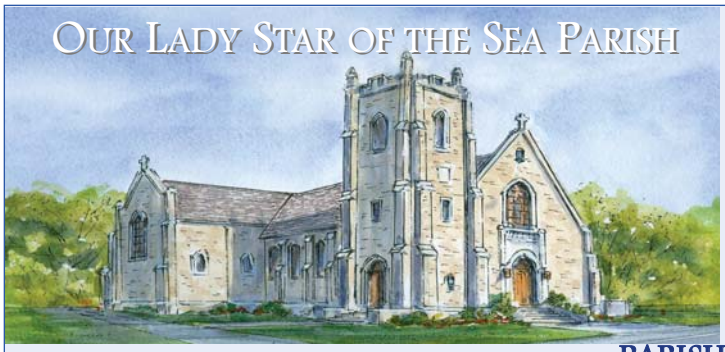
"Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,' and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, namely, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Rom 13:8-9)

Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish

Marblehead, Massachusetts

September 6, 2026

Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish



We are one community moved by Faith, led by Hope and united in Charity, seeking, as a caring family, to walk in the footsteps of Jesus Christ by reaching out in welcome to all: the young, the old, the stranger, and the neighbor. We commit ourselves to helping and healing, to feeding the hungry, to visiting the sick, and to consoling the bereaved as Jesus commanded in the gospels.

PARISH STAFF

Monsignor Timothy J. Moran, Pastor
Reverend Stephen Okoli, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Kris Larson
Senior Deacon John E. "Joe" Whipple
Reverend William T. Schmidt, Weekend Assistance
Lynne Celli, Director of Faith Formation
Jon Johnston, Facilities

Matthew Arnold, Director of Music
Jean Ranger, Office Manager
Yvonne Verrette, Receptionist
Linda Poehler, Business Manager / Accountant
TBA: Bulletin Editor/ Website Administrator
Ivo Palavra, Facilities Assistant

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85 Atlantic Ave.
Mon-Thu 9:00am-3:00pm / Fri 9:00am-12:00pm
sosrectory@verizon.net

PARISH CENTER / RELIGIOUS ED. OFFICE:
(781) 631-8340 ~ 80 Atlantic Ave.
Mon-Thu 9:00am-2:00pm
sosreligioused@staroftheseamarblehead.org

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays at 2:30–3:30pm. Also upon request, at any reasonable time. Please contact the Rectory to make an appointment.

BAPTISM: For Baptism and Baptismal Catechesis, please contact the Rectory Mon - Thu 9am-3pm.

WEDDINGS: By personal appointment with a priest, six to eight months prior to the date desired.

FUNERALS: Contact the Rectory Mon-Thu 9am-3pm.

SICK & SHUT-INS: Priests are available to bring Holy Communion to the home. Please contact the Rectory.

NEW PARISHIONERS ARE MOST WELCOME: Please make yourself known to us at the Rectory. We want to know you.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: In writing by Mon 10am.

Together We Are One is the theme of the **Catholic Appeal 2026**. We can work together and deepen our impact on the Archdiocese's schools, parishes and ministries by supporting the Catholic Appeal. We appreciate your partnership and are thankful for your participation in carrying Christ's love forward into our communities and spreading hope this year. Archbishop Henning is grateful for your support. For more information please visit the Appeal's website at: bostoncatholicappeal.org/donate/ . We are grateful for your generous help!

Welcome !

Would you like to be a Registered Member of Our Lady, Star of the Sea Parish?
Would you like our mailings?

Family Name: _____

Husband: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Wife: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Children *(please include date of birth)*: _____

_____

_____

Street: _____ **City:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Telephone: _____ **Email:** _____

Please Check: _____New Registration
_____Change of Address
_____Offertory Envelopes

To sign up for Electronic Giving, please visit us at www.sosmarblehead.org.

You may email us your information at SOSRectory@verizon.net, or use this form returned to the collection box or mailed to: Our Lady, Star of the Sea Parish, 85 Atlantic Avenue, Marblehead, MA 01945.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 6, 2026

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 5
9:00 a.m. **Marianne Hollob**
4:00 p.m. **Jean P. Awiszus, 4th Anniversary**
Sunday, September 6
7:30 a.m. **Mary Rice, 4th Anniversary**
9:00 a.m. **Catherine Madden**
11:00 a.m. ***Pro Populo***
Monday, September 7
9:00 a.m. **Joseph Corona**
Tuesday, September 8
9:00 a.m. **Jane Pye, Birthday Remembrance**
Wednesday, September 9
9:00 a.m. **Sarah Jones**
Thursday, September 10
9:00 a.m. **Catherine Madden**
Friday, September 11
9:00 a.m. **Neil MacDonald**
Saturday, September 12
9:00 a.m. **William M. Fallon**
4:00 p.m. **Daniel Joseph Nolan, 5th Anniversary**
Sunday, September 13
7:30 a.m. ***Pro Populo***
9:00 a.m. **Susan Sheehan**
11:00 a.m. **Rick Osborne, 25th Anniversary**

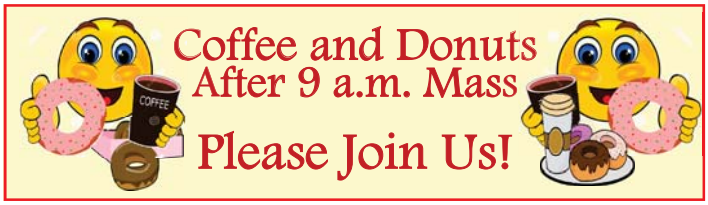
Collections August 30, 2026

Collected/Mailed: $5,831.36- Online: $3,328.50
Offertory: $9,159.86
Grand Annual: $225.00
St. Vincent de Paul: $91.52

Your generosity helps us in our labors!

2026 Catholic Appeal

I now have the splendid news of announcing that as of August 20th we have donated **$89,923.00, 143%** towards our goal of $63,000.00. I am grateful to the **199** parishioners who have already given! 25% of all future gifts, and we all should make one, will be returned to the Parish for our local needs. To make an online gift, please visit: wwww.bostoncatholicappeal.org. Archbishop Henning has reached out and noted how moved he is by the faith, generosity, and goodness that we and people like us in the diocese of Boston regularly display when we are called upon.



Religious Education 2026 - 2027

Registration

Registration Forms have been mailed out. Please call the office at 781-631-8340 if you are a new family. Encourage your friends or neighbors to be sure to provide for their children's religious education. It is more important than ever! We are happy to work together for the good of all.

Confirmation

Applications for this Sacrament have been mailed out to candidates. Please contact Religious Education or the Rectory if you are still in need of one of these forms. **The deadline for the application is September 30th.**

The Confirmation Mass
will be celebrated by
Archbishop Richard Henning on October 18th
at 2:30 PM.

Please call Lynne Celli at 978-660-9511 or email lynnecelli@gmail.com or sosrelioused@staroftheseamarblehead.org

The Creation Care Team

will hold a
Mass for the Care of Creation
to pray for the care of the earth and care of the poor
during the Season of Creation

At Hammond Park, 80 Commercial St. (Next to Marblehead Municipal Light Department)
Saturday, September 19 at 4:00 p.m.
Please join us.

Join us Thursdays
Eucharistic Exposition
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Solemn Adoration

Praise and Worship:

An ongoing ministry of praise and worship at Our Lady Star of the Sea: Spend time with the Lord in the Eucharist and in Spirit-filled praise of God imitating the Angels and Saints.
2:30 to 3:30 pm, every Tuesday

Pastoral Council News

Congratulations to the newly elected officers for 2026-27!!
Vice-Chair: Jen Mackey-LaBrecque
Secretary: Sarah Fox
Next meeting will be September 16, 2026 at 7 p.m.

Project Rachel is a confidential ministry that offers hope and healing for women (and men) in pain from past abortions. Information at the doors of the Church.

Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish

Marblehead, Massachusetts

September 6, 2026
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Parishioner of Our Lady Star of the Sea,

On this Labor Day weekend, we may well ask ourselves: what does the Lord say we need to be able to complete successfully the work of love that is the purpose of our life? One exemplar of such a labor of love for many of us is Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta. We celebrate with the entire Church this weekend the Tenth Anniversary of her Canonization. Mother Teresa fulfilled in such a wonderful way the call of the Lord to walk with him the way of his cross. She left all things to pursue the things of God in the poorest of this world. In that spirit of total dedication she was rich and has enriched the lives of so many throughout our world. Teresa will continue to have a deep effect in my life and in my service of our Lord. May she have the same effect in each of you.

"Love is the fulfillment of the law." This passage from St. Paul (cf. Romans 13:8-10) not only furnishes a conclusion to that great letter on Christian life, but it also illumines the Gospel reading for this weekend. The Gospel (see Matthew 18:15-20) is taken from Matthew's presentation of the teaching of Jesus concerning the life of the community of believers, the Church's life, the work that is ours to do. Christ has come to win pardon for our sins and to renew God's life in each of us. He has done so in the mystery of his death and rising to new life. You and I are to "take up" the cross and follow in the Lord's way. Our Church's life must be, then, an effort to win pardon and renewal for each person who stands in need. We do so when, and only when, we employ the ministry of forgiveness with great tact and kindness, as the Lord describes. The call to forgive in not a "burden" of the Christian life. It gives us the chance to love more and to love well, in communion of mind and heart with Jesus. Every opportunity of forgiveness, no matter how outlandish or difficult the situation may be, is an invitation from Christ to increase his love in this world. We fulfill the law of God's forgiving love when we exercise that ministry generously, kindly, effectively and consistently, thereby changing the human world for the better. That is why we are not to tire of this ministry.

On this Labor Day weekend we remember all those who contribute to the building up of our nation and our world by the quality and content of their work. May the Lord strengthen them in all that is good. We are thankful, too, for those many by whose work the life of this Parish continues to grow strong. We are in debt to them for the wonderful way they give of themselves and help us to grow in God's love.

We begin this month our new year of Religious Education. We look forward to our celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation on October 18th with Archbishop Richard Henning, Presiding. There is no more important mission or task in our Parish community than that of passing on the faith, especially faith in God's work of forgiveness that we are called to carry out in our lives. We must teach our younger generation the meaning of the "keys" of life, the ministry of forgiveness that Christ has handed on to us. Please, help us in this great task.

Asking God's blessings on you and yours, I am

Yours in the Lord's service,

Msgr. Timothy J. Moran

Youth Ministry

SOS Youth Group: A Heartfelt Thank You

We sincerely thank everyone who participated in and supported our **SOS Youth Group camping trip to Camp Fatima, NH, on August 20**. It was a wonderful time of faith, friendship, fun, and fellowship. We are grateful to all the parents, parishioners, volunteers, and young people who helped make the day a memorable experience.

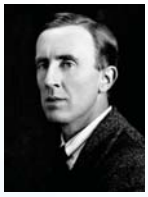
We also extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us on **August 23 to celebrate Sebastian Vazquez.** Sebastian has served our parish faithfully in many ways through the **SOS Youth Group**, sharing his time, talents, and joyful spirit. We are grateful for his service and wish him every blessing as he continues his journey and the next chapter of his life.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support our youth and help the Youth Group grow in faith, friendship, and service to Christ and our parish community.

Blessings,
Fr. Stephen A Okoli, SMMM
SOS Youth Director

Get ready for **World Youth Day 2027** in Seoul, South Korea! (reservations through 9/30/26). Join the Archdiocese of Boston on a 10-day pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea! The pilgrimage with airfare runs from August 1–10, 2027 for $5,245, with an optional 3-day extension in Incheon for an additional $809. Individual and group reservations are now open. This pilgrimage offers young people a powerful opportunity to encounter Christ, grow in community, and experience the joy of the universal Church.
Questions? Contact wyd@rcab.org

Did you know…? J.R.R. Tolkein was born in South Africa in 1892 and was baptized as an infant into the Anglican Church. After his father died and they relocated to England his mother converted to Catholicism and brought her sons (J.R.R and his younger brother Hilary) up as Catholics. In 1904 his mother succumbed to a diabetes-related illness leaving the boys as orphans. Before her death she appointed an Oratorian priest, Father Francis Morgan, to be their guardian. Christianity is a central theme in many of Tolkein's works.



Philippians 4:8 Cinema

A movie ministry promoting classic and contemporary faith-filled films.
Tuesdays 7 pm and Thursdays 4 pm
Parish Center

This week: **FLYWHEEL: IGNITION OF THE SOUL**
Info contact Bill Stevenson: williamdwriter@yahoo.com

FAITH AND PLAY

Faith and Play is a time for our youngest parishioners to gather to grow in their faith. This group is perfect for parents, grandparents, and caregivers with children from baby - 6 years old. Each session includes a story, activity, snack, and play. Find support, share experiences, and ask questions. Please join us at the Parish Center Tuesdays:

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM or 3:15 PM – 4:15 PM.

September 22, 2026 November 17, 2026
October 20, 2026 December 15, 2026

For questions about this group, please email: hwillseywalker@gmail.com or lynnecelli@gmail.com or call 978-660-9511.

We Share

Electronic Giving for Parish support.

See our Parish Website at: **www.sosmarblehead.org.**

Pope Leo's Monthly Prayer Intention

You are invited to join with people worldwide in praying for the monthly intention.

September: For the care of water

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

popesprayer.va.

St. Vincent de Paul —Collection Boxes

Please remember during the Fall months that there are boxes at the doors of the Church for charitable donations for the benefit of persons in need who seek help from our Church community. You help us help them. The Parish is restoring our St. Vincent de Paul Council. If you are interested in assisting please call the Rectory.

Thank you so much for your gifts.

Comments from Deacon Joe

Consternation and Clarification

I have been told that several parishioners have expressed consternation over a sign on my lawn supporting one of the candidates for Congress in the Democratic primary.

I must make it clear that ***it was only for the primary and not an endorsement for the general election.*** I explained this to the person who asked permission to place the sign there as well as to Monsignor Moran when I asked his advice as to whether I could allow it without violating the rule against clergy engaging in partisan politics. I told both of them *the sign would have to be removed after the primary* even if the candidate won the nomination. I believed incorrectly that, within the primary, No. 36 of "Faithful Citizenship" would apply because all Democratic candidates can be presumed to support legalized abortion. No. 36 requires an examination of all candidates' positions on other issues, which I failed to do.

When it comes to the general election in November, we must consider all candidates' positions on all issues. While support for abortion normally disqualifies a candidate for our vote, as No. 35 points out, there can be situations where an anti-abortion candidate is so bad on other truly serious questions that voting against that candidate is morally correct. In other words, Catholics must consider the totality of each candidate's positions on all morally grave issues.

Finally, to be clear, ***I do not support efforts to legalize abortion.***

"35. There may be times when a Catholic who rejects a candidate's unacceptable position even on policies promoting an intrinsically evil act may reasonably decide to vote for that candidate for other morally grave reasons. Voting in this way would be permissible only for truly grave moral reasons, not to advance narrow interests or partisan preferences or to ignore a fundamental moral evil.

"36. When all candidates hold a position that promotes an intrinsically evil act, the conscientious voter faces a dilemma. The voter may decide to take the extraordinary step of not voting for any candidate or, after careful deliberation, may decide to vote for the candidate deemed less likely to advance such a morally flawed position and more likely to pursue other authentic human goods (https://www.usccb.org/resources/Forming%20Consciences%20for%20Faithful%20Citizenship,%202019.pdf)."

Labor Day is tomorrow. In his encyclical "Rerum Novarum" Pope Leo XIII recognized the right of workers to form labor unions to negotiate with employers over wages and other concerns. As Catholics, we continue to recognize and celebrate the dignity of all honest work.

This week the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary takes place on September 8, nine months after we celebrate her Immaculate Conception. Mary and St. John the Baptist are the only two saints whose birthdays are explicitly celebrated as such, an honor based on their prominent roles in enabling the work of Jesus https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nativity_of_Mary.

September 9 brings the Memorial of St. Peter Claver, S.J. He was born in Spain on June 26, 1580, and joined the Jesuits at the age of 20. He volunteered to work in the New World. There he was appalled by the treatment on African slaves and dedicated himself above all to evangelizing them and alleviating their living conditions. He died on September 8, 1654, and was canonized in 1888. He is the patron saint, among others, of Colombia and of ministry to African Americans. His memorial is optional in most of the Church but obligatory in the United States https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Claver.

Have a good week.

~Deacon Joe Whipple

September 6, 2026

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