



OUR LADY

Star of the Sea

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Meet Marguerite Goglia

New Faith Formation Director

Brings Experience and Enthusiasm to Role

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Meet Parishioner Joel Kolb

As our Faith Formation program gets ready for summer break, one person in our parish is already busy planning the exciting year ahead. Our Lady Star of the Sea is thrilled to welcome Marguerite Goglia as our new Faith Formation Director! Marguerite attended Mass in our parish many times while she and her husband, Anthony, were house hunting in the area. The Goglias made a permanent move to Ponte Vedra from their native New York in 2018. With over 35 years of involvement in various ministries of the Catholic Church, Marguerite brings a great depth of experience — and a lot of enthusiasm — to her new role.

Marguerite has an extensive background in faith formation, having served in parish programs ranging from youth ministry and adult formation, to children's Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and mothers' groups, to evangelization and family faith formation.

She holds a bachelor's degree in theology from Molloy College on Long Island and a master's degree in theology from The Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington, N.Y. Marguerite taught theology at a Catholic high school in New York for seven years.

In all the ways she has been involved in faith formation, what Marguerite has enjoyed most about teaching the Catholic faith is witnessing the exciting spiritual growth that takes place in the students.



Our Lady Star of the Sea welcomes Marguerite Goglia as our new Faith Formation Director.



New Faith Formation Director Marguerite Goglia *continued from front cover*

“I like to see the faith come alive for them,” Marguerite says. “I like to create ‘encounter moments’ where they can really start building a relationship with Jesus. I think what I’ve seen in every area of formation is the beauty of inviting people to build a long-lasting relationship with God, one that they can then carry beyond the classes.”

As Marguerite points out, encouraging children and teens to nurture that close relationship with the Lord often begins with an emphasis on prayer and an understanding of how one’s prayer life and faith evolve over time.

“It’s an invitation into discipleship at age-appropriate levels,” she says. “We need to focus on what it looks like, firstly, to have a prayer time. What does that look like in fourth grade or eighth grade? It’s different and it develops. I share about my own faith life — as a child, teen, and in college — and even share the struggles. It’s about how to incorporate the faith and be constant and faithful, and the reality of God’s forgiveness when you do fall away. We all need that, but especially children do.”

For Marguerite, another important element of faith formation is modeling for the youth how to make their discipleship and their relationship with Christ something that forms the way they live each and every day. With this in mind, providing opportunities to

serve God’s people is often central to her teaching. In the past, she has led many service projects, including having students bring shoeboxes to fill with school supplies for underprivileged kids and making pillows for a local hospital.

This emphasis on stewardship and bringing Christ’s love out of the classroom and into the wider community is a wonderful way of teaching faith in action.

“I think it’s important to really focus on what is going on locally and in the community,” Marguerite says. “It’s important for the students to know why we do what we do — we serve people, we help the needy, and we do it because we are Catholic and we’re in a relationship with God. I’ve found that the kids really come alive in service projects.”

Excited to step into the role of Faith Formation Director here at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Marguerite knows that the students won’t be the only ones learning — she, too, is sure to experience spiritual and personal growth in this new position. She looks forward to walking this journey of faith alongside our parishioners.

“The focus is really to invite people into discipleship, and at the same time, I’m checking myself — am I doing enough?” Marguerite says. “In servant leadership, I come to serve without arrogance. I’m willing to learn and see what is important to people in the parish. I’m really excited to be here!”

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A Letter from Our Pastor

The *Light* at the End of the Tunnel

Dear Parishioners,

As this unprecedented crisis for our Church, nation and world continues to unfold, we are starting to see a light at the end of the tunnel. As we begin a return to our “new normal,” we have so much for which to be grateful.

I have witnessed so many of you continuing to actively live out stewardship during these past few months while our parish family has been apart, and that is truly a blessing. But with the uncertainty of what this “new normal” will be like in the days, weeks and months ahead, I ask you all to again consider how you are living out your call to stewardship.

Regardless of whether or not we can physically gather in our church or come together for ministry activities and events, our faith always lives on.

Remember that stewardship is a way of life, meaning that we are called to live as intentional disciples of Christ through the practice of stewardship in all circumstances.



Have you been giving God your Time? I encourage you to pray every day. Use this time as an opportunity to develop or strengthen your prayer life.

How can you serve the Lord right now with your Talents? Serve your family and friends in the ways that you can. Use your talents wisely to grow in relationship with others near or far.

Finally, is God still a priority in your Treasure? Despite the hardships, are you still keeping God at the heart of all your financial decisions. I encourage you to give God a portion of your treasure out of gratitude, no matter how big or small.

Thank you for your continued support by way of prayers, service and generous financial giving during these challenging times. I have been overwhelmed with a new sense of gratitude and dependence on our Lord during this crisis, and continue praying for each of you. I look forward to the day our parish and our church is bustling with life again, and I pray that day is coming soon.

Let us live with the joy of the Resurrection each day of our lives!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Msgr. Keith Brennan
Pastor





ACT1V8 Youth

Leading and Empowering wh

Acts of the Apostles 1:8 provides a powerful message — “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth.” This message that certainly applies to all of us, but it’s a particularly powerful one for our youth. Thus, it is from this passage that our ACT1V8 Youth Ministry takes its name.

ACT1V8 — drawn from Acts 1:8 and pronounced “activate” — exists to “lead our youth to Christ and empower them to be disciples of Christ,” says Our Lady Star of the Sea Youth and Young Adult Director Catherine Savilla.

“We believe the power of the Holy Spirit allows them to be those bold witnesses of the love of Christ to the world,” Catherine adds.

Each Sunday throughout the year, ACT1V8 offers programming for high school students from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

The high school group also meets for other events throughout the year. Earlier this year, several teens traveled to Washington D.C. to participate in the March for Life.

The middle school program has more non-traditional programming. Public school students attend Faith Formation classes. Four times per year, the classes take on a youth ministry theme. On a rotating basis, Palmer Catholic Academy students have ministry time on Friday afternoons during school.

“We are very blessed that we can work on that together,” Catherine says. “Young people have the opportunity for ministry. They can learn the practicality of faith. What does your faith mean in real life on a daily basis?”

The middle school students also come together one Saturday a month for Service Saturday, where they work on various service projects. One month last year, they worked with the Magic Yarn Project on fun wigs for pediatric patients who have lost their hair.

Service is an important part of the equation for the high school program, as well. Catherine says they helped with past hurricane relief efforts and also serve at fish fries in the parish.

“We talk about how they are a part of our parish,” Catherine says. “They have a responsibility to the parish. To be good disciples of Christ, you need to be involved.”

She is also proud that many of the youth serve in various roles during Mass — from ushers and cantors, to Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

“Participating in the life of the parish is part of being a disciple of Christ, and that’s what they are called to do,” Catherine says.



Youth Ministry

While Delivering Christ's Message



“We want youth to feel welcome. We want to be that group of people they can come and talk to about anything good or bad. We just want to be a fun and safe environment.”

— YOUTH MINISTER MIRA SCHMIDT



In addition, the God Squad program gives high school students the opportunity to become involved in a leadership role for the youth ministry program.

Catherine is so thankful for the support from the priests and Msgr. Keith Brennan. She is looking for more young adults to be involved as leaders.

Some of our local youth are happy to share why high school students should consider attending ACT1V8 events.

“It’s nice to have a family at Our Lady Star of the Sea that is there to help you through life and your faith journey,” says Mary Kate Flynn.

“We want youth to feel welcome,” adds Mira Schmidt. “We want to be that group of people they can come and talk to about anything good or bad. We just want to be a fun and safe environment.”

“High schoolers should look into ACT1V8, because it’s honestly just a place to have fun with your friends and keep your relationship with Jesus,” says Becca Cooper.

Catherine invites all high school and middle school youth to attend ACT1V8.

“The purpose is to help young people be part of a community and support each other in times of trouble,” she says. “The vision is for all to draw closer to Christ.”



If you would like to learn more about ACT1V8, to get involved or become an adult leader, please contact Catherine Savilla at 904-373-0755 or csavilla@olsspvb.org.



Keeping in Touch With the Holy Father: *There's an App for That!*



“Let the Church always be a place of mercy and hope, where everyone is welcomed, loved and forgiven.”

These words from Pope Francis weren't delivered during a homily in St. Peter's or in a speech from St. Peter's Square — nor were they written in a papal bull or apostolic letter. Rather, they were delivered in an instant to millions of Catholics around the world through the pope's very own Twitter account.

The technology of communication has perhaps changed more in the past century than in the previous 20 combined. And with these developments, the Catholic Church — led by our Holy Fathers, from Pope St. John Paul II through Pope Francis — strongly encourages that the faithful adopt and adapt these resources for the all-important task of spreading the Gospel throughout the whole world.

Just as St. Paul used every convenience at his disposal to spread the Gospel throughout the far reaches of the Roman empire, today's evangelists are using every resource available to them. Examples of Catholic figures using the new media with great success abound.

Only a few months into his pontificate, Pope Francis took the Vatican's social media efforts to a whole new level. In spring 2013, the Vatican released *The Pope App*, which features quotes, news, images and videos of all the Holy Father's latest doings.

Following the pope's lead, bishops, and priests are taking the technological gifts at their fingertips and utilizing them to spread the Gospel throughout the world in a variety of ways.

One great example is Bishop Robert Barron of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, whose Word On Fire Ministry has produced wildly popular YouTube videos discussing everything from controversial Church teachings to movie reviews from a Catholic perspective. Word On Fire also released the critically acclaimed *Catholicism* DVD documentary series.

Independent Catholic bloggers and Web-based media are also widely established and provide their audiences and readership with Catholic news and cultural commentary.

Throughout America, parishes, Catholic schools, dioceses, and even the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops are utilizing these tools as well, creating first-rate websites, maintaining Twitter and Facebook accounts, and more.

All of these resources are geared toward a wide variety of audiences, from the un-churched and fallen-away Catholics to active parishioners.

Being knowledgeable of the new media tools available to us as Catholics is a great way to be more effective in our universal call to evangelization. Take some time to see what media resources our parish and diocese are using, and be sure to pass them along to those in your sphere of influence!

Journey to the Priesthood

Meet Parishioner Joel Kolb

Being enlisted in the Navy may not seem a natural progression to Catholic seminary. As Our Lady Star of the Sea parishioner and choir member Joel Kolb points out, he'll certainly be experiencing a pretty big change in his life beginning this fall, as he begins his journey to the priesthood at St. Francis de Sales Seminary in Wisconsin. But he knows that God has led him to this step and he's excited to get started.

In May, Joel completed five years of military service as a Navy officer. He had entered the Navy through the Reserve Officer Training Corps — ROTC — at the University of Notre Dame, where he studied mechanical engineering. Most recently, he has been serving in Mayport, Fla.

"I really enjoyed my time serving in the Navy," he says. "It was challenging and it made me a better person and a better leader."

Joel was raised in West Bend, Wis. — where his parents, Greg and Jan, and much of his family still live — and growing up, he attended St. Frances Cabrini Parish. West Bend, which has a population of about 30,000 people, is just over 40 miles from the seminary.

During his enlistment, Joel spent time in Pascagoula, Miss. and Mayport, and on the USS Paul Ignatius.

It was during his time in the Navy that Joel began to consider a vocation to the priesthood.

"The first time I actually said out loud to someone, a good Catholic friend, that I was thinking about the priesthood was on a deployment in 2016," he says.

In the fall of 2017, Joel spoke to the vocations director for the Diocese of Milwaukee. After a 28-day Novena in the spring of 2018, Joel really felt God's call as he was asked to read during Mass from 1 Corinthians 7:33-34. That reading had also come up during the Novena — "But a married man is anxious about the things of the world, how he may please his wife and he is divided." So Joel broke off a relationship and placed his focus on how God was working in his life.

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Joel Kolb served in the Navy for five years, and will begin his journey to the priesthood when he enters seminary this fall.



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Journey to the Priesthood: *Meet Parishioner Joel Kolb*

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During his time in service, Joel encountered various opportunities for spiritual growth. For instance, he became active in a Bible study in Pascagoula.

“I learned to be more open and vocal about experiencing the Holy Spirit,” Joel says.

He also volunteered with the Alliance for Catholic Education — ACE — and taught sixth to eighth-grade faith formation from fall of 2018 to spring of 2019.

Joel feels ready to enter the seminary and begin his six years of study toward the priesthood. He looks forward to the camaraderie with the other men in the seminary.

“I’m ready to go and give it my all and see what God has in store for me next,” he says.

This summer, Joel looks forward to traveling in Wisconsin, with plenty of time to reflect on his military service and where he’s going next. He knows that going from the Navy to seminary will be a big change, but it is one that he is ready for.

“This is an amazing opportunity,” he says. “It will be humbling, having been given this opportunity to try to develop in such a profound way. God’s grace is enough and I believe that.”

Joel will miss the friends he’s made at our parish. His last day of military service was May 31.

“I would just really ask for people’s prayers to be a good and holy priest,” he says.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

For current Mass Schedule, please visit our website at www.olsspvb.org.