



Welcome to Star of the Sea Parish

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time — July 26, 2026

PARISH OFFICE:

2250 – 150th Street
Surrey, BC V4A 9J3
604-531-5739

OPEN: Monday – Friday
8:30am – 4:30pm
(closed Noon-1pm)

Email:
parish@starofthesea.ca

Website:
starofthesea.ca

FOR AFTER HOURS

EMERGENCIES:
604-831-1162 or
604-541-8036

PARISH TEAM:

PASTOR:

Fr. Augustine Obiwumma
aobiwumma@rcav.org

ASSISTANT PASTOR:

Fr. Edwin Kulling
ekulling@rcav.org

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:

Anne-Marie D'Mello
parish@starofthesea.ca

ADMIN ASSISTANT:

Avryn Mendez
avrynm@starofthesea.ca

ACCOUNTING:

Lorena Grange
lgrange@starofthesea.ca

EVANGELIZATION &

CATECHESIS:

Janice Hamanishi
janiceh@starofthesea.ca

PREP:

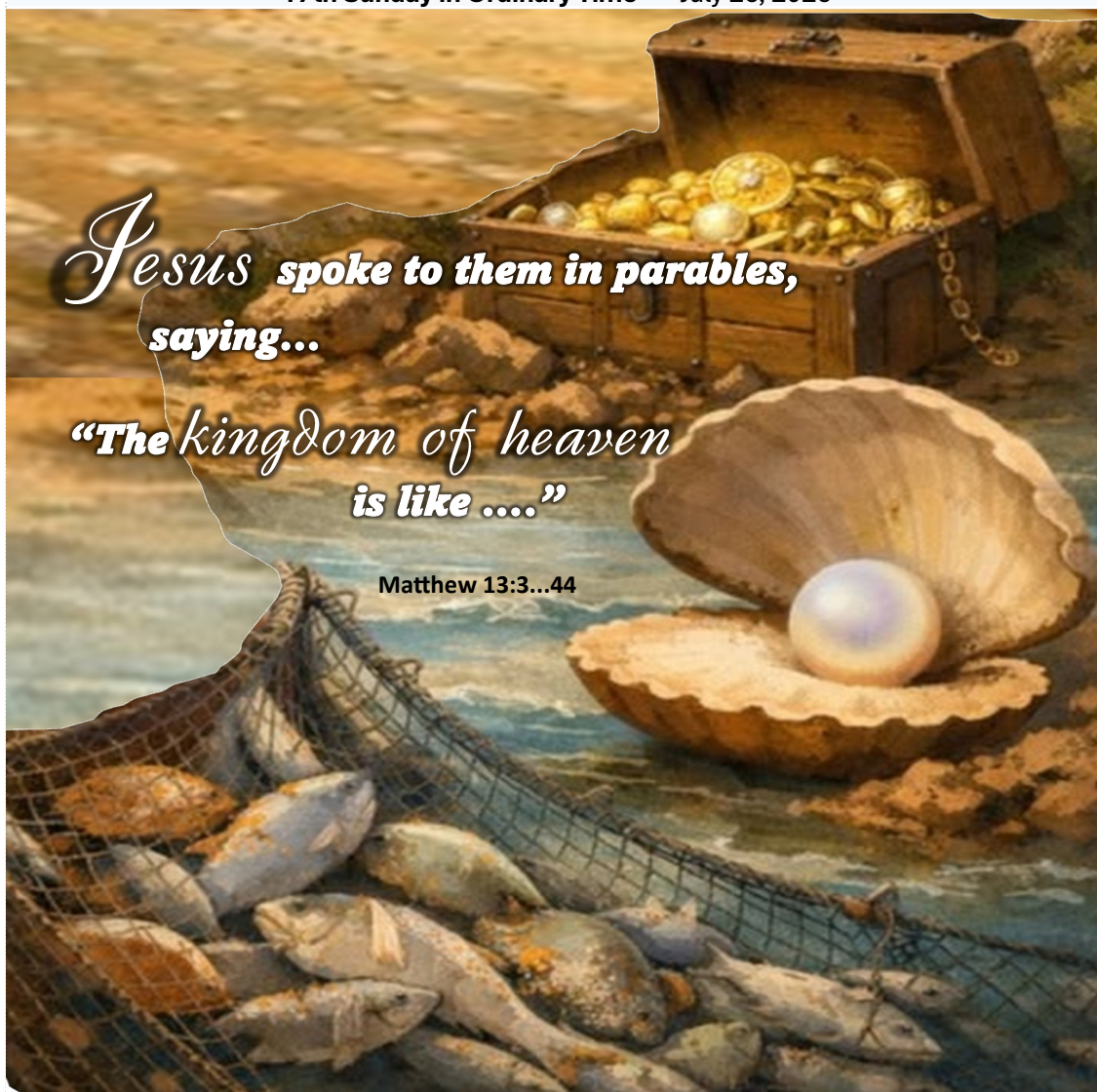
Josephine Copon
prep@starofthesea.ca

MUSIC MINISTRY:

Paul McFadden
music@starofthesea.ca

FACILITIES:

Alex Leonardo
alexL@starofthesea.ca



Jesus spoke to them in parables,
saying...

“The kingdom of heaven
is like”

Matthew 13:3...44

OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:
To follow Jesus Christ
and to invite others to do the same.

GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH

2250 - 150th Street, Surrey, BC V4A 9J3

Weekday Mass

Monday to Saturday 9AM
First Friday 6:30PM
Benediction and Adoration
follows First Friday Masses

Weekend Mass

Saturday 5PM
Sunday 9AM 11AM 7PM



LIVESTREAM Mass 11AM

[@SOSParish](https://www.youtube.com/@SOSParish)

Weekly Confessions at Good Shepherd

Wednesdays 6:30PM
Saturdays 10AM

STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH

1153 Fir Street, White Rock, BC V4B 4A8

Weekend Mass

Saturday 4PM
Sunday 10:30AM

GROW IN FAITH TOGETHER REGISTER FOR PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Nurturing your child's spiritual growth is one of the greatest gifts you can offer as a family. Our Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) offers a welcoming, engaging, and joyful environment for children to discover God's love, build friendships, and grow in their Catholic faith.

Why Choose PREP?

Engaging Curriculum:

Dynamic, age-appropriate lessons that bring Scripture, prayer, and Catholic traditions to life.

Sacramental Preparation:

Comprehensive classes to support children receiving First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation.

**** please note that two consecutive years of formal religious**

education is required to receive any Sacrament

Supportive Community: A safe space for youths to ask big questions, share values, and grow alongside peers.

Dedicated Catechists: Caring, background-checked volunteers who are passionate about passing on their love for God & the faith.

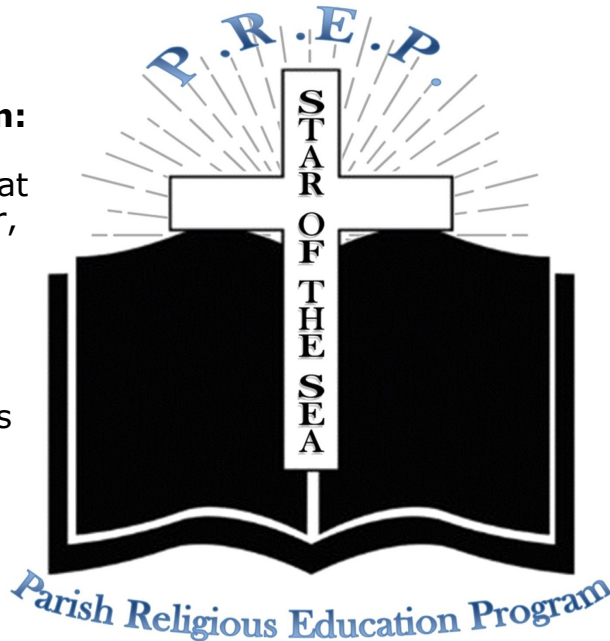
2026-2027 Program Details

Who: Children in Kindergarten through Grade 7 attending public school

When: Thursday evenings, from 6:15pm to 7:30pm

Where: Star of the Sea Elementary School

Classes Begin: September 17, 2026



Get Involved

Our program thrives because of our dedicated volunteers. We are always looking for enthusiastic catechists. No prior teaching experience is required—just a heart for sharing the faith!

Please send an email to prep@starofthesea.ca if you are interested in joining the PREP Ministry.

Take Action Today

Don't delay and secure your child's spot early, as September comes around quickly!

Registration forms for the upcoming school year can be found on the counter by the PREP bulletin board, or on the parish website. Completed registration forms and payments are due at the parish office on August 15, 2026.

**** registered families will receive an email the week of September 7th containing all the necessary details and information required for PREP ****

Dear Friends,

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time — July 26, 2026

Thank you to those who gave some feedback to the article I wrote in last Sunday's bulletin. I know from your comments that somehow my words have resonated with you, so thanks for taking the time to write to me or popping into the parish office to chat in person (that's always welcome!)



You may have noticed how self-congratulatory we have been with the large numbers of adult baptisms our parish has enjoyed especially over the last few years. Well, maybe we have acknowledged that of course, it's all God's doing, but we have to admit that we have been rather pleased with ourselves too. Although Fr. Augustine did happily announce from the pulpit this Easter: "*we had the most baptisms!!*", the truth is that parishes across the Archdiocese and indeed across the Catholic world are all reporting a resurgence in OCIA/RCIA participation. The Catholic Church has experienced a noticeable surge in adult conversions, particularly among young adults from Gen Z and the Millennial generation. You've probably read/watched or heard about the hundreds perhaps thousands of conversion stories reported online.

What we are seeing is certainly the work of the Holy Spirit—hearts being turned to Christ. With the weird craziness of the world, it has become starkly evident that the world cannot keep its promises, and young people especially are turning to religion seeking meaning and purpose, stability and joy. At the same time though, we need to recognize that this increase in numbers is just *that* — it's like a new springtime with sprouts pushing through the ground—a 'mini revival'. The increased numbers could also be because we are reaching a generation that wasn't sacramentalized in the same way generations before them were, i.e. they are people who would be *re-verts* but are now converts because they weren't baptized initially.

Whatever the reasons, all of us (for it's not just our pastor's job) need to marvel at God's generosity, and at the same time be fully aware that our approach—the way we do ministry, the way we fellowship — all of it, has to be renewed. Because we don't want our new converts to leave for the *same reasons* so many of us left the Church and abandoned our faith, joining the ranks of "lapsed Catholics".

In a recent article, Brian Miller of Amazing Parish wrote: "Our temptation will be to pour this new wine straight into the same tired wineskins that got us here. But we know that if we do they will burst and we risk squandering the gift of God. It's not enough simply to reflect on what we have done, but rather, we should echo the amazed statement of those cut to the heart by the preaching of Peter in Acts – *What shall we do?*"

I want to highlight one thing you and I can do: prepare yourself, ready yourself for *your* part in the mission God chosen uniquely for you. What do I mean? here's an analogy:

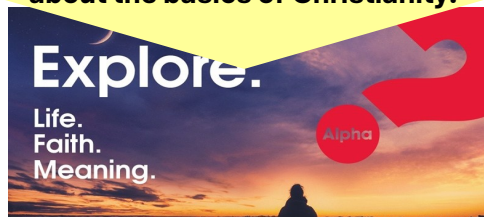
When I was a parent of young children, I got into the habit of getting myself ready for whatever we were about to do *hours* before it was time. If it was getting the kids off to school at 8am, then I would be fully ready myself to leave by 6am. The idea being that when I was fully prepared then I would be ready for whatever the kids needed *last minute*. There was always something last minute!! I found that not only was I able to help if need, I could do it peacefully and joyfully—no drama, no panic.

It's the same type of application for doing God's work. I don't know what God has in store for you in His mission, and I don't know what He has in store for me either! Whatever it is, I prepare myself through prayer, some study, and more prayer. I keep my eyes and ears open and I wait. Whatever the Lord brings, I'm ready to step in and step up.

Friends, these next few weeks in August, you may have the opportunity to hear at Mass a personal testimony of a fellow parishioner's walk with the Lord. The brief testimonies are meant to encourage you and inspire you for mission. I hope you are edified by them as much as I am.

~ Janice

For non-believers, new believers, and those curious about the basics of Christianity.



We believe that everyone should have the chance to explore faith, ask questions, and share their point of view.

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions exploring life, faith and meaning. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation.

Each session includes food, a short video, and open discussion in a relaxed environment. Perfect for anyone curious about Christianity, returning to faith, or wanting to invite a friend.

Saturdays 10:30am in Good Shepherd Meeting Room. Register at: holyjourney.ca/alpha/ or email Nasrin: nasrink@starofthesea.ca

For busy Moms who want to make authentic connections with other women while exploring the fundamental questions of our Catholic faith.

Join us for *Opening Your Heart: The Starting Point* as we explore the fundamental questions of our Catholic faith and our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Tuesdays 9AM-10:30AM

beginning **October 6th**

For more info or to register, contact Kayla or Mary-Ann: openheartmoms@gmail.com
www.walkingwithpurpose.com



For those who want a deeper encounter with Jesus' identity—the Word made flesh



"...And We Behold His Glory"

A Journey Through the Gospel According to St. John

"And We Behold His Glory" is a 24-week chapter-by-chapter Bible study through the entire Gospel According to St. John, slowing down in key areas that reveals the Glory of the Lord -- the Glory that is "God himself insofar as he is revealed in His majesty, His power, and glow of His holiness, the dynamism of His being."

Let us join the beloved disciple in a journey through his Gospel, and together behold the fullness of the Glory of God through Jesus, the Word made flesh.

THURSDAYS

7:00PM—8:30PM

Starting on September 17, 2026 at Star of the Sea School Library

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Cost: \$10 for study materials

For more info or to register: contact Jason

jason.chiwing.cheung@gmail.com
or the parish office 604-531-5739
parish@starofthesea.ca

For those interested in *Becoming Catholic*



OCIA/RCIA is the Church's official, structured process of **Christian initiation for adults**—aimed at leading a person to full communion with the Catholic Church, through a journey of *conversion*, *catechesis*, and *discernment*, culminating in the sacraments of initiation when the person is ready.

TUESDAYS

6:30pm-8:30pm

Good Shepherd Church

If you or someone you know is interested in OCIA, but cannot make Tuesday sessions, please contact janiceh@starofthesea.ca for alternate class times.

JOIN THE OCIA TEAM

An essential part of the OCIA process is in helping participants learn the Christian life. Because of this, we need a team of people willing to guide participants with prayerful presence and practical support, helping them feel welcomed and accompanied within the life of the Church. Your service would involve helping participants as they move through the OCIA stages, participating in team planning, and supporting them through the sessions and Church celebrations. If you feel drawn to this ministry, would you please consider joining the team on Tuesday evenings?



Congratulations to those recently Baptised:

Callum, Avery & Roman O'Shea

Congratulations to those recently joined in Holy Matrimony:

Agnes Marie Yambao
& Darrel Gelera

Gabriel Poleze Ferreiro
& Giselle Delaia Gomes

Oliver Chace & Olivia Anderson

Seung Bae (Ian) Han &
Chongqian (Marianne) Liu

Nicholas Favia &
Alexandra Specogna

Ngoc Paul Vu &
Kelly Gah Lai Chan

Abbas Adah & Brittany Read



King's Banquet

Tuesday Soup Kitchen



Summer Relief volunteers needed
for our parish Soup Kitchen.

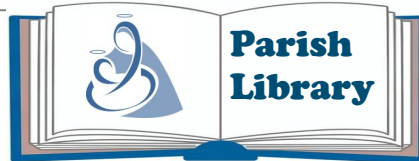
Two shifts available:

TUESDAYS

1st shift: Noon - 3:30pm

2nd shift: 3:30pm - 6:45pm

Please call or email Carolyn if you
are able to help 778-277-2533



Book Sale Donations

We are accepting donations for
our annual Book & Religious
Articles Sale (scheduled for
November 21 & 22). If you are
doing a clear-out this summer and
have Catholic books, rosaries or
other religious objects to give
away, please consider dropping
them off at your Parish Library. All
proceeds go towards supporting
the library. Leave donations in the
library at Good Shepherd Church,
or in the return bin on the lower
shelf of the library nook at Star of
the Sea Church.



New Books

Looking for some
summer reading?
We've added
plenty of new titles

over the last few months. Come in
and browse or e-mail us at
library@starofthesea.ca with any
inquiries. We have fiction and non-
fiction for adults and children.

Please pray for:

Paula Boos, John McMillan,
Joseph Russell, Mary Miekelson,
Norman Landry, Inge Nasato,
Michael Askin, Elsie Hoday,
Anthony & Joyce Jongedijk,
Jean-Guy Tardif, Josh Pereira,
Lola Kennedy, Rollin Theabeau,
Maria Passerelli, Clare Marshall,
Nancy Murchinson, Julia Nadon,
Diane Val.Camp, Desrey Lennon,
Baby Natalie Hohmann,
Amber O'Connor, Ray Weber,
Ken Wharton, Jose Coelho,
Paulie Tomé, Norah Jode,
Aurelio Ralar Jr., Melissa Kisielius,
Sr. Glenys, Therese Desrochers,
Bill Rivard, Ewald Stammer,
Donna Usselman, David Usselman,
Rory Usselman, Manal Ibrahim,
Monika Kessler, Dolores Alvarado,
Wade Carpenter, Marie Hosseini,
Corrie van den Boogaard,
Nicole Larouche, Odette Slezas,
Maria Seo, Anita Perrault,
Elizabeth Armas, Lynn Carruth,
Ed Wingenbach, Shirley Riehl,
Vanessa York, Ann Conte,
John Becher, Christine Algard,
Lorne & Cathy Houldson,
Margaret Benoit, Jack Plain,
Marian Nadelko, Carmina Raponi,
Marilyn Wolfe



Please pray for the Repose of the Souls of:

Glenn Brooks
Jack Koning
Rino Bellini



Baptism Preparation

Class for parents wanting
Baptism for their
child(ren) is on

**Saturday, August 15,
10AM—Noon**

Good Shepherd Church



This class is mandatory for
parents/godparents.

Please register for the class by
contacting the parish office
604-531-5739

parish@starofthesea.ca

Our baptism prep class for
parents is offered 4 times a year.
Next class will be at the end of the
year, in November or December.

Stronger Together

PROJECT
ADVANCE
2026

PROJECT ADVANCE UPDATE

Each year, your support of Project Advance strengthens the life of our parish. Your generosity helps sustain our ministries, outreach and pastoral care, while supporting the wider mission of the Church throughout the Archdiocese of Vancouver.

At the end of April, we officially launched our annual appeal with Archbishop Smith's video. Thank you to everyone who has already submitted their pledge for Project Advance since then! Every year, our hope is to get 100% participation from our parish families. **We are currently at 19% participation rate, raising \$23,420.**

There is still time to participate, and be a part of our Project Advance efforts that will focus on strengthening the life of our parish by engaging our young adults and encouraging our youths through established activities/programs, and growing our faith formation offerings. Our spirit of giving is strong, and only through everyone participating in the fundraiser, will we reach our goal. Thank you for your generous support!

Please give today:

By phone: Call 604-683-0281

In-Person: Drop by the parish office

Online: Use QR Code



Let us know by emailing parish@starofthesea.ca if we can help you make connections within other members of our big parish family.

Small Summer Project



Our well-used Folding Tables at Good Shepherd Church are all in need of a good scrub and minor repairs. If you can help, please let the parish office know.

Car Wanted A parishioner is looking for a dependable vehicle with a low cost of ownership. If you have one or know of a friend selling one, please let the parish office know.

For Rent: Brand-new Studio unit available immediately. 410 sq ft. ideal for a couple or individual. Attached cozy balcony for summer evenings. Unfurnished but could be furnished if desired. Minimum rental for one year. Location near King George Station. Equipped with a gym. For enquiries pls text 236-987-1104

Plots For Sale at Gardens of Gethsemani:

Two rare, difficult to come by side-by-side upright marker burial plots in St. Anthony's Garden at the Gardens of Gethsemani Cemetery. Call or text 604-653-2986 and ask for John if interested. Price open to negotiation.



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DEPARTURE:
DECEMBER 8, 2026
Fr. Augustine Obiwumma
—Chaplain



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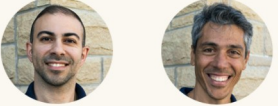
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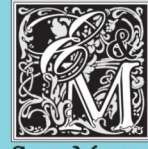
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