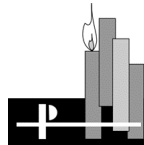


Our Lady Star of the Sea
First Sunday in Advent
November 27, 2016



Announced Masses

Saturday, November 26

4:00PM Christopher Amorosa
5:30PM Florence Casazza

Sunday, November 27

8:00AM Joyce Pizzementi
9:15AM Stephanie Vierno & George Vierno, Sr.
10:30AM Kelvin Voyeau
12 Noon Lillian Visceglia & Rose Nattoli
1:15PM Lena & Ciro D'Agostino
7:00PM Michael Acquavella

Monday, November 28

9:00AM Marianna Gallina

Tuesday, November 29

9:00 AM Marilyn Troy

Wednesday, November 30

9:00AM Jeanne Eisenhardt

Thursday, December 1

9:00AM Alfred Austin

Friday, December 2

9:00AM George Garofolo

Saturday, December 3

9:00AM Joseph & Anna Viviani
4:00PM Deceased Members of the Thaler & Matzelle Families
5:30PM Patricia Balestrieri & the Deceased Members of the Balestrieri Family

Sunday, December 4

8:00AM Peter Rudden
9:15AM Deceased Members of the Healy & Ennis Families
10:30AM Julie & Frank Bortle
John & Cecelia Smith
12 Noon Joseph Ennis
1:15PM Rosemarie Capozzalo
7:00PM Kelvin Voyeau

St. Catherine Laboure, 1806-1876 -Nov. 28

Catherine was born Zoe Laboure and in 1830 entered the Sisters of Charity. She spent her entire adult life doing the most humble of jobs, working in a hospice for old men, seeing to their physical and spiritual needs. She also tended the chickens, and was responsible for answering the convent door. In November 1830, St. Catherine saw the Virgin Mary standing on a globe with the words, "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee." She understood that she was to have medals made of this model. Due to the numerous miracles associated with the medal, it was soon known as the Miraculous Medal. Today it is worn by millions. When someone would ask if she was the sister of the apparitions, she would just laugh. After her death the world learned the humble sister was one of the great saints in heaven. Appearances can be deceiving. -JM

Advent Candles Memorialized



The Advent Candles, which are on our Advent Wreath, have been memorialized by the Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors who serve at the 8AM Mass.

Sincere Condolences



The Parish Family of Our Lady Star of the Sea offer our sincere condolences to the families of:

Salvatore Giuffre, Olga Caristo, Francine Trupiano, Paul Chevront, Angelina Consolmagnò, Thomas Porr

The Sanctuary Lamp for the
Week of November 27-December 3
Given in Memory of
Nancy Sacco

Donated with love from your children,
Angela & Joe

Mass Minister Schedule

Lectors – Saturday, December 3

4:00PM C Harris
5:30PM F Barone

Eucharistic Ministers, December 3

4:00PM C Argano, C Biondolillo, J Coscia, A Lazzara, A Petrocelli, & E Vitiello
5:30PM J Cimino, A Dazio, A Maffeo, M Lappin, J Uhlman

Lectors –Sunday, December 4

8:00AM M Higgins
9:15AM E Newborn
10:30AM M Coppolo
12 Noon A Deliso
1:15 PM B Weir
7:00 PM J Limeri

Eucharistic Ministers, December 4

8:00AM J Perdichizzi, M Andreola, C Rosato, A Sparandera, & J Stanzione
9:15AM D Avena, L Capobianco, S Hitchcock, Sr. Rosemary, L Appel
10:30AM N Fallacaro, C&J Gerace, C Ordy, B Paccione, R LaMonica
12 Noon C Belvedere, S Catalano, C Messina, B Peters, C Bottiglia
1:15PM N Villani, V Acri, C Houle, M Sprague, MA Russo
7:00PM M Recanatini, A Zuffante, K Melka, G LaGrua, E Bellina

Altar Servers, Saturday, December 3

4:00PM E Harris, V Pavlick
5:30PM S&N Mejias

Altar Servers, Sunday, December 4

8:00AM N Shirazi
9:15AM J Bell
10:30AM M Mattioli
12 Noon G Vassallo, G Marino, N Salerno
1:15PM J Oliveri
7:00PM L&PJ Caiazza

Banns of Marriage



First Time: Joseph Galante & Jacquelyn Reddy
Second Time: Ferdinando Occhiuto, Jr. & Gina Dorilio
Third Time: Brian Millman & Joanna D'Amico

Wedding Music Workshop

The next **Wedding Music Workshop** will be on **Sunday, February 26** immediately following the 7 pm Mass. OLSS Brides & Grooms may select their wedding music at this time.

Altar Servers Meeting, 12/3 at 11 am

There will be a brief mandatory meeting on Saturday, December 3rd at 11AM in the church. Parents are welcome to stay and listen in on the meeting as well.

Pastor's Letter

Dear Parish Family,

Happy New Year, well Happy New Liturgical Year! This week we begin the worshipping cycle with Advent. Advent celebrates the Coming of Our Lord. There are precisely three understandings of the word Advent. First, that Jesus came in **HISTORY** over two thousand years ago. Secondly, Jesus comes in **MYSTERY** every day on our altars. Whenever we receive Jesus in Holy Communion, when we adore Him in the Blessed Sacrament, and when we encounter His merciful presence in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and in Reconciliation, Jesus mysteriously comes to us and releases his graces. Grace is power, grace is the presence of God in the Holy Spirit animating our spirits to renewal. Third and finally, Jesus will come in **MAJESTY**, either at the end of our lives or at the final end of the world. So we sing heartily, "O, Come, O Come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel."

Advent is the perfect season to prepare our hearts for Christmas. We have had our fill of the Thanksgiving turkey, office Christmas parties and end of the year celebrations and family gatherings help us to gain weight and enjoy more food than we thought we would ever eat. Advent is a sobering reminder that just like Mary and Joseph looking for a place for Jesus to be born, we look for a room in the INN of the Heart to find a place for Jesus in our lives.

I recently have been reading the book, "33 Days to Morning Glory", by Father Michael Gaitley, MIC. In this book he highlights the spirituality of Saint Louis De Montfort, Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Saint John Paul II and Saint Teresa of Calcutta. Each of these saints had a deep consecration to Mary. Mary is seen as the Mother of graces, sharing the gifts of the Holy Spirit with us, her spiritual children, and there was one particular insight that caught my attention. Saint Maximilian Kolbe, OFM, Conventual, was a martyr of Auschwitz and he stood in for a man condemned to death by the Nazi's. He declared in front of the SS Officer, when several men were singled out for execution and one man cried that he had to live and care for his family; "I am a Catholic Priest, take me". In an extraordinary heroic manner, he supported these men on death row during the time of their starvation with incredible faith. Years earlier when he was teaching the novices of this Franciscan Monastery, the largest in the world; he taught them with this formula. $W + w = s$. God's Will plus my will equals sanctity.

This would be a wonderful way to reflect this Advent season to prepare for Christmas. How do I align my will with God's will for me? It seems to me the biggest obstacle to a life of grace, consecration and dedication to the Lord is sin. Now there are two twin towers of sin that for the most part overrule our lives: Self Reliance and Self Condemnation. When I am so proud of all I accomplish and all that I have to do, I never ask God for help, never ask for His assistance in anything. I give him 55 minutes on Sunday but there's little or no acknowledgment that Jesus wants to be a part of my daily life. I ride high on my ego and as the acronym for ego spells out, I ease God out of my life. I need to repent. So Advent is a time for repentance. Go to confession.

The other side of the coin is self-condemnation. Why do I put myself down? I become my own worst critic. Why do I get depressed during the holiday season because I don't allow myself to celebrate with others the love and joy and gratitude to God for all the gifts He bestows on us? This too is a sin because the devil is always trying to impart ways to keep me from reaching God. So repent and realize with Saint Paul the Apostle, "When I am weak, then I am strong" and His grace is sufficient for my needs.

Next Sunday after the 5:30 Mass the Christmas Memorial Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held. Monsignor Vincent Bartley will press the Magic Button. Please come and join us, some refreshments will be held outdoors too.

We have a Giving Tree in the vestibule for the parish to help the less fortunate why not give to others? Also rejoice in your goodness, Jesus loves you more than you will ever know. Pray, let him Come to you.

Happy Advent,

Fr. Tom Devery



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Volunteers Needed!

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held each week, Monday-Thursday in the OLSS Chapel from 12 Noon-5pm. Volunteers, or Adorers, sign up for one hour shifts to sit with our Lord during this time. We welcome you to sign up for any one hour that would suit your needs, however, we are in urgent need of Adorers to sit for the following times:

Mondays 1-2 PM
Thursdays 3-4 PM

If you can find some time in your day to participate in Adoration, please call Carol Ordy at 917-536-8576.

Healing Mass

There will be a Healing Mass on **Tues, December 6** at **7:30 p.m.** Anyone in need of spiritual, emotional, or physical healing is welcome. *(The next Healing Service will be Dec.20 @ 3:30 pm.)*

Giving Basket

As in the past, this Christmas, we will be helping those in need on Staten Island, by responding to our parishioners & local organizations serving their various needs. This weekend, and the following weekend, our Giving Baskets will be in the rear of the Church. Please select one or more tags, purchase the items and wrap them. If you pick a tag and find you cannot purchase that gift, please return the tag. All gifts must be new. Original tag must be taped on the package, face up, when returning it. If you have a new item that you would like to donate, just make your own tag, noting the contents of the gift. For example, "Boys Large sweatshirt" and tape it to the gift. If you have volunteered to help with this project in the past or if you would like to join our volunteers this year, please call Donna Ferreri, the organization's coordinator, at 646-932-3030, and leave your name and number. Tags for gift cards for families in need in our parish are needed as well. Please indicate the amount of the gift card on the tag so that we know the value when distributing them. **PLEASE RETURN GIFTS WEEKENDS OF DECEMBER 3 & 4 AND DECEMBER 10 & 11 – NO LATER – SO THAT WE CAN DISTRIBUTE THEM IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS. God bless you for your generosity during this Advent Season!**

OLSS 4th Annual Christmas Fair

Saturday, December 3 from 3 pm to 7 pm & Sunday, December 4 from 9 am to 5 pm in O'Mara Hall. For more info on being a vendor, contact Marilee at 718-619-3098.

2016 OLSS Tree Lighting Ceremony

Saturday, December 3

(immediately following the 5:30 pm Mass)
Refreshments to follow in the Damato Mtg Room



OLSS SCHOOL NEWS



- **Report Cards** will be available for the parents to view and print on **Wednesday, November 30th**. Parent/Teacher Conferences will be on **December 2nd**.
- There will be an 11:00 am dismissal on **Wednesday, November 30**, due to a teachers' meeting at our school.
- **First Friday Mass** –The **6th grade** is preparing our First Friday Mass on **Friday, December 2 at 9 am**. Parents are welcome to attend.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all the students and families in the Religious Education Program for their many coats and tremendous food donations which will be distributed to families in our own community. We give thanks to God for the "gift" of you! God bless you for your generosity. HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!

A Word of Thanks

Dear OLSS Community,
The month of November is a perfect time to thank you for all your prayers and words of comfort during my granddaughter's illness. Throughout the past year and a half, our spirits were lifted by the many masses and prayer intentions offered for Summer's healing. The many words of encouragement helped give us strength to face each day. We are also extremely grateful for your generous support to Alex's Lemonade Stand. The goal of this wonderful organization is to help fund pediatric cancer research. Our family has been involved with them since Summer first became ill. During this very difficult time since her passing, we continue our fundraising efforts in the hope that the success of ALSF will be able to bring hope and assistance to other families dealing with childhood cancer. We are so grateful and overwhelmed by the love and support we continue to receive from our OLSS community. We would love to be able to thank all of you individually, but that is of course impossible. Please know that your love and prayers will never be forgotten and will remain in our hearts forever.

Love, Susan and Jim Semerad and Family

Pray for the Sick



Barbara Allen, Baby Noah, Norma Bolanos, Vincenza Caccano, Marie Cancelleri, Serafina Carlone, Patsy Cassano, Angela Chinchilla, Ethyl Cohen, David Colon, Nanette Colon, Marion Concadora, Morgan Coop, Rafaella Cosenstino, Liseth Dixon, Jeanette Dovile, Michael Durante, Zenia Enciso, Barbara Foresti, Thomas Paul Gaither, Antoinette Gallo, Herbert Gruberger, Baby Joseph Hale, Matthew Hall, Scott Herman, Thomas Lamantia, Thomas Lanza, Lelle Lazanek, Cecelia Leo, Saydi Leon, Anne Merlino, Iok Kuan Lei Ng, Ralph Pagliuca, Joseph Pavio, Ann Marie Pederson, Sue Perinuzzi, Camille Polly, Rochelle & Joe Puglisi, Eva Ragona, John & Carmine Ragona, Ivan Rodriguez, Caesar Russo, Lucrecia Santos, Jamie Seaman, Celeste Setty, Donna Slavin, Margaret Smith, Trevor Spataro, Sharon Thomas, Dora Valiente, Lisa & Dustin Vasquez, Thomas Vecchi, Louis Vitale, Sr. Jean Wagner **Please Note: Parish priests and Eucharistic ministers regularly visit those who are ill or homebound. Please call the Rectory to have a name added to the sick list or to arrange for home visits.**

Our Lady Star of the Sea

Star Players

(formerly CYO Players)

present

Reason for the Season



in

OLSS O'Mara Hall

Show Dates & Times

Friday, December 9 – 7:30pm
Saturday, December 10 – 1:00pm
Saturday, December 10 – 7:30pm
Sunday, December 11 – 2:00pm

Tickets

\$15 per person at the door
or call Maryann at 917-817-7463
to reserve in advance.

Directed by: Melissa Kane & Nicole Colonna

Assistant Directors: Stephanie Langella & Dana Cavello

Musical Director: Rob Butler

Choreographers: Marie Causi & Therese Causi



Group Meetings

50 Plus Club – The next meeting will be **Friday, December 9 from 1-3 pm** in the Damato Meeting Room of the OLSS Athletic Center. For more information, call Terry at 718-317-1801.

Bereavement Group – Bereavement meetings will resume in January. If you have experienced a loss or are in mourning of a family member, and would like to speak with a bereavement counselor, please call the Rectory.

Book Club - The next meeting of the OLSS book club will be **Thursday, December 1 at 7:30 PM** in the Rectory. New members are always welcome. We will begin our next selection which is *Winning The Battle Against Sin- Hope Filled Lessons From The Bible* by Fr. Mitch Pacwa, SJ (The Word Among Us Press). For more info, please contact Kathy Melka at 917-696-7081.

Holy Name Society – The next meeting for the Holy Name Society will be on **Wednesday, December 7 at 8 pm** in the Damato Mtg Room of the OLSS Athletic Center. For more info, call Robert Cermeli at 917-783-6494 or Peter Cappellino at 917-626-7757.

Prayer Group – Group meets on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7:30p.m. in the Rectory.

OLSS Sports

VALENTINE'S DANCE

The 8th annual OLSS SPORTS Valentine's Dance Fundraiser will take place on **Saturday Feb. 4th from 7pm-1am** in the Athletic Center. This is an adult only event. Tickets are \$30/person and includes a catered buffet, DJ, photo booth, door prizes, raffles and more! Tables of 10 or more can be made, or we can add you to any table. Help support the sports program! For more info, contact Kris Zieris at 917-499-3942.

OLSS Baptism Preparation Policy



Please reference the front bulletin cover for details on the Baptism Preparation Policy. All parish families preparing for the Baptism of their child must attend the OLSS Baptismal Class. Please contact the Rectory Mon-Fri 9-4:30 to obtain a Baptism Registration Packet.

Baptismal Class & Ceremony Dates

November 27, December 11, January 8 & 22

PLEASE NOTE: Baptism Classes take place at 12 Noon in the Damato Meeting Room of the Athletic Center. Baptism Ceremonies take place at 2:15 PM in the Church.

RCIA - Come Experience God's Love

Would you like to explore the Catholic Church and the faith of Catholic Christianity? Are you interested in becoming a full member of the Catholic Church? Were you baptized Catholic as a child, but have not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist? If so, then RCIA is for you. RCIA is a journey of exploration and initiation into the Catholic Church. RCIA is a fun, safe, faith-building discovery of Jesus Christ and the Church he loves. RCIA will change your life. It will bring you closer to Jesus. The Catholic Church welcomes you. For information please contact Joe Limeri – jlimeri@aol.com – 347-541-9757 or call the Rectory.

BUS TRIP TO SAND'S CASINO

The Stolzenhaller Council of K of C is sponsoring a trip to Sand's Casino in Bethlehem, PA on **Tuesday, December 13**. The cost is \$30 per person, with \$20 back in slot play and \$5 back in food. The bus will leave Stolzenhaller Council at 10:00 a.m. Call Ed Newborn @ 917-697-5603 for information & reservations.

Cluster Corner



Cluster Parish Mass Times

Our Lady Help of Christians – 7396 Amboy Rd.
Sat. 4:30 PM; Sun. 8 AM, 10 AM (Family Mass), 12 PM, 4 PM (Spanish Mass) & 6:30 PM

Weekday Masses Mon. thru Sat. 9 AM

St. John Neumann - 1380 Arthur Kill Rd.

Sat. 5 PM; Sun. 8 AM, 9:30 AM, 11 AM and 12:30 PM
Weekday Masses Mon. thru Sat. 9 AM in Rectory Chapel

St. Thomas the Apostle - 6123 Amboy Rd.

Sat. 6 PM, Sun. 9 AM, 10 AM (Italian), 11 AM, 1 PM, & 6 PM
Weekday Masses Mon. thru Fri. 7 & 8 AM, Sat. 8 AM

Church of St. Joseph - 16 Poplar Ave.

Sat. 5 PM; Sun. 8 AM, 10 AM, & 12 PM
Weekday Masses Mon. thru Sat. 9 AM

✓ Mark Your Calendar

Ignatian Spirituality – St. Clare Church

All are welcome to participate in the next session of "Ignatian Spirituality," which will be held on **Saturday, December 3rd at 10 am** in the Presentation Center (169 Lindenwood Rd.) at St Clare's parish.



Msgr. Farrell High School Christmas Fair

Sunday, December 4 from 10 am – 5 pm

Admission \$3 per person or \$5 per family, free parking. 2900 Amboy Rd. For more info, contact farrellchristmasfair@gmail.com.

Meditation Monday at St. Joseph Retreat Center

December 12th from 7:30-9:00 PM

An invitation for you to be refreshed, renewed and restored. It's an evening to kick back, relax and let go of stress. The evening consists of faith sharing, reflection and prayer ending with coffee and dessert. Fee: \$10 per session. (This is a monthly event taking place on the second Monday of the month. Attendees do not need to attend all sessions.) Facilitated by Grace Daquila. St. Joseph Retreat center is located at St. Joseph Hill Convent, 850 Hylan Blvd., SINY 10305. For more info, call 718-720-1097 or visit www.sjretreatcenter.org.

12 Step & Community Meetings

ACOA _____ Sundays 5:30PM

AA _____ Sundays 8:15PM

_____ Mondays 10AM

_____ Tuesdays 4PM

_____ Thursdays 4PM

_____ Fridays 4PM

_____ Saturdays 7:30PM & 9PM

PILLS ANONYMOUS _____ Tuesdays 6:30PM

_____ Fridays 6:30PM

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS _____ Tuesdays 8:00PM

AL-ANON _____ Thursdays 5:30PM

Addiction Angels – The Sibling Support Group meeting on **Tues., December 20 at 7 pm** in the **Damato Mtg. Room**. There will be a Parent Support Group meeting on **Thurs., December 22 at 7 pm** in the **Damato Mtg Room**. For more info, call Alicia Reddy at 646-404-0637.

12 Step Night of Reflection: Every first Thursday, there will be a dinner at 6PM, a meeting at 7:15PM and a Healing Mass at 8:30PM in O'Mara Hall/Chapel for members of 12 Step Programs. Cost: \$20. The next meeting is on **December 1**.

