

DECEMBER 22, 2013
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

"May the Lord bless you and grant you and your loved ones His lasting Peace and Joy in this Holy Christmas Season."

Msgr. Jeffrey P. Conway

ANNOUNCED MASSES

Saturday, December 21, 2013

9:00AM Lenny Galati
4:00PM Berta and John Matzele
5:30PM Anna and Gaetano Vallone

Sunday, December 22, 2013

8:00AM Deceased Members of Vola and Petrosino Fms.
9:15AM Olga Merola and Michael Pallante
10:30AM Jeannette Pompa
12 Noon Theresa Scaramuzzo
1:15PM Richard Angelina and Jamie DaSilva.
7:00PM Deceased Members of Palmieri and Persichilli Fms.

Monday

9:00AM Emilio Stuccio and Joyce Negrete

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2013

9:00AM Nancy DeMartino
4:00PM Richard Rauch, Netta Scimecca
 & Joseph and Gaetana Levantino
6:00PM Mario Mattera and the Deceased Members of
 The Grezzo Family
12 Midnight John Milo and Patty G.

Christmas Day, Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2013

7:30AM Lyle Dean Hamilton
9:00AM George Allen and Richard Mohr
10:30AM Gladys Voyeau
12 Noon Stephanie DeMaio
1:30PM Michael Claps
7:00PM Deceased Members of the O'Connor Family

Thursday

9:00AM Jamie DaSilva

Friday

9:00AM George Vierno, Sr., Stephanie Vierno
 and Albert and Helen Giardino

Saturday, December 28, 2013

9:00AM Lorraine Antinoro
4:00PM Robert Westrich
5:30PM Rev. Msgr. Leo Bierster

Sunday, December 29, 2013

8:00AM Joseph DeAngelis
9:15AM Marianna and Giovanni Gallina
10:30AM Robert Fleming
12 Noon Josephine and Edwin Schuster abd
 Terry Schuster
1:15PM Patricia Sestile
7:00PM John and Gemma Graziano



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

THIRD TIME: Joseph Masseria and Amanda Gorman

MUSIC WORKSHOP FOR BRIDES AND GROOMS

On Sunday, Dec. 29, 2013 at 8:15PM, we will have our Music Workshop in the Church after the 7PM Mass. At this time, you will be able to select the liturgical music for your wedding and ask any questions you may have.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP WEEK OF
DECEMBER 22, 2013
IN MEMORY OF

JOANNE MUSCARELLA MEGILA
WITH LOVE THE EMIGHOLZ FAMILY

PLEASE REFER TO YOUR SCHEDULE FOR THE CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY ASSIGNMENTS AND PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO FULFILL YOUR OBLIGATION. THANK YOU.

Lectors – Saturday, Dec. 28, 2013

4:00PM C. Harris
5:30PM F. Barone, M. Andreaola

Eucharistic Ministers, Saturday, Dec. 28, 2013

4:00PM MJ Russo, C. Baggot, C. Bottiglia, A. Lazzara,
 S. Roberto, J. Coscia, V. Caruso
5:30PM C. Biondolillo, C. Houle, G. Scotto, JM Graziano,
 M. Graziano, A. Spoto, M. Lappin

Lectors – Sunday, Dec. 29, 2013

8:00AM J. Perdichizzi, M. Truckenbrodt
9:15AM A. Pompei, T O'Connell
10:30AM M. Pinto
12 Noon C. Messina
1:15PM A. Deliso
7:00PM T. Palmieri

Eucharistic Ministers – Dec. 29, 2013

8:00AM T. Daluise, M. Molinini, L. & R. Bauer,
 P. Zoltowski, C. Rosato, J. Stanzione
9:15AM M. Vierno, L. Appel, A. Brady, R. Scarpati,
 M. & S. Hitchcock, V. Gilsenan
10:30AM G. Balestrino, C. Argano, D. Zaiano, PA Walsh,
 C. Ordy, E. & G. Riozzi
12 Noon R. Gamba, M. Langella, C. Belvedere, C. Houle,
 A. McCoy, R. & F. Marino
1:15PM J. Tolento, C. Barone, M. Randazzo, MA Higgins,
 B. Higgins, N. Villani, B. Nicholson
7:00PM D. McCumisky, B. Paccione, A. Zuffante,
 E. Bellina, G. Scotto, C. Pontecorvo, M. Sprague

PLEASE REFER TO YOUR SCHEDULE FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS ASSIGNMENTS.

Altar Server Schedule

Saturday, Dec. 28, 2013

4:00 P.M. D. & D. Battaglia, E. Buccini, M. Esposito
5:30 P.M. J. & K. Martino, G. & V. Sicari

Sunday, Dec. 29, 2013

8:00 A.M. N. & J. Mele, G. & N. Tucci
9:15 A.M. J. Bell, B. Bosques, E. Carey, D. Smerina
10:30A.M. G. Pelucco, A. & R. Ruskowski, J. Petillo
12 Noon G. Artz, C. Carr, D. Russo, C. Sikorjak
1:15 P.M. K. Betsais, H. Caruso, D. Dunn, G. Steinmetz
7:00 P.M. L. Caiazza, C. & J. Rubin, G. Tulino



SANCTUARY LAMP 2014

There are no announced Masses available for 2014. However, unannounced Masses are available at any time. If you would like to dedicate a Sanctuary Lamp for the year 2014, in memory of a deceased loved one, the book is now open. The donation is \$35. Thank you



CHRISTMAS 2013

Pastor's Christmas Message

Dear Parishioners:

We celebrate, once again, the coming of God into our (His) world to become like us, to experience everything we experience, to show what God is like, and to save us from the futility of a fragile existence. He humbled Himself, stepping down from the throne of heaven to one of the lowliest places He could go, to the life of a carpenter, an itinerant rabbi and preacher, a healer of bodies and souls, and to His eventual death on a cross. The good news of His coming is made more joyous in His resurrection, His triumph over sin and death.

We rejoice that the Son freely took this assignment out of love for us. Christmas shows us how much God loves us. He gave His only Son. If we ever think of God as a punishing, angry God, all we have to do is look at the gift of His Son, look at Jesus healing, loving, forgiving and dying for us and know that GOD IS LOVE. There is no other attribute that expresses the essence of His being as revealed in Jesus better than LOVE. We can say that God is just, powerful, all-knowing, eternal, etc., but LOVE is the characteristic that best expresses the elusive being of God. And the Son shows us this love by coming to earth in the person of Jesus, the Christ.

We, as His followers, and filled with His Spirit, are called to continue showing forth that love to all people. We are blessed to have Pope Francis, who expresses that love so freely and so well. (Time Magazine recognized this by making him Person of the Year 2013.) He reaches out to the deformed, the prisoners, the poor, the immigrants, gays, the divorced and remarried, all those who are rejected by society. People respond to him so well because he shows them Jesus, as Jesus shows them the Father.

What the Pope is doing, we are all called to do: show the love of Jesus to the world. Every time we reach out to someone in need, or hurting, or an enemy – Jesus comes again into this world. Every time we break down barriers that separate – Jesus comes again. Every time we repent of our pride and our other vices – Jesus comes again. Mother Theresa said: “God has no hands but ours,” We have to give His hug to the world – so that He can come again.

Christmas is 2013 years old, but it is meant to be ever new as we pass it on. May Christmas have that meaning for all of us as we celebrate Christ's coming alive again in our world.

Sincerely,

Msgr. Jeff Conway
Pastor



MASS CELEBRANTS

Sat. – Dec. 21, 2013

4:00PM Msgr. V. Bartley

5:30PM Msgr. V. Bartley

Sunday – Dec. 22, 2013

8:00AM Fr. Adalbert

9:15AM Msgr. Peter Smith

10:30AM Msgr. Peter Smith

12 Noon Msgr. Jeff Conway

1:15PM Fr. Adalbert

7:00PM Msgr. Jeff Conway

Sat. – Dec. 28, 2013

4:00PM Msgr. Jeff Conway

5:30PM Fr. Adalbert

Sun. – Dec. 29, 2013

8:00AM Fr. Adalbert

9:15AM Msgr. Jeff Conway

10:30AM Msgr. Jeff Conway

12 Noon Msgr. Jeff Conway

1:15PM Fr. Adalbert

7:00PM Msgr. Jeff Conway

CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC. 24, 2013

4:00PM Msgr. Jeff Conway

6:00PM Fr. Adalbert

Midnight Mass Msgr. Jeff Conway

CHRISTMAS DAY, DEC. 25, 2013

7:30AM Fr. Adalbert

9:00AM Fr. Adalbert

10:30AM Msgr. Jeff Conway

12 Noon Msgr. Jeff Conway

1:30PM Msgr. Jeff Conway

7:00PM Fr. Adalbert

Christmas Flower Offering

During the Christmas Season, our church is adorned with lovely Christmas flowers. If you would like to contribute to our Christmas flower fund, please us the envelope found in your packet of Sunday envelopes noting the loved one you would like remembered on the line provided.



Blessed Jacopone Benedetto – Dec. 25

Jacopone was born in Todi, Italy in 1230 and came from a very wealthy family. He was trained in law and happily married to a beautiful young woman named Vanna. While attending a wedding, a balcony collapsed killing many including Vanna. He discovered that Vanna wore a hair shirt probably to atone for his own sins. His world in ruins, Jacopone quit his profession, gave away all of his belongings and became a penitent. After ten years of poverty and penance, he became a Franciscan. Brother Jacopone became a great poet. He severely criticized Pope Boniface VII for his treatment of Pope Celestine V, who resigned. Jacopone landed in a dungeon for five years until Boniface's death. He wrote the Stabat Mater Dolorosa – “at the cross her station keeping, stood the mournful Mother weeping, close to Christ until the last. Through her heart, His sorrow sharing, all His bitter anguish bearing, now at length the sword had passed.” (JM)



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE – 2013

MASSES ON CHRISTMAS EVE

DEC. 24, 2013

4:00PM, 6:00PM & MIDNIGHT

MASS

MASSES ON CHRISTMAS DAY

DEC. 25, 2013

7:30AM, 9:00AM, 10:30AM,

12 NOON, 1:30PM & 7:00PM

Masses are in the Church only. Please note that the 4PM and 10:30AM are very crowded. If necessary, you can use the municipal lot across from the library on Huguenot Ave. Please do not use the TD Bank Parking Lot across the street from the Church. Thank you.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION NEWS

The Adult Faith Formation and RCIA sites within our parish website have undergone a complete transformation, making it easier to navigate and providing a new virtual experience. While most content has been migrated, new content has been added in order to better serve our community of faith. We are still not done and we welcome any suggestions you might have to make our sites even better. Please take a moment and visit us at our **NEW WEBSITE**: <http://aff.olssparish.org>.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION – CALLING NEW MEMBERS

Are you interested in making a difference? Our Core Team is currently looking for individuals who can work collaboratively with our group to help set direction for upcoming Adult Faith Formation initiatives and events within our parish. If you are interested. Kindly email Joe Limeri – jlimeri@aol.com

RCIA CATECHISTS NEEDED FOR TEEN PROGRAM

We are actively looking for RCIA catechists preferably young adults who will assist with facilitation of our RCIA program for Teens. Programs are held each Sunday through May. If you are interested in sharing your faith and making a real difference in someone's life, kindly email Joe Limeri at jlimeri@aol.com or call 347-541-9757.

LIVE LOVE LAUGH – ANNUAL OLSS FASHION SHOW

Our Annual Fashion Show will be on March 27, 2014 @ The Hilton Garden Inn. If you would like to donate or ask any questions, please contact: Fashion Show Chairladies: Lisa Adragna 347-281-0976/Laura Giudice 917-582-5044/Lisa Kindya 917-453-4491.

PRAYER GROUP – HEALING MASS

The Prayer Group meets on Tuesdays at 8PM in the Damato Meeting Room in our Athletic Center for prayers of praise, singing, centering and intercessory prayer. New members are welcome. Everyone has the opportunity to be prayed over.

PLEASE NOTE:

No Prayer Group on Dec. 24th or Dec. 31st.

There will be no Healing Service in December or January.

THE NEXT HEALING MASS WILL BE ON JAN. 7TH AT 8PM

Please Note:

We are in need of a "catcher" for the 3:30PM Healing Services monthly (usually 1st Tuesday of the month) please call Msgr. Jeff at the Rectory (718) 984-0593.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Mary Ellen Aluotto, Denise Amore, Joseph Arena, Manuel Arenas, Marie Aufiero, Marie C. Basile, Pat Basirico, Taylor Bauerlein, Lyn Burkley, Catherine Biondolillo, Barbara Boscia, Roseann and Mike Canavan, Nicoletta Caputo, Serafina Carlone, Mary Ann Casale, P. O. Thomas Choi, Ethel Cohen, Nanette Colon, Theresa Conlon, Marion Concadora, Kenneth Cleckly, Gina Corio, Edith Corredor, Tom Cottingham, Jaime Cucuzza, Russell Cunningham, Joseph Curreri, Gen Decio, Gemma Deliso, Ida DeMarco, John Emigholz, Sr., Glynnis Enciso, Joe Ennis, Michelle Farrell, Donna Ferrara, Antoinette Forte, Elizabeth Franco, Juliette Gerbino, Joseph E. Graziano, Lorraine Hamer, Ernest Kaufmann, Kim Kuchler, James Ledger, William Magrino, Jr., Domenico Mallozzi, Madeline O'Hara, Adelina Pelle, Lucy Peters, Thomas and Maria Mayas, Tiffany Mezzatesta, Anna Milham, Jacqueline Morris, Eric Pineiro, Joanne Paramonte, John Petrizzo, Josephine Petrosino, Camille Polly, Carmen and John Ragona, Ann Marie Rovegno, Denise Santanella, Celeste Setty, Harry Schueschner, Lorraine Skelly, Dan Speranzo, Jr., Jennifer Spinelli, Susan Tawes, Stephanie and Cynthia Tomback, John Tralonga, Larry Wilson, Carol Wright.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION

INQUIRY: Did you ever think of becoming a Catholic? Have you been coming to church with a family member or a friend for a number of years and maybe considered Baptism and full Initiation into the Catholic Church? Are you baptized in another faith, but now desire to become Catholic? If interested or would like more information call the rectory: (718) 984-0593.

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Obedience to God's will)

Reading I Micah 5:1-4a (restoration through the Messiah)

Reading II Hebrews 10:5-10 (the second covenant)

Gospel Luke 1:39-45 (the visit to Elizabeth)

Key Passage: Elizabeth said, "Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." (Luke 1:45)

Adult: *When was it hardest for you to trust in God's plan for you, as Mary did? What can help you at such times?*

Child: *When is it hardest for you to obey a parent or teacher? What can help you obey with more trust?*



SINCERE CONDOLENCES

The parish family of Our Lady Star of the Sea wishes to express our sincere condolences to those who have lost a loved one. Condolences to the families of:

Catherine Schwartz, Peter J. Mustacchia and Mary Lagreca

GROUP MEETINGS

BOOK CLUB: The next meeting will be **Thursday, Jan. 9th, at 7:30 PM.** We are starting new book *The Lamb's Supper - The Mass as Heaven on Earth* by Scott Hahn. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Melka at 917-696-7081.

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED MINISTRY: The group meets **every other Monday at 7:30PM.** The next meeting is on **Jan. 13th** (no meeting on 12/30). If you are interested in attending, please call the rectory and leave your name and number.

NEW DAY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP: If you have experienced the loss of a loved one and would like to join our group, please call the Rectory at (718) 984-0593 to register. **They meet on Wednesdays at 7:30PM; next meeting, Jan. 8th.**

BIBLE FAITH SHARING GROUPS: The OLSS Faith Sharing/Bible Study series will continue with *The Acts of the Apostles*. New groups are now being formed. If you are interested in joining an existing group, or starting one of your own, please call the rectory at **718-984-0593**.

50 PLUS CLUB: The group meets in the Damato Meeting Room at 1PM. **The next meeting on Jan. 24th at 1PM.** Call Terry at (718) 317-1801 for more information.

BAPTISM PREPARATION POLICY

All Parish Families preparing for the Baptism of their child must attend the Parish Baptismal Preparation Program. The program is held mostly on the 2nd and 4th Sunday's of the month at 12 Noon in the Athletic Center (Damato Meeting Room). We invite you to bring along your baby's Godparents to hear this special presentation. Please call the rectory for a Registration Packet before attending the Sunday Meeting. A copy of the child's birth certificate is needed. The sponsor must have proof of Confirmation, a sponsor certificate (see sponsor certificate information below) and must be at least 14 years of age. The Baptismal donation of \$100 and the yellow registration form must be brought to the Parish Office (Mon.-Fri. 9 to 4PM), prior to the Baptism Meeting. You may then bring the completed registration form to the meeting of your choice.

BAPTISMAL CLASS 12 Noon – 2nd and 4th Sundays **OLSS ATHLETIC CENTER**



Jan. 12th and Jan. 26th
Feb. 9th and Feb. 23rd
March 9th and March 23rd

BAPTISMAL CEREMONIES IN THE CHURCH 2:15 PM – 2nd and 4th Sundays

Jan. 12th and Jan. 26th
Feb. 9th and Feb. 23rd
March 9th and March 23rd

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Certificates attesting to the fact that a parishioner is a practicing Catholic are often required when they are asked to sponsor someone at the time of Baptism or Confirmation. These certificates may be obtained only **AFTER** the Masses on Saturday evening or **AFTER** any of the other Sunday Masses. The **PERSON REQUIRING THE CERTIFICATE MUST** see the priest **AFTER ATTENDING THE MASS** and request one.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW ALTAR SERVERS

On Saturday, December 21, 2013, at the 5:30 Mass, the Altar Server Ministry installed twelve new Altar Servers. As they begin their new work of faithful service, we assure them of our prayers, support, and admiration for their commitment to serving the Lord: **Prisilla Arellano, Paul J. Caiazza, Jr., Domenick G. Cavicchio, Joseph Esposito, Giuliana Gulotta, Emily Harris, Keryn Lee, Julianna LoPiccolo, Catherine Nieves, Samantha Scalzo, Brianna Stackhouse and Tiana Staffieri**

ADULT VOLUNTEER THANK YOU PARTY

Our Annual Volunteer Party will be held on Friday, Jan. 10, 2014 from 7 to 11 PM for all:

Eucharistic Min. & Lectors Ushers Boy/Cub Scouts Exec. Board Girl Scout Exec. Board Contemporary Ensemble Bereavement Core Team Div. & Separated Core Team Adult Faith Formation Team (AFF) Eucharistic Adorers	Altar Adult Care Committee Adult Choir Soccer Exec. Board Sports Exec. Board Parish School & Religious Education Faculty RCIA Core Team Parents Assoc. Board 50 Plus Group Officers Please RSVP to the Parish Office by Friday, Jan. 3 rd , so that we can order the right amount of food. Call #984-0593 and leave your name and number. Thank you.
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SCHOOL NEWS

Pre K 3, 4 and K Open House and Information Sessions

Interested in becoming part of the Our Lady Star of the Sea School family? We will be holding Open Houses and Information sessions for prospective Pre School and Kindergarten aged students for parents interested in enrolling their child at OLSS for the 2014 – 2015 school year.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Pre K 4 and Kindergarten Open Houses from 9AM -10AM
 January 8 and March 14
 Pre K 3 Open Houses from 9AM -10AM
 January 16, March 6
 Pre K 3, Pre K 4, and Kindergarten Information Sessions are from 7PM to 8PM on January 15. Attendance at an Information Session will provide an opportunity for you to meet the school's administrators.
 Please consult the church bulletin or contact the school office. The school's telephone number is 718-984-5750. We look forward to meeting you at one of the scheduled Open Houses or Information Sessions. ***OF COURSE, THE SCHOOL IS OPEN ANY TIME FOR WALK-IN REGISTRATIONS.**

CHRISTMAS WISHES

Our Lady Star of the Sea School has been blessed in many ways. We have wonderful students, very involved parents, and a very dedicated administration, faculty and staff. We also have the support and encouragement of our parishioners. This means a great deal to the entire school community. Therefore, at Christmas and throughout the new year, may our parishioners treasure the gifts of love, peace, and hope that Jesus continues to give each of us! May Jesus live in your hearts and the hearts of all those whom you encounter!

12 STEP MEETINGS IN RECTORY BASEMENT

ACOA	Sun., 5:30PM
AA	Sun., 8:15PM
	Mon., 10AM
	Tues., 4PM
	Thurs., 4PM
	Fri., 4PM
	Sat., 7:30PM & 9PM
PILLS ANON.	Tues., 6:30PM
	Fri., 6:30PM
GAMBLERS ANON.	Tues., 8:00PM
AL ANON	Thurs., 7:15PM
STOP COLD INTERVENTIONS	1-800-996-4104
PLEASE NOTE: 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 Jan. 2nd.	