

Our Lady Star of the Sea
The Epiphany of the Lord
January 8, 2017

Announced Masses

Saturday, January 7

4:00PM Dora & Edward DiAntonio

5:30PM Tony Fiumefreddo

Sunday, January 8

8:00AM Rita & Salvatore Cama

9:15AM Mary Ferguson

10:30AM James Geehan

12 Noon William Barclay

1:15PM Al Rubick

7:00PM Giuseppe & Giuseppina Brullo

Monday, January 9

9:00AM Dick & Kay Callahan

Tuesday, January 10

9:00 AM Frank Citera

Wednesday, January 11

9:00AM Peter Folino

Thursday, January 12

9:00AM Deceased Members of the Carbone
& Fatuzzo Families

Friday, January 13

9:00AM Paul Barone

Saturday, January 14

9:00AM Carol Cabane

4:00PM Arthur Witkiewicz

5:30PM Jeanne Agnello

Sunday, January 15

8:00AM Andrea Rosalia & Giuseppe DeLuca

9:15AM Rose Izzi

10:30AM Gaetano Boccio

12 Noon Anthony & Emily DeLuca

1:15PM Andre & Olga Rosado

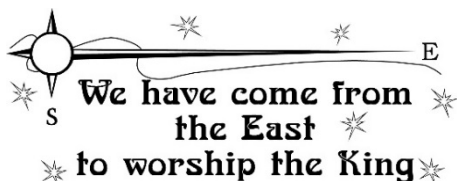
7:00PM Gemma Deliso

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.

2017 Sanctuary Lamps

If you would like to dedicate a Sanctuary Lamp for a week in 2017 in memory of a deceased loved one, the book is open and the donation is \$35. **There are also announced masses still available for 2017.** Please come in to the Rectory to reserve a mass or Sanctuary Lamp.



Entering the house
they found the child
with Mary, his mother.

The Sanctuary Lamp for the
Week of January 8 – January 14

Given in Memory of

**The Deceased Members of the
Sparandera & Tarantola Families**

Donated by Gabriel & Angelina Sparandera

Mass Minister Schedule

Lectors – Saturday, January 14

4:00PM E Vitiello

5:30PM F Barone

Eucharistic Ministers, January 14

4:00PM L Barbato, A Maffeo, A Lazzara, A Petrocelli,
& J Uhlman

5:30PM C Losi, M Lappin, F Ruggiero, N Villani, & A Dazio

Lectors – Sunday, January 15

8:00AM M Higgins

9:15AM R LaMonica

10:30AM B Paccione

12 Noon C Messina

1:15 PM G LaGrua

7:00 PM A Medeiros

Eucharistic Ministers, January 15

8:00AM M Andreola, A Sparandera, J Stanzone, P Zoltowski,
& M Molinini

9:15AM L Appel, L Capobianco, J Gatto, Sr. Rosemary,
& J Zinsley

10:30AM T Strange, E&G Riozzi, C Ordy

12 Noon F&R Marino, G Decker, S Catalano

1:15PM J Tolento, MA Russo, M Sprague, M Recanatini

7:00PM E Bellina, C Houle, K Melka, A Pompei, B Weir

Altar Servers, Saturday, January 14

4:00PM E Harris, D Cavicchio

5:30PM C & C Nieves

Altar Servers, Sunday, January 15

8:00AM J Bell

9:15AM G&S Artz

10:30AM P Marone, F&A Aurti

12 Noon G Marino, G Vassallo, N Salerno

1:15PM

7:00PM R Faljean



Sincere Condolences

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

*John Calabrese, Robert Joseph Bayer, Jr.,
Luz E. Perez, Mary Jane McCusker, Renee Vivolo,
Evelyn Canteruccio*

Pastor's Letter

Dear Parish Family,

Happy Feast of the Epiphany. Jesus is holding open house. It's "Little Christmas". The light from the star over the manger has led the wise men from the East to search and ultimately find the Savior of the World. Jesus was born not just for the people of Israel, but for all the world. Shepherds and Kings adore the newborn Christ and gifts are offered. These are prophetic gifts: gold is only given to royalty; frankincense, only offered to God as a sweet smelling offering of prayer rising up to God; and myrrh, the spice used to wash the remains of a person once they die. So this baby Jesus will be one day recognized as King of the Universe, the Son of God, and the suffering servant who came to die to set us all free from sin, suffering and death. Pope Benedict mentioned, "The Magi set out because of a deep desire which prompted them to leave everything and begin a journey. It was a though they had been always waiting for that star". What are we searching for this New Year, the Christmas Season?

Father David gave a magnificent homily on Christmas Morning about Bethlehem. He asked, "Do you know where Bethlehem is?" It is in Palestine. But ironically there are 39 towns in the world named Bethlehem and 29 of them are located in the United States. One of these "Bethlehem's" can be found in Connecticut. And in that town there is a convent with a rare treasure that can found in a barn at this time. It's a 17th century Neapolitan ornate carving of some 68 figurines that depict the Christmas scene. Of course in the center is Jesus, Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, the magi, the animals and all seem to be on their knee in adoration. The rest of the scene displayed villagers in different stances. Some were curious, others distracted and still others totally ignoring what just happened. Two questions: Where are you in that scene? Where would you like to be? It's only when we bend the knee and make room in our hearts to Jesus will we come to know, peace, and true happiness.

Pope Francis years ago came up with a set of 10 New Year's Resolutions that he proposed for our consideration to grow more in Christ.

1. Don't Gossip: It's one of our hobbies, for Francis, it's one of the most evil of activities, he feels so strongly about it, he preached against gossip in six different incidents.
2. Finish your Meals, no leftover meals: Francis slams a culture of waste that neglects the plight of the hungry. We must remember that throwing away food is like stealing from the tables of the poor and hungry.
3. Make time for others: Francis isn't busy enough to entertain a random biker, send a hand written letter to a Jesuit he hasn't met. He finds time to be kind to others while tending to 1.2 billion members.
4. Choose the more humble purchase: The Pope preaches against materialism. Possessions, money and power can give a momentary thrill, the illusion of being happy, but they possess us and make us always wanting to have more and thus never being satisfied.
5. Meet the poor in the flesh: It is not enough to mediate this commitment through institutions, this obviously helps, because they have a multiplying effect; but it is not enough, we must get personally involved.
6. Stop judging others: In the same way he denounces gossip, Francis condemns prejudice, he reminds "intolerant Catholics", for one, to respect atheists. We must meet one another doing good deeds.
7. Befriend those who disagree: When leaders ask me to ask me for advice, I respond, "Dialogue, Dialogue, Dialogue,". It's the only way for families, individuals and societies to grow and progress.
8. Make commitments, such as marriage: Today there are those who say that marriage is out of fashion, and that it's not worth making a life-long commitment. I am asking you to swim against the tide and make a life-long commitment which goes against this culture that sees everything as temporary.
9. Make it a habit to ask the Lord: Some of you may not know what you will do with your lives, especially you young people, ask the Lord and he will show you the way. Ask the Lord, "What do you want me to do? What path am I to follow?"
10. Be Happy: The Christian sings with joy and walks and models this joy. This joy he reminds us should translate to love of neighbor.

I want to express my sincere thanks to all who sent cards, goodies (tons of goodies!!!), gifts and get well wishes during my recent sinus infection. I am deeply moved by your loving kindness and generosity. May you be blessed this New Year.

Fr. Tom Devery

Giving Tree Thanks

Thank you to all of our generous parishioners for all the wonderful donations. We received hundreds of gifts and gift cards. Thank you to **Debbie Emigholz** for organizing the Giving Tree program and the individual gift donations and a special thank you to **Donna Ferreri**, who coordinated the organizations and her volunteers: **Anne Marie Colombo, Nancy Fallacaro, Marianne Russo, Carol Ordy, Marcia Varacalli, Diane Parenti, Jeanne Casanovas, and the 7th grade confirmation candidates** for all their hard work. Your donations and all our volunteers helped to make the Christmas season a bright one for the less fortunate of our parish and our community.

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.

OLSS SCHOOL NEWS



• We are happy to announce that, beginning in September 2017, our Pre-K4 program will be five, full days. The Pre-K3 program will continue to be available.

- God Bless our 2nd Graders who received their First Reconciliation on Saturday.
- Come see OLSS in action! Our first Touring Tuesday of the new year will be on **Tuesday, January 10th** from **9-11am**.
- Re-registration for our OLSS families will be on **Monday, January 9th** and **Tuesday, January 10th**.
- Midterms for grades 3-8 begin on **January 17th**. A schedule of exams was sent home before the Christmas break.
- Catholic Schools Week begins on **January 29th**.

Pray for the Sick



Barbara Allen, Baby Noah, Norma Bolanos, Vincenza Caccano, Serafina Carlone, Patsy Cassano, Angela Chinchilla, Ethyl Cohen, David Colon, Nanette Colon, Marion Concadora, Morgan Coop, Rafaella Cosenstino, Vincenzo Dama, Liseth Dixon, Jeanette Dovile, Michael Durante, Dawn Dutton, Zenia Enciso, Cristina Fico, Barbara Foresti, Thomas Paul Gaither, Antoinette Gallo, Isabel Gondrey, Herbert Gruberger, Ted Gunther, Baby Joseph Hale, Matthew Hall, Scott Herman, Thomas Lamantia, Thomas Lanza, Lelle Lazanek, James Ledger, Cecelia Leo, Saydi Leon, Anne Merlino, Iok Kuan Lei Ng, Ralph Pagliuca, Joseph Pavo, 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, Louis Vitale, **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.**

Healing Service

There will be a Healing Service on **Tues, January 17 at 7:30 p.m.** Anyone in need of spiritual, emotional, or physical healing is welcome. (*The next Healing Mass will be Feb. 7 @ 3:30 pm.*)

Group Meetings

50 Plus Club –The next meeting will be **Friday, January 13 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– A new session of “*It’s a New Day – A Journey from Grief to Healing*” will begin on **Wed., January 11 at 7 pm** in the OLSS Rectory. If you have experienced a loss or are in mourning of a family member, we encourage you to join us.

Book Club - The next meeting of the OLSS book club will be **Thursday February 2, 2017 at 7:30 PM** in the Rectory. New members are always welcome. We will continue with *Winning The Battle Against Sin-Hope Filled Lessons From The Bible* by Fr. Mitch Pacwa, SJ (The Word Among Us Press). For more information, please contact Kathy Melka at 917-696-7081.

Holy Name Society – The next meeting for the Holy Name Society will be on **Wednesday, February 1 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.

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

Cluster Events

St. John Neumann Kidz Club - Gift Card Bingo on Sun., Jan. 22nd in Rectory Basement.

Grades K-5 from 2-4 pm – Please bring \$10 gift card for exchange and \$2 for snacks and drinks.

Grades 6-8 from 5-7 pm. Please bring \$10 gift card for exchange and \$5 for pizza and drinks. For more info, email SJNKidz@gmail.com.

Cluster Parish Mission – April 3-5 from 7:30 pm - 9 pm at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church

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

January 8 & 22, February 12 & 26, March 12 & 26, April 23,
May 14 & 28, June 11 & 25

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.

Sponsor Certificates

Certificates attesting to the fact that an OLSS 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 Sunday. The **PERSON REQUIRING THE CERTIFICATE MUST** see the priest **AFTER ATTENDING THE MASS** to request one.

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.

✓ Mark Your Calendar

Meditation Monday at St. Joseph Retreat Center January 9th 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: \$20 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.

Staten Island Centering Prayer Group *Come pray, be still and rest in God's presence as you begin 2017!*

Wednesday January 11th from 7:30-9:00 pm
St Joseph's Retreat House
(850 Hylan Blvd SINY 10305)

The prayer group will continue to meet on the second Wednesday of each month. For more information, please contact Anne-Louise DePalo at (718) 351-3748. A \$20 good will offering will be collected.

Minty Awards Dinner Gala Thursday, January 12, 7 pm

The Minty Organization for the Performing Arts will be hosting its annual Minty Awards Dinner Gala on **January 12 at 7pm** at Nicotra's Ballroom at the Hilton Garden Inn. It promises to be a night of dining, dancing, entertainment and fantastic raffles.

Honorees include the Rev. Renato Piazza (Carl W. Lesch Memorial Award for Educator of the Arts), Pamela "P.J." Nelson (Distinguished Alumni Award), Lois and Richard Nicotra and the St. George Theatre (Community Enrichment Award) and Francesca Saccomagno and Teresa Wroblewski (Msgr. Joseph Ansaldi Scholarship Prize). Tickets are \$85 (\$65 for those under 21) and can be purchased by calling 347-688-9527 or visiting www.mintys.org. **RSVP by January 9.**

Over the past six years, The Minty Awards has honored and showcased the best of Staten Island's Catholic high school theatre departments and its students, donating over \$50,000 back to these programs.

Co-sponsoring the Gala is the Hilton Garden Inn.

Day of Prayer and Healing

Do you know someone who is carrying the grief of a past abortion? There is help and hope available and the pain and sorrow of abortion need not endure for a lifetime. "Days of Prayer and Healing" offer the opportunity to experience the love and mercy of God and to heal the wound of abortion. **The next "Day of Prayer and Healing" is Sat, Jan 14th, 2017 and a Spanish Day of Prayer and Healing on Sat, Feb 4th.** For more info & registration call the Sisters of Life at (866)-575-0075 or email hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org. For additional tri-state retreats and information see Lumina Hope & Healing after abortion www.postabortionhelp.org or email Lumina@postabortionhelp.org. **Days of Prayer and Healing for Men** - For more information or to register for men please call Lumina at 877.586.4621 or email Lumina@postabortionhelp.org.

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 8, 2017

"I am sure you have heard of the ministry God in his goodness gave me in your regard. God's secret plan, as I have briefly described it, was revealed to me, unknown to men in former ages but now revealed by the Spirit to the holy apostles and prophets. It is no less than this: in Christ Jesus the Gentiles are co-heirs with the Jews, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise through the preaching of the gospel."

While we recall the visit of the Magi, detailing facts of a star, gifts and a hateful king, the real meaning for us is given by St. Paul. We learn three things today, we are: 1) co-heirs, 2) members, 3) sharers.

An heir receives a benefit, members gain the status of belonging and sharers enjoy a common life. This details who and what we are as 'missionary disciples.'

It was not always so. The visitors from the orient represent all who believe and follow today. Jesus is the Savior of the world, of Christians, Jews, Muslims, all humankind. With reverence they brought gifts, symbolic yet real. We bring the gift of self, offering our gratitude for His coming, our desire to follow Him more closely. Like the Magi, we go to our streets and neighborhood, our barrio and homes, willing to bring our experience of Christ's presence to others.

Did you discover the Christ this Christmas? Be the star to reveal Him to others.

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 – There will be a Parent and sibling support group meeting for families battling addiction on **Thursday, January 26 at 7 pm** in the Damato Meeting 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 **February 2.**