

**NOVEMBER 30, 2014
OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

ANNOUNCED MASSES

Saturday, November 29, 2014

9:00AM Marie Merola
4:00PM Christopher Amoroso
5:30PM Philip DiFranco and the Deceased Members of the Chieco and DiFranco Fms.

Sunday, November 30, 2014

8:00AM Sr. Anna Maria Porzio, SMR.
9:15AM Stephen McFeeley
10:30AM MaryAnn and Joseph Casso
12 Noon Pasquale Passini
1:15PM Louis Catuogno
7:00PM Rose and Guy Florentino

Monday

9:00AM Ann Irvine

Tuesday

9:00AM Mary Finn

Wednesday

9:00AM Pat and Frances Riozzi

Thursday

9:00AM Marie Dunleavy

Friday

9:00AM Philip Schutz

Saturday, December 6, 2014

9:00AM Lee and Karey Leyton, Charles Kohm and Charles Palisay
4:00PM Deceased Members of the Thayler and Matzelle Fms.
5:30PM Patricia Balestrieri

Sunday, December 7, 2014

8:00AM Carrie Ann Chevront and Italia Porretta
9:15AM Deceased Members of the Ennis and Healy Fms.
10:30AM Clementina Rispoli
12 Noon Olga and Andres Rosado
1:15PM Antoinette and Patrick Vulpi
7:00PM Robert, Rachel and Philip Puglise

St. Stephen the Younger – Monk and Martyr – Nov. 28

Stephen was born in Constantinople in 714. At 15, he entered Mt. St. Augustus Monastery – he was in charge of obtaining the daily provisions. When his father died, Stephen sold his inheritance and distributed the proceeds to the poor. At age 30, he became Abbot, but after 12 years, resigned to live in and out of the cell to have more solitude. At that time, Emperor Constantine Copronymus was obsessed with stamping out sacred images in the Church. St. Stephen refused to go against Church teaching. He was then subjected to much pressure, including exile and false accusations. He trusted in God and reiterated the good that sacred images do for all members. At length, the saint was clubbed to death in 764. (JM)

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP WEEK OF
NOVEMBER 30, 2014
IN MEMORY OF ANTHONY PEPE
FROM HIS LOVING FAMILY**

Lectors – Nov. 29, 2014

4:00PM C. Losi
5:30PM F. Monte
Eucharistic Ministers
4:00PM A. Petrocelli, B. Peters, J. Uhlman, C. Harris, A. Lazzara
5:30PM JM Graziano, F. Barone, J. Cimino, C. Houle, A. Spoto

Lectors – Sunday, Nov. 30, 2014

8:00AM MJ Truckenbrodt
9:15AM M. Higgins, T. O'Connell
10:30AM M. Pinto, E. Newborn
12 Noon J. Zinsley, MA Higgins
1:15PM C. Messina, B. Paccione
7:00PM J. Limeri
Eucharistic Ministers
8:00AM J. Stanzione, C. Rosato, J. Perdichizzi, P. Zoltowski, A. Sparandera
9:15AM ME Carey, R. Scarpati, M. & S. Hitchcock, J. Gatto
10:30AM G. Balestrino, M. Molinini, C. Ordy, C. Argano, T. Strange
12 Noon D. Zaiano, B. Higgins, V. Acri, S. Catalano, C. Barone
1:15PM A. McCoy, M. Sicari, B. Weir, M. Recanatini, N. Villani
7:00PM A. Zuffante, T. Palmieri, J. Prato, M. Sprague, A. Manetti

Altar Server Schedule

Saturday, December 6, 2014

4:00 P.M.: E. Harris, J. & K. Martino, M. Rivera
5:30 P.M.: C. & R. Nicholaou, G. & V. Sicari

Sunday, December 7, 2014

8:00 A.M.: J. Bell, S. Marashaj, G. & N. Tucci
9:15 A.M.: M. Coelho, A. Discenza, S. Scalzo, F. Scarmato
10:30 A.M.: G. Artz, A. Castelle, K. Lee, C. Trang
12:00 Noon: J. Esposito, G. Monreale, N. Rotondi, B. Stackhouse
1:15 P.M.: C., F. & T. Nieves, C. Sikorjak
7:00 P.M.: S. Campitiello, J. Petillo, D. Russo, E. Tedesco

HEALING MASS AND SERVICE

The Healing Service will be on Tues., Dec. 9th, at 3:30PM.
The Healing Mass will be on Tues., Dec. 16th, at 7:30PM.
Fr. Thomas Devery will be the main celebrant. Anyone in need of spiritual, emotional or physical healing is welcome to attend.

LECTOR WORKBOOKS

The new lector workbooks are in the Sacristy. Please pick one after mass on the weekend. Please check you name off the list when you sign your book out. We also have a few books at the Rectory if you would like to pick up one here. Thank you.

RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED FOR LUNCH

The Rectory Office is closed for one hour, during lunchtime, from 1PM to 2PM, from Monday to Friday. Please refrain from telephoning or visiting during these hours unless it is an emergency. We thank you for your cooperation.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

Today is the first Sunday in Advent, a new liturgical season. We are invited on the journey from Paradise to Bethlehem. Once Adam and Eve were kicked out of paradise every generation of people have been searching how to get back to paradise. This is a journey in faith. Normally during this very busy season we are distracted with everything from Black Friday shopping to on line ordering to last minute running to the Mall for something for everyone. Yet there is one thing we all need. Jesus came into the world as a baby, so that we wouldn't be afraid of a baby but not as a King, or a warrior Messiah, or royal emperor, but no, Jesus is a savior. The world didn't need another teacher, world leader, psychiatrist, or medical doctor, no the world needs a savior. A savior who would lead us from addiction to grace, from darkness to light, from deception to truth, from evil to goodness and from fear into trust. Jesus is our hope and the answer to some of the deepest searches in life. Disney, Hawaii, Atlantis, The Rockies, The Alps, Atlantic City, Las Vegas, Florida Keys, Aruba, and the Caribbean all together doesn't contain the treasures that can be found in Christ. The journey of faith usually comes from going just the longest distance, from your head into your heart. Take time to read the Beautiful readings of Advent each day. Invite Christ to come deeper into your life.

This is also Thanksgiving weekend and many families are gathered for this special weekend. By now the turkey has been gobbled up, all the desserts are now a past memory and the brioschi has been drunk, college kids are mad scrambling out papers before their return to college, house decorations are being sorted out and shoppers are gearing up for next month, and hopefully family coughs, and sniffles and colds are being equally shared. Whether we have had joyful or stressful gatherings around the table we are all invited now to a season of preparation and return to the Lord.

Let us remember to keep in prayer our candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation. This will be celebrated on December 1st and 2nd. We will welcome Bishop John O' Hara to our parish for this special grace.

I pray for safe journey for all who are in our highways and skyways and I pray for parking spaces when we finally arrive at where we were going. I pray for fair weather and no snow till well after Christmas. Above all I pray for peace in your hearts, in your homes, throughout your families and place of work, for our communities and for our nation and our world. I relish the words that will be proclaimed this Christmas,

"For unto us this day in the city of David is born for us, - A Savior."

Happy Advent,
Fr. Tom



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Pauline Adams, Alicia Balestrino, Mary Bay, Nicoletta Caputo, Ethel Cohen, David and Nanette Colon, Marion Concadora, Dominick Crea, Gen Decio, Joseph Ennis, Kayla Fredenck, Thomas Paul Gaither, Elizabeth Giamarino, Nicole Giambrone, Lorraine Hamer, Thomas Lamantia, Andrew Martingano, Kelly McCarthy, Chuck Melka, Joanne Paramonte, Joyce Pizzimenti, Camille Polly, Joe Puglisi, Len Schiffman, Celeste Setty, Amir Shirazi, William St. Laurent, Carmen Vera, Cele Van Winkle and MaryLou Yacovacci.



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

FIRST TIME: Michael Maravintoni and CaraAnn Gargiullo
Robert Scarimbola and Gina DeLuca
THIRD TIME: Vincent Racioppi and Dina Catalano
Salvatore Zaccariello and Jolene Michilli
Erik Pica and Marisa Palmieri
Frank Jordan and Elaine Baumann

MUSIC WORKSHOP FOR BRIDES AND GROOMS

Sunday, Dec. 28th 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. **Next workshop: Feb. 28th at 8:15PM.**

HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS

If you have a family member, who is homebound, and would like to receive Communion and the Sacrament of the Sick, please call the rectory to arrange to have a priest visit. Thank you.

GIVING BASKET

As in the past, this Christmas, we will be helping those in need on Staten Island by responding to our 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 Sweat Shirt" 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, (656) 932-3030, and leave your name and number. We will also have tags for gift cards for families in need in our parish.

PLEASE RETURN GIFTS WEEKENDS OF DECEMBER 6/7 AND DEC. 13/14 NO LATER!! – SO THAT WE CAN DISTRIBUTE THEM IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS.

PARENTS PRAYING TOGETHER

OLSS parents are invited to join together and pray the Rosary. Parents will pray together each week from 2:15 pm to 2:30 pm in the church chapel.

THANK YOU TO TOTTEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

We would like to thank the students of Tottenville High School, who lovingly prepared and donated the ten complete turkey dinners. This food was distributed to the needy to help brighten their holiday. We thank them for their kindness and generosity!

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

Dec. 7th and Dec. 28st
Jan. 11th and Jan. 25th
Feb. 8th and Feb. 22nd
March 8th and March 22nd
April 12th and April 26th
May 10th and May 24th



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

Dec. 7th Dec. 28th
Jan. 11th and Jan. 25th
Feb. 8th and Feb. 22nd
March 8th and March 22nd
April 12th and April 26th
May 10th and May 24th

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.

GROUP MEETINGS

BOOK GROUP: Check the bulletin for our next meeting. Our new selection is *Open Mind, Faithful Heart* - Reflections on Following Jesus by Pope Francis. For more information, please contact Kathy Melka at 917-696-7081.

NEW DAY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP: The Group will meet on **Wed., Dec. 3rd**, at 7:30PM in the rectory. (The following meeting will be Wed., Dec. 17th. The group meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM.

50 PLUS CLUB: The next meeting will be on **Fri., Dec. 12th at 1PM.** (Following meeting: Dec. 19th) Call Terry at (718) 317-1801 for more information.

PRAYER GROUP: Group meets on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:30PM in the Damato Rm. in the Athletic Center. The next meeting will be on Dec. 9th.

ANTI-BULLYING SUPPORT GROUP: **Tues., Dec. 9 from 6:30 - 8pm**, Play It Forward NY: Anti-Bully support Group meeting at Rossville AME Zion Church basement 584 Bloomingdale Road, SI NY. Free meeting, free refreshments.

SCHOOL NEWS

A Night of Talent

On a cold Friday evening this month, Our Lady Star of the Sea School's 2014 Variety Show opened to thunderous applause. A packed O'Mara Hall played host to an audience of family members, friends, fellow students, faculty, and staff. They were treated to an evening of fast-paced entertainment as students from Kindergarten to 8th Grade performed for their enjoyment. It was a night where children had the chance to live a dream of presenting their talent in a non-competitive, no stress setting with an audience cheering them on, no matter what the level of performance. The smiles on the faces of participants and spectators were priceless. The warmth and love that filled O'Mara Hall was genuine and euphoric. It is said, "It takes a village." The whole village was there that night encouraging our children and making them know just how very special they are to us! A special thank is extended to the directors Jeanne Alesi (OLSS Art teacher) and Marguerite Rossmay (OLSS school nurse).

ATTENTION OLSS SCHOOL AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FAMILIES

Would you like to help support our Community and School while saving 50% to 90% off of local Staten Island community based places to eat, activities, and places to go? It takes only a minute, and a click of your time. Please visit: www.LivingSI.com and become a member. It's that easy!! Once a day, you will receive an e-mail from www.LivingSI.com with an offer from a local business that you know and trust. It may be from a restaurant, health and beauty shops, entertainment choices, cultural activities, educational options, sports lessons and camps, and more. If the offer is of interest to you, Purchase, and use it! LivingSI will donate \$1 to Our Lady Star of the Sea School when you select our school in the dropdown menu at the checkout. Thank you very much – every dollar helps. Please spread the word, tell your friends and family!

A NOTE OF THANKS FROM CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION

We, at the Church of the Assumption-St. Paul, are truly grateful for the generosity of your students and parishioners! I hope it brings a smile to your faces when you picture how happy others will be to receive a warm jacket. It is most heart-warming to have the support of fellow Staten Islanders as we reach out to help our neighbors in need. On behalf of our Pastor, Rev. Michael Cichon, I wish all at OLSS had a blessed Thanksgiving! – Gratefully, Margaret Moschetto, Pastoral Associate

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA'S LESSONS AND CAROLS

Our annual tradition "A Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols" will be held on Friday, Dec. 12th, at 8PM in the Church. Please join us for an uplifting evening of scripture and song. Refreshments to follow. We look forward to a wonderful evening filled with the spirit of the season shared with good friends.



ADVENT CANDLES MEMORIALIZED

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



VOLUNTEER NEEDED

We are in need of a volunteer to clean the Altar Server albs. They would need to be cleaned once a month. If you can help, please call the Rectory at (718) 984-0593 and leave your name and number for our Sacristan. Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ST. EDWARD FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is looking for volunteers to work at the Food Pantry and volunteers to help with fundraising. The Pantry is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9:30 to 1PM. If you are interested in putting in a few hours once a month, please contact OLSS volunteer coordinator, Maryann Russo at (718) 984-1625 or by email at stewardfoodpantry@gmail.com.

The pantry is located at 6581 Hylan Blvd. and is open Monday, Wednesday and Saturday between the hours of 10AM and 1PM. If you are in need, go to the pantry. If you would like to donate food, they could always use cereal, peanut butter, tuna fish, soup, pasta, etc. Thank you.

POOR BOXES

We would like to thank our parishioners for their "Poor Box" donations, proceeds of which help families in need and many local Staten Island Charities such as the St. Edward's Food Pantry. The Poor Boxes are located by the inner doors of the Church. Your contributions are most appreciated and are certainly put to good use. God Bless you for your generosity.

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

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.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Adoration is held from 12 noon to 5pm, Monday to Thursday. We are in need of Adorers to sit with the Blessed Sacrament every hour. If you can find some time in your day to participate in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, please call Carol Ordy at *82-917-536-8576.

MSGR. FARRELL HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Farrell Annual Christmas Fair will be held on Sun., Dec. 7th, from 10 to 5PM at 2900 Amboy Road. Over 80 vendors will be present displaying crafts, jewelry, clothing and collectibles. Admission: \$3 per person/\$5 per family.

SPORTS NEWS

INTRAMURAL REGISTRATION: Final registrations for the Winter Intramural League will be held on Monday, December 1st and Monday, December 8th, from 7:30PM at the Athletic Center. The season runs from January through early April for both girls and boys kindergarten through 8th grade. If you have any questions, call Joe Mazzella at (917) 748-3928.

TRACK COACHES: OLSS Track and Field is looking for coaches to assist with the Track and Field Program. If you are an avid runner or just have time to donate to the program, please contact Erin Ryan at tmm4e@verizon.net or Mia Marinaccio at 718-966-8860 Ext. 501.

CROSS COUNTRY TRACK AND FIELD: Registration for Cross Country Track and Field is taking place now. Please email Erin Ryan at tmm4e@verizon.net or contact Mia Marinaccio at 718-966-8860 ext. 501. Cross Country is open to boys and girls in grades pre-k through 8. This is a great way to get in shape for other sports or just have fun. All levels are welcome! Fee is \$85 for the season. You can email Erin or call Mia with questions.



A MESSAGE FROM THE POLICE DEPT.

With the holiday season upon us, most people are preoccupied with the details of holiday plans and shopping. Unfortunately, our normal safety precautions are sometimes forgotten, or the excitement of the season causes us to let down our guard. The Police Department reminds us to be alert and aware of our surroundings at all times; travel on populated, well-lit streets and if possible travel with a friend; drive with doors locked, windows closed and a full tank of gas; know how to get to your destination by the most direct and safest route; a green light at a subway entrance means you can enter the subway at that location – a red light means you can't enter; plan your purchases in advance and carry only the amount of cash necessary to make the purchase and remember to record the numbers for each of the credit cards you own. This will facilitate reporting the theft or loss of the card.

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 |

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be a new meeting every Friday night at 8PM - Over Eaters Anonymous. Next meeting: Friday, Nov. 28th.

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 Dec. 4, 2014