

**Our Lady Star of the Sea
Third Sunday in Advent
December 11, 2016
Announced Masses**

Saturday, December 10

4:00PM Berta & John Matzele
5:30PM Deceased Members of the Reynolds & McSorley Families

Sunday, December 11

8:00AM Lawrence Paccione
9:15AM Leon Olszewski, Edward & Jozefa Klinkosz
10:30AM Mary, Dominick & Dorothy Biscardi
12 Noon Joseph DeCandia
1:15PM Barbara Besignano
7:00PM Louis Pioli

Monday, December 12

9:00AM Beatrice DiDomenico

Tuesday, December 13

9:00 AM Peter & Al Manetta

Wednesday, December 14

9:00AM Amelia Newborn

Thursday, December 15

9:00AM Olga & Andres Rosado

Friday, December 16

9:00AM Guiseppe Piazza

Saturday, December 17

9:00AM Rosemarie Lanzarone
4:00PM Robert Westrich
5:30PM Monsignor Leo Bierster

Sunday, December 18

8:00AM Joyce Pizzimenti
9:15AM Deceased Members of the Zingaro, Merola & Pallante Families
10:30AM Deceased Members of the Mineo Family
12 Noon Deceased Members of the Molinari, Marcellino & D'Elia Families
1:15PM Deceased Members of the D'Agostino & Nicholson Families
7:00PM Antonio Persichilli



St. Odilia, Virgin - December 13

Odilia was born in France in the seventh century. She was blind from birth, so her father wanted to have her put to death. Her mother pleaded, so Odilia was sent away anonymously to a peasant. At age 12, she was placed in a convent, and at her baptism which was performed by St. Erhard, her eyes were opened when touched by the oil of chrism. When her brother arranged for Odilia's return home, her father became angered and killed his son. Later, the father repented and accepted Odilia. He agreed to let her turn his castle into a convent, where she became abbess. -JM

Banns of Marriage

Third Time: Joseph Galante & Jacquelyn Reddy



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.

**The Sanctuary Lamp for the
Week of December 11-17
Given in Memory of
Gladys & Kelvin Voyeau
Donated by Carol Ordy**

Mass Minister Schedule

Lectors - Saturday, December 17

4:00PM F Monte
5:30PM A Pompei

Eucharistic Ministers, December 17

4:00PM L Barbato, C Argano, V Caruso, C Harris, A Petrocelli, & M Sprague
5:30PM F Barone, J Cimino, A Maffeo, M Lappin, & N Villani

Lectors - Sunday, December 18

8:00AM P Zoltowski
9:15AM MA Higgins
10:30AM B Paccione
12 Noon C Messina
1:15 PM T Solimeo
7:00 PM A Medeiros

Eucharistic Ministers, December 18

8:00AM R&L Bauer, M Molinini, C Rosato, J Stanzone
9:15AM B Higgins, J Gatto, Sr. Rosemary, B Weir, J Zinsley
10:30AM B Barone, N Fallacaro, C&J Gerace, T Strange, & C Ordy
12 Noon C Belvedere, C Bottiglia, F&R Marino, B Nicholson
1:15PM C Houle, A McCoy, G Decker, J Tolento, MA Russo
7:00PM S Caiazza, A Zuffante, E Bellina, K Melka, G LaGrua

Altar Servers, Saturday, December 17

4:00PM F Surace, V Pavlick, D Heidel
5:30PM C&C Nieves

Altar Servers, Sunday, December 18

8:00AM J Bell, N Shirazi
9:15AM M Esposito
10:30AM P Marone
12 Noon J Oliveri, C Carr
1:15PM N Salerno
7:00PM S&N Mejias

Sincere Condolences



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

Anne Moakler, Joanne M. Carrado

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.

OLSS Lessons & Carols

Friday, Dec. 16th at 8 pm

Our annual tradition, "A Festival of Advent Lessons & Carols" will be held on **Friday, Dec. 16 at 8 pm** in the church. Please join us for an uplifting evening of scripture and song. Refreshments to follow in O'Mara Hall. We look forward to a wonderful evening filled with the spirit of the season shared with good friends.



Pastor's Letter

Dear Parish Family,

Happy 3rd Sunday of Advent, we call this Gaudete Sunday or "Rejoicing Sunday". We rejoice because the Lord is near. Christ is coming ever more deeply in our hearts. I want to thank all the people who helped make the Christmas Tree lighting such a huge success. Robert Cermeli and Peter Cappellino along with the 25 men of our parish, patiently and without much fanfare got the 175 trees ready. It was a cold night but not too freezing. I was thrilled to see such huge turnout.

How proud I was to hear about the scholarship begin offered in the memory of Baby Summer and the courage that she had in her short life. May the Lord bless all the families and their loved ones who are being remembered this Advent and Christmas Season. Next year we will probably have more than 200 trees.

The Gospel of Saint Luke program having begun in October by Sister Jean Wagner will continue on Thursday, January 5, 2017 in the Rectory basement. I will lead the 10 AM session and Marie Ferro and Fr. David Rider will be present for the evening sessions. I am so aware of how thrilled Sister Jean was that this had begun. The program is excellent and we will continue and complete this in her memory.

During the 8 PM Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Father David Rider led many OLSS parishioners in the Act of Consecration to Mary, the Mother of God. For 33 Days since November 5th many have prepared and prayed each day the reflections of Father Michael Gaitley, MIC from his book "33 Days to Morning Glory". This has been a special time and this consecration will bring untold graces to those who have participated. Thank you and if you haven't had the chance, you can purchase this book on Amazon and enter into this time of spiritual renewal.

On **Monday, December 19th from 4PM to 8PM**, we will have all our priests present for the **ADVENT RECONCILIATION MONDAY**. So prepare well for Christmas room in your heart to be free from sin and full of his grace, come during this time and go to confession.

Another reminder for Adult faith formation is the website www.formed.org. There are many movies, lessons and articles about our Catholic Faith and most especially the media features good insights into going to confession and preparing yourselves for this wonderful sacrament of peace. THE CODE, for our parish (AND IT'S FREE) is **9F33RR**. Cardinal Dolan sent a letter to all the pastors about some generous donor who paid for every parish to avail themselves of this enormous rich resource. IT is good for one year and should people respond we might extend this for another year. The website FORMED.ORG comes from Denver Colorado and is organized by the Augustinian Friars.

On Friday evening December 16th at 8PM, our religious education children will be leading us in a Lessons and Carols Program in our Church. We listen and respond in song. Let us journey with these children as we go from Eden to Bethlehem and welcome the Savior of the World, Christ the Lord.

The rose colored vestments remind us that the Light of Christ is coming more into the world. Once at Our Lady of Pity Parish, Cardinal Dolan was the first person to light all the Christmas Trees there and he joked that he was a walking Pepto Bismal bottle. May Our Lord reduce the headaches and the sour stomachs and anxieties of these days and give you in this great moment – His abiding peace.

Fr. Tom Devery

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, 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 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, Thomas Vecchi, 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, December 20** at 3:30 p.m. Anyone in need of spiritual, emotional, or physical healing is welcome. *(The next Healing Mass will be January 3 @ 7:30 pm.)*



OLSS Star Players Fundraiser Night Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at Jimmy Maxx Restaurant

Great Kills Location: 150K Greaves Ln.
Westerleigh Location: 280 Watchogue Ave.

When placing your order, mention
Our Lady Star of the Sea to your server.
50% of the food portion of the bill will be donated back to the OLSS Players.

Giving Baskets

Gifts are due THIS weekend so that we can distribute them in time for Christmas!



God bless you for your generosity during this Advent Season!

Come receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Advent Season!

Monday, December 19, 4-8 PM



Monday, December 19th has been designated "Advent Reconciliation Monday" in the Archdiocese of New York. All parishes in the Archdiocese will be open for the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 4 pm to 8 pm. You may go to any parish during this time. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to receive the Sacrament during this Advent Season! Confessions are also heard here at OLSS every Saturday from 3:30 to 5:30 pm.

OLSS SCHOOL NEWS



- The Spirit of Giving is alive and well at Our Lady Star of the Sea School! Our toy drive, for Amazing Grace Ministries, was a huge success. We packaged over 60 bags of toys for the less fortunate! And thanks to our Adopt-A-Senior for Christmas drive, many seniors in our area will have a special gift to open on Christmas morning! Thanks to all who donated to these worthy causes.
- Our third grade Christmas Pageant will be held on Wednesday, December 14, at 12:45 PM in O'Mara Hall.
- Don't forget.....our Parents' Association Toy Sale is Friday, December 16th.

OLSS SPORTS

OLSS INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

Registration for boys and girls in grades K-8 will be **Wednesday 12/14** from 7-9pm in the Athletic Center. Fee is \$100 for the season. Forms can be downloaded at www.olssbasketball.com. For more info, go to olssbasketball.com and click the "contact us" tab.

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.

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.

Thank you

from the *Holy Name Society*



The Holy Name Society would like to thank everyone for coming out last Saturday for the Christmas Tree Lighting. We hope everyone enjoys their trees this Christmas Season!

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.



Group Meetings

50 Plus Club – The next meeting will be **Wednesday, December 21 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.

Book Club - The next meeting of the OLSS book club will be **Thursday, January 5 at 7:30 PM** in the Rectory. New members are always welcome. We will continue 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, January 4 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 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

2016 - December 11

PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO BAPTISM CLASS OR CEREMONY ON DECEMBER 25.

2017 - January 8 & 22, February 12 & 26,
March 12 & 26, April 23, May 14 & 28

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.

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

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, every 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.

BUS TRIP TO SAND'S CASINO

Tuesday, December 13th

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.

ANTI-BULLY SUPPORT WORKSHOP

Wednesday, December 14th, 4-6 pm

Rossville AME Zion Church (584 Bloomingdale Rd)

Play It Forward NY Anti-Bully Support workshop, will be offered for children/teens experiencing any type of bullying (in-school, cyber-bullying, food allergy, etc) and parents looking for resources. All children and parents welcome. **FREE REFRESHMENTS**. This workshop brings children/teens together who have lived through this experience. It also offers a safe place to share their story and brainstorm on how to handle the problem. Come hear from others who have lived through the experience and created a positive life; meet other peers in similar circumstances. Parents are welcome to meet with other parents. For more info, call 646-765-6531 or visit: PlayItForwardNY.com and [Facebook.com/PlayItForwardny](https://www.facebook.com/PlayItForwardny).

Saint Francis Catholic Singles Christmas Dinner

December 18th 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Saint Francis Catholic Singles' (for those in their 30s, 40s, and 50s) Christmas celebration will be **Sunday, December 18, 6:30 – 9:30 pm** at the West Shore Inn, 3955 Victory Blvd. Price of \$35 includes three course meal, dessert and wine followed by 9:30 pm Karaoke. Mail CHECKS made out to CASH with your name, phone number and email to: Holy Family Parish; Attn. Singles Christmas Dinner; 366 Watchogue Rd., SI, NY 10314 to be received by Fri., Dec. 16 OR email us by 2:30 pm Sunday, Dec. 18 to let us know you'll be attending-- sfcssi@gmail.com For more info, find us on Fb/StFrancisCatholicSingles or check our website: www.sgspsi.org. (Please bring a new, unwrapped toy for a child 3 – 14 years of age.)

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

Third Sunday of Advent - December 11, 2016

"John in prison heard about the works Christ performed, and sent a message through his disciples to ask him, 'Are you He who is to come' or do we look for another?' In reply Jesus said to them: 'Go back and report to John what you hear and see: the blind...cripples... lepers... the deaf... the dead... and the poor have the good news preached to them. Blest is the man who finds no stumbling block in me.'"



So wrapped up in the commercialism and consumerism, the question posed by John certainly is appropriate for us. Who is it we are waiting for? Who is it we are looking for? It is not just a simple, but a profound question. Where is our search leading us?

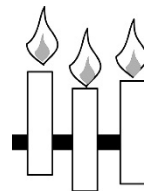
When Jesus began His mission, He used the prophet Isaiah to explain His role. The Baptist asks the question for us, and we have the answer right in front of us. We too are to go back and report to others who Jesus is for us, what He does for us. So many today are spiritually blind, or deaf, hurting and even fallen from grace. But the Christ whose coming we Commemorate and celebrate in two weeks asks us to go and tell others, as did the disciples of John. May we all 'prepare the way of the Lord.'

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 combined Parent & Sibling Support Group meeting on **Tues., December 20** 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 **January 5**.



Steady your hearts
God is near