

Our Lady Star of the Sea

First Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018

Announced Masses

Saturday, December 1

4:00PM Tony Fiumefreddo

5:30PM Corrado Manfredi

Sunday, December 2

8:00AM Richard Jones

9:30AM Anthony Izzi

11:00AM Joseph Fareri

12:30PM Gina & Grazia Cinelli & Domenica Taglienti

7:00PM Grace & Vito Lepore

Monday, December 3

9:00AM Philomena Mantovani

Tuesday, December 4

9:00AM Philip Paturzo

Wednesday, December 5

9:00 AM Louis Clementi

Thursday, December 6

9:00AM John F. Luzzi

Friday, December 7

9:00AM Debbie Stallone

7:00PM **Holy Day Vigil Mass** – Chet Shaffer

Saturday, December 8 – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00AM Claire Smolka

9:00AM Marie Grasso

12NOON Francis Vuoso

4:00PM Deceased Members of the Thaler
& Matzelle Families

5:30PM Anthony DelPriore

Sunday, December 9

8:00AM Lucio Erardi

9:30AM Daniel Hanrahan

11:00AM John & Cecilia Smith, Frank & Julie Bortle,
Benedict, Viola & John Saldanha

12:30PM Barbara Bisignano

7:00PM Ida & Sal DiMarco

Wedding Music Workshop

The next **Wedding Music Workshop** has been changed to **Sunday, December 16** 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 2-8, 2018

In Memory of

Denise Curci

Donated by The Barone Family

Mass Minister Schedule

Lectors – Saturday, December 8

4:00PM A Pompei

5:30PM C Losi

Eucharistic Ministers – Saturday, December 8

4:00PM J Coscia, C Harris, L Bauer, E Vitiello & G Decker

5:30PM C Houle, C Barone, A Maffeo, C Messina
& M Lappin

Lectors – Sunday, December 9

8:00AM P Zoltowski

9:30AM B Weir

11:00AM M Pinto

12:30PM MA Higgins

7:00PM A Medeiros

Eucharistic Ministers – Sunday, December 9

8:00AM S Monteforte, M Molinini, A Shirazi & M Quadrino

9:30AM J Gatto, S Hitchcock, M Iacono & M Randazzo

11:00AM L Appel, C&J Gerace, C Ordy & J Tolento

12:30PM R Marino, S Catalano, R Ruzskowski, MA Russo
& B Higgins

7:00PM J Limeri, K Melka, A Zuffante, J Bellina
& G LaGrua

Altar Servers – Saturday, December 8

4:00PM E Gladstone, N Shirazi

5:30PM N Shirazi, J Habib

Altar Servers – Sunday, December 9

8:00AM J Bell

9:30AM M Esposito, F Surace

11:00AM P Marone, I Santatemia

12:30PM J Oliveri, B Stackhouse

7:00PM S, N & A Mejias

Sincere Condolences



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

**Fanny Lanza, William Young,
Lewis Caravello, Eugene P. O'Byrne**

Sunday collection for the week of 11/18/18:

\$16,809.24

**2nd Collection – Catholic Charities Campaign for
Charity & Justice:**

\$3,234.00

God bless you for your generosity!



**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Holy Day of Obligation Mass Times

Friday, December 7 (Vigil Mass) 7 pm

Saturday, December 8 – 7 am, 9 am & 12 NOON

 **Please Join Us for the
2018 OLSS
Tree Lighting Ceremony** 
Saturday, December 8, 2018
(Immediately following the 5:30 pm Mass)

Sponsored by the
OLSS Holy Name Society 

A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Parish Family,

This week we begin the new liturgical year with the Holy Season of Advent. We all notice that the Church is decorated in purple and our Advent Wreath will have the first of four candles lit. We will hear the traditional hymn, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel." All of this reminds us that time passes. Seasons are periods of time calling us to conversion, growth, contemplation and prayer, and to experience a time of waiting for the Light to return. Christ is that light. Jesus comes to us in History, Mystery and Majesty. He came over 2000 years ago in obscurity. Most of his life was what Scripture Scholars call the hidden years. We know that the prophets foretold of a suffering servant who would redeem Israel. That's basically the themes found in Isaiah the Prophet. The Prophet Jeremiah focused more on the need for conversion, for it was our sins that brought troubles, famine and in the end, captivity. Once more Israel was subject to cruel slavery for a period of 70 years; similar to the time that Israel found itself in the slavery of Pharaoh in Egypt. The Prophet Daniel would give us apocalyptic images, not so much about the end of the world, but rather the gradual "unveiling" of a new world. Apocalypse means removing the veiling and seeing more clearly. This Advent season is ushering a time for the Kingdom of God to come in person and sacrifice of Jesus, the Messiah.

How does this season relate to what is happening in our modern world? Well there is a spiritual warfare going on. It is a time of crisis. We have disappointments and stresses in our world that seem to pit and divide people on several issues. The government, the Church, ecology and weather on our planet, the economy, and just the busyness and tensions of life, leave people confused. I don't know what to believe. What is the truth, where is all of this leading? It's so hard to listen to the voice of God. We can become so disillusioned that we simply walk away and not give God his due.

Here's a quote from Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen written more than a half century ago. I think he was looking into the future with understanding that there's a "dictatorship of relativism" as Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI pointed out.

"Dostoevsky wrote that in a future day men would say there is no crime, there is no sin, there is no guilt, there is only hunger; then men will come crying and fawning at our feet saying to us, 'Give us bread.' Nothing will matter except the economic.

A spirit of license makes a man refuse to commit himself to any standards. The right time is the way he sets his watch. The yardstick has the number of inches that he wills it to have. Liberty becomes license and unbound license leads to unbound tyranny. When society reaches this stage, and there is no standard of right and wrong outside of the individual himself, then the individual is defenseless against the onslaught of cruder and more violent men who proclaim their own subjective sense of values. Once my idea of morality is just as good as your idea of morality, then the morality that is going to prevail is the morality of the stronger." - Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen.

Jesus comes to be the Way, The Truth and the Life. There is an objective reasonable way to respond to His call. We need this Advent to let go and let God have his rightful place in our preparation for Christmas. We all need to start over.

On Monday December 17th from 4pm to 8PM we will have our Advent Day of Reconciliation. All the churches of the Archdiocese of New York, the Diocese of Brooklyn and Rockville Centre will be open to welcome people who come for confessions. Every priest has been alerted to schedule nothing else during this sacred time. So come and have your soul cleansed for Christmas.

Next Saturday after the 5:30 PM Mass we have asked our principal, Mrs. Jeannine Roland to press the button that will light up our Christmas Trees. Please come to join us as we welcome the LIGHT of the World.

A Happy and Blessed Advent Season,

Fr. Tom Devery

Giving Baskets

Advent Giving Baskets with tags will be in the Church Lobby this weekend, 12/1 & 12/2. 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 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 NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 8 & 9 SO THAT WE CAN DISTRIBUTE THEM IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS. God bless you for your generosity during this Advent Season!**



Advent Candles Memorialized

The Advent Candles, which are on our Advent Wreath, have been given by the Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors who serve at the 8AM Mass in memory of **Rosaria and Salvatore Perdichizzi.**

Group Meetings

50 Plus Club – The next meeting will be **Friday, Dec. 14** from 1-3 pm in the Damato Mtg Rm. For more info, call Terry at 718-317-1801.

WINGS - (Widows & Widowers In a New Life Getting together Socially) The next meeting will be **Thursday, December 13** from 12:30-2:30 pm in the Living Room of the **OLSS Rectory.** For more info, call Terry at 718-317-1801.

Bereavement Group– There will be a new session beginning at a future date TBD. If you have experienced a loss or are in mourning of a family member, and you would like to speak with someone in the bereavement ministry in the meantime, please contact the rectory.

Prayer Group – Group meets on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7 pm in the Chapel.

Faith-Sharing Group – The Sons & Daughters of Mary meet on Fridays from 10-11 am in the Rectory Basement.

Legion of Mary – The next meeting of the OLSS Legion of Mary will be **Monday, December 3** at **7:30 pm** in the **Chapel.** The LOM is responsible for Friday adoration and prays an outdoor rosary the first Saturday of every month in front of the Church at 9:45 am. They also offer the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima for home visitation. For more information or to arrange Pilgrim Virgin Visitation to your home please message them on their Facebook page, "Legion of Mary olsspraesidium" or contact Carol at 917-621-7814.

Stella Maris Rosary Makers – The 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10 am in the OLSS Rectory Basement. The next meeting will be on **December 19.** For more info, call Maria at 917-417-5728.

OLSS SCHOOL NEWS



- Our annual Toy Drive to benefit Amazing Grace Ministries will take place on Thursday, December 6. If you would like to donate a new toy, please send it in with your child on December 6. Pre-K4 classes can send in their donation on Wednesday.
- Thank you to all who contributed to our Adopt-a-Senior collection. Your generosity is sure to bring a smile to the faces of many senior citizens in nursing homes across Staten Island.
- Congratulations to our Value of the Month recipients for November! The value was being a Good Listener, and was awarded to: Marco Tucci, Salvatore Sciandra, Nicholas Santino, Cole Criscitiello, Angelina Aguanno, Katelynn Rugg, Julianna Bottalico, Kate DePaolo, John Paturzo, John Paul Nicolaou, Matthew Montagna, Valentina Murtha, Julianna GERALDI, Francesca Costabile, Andrew Paturzo, Gabriela Gorgoglione, Alessia DeGuzman and Vincent Cassieri.
- The Parents Association Christmas Fair will be held next weekend, December 8 and 9 in O'Mara Hall.
- Congratulations to the OLSS Spelling Bee Champions, Vincent Orsino & Salvatore Agosta! Vincent will represent Our Lady Star of the Sea in the Archdiocesan Island-Wide Spelling Bee on December 13.

Pray for the Sick



Malk Ahmed, Barbara Allen, Robert Bauer, Catherine Biondolillo, Marilyn Bartolo, Andy Bruno, Billy C., Vincenza Caccano, Gabe Carbone, Mario Clemente, John Dawidoicz, Philip Defonte, John DeLuca, Marie Defonte, Anthony DelRe, Ileana DeJesus, Florence Fitzgerald, Cole Gottlieb, Herbert Gruberger, Corinne Hayes, Donato Herman, Sarabhjit Kaur, Caylee Kashubo, Ginnie Ledwon, Ann Mannino, William Masel, Lena Moliero, Justo Gil Mori, Dee Napolitano, Bea Nicholson, John Orsini, Walter Osborne, Valerie Pace, Dominick Palomba, Fran Peccia, Ann Marie Pederson, Johnny Petillo, Salvatore Piro, Camille Polly, Vincent & Linda Ranallo, John Robertson, Sr., Anthony Ruggario, Caesar Russo, Msgr. Peter Smith, Ann Strandberg, George Weir, Mona Williams, Teresa Zizzamia **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 Mass

There will be a Healing Mass on **Tuesday, December 4** at **7:30 pm.** Anyone in need of spiritual, emotional, or physical healing is welcome. **The next Healing Service will be Tuesday, December 18 at 3:30 pm.**

UPCOMING EVENTS AT OLSS

1st Friday Overnight Adoration Vigil

There will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during an overnight vigil on the first Friday of each month. This month it will begin with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the daily Mass Chapel on **Friday, December 7** at **9 pm** & will end on **Saturday, December 8** at the **7 am Holy Day Mass.**



Public Outdoor Rosary

Saturday, December 8 at 9:45 a.m. in front of the church
Sponsored by the OLSS Legion of Mary.

OLSS Holiday Fair

Saturday, December 8 from **3 pm to 7 pm**
& **Sunday, December 9** from **9 am to 5 pm**
In OLSS O'Mara Hall

RCIA - Come Experience God's Love

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. The Catholic Church welcomes you. For more information, please contact Joe Limeri at jlimeri@aol.com or 347-541-9757 or call the Parish Office.

OLSS Sports

High School CYO Basketball Registration

Registration for high school Boys and Girls grades 9-12 is now open. Please register on line at olssbasketball.com. CYO HS Division is open to any player who does not play for their high school team.

OLSS/SIA Swim Team

Registration for girls and boys in grades k-8 for the OLSS/SIA Swim Team is now open. Please go to www.olssbasketball.com for more information.

OLSS Baptism Preparation Policy



Please reference the front bulletin cover for details on our 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 Ceremonies - EVERY SUNDAY at 2 pm

Baptismal Class Dates for Parents

December 9 & 23, January 13 & 27

PLEASE NOTE: Registration forms MUST be turned in to the Rectory prior to attending the Baptismal Class. Baptism Classes take place at 12 Noon in the Damato Meeting Room of the Athletic Center on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. Baptism Ceremonies take place in the Church EVERY Sunday at 2 pm.

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.

✓ Mark Your Calendar



Msgr. Farrell High School Christmas Fair

Sunday, December 2 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.

Archcare TimeBank Events at OLSS

The ArchCare TimeBank is a FREE program and open to people of all ages. Members share their time helping each other. To RSVP to any of these events, please contact Laura Alfano at 917-716-2905 or lalfano@archcare.org.

Diabetes Management/Health Workshop-CANCELLED

The December Diabetes Management/Health Workshop for December has been cancelled. The next date will be January 14 at 7 pm in the Rectory Basement.

Writing Memoir with George Hopkins

Learn how to create a story of moments & events that have taken place in your life. **Mon. Nov. 26 at 6 pm** in the Damato Mtg Room.

Jewelry Making

Come and be creative while making jewelry together. Supplies are limited-please bring necessary tools and wire. **Tuesday, December 4 at 6 pm** in the Damato Mtg Room.

Knitting & Crocheting Group

The next session of ArchCare's TimeBank Knitting & Crocheting group will be on **Thursday, December 6 at 11:30 am** in the Rectory Basement.

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

First Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018

"The days are coming, says the Lord, when I fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah. In those days, at that time, I will raise up for David, a just shoot, he shall do what is right and just in the land....May the Lord increase you and make you overflow with love for one another and for all, even as our love for you."

The Holy Season of Advent has begun. A time of yearning, of expectation, of longing that things can be better. As the prophet told of God fulfilling His promise, may we participate in allowing that to happen today.

The advent time is brief, but offers a great opportunity to do two things. Consider what it was like before the coming of the Messiah, the chaos, the desire, the need for the Father to send someone.

Consider our time, when the same disturbing chaos dominates our thinking with wars, poverty, hate expressed in so many ways. The expected Messiah, would bring that injustice to an end, and will if we but seriously live these special days in prayer, reflection and signs of love and support of others. In this time of commercialism, may we pause to consider those who are hurting in any way, those who are poor, those who do not know our Savior.



12 Step & Community Meetings

ACOA _____ Sundays 5:30PM
AA _____ Sundays 8PM
_____ Mondays 10AM
_____ Tuesdays 4PM
_____ Thursdays 4PM
_____ Fridays 4PM
_____ Saturdays 7:30PM
PILLS ANONYMOUS _____ Tuesdays 6:30PM
GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS _____ Tuesdays 8:00PM
AL-ANON _____ Thursdays 6PM
OA (Overeaters Anonymous) _____ 2nd Friday at 7PM

12 Step Night of Reflection: Every 1st 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 6**.

Addiction Angels –There will be a Parent & Sibling support group meeting for families battling addiction on **Thurs., Dec. 20** at 7 pm in the Damato Meeting Room. For more info, call Alicia Reddy at 646-404-0637.

Cluster Corner

Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians -7396 Amboy Rd.

Sat. 4:30 PM; Sun. 8 AM, 10 AM (Family Mass), 12 PM, 1 PM (Spanish Mass) & 6:30 PM. Weekday Masses Mon. thru Sat. 9 AM

Parish of St. Joseph-St. Thomas-St. John Neumann

Mass times at St. Thomas - 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

Mass times at St. Joseph - 16 Poplar Ave.

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

