

Our Lady Star of the Sea

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017

Announced Masses

Saturday, December 2

4:00PM Lucy & Mildred Gesualdi
5:30PM Marie Cancelleri

Sunday, December 3

8:00AM Deceased Members of the Mineo Family
9:30AM Gustave Martino
11:00AM Teresa & Sebastian Calabrisotto
12:30PM Andres & Olga Rosado
7:00 PM John Strange

Monday, December 4

9:00AM Philip Paturzo

Tuesday, December 5

9:00 AM Anthony & Emily DeLuca

Wednesday, December 6

9:00AM Felicia Roseto

Thursday, December 7

9:00AM Angelina Gangemi

7:00PM **Vigil Mass** – Joanne Carrado

Friday, December 8-Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00AM Cono Sanseverino
9:00AM Baby Summer Marie Semerad
12NOON Marie Cancelleri & Mary Vierno
8:00PM Renee Vivolo

Saturday, December 9

9:00AM Maryann Casale
4:00PM Deceased Members of the Thaler & Matzelle Families
5:30PM Patricia Balestrieri

Sunday, December 10

8:00AM Anthony Izzi
9:30AM Deceased Members of the Healy & Ennis Families
11:00AM Julie & Frank Bortle, John & Cecilia Smith & Benedict, Viola & John Saldanha
12:30PM Deceased Members of the Marcellino, Delia & Molinari Families
7:00 PM Salvatore & Ida DeMarco

Banns of Marriage

2nd Time: William McGoorty & Alyssa Decker



Wedding Music Workshop

The next **Wedding Music Workshop** will be on **Sunday, February 25** immediately following the 7 pm Mass. OLSS Brides & Grooms may select their wedding music at this time.

Ladies Retreat

Day of Prayer at Loyola Jesuit Center-Morristown, NJ
Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Prepare yourself for Christmas and treat yourself! Get away for a day! This Day of Prayer is an opportunity to get a taste of the Loyola retreat experience. Days of prayer are Ignatian mini-retreats in semi-silence from 9:30 am to 3 pm and include a light breakfast and lunch, Reconciliation and Mass. The bus will leave OLSS Athletic Center at 7:30 am and will be back around 5 pm. Cost: \$70 per person cash or check made to OLSS. NO REFUNDS. Any questions, please contact Maria Quadrino at 917-417-5728 or maria.quadrino@gmail.com.

The Sanctuary Lamp for the Week of December 3 – December 9

Given in Memory of

Josephine Gentile

Donated by the Gentile & Kane Families

Mass Minister Schedule

Lectors – Saturday, December 9

4:00PM E Vitiello
5:30PM C Losi

Eucharistic Ministers – Saturday, December 9

4:00PM J Butalid, E Burns, C Harris, A Petrocelli & G Decker
5:30PM M Lappin, C Houle, N Villani, A Maffeo & A Dazio

Lectors – Sunday, December 10

8:00AM J Perdichizzi
9:30AM M Coppolo
11:00AM M Pinto
12:30PM C Ambrosino
7:00 PM J Limeri

Eucharistic Ministers - Sunday, December 10

8:00AM M Ennis, C Rosato, M Andreola, L Bauer & M Molinini
9:30AM S Monteforte, L Capobianco, MA Higgins, Sr. Rosemary & S Hitchcock
11:00AM J Tolento, B Paccione, C Ordy, & R Ruskowski
12:30PM M Quadrino, V Acri, S Catalano, M Sprague
7:00PM A Zuffante, J Galletta, K Melka, M Recanatini & G LaGrua

Altar Servers - Saturday, December 9

4:00PM D Heidel, D Cavicchio
5:30PM C Nieves, P Marone

Altar Servers - Sunday, December 10

8:00AM N Shirazi, E Gladstone
9:30AM J Bell
11:00AM M Mattioli
12:30PM G Vassallo, G Marino
7:00PM N&S&A Mejias



Sincere Condolences

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

**Elena Soracchi, Lucille Carroll,
Anthony Scamardella, Rocco Scali, Erma Competiello,
Marilyn Maiorana**

Healing Mass

There will be a Healing Mass on **Tuesday, December 5 at 7:30 pm**. Anyone in need of spiritual, emotional, or physical healing is welcome. **The next Healing Service will be Tuesday, December 19 at 3:30 pm.**



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.

A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Parish Family,

Welcome to the First Sunday of Advent. We begin a new liturgical year with the lighting of the Advent wreath and singing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel". We await the coming of Christ in history, mystery and majesty. Last Sunday's feast "Christ the King" gives us a spotlight of what we are awaiting this Advent Season. You see in the Biblical notion of kingship, it dates all the way back to the Garden of Paradise. God is creating all forms of life, and like a liturgical procession, we see first the Light, then the Earth, then the Sky, and then the animals, swimming, creeping and flying and finally comes the crowning touch of God's creation: human beings. Adam in a sense was the first King. He was given dominion and governance over all that God created. He is God's viceroy.

He is given authority to reign in the Garden of Paradise according to God's plan and purposes. He is to serve the purpose of love, compassion, non-violence, justice and peace. However, sin enters and it is bad kingship. Adam allows the serpent to play in the garden and eventually gets duped. Adam is expelled and thus a fallen kingship wreaks havoc. Then there comes the call of the Lord to several others to follow and lead us into a journey back into Paradise. We see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Joshua, Samuel, Saul, David and Solomon. Each respond to God's call but somewhere along the line they rebel and serve their own purposes, not God's. This leads to trouble among the people. Then comes a string of remarkably bad kings.

Who will come to set things right? Who will fulfill at a human level God's purpose? In the light of all this, we hear a longing and desire coming from the prophets and the psalms. "How long, O Lord?" Israel longs for a King who would come from David's lineage and become the King that will establish his kingdom in this world.

We know that through the Christmas narrative of Saint Luke we have a tale of two kings, Caesar Augustus and the Infant Savior of the World. One is enjoying power, wealth, armies and jealousy. Jesus on the other hand is born poor in a manger in the cold night air, wrapped in swaddling clothes and his army is angels singing "Glory to God". This newborn is infinitely more powerful than Caesar.

As Jesus comes of age he is showing what His kingdom looks like. He heals, delivers from demons and preaches the love of God the Father. He gathers 12 apostles who symbolize the 12 tribes of Israel. The role of His kingship is to bring the nations together in peace, not war. Notice how Jesus reaches out into the margins of society: the man born blind, the woman caught in adultery, the leper, Zacchaeus, the woman at the well. He has open table fellowship with saints and sinners, the insiders and the outsiders, the beloved and the despised. Jesus isn't just a nice fellow, a cool prophet; no, he is a king drawing in all who were alienated from the life of Israel.

Jesus takes on the imbedded powers of the world: the scribes, the Pharisees, the Sadducees, the temple establishment as well as the secular leaders of his day. He calls them out, he opposes them and he unmasks their dysfunction. He engages in spiritual warfare, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from the sky." Jesus fights, though non-violently, through the power of the word. This will all come to a climax when he takes on the dark powers of this world at Calvary. The opposition hunts him down, nails him to a cross and kills him. It seems that this is one more example of a failed king.

However, by the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus is raised from the dead. This shows that God's power is greater than any power in the world. Jesus is now the true King. There is a sense of irony that Pontius Pilate places on the cross in three languages, Hebrew, Greek and Latin the words "*Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews*".

It is under this leadership of Jesus we are to order our lives, give our allegiance and live out our faith. This Advent we prepare for Jesus the King to come to us even more deeply. When we fulfill God's purposes in our lives, we bring about His kingdom.

As we light our Advent wreathes, and over 200 Memorial Christmas trees, we honor and welcome the Light of Christ to be born in us anew as our Savior. Be assured of my prayers and blessings of this season as we make room for Christ to come deep within our souls.

A Blessed Advent to all of you these next four weeks.

Fr. Tom Devery

Giving Baskets

Advent Giving Baskets with tags will be in the Church Lobby this weekend 12/2 & 12/3. 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 NEXT WEEKEND, DECEMBER 9 & 10 SO THAT WE CAN DISTRIBUTE THEM IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS. God bless you for your generosity during this Advent Season!**



UPCOMING EVENTS AT OLSS

Make-up Reconciliation & Confirmation Meeting

There will be a make-up Reconciliation & Confirmation Meeting for 2nd Grade parents on **Monday, December 4th at 7:30 pm** in the Daily Mass Chapel in the Church.

Lessons & Carols



Our annual tradition, "A Festival of Advent Lessons & Carols" will be held on **Friday, Dec. 15 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.

Altar Server Meeting

There will be an altar server meeting for all altar servers on **Saturday, December 16 @ 12 Noon** in the Church. All altar servers should attend with parents. Christmas sign in sheets will be at this meeting. Please be available for at least 1 hour.



OLSS 5th Annual Christmas Fair

Saturday, December 9 - 3 to 7 pm

&

Sunday, December 10 - 9 am to 5 pm

In OLSS O'Mara Hall

Sponsored by the OLSS Parents' Association



Holy Day of Obligation Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass times for the Holy Day will be:
Thursday, December 7 – 7 pm (Vigil)
**Friday, December 8 – 7 am, 9 am,
12 NOON & 8 PM**

OLSS SCHOOL NEWS



- We are getting into the spirit of giving this holiday season! Our Lady Star of the Sea students are taking part in two Advent projects this year. We are participating in Adopt-A-Senior, through the Staten Island Board of Realtors and the Giving Circle, and the Make-A-Wish Letters to Santa Campaign through Macy's.
- Our Annual Toy Drive, to benefit Amazing Grace Ministries, will take place on Wednesday, December 6, 2017. If you would like to donate a new toy, you can drop it off at the school office before 9 am on the 6th.
- Congratulations to those students who received the Value of the Month Award for November. The value last month was Friendship and the following students received the award: *Joseph DiSalvo, Anthony Taravella, Salvatore Sciandra, Sofia Wilson, James Sorrentino, Sienna Arnsten, Michael Naccara, Brayden DeVito, Luigi Fanelli, Daniela Duque, Luca Mineo, Valentina Bianchi, Madelyn Graziano, Gia Gugliucci, Rodolfo Seddio, Angelina Iorio, Emily Charlemagne and Philip Robbins.*
- OLSS Spelling Bee Champs! Congratulations to Ashley Tirado and Joseph Sorrentino who will represent OLSS at the Island-Wide Spelling Bee on December 13th!

Group Meetings

50 Plus Club – The next meeting will be **Friday, December 15 from 1-3 pm** in the Damato Meeting Room of the OLSS Athletic Center. For more information, call Terry at 718-317-1801.

Widowed Club – A group is available for widows and widowers to come together and share their experiences. The next meeting will be **Thurs., December 14** at 1 pm in the Damato Meeting Room. For more info, call Terry at 718-317-1801.

Bereavement Group – The Bereavement Group meetings will begin a new session at a future date. 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.

Holy Name Society – The next meeting for the Holy Name Society will be on **Wednesday, December 6 at 8 pm** in the Damato Mtg Room. 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 7:30 pm in the Rectory.

Faith-Sharing Group – The Sons & Daughters of Mary meets 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 4 at 7:30 pm** in the Rectory. The LOM is responsible to guard for Friday adoration and prays an outdoor rosary the first Saturday of every month in front of the Church at 9:45 am. We also offer the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima for home visitation and to bring Communion and/or visit to the sick or homebound. Our Facebook page is "Legion of Mary OLSS Praesidium". If you are interested in joining the Legion or the auxiliary, please attend one of the meetings or contact Carol at 917-621-7814 for more information or to arrange Pilgrim Virgin Visitation to your home.

Items to be Memorialized

There are several liturgical items available to be memorialized. If you would like to have an item memorialized for your loved one, please call the Rectory and leave a message for John Manetta.

Pray for the Sick



James Accardi, Barbara Allen, Jean Allen, Robert Augustino, Christopher Balk, Robert Bauer, Catherine Biondolillo, Sarah Brodine, Mary Ann, Thomas & Yelena Casale, Christine C., Alfred Canteruccio, Serafina Carlone, Anne Casconi, Mario Clemente, Ethel Cohen, David Colon, Joanne Colon, Nanette Colon, Marion Concodora, Lou Correard, Brielle Cunningham, Lisa Cunningham, Russell Cunningham, Juanita Curran, Dominick D'Argenio, John Dawidoicz, John DeLuca, Jeanette Dovile, Chelsea Dutton, Barbara Foresti, Patricia Franzeb, Thomas Paul Gaither, Herbert Gruberger, Thomas Lanza, Dolores Lucardi, Marilyn Maiorana, William Massi, Anne Merlino, Baby Dean Michael, Lily Moncado, Bea Nicholson, Robert O'Connor, Ann Marie Pederson, Camille Polly, Betty Popick, Joe Puglisi, Rochelle Puglisi, Stephen Puglisi, Deanna R., John Ragona, Carmen Ragona, Eva Ragona, Linda & Vincent Ranallo, Caesar Russo, Baby Vincent Salatino, Alex Sepiol, Celeste Setty, Margaret Smith, Eleanor Spaguolo, Robert Stranberg Sr., Michelle Surreys, Dustan Vasquez, Lisa Vasquez, Sarah Weathers **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.**

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 information please contact Joe Limeri – jlimeri@aol.com – 347-541-9757 or call the Parish Office.

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 (excluding Dec. 24 & Dec. 31)

Baptismal Class Dates for Parents

December 10 (no class-12/24), January 14 & 28

PLEASE NOTE: 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.

Cluster Corner

Our Lady Help of Christians Mass Times – 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



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

✓ Mark Your Calendar For Your Christmas Shopping



Holy Child Ave Maria Gift Shop

Saturdays 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm, Sundays 7:30 am – 2:00 pm
From 12/18-12/22, hours will be 12 pm – 4 pm each day.

Come and See! An Advent Vocation Retreat Day

The Daughters of St. Paul will be hosting a vocation discernment retreat day at their convent on Staten Island on Sunday, December 10, 9am-4pm. Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Discernment Talks, and more. Single women, ages 18-33 years old who would like to learn more about religious life are invited. Contact Sr. Kristina at 617-581-3582 or email srkristinafsp@gmail.com.

Saint Francis Catholic Singles Christmas Dinner

Saint Francis Catholic Singles, for those in their 30s, 40s, and 50s, will have their 17th annual Christmas Dinner on Friday, December 15 at 7:30 pm at Café Bella Vita (1919 Hylan Blvd., S.I., NY 10305). Price is \$40 per person and includes a four course meal. All payments must be postmarked by Monday December 11. Mail CHECKS made out to CASH (with SFCS Christmas Party in memo box) with your name, number and email to: Holy Family Parish; Attn: Singles Christmas Party; 366 Watchogue Road; SI, NY 10314. For more info, please visit: www.sgspsi.org, find us on Fb/StFrancisCatholicSingles, or email sfcssi@gmail.com. Please bring a new, unwrapped toy for a child 3 – 14 years of age to benefit the East Shore Parishes of Staten Island.

Volunteers Needed

Cross Road Foundation is in need of volunteers in all areas of our pro-life ministry including advising clients, assisting in our "Mommy Store", picking up donations and preparing mailings. Volunteer weekly, monthly or on an occasional basis. For more information please call Kimberly Carbonaro at 718-556-3474 or email crossroad15@verizon.net.

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 –For more info on Parent and Sibling support group meetings for families battling addiction, 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 4**.