

November 29, 2015
 Our Lady Star of the Sea
 First Sunday in Advent

ANNOUNCED MASSES

Saturday, November 28

9:00AM Deceased Members of the Quinn Family

4:00PM Mary Kelly

5:30PM Rita Albanese

Sunday, November 29

8:00AM Deceased Members of the Palmieri
 & Santino families

9:15AM Morrissey & Sellitti Families

10:30AM Deceased Members of the DiFranci, DiMaria
 & Chieco families

12 Noon Pasquale Campanelli

1:15PM Daniel Catalano

7:00PM Rose Fiorentino

Monday, November 30

9:00AM Brett E Stamper

Tuesday, December 1

9:00AM Alfred Austin

Wednesday, December 2

9:00AM Amelia Chiarello

Thursday, December 3

9:00AM Rose Motto

Friday, December 4

9:00AM Phil Paturzo

Saturday, December 5

9:00AM Vita Amato

4:00PM Deceased Members of the DiAntonio
 & Gesualdi families

5:30PM Ralph & Concetta Palmieri,
 Lillian & Salvatore Santino

Sunday, December 6

8:00AM Bolney Ramirez

9:15AM Deceased Members of the Healy & Ennis families

10:30AM Ann Alfonso

12 Noon Peter Mazzoli

1:15PM Antoinette & Patrick Vulpi

7:00PM Frank Cruisculo

St. Stephen the Younger, Monk & Martyr – November 28

Stephen was born in Constantinople in 714. At age 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. St. Stephen was clubbed to death in 764. (JM)



LET THERE BE LIGHT!

Our Lady Star of the Sea's
 Christmas Tree Lighting will be on
 Sat., Dec. 5th after the 5:30PM Mass.
 Afterwards, everyone is invited back to
 O'Mara Hall for refreshments.

The Sanctuary Lamp For The
 Week of November 29 -
 December 6, 2015

In Memory Of
Richard Mackay
 Donated by
 Edward Donlon

Lectors – Saturday, December 5

4:00PM F Monte

5:30PM F Barone

Eucharistic Ministers, December 5

4:00PM C Harris, B Nicholson, A Petrocelli, A Lazzara,
 J Uhlman, L Barbato

5:30PM J Cimino, J Amitrano, T Scaramuzzo, M Andreola,
 M Lappin

Lectors – Sunday, December 6

8:00AM L Bauer

9:15AM J Zinsley

10:30AM B Paccione

12 Noon A Pompei

1:15PM R LaMonica

7:00PM G LaGrua

Eucharistic Ministers, December 6

8:00AM J Stanzione, M Molinini, A Sparandera, R Bauer,
 P Zoltowski

9:15AM J Gatto, L Capobianco, D Avena, C Rosato,
 M Sprague

10:30AM G Balestrino, N Fallacaro, C Ordy, J&C Gerace,
 T Strange

12 Noon L Appel, J Prato, C Bottiglia, C Belvedere,
 J Tolento

1:15PM B Peters, C Houle, MA Russo, C Messina,
 N Villani

7:00PM M Recanatani, J Limeri, S Caiazzo, K Melka,
 G Decker

Altar Server Schedule

Saturday, December 5

4:00 PM K Martino, V Pavlick, D Cavicchio

5:30 PM C, C, F, & T Nieves

Sunday, December 6

8:00 AM N&J Mele, M Esposito

9:15 AM G Scarmato, M Coelho, S Marashaj

10:30 AM A Castelle, K Lee, G Gulotta

12:00 Noon B&M Stackhouse, R Faljean

1:15 PM C Trang, G Marino, J Jacoby

7:00 PM J LoPiccolo, J Magnotti, J Rubin

HEALING MASS

There will be a **Healing Mass on Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 7:30PM.**
 Anyone in need of physical, mental, emotional or spiritual healing is
 invited to attend and be prayed over.
 (The next Healing Service will be on Dec. 15 at 3:30PM.)



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 MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

Welcome home all family members, for this is Thanksgiving Weekend, and also the First Sunday of Advent. I am aware of so many college students, who arrive home for the great feast, and how on this weekend, they have the triple duty of catching up with family ties, seeing their old high school buddies home from other schools, and completing school projects and papers, in order to get ready for December finals. I trust you all enjoyed the Thanksgiving turkey with all the trimmings and family fun.

The turkey has been further carved, and now turned into soup, salads and left overs. This Black Friday had people racing out for shopping deals. Some of my friends on Facebook have been inviting their friends to keep Thanksgiving a special holiday and no shopping on Thanksgiving. This is wonderful and helps us recall that amid all this activity there is a powerful season dawning upon us; Advent.

Advent is the four week season of listening to God's word and hearing all those moving texts from Isaiah, Jeremiah, and John the Baptist and even our Blessed Mother, inviting us to prepare the way of the Lord. Jesus comes in History, Mystery and Majesty. Jesus came, and comes to us each day and will come at the end of all time.

Jesus arrived over 2000 years ago to be born as a Savior for the World. As Saint John the Evangelist told us: "And the Word became Flesh, and dwelt among us." How does Jesus come to us today during this Advent season? Well, for one thing we can find him as a refugee. Jesus was homeless at the time of his birth, in the time of his flight into Egypt, and in his itinerant preaching. "The Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." We can see Jesus today in the plight of the Syrian people who are running for their lives from ISIS, and in the northern Nigerian Christians yearning for the safety of their daughters from being kidnapped by Boko Haram. We see Jesus in more locally in the plight of the homebound elderly, in all those undergoing treatments for cancer, in all the people who lost their jobs working for all the grocery stores that have shut down since the end of A&P, Waldbaums, & Pathmark. We see Jesus almost daily here in our rectory basement in the anonymity of our folks attending the 12 Step program. Jesus languishes in the struggling lives of all addicted to cocaine, drugs, and alcohol locked up in our beautiful homes. The purpose of life and the meaning of life will never be fulfilled until a Savior comes and restores us to sanity. Most of all I see in the precious faces of the children both in religious education and school. They are sad, they tell me when they can't go to Church. Please bring them to the Eucharist and Jesus this Advent.

We may look to politicians, the UN, the Pope's words and an endless array of commercials for comfort, consolation and encouragement from the world's violence. But it's opening up the door of our hearts to Jesus. Jesus, who comes as a baby, so small, so unpretentious that from the wood of the manger, to the skills of carpentry and work of his hands to the wood of the Cross, He was born to die to be our Savior.

How do we make way for the Lord, prepare a highway for our God to come into our hearts? First we must Stop, Look and Listen to God. Make time, possibly early in the morning to come to prayer. Don't just say prayers; be silent and as Psalm 46 says so well, "Be still and know that I am God."

Two weeks ago there was a funeral Mass at Saint Charles Church for an outstanding priest who dedicated his entire priesthood to education and directing youth to Christ, Monsignor Joseph Ansaldi. I received from Father Dan Tuite, an amazing video on Facebook, the classic homily Monsignor Ansaldi gave at the graduating class of 2008 at Holy Child Church. I have it saved on my FB account. Find it, and take 15 minutes to listen to it. It set for me the direction I want to follow and work on for my Advent.

Prepare the way of the Lord!

Father Tom Devery



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

FIRST TIME: Salvatore Annarumma & Marie McNiece
SECOND TIME: Stephen Blanco & Danielle Barlotta
Leonard Parente & Bonnie Lopez
THIRD TIME: David Immiti & Lauren Cambria
Carl Gianino & Krystle Peralta

WEDDING MUSIC WORKSHOP

The next wedding music workshop for brides and grooms will be at **8:15PM (after the 7PM Mass) on Sunday, December 27th.** At this time you will be able to select your wedding music. (Next workshop: Feb. 28.)

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

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. Is God calling you now? Are you ready to take that step in faith? The Catholic Church welcomes you. For information please contact Joe Limeri – jlimeri@aol.com – 347-541-9757 or call the Parish Office.



SICK LIST

Marguerite Bogda, Norma Bolanos, Michele Cali, Serafina Carlone, Margaret Carollo, Stephanie Cerchio, Jay Coller, Vera Criscuolo, Gen Decio, Anthony DeSousa, Jr., Chief Mstr. Sgt. James F. Dwyer, Zeina Enciso, Thomas Paul Gaither, Margaret Generoso, Matthew Hall, Rich Hogrogian, Thomas LaMantia, Paul Maros, Grace Miranda, Ralph Pagliuca, Ann Marie Pederson, Ralph Quezada, Caesar Russo, Jamie Seaman, Summer Marie Semerad, Sandy Trapani, Dora Valiente, Jack Walsh. **Please Note: If you would like to place a name on the sick list, please call and leave the name with the rectory.**

MEMORIAL VIGIL LIGHTS AVAILABLE

Memorial vigil lights are available in the chapel at the cost of \$25 each. The name of the deceased is placed on the vigil light. Envelopes are located in the book racks. Please deposit completed envelopes either in the collection basket or in the vigil light boxes, poor boxes, or bring it to the rectory. There are 28 candles available each month, requests over 28 will be honored the following month. Requests must be made prior to the start of the month.



Come enjoy the seasonal sounds of

Voyces

An Early Music Vocal Ensemble

On Sunday, Dec. 13 at 5 p.m. OLSS presents the choral group **Voyces**, a Staten Island-based early music ensemble dedicated to the study and performance of Renaissance & Baroque vocal works, directed by Beth Johanning. **Voyces** will present a stunning celebration of early English Advent & Nativity Music that you will not want to miss! This concert is open to everyone and free of charge: a goodwill offering will be taken at the concert.

SCHOOL NEWS

- Our annual toy drive for Amazing Grace Ministries will take place in school on **Wednesday, Dec. 2**. Please send in a new, unwrapped toy for a child your child's age. Let's help make Christmas a little brighter for those who are not as fortunate as us.
- Valerie Gavioli and Victoria Camuso, Fifth grade students at OLSS, raised **\$1,100 for the American Cancer Society** by making and selling rainbow loom bracelets. Good job girls!
- Our next School Mass on **Friday, Dec. 4th** is being prepared by our Sixth graders. Parents are welcome to join us in church at 9am.

GROUP MEETINGS

50 Plus Club – Meets in the Damato Meeting Room in the OLSS Athletic Center on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month from 1-3 p.m. The next meeting will be on **December 11**. For more information, call Terry at 718-317-1801.

Prayer Group – Group meets on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7:30p.m. in the Rectory.

Bereavement Group – New support group forming for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one and is grieving. Join us as we journey from grief to healing on Wednesday, **December 2 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Rectory. If you would like to join and if you would like more information, please call the Rectory at (718) 984-0593 and leave your name and number.

Book Club - The next meeting of the OLSS book club will be **Thursday, December 3 at 7:30 PM** in the OLSS rectory and new members are always welcome. Our next selection is *Our Lady of Kibeho* by Immaculee Ilibagiza. For more information, please contact Kathy Melka at 917-696-7081.

Holy Name Society - Our next meeting for the new OLSS Holy Name Society Men's Club will be on **December 9th at 8 PM** in the Damato Meeting Room of the Athletic Center. For more information please call Chairmen Robert Cermeli at 917-783-6494 or Peter Cappellino at 917-626-7757.

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. Next 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, at 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 5 & 6 AND DECEMBER 12 & 13 – NO LATER! – SO THAT WE CAN DISTRIBUTE THEM IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS.

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Rehearsals are on **Mondays, at 3:45PM**, in the Church. Children who are in the 1st through 6th grade are eligible. If you would like to join, come to rehearsal. The Children's Choir sings at the 9:15AM Mass on Sundays.

TRADITIONAL CHOIR: The Traditional Choir is looking for members 18 years or older. If you would like to join, come to rehearsal. **Rehearsals are on Mondays, at 6PM, in the Church.** The Traditional Choir sings at the 10:30AM Mass on Sundays.

CONTEMPORARY CHOIR: Please note that we have lowered the age for the contemporary choir. If you are going into the 7th Grade or older, you may join. This is a good opportunity for Confirmation Service Hours. Rehearsals are in the Church on Sunday nights at 5:30 PM. The Contemporary Choir sings at the 7PM Mass on Sundays.

✓ Mark Your Calendar

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS-COURT ST. CLARE

Ladies, begin your ADVENTure into an even more fulfilling life! Come see what we're about. CDA Court St. Clare meets the 1st Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is **Tues., Dec. 1** at 12 noon in the Msgr. Murphy Meeting Room, lower level of the St. Clare Lady Chapel (110 Nelson Ave.). New members from all parishes are welcome! Please contact the parish office for more information, (718) 984-7873 or email Juliette: LIIT905@aol.com

THE GORETTI GROUP FOR YOUNG ADULTS

The next meeting of the Goretti Group will be **Fri., Dec. 4** from 7-9:30 pm. at Holy Family Church, 366 Watchogue Rd. This month's speaker will be OLSS parishioner Barbara Weir. Barbara will be speaking on the Theology of the Body as well as sharing highlights from the "Footsteps of John Paul II" pilgrimage to Poland. Music in the church will begin at 7 pm, followed by Mass at 7:30, and the speaker at 8:15 pm.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION – ST. CLARE'S PARISH

The next session of "Ignatian Spirituality" will be on Saturday **December 5th** in the Presentation Center (169 Lindenwood Ave) at St Clare's parish. They meet right after the Saturday 9am Mass (optional) and the one hour session will begin at 10am.

CHRISTMAS FAIR MONSIGNOR FARRELL HS

Sunday, December 6 from 10 am – 5 pm

Admission \$3 per person or \$5 per family

Vendors, Raffles, Food & Baked Goods and visit from Santa!

For more info email: FarrellChristmasFair@gmail.com

YOUNG ADULT MASS

WITH MATT MAHER & AUDREY ASSAD

All are invited to join the Office of Young Adult Outreach for a Young Adult Mass presided by Cardinal Dolan on Wednesday, December 9 at 7:30 pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Confessions and Adoration with music by Matt Maher and Audrey Assad will be held from 6:30-7:30 pm. Please arrive early. Learn more at www.catholicnyc.com.

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC SINGLES CHRISTMAS PARTY

Join them for their 15th annual Christmas party at Crown Palace, 201 New Dorp Lane on **Dec. 11** from 7:30-11 pm. Price is \$35 per person if received by Fri., Dec 4: \$45 afterwards and includes three course meal, dessert, and drinks. Payment must be received by Mon., Dec. 7. Mail check made out to CASH (with SFCS Christmas Party in memo) with your name, phone number and email to: Holy Family Parish; Attn Singles Christmas Party; 366 Watchogue Rd; St, NY 10314. For more info, please visit www.sgspis.org, find us on Fb/StFrancisCatholicSingles, or email sfcssi@gmail.com.

HOLY CHILD'S HANDBELL CHOIR CHRISTMAS CD

The Holy Child Bell Choir has recorded a CD of Christmas music in honor of the parish's bicentennial anniversary. The cost is only \$12 per CD or 2 for \$20. These CDs make a wonderful gift. To order a CD, please send check to Holy Child Church, 4747 Amboy Rd, SINY, 10312 - Attn: Sandra - Golden Bells. For more info, please contact Sandra Pace at holychildmusic@yahoo.com.





OLSS Presents Paul Failla in:
"The Class of Life"
A Theatrical Experience
 Directed by Michael Moriarty



Saturday, January 23, 2016 @ 6:30 p.m.

The Class of Life is a theatrical experience that takes the audience on a journey which highlights one man's life and many people's experiences. Utilizing a blend of humor, drama, and life experience, the actor takes his audience on an emotional roller coaster through stories relating to all. This poignant presentation will surely touch the lives of those who value family, tradition, and comedy.

Tickets \$25 per person
 Our Lady Star of the Sea - O'Mara Hall
 Doors open at 6:30 p.m., Showtime 8 p.m.

A variety of wraps, salads, coffee, tea, and dessert will be served before the show.

Questions or Reservations call: Tony Langella (917) 817-1110
 or email: classoflifeolss@yahoo.com

Return this form with payment to Our Lady Star of the Sea Rectory
 All checks payable to Our Lady Star of the Sea
18 years and older please

The Class of Life – January 23, 2016 @ 6:30 pm

Name _____

EMAIL _____

Phone _____

of Tickets @ \$25ea. _____ Amt enclosed \$ _____

All Tickets must be purchased in advance.
NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR



CLUSTER CORNER

This particular section of the bulletin will be devoted each week to informing OLSS parishioners of various events that are being held at other Cluster Parishes.

Cluster Parish Mass Times

Our Lady Help of Christians – 7396 Amboy Rd.

Sat. Eve. 4:30 PM Family Mass; Sun. 8 AM, 9:30 AM Family Mass, 11 AM, 12:30 PM, 4 PM (Spanish) & 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 Parish Events

- **Breakfast with Santa** - Come enjoy Breakfast with Santa at St. John Neumann Church, Saturday, December 5th from 10am - 12:30 pm. Tickets are on sale now - \$12 per child, \$6 per adult. Enjoy breakfast, face painting, tattoos, 50/50, and raffle baskets. Come meet Santa & Mrs. Claus and take a picture with them. For more info call 718-984-8535.
- **Gingerbread House Party** – The children of Cluster Parishes & their families are invited to a Gingerbread House party at Our Lady Help of Christians on Friday, Dec. 11 from 6:30-8:30 pm. Please put your house together the day before so it is dry and sturdy to decorate that night. Bring your own decorating supplies. Hot chocolate, coffee, tea, and desserts will be served. Please RSVP by Dec. 5 by email to patricia.dresch@olhccparish.org or joanbaggs@olhccparish.org
 All gingerbread houses will be blessed at this family event!



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

Dec. 13th and Dec. 27th
 Jan. 10th and 24th
 Feb. 14th and 28th

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 Sunday. The **PERSON REQUIRING THE CERTIFICATE MUST** see the priest **AFTER ATTENDING THE MASS** to request one.

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:

Staten Island Overeaters Anonymous (OA) offers a program of recovery from compulsive eating, binge eating and other eating disorders using the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions of OA*. (*Adaption granted by AA World Services) Friday Night Meeting "Many Symptoms, One Solution" Group 8 - 9 PM Face-to-Face Meeting in our Basement Rectory Phone Meeting (Simultaneous) Dial: 1-712-432-1212

Access Code: 950-897# (Press *6 to mute & unmute phone)
 For Additional Meetings and More Information Visit www.sioa.org or call 718-605-1393

STOP COLD INTERVENTIONS 1-800-996-4104

*PLEASE NOTE: Every first Thursday, at 6PM, 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 3.



A Parish Campaign

PLANNED GIVING ~ A LEGACY OF FAITH

Planned gifts can provide financial and tax benefits for you and your family. A thoughtful planned gift can also ensure the long-term health of our parish and the Archdiocese of New York's charitable and educational missions.

Some examples of a planned gift include:

- **Bequest - Charitable gift annuity**
- **Retirement plan assets - Appreciated securities**

To learn more about the importance of making a planned gift, please contact: 646-784-3317
giftplanning@archny.org