

Our Lady Star of the Sea  
 Second Sunday of Advent  
 December 9, 2018  
**Announced Masses**

**Saturday, December 8**

**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

**Monday, December 10**

**9:00AM** Deceased Members of the Fitzgerald,  
 Carey & Loftus Families

**Tuesday, December 11**

**9:00AM** Joseph DeCandia

**Wednesday, December 12**

**9:00 AM** George & Mildred Hopkins  
 and Vincent & Rita Ennis

**Thursday, December 13**

**9:00AM** Gaetano Caramanno

**Friday, December 14**

**9:00AM** Candida & Americo Molinini

**Saturday, December 15**

**9:00AM** Renee Steinbuch  
**4:00PM** Patricia Balestrieri & Family  
**5:30PM** Deceased Members of the Reynolds  
 & McSorley Families

**Sunday, December 16**

**8:00AM** Anthony J. Ragaini  
**9:30AM** Berta & John Matzele  
**11:00AM** Josephine, Edward & Leon Klinkosz  
**12:30PM** Deceased Members of the Molinari,  
 Delia & Marcellino Families  
**7:00PM** Giuseppe & Maristella Blanco, and  
 Teresa & Sebastiano Calabrisotto

**Banns of Marriage**

**1<sup>st</sup> Time:** Michael Pinto & Kristen Dalto

**Wedding Music Workshop**

The next **Wedding Music Workshop** will be **Sunday, December 16**  
 immediately following the 7 pm Mass. OLSS Brides & Grooms may  
 select their wedding music at this time.

**OLSS 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Fair**

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

Sponsored by the OLSS Parents'  
 Association

The Sanctuary Lamp  
 for the week of  
 December 9-15, 2018  
 In Memory of  
**Lucio Erardi**

Donated by The Sorenson Family

**Mass Minister Schedule**

**Lectors – Saturday, December 15**

**4:00PM** C Harris  
**5:30PM** C Messina

**Eucharistic Ministers – Saturday, December 15**

**4:00PM** J Butalid, C Argano, A Pompei, A Petrocelli  
**5:30PM** J Cimino, N Villani, B Palomba, M Quadrino

**Lectors – Sunday, December 16**

**8:00AM** C Ambrosino  
**9:30AM** M Coppolo  
**11:00AM** M Newell  
**12:30PM** A Deliso  
**7:00PM** J Limeri

**Eucharistic Ministers – Sunday, December 16**

**8:00AM** A Sparandera, J Stanzione, M Andreola, A Shirazi,  
 & B Weir  
**9:30AM** J Gatto, S Hitchcock, L Capobianco, T Strange  
 & L Appel  
**11:00AM** N Fallacaro, B Paccione, J Tolento, E&G Riozzi  
**12:30PM** B Peters, A McCoy, C Belvedere, R Marino  
 & MA Russo  
**7:00PM** G LaGrúa, M Recanatini, K Melka, C Houle  
 & C Barone

**Altar Servers – Saturday, December 15**

**4:00PM** A&S Velazquez, N Shirazi  
**5:30PM** D Heidel, N Shirazi

**Altar Servers – Sunday, December 16**

**8:00AM** J, E & C Stadler  
**9:30AM** S Artz, T&M Maresca  
**11:00AM** J Oliveri  
**12:30PM** G Vassallo  
**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:

**John Smith, Leonardo Acquatico**

**Sunday collection for the week of 11/25/18:**

**\$16,809.73**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection – Debt Reduction:**

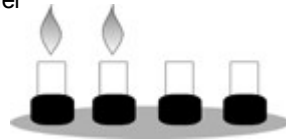
**\$4,220.00**

**God bless you for your generosity!**

**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!**



## *A Letter from the Pastor*

Dear Parish Family,

On this 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent, we listen to the Prophet Baruch telling us to take off the robe of misery and mourning and to dress ourselves in the garments of God's splendor and glory, for God is leading us with His light! God's second name for His loving presence is Mercy and Justice. In the Gospel, we hear once again the ancient obscure and humble beginnings of our faith with the cry of John the Baptist in the wilderness, "Prepare the Way of the Lord".

This has been an eventful weekend. On Saturday, we celebrated the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Her "Yes" paved the way for the true light to come into the world, "Jesus the Savior of the World" is to be born in us.

After the 5:30PM Mass on Saturday evening we were blessed to light our memorial Christmas Trees, all 200 of them. I want to especially thank our volunteers who took the time to drill into the ground the iron rebar, attach the trees and wire them so that at the right time, Mrs. Jeannine Roland, could have the honor of pressing the button and illuminating the night sky with the bright lights of so many trees. It's always a highlight for us during this cold dark season, to see the lights pierce the night. Every evening until mid-January we will be treated to seeing our parish church encircled with the light of Christmas. The Christmas tree reminds us that not only was Jesus born and wrapped in a wooden feeding box for animals, which we call a manger, but his life's work would be a master carpenter during his hidden years. However, our salvation would come from his death on a tree; the wood of the cross would be drenched with His saving Blood.

John the Baptist, Christ's cousin and herald reminds us, "every valley will be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

In the book, *Jesus Calling*, by Sarah Young, the reflection for December 3<sup>rd</sup> was very powerful and relates well to our hectic season. I'd like to share this with you:

"Do not be surprised by the fiery attacks on your mind. When you struggle to find Me and to live in My Peace, don't let discouragement set in. You are engaged in massive warfare, spiritually speaking. The evil one abhors your closeness to me and his demonic underlings are determined to destroy our intimacy. When you find yourself in the thick of battle, call upon my name: 'Jesus help me!' At that moment the battle becomes Mine, your role is simply to trust Me as I fight for you.

My Name, properly used, has unlimited Power to bless and protect. At the end of time, *every knee will bow (in heaven, on earth, and under the earth) when my Name is proclaimed*. People who have used "Jesus" as a shoddy swear word will fall down in terror on that awesome day. But all those who have drawn near Me through trusting uttering My Name will be filled with inexpressible and glorious joy. This is your great hope as you await My return." (Read Ephesians 6:12; 1 Samuel 17:47; Philippians 2: 9-10; 1 Peter 1: 8-9)

I would like to give a shout of praise out to the cast and crew of "JESUS" at the Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA. The music and acting was stunning and the show runs until January 4<sup>th</sup>. If there are tickets left and you can spare the 2 ½ hour drive, it's well worth it.

On Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup> from 4-8PM we will have our Advent Reconciliation Day in our parish and in all the Catholic Churches of the three dioceses. May we all come home to God for this Christmas!

Rejoice in His Light,

*Fr. Tom Devery*

## OLSS SCHOOL NEWS



- Thank you to all who contributed to our annual Toy Drive! Your generosity is very much appreciated!
- The Parents' Association Christmas Fair is this weekend, December 8 from 3-7 pm and December 9 from 9am -5 pm in O'Mara Hall.
- The Third Grade Christmas Pageant is Wednesday, December 12. The performance for parents is at 1 pm.
- Good luck to Vincent Orsino who will represent Our Lady Star of the Sea in the Archdiocesan Island-Wide Spelling Bee on December 13<sup>th</sup>!



### **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**.

### **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 Dawidowicz, Philip Defonte, John DeLuca, Marie Defonte, Anthony DelRe, Ileana DeJesus, Florence Fitzgerald, Nancy Gallo, 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.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT OLSS

### Lessons & Carols

Our annual tradition, "A Festival of Advent Lessons & Carols" will be held on **Friday, December 14 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.



### **Come receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Advent Season!**

**Monday, December 17, 4-8 PM**

Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **2019 Sanctuary Lamps**

If you would like to dedicate a Sanctuary Lamp for a week in 2019 in memory of a deceased loved one, the book is open and the donation is \$35. Please come in to the Rectory to reserve a Sanctuary Lamp.

### **Christmas Flower Offering**

*During the Christmas Season, our church is adorned with lovely Christmas flowers. If you would like to contribute to our Christmas Flower fund, please use the envelope found in your packet of Sunday envelopes, noting the name of the loved one you would like remembered on the line provided.*



### 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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 10 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## 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](mailto:jlimeri@aol.com) or 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**

### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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

### 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](mailto: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.

#### Jewelry Making

Come and be creative while making jewelry together. Supplies are limited-please bring necessary tools and wire. **Tuesday, January 8 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, January 10 at 11:45 am** in the Rectory Basement.



## A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

**HIS WORD TODAY** by Rev. William J. Reilly

### Second Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018

**"In every prayer I utter, I rejoice as I plead on your behalf at the way you all have continually helped promote the gospel from the very first day. I am sure of this much, that he who has begun the good work in you will carry it through to completion, right up to the day of Christ Jesus....My prayer is that your love may more and more abound...that you may learn to value the things that really matter up to the very day of Christ."**

How many are busy writing greeting cards to relatives, friends and acquaintances. The thoughts expressed, speak of a deep, deep concern for the joy of Christ's presence to touch their lives. At times, we might not think twice about the reason for sending a card.

Consider the reasons St. Paul referred to as he wrote the Philippians. He wrote about his prayer for this new Christian community. He offered encouragement for them to grow in their lives as disciples of the Lord. That prayer motivates us as we begin this second week of Advent. Advent reminds of the past coming, but directs us to today and tomorrow where the Lord is leading us. May we find a quiet moment to reflect upon Paul's wish for us today as we anticipate the coming of Christ with His grace and peace. May we seek out the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of our advent.

### 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) \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 **January 3**.

**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

