

Our Lady Star of the Sea
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 23, 2018
Announced Masses

Saturday, December 22

4:00PM Robert Westrich
5:30PM Jennieann Maffeo

Sunday, December 23

8:00AM Carmela Dacunto
9:30AM Andrej Rinkovsky
11:00AM Louis & Antoinette Clementi
12:30PM Russ Nicholson
7:00PM Deceased Members of the Palmieri
& Persichilli Families



Monday, December 24

9:00AM John J. Murphy, Jr.

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Vigil Masses

4:00PM Joseph, Peter & Gaetana Levantino,
Richard Rauch, Frank & Netta Scimecca
6:00PM Luciano Di Giallonardo
12Mdn John & Ella Milo

Tuesday, December 25 – Christmas Day -

7:30AM Ida DeSetto
9:00AM Joseph DeMarco
10:30AM Gladys & Kelvin Voyeau
12Noon Marie Cancelleri
1:30 PM Marissa C. Kelly

Wednesday, December 26

9:00 AM Judy Fusillo, Neil Palomba & the Deceased
Members of the Palomba, Civello & Petrosino Families

Thursday, December 27

9:00AM Anne Sheeran

Friday, December 28

9:00AM Catherine Manetta

Saturday, December 29

9:00AM Frank Acerra, Sr.
4:00PM Deceased Members of the Palmeri
& Sarullo Families
5:30PM Msgr. Leo Bierster

Sunday, December 30

8:00AM Frank & Virginia Gallinaro
9:30AM Donald Boyd
11:00AM Roland DeRossi
12:30PM Donald Malvica
7:00PM Frank Bronzo

Banns of Marriage



2nd Time: Christopher Santigate & Kaitlyn Luisi

3rd Time: Michael Pinto & Kristen Dalto

Wedding Music Workshop

The next **Wedding Music Workshop** will be **Sunday, February 17** immediately following the 7 pm Mass. OLSS Brides & Grooms may select their wedding music at this time.

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**.

The Sanctuary Lamp
for the week of
December 23-29, 2018

In Loving Memory of

Marie Cancelleri & John Emigholz

Mass Minister Schedule

Lectors – Saturday, December 29

4:00PM E Vitiello
5:30PM F Barone

Eucharistic Ministers – Saturday, December 29

4:00PM L Barbato, A Petrocelli, J Coscia, J Uhlman
& A Pompei
5:30PM C Losi, E Burns, J Cimino, A Dazio, N Villani

Lectors – Sunday, December 30

8:00AM M Andreola
9:30AM F Monte
11:00AM B Paccione
12:30PM S Gambino
7:00PM K Melka

Eucharistic Ministers – Sunday, December 30

8:00AM M Ennis, M Molinini, C Rosato, A Sparandera
& J Stanzone
9:30AM J Zinsley, B Barone, S Monteforte, T Strange
& J Gatto
11:00AM C Ordy, N Fallacaro, V Acri, M Quadrino
12:30PM B Peters, C Belvedere, JM & M Graziano
7:00PM J Limeri, G LaGrua, M Sprague, C Houle, K Melka

Altar Servers – Saturday, December 29

4:00PM D Cavicchio, N Shirazi
5:30PM D Heidel, N Shirazi

Altar Servers – Sunday, December 30

8:00AM J, E & C Stadler
9:30AM S Artz, T&M Maresca
11:00AM E Gladstone
12:30PM A&S Velazquez, G Vasallo
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:

**Diane McCalip, Joseph Rotondi, Gregory F. X. Mangan,
Mary Jane Truckenbrodt, Bernice Mayronne,
Marelyn Acquaro**

Solemnity of Immaculate Conception – 12/8/18:

\$4,046.00

Sunday collection for the week of 12/9/18:

\$18,472.18

Second Collection – Religious Retirement:

\$4,280.00



God bless you for your generosity!

UPCOMING HOLIDAY RECTORY HOURS

Monday, 12/24/18 – Christmas Eve – 9 am – 4 pm

Tuesday, 12/25/18 – Christmas Day - CLOSED

Monday, 12/31/18 – New Year's Eve – 9 am – 4 pm

Tuesday, 1/1/19 – New Year's Day - CLOSED

A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Parish Family,

On this last Sunday of Advent, I want to extend to you and your family all the blessings of this upcoming Christmas Season. Gathering with our loved ones and sharing the joy of Christ being born in our hearts is a special time. I am sure we all have memories of Christmases past where the excitement of opening gifts and the love shared hold a special place in our hearts. We are so fortunate to be living in a time of relative peace and enjoy some of the amazing freedoms that simply aren't in the homes and lives of poorer people around the world. I am so aware of the military on assignment far from home. We will see some of them wishing Christmas greetings to loved ones half way around the world. I am so aware of first responders who have to work on Christmas Day since there is no vacation for those in our police departments, fire departments, hospitals and nursing homes. They sacrifice a lot to miss out on quality time with loved ones. I am reminded that Jesus was born in a stable; in a sense, he was homeless, poor, was a migrant to Egypt and had to live as a refugee. May we never despise the poor ones in our midst.

On December 13, Sara Young wrote in "Jesus Calling" this prophetic insight:

Take time to be holy. The word holy does not mean 'goody-goody'; it means to be set apart for sacred use. That is what these quiet moments in MY Presence are accomplishing within you. As you focus your mind and heart on Me, you are being transformed, re-created into the one I designed you to be. This process requires blocks of time set aside for communion with Me.

The benefits of this practice are limitless. Emotional and physical being are enhanced by your soaking in the Light of my Presence. Your experience of nearness to Me strengthens your faith and fills you with peace. You open yourself up to receive many blessings that I have prepared for you. You become a cleansed temple of My Holy Spirit, who is able to do in and through you immeasurably more than you ask or imagine. These are just some of the benefits of being still in My Presence.

Recently I received this following commentary on life in the 21st Century, and more or less, it's true. It doesn't tell the whole story and I gleaned that it's been probably written by someone living in the United Kingdom.

Welcome to the 21st Century

Our Phones – Wireless; Cooking – Fireless; Cars – Keyless; Foods – Fatless;
Tires – Tubeless; Tools – Cordless; Dress – Sleeveless; Youth – Jobless; Leaders – Shameless;
Relationships – Meaningless; Attitudes – Careless; Wives – Fearless; Babies – Fatherless;
Feelings – Heartless; Education – Valueless; Children – Mannerless;
Parliament (Congress) – Clueless; The Masses of People – Helpless;
Everything is becoming LESS but our hope in God – Endless;
In fact I am Speechless because Salvation remains Priceless. If you don't share this, you are Careless.

This Christmas Jesus comes to give us The More, not less. He is more loving, forgiving, accepting, encouraging, healing, and seeking for us to enter into His Presence.

May our song these days be in your heart. "O Come, Let Us Adore Him, Christ the Lord,

A very Merry Christmas to you all from all of our staff here at Our Lady Star of the Sea.

Fr. Tom Devery



Our Lady Star of the Sea Christmas Mass Schedule – 2018

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

Monday, December 24

4 pm, 6pm, & Midnight

Tuesday, December 25

7:30 am, 9 am, 10:30 am,
12 Noon, & 1:30 pm

Masses are in the Church only.

Please note that the 4 pm and 10:30 am Masses
are usually very crowded,
and parking may be difficult.

If necessary, you may use
the municipal lot across from
the public library on Huguenot Ave.

Please do not use the TD Bank parking lot.

Thank you!



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Tuesday, January 1, 2019

- A Holy Day of Obligation

Mass Times

Monday, December 31, 2018 - 4 pm

Tuesday, January 1, 2019 - 9 am & 12 Noon

OLSS Adult Volunteer Thank You Party

Our Annual Volunteer Party will be held in

O'Mara Hall on Friday, January 11, 2019

from 7:30 PM to 11 PM for all:

Eucharist Ministers & Lectors

Ushers & Sacristans

Girl/Boy/Cub Scouts Exec. Board

Contemporary Ensemble

Bereavement Core Team

Volunteer Catechists

Adult Faith Formation Team

Eucharistic Adorers

Legion of Mary Exec. Board

Sons & Daughters of Mary Executive Board

OLSS Parish, School & Religious Education Faculty & Staff

**RSVP to the Rectory at 984-0593 by Thursday, January 3 so
that we are prepared with the right amount of food.**

Altar Adult Care Committee

Adult Choir & Cantors

Soccer Executive Board

50 Plus Group Officers

Parents' Association Board

RCIA Core Team

Food Pantry Volunteers

Holy Name Exec. Board

ArchCare Exec. Board

2019 Sanctuary Lamps

There are still a few weeks available in 2019 to dedicate a
Sanctuary Lamp in memory of a deceased loved one. Please
come in to the Rectory to reserve a Sanctuary Lamp, the donation
is \$35.

OLSS SCHOOL NEWS



• Congratulations to the Value of the Month recipients
for December. The value of December was Patience
and was awarded to: Gianna Leone, Kristen Rugg,
Francesca Pallotta, Brianna Paturzo, Marco Agosta, Joseph
Taormina, Kayla Rugg, Juliana Hull, Alyssa Young, Ava Amato
Nikita Chakov, Mia Altomare, Alexander Shirazi, James Sofia,
Serena Montagna, Anthony Taormina, Matteo Affatigato and Ella
Winter.

• A very special thank you to all those who helped make the
holiday season so special at OLSS! Thank you to the parents for
their time and generosity in helping to make the Toy and Adopt-
A-Senior Drives so successful. A huge shout out to our Parents'
Association for running Breakfast with Santa, the Holiday Fair,
the Toy Shoppe and for getting Santa here from the North Pole
to visit with our children. Thanks to our teachers and students for
bringing the true meaning of Christmas to OLSS...your beautiful
decorations, Christmas tree dedications, letters to Santa,
pageants, masses and Christmas shows brought the magic of the
season into our school! Lastly, a sincere thank you for your
generosity, not only at Christmas, but throughout the Year!
Have a blessed Christmas!

Pray for the Sick



Barbara Allen, Robert Bauer, Abdalla Beshay Catherine
Biondolillo, Marilyn Bartolo, Andy Bruno, Billy C., Vincenza
Caccano, Gabe Carbone, Joyce Castaldo, Mario Clemente,
John Dawidowicz, Philip Defonte, John DeLuca, Marie Defonte,
Anthony DelRe, Ileana DeJesus, Zeina Enciso, 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.**

Healing Service

There will be a Healing Service on **Tuesday, January 15 at 3:30
pm**. Anyone in need of spiritual, emotional, or physical healing is
welcome. **Due to the New Year Holiday, there will NOT be a
Healing Mass in January. The next Healing Mass will be
Tuesday, February 5 at 7:30 pm.**

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.



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.

✓ 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.

Diabetes Management/Health Workshop

Overall look on health, with tips and tools on how to manage and prevent Diabetes. **Monday, January 14th** 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. **Tuesdays January 8 & February 5 at 6 pm** in the Damato Mtg Room.

Knitting & Crocheting Group

The next session of ArchCare's TimeBank Knitting & Crocheting group will be on **Thursdays January 10 & 24 at 11:45 am** in the Rectory Basement.

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 **January 3**.

Addiction Angels –Parent & Sibling support group meetings are held for families battling addiction. For more info, call Alicia Reddy at 646-404-0637.

Group Meetings

50 Plus Club – The next meeting will be **Friday, January 25** 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, January 3** 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, January 7 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 info 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 **January 16**. For more info, call Maria at 917-417-5728.

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 23, January 13 & 27, February 10 & 24

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.

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



FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby stirred in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and cried out in a loud voice: 'Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb. But who am I that the mother of my Lord should come to me?'... 'Blessed is she who trusted that the Lord's words to her would be fulfilled.'

What a wonderful family reunion. Two expectant mothers meeting, greeting, celebrating imminent births. St. Luke points out the presence of the Holy Spirit, even before the Pentecost event. The question posed by Elizabeth 'who am I?'...can be changed for us today.

Who am I that my Lord and Savior should come to me? A loving Father saw our need, and in concern for us, sent, not the mother or our Savior, but the saving Lord Himself. How frequently we pray the words of Luke in the Hail Mary. As we complete our advent may the question of Elizabeth, and my question be answered.

As we approach the feast of the birth of Christ this week, may we live the visitation event, greeting others in the name of the Lord, recognizing His presence among us in our needy world. The two holy women rejoiced in Christ's presence, and so do we. Reflect for a few moments on the biblical basis of the Hail Mary.