

Our Lady Star of the Sea
1st Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2019
Announced Masses

Saturday, November 30

4:00PM Deceased Members of the DiMaggio
& Caruso Families

5:30PM Patricia Balestrieri & Family

Sunday, December 1

8:00AM Lillian Simpson

9:30AM Alfred Austin

11:00AM Antonio & Rosa Circolone

12:30PM Lucy Peters

7:00PM Zofia Bielicki

Monday, December 2

9:00AM Christopher Roland

Tuesday, December 3

9:00AM Ernest Bono

Wednesday, December 4

9:00AM Phil Paturzo

Thursday, December 5

9:00 AM Lionel, Rita & Karen Leyton

Friday, December 6

9:00AM John Luzzi

Saturday, December 7

9:00AM Laura & Vincent Marsicano & George Marsicano

4:00PM Richard Famiglietti

5:30PM Deceased Members of the Thaler
& Matzelle Families

Sunday, December 8

8:00AM Barbara Bisignano

9:30AM James Green & Judy Fusillo

11:00AM Frank & Julie Bortle, Benedict, Viola & John
Saldanha & Maggie & Edmond Tawil

12:30PM Olga & Andres Rosado

7:00PM Leonardo Acquatico

Banns of Marriage



1st Time: Dominic Gibilisco & Marisa Rizzo

1st Time: Matthew Forgione & Theresa Luciano

3rd Time: Nicholas Durst & Rosalie Fazio

3rd Time: Daniel Brown & Jacquelyn Estrema

Wedding Music Workshop

The next **Wedding Music Workshop** will be **Sunday, December 29**
immediately following the 7 pm Mass. OLSS Brides & Grooms may
select their wedding music at this time.



**Please Join Us for the
2019 OLSS Tree Lighting Ceremony**

Saturday, December 7, 2019

(Immediately following the 5:30 pm Mass)

Sponsored by the OLSS Holy Name Society



Advent Candles Memorialized

The Advent Candles, which are on our Advent
Wreath, have been given In Memory of Rosaria &
Salvatore Perdicchizzi.



The Sanctuary Lamp
for the week of
December 1-7, 2019

Donated In Loving Memory of
Judith Fusillo

From OLSS Parish



Mass Minister Schedule

Lectors – Saturday, December 7

4:00PM L Bauer

5:30PM F Monte

Eucharistic Ministers – Saturday, December 7

4:00PM A Pompei, J Coscia, E Vitiello

5:30PM F Barone, G Decker, J Uhlman

Lectors – Sunday, December 8

8:00AM M Andreola

9:30AM M Pinto

11:00AM MA Higgins

12:30PM B Weir

7:00PM A Medeiros

Eucharistic Ministers – Sunday, December 8

8:00AM M Quadrino, P Zoltowski

9:30AM J Zinsley, V Acri

11:00AM E&G Riozzi, B Higgins

12:30PM A McCoy, MA Russo, R Ruzzkowski

7:00PM M Recantini, C Houle, K Melka

Altar Servers

Saturday, December 7

4:00PM D Cavicchio

5:30PM F Surace, J Habib

Sunday, December 8

8:00AM N, S & A Mejias

9:30AM S Artz, C Rosenberg, S Corso

11:00AM J Oliveri

12:30PM P Marone

7:00PM J&N Cooper

OLSS School Celebrates 60 Years!

You're invited to the

Fire and Ice Gala

Thursday, December 5, 2019 from 7-11 pm

Grand Oaks Country Club (200 Huguenot Ave, SI, NY)

Honorees: Gina McEvoy, Ricardo Lopez & Debbie Emigholz
\$80 per person includes sit down dinner, open bar, luxury prizes
and music by Partners in Sound.

Call the School office for ticket information at 718-984-5750.

**Donation Weekend for Animal Care Centers of NYC -
Next Weekend 12/7 & 12/8 after all Masses**

Animal Care Centers of NYC (ACC) is almost always in need of
donated supplies for their animals. If you have blankets, washcloths,
bedsheets and towels that you no longer want or need, please donate
them. Also collars, harnesses, leashes, food bowls and dog/cat toys
can be donated on **Saturday 12/7/19** and **Sunday 12/8/19** after all
masses. **Drop off items at the entrance of the school.** For more
information, visit <https://www.nycacc.org>.

A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Parish Family,

A blessed and happy Thanksgiving Weekend. It's always wonderful to gather with the entire family and make memories over this holiday weekend. It is also the First Week of Advent, where we come as a church family and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Jesus comes to us in *History, Mystery and Majesty*. Advent reminds us that there is still a need for a Savior to be born again in our lives. Amid the hustle and bustle of getting ready for Christmas, we make room in our hearts each day for Christ to come and be born in us.

I read recently in *The Word Among Us* magazine about the conversion of Sister Theresa Alethia, FSP, (Daughter of Saint Paul) from atheist to Catholicism and about her eventual entry into a convent. When she was in college, she mentioned to her friend, who sat next to her in the orchestra, that she was an atheist. She was shocked to hear her reply, "I'm so sad, because to deny God is to end up in hell, there's no hope for you." Although it was shocking to her and may have ended her relationship, she did ask herself some deep questions, such as 'where am I going in life,' and 'what is the purpose of life.' Someone told her that some of the saints had the practice of Memento Mori, (remembering your own death), and even having a replica of a skull on their desk. She said that this practice lead her to examine her own conscience and all the conversations and deeds of each day. The Jesuits promoted this *examen* as a spiritual practice. This gradually began the journey to seek entrance in the Catholic Church for Sister Theresa Alethia.

Advent is a time of conversion, a change of heart and mind and attitude. Perhaps the world is getting more frightening with all the focus on corruption and impeachment hearings, violence in the mall and in quiet neighborhoods, innocent people getting shot in schools, workplaces and at home. It is precisely into this world Jesus comes to be for us the Way, the Truth and the Life. From the wood of the Manger, to the work bench of Saint Joseph's carpenter's shop, to the wood of the Cross, Jesus was adored, handled, worked and eventually chose to lay down His life to save us. Every day at Mass, we offer His sacrifice as the greatest prayer the Church has, so as to become peaceful, confident and loving. Please make every effort to keep Advent holy, with your prayer time, your deeds of charity and our mission to welcome people home to Christ for Christmas.

I have been encouraged these last several days with the example of our young people. The Star players sang and danced and acted in such a way that they reminded us of the joy to the Christmas Season. Students just before Thanksgiving at Notre Dame Academy were installed as extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist. All the men of our Holy Name Society along with their helpmates have drilled rebar and hoisted our Parish Memorial Christmas trees in place. This process continues with the stringing of lights. There is the Boy Scouts' and Cub Scouts' Food Pantry drive, when just before Thanksgiving they collected and helped to deliver to the Saint Edward Food Pantry. Project Hospitality held their Poor People's Supper at the Hilton Hotel and many young people from all our Archdiocesan Schools attended and listened to the words of speakers informing us about homelessness on Staten Island and the effort of all the faith's houses of worship to alleviate this problem and support this worthy cause.

I first of all want to give thanks for the volunteers and parishioners who have most generously contributed \$1.74 million towards the Renew and Rebuild Campaign. As I have mentioned, we are concluding this Archdiocesan Capital Campaign. We are still collecting and hoping to reach the respectable 85% of our goal. \$1.73 million out of the \$2.1 million has been pledged. Thank you for all who have been so generous. I am deeply appreciative of this sacrifice.

In Sara Young's book, "Jesus Calling", she writes for November 20th:

I AM PLEASED WITH YOU, MY CHILD. Allow yourself to become more fully aware of MY pleasure shining upon you. You don't have to perform well in order to receive MY LOVE. In fact, a performance focus will pull you away from Me, toward some form of Pharisaism. This can be a subtle form of idolatry: worshipping your own good works. It can be a source of deep discouragement when your works don't measure up to your expectations.

Shift your focus from performance to MY RADIANT PRESENCE. The Light of MY Love shines in you continually, regardless of your feelings or behavior. Your responsibility is to be receptive to this unconditional Love. Thankfulness and trust is your primary receptors. Thank Me for everything, trust in Me at all times. This simple discipline will keep you open to MY LOVING PRESENCE. (Ephesians 2: 8-9; Ephesians 3: 16-19; Psalm 62:8).

I will remember you all in my prayers for a fruitful and blessed Advent.

Father Tom Devery

Renew + Rebuild Donations

****PLEASE Do Not Make Checks Payable to OLSS****

You may donate by the following 2 methods:

1. Mail check (payable to RENEW + REBUILD) to:
ADNY, 1011 1st Ave, NY, NY 10022, Attn: Renew + Rebuild.
OR
2. Put check (payable to RENEW + REBUILD) in PLAIN WHITE envelope and place in OLSS collection basket. Please DO NOT include in church envelope.

Please make checks payable to "Renew + Rebuild".

Giving Baskets

Advent Giving Baskets with tags will be in the Church Lobby the weekends of 11/30 & 12/1 and 12/7 & 12/8.



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 14 & 15 SO THAT WE CAN DISTRIBUTE THEM IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS. God bless you for your generosity during the upcoming Advent Season!**

Pray for the Sick



Dominick Battaglia, Raymond Beshara, John Brancella, John Byrnes, Billy C., Vincerva Caccano, John Dawidoicz, Mary D'Amato, John DeLuca, Mario Garafola, Herbert Gruberger, Michael H., Steven Morvillo, Elaine Parks, Johnny Petillo, Salvatore Piro, Charlie R., Linda & Vincent Ranallo, Emma Rondinelli, Anita Russo, Caesar Russo. **Please call the Rectory to have a name added to the sick list or to arrange for a home visit.**

Healing Mass

There will be a Healing Mass on **Tuesday, December 3 at 7:30 pm**. Anyone in need of spiritual, emotional, or physical healing is welcome. **The next Healing Service will be Tuesday, December 17 at 3:30 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.



2020 Sanctuary Lamps

If you would like to dedicate a Sanctuary Lamp for a week in 2020 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.

OLSS SCHOOL NEWS



- Our next Touring Tuesday is on Tuesday, December 3 from 9-11. Come see all the wonderful things OLSS has to offer. Call the school office at 718-984-5750 to schedule a tour or for further information.
- There will be a Toy Drive on Wednesday, December 4 to benefit Amazing Grace Ministries. All toys should be new, unwrapped and brought to school by 9 am on December 4th.
- Join us on Thursday, December 5 at the Grand Oaks Country Club, as Our Lady Star of the Sea School celebrates 60 years of academic excellence! If you are interested in attending, call the school office for ticket information.

Group Meetings

50 Plus Club – The next meeting will be **Friday, December 6** at 1 pm in the Damato Meeting Room. For more info, call Ginny at 718-356-6611.

Bereavement Group– A new session of *"It's a New Day – A Journey from Grief to Healing"* will begin at a future date. If you have experienced a loss or are in mourning of a family member, we encourage you to call Veronica at 347-620-8484 for more information.

Prayer Group – Group meets on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7:30 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 – All are welcome at the next meeting of the OLSS Legion of Mary on **Monday, December 2 at 7:30 pm** in the **Church**. Please join them to say the Rosary, with the meeting to follow. For more info, message them on their Facebook page, "Legion of Mary olsspraesidium" or contact Carol at 917-621-7814. The Legion of Mary offers the Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima to visit your home. To arrange a visit call Marie 917-459-4121.

Stella Maris Rosary Makers – Come and learn how to make rosaries. No prior skill needed, all the material is supplied. The rosaries will be sent to missionaries all over the world. We meet on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 10am in the Rectory Basement. Upcoming dates: **12/3 & 12/17**. For more info, call Maria at 917-417-5728.

Ave Maria Knitting & Crochet group – Meets on the 1st & 4th Wednesday of each month at 10 am in the Rectory Basement. Upcoming dates: **12/4 & 12/18**. For more info, call Maria at 917-417-5728. All ages & skill levels are welcome!

Bible Study Group – Thursdays from 10-11:30 am in the Rectory Basement. For info, call Lenore at 917-642-3377.

OLSS Baby Bin



The OLSS Pro-Life Committee has set up a Baby Bin in the lobby at the main entrance of the church to accept donations of diapers, wipes and other essentials for newborns. Items collected will be sent to the Cross Road Foundation and the Good Counsel Home both on Staten Island. Please check the bin for a list of the items that can be accepted. Disposable diapers and wipes are especially needed. God bless you for your generosity in supporting the Gospel of Life.

St. Edward Food Pantry-Volunteers Needed!

St. Edward Food Pantry at Mt. Loretto is in need of volunteers to distribute non-perishable food to the needy on Staten Island. OLSS is responsible for the 3rd week of the Month on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The hours are 10 am - 1 pm. If you would like to volunteer 3 hours per month, call Louise or Sr. Priscilla at 718-984-1625.



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 to obtain a Baptism Registration Packet.

Baptismal Ceremonies - Every Sunday at 2 pm

Upcoming Baptismal Class Dates for Parents

December 8 & 22, January 12 & 26

12 Noon in the Pat Damato Meeting Room

PLEASE NOTE: Registration forms MUST be turned in to the Rectory prior to attending the Baptismal Class. Dates for Baptisms are not guaranteed until the required documents are turned into the Rectory and the date is confirmed by rectory staff.

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.

Knitting & Crocheting Group Rectangle Campaign

 You are invited to participate in the annual rectangle campaign at OLSS! Donations of knitted or crocheted rectangles from will be accepted now **through December 31**. Donations of yarn are also greatly appreciated. Any thickness yarn, size of needle, hook, any color or pattern may be used to complete the rectangle, **but they must be 7" x 9"**. If **we do not have uniformity of size**, it is extremely difficult to assemble the rectangles into finished blankets. The rectangles will be joined together to make afghans for the homeless and others in need through the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal shelter. Your participation will provide comfort and warmth to people in need during their most difficult times. Please leave the rectangles in the designated basket in the church vestibule. Any questions, please call Maria Quadrino at 917-417-5728.

Stolzenhaller Columbiettes

A Vibrant Catholic Women's Service Organization

Looking for a way to get involved in parish and Columbiette events? Enjoy social activities? Want to enrich your Catholic faith? Join the Stolzenhaller Columbiettes! Please contact Patricia Valerio, Past President at 718-948-5043 for more information.

The Catholic Faith - On Demand

Watch, listen and read. Anywhere, anytime.

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FORMED provides the very best Catholic content from more than 60 organizations to help parishes, families and individuals explore their faith anywhere. Supporting thousands of movies, children's programs, ebooks, audio, parish programs and studies direct to your browser, mobile or connected device.

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 646-541-9757 or call the Parish Office.

✓ Mark Your Calendar

1st Friday Adoration



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 6 at 9 pm** & will end on **Saturday, December 7 at 9 am.**

Public Outdoor Rosary

Saturday, December 7 at 9:45 a.m. in front of the church
Sponsored by the OLSS Legion of Mary.



Msgr. Farrell High School Christmas Fair Sunday, December 8 from 10 am - 4:30 pm

Admission \$3 per person or \$5 per family, free parking. 2900 Amboy Rd. For more info, contact farrellchristmasfair@gmail.com.

OLSS Watercolor Group Exhibit

We are pleased to announce the first Watercolor Art Exhibit which will feature paintings by OLSS parishioners. It will take place in the church vestibule on **Saturday 12/14 & Sunday 12/15**. Please come and see the watercolor paintings!

ADNY Young Adult Night

Saturday, December 14 at 7:30 pm

OLSS Church & Damato Meeting Room

Young adults ages 21-39 are invited to a night of prayer in Eucharistic Adoration, with live praise and worship music in the Church. Confessions will also be available. The night will end with a social in the Damato Meeting Room with wine, snacks, and fellowship! Presented by Catholic Staten Island, Office of Young Adult Outreach, a Ministry Funded by the Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal.

OLSS 50 Plus Group Trip

to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse's production of
Sherlock Holmes Returns on Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Cost \$93 per person includes show, lunch, bus and tips.

Payment must be received by December 13. Contact Laraine Grande at 718-948-8151 to reserve your seat.

12 Step & Community Meetings

ACOA _____ Sundays 5:30PM
AA _____ Sundays 8PM
_____ Mondays 10AM
_____ Tuesdays 4PM
_____ Thursdays 4PM
_____ Fridays 4PM
_____ Saturdays 7:30PM
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 5**.

Addiction Angels - There is a Parent & Sibling support group for families battling addiction. The next meeting will be **Thursday, December 19 at 7 pm** in the Damato Mtg 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, & 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

