

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 11th , 2016**



**MASSES FOR THE WEEK
AT OUR LADY OF PITY CHURCH:**

SATURDAY	DECEMBER 10th:
8:00 am	Gerald Carannante
5:00 pm	Philip & Adelaide DiGeorge
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 11th:
7:30 am	Billy Emmanuel Acevedo
9:00 am	Michael Mazzella & Carmela Rubino
10:30 am	Lucy Gallo
NOON	Jeanette Martino & Peter Liggio
MONDAY	DECEMBER 12th:
7:30 am	For All Parishioners
8:30 am	Rose Olchvary
TUESDAY	DECEMBER 13th:
7:30 am	Fr. John Lorenz
8:30 am	Angela Patterson
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 14th:
7:30 am	For All Parishioners
8:30 am	Carol Megill
THURSDAY	DECEMBER 15th:
7:30 am	For All Parishioners
8:30 am	John Franca
FRIDAY	DECEMBER 16th:
7:30 am	Michael Conigliaro
8:30 am	Donna Maresca
SATURDAY	DECEMBER 17th:
8:00 am	Teresa Rocca
5:00 pm	Henry J. Scroope, III
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 18th:
7:30 am	Anthony & Anne Annunziato
9:00 am	Thelma Medida
10:30 am	Marilyn Troy
NOON	Salvatore D'Orio



MORNING DEVOTIONS

Following weekday 8:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Pity: Recitation of the Rosary. On First Fridays only there is the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Hour. On Saturday following the 8 am Mass, novena prayers are said.

At St. Anthony of Padua there is recitation of the rosary and devotions after the weekday 7:30 am Masses

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK
AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH:**

SATURDAY	DECEMBER 10th:
5:00 pm	Jeanette Tatar
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 11th:
8:00 am	Michael Vecsi
11:00 am	Stewart Wroblewski
MONDAY	DECEMBER 12th:
7:30 am	For All Parishioners
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 14th:
7:30 am	Pauline Wicinski
FRIDAY	DECEMBER 16th:
7:30 am	Julie Rajewski
SATURDAY	DECEMBER 17th:
5:00 pm	Nancy Keenan
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 18th:
8:00 am	John & Florence Hagan
11:00 am	Vincent Infuso – Birthday in Heaven

MEMORIALS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 11th:



OUR LADY OF PITY

The **ALTAR BREADS & WINES** is being offered in Thanksgiving of

PADRE PIO

Requested by Josephine Morale

The **SANCTUARY LAMP** is being offered in memory of

JOHN FRANCA

requested lovingly by his wife Jennie & Family

Anyone wishing to offer a memorial of Wine, Host or Sanctuary lamp in memory of their loved ones or any intention at either church, please contact the respective rectory Monday – Friday, 10:00am–4:00pm

SRI LANKAN MASS

Each Sunday at 6:00 pm here at Our Lady of Pity Fr. Mendis holds a Sri Lankan Mass. All are welcome.

RCIA PROGRAM

If you or a friend are interested in becoming Catholic, or perhaps you need to be confirmed, the RCIA

Program invites you to meet every Wednesday at 7:30 pm in our Parish Center. No registration necessary.



SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OUR LADY OF PITY-ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

The next meeting of the youth group will be an Ugly Sweater party on Friday, December 16 at 7:00 pm at the Parish Center.

Our annual children's Christmas pageant will be held on Sunday, December 18th at the noon Mass at Our Lady of Pity Church. Practices will be on Thursday, Dec. 15th at 5:45 pm and Friday Dec. 16th at 4:30 pm in the church.

Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 18 at 1:30 pm. Meet at Our Lady of Pity Parish Center. We will be caroling in the neighborhood for about an hour. All ages are welcome.

There will be no religious education classes Dec. 26th through Jan. 2nd. Classes resume on Tues. Jan. 3rd.



THE ADVENT WREATH

The advent wreath is packed with symbolism and is a great way to teach the children about God, Christ and the Christmas season. The round shape stands for God's eternity. Like God it has no beginning and no end. The greens used to make the wreath are EVERgreen, and therefore unchanging, just like God. The four candles symbolize the four centuries that man waited for the coming of the savior. Three of the candles are purple since Advent is a time of penance. It was because of our sinfulness that we needed a savior, and so we must prepare ourselves through sacrifice and penance during Advent for Christ's coming at Christmas. However, we know that

Christ has and is coming again, and so our penance is a joyful one. We are joyfully anticipating and preparing ourselves for the coming. Therefore, one candle is pink to represent our joy. Purchase or make an Advent wreath for your home this Advent.



GOSPEL: MATTHEW 11:2-11

While in prison John sends a messenger to Jesus to ask, "Are you He who is to come or do we look for another?" Jesus replies by citing the miracles he has performed for the blind, the deaf, and the crippled. He concludes by identifying John as the messenger He has sent to prepare the way.

HIS WORD TODAY THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"John in prison heard about the works Christ performed, and sent a message through his disciples to ask him, 'Are you He who is to come' or do we look for another?' In reply Jesus said to them: 'Go back and report to John what you hear and see: the blind...cripples...lepers...the deaf...the dead...and the poor have the good news preached to them. Blest is the man who finds no stumbling block in me.'"

So wrapped up in the commercialism and consumerism, the question posed by John certainly is appropriate for us. Who is it we are waiting for? Who is it we are looking for? It is not just a simple, but a profound question. Where is our search leading us? When Jesus began His mission, He used the prophet Isaiah to explain His role. The Baptist asks the question for us, and we have the answer right in front of us. We too are to go back and report to others who Jesus is for u, what He does for us. So many today are spiritually blind, or deaf, hurting and even fallen from grace. But the Christ whose coming we commemorate and celebrate in two weeks asks us to go and tell others, as did the disciples of John. May we all prepare the way of the Lord.'

JOIN THE CHOIRS

The **Adult Choir** rehearses on Wednesdays at 8:00

pm in the Parish Center.
The **Youth Choir** rehearses on Wednesdays, from 7 – 8 pm in the Parish Center. New members are always welcome and should introduce themselves to our Music Director, Mr. Ron D'Albero after the weekend Masses, or you may call Ron at (347) 770-3477 for information.

Choir at St. Anthony of Padua meets after the 11:00 am Sunday Mass. Or call Fernando Pascual, Music Director at 718-494-6438.



The SICK

Prayer Request for Sick Parishioners

Every worshipping community is called to pray for the sick or elderly in their parish. It is a privilege to ask Our Lord to heal and strengthen the sick. **The Prayer List for the Sick** is our way of reaching out to our parishioners, young and elderly, who have received a critical diagnosis and are unable to go about the routines of life:

MaryAnn Azzarello, Brook Balacco, Mary Ellen Bednar, Jared Choset, Josephine Cordaro, Joseph Crescenzi, Sr., Elsie Cuevas, Dom Dealto, Carol Divine, Lillian Miner, Ann and Angela Recker, Cheri Rosen, Margaret Ryan Galeto, Annette McGoff, Frank Alexis Ragusa, Philip Ragusa, Valerie Rose.

The listed names above for those asking for prayers has been updated according to months on the list.

Those remaining have been reinstated by parishioners calling after the six month period. If anyone wishes to put a name back or to add a new name of a parishioner who is sick please contact the rectory Mon.-Fri. from 9 am to 5 pm.

ORGANIZATIONS AT OUR LADY OF PITY CHURCH

We cordially invite all parishioners from St. Anthony of Padua's Church to join any of the groups at Our Lady of Pity. Following are the group titles and days they meet:

Golden Age	Tues. 12-3 pm	Parish Center
Legion of Mary	Thurs.7:00 pm	St. Jude Chapel

WOMEN'S SOCIETIES

Our Lady of Pity Rosary Altar Society: Mass First Sunday of every month at 9:00 am and that Monday is their meeting at 7:30 pm in the Parish Center.

St. Anthony of Padua Ladies Auxiliary: Meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Church basement. New members are always welcome.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Our Lady of Pity: Second Sunday of the month Mass at 10:30 am; that Monday is their meeting at 7:30 pm in the Parish Center.

St. Anthony of Padua: Second Sunday of every month at 8:00 am Mass, meeting follows Mass.

BEREAVEMENT

"Blessed are those who mourn; for they shall be comforted."
-Matthew 5:4.

Our Bereavement Minister, Deacon Michael Venditto, is available to assist anyone who has experienced a loss. Call the rectory (718-761-5421) weekdays between 9 am and 5 pm to set up an appointment with Deacon Michael.

SHUT-INS

If any member of your family is homebound and unable to attend Mass, please notify the rectory and if you wish, a priest or an extraordinary minister will bring them the Eucharist on the first Friday of every month.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS

There will be a special needs Mass at St. Joseph-St. Thomas, Staten Island, NY at 2:30 pm every 2nd Sunday of the month. Entrance to the parking lot is off Maguire Ave. Come! Help women choose life! Alternatives to abortion are available!

ELECTRONIC GIVING (PARISH PAY PROGRAM)

This is an alternate means of supporting your parish instead of using the envelope system. This program will collect monthly contributions from your checking, savings or credit card accounts. There is **NO COST** to you, the parishioner, to participate in this program. Log onto www.paritypay.com or call 1-866-727-4741 Ext. 1

"MISA DE GALLO"

Our parish, along with the Filipino community, cordially invites you to celebrate the Misa de Gallo – Christmas Novena Mass in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary (a Filipino tradition preparing for Christmas). Light refreshments will be served after the Mass.

All Masses begin at 8:00 pm

- December 15th, Thursday, St. Sylvester Church
- December 16th, Friday, St. Joseph Church (Rosebank)
- December 17th, Saturday, St. Joseph-St. Thomas
- December 18th, Sunday, Blessed Sacrament Church
- December 19th, Monday, Holy Rosary Church
- December 20th, Tuesday, Our Lady of Pity Church**
- December 21st, Wednesday, Sacred Heart Church
- December 22nd, Thursday, St. Rita's Church
- December 23rd, Friday, St. Peter's Church
- December 24th, Saturday, NO MIDNIGHT MASS

ADVENT SEASON

During the Advent Season as we celebrate the new relationship between God and his people, may that be mirrored in our renewed relationships with spouses, children, family and those near and dear to us. May we speak tenderly to each other amidst all the rush of the season and transform shopping days til Christmas into the true "Advent of Christ."

OUR LADY OF PITY CHURCH:

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

MASS SCHEDULE:

- SATURDAY DECEMBER 17th:**
5:00 pm M. Pastena-I. Pastena
- SUNDAY DECEMBER 18th:**
7:30 am J. Porto-J. Salcedo
9:00 am M. Langone-K. Carpenito
10:30 am T. Hanley-M. Mendez
NOON E. Boccieri-J. Boccieri

LECTORS MASS SCHEDULE:

- SATURDAY: DECEMBER 17th:**
5:00 pm M. Donadic
- SUNDAY DECEMBER 18th:**
7:30 am M. Salcedo
9:00 am M. Pontarella
10:30 am R. Rose
NOON S. Bilardi

ALTAR BOY MASS SCHEDULE:

- SATURDAY DECEMBER 17th:**
5:00 pm C. Baria-E. Baria-M. Miningas
- SUNDAY DECEMBER 18th:**
7:30 am D. Pangilinan-J. Inigo
9:00 am M. Maguire-I. Maguire-M. Santa-M. Santa
10:30 am N. Lopez-r. Eckman-H. Bailey-M. Tubay
NOON R. Whalen-J. Venditto-J. Bosco

If you wish to volunteer you can call Mike Fazio @ 917-560-0235 or e-mail him @ mikefaziosr@gmail.com to leave your name and phone # with him.

OUR LADY OF PITY PARISHIONERS

Our Lady of Pity is in need of the following:

PURPLE ALTAR CLOTH (Used during Advent & Lent)
RED ALTAR CLOTH (Used for Confirmation & Pentecost)
\$750. each

BRAZIER (Used for light8ing the new fire on Holy Saturday)
\$2,000.

COPE, STOLE & HUMERAL VIEL
(Used for Stations during Lent)
\$750.

Anyone wishing to **donate the cost** of any of the items as a gift or memorialize for a loved one, please call the rectory @ 718-761-5421.

ST. ANTHONY'S 50/50

The monthly envelopes for the **DECEMBER** "50/50" drawing are available in the back of St. Anthony's church. The fee is \$5 per envelope and you can enter as many times as you wish.

OUR LADY OF PITY 50/50

The monthly envelopes for the **DECEMBER** "50/50" drawing are available in the back of the church. The fee is \$5 per envelope and you can enter as many times as you wish. Please place your envelope in the collection basket. **Cash only**, no checks please.



"LUCKY 40 CLUB"

This Fund Raiser is used for additional funds for the maintenance of BOTH worship sites. The Building Fund is not sufficient to cover any unexpected expenses that are incurred. The **LUCKY 40 CLUB** has two sessions. January to May and June to October. The cost is \$40 per session. Complete details are on the form. Thank you for your support.



**CHRISTMAS TREE PROGRAM
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Sat., Jan. 14th @ 10:00 am Removal of trees



OUR LADY OF PITY PARISH GIVING TREE

Our Lady of Pity Christmas Giving Tree will stand in the vestibule of our Church for two weekends starting December 3rd. It is a reminder to us all that many families are in need again this year. Our volunteers spend numerous hours writing tags with "WISH LIST" from many organizations on Staten Island and for our own parishioners who we know are in need. You are invited to remove a tag, purchase the gift item written on the tag, wrap the gift and place the original tag on the package. Return it to the giving tree on the date listed on the tag. All gifts must be returned by December 17th. Thank you for your generosity.



FOOD FOR THE NEEDY

Place nonperishable food items in a bag and place them in the back of **St. Anthony's Church**. Thank you and God Bless.

SAINT FRANCIS CATHOLIC SINGLES

A contemporary circle of men and women in their 30's, 40's, and 50's who are single or single again and wish to lead more fulfilled empowered lives by deepening their Catholic spirituality and building community with like minded peers. New and returning members always welcome. Meet at Holy Family Church, 366 Watchogue Rd. S.I., NY email: sfcssi@gmail.com
The next meeting will be December 18th, 6:30 – 9:30 pm **Christmas Dinner**. (Please bring a new unwrapped toy for a child 3-14 years of age) Join us as we celebrate Christ's birth – St. Francis favorite holy day – at our 16th annual Christmas dinner at the West Shore Inn, 3955 Victory Blvd. Price is \$35. per person and will include full dinner, dessert and wine. (For those who don't have to be up at dawn, join us for 9:30 pm Karaoke!) All payments must be made out to CASH (with SFCS Christmas Dinner in memo) with your name, phone number and email to Holy Family Parish, Attn: Singles Christmas Dinner, 366 Watchogue Rd., S.I., NY. For more info check the website: www.sgspsi.org



CARNIVALE

Fat Tuesday, February 28, 2017

6:00 pm – 10:00 pm

DaNoi Restaurant, 4358 Victory Blvd.

Menu: Salad, Pasta, Entrée, Unlimited Soda, Coffee and Dessert. (Cash Bar)

Reservations limited to 100 people, \$40 per person

Anyone interested, please call St. Anthony's Rectory 718-761-6660 or OLOP Rectory 718-761-5421

Please note: There are only 40 seats left.

If anyone has gifts that they would like to contribute to the gift table for Carnivale, please call a rectory.



STATEN ISLAND BALLET'S NUTCRACKER

Saturday, December 17th, 3:00 – 7:00 pm

Sunday, December 18th, 2:00 – 5:00 pm

Center of the Arts – College of Staten Island

2800 Victory Blvd., S.I., NY - FREE PARKING

Orchestra \$50., Balcony \$40. Staten Island Ballet Box Office 718-980-0500 to charge by phone.

SAVE THE DATE

On Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 7:00 pm the parish of Our Lady of Pompeii at 25 Carmine St. in Greenwich Village will be hosting a gala Dinner Dance Reunion. All OLP alumni, family and friends are invited! Please go to their Facebook page titled, "OLP Reunion" for future announcements.



CASINO BUS TRIPS

Date: December 15th – Sands Casino

Cost: \$38. with \$25. back and \$5. food voucher

There must be a least 30 people to go and all monies must be paid in full five days prior to departure. Bus will depart at 9:00 am from Our Lady of Pity Church.

For information and reservations please call Agnes Davis @ 718-494-5475.



Date: Wednesday, December 21, 2016

Time: 8:00 am – Departing from Our lady of Pity

Show: 11:00 am – You will have an occasion to visit
St. Patrick's Cathedral & Rockefeller Center

Cost: \$145, includes 4 course meal at DaNico in
Little Italy; bus trip and show. "Orchestra
Seats". All taxes and tip included.
Childrens fares available

For information and/or reservations call Agnes Davis at
718-494-5475.

MEALS ON WHEELS OF STATEN ISLAND, INC.

304 Port Richmond Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10302
Telephone (718) 727-4435
Fax (718)727-2157

www.mealsonwheelsofsi.org

The mission of Meals on Wheels of Staten island is to provide two nutritious meals each day, delivered by volunteers, to the homebound elderly who are unable to shop for or prepare their own meals. We are feeding approximately 1200 seniors.

We need your help! If you are available two hours, one morning each week, you can volunteer to deliver meals to your elderly neighbors. Please call Vice President Roseann Holt at 718-727-4435 for more information.