

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 18th , 2016**



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

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 17th:</b>
8:00 am	Teresa Rocca
5:00 pm	Henry J. Scroope, III
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 18th:</b>
7:30 am	Anthony & Anne Annunziato
9:00 am	Thelma Medida
10:30 am	Marilyn Troy
NOON	Salvatore D'Orio
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 19th:</b>
7:30 am	For All Parishioners
8:30 am	Luigi, Nancy & Louis Violetta
<b>RECONCILIATION MONDAY</b>	
Confessions from 4:00pm to 8:00pm	
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 20th:</b>
7:30 am	For All Parishioners
8:30 am	John Flanagan
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 21st:</b>
7:30 am	For All Parishioners
8:30 am	For All Parishioners
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 22nd:</b>
7:30 am	Intentions of the Esposito Family
8:30 am	Charles Emerling
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 23rd:</b>
7:30 am	Pietro Franceschini
8:30 am	For All Parishioners
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 24th: CHRISTMAS EVE</b>
8:00 am	Rev. John E. Mercer
5:00 pm	Catherine & Joseph O'Brien, Henry Scroope III, & Henry Scroope V
MIDNIGHT	For All Parishioners
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 25th: CHRISTMAS DAY</b>
7:30 am	Louise, Joseph & Anna Frances Monaco
9:00 am	Living & Deceased Langone, Bonaguro, Spivey & Emerling Families
10:30 am	Maria & Vincent Zanfardino
NOON	Luigi DeBenedictis

**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:**

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 17th:</b>
5:00 pm	Nancy Keenan
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 18th:</b>
8:00 am	John & Florence Hagan
11:00 am	Vincent Infuso – Birthday in Heaven
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 19th:</b>
7:30 am	Thanksgiving to St. Theresa of the Little Flower for prayers answered
<b>RECONCILIATION MONDAY</b>	
Confessions from 4:00pm to 6:00 pm	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 21st:</b>
7:30 am	Special Intention for Christmas in Heaven
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 23rd:</b>
7:30 am	Hermania Manaluz
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 24th: CHRISTMAS EVE</b>
9:15 pm	Christmas Carols with the Choir
10:00 pm	Wolenski and Wicinski Families
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 25th: CHRISTMAS DAY</b>
8:00 am	Wicinski, Vecsi and Hagan Families
11:00 am	Michael DeChiaro

**MEMORIALS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 18th:**



**OUR LADY OF PITY**

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

**HENRY J. SCROOPE, III**

Requested lovingly by his wife Catherine A. Scroope

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

**JOHN FRANCA**

requested lovingly by his wife Jennie & Family

The **MAIN ALTAR CANDLES** is being offered in memory of

**JOSEPH GLEN CESARO**

requested lovingly by the Marmo & Delfino Families

**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA**

The **WINE, HOST AND SANCTUARY LAMP** are being offered in memory of

**VINCENT INFUSO**

Requested lovingly by the Infuso 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

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.

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

We were honored to have Bishop Byrne celebrate the 5:00 pm Mass this Saturday and for the blessing of our traditional Christmas Trees. Many blessings have been bestowed on our parish during this time.

**CONFESSIONS** will be heard from 4 pm to 6 pm at St. Anthony of Padua Church and from 4 pm to 8 pm At Our Lady of Pity Church. on Reconciliation Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. Advent gives us a wonderful opportunity to preach on the importance of the Sacrament of Penance and to remind our parishioners that this Sacrament is the best way to prepare for the joy of Christmas and celebrating the birth of our Savior.

**May God Bless you all this Christmas Season.**



### CHRISTMAS TREE PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Sat., Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>** @ 10:00 am Removal of trees  
If you wish to volunteer you can call Mike Fazio @ 917-560-0235 or e-mail him @ [mikefaziosr@gmail.com](mailto:mikefaziosr@gmail.com) to leave your name and phone # with him.



### 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

### 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.



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

Our annual children's Christmas pageant will be held on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at the noon Mass at Our Lady of Pity 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. 26<sup>th</sup> through Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Classes resume on Tues. Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### 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.

### 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.

### **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.parihpay.com](http://www.parihpay.com) or call 1-866-727-4741 Ext. 1



### **GOSPEL: MATTHEW 1:18-24**

In a brief, straightforward, simple narrative, Matthew recounts the events leading to Jesus' birth. He details the appearance of the angel in a dream to Joseph and stresses that "All this happened to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophets."

### **HIS WORD TODAY FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**"Greetings from Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart to proclaim the gospel of God which he promised long ago...the gospel concerning his Son who was descended from David...Through him we have been favored with apostleship, that we may spread his name of bring to obedient faith all the Gentiles among whom are you who have been called to belong to Jesus Christ."**

Not a Christmas card, but the beginning of a special inspired letter which Paul sent to the Roman community. He knew who he was, no identity problem. He knew his role as both servant and apostle. His greeting is directed to us, and like the many cards we receive and send, we realize we are servants and apostles too.

We are to spread His name because we have been invited to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We have the same mission to bring others to the Lord. It might be someone in my family who has wavered in the practice of the faith. It might be someone weighed down with a hurt or problem, asking us to help lift them in this time of need. It might be that person next to us, curious because I belong to Christ,

and they only need our simple invitation. Our response can be a Christmas card and gift for them. 'Come Lord Jesus.'

### **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.



### **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, Peter Ruisi.**

**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.

### **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.

**December 20<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, Our Lady of Pity Church**  
December 21<sup>st</sup>, Wednesday, Sacred Heart Church  
December 22<sup>nd</sup>, Thursday, St. Rita's Church  
December 23<sup>rd</sup>, Friday, St. Peter's Church  
December 24<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, NO MIDNIGHT MASS

## 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:

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

## 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.

## 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](http://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.

## "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 15<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, St. Sylvester Church  
December 16<sup>th</sup>, Friday, St. Joseph Church (Rosebank)  
December 17<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, St. Joseph-St. Thomas  
December 18<sup>th</sup>, Sunday, Blessed Sacrament Church  
December 19<sup>th</sup>, Monday, Holy Rosary Church

## 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."

## SPECIAL NEEDS MASS

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

## OUR LADY OF PITY CHURCH: EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

### MASS SCHEDULE:

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 24th:</b>
5:00 pm	<b>SPECIAL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>:</b>
7:30 am	
9:00 am	
10:30 am	
NOON	

### LECTORS MASS SCHEDULE:

<b>SATURDAY:</b>	<b>DECEMBER 24th:</b>
5:00 pm	<b>SPECIAL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 25<sup>h</sup>:</b>
7:30 am	
9:00 am	
10:30 am	
NOON	

### ALTAR BOY MASS SCHEDULE:

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 24th:</b>
5:00 pm	<b>SPECIAL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>:</b>
7:30 am	
9:00 am	
10:30 am	
NOON	

## 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 lighting 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.

## 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.



## "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.

## 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.

## 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](mailto:sfcssi@gmail.com)  
The next meeting will be December 18<sup>th</sup>, 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.sgspsi.org)



## 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.



## 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

If you are interested in going please put your check made payable to Our Lady of Pity-St. Anthony of Padua in the collection basket labeled "Carnivale".

**Please note: There are only 20 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 17<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 – 7:00 pm

Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 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.



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.