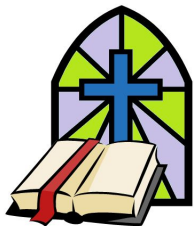


**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
DECEMBER 25th , 2016**



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

SATURDAY	DECEMBER 24th:
8:00 am	Rev. John E. Mercer
5:00 pm	Catherine & Joseph O'Brien, Henry Scroope III & Henry J. Scroope V
MIDNIGHT	For All Parishioners
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 25th:
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
MONDAY	DECEMBER 26th:
7:30 am	Matteo Partenope
8:30 am	Michael Santorro & Family (LIVING)
TUESDAY	DECEMBER 27th:
7:30 am	Teresa & Guidio Franceschini
8:30 am	Phillip & Leo Vinje
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 28th :
7:30 am	For All Parishioners
8:30 am	Vincent Gigante
THURSDAY	DECEMBER 29th:
7:30 am	For All Parishioners
8:30 am	Michael Ross Russo
FRIDAY	DECEMBER 30th:
7:30 am	Antonio Calderon
8:30 am	Constance J. Guido & Phil Guido
SATURDAY	DECEMBER 31st:
8:00 am	Deceased Grippo & Iovine Families
5:00 pm	Thomas J. Ginch
SUNDAY	JANUARY 1st: NEW YEAR'S DAY
9:00 am	Jean Tomasuolo
10:30 am	Lawrence Inconiglios
NOON	John Portano

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 24th:
	NO 5:00 PM MASS
9:15 pm	Christmas Carols with the Choir
10:00 pm	Wolenski and Wicenski Families
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 25th:
8:00 am	Wicenski, Vecsi and Hagan Families
11:00 am	Michael DeChiaro
MONDAY	DECEMBER 26th:
7:30 am	Pauline & Stephen Covello
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 28th:
7:30 am	Paul Wicenski – Birthday in Heaven
FRIDAY	DECEMBER 30th:
7:30 am	Charles Scepkowski-3 rd Anniv. in Heaven
SATURDAY	DECEMBER 31st:
5:00 pm	Stella Koran
SUNDAY	JANUARY 1st: NEW YEAR'S DAY
8:00 am	Paul T. Saladis, Sr.
11:00 am	Infuso Family

MEMORIALS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 25th:



OUR LADY OF PITY

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

THE BLESSED MOTHER

Requested by Josephine Morale

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

The **WINE and HOST** are being offered in memory of

**RICHARD SULLIVAN and his daughter
EILEEN SULLIVAN MEURER**

Requested lovingly by Susan & 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.



CHRISTMAS TREE PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sat., Jan. 14th @ 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 to leave your name and phone # with him.



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

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

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.

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



GOSPEL: JOHN 1:1-18

John describes how the Word came into the world in the form of Jesus. All those who accept Jesus become children of God by sharing in Jesus' love. No one has seen God, but through Jesus, God was revealed to us.

HIS WORD TODAY THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

“The grace of God has appeared, offering salvation to all men. It trains us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and live temperately, justly and devoutly in this age as we await our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of the great God and of our Savior Christ Jesus...to redeem us and to cleanse for himself a people of his own...eager to do what is right.”

Why this passage from St. Paul's letter to Titus as part of our worship on this great Christmas day? It is easy for us to be so caught up in many distractions that we overlook some basic points. Do I realize that there were centuries of waiting for the Messiah and people grew weary and forgetful? Paul tells them, the savior has appeared.

If the coming of the redeemer speaks to me today, my Christmas joy reminds me that godless ways and worldly desires are not the focus. Gifts, consumerism, travel and visits are ours because the gift, Jesus, who traveled to earth and Bethlehem, placed salvation at our disposal. God did His part, we now must do ours. He has redeemed and purified us and claims us as His. My response is eager acceptance of what He has come to offer me. As I look around, who needs to know of my experience of this redeeming savior? The books, the songs, the traditions can tell me of Him and this day. They encourage me to seek Him. Prayer is where I meet Him.

The virtues of temperance, justice and piety reflect our serious and joy filled acceptance of Jesus Christ this Christmas of 2016. May you be blessed.

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.parishpay.com or call 1-866-727-4741 Ext. 1

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.

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

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.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS

"It's a Holy and Wholesome Thing to Pray for the Dead"
During the year many families in our parish experience the death of a loved one. As is our custom, there will be a Memorial Mass for our beloved deceased who were buried from Our Lady of Pity this year. All family members, friends and parishioners are invited to attend this memorial Mass which will be held on January 7th, 2017 at 9:00 am Our prayer is that God will give your loved ones eternal life and those who remain behind the strength and courage to carry on.
"We give back to You, O God, those whom You gave us. You did not lose them when You gave them to us, and we did not lose them by their return to You. Your dear Son has taught us that life is eternal and love cannot die."

10:30 am
NOON

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.

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!

OUR LADY OF PITY CHURCH:

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY DECEMBER 24th:
5:00 pm **SPECIAL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**
SUNDAY DECEMBER 25th:
7:30 am
9:00 am
10:30 am
NOON

LECTORS MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY: DECEMBER 24th:
5:00 pm **SPECIAL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**
SUNDAY DECEMBER 25th:
7:30 am
9:00 am
10:30 am
NOON

ALTAR BOY MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY DECEMBER 24th:
5:00 pm **SPECIAL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**
SUNDAY DECEMBER 25th:
7:30 am
9:00 am

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.

DAYS OF PRAYER AND HEALING

Do you know someone who is carrying the grief of a past abortion? There is help and hope available. "Days of Prayer and Healing" offer the opportunity to experience the love and mercy of God and to heal the wound of abortion.

For confidential registration e-mail hopenadhealing@sistersoflife.org

Days of Prayer and Healing for Men: for more information or to register for men please call Lumina at 877-586-4621 or e-mail Lumina@postabortionhelp.org

FASTING

Please remember that ALL Catholics are required to fast for one hour prior to receiving Holy communion. "Fasting" means no food or drink other than water or medicine. This would include chewing gum or drinking coffee. Let us show the respect and reverence due our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.



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.

ST. PAUL'S PUBLISHING

Operated by the priests and brothers of the Society of St. Pa7l at the Alba House, located on Victory Boulevard, Staten Island, has a vacancy for a part-time sales person in its marketing department. Hours will be 9 am to 1 pm. Fluency in both English and Spanish, good computing skills, finance background and a pleasant phone manner are required. For a job application form, contact Dora Torres on 1-800-2522 between 1 pm and 5 pm on weekdays, or email dora@stpauls.us

MASS BOOK FOR 2017

Masses are available for 2017. Please call or come to the Rectory to schedule a Mass.

OUR LADY OF PITY – 718-761-5421

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA – 718-761-6660



ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE

The New York Blood Center plans to run another Winter Blood Drive at Our Lady of Pity Church. It is planned to take place the morning of January 29, 2017 from 8:15 am to 2:15 pm.



NEEDY MOTHERS PROGRAM

We are in need of baby items: strollers, high chairs, seats, baby wash, etc. Also newborn and gently used baby clothes to size 24 months and childrens sizes up to size 16. Also women's toiletries. Please bring items on Tuesday from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm to 2187 Victory Blvd. next to Alba House Chapel.

ADOPTION

Baby girls and boys in China need homes for both infants and toddlers. Older parents and singles are welcome. For further information call Barbara from St. Anthony's Church in **Nanuet, New York**, at 845-623-5277.

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