

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
THE HOLY MOTHER of GOD
JANUARY 1st , 2017**



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

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|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| SATURDAY | DECEMBER 31st: |
| 8:00 am | Deceased Grippo & Iovine Families |
| 5:00 pm | Thomas J. Ginch |
| SUNDAY | JANUARY 1st: |
| 9:00 am | Jean Tomasuolo |
| 10:30 am | Lawrence Inconiglios |
| NOON | John Portano |
| MONDAY | JANUARY 2nd: |
| 7:30 am | For All Parishioners |
| 8:30 am | Jennine Punzone (LIVING) |
| TUESDAY | JANUARY 3rd: |
| 7:30 am | John Ferretti |
| 8:30 am | Intentions of Dwight Boston |
| WEDNESDAY | JANUARY 4th : |
| 7:30 am | For All Parishioners |
| 8:30 am | Anthony Camanda |
| THURSDAY | JANUARY 5th: |
| 7:30 am | For All Parishioners |
| 8:30 am | Carl Dionisio |
| FRIDAY | JANUARY 6th: |
| 7:30 am | Marietta Rocca |
| 8:30 am | Domenico & Maria D'Elia |
| SATURDAY | JANUARY 7th: |
| 8:00 am | Soila Argudo & Raul Angulo Ortiz |
| 5:00 pm | Salvatore & Libera Mazzella |
| SUNDAY | JANUARY 8th: |
| 7:30 am | Sarah Squicciarini |
| 9:00 am | Sam, Ralph & Michael Langone |
| 10:30 am | Haydee Rosario |
| NOON | Salvatore Vacirca |

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:**

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|------------------|---|
| SATURDAY | DECEMBER 31st: |
| 5:00 pm | Stella Koran – 2 nd Anniv. in Heaven |
| SUNDAY | JANUARY 1st: |
| 8:00 am | Paul T. Saladis, Sr. |
| 11:00 am | Infuso Family |
| MONDAY | JANUARY 2nd: |
| 7:30 am | Hermania Manaluz |
| WEDNESDAY | JANUARY 4th: |
| 7:30 am | Jerry Brennan |
| FRIDAY | JANUARY 6th: |
| 7:30 am | Michele Arias |
| SATURDAY | January 7th: |
| 5:00 pm | Deborah A. Scott |
| SUNDAY | JANUARY 8th: |
| 8:00 am | Carolina Cabela |
| 11:00 am | Vincent Infuso |

MEMORIALS FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 1st:



OUR LADY OF PITY

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

ST. MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA

Requested by Josephine Morale

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.



SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious education classes resume on Tues. Jan. 3rd.

SINCERE THANKS

A personal word of thanks from the priests here at our parish to all those who sent them personal greetings and gifts...may God bless you all.



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.

Please note: If you would like your Christmas decorations or plaque back, kindly remove them from your tree by January 9th. Thank you.

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.

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

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD



GOSPEL: LUKE 2:16-21

The shepherds went to Bethlehem to see Jesus and immediately understood all that they had been told about him. They praised God for what they had seen, and Jesus was given the name that the angel had chosen for him.

HIS WORD TODAY SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

“The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger; once they saw, they understood what had been told them concerning this child. All who heard of it were astonished at the report...Mary treasured all these things and reflected on them in her heart.”

Does it surprise me that the first to come and encounter Christ were lowly shepherds? They were certainly not the persons I would expect to greet a newborn baby. Obviously, they accepted the good news and then reported it to others. We who know the Bethlehem story so well, might not have even bothered to go to the cave where Christ was born. We might, like the shepherds, have just returned to the night watch guarding themselves and their flocks. Obviously their story moved others as well.

At the same time Mary both treasured and reflected, sometimes the scriptures say ‘pondered’ or weighed what she knew, saw and heard. How she felt may best be known by the mother of a newborn. It might

be fitting to sit quietly like Mary and reflect upon the events. Christmas comes and goes so fast that we might overlook the great outpouring of the Father in giving us a needed Savior, and the role model of Mary treasuring and reflecting. May we treasure the coming of the Lord.

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.

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.”

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.

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 |

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!



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.

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.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2017 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship being held on Saturday January 21, 2017 at Our Lady of Pity Gym. Registration is 9:30 am followed by the competition at 10:00 am. Local winners will be chosen by the best out of 15 foul shots. Local winners will move on to district and state competitions and would be advised of the date and time of those events.

All contestants at the local level will be recognized for their participation in this event. Participants are required to furnish proof of age (birth certificate if handy) and written parental consent. For entry forms and additional information, contact Joseph Scalici 718-885-7687, joe83952001@yahoo.com or Louis Rotondo 718-757-8502, louisarotondo@gmail.com.

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.

OUR LADY OF PITY CHURCH: EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY JANUARY 7th:
5:00 pm M. Pastena-I. Pastena
SUNDAY JANUARY 8th:
7:30 am B. Madaio-M. Madaio
9:00 am K. Carpenito-J. Porto
10:30 am D. Marro-F. Marro

NOON M. Terracino-N. Terracino

LECTORS MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY: JANUARY 7th:
5:00 pm C. Daniels
SUNDAY JANUARY 8th:
7:30 am I. Bialza
9:00 am M. Donadic
10:30 am P. Magliocco
NOON N. Tricorico

ALTAR BOY MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY JANUARY 7th:
5:00 pm D. Pangilinan-C. Baria-E. Baria
SUNDAY JANUARY 8th:
7:30 am M. Santa-M. Zerega
9:00 am J. Flood-R. Eckman-M. Tubay
10:30 am N. Lopez-J. Venditto-J. Tangco-H. Bailey
NOON J. Inigo-J. bosco-M. Maguire-I. Maguire

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 – 718-761-666

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 **JANUARY** “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 **JANUARY** “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.

WHO WERE THE THREE WISEMEN?

While the bible does not contain much detail about the Three Wisemen, much study has been done on the astrologers named Melchior, Balthazar and Caspar.

Research indicates that each of them descended from a different part of the world. Melchior was Asian, Balthazar was African and Caspar was of European descent. These were the three continents known to the Old World so their presence signified the acceptance of Christ by all nations.

Each man presented a special gift to the baby Jesus. Melchior gave the gift of gold which symbolized Christ’s “kingship.” Balthazar brought frankincense which was used in temple worship and symbolized “honor and reverence.” Caspar brought a flask of myrrh. Myrrh had medicinal qualities and was also used in burials. This gift symbolized Christ’s “mortality.”

Following their visit with the infant Savior, each man gave all of his possessions to the poor and lived his life preaching the Gospel of Peace.

All three were martyred in India. Their bodies are in the Cologne Cathedral where they are venerated as saints and called the Three Kings of Cologne. They are the patron saints of travelers.



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.

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.

Happy New Year!

Our best wishes for good health & happiness in the coming year.

Father John and Father Mendis along with the staff of the parish, wish you all a very happy, healthy and safe New Year!

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



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.



GIVE BLOOD SAVE LIFE 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.

RESPECT LIFE

PRAYER FOR THE UNBORN

Beautiful prayer cards will be distributed on the weekend of January 21st and January 22nd at **St. Anthony of Padua Church**. The precious prayer was written by the late Bishop Fulton Sheen. Join us in praying for the unborn. Please give generously as we will be collecting for Good Counsel Home for mothers and babies on Staten Island.