

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015



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

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 12th</b>
5:00 pm	Philip & Adelaide DiGeorge
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 13th:</b>
7:30 am	Nemesia Dayte Chua & Reynaldo Chua
9:00 am	Elizabeth Andrizzi
10:30 am	Lucy Gallo
NOON	Joseph McGoff & Luis Salviani
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 14th:</b>
7:15 am	For Our Parishioners
8:30 am	Anthony Scandaglia
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 15th:</b>
7:15 am	Dec. Mem. Of Faraci & Costagliola Fam.
8:30 am	Peggy & Peter Maczuba
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 16th:</b>
7:15 am	Anna Frances Monaco
8:30 am	Josephine Tursi
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 17th :</b>
7:15 am	Teresa Franceschini
8:30 am	Bill Weldon
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 18th :</b>
7:15 am	Adolfo Altreche
8:30 am	Olga & Riccardo D'Elia
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 19th:</b>
8:00 am	Alex, Lourdes, Iyoy, Espie, Regino Lopez & Calvin Mendoza
5:00 pm	Henry J. Scroope III
6:00 pm	Service & Reception Concert
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 20th:</b>
7:30 am	Anthony & Anne Annunziato
9:00 am	Nazzarene Cestra
10:30 am	Luigi, Nancy & Louis Violetta
NOON	Peter & Frances Messina

**AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH:**

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 12th:</b>
5:00 pm	Mary Sawicki
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 13th:</b>
8:00 am	Leo Gniewkowski
11:00 am	Richard & Jacqueline Pentony
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 14th:</b>
7:30 am	For All Parishioners
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 16th:</b>
7:30 am	Maria Vecchio
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 18th:</b>
7:30 am	Stella Koran
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 19th:</b>
5:00 pm	Czeslaw Sawicki
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 20th</b>
8:00 am	Richard Sullivan & Eileen Sullivan Meurer
11:00 am	Vincent Infuso

**OUR LADY OF PITY CHURCH:**



**MEMORIALS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 13th:**



The **ALTAR BREADS & WINES** this week are in memory of **PAULINE WICINSKI** requested lovingly by her family.

The **SANCTUARY LAMP** burns this week in memory of **SALVATORE AND TERESA TACOPINA** requested lovingly by their children.



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, 10:00 AM – 4 PM.

**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.



**SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
**OUR LADY OF PITY – ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA**  
**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT.**

Mark your calendar: Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at the noon Mass at Our Lady of Pity Church.

There will be two rehearsals:

Wednesday: Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 pm following CCD Class

Friday: Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30 pm

Both rehearsals will be held in Our Lady of Pity Church.

Confession schedule for Religious Education 2015

Tues. Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm grades 3-4-5

6:30 pm grades 6-7

Wed. Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm grade 2 1<sup>ST</sup> CONFESSION

Thurs. Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm grade 2 1<sup>ST</sup> CONFESSION

**Help wanted:** Due to changes in work and school schedules we are in need of two CCD teachers: Tuesdays 4-5:30 pm for grade 5 and Thursdays 4-5:30 pm for grade 1.



### GOSPEL: Luke 3:10-18

Join the Baptist answers people who ask him what they should do, leading some to believe he was the Messiah. John clearly states that he will be followed by one so powerful that "I am not fit to loosen his sandal strap."

### HIS WORD TODAY Second Sunday of Advent

"The crowds asked John, "What are we to do?" In reply he said, "let the man with two coats give to him who has none. The man who has food should do the same..."Teacher, what are we to do? " What about us?" The people were full of anticipation wondering in their hearts whether John might be the Messiah. Using exhortations of this sort, he preached the good news to the people.

If we only took seriously the questions posed by the crowds, the tax collectors and soldiers, how different this advent and Christmas would be. We might ask ourselves, what have I done, what am I doing, and be led to decide what I am going to do. Rather than be overwhelmed by the advertising, the commercialism and consumerism which affect us all, be brave, pause and ask the questions posed above. Am I able to give something to someone in need, rather than to one who has no need? Am I able to recognize the Christ waiting to receive my help, through a kind word, a gentle smile or warm embrace?

Can I speak to someone else about my concern for a victim of injustice, abuse or neglect, showing the pity and compassion Christ showed for them at this time when we are told and flooded by others informing us of our "so called needs". Our thoughts expressed by word and attitude can be the most welcome of all Christmas gifts.

**May this third week of advent speak to our hearts.**

### FROM THE PASTORS DESK

We were honored to have Bishop O'Hara 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 8pm at our Church on Reconciliation Monday, December 14<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.**

### SRI LANKEN MASS

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

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

#### MASS SCHEDULE:

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 19th:</b>
5:00 pm	M. Pastena – I. Pastena
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 20th:</b>
7:30 am	B. Madaio-M. Madaio
9:00 am	V. Violetta-C. Violetta
10:30 am	J. Almero-M. Mendez
NOON	J. Bocchieri-E. Bocchieri

#### LECTORS MASS SCHEDULE:

<b>SATURDAY:</b>	<b>DECEMBER 19th:</b>
5:00 pm	C. Daniels
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 20th:</b>
7:30 am	Ponterella
9:00 am	R. Rose
10:30 am	I. Bialza
NOON	S. Bilardi

#### ALTAR BOY MASS SCHEDULE:

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 19th:</b>
5:00 pm	J. Venditto-C. Baria-E. Baria
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 20th:</b>
7:30 am	J. Bosco-M. Maguire-I. Maguire
9:00 am	J. Clyne-C. Rodriguez-J. Tangco
10:30 am	R. Whalen-D. Pangilinan-J. Inigo-H. Bailey
NOON:	N. Lopez-L. DeMartino-S. DeMartino-

### 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

### 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.

### 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 pm in the Church basement. New members are always welcome.

**No meetings for December, January & February.**



### WEDDING BANNS

**FIRST:** Michael Capputo & Jennifer Ponzi

## ADVENT SEASON

During this 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 until Christmas into the true "Advent of Christ."

## OUR LADY OF PITY-ST. ANTHONY FIRST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROLING EVENT

Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 – 3:00 pm \*after the Christmas Pageant\* We will walk/carol down Arlene Street. Try to wear "Christmas" colors, Santa hats. Meet in Our Lady of Pity parking lot. All children must be accompanied by an adult. RSVP: Miss Cheri Rosen at 917-797-3229 or MissRosen5@aol.com.



## JOIN THE CHOIRS

New members are always welcome and should introduce themselves to the organist Mr. Ron D'Albero after the weekend Masses. **The Adult Choir** practices on Wednesday at 8 pm in the Parish Center.

**The Youth Choir** have rehearsals on Wednesdays from 7 to 8 pm in the Parish Center. For information call our Music Director Ron at 347-770-3477.

**Choir at St. Anthony of Padua** meets on Thursday at 7:00 pm in the Church. New members are always welcome.

## OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

Our Lady of Good Counsel would like to thank all our parishioners for their kindness for all of the Thanksgiving donations which helped feed many Staten Island families in need.

## 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 McGuire Ave

## 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.

## MASS BOOK FOR 2016

Weekday Masses are available for 2016. 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**

## 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.

## POPE FRANCIS OPENED "A JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY"

at the Vatican December 8<sup>th</sup>:

This Extraordinary Holy Year is a gift of grace, a means to rediscover the infinite mercy of the Father who welcomes everyone and goes out personally to encounter each of them. The Holy Father said:

**"The history of sin can only be understood in the light of God's love and forgiveness. Were sin the only thing that mattered, we would be the most desperate of creatures. But the promised triumph of Christ's love enfolds everything in the Father's mercy. The Word of God which we have just heard leaves no doubt about this. The Immaculate Virgin stands before us as a privileged witness of this promise and its fulfillment."**

While Pope Francis stressed that this year we will grow ever more convinced of God's mercy, he pondered:

"How much wrong we do to God and His grace when we speak of sins being punished by His judgment before we speak of their being forgiven by His mercy! But that is the truth. We have to put mercy before judgment, and in any event, God's judgment will always be in the light of His mercy."



Join fellow parishioners at the Christmas Show on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Departure from Our Lady of Pity parking lot. At 8:00 am. COST:\$145.00 Includes : Four Course Meal at Da Nico – Little Italy, Bus, and Show (Orchestra Seats). The show begins at 11:00 am so there is time for you to visit St. Patrick's Cathedral. For information and reservation call Agnes Davis. 718-494-5475



## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses..." Be strengthened in your marriage on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend, For more information go to [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) or call toll free: 877-NYS-WWME EXT 3.

## 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.

## SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Anyone desiring a Certificate to serve as a sponsor for a Sacrament must be a Roman Catholic who has received the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. They must be registered in either Church for at least 3 months or be known by one of the priests.

Certificates are distributed only after weekend Masses in the sacristy NOT IN THE RECTORY.



### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Sat. Jan. 16<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 you name and phone # with him.

### **“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 of preparing for Christmas) at 8 p.m. on December 15, 2015 at St. Charles Church. The schedule for Novena Masses at other parishes are:

Tues. Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup>	Sacred Heart Church
Wed. Dec. 16 <sup>th</sup>	St. Roch's Church
Thurs. Dec. 17 <sup>th</sup>	St. Margaret Mary Church
Fri. Dec. 18 <sup>th</sup>	St. Sylvester Church
Sat. Dec. 19 <sup>th</sup>	St. Rita Church
Sun. Dec. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Rosary Church
Mon. Dec. 21 <sup>st</sup>	St. John Neumann Church
<b>Tues. Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Our Lady of Pity Church</b>
Wed. Dec. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	St. Peter's Church

**Midnight Mass – Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> will be held at St. Paul's Church.**

For any questions or suggestions please call 917-609-4830.

### **DECEMBER BAPTISMS**

Due to the Christmas holiday for this month only, we will hold our baptisms on the third Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30 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 12:00 to 4:00pm to: 2187 Victory Blvd. next to Alba House Chapel. Needy mothers@aol.co

### **\*NOTE TO ALL ST. ANTHONY PARISHIONERS\***

If you attend Mass at either church, you can drop your weekly envelope(s) in the collection and it will be sent to the site where you are registered.

## ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC SINGLES

A Contemporary circle of men and women in their 30s, 40s, and 50s 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., SI, NY

Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 – 11:00 pm for their 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Party at Crown Palace, 201 New Dorp Lane, SI NY Please bring a new unwrapped toy for a child 3 – 14 yrs. \$35 pp or \$45 if received after Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>

For more information visit our website: [www.sqspsi.org](http://www.sqspsi.org), or email [sfcssi@gmail.com](mailto:sfcssi@gmail.com)



### **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 celebration of Christmas, as well as Christ's second coming. Therefore, one candle is pink to represent our joy. Purchase or make an Advent wreath for your home this Advent

### **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.

**WORRYING DOESN'T TAKE AWAY  
TOMORROW'S TROUBLES, IT TAKES AWAY  
TODAY'S PEACE!**



## ATLANTIC CITY TRIPS

### Dates:

December 30<sup>th</sup> - Golden Nugget

January 12<sup>th</sup> - Resorts

Bus departs at 9:00 am from the front of Our Lady of Pity Church. COST: \$38.00, return 25.00. This is the same for all casinos. For Information and reservations call Agnes at 718-494-5475.



### 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:

**Brook Balacco, Mary Ellen Bednar, Jared Choset, Josephine Cordaro, Paul Davis, Dom Dealto, Carol Divine, Ann and Angela Recker, Cheri Rosen, Margaret Ryan Galeto, Frank Sanna, Ann Volpe, Annette McGoff, 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.

### SHUT-INS

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

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



## BUS TRIP SANDS CASINO & MARTIN GUITAR FACTORY Wednesday, January 13, 2016

### Trip includes:

5 hour stay at the Sands Casino  
Casino Bonus of \$30 slot Play & \$5 Food Credit  
Martin Guitar Factory & Museum  
Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation  
All tips & Taxes (including Bus Driver)

**\$50 per person** for 40 or more passengers

Send check to: Deacon Joseph Rentkowski,  
24 Houston Street, Staten Island, NY 10302  
or call him at (718) 727-4567.

Bus leaves from St. Anthony of Padua, Travis

## STATEN ISLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOL REGION

The Gift of a Catholic Education

The 2016 Staten Island Catholic Elementary School Open Houses are:

January 12, February 2, February 23, March 8, and April 12 from 9-11 am.

This Christmas, give the gift of a Catholic education. Staten Island Catholic Schools are Christ centered, academically excellent, and welcoming communities that teach students to be life-long learners and leaders energized by fidelity to Christ, the Church, and one another. To locate a faith-based Pre-K, Kindergarten or elementary school program near you, visit [www.buildboldfutures.org](http://www.buildboldfutures.org) or call 646-794-2885. Additional Open Houses and private tours are available.

### GOLD STAR POST GOLDEN JACKPOT RAFFLE

The Gold Star Post drawing for the Jackpot has been postponed until December, as all of the 200 tickets have not been sold. Each ticket is \$50 and the prizes are \$5,000, \$2,000, and \$500 (prizes may vary if all tickets are not sold)

Tickets can be purchased by calling:

Ed Matuziak (718) 698-0237

### FOOD FOR THE NEEDY

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

**"Joy is what happens when we allow ourselves to recognize how good things are."**

**-Marianne Williamson**

