

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 20<sup>th</sup> , 2015



### MASSSES FOR THE WEEK AT OUR LADY OF PITY CHURCH:

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 19th</b>
5:00 pm	Henry J. Scroope III
<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
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 21st:</b>
7:15 am	For Our Parishioners
8:30 am	Robert Vincent Confessore, Sr. & Jr.
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 22nd:</b>
7:15 am	Billy Emmanuel Acevedo
8:30 am	Neal & O'Ressa Conn
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 23rd:</b>
7:15 am	Margaret Falzarano
8:30 am	Gracylynn (Langone) Sebiniano
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 24th :</b>
7:15 am	Rev. John E. Mercer
8:30 am	Peitro Franceschini
5:00 pm	Catherine & Joseph O'Brien, Henry J. Scroope III & Henry J. Scroope V
<b>MIDNIGHT</b>	DeBartoli Family
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 25th :</b>
9:00 am	Deceased & Living of Langone, Bonaguro, Amerling & Spivey Families
10:30 am	Luigi DeBenedicts
NOON	Richard Verito
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 26th:</b>
8:00 am	Matteo Partenope
5:00 pm	Michael Mazzella & Carmela Rubino
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 27th:</b>
7:30 am	Teresa & Giulio Franceschini
9:00 am	Gloria Creazzo
10:30 am	Maria & Vincent Zanfardino
NOON	Constance & Felix Guido
<b>AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH:</b>	
<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
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 21st:</b>
7:30 am	For All Parishioners
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 23rd:</b>
7:30 am	Cincotta & Panuccio Families
<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	
<b>10:00 pm</b>	Wolenski & Wicenski Families (THERE IS NO MIDNIGHT MASS)
<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	
8:00 am	Michael Vecsi
11:00 pm	Michael DeChiario
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 26th:</b>
5:00 pm	Paul Wicinski, Sr. – Birthday in Heaven
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 27th</b>
8:00 am	Pauline & Stephen Covello
11:00 am	Infuso Family

### OUR LADY OF PITY CHURCH:



#### MEMORIALS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 20th:



The **ALTAR BREADS & WINES** this week are in memory of **HENRY J. SCROOPE III** requested lovingly by his wife Catherine A Scroope.

The **SANCTUARY LAMP** burns this week in memory of **SALVATORE D'ORIO** requested lovingly by co-workers & friends of Pizza D'Oro

*The MAIN ALTAR CANDLES burn this week in memory of*  
**JOSEPH GLENN CESARO**  
*Requested by his loving family.*

The **BLESSED SACRAMENT CANDLES** burn this week in memory of

**JOSEPH GLENN CESARO**  
Requested by the Marmo & Delfino Families



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.



#### **ST. ANTHON Y OF PADUA MEMORIAL**

This week's Wine, Host and Sanctuary Lamp is being offered in memory of

**VINCENT INFUSO**

#### **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 NO CCD classes on Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>.**



### GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45

Mary paid a visit to Elizabeth, whose baby stirred in her womb upon hearing Mary's greeting. Elizabeth filled with the Holy spirit, cried out, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Elizabeth was deeply overjoyed that the words God had spoken to Mary had now been fulfilled.

### HIS WORD TODAY Fourth Sunday of Advent

"Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, but who am I that the mother of my Lord should come to me? The moment your greeting sounded in my ears, the baby stirred in my womb for joy. Blessed is she who trusted that the Lord's words to her would be fulfilled."

At this time of the year people fill the airports, travel the highway, and time visiting relatives and friends. It is a time to come together to share special moments, life and love.

How true it was with the visitation of Mary to the house of Zechariah and the meeting of the two pregnant women. A special moment takes place with the encounter of John and the unborn Christ. We continually recite the recorded words of Elizabeth when we pray the Hail Mary. We honor her with a scripture quote. Her question of awe and wonder follows..."But who am I that the mother of my Lord should come to me?"

Pope Francis insists that to be a disciple, we must, like John, encounter Jesus. We find Him in history, but He lives history with us today. We too turn to him, learn more about Him, and then we too go out to announce our experience to others.

This is the joy of the gospel which we will celebrate before this week ends. Go back to the home of Elizabeth, listen to the conversation, reflect on its meaning in our present day, in your home, and make this fourth week of advent memorable.

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

May the Peace and Joy of Christ be yours this Christmas Season and throughout the New Year.

We are delighted to welcome each and every one who will come worship with us on Christmas day. Whether you are a family member, friend, familiar face, or visitor, know that your presence enlivens our celebration and our parish. Join us as we gather to praise and thank our generous God on this blessed day.

If you are not already an active member of this parish, consider sharing in what we have to offer. Our parish is here to assist all who wish to know God more deeply. We serve our parishioners through social activities, sacramental preparation and comfort to the sick and those who mourn. Feel free to call on us if we may be of service to you in any way.

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

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 26th:</b>
5:00 pm	J. Salcedo-J. Almero
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 27th:</b>
7:30 am	R. Colella-J. Coraci
9:00 am	T. Hanley-V. Laperuta
10:30 am	C. Violetta-V. Violetta
NOON	D. Marro-F. Marro

### LECTORS MASS SCHEDULE:

<b>SATURDAY:</b>	<b>DECEMBER 26th:</b>
5:00 pm	M. Salcedo
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 27th:</b>
7:30 am	D. Konczynski
9:00 am	P. Magliocco
10:30 am	L. Buttacavoli
NOON	N. Tricorico

### ALTAR BOY MASS SCHEDULE:

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 26th:</b>
5:00 pm	J. Venditto-M. Santa
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 27th:</b>
7:30 am	J. Clyne-M. Zerega
9:00 am	J. Inigo-J. Gonzalez-D. Boniface- A. Boniface
10:30 am	R. Eckman-D. Pangilinan-Rbt. Eckman- H. Bailey
NOON:	J. Tangco-C. Baria-E. Baria

### 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

**SECOND:** Michael Capputo & Jennifer Ponzi

### 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.

### 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.”

### 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 your name and phone # with him.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“The Holy Spirit will come upon you and power of the Most High will overshadow you; hence, the holy offspring to be born will be called Son of God...to Him who is able to strengthen you in the Gospel which I proclaim when I preach Jesus Christ, the Gospel which reveals the mystery hidden for many ages...to Him, the God who alone is wise, may glory be given through Jesus Christ unto endless ages. Amen.”

Gabriel's response to Mary's question of how this can happen, reveals the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in her life and in the lives of believers. We sometimes forget the existence of this gift and power in our lives. As we bring the season of advent to its climax with the birth of Christ, we ask that He be born anew, with new power in our lives. We not only recall the Bethlehem event, but live the Bethlehem experience today.

The concluding words of praise, the doxology or hymn of glory taken from the letter to the Romans, becomes a Christmas gift and greeting for all of us, as we are called to preach the Good News, glad tidings, the Gospel, no longer hidden but made manifest in the Child of Bethlehem and in enthusiastic believers today. May the Word of God, and the Word which became flesh, take root in our lives.

## PRAYER OF POPE FRANCIS FOR THE JUBILEE

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved. Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief. Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: “If you knew the gift of God!”

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face on the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

## 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.

## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE OF MASSES:



CHRISTMAS EVE: December 24<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 pm and MIDNIGHT

CHRISTMAS DAY:  
9:00, 10:30 AM AND NOON

**Our warm personal greetings to you and your family as we share the blessings of another celebration of the Birth of Christ.**

**We are most grateful for all the support and encouragement you have given us during the year.**

**MAY THE PEACE AND JOY OF THE CHRIST CHILD BE WITH YOU NOW AND THROUGHOUT THE NEW YEAR.**

**Rev. John J. Wroblewski, Rev. Mendis  
And the Staff of the Parish**

## 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

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

## “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 the churches listed below. 15, 2015 at St. Charles Church. The schedule for Novena Masses at other parishes are:

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

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



## 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



## 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, NY10302  
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.

## 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

## 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.

## 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.

**GOD GRANT YOU THE LIGHT OF  
CHRISTMAS...WHICH IS FAITH;  
THE WARMTH OF CHRISTMAS...WHICH IS  
LOVE; THE ALL OF CHRISTMAS...WHICH  
IS CHRIST!**

