

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
December 27th , 2015



MASSES FOR THE WEEK
AT OUR LADY OF PITY CHURCH:

SATURDAY	DECEMBER 26th
5:00 pm	Michael Mazzella & Carmela Rubino
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 27th:
7:30 am	Teresa & Giulio Franceschini
9:00 am	Gloria Creazzo
10:30 am	Maria & Vincent Zanfardino
NOON	Constance & Felix Guido
MONDAY	DECEMBER 28th:
7:15 am	For All Parishioners
8:30 am	Josephine Tursi
TUESDAY	DECEMBER 29th:
7:15 am	For All Parishioners
8:30 am	George DiGarbo
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 30th:
7:15 am	For All Parishioners
8:30 am	Clement Ida
THURSDAY	DECEMBER 31st :
8:30 am	Dec. Members of Grippo & Iovine Families
4:00 pm	Angela Vacirca
FRIDAY	JANUARY 1st :
9:00 am	Billy Emmanuel Acevedo
11:00 am	Gregorio Agalo-os and Lawrence Inconiglios
SATURDAY	JANUARY 2nd:
8:00 am	Intentions of Esposito Family
5:00 pm	Angel Luis Rios
SUNDAY	JANUARY 3rd:
7:30 am	Intentions of Dwight Boston
9:00 am	Jean Tomasuols
10:30 am	Dorothy Spiezia
NOON	John Portano

AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH:

SATURDAY	DECEMBER 26th:
5:00 pm	Paul Wicinski, Sr.,-Birthday in Heaven
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 27th:
8:00 am	Pauline & Stephen Covello
11:00 am	Infuso Family
MONDAY	DECEMBER 28th:
7:30 am	Special Intention- Merry Christmas in Heaven
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 30th:
7:30 am	Charles Sczepkowski
THURSDAY	DECEMBER 31st
5:00 pm	Paul & Pauline Wicinski
FRIDAY	JANUARY 1st:
8:00 am	Frank Ottomanelli
11:00 am	Stella Koran
SATURDAY	JANUARY 2nd :
5:00 pm	Leo Gniewkowski
SUNDAY	JANUARY 3rd:
8:00 am	John Pszczola
11:00 am	Dach Family

OUR LADY OF PITY CHURCH:



MEMORIALS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 27th:



The **ALTAR BREADS & WINES** this week are in memory of **THOMAS J. GINCH** requested lovingly by his mom, wife, & son.

The **SANCTUARY LAMP** burns this week in memory of **GLORIA CREAZZO** requested lovingly by her daughter Diane & Gloria Ann Creazzo



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. ANTHONY OF PADUA MEMORIAL

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

PAULINE WICINSKI
 Requested by the Family.

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.

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.

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



WEDDING BANNS

THIRD: Michael Caputo & Jennifer Ponzi



GOSPEL: Luke 2:41-52

When Jesus was twelve years old, the Holy Family traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast. Jesus did not return with the company. Instead, he stayed in Jerusalem, sitting among the teachers while amazing them with his understanding and questions. When found by his concerned parents, Jesus reminded them that he must be in the house of his Father. Returning together, Mary kept these things in her heart.

HIS WORD TODAY

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

“Not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem in search of him. On the third day they came upon him in the temple sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. All who heard him were amazed at his intelligence and his answers. “Why did you search for me? Did you not know I had to be in my Father’s house?” But they did not grasp what he meant...His mother kept all these things in her memory.”

How appropriate that today’s celebration follows so closely on the Bethlehem event of Christmas. We jump from the stable to the temple, twelve years, in just a few days. We will return to Bethlehem, but first we reflect on this search and rescue. Anxious parents, seeking a lost child, for three days. Where can He be? At last in a second home, the temple, and in conversation with teachers in His Father’s house. A harried mother’s question and a clear concise answer “did you not know that I had to be?” As parents we too worry about our children, where ever they are on their journey of growth. We try to feed, clothe and teach them well. By word and example, we bring them closer to the Lord.

As disciples, we too search for the Christ. We encounter Him at worship, where we offer prayer and praise. We encounter Him in the words of the bible. I might even decide to join a bible group, as well as read the scriptures at home alone or with my family. We encounter Him in our community of faith. It is not just me at mass or prayer, it is my ‘Holy Family’ where I share the values of the gospel in a challenging world.

The picture of our families might be quite distinct. A single parent, an elderly couple, a widow or widower, a single person or extended family of relatives and friends. We are family through our baptism and faith. May we look to the family which settled in Nazareth as a model, with trials and tribulations, challenges, hurts and sorrow, but centered on the Person of Christ.



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!**

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

SATURDAY	JANUARY 2nd:
5:00 pm	A. Davis-I. Pastena
SUNDAY	JANUARY 3rd:
7:30 am	J. Porto-J. Salcedo
9:00 am	M. Langone-M. Mendez
10:30 am	V. Geronimo-R. Geronimo
NOON	R. Skelton-R. Colella

LECTORS MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY:	JANUARY 2nd:
5:00 pm	J. Magliocco
SUNDAY	JANUARY 3rd:
7:30 am	M. Salcedo
9:00 am	L. Buttacavoli
10:30 am	S. Bilardi
NOON	R. Rose

ALTAR BOY MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY	JANUARY 2nd:
5:00 pm	C. Baria-E. Baria-H. Bailey
SUNDAY	JANUARY 3rd:
7:30 am	J. Inigo-D. Boniface-A. Boniface
9:00 am	J. Clyne-J. Tangco-J. Bosco
10:30 am	J. Venditto-R. Whalen-C. Rodriguez- M.Santa
NOON:	R. Eckman-Rbt. Eckman-J. Flood

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

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.



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 2nd Sunday of the month. Entrance to the parking lot is off McGuire Ave

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 70 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 9th, 2016 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."



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sat. Jan. 16th @ 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 you name and phone # with him.

POPE FRANCIS OPENED "A JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY" at the Vatican December 8th:

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 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.

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.sgspsi.org, or email sfcssi@gmail.com

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 in 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.

NY BLOOD DRIVE

The New York Blood Center plans to run another Winter Blood Drive at Our Lady of Pity. It is planned to take place the morning of January 31st, 2016 beginning after the 7:30 am Mass until about 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 children's 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

CCD CLASSES WILL RESUME ON MONDAY, JANUARY 4TH.



NEW YEARS DAY MASS SCHEDULE Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Our Lady of Pity

This day is a Holyday of Obligation....Masses are:

Vigil: December 31st at 4:00 pm

New Year's Day January 1st at 9:00 am and 11:00am

St. Anthony of Padua

Vigil: December 31st at 5:00 pm

New Year's Day January 1st at 8:00 am and 11:00 am

SINCERE THANKS

Fr. John wishes to thank all those men and women who gave of their time and talents to help clean and decorate the Church so magnificently this year.

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 VERSION (Part 2)

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing...

LOVE stops the cooking to hug a child.

LOVE set aside the decorating to kiss the husband.

LOVE is kind, though harried and tired.

LOVE does not envy another's home that has coordinated Christmas china and linens.

LOVE doesn't yell at the children to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way.

LOVE bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost and golf clubs will rust.

BUT GIVING THE GIFT OF LOVE WILL ENDURE.

THE MARRIAGE BOOK FOR 2017

The Marriage Schedule Book here at our parish for the year 2017 weddings opens on Tuesday, January 17th. Please call the rectory between 9 :00 am and 4:30 pm to set up an appointment to meet with a priest to set your marriage date. In order to be married at our Church, your family must be registered here at the parish.



ATLANTIC CITY TRIPS

Dates:

December 30th - Golden Nugget
January 12th - 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 or call 1-866-727-4741 Ext. 1.

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.



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 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.

**THE FAMILY IS ONE OF GOD'S
MASTERPIECES!**