

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 17th, 2017**



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

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 16th:**  
8:00 am Giuseppe Granta  
5:00 pm Henry J. Scroope III

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 17th:**  
7:30 am In Thanksgiving to St. Jude & St. Anthony  
9:00 am Nicholas Zappette & Catherine Lodato  
10:30 am Maria & Vincent Zanfardino  
NOON Teresa Franceschini

**MONDAY DECEMBER 18th:**  
7:30 am For All Parishioners  
8:30 am Angela, Antonio, & Carmelo Vacirca

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 19th:**  
7:30 am  
8:30 am Nancy, Luigi & Louis Violetta

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 20th:**  
7:30 am  
8:30 am Rebecca Rabina

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 21st:**  
7:30 am  
8:30 am Jose Ernesto Velez Rey

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 22nd:**  
7:30 am Anthony Iggnarra  
8:30 am Kenneth Yoo

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 23rd:**  
8:00 am Michael Vicidomini  
5:00 pm Michael Mazzella & Carmela Rubino

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 24th:**  
7:30 am Luigi Gassoso  
9:00 am Ralph & Annette DeMarco  
10:30 am Fr. John Mercer  
12:00 NOON Pietro Franceschini, Sr.

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
4:00 pm Catherine & Joseph O'Brien,  
Henry J. Scroope III, & Henry Scroope V

**MIDNIGHT**  
Joseph A. Magliocco and  
Jaymee Leigh Anderson



**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 16th:**  
5:00 pm Francis W. Laub

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 17th:**  
8:00 am Michael Vecsi  
11:00 am Judy & Paul Saladis & Catherine & Tom Magee

**MONDAY DECEMBER 18th:**  
7:30 am Kazimiera Grudzinska

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 20th:**  
7:30 am Janice Blanchard

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 22nd:**  
7:30 am Hermania Manaluz

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 23rd:**  
5:00 pm Helen E. Stapleton

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 24th:**  
8:00 am John & Florence Hagan  
11:00 am Vincent Infuso

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
9:30 pm Christmas Carols with the Choir  
10:00 pm Wicinski & Wolenski Families  
**(NO MIDNIGHT MASS)**

**MEMORIALS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 17th:**



**Our Lady of Pity**

The Altar Bread & Wines  
are being offered in memory of

**HENRY J. SCROOPE III**

requested lovingly by his loving wife  
Catherine A. Scroope

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

## RECONCILIATION MONDAY December 18th

**Confessions** will be heard from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Our Lady of Pity Church and from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at St. Anthony of Padua Church.

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.**



### JOIN THE CHOIRS

The **Adult Choir** rehearses on Wednesdays, at 8 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 organist 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. Please see our organist Austin Lee.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM OUR LADY OF PITY-ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

There will be no Religious Education classes from December 25<sup>th</sup> thru January 1<sup>st</sup>. Classes resume **January 2<sup>nd</sup>**.



### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FUND RAISER

Our Religious Education Program will be having a fundraiser. They will be selling **"KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS"** car magnets. The cost of the magnets is \$5.00. Please be supportive!

## OUR LADY OF PITY-ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group (grades 6-8 and High School) meets every third Friday of the month in the parish center. New members are always welcome! See Mrs. Amparo Caruso or Ms. Marissa Ponterella for details or email [ourladyofpityyouthgroup@outlook.com](mailto:ourladyofpityyouthgroup@outlook.com). Any type of donations to our youth group program will be greatly appreciated.

### FORMED CATHOLIC MEDIA

Join Catholics around the country with this fantastic program. Formed is a digital program that can be used on your computer, smart phone or tablet. There is something for everyone, Catholic information Audio talks, eBooks, films, documentaries and video based study programs for both adults and children. There is no cost.

To Register go to Formed.org. The Parish Code is K36ZWZ. It will request your name and email address and the Parish Code. Once registered it will ask for a password. That's all there is to it. If you need help you can call Vincent Violetta @ 917-836-5920.

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

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 23rd:</b>
5:00 pm	E. Bocchieri-J. Bocchieri
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 24th:</b>
7:30 am	J. Coraci-J. Salcedo
9:00 am	R. Colella-M. Mendez
10:30 am	S. LaRosa-I. LaRosa
NOON	A. Mannino-G. Mannino

**LECTORS MASS SCHEDULE:**

<b>SATURDAY:</b>	<b>DECEMBER 23rd:</b>
5:00 pm	N. Tricorico
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 24th:</b>
7:30 am	M. Salcedo
9:00 am	R. Rose
10:30 am	M. Donadic
NOON	M. Pontarella

**ALTAR BOY MASS SCHEDULE:**

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 23rd:</b>
5:00 pm	C. Baria-E. Baria
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 24th:</b>
7:30 am	M. Zerega-M. Maningas
9:00 am	M. Santa-M. Maguirer-I. Maguire
10:30 am	N. Lopez-J. Venditto-J. Tangco-J. Bosco
NOON	J. Flood-F. Aum-H. Bailey

**ST. ANTHONY'S 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. **Cash only**, no checks please.

**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.



**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.

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28**

John explains that he is only a messenger to the people for one more powerful than himself. John stresses to them that they must make a path for the one so powerful that he is not fit to unfasten the strap of his sandal.

**HIS WORD TODAY**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**"The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and release to prisoners. To announce a year of favor from the Lord and a day of vindication by our God."**

Remember when Jesus read this passage in His synagogue in Nazareth? St. Luke tells us He said 'Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearings.' We often associate this passage at the time of ordination or confirmation. Today it is directed to me and tells me what to expect when the longed for Savior comes. He was 'anointed', the name Christ means the anointed one. He had a mission, He was sent. He had a message 'good news,' He looked for the lowly, the hurting, those bound by addictions and desperation. He came to free and form missionary disciples.

The mission of Jesus is our mission the mission of the entire church. We are comfortable, but consider fellow Christians throughout the world suffering from poverty, political oppression. Consider missionaries serving the most pitiable people, like Doctors with Borders, the Catholic Near East Welfare Society Workers, Medical Mission Sisters bringing Isaiah's prompting to fulfillment.

Yes, the spirit of the Lord is upon all of us as we begin week three of Advent. Jesus has gifted us with His mission.

'Come Lord Jesus.'

**A FAMILY CHRISTMAS CLASSIC**

The Staten Island Ballet's holiday spectacular "The Nutcracker" will be performed Saturday and Sunday on December 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm and 5:00 pm at CSI Center for the Arts. Tickets may be purchased by phone at SI Ballet Box office at 718-980-0500.



## PEACE THAT ONLY CHRIST CAN GIVE EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Do you desire a more loving relationship with Jesus? Every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month, you will have the opportunity to spend time with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at Our Lady of Pity Church from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm Eucharistic Guardians will be needed. For further information call Joseph Magliocco at 718-698-8054.



## 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 coming. Therefore, one candle is pink to represent our joy.

## PARISH GIVING TREE

**Our Lady of Pity Christmas Giving Tree** will stand in the vestibule of our Church for the next two weekends starting December 2<sup>nd</sup>. It is a reminder to us all that many families are in need again this year. Our volunteers spend numerous hours writing tags with "wish list" from many organizations on Staten Island and for our own parishioners who we know are in need. You are invited to remove a tag, purchase the gift item written on the tag, wrap the gift and place the original tag on the package. Return it to the giving tree on the date listed on the tag. Thank you for your generosity.

**St. Anthony of Padua Christmas Giving Tree** will also stand in the back of the Church this weekend. Please take a tag and return your gift by December 17<sup>th</sup>. Remember to place the tag on your package.

## ORGANIZATIONS AT OUR LADY OF PITY CHURCH

We cordially invite all parishioners to join any of the groups at Our Lady of Pity. The 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



## LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary has a pilgrimage statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Anyone wishing to have the statue in their home, please call Ruth at 718-761-7717.

## 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.

Congratulations to Mike Esposito, the winner of the 50/50 at the Christmas Brunch!!

**St. Anthony of Padua:** Second Sunday of every month at 8:00 am Mass, meeting follows Mass.

## 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





## 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: **Neil Amodio, Rusty Amodio, MaryAnn Azzarello, Brook Balacco, Barbara Bilardi, Mary Ellen Bednar, Jared Choset, Josephine Cordaro, Joseph Crescenzi Sr., Elsie Cuevas, Dom Dealto, Carol Divine, Betteanne Foley, Fannie Marro, Lillian Miner, Ann and Angela Recker, Cheri Rosen, Lenora Rosen, Margaret Ryan Galeto, Annette McGoff, Angie Mendez, Charles Messina, Lucille Messina, Frank Alexis Ragusa, Philip Ragusa, Valerie Rose, Peter Ruisi, Gloria Scaglione**

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.



Christmas/New Years Bus Trip Dec. 28<sup>th</sup>

Sands Casino, Bethlehem, PA

Cost: \$38.00 per person with \$30.00 cash back and \$5.00 food voucher. There must be at least 35 people for the bus to go. Payment must be made in advance. Bus leaves at 9:00 am in front of Our Lady of Pity Church. For information and reservation please call Agnes Davis @ 718-494-5475.

### BUS TRIP

Savannah, Jekyll Island & Charleston, SC

\$679 pp double occ., April 29-May 5 2018

Motorcoach transportation, 6 nights lodging including 4 nights in Savannah area, 10 meals: 6 breakfasts, 4 dinners, guided trolley tour, harbor cruise and more.

For reservation and information please call Agnes Davis @ 718-494-5475.



## 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 2018 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. This event will be held on Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 10:00 am at **Our Lady of Pity Gymnasium**.

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local district and state competitions. Last year thousands of sharpshooters participated in local competitions throughout the state. All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation in the event. Participants are required to bring proof of age and be accompanied by a parent. For additional information contact Joe Scalici (718) 885-7687 or Lou Rotundo (718) 757-8502. Registration is simple and will take place at the time of the event.



## CARNIVALE

Fat Tuesday, February 13, 2018

6:00 pm – 10:00 pm

DaNoi Restaurant, 4358 Victory Blvd.

4 course meal – salad, pasta, entrée, soda, coffee and dessert. (cash bar)

Reservations limited to 100 people, \$45.00 per person

Anyone interested, please call St. Anthony's rectory at 718-761-6660 or OLOP rectory at 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"

## ST. CLARE'S EMPLOYMENT GROUP

December 21, 2017 – "Opportunities in Teaching, Teaching Fellows Program, and for Paraprofessionals with the New York City Department of Education" – Angelo Caterina, Jr., Teacher, New Dorp H.S.

In addition to our monthly meetings on the third Thursday of the month, one on one advisement is also available on an appointment basis. Please call the Rectory Office at 718-984-7873 for further information from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday thru Friday.

The Employment Group is open to all jobseekers and their family members. During this twenty-third year of St. Clare's Employment Group services, there continues to be no charge for Employment Group services.

