



Parish of Saint Monica

Atlantic City, NJ



The Parish of Saint Monica serves all of Atlantic City. It is the union of the city's previously five Catholic parishes: St. Nicholas of Tolentine, Our Lady Star of the Sea, St. Michael, Holy Spirit, and St. Monica.

December 4, 2016

2nd Sunday of Advent

Equestrian Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulcre of Jerusalem



Left: Cardinal Edwin O'Brien dubs Christopher Simonetti with the sword of the Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulcre of Jerusalem. Cardinal O'Brien, a native New Yorker, is the Order's Grand Master of the Knights. The ceremony was held Friday, Nov 19, 2016 at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. **Right:** Sir Christopher is pictured with Bishop Sullivan at the Waldorf Astoria gala dinner which followed the day's events.

MASS SCHEDULE

Our Lady Star of the Sea
2651 Atlantic Avenue

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:15 PM
7 PM (Spanish)
Sunday 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM
10:30 AM (Spanish)
12 Noon
2:30 PM (Spanish)
6:30 PM (Vietnamese)

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon-Fri 7 AM, 5:15 PM
Saturday 8 AM
Wednesday 7 PM (Spanish)
Thursday 6:30 PM (Spanish)
Friday 7 PM (Spanish)

Saint Nicholas of Tolentine
1409 Pacific Avenue

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 8:45 AM (Traditional Latin)
10:30 AM
12 Noon

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon-Fri 8 AM

St. Michael's
10 North Mississippi Avenue

December 24 4:15 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

DEC 12

Guadalupe Celebration

- Procession from 5:00 to 6:00 PM
- Mass 6:00 PM
- Festivities after Mass in the Gym

DEC 10

Christmas Program and Toy Distribution

- St. Nicholas Church, 10:00 AM
- First come first served basis
- Music, activities, & entertainment

DEC 19

Advent Penance Service

- 7:00 PM
- Parish wide annual Penance service being held at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church

Parish of Saint Monica • 2651 Atlantic Avenue • Atlantic City, NJ 08401
www.acatholic.org • 609-345-1878

Our Lady Star of the Sea School • 15 North California Avenue • 609-345-0648

Catholic Charities • 9 North Georgia Avenue • 609-345-3448

St. Nicholas Shoppe • 1409 Pacific Avenue • 609-344-1040

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Monday - Friday, 5 PM at Our Lady Star of the Sea. Saturday, 3:15 - 4 PM in both churches. Also available by appointment.

MARRIAGE

Couples planning marriage should set a date with a parish priest at least six months in advance.

INFANT BAPTISM

Preceded by a required baptismal preparation program. Speak to Fr. Pham.

WANT TO BECOME CATHOLIC?

Need to complete your initiation into the Church? Classes run September - June, Mondays at 6:30 PM. Speak to Fr. Pham.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the office when a parishioner is seriously sick so one of the priests may visit.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

September-May.
Sundays at 9:00 AM for one hour.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Wednesday evenings after the 5:15 Mass.

ROSARY

Monday - Friday, after 7 AM Mass and before 5:15 PM Mass. Saturday after 8:00 AM Mass.

PARISH CENSUS

Recommendations cannot be issued to persons not registered with the Parish. You can register in person in the Rectory.

HOLY DAY SCHEDULE

Our Lady Star of the Sea

Vigil Mass 5:15 PM English
7:00 PM Vietnamese

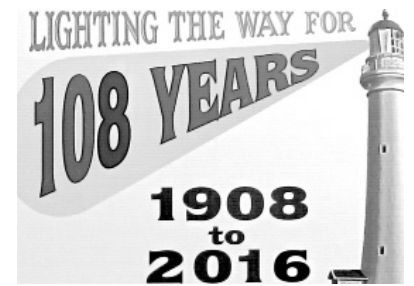
HOLY DAY

7:00 AM English
9:00 AM School Mass
5:15 PM English
7:00 PM Spanish

St. Nicholas of Tolentine

8:00 AM English
10:00 AM Latin Mass
12 Noon English

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA REGIONAL SCHOOL (OLSS)



Mrs. Susan J. Tarrant *School Principal* **School Staffed by Sisters of Mercy and Lay Faculty**

“The mission of Our Lady Star of the Sea Regional School is to strengthen the integration of Catholic values through academic excellence and service and by instilling respect, encouraging justice, and demonstrating compassion to all in our multi-cultural community.”

The day before Thanksgiving break the students and staff broke away from the typical lunch schedule and enjoyed a turkey dinner/lunch while dining with their prayer partners and teachers. This special treat was the result of collaboration with our kitchen staff and the members of the Ocean County Vocational School Culinary Arts Class. The staff and students prepared the many food selections and served the meal.

We are very grateful to have this chance to collaborate and share resources and welcome members of our community with talents to share with our students to contact Mrs. Tarrant, principal at 345-0648.

Did you know that when you order from Amazon.com (same as Amazon) you can designate the “Depko Family Foundation” as recipient of a portion of your purchase. The monies donated to the Depko Family Foundation go directly to our students in the form of scholarships and financial assistance. Please consider this very easy way to help our students. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Steward Show

Patience

“You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand.” *JAMES 5:8*

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer **Stewards** better align themselves with God’s will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Jon Thomas
Pastor

Rev. Thanh Pham
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Fernando Carmona
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Robert Matysik
Hospital Chaplain

Maria Isabel Duran
Religious Education Coordinator

Mary Ellen Maguire
Pastoral Associate

Sandy Parker
Office Manager

Joan Parker
Bookkeeper

Ruby Brooks
Gift Shop Manager

Laura Esparza
Asst. for Hispanic Ministry

Henry Porvaznik
Asst. for Special Projects

CONTACT

RECTORY
609-345-1878

FAX
609-348-0248

RELIGIOUS ED
609-345-1878 x24

SCHOOL
609-345-0648

CONVENT
609-347-0434

WEB SITE
accatholic.org

Advent is Lent in Winter

I don't remember many exact lines from my seminary lectures. But it's not surprising that I remember, "Advent is Lent in winter." That direct statement led to an "aha!" moment. Just as we prepare for the celebration of the Lord's resurrection at Easter with the sacrifices of Lent, so we also prepare for the celebration of the Lord's birth at Christmas with the sacrifices of Advent. The "penitential practices" of Advent and Lent are three: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. In both Advent and Lent, the liturgical color is violet and the Gloria is omitted at Sunday Mass. Essentially, only the timing is different: roughly speaking, Advent comes at the beginning of winter and Lent at the beginning of spring.

The reason I continue to remember my professor's statement is that it wasn't true in my experience. Although churches are usually decorated minimally in Advent (the Advent wreath may be the sole decoration until Christmas Eve), American culture trumps Catholic culture. Many of us begin listening to Christmas songs after Thanksgiving and we decorate our homes for Christmas soon after. By mid-December, we can be busy attending Christmas parties. Fasting is the furthest thing from our minds (even as we complain about eating too much through the holidays) and we have less, not more, time for prayer as we work on our shopping lists. In practice, Advent is less rigorous than Lent - if it's noticed at all beyond the popular Advent calendars.

Did you notice the opening prayer at Mass last weekend?

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ....

And the prayer after Communion:

May these mysteries, O Lord,
in which we have participated,
profit us, we pray,
for even now, as we walk amid passing things,
you teach us by them to love the things of heaven
and hold fast to what endures.
Through Christ our Lord.

The liturgy of the First Sunday of Advent challenged us to "walk amid passing things" but "run forth to meet...Christ." In this month which we as Catholics we mark as Advent, a lot of us will be running between stores and parties. That's not necessarily bad. But can we get even more excited about "the reason for the season"? If not in fact then at least in metaphor, can we "walk" to obtain earthly delights but "run" to obtain heavenly ones?

Let me offer a concrete suggestion. Last week, at the welcome centers, we started offering a booklet called, *A Minute in the Church*. Each page in the booklet can be read in about a minute. They explain aspects of the Mass. Did you buy one? The booklet only costs \$2 and can help us better appreciate the Mass so we can more effectively tap its power to transform our lives. We will be selling the booklet at the welcome centers throughout Advent. Make time for it in this busy season and you'll be better for it!

- Fr. Jon

How We Serve

FOOD PANTRY

At St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church
1409 Pacific Avenue

Your donation of food, money and/or time are always welcome!

Come every **third Monday of the month** between **8:00 am & 11:00 am** on Memorial Ave. (Rear of church property) Please come early.

**NEXT DISTRIBUTION IS MONDAY
DECEMBER 19, 2016**

At St. Monica's Church
108 N. Pennsylvania Avenue

**NEXT DISTRIBUTION IS SATURDAY
DECEMBER 17, 2016**

Christmas Program & Toy Distribution

- December 10th, 2016
- St. Nicholas Church
- 1409 Pacific Ave
- Church doors open 10:00 am
- Numbers are given on a first come first served basis
- Christmas Program begins at 10:30 am in the church
- All children under the age of 12 will receive a number
- Pictures taken with Santa
- Music, entertainment, activities
- **NO BICYCLES THIS YEAR**

ST. NICHOLAS RELIGIOUS GIFT

SHOPPE IS LOCATED IN THE RECTORY GROUND FLOOR. PLEASE RING THE BELL. **STOP IN AND BROWSE!** Proceeds from the gift shop go to support Our Lady Star of the Sea School and Church Restoration.

Store Hours

Monday, Thursday and Friday
10:00 AM—3:00 PM
Tuesday, Wednesday - Closed
Saturday - 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Sunday 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Christmas Season Sale

30% off your total purchase

JOIN US

Music At St. Nicholas

This week began not only the first week of a new liturgical year, but also the addition of a new dimension to the music at St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church which you may have noticed if you happen to have joined us for either the 8:45 or 10:30 Masses this past Sunday. Sacred music in the Catholic Church is, most importantly, vocal music and represents "a musical heritage of inestimable value" (Musicam Sacram 20.) For the next several weeks, the bulletins will include a bit of the fascinating history and story behind this music which you can experience as a part of worship at these masses every week from now on.

This week, you will hear the music of Giovanni Gabrieli (1554-1612), Orlando di Lasso (1532-1594) and John Taverner (1490-1545). Since the use of the organ is supposed to be minimal in Advent except for the 3rd Sunday of the season, it is not a surprise that these pieces are written for voices without accompaniment. Gabrieli, a Venetian by birth, was destined to become the director of music at Venice's most famous and principal church; St. Mark's Basilica. We know that his setting of the music for, the "Missa Brevis" or "Short Mass" was probably composed for the penitential seasons of either Advent or Lent as it does not include a Gloria—something which will not re-appear in the liturgy until Christmas. Lasso's "Will You Not, Oh God, Give Us life" and Taverner's "I Heard a Voice Coming From Heaven" are a beautiful pair of pieces, both written for the season in a very similar way; their individual voices constantly winding around each other and acting much like young musical vines. This image is embed-

ded within the Advent season itself. In fact, this is the reason why we decorate with green boughs and holly for the season—it is to remind us that Advent is a season of new growth.

Anyone who would like to make music at St. Nicholas Church either by singing or playing a musical instrument should contact Steven Ball: info@StevenBall.com (609) 515-5857.

Altar Servers Wanted

Altar servers are not just a great help to the priest; they also enhance the beauty and solemnity of the Mass. We are in need of servers at St. Nicholas Church. Marvin Laws, pastoral council vice chair, graciously serves the 4 PM Mass every Saturday. A number of men serve the Latin Mass. But we are in need of servers for the 10:30 AM and 12 noon Masses. Children as well as adults are welcome. Servers can assist on a rotating basis. Inquire with Fr. Jon (jthomas@accatholic.org).

Holy Day - Immaculate Conception - Schedule

Our Lady Star of the Sea
Vigil Mass 5:15 PM English
7:00 PM Vietnamese

Holy Day
7:00 AM English
5:15 PM English
7:00 PM Spanish

St. Nicholas of Tolentine
8:00 AM English
10:00 AM Latin Mass
12 Noon English

CATHOLIC MASSES IN ATLANTIC CITY FOR CHRISTMAS 2016 AND NEW YEAR'S 2017

Our Lady Star of the Sea Church

2651 Atlantic Avenue (near Tropicana)

Sacrament of Penance

Saturdays from 3:15 to 4:00 PM

Regular weeknights from 5:00 to 5:15 PM

Advent Penance Service: Monday, December 19th at 7:00 PM

Masses

Christmas Eve Saturday, December 24	4:15 PM – English 5:30 PM – Children’s Mass 7:00 PM - Spanish 9:00 PM - Vietnamese 11:30 PM - Christmas Carols 12:00 - Midnight Mass
Christmas Day Sunday, December 25	7:30 AM, 9:00 AM & 12:00 Noon - English 10:30 & 2:30 PM - Spanish
New Year's Eve Saturday, December 31	4:15 PM - English 7:00 PM – Spanish
New Year's Day Sunday, January 1	7:30 AM, 9:00 AM & 12 Noon - English 10:30 AM & 2:30 PM – Spanish 6:30 PM – Vietnamese

Saint Nicholas of Tolentine Church

1409 Pacific Avenue (between Bally's and Resorts)

Sacrament of Penance

Saturdays from 3:15 to 4:00 PM

Masses

Christmas Eve December 24	4:00 PM – English
Christmas Day Sunday, December 25	8:45 AM – Traditional Latin Mass 10:30 AM – English
New Year's Eve Saturday, December 31	4:00 PM – English
New Year's Day Sunday, January 1	8:45 AM – Traditional Latin Mass 10:30 AM & 12 Noon - English

TRIDUO GUADALUPANO

VIERNES 12/9/16
MISA A LAS 7:00 PM
EN HONOR DE SAN JUAN DIEGO
(TRAER AGUA PARA SER BENDECIDA)

SABADO 12/10/16
MISA A LAS 7:00 PM
TRAER ROSAS PARA OFRECERLAS A
LA SANTÍSIMA VIRGEN MARÍA

DOMINGO 11
MISAS REGULARES
A LAS 10:30 AM Y A LAS 2:30 PM.
A LAS 11:00 PM - MISA 12:00 AM - MAÑANITAS
A LA VIRGEN CON MARIACHI
(traer imágenes, rosarios, estampas, medallas, etc.
para ser bendecidas)

DÍA DE LA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE

Lunes 12 de Diciembre
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM - PROCESIÓN
6:00 PM - MISA EN LA IGLESIA
7:30 PM - FESTEJO EN EL GIMNASIO DE LA PARROQUIA
CONMEMORACIÓN DE LA APARICIÓN DE NUESTRA
SEÑORA LA VIRGEN EN EL CERRO DEL TEPEYAC EN
MÉXICO
O VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE
10:00 PM RIFA
(NO NECESITAS ESTAR PRESENTE PARA GANAR)

Palabra de Vida

Considere la posibilidad de volver a leer el Evangelio del Domingo, Mateo 3: 1-12 y luego reflexione sobre las preguntas.

Reflexión para Adultos: Durante esta temporada de Adviento, escuchamos las palabras de Juan el Bautista como un recordatorio de que estamos llamados al arrepentimiento mientras nos preparamos para la entrada de Jesús en nuestras vidas.

¿Cuál ha sido tu experiencia con el arrepentimiento?
¿Cómo te sientes acerca de la necesidad de arrepentimiento?

Reflexión para niños: ¿Cómo te preparas para que Jesús entre en tu vida? ¿esperas estar con Jesús?

Comunidad Hispana

Horarios de Atención Oficina Hispana

Martes, Miércoles y Jueves 10am - 2pm
Viernes 11am - 2pm

Secretaria Laura Esparza
609-345-1878 ext.19

CLASES DE BAUTISMO

Las clases de bautismo en español se darán todos los primeros y terceros jueves de cada mes, empezando con la misa a las 6:30 pm y luego con la plática a las 7:30 pm. Por favor de traer el Acta de Nacimiento del su hijo (a).

Spanish Baptismal classes are held the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:30 pm in the sacristy. The classes will follow the 6:30 Mass. Please bring the child's Birth Certificate to the class.

LITURGIA DEL DOMINGO

2º DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

"POR LO TANTO, TODO ÁRBOL QUE NO DA BUEN FRUTO, SERÁ CORTADO Y ECHADO AL FUEGO." MATEO 3:10

¿DAS BUENOS FRUTOS PARA CRISTO? ¿O CONSTANTEMENTE GASTAS TU TIEMPO, TALENTOS Y TESOROS EN TENER MÁS JUGUETES, DESORDEN Y BASURA? NUESTRO TIEMPO, NUESTRO TALENTO Y NUESTRO TESORO SON DONES QUE DIOS NOS HA DADO. LO QUE HACEMOS CON ELLOS ES EL REGALO QUE DEVOLVEMOS A DIOS. ¿QUÉ DONES ESTÁS PLANEANDO DAR AL SEÑOR DURANTE ESTA PRÓXIMA TEMPORADA DE NAVIDAD?

*11 DEDIOS, QUE ES MUCHO MEJOR DE LO QUE
PODEMOS LOGRAR POR NUESTRA CUENTA.*

NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE

YA ESTAN A LA VENTA LOS TICKETS PARA LA RIFA DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE

Primer premio: Cinco (5) Visa Gift Cards \$100 c/u valor de \$500 Segundo premio: Ipad Mini 32GB valor de \$279.99 Tercer premio Insigma 40"LED TV 1080p valor de \$219.99 Cuarto premio Dos (2) Wall-Mart Gift Cards \$100 c/u valor de \$200.00 Quinto premio Cuatro (4) WAWA Gift Cards \$25 c/u valor de \$100.00.

Mass Intentions for the Week - December 4, 2016

OLSS Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Dec 3	4:15	Jalissa Magalong/Cecilia Magalong
		7:00	Francisco Martinez/ofrece su familia
Sunday	Dec 4	7:30	Miller Brothers/Bill & Debby Miller
		9:00	Margaret Aragon/Family
		10:30	Ramon Antonio Gonzales/ofrece Estela Montoya e hijos
		12:00	Alberto Isaza/Alfred & Delsa Bechard
		2:30	Mass for the People
		6:30	LH Phêrô Hoàng Yến/ GD ÔB Bân xin
Monday	Dec 5	7:00	Edward DiNicolantonio/John Eccles, Jr.
		5:15	Bobbie Flanigan/Marcie & Jack McAvaddy
Tuesday	Dec 6	7:00	Edward DiNicolantonio/Joe Formica
		5:15	Rosemary Bechard/Alfred & Delsa Bechard
Wednesday	Dec 7	7:00	Heather Luthy/Sisters of Star of the Sea Convent
		5:15	Rafael, Paz M, Antonio, Mario, Peter Paul & Francis/Pax Poson
		7:00	Vietnamese Mass
Thursday	Dec 8	7:00	Dan & Rose Maguire/Theresa McGettigan Kennedy
		5:15	Barbara Dillon/Family
		7:00	Olivia Sanchez/ofrece la Flia
Friday	Dec 9	7:00	Mark Quitain (L) Birthday/Gigi Qutain
		5:15	IMO Dorothy Midura/Her Son Henry
		7:00	Virgilio Nunez/ofrece su familia
Saturday	Dec 10	8:00	Trinidad Maria & Antonio Quitan/Gigi Quitain

OLSS Church

		4:15	Margaret Campbell/Anne Campbell
		7:00	Por las benditas almas del purgatorio/intencion particular
Sunday	Dec 11	7:30	John McGettigan, Sr./Thersa McGettigan Kennedy
		9:00	Bill Tierney, Sr./Downey Family
		10:30	Luz Mancebo/ofrece su hermana y la comunidad
		12:00	Rick Heiden/Mom & Dad, Carol, Julie & Vince
		2:30	Mass for the People
		6:30	Rosa Nguyen Thi Tin/Mary Ellen Maguire

St. Nicholas Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Dec 3	4:00	Pinchot Family (L&D) Sheila Vail Inman
Sunday	Dec 4	8:45	Holy Souls in Purgatory Mr. Michael McDonough/ Poulson Family
		10:30	Harry & Florence Born/ Martha Dunham
		12:00	Dr. James Patrick Burke (L)
Monday	Dec 5	8:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory Mario J. Formica (D) & Family (L)
Tuesday	Dec 6	8:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory Dr. Joseph Michael Formica (L)
Wednesday	Dec 7	8:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory Theresa D. Applegate (L)
Thursday	Dec 8	8:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory
		10:00	Rev. Michael Rodriguez (L - 19th Anniv.)/Poulson Family
		12:00	Dr. Joseph Michael Formica (L)
Friday	Dec 9	8:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Saturday	Dec 10	4:00	Pinchot Family (L & D) Holy Souls in Purgatory

Word Of Life

Consider rereading Matthew 3:1-12 then reflect upon the appropriate question below.

Reflection for Adults: During this Advent season, we listen to the words of John the Baptist as a reminder that we are called to repentance as we prepare for Jesus coming into lives

What has been your experience with repentance? How do you feel about the need for repentance?

Reflection for Children: How do you prepare for Jesus coming into your life?