



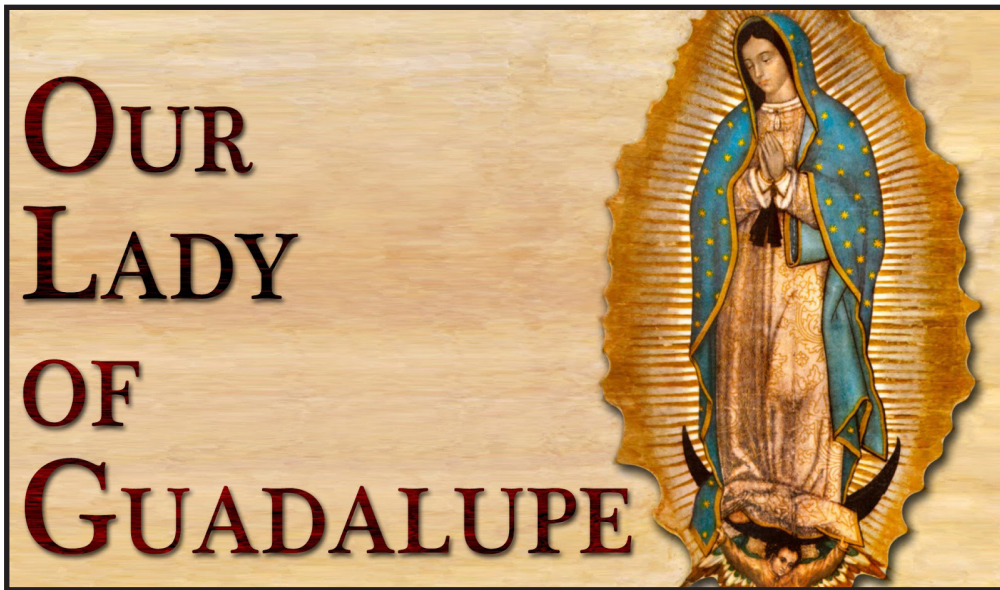
Parish of Saint Monica

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 11, 2016 **3rd Sunday of Advent**



Tomorrow we celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe. Please join us for the 5:00 PM procession followed by Mass at 6:00 PM in Our Lady Star of the Sea church. Festivities continue in the Memorial Hall gym after the Mass.

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

<p>DEC 12 Guadalupe Celebration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procession from 5:00 to 6:00 PM • Mass 6:00 PM • Festivities after Mass in the Gym 	<p>DEC 19 Advent Mass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Cross Mausoleum Chapel • Mays Landing • 10 AM 	<p>DEC 19 Advent Penance Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00 PM • Parish wide annual Penance service being held at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church
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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

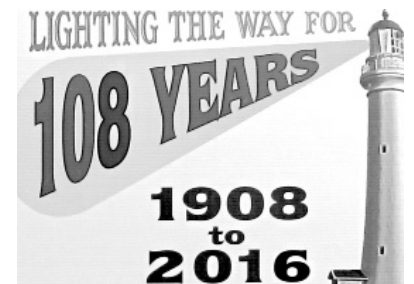
HOLY DAY

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."

Our Lady Star of the Sea Regional School hosted The Hour of Code™ during 2016 Computer Science Education Week which took place from December 5 -11. "The 'Hour of Code™' is a nationwide initiative by Computer Science Education Week and Code.org to introduce millions of students to one hour of computer science and computer programming."

Star of the Sea students from Kindergarten to Eighth Grade participated in an activity which gave them the opportunity to write code. The Hour of Code™ was designed to show students that anyone can implement programming basics and broaden their participation in the field of computer science.

We congratulate the following OLSS November Stars of the Month who were recognized for consistently demonstrating Kindness, one of the Fruits of the Holy Spirit: Jenny Pham, Liam Do, Yahir Franco, Chelsea Pham, Daniel Tran, Sophia Damayo, Teresa Pham, Ary Terrones, Peter Tran, Tommy Nguyen, and John Interigo. The following Stars received recognition for their hard work in the area of Mathematics: Kim Hoang, Le Nguyen, Andy Hoang, Matthew Tran, Jason Dinh, Frank Nguyen, Katie Truong, Ahnjeles Maldonado, Dakota Bivens, and Maggie Coleman.

STEWARDSHIP

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Stewards 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

Erick Duran
Facilities Manager

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

Building a great Parish through Events and Programming

It wasn't long after beginning my assignment in Atlantic City that I realized the Catholic Church here is big on events. In August, the Wedding of the Sea attracts over 2,000 people to Boardwalk Hall and the beach. In December, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe packs nearly as many people into Our Lady Star of the Sea Church. Hundreds of Vietnamese celebrate their two annual events in November and February. There are other events, too, and some are new in the last two years. As I write this, I'm looking forward to the Christmas toy distribution on Saturday, December 10 at St. Nicholas. For the first time, we're offering Christmas carols in the church as the children wait to enter the rectory for their gifts.

These events are important opportunities for building community and raising the profile of the Church in the city. I'm so grateful to Mayor Don Guardian for attending many of these events and for the ACPD's help with the street processions. I'm grateful also to the Vietnamese for seating other members of the parish at the "head table" in Memorial Hall to enjoy the food and entertainment that follows their special Masses.

While events are great - and we do them well in the Parish of Saint Monica - we also need programs. Programs are the ordinary means by which we grow as a Christian community. Imagine a fallen away Catholic is persuaded by his Hispanic neighbor to attend the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12. He's surprised by the number of people at the Mass - children, teens, and adults of all ages - but he's stunned by the genuine joy of their worship. So he decides to re-explore the Catholic faith with an open mind. He asks the priest: Where do I start? Programs can harness the enthusiasm kindled by a great event and build a foundation for a strong and lasting faith. In the Church world, we often call programs ministries. In this case, I might recommend that our friend audit for the RCIA classes for converts.

So I'm happy to introduce a new program. After the preparation of children for the sacraments, Church law requires the pastor to take care that "the faith of youth and adults is strengthened, enlightened, and developed through various means and endeavors" (canon 777, 5°). Each year from now through 2020, the parish will study and experience an essential of Catholic life through spiritual reading, special liturgies, Bible studies, and more. The topics are the Mass, daily prayer, the Bible, and confession. On the First Sunday of Advent, we began distributing booklets about the Mass. Each page, covering one topic about the Mass, can be read in about a minute. Have you bought one yet from the welcome centers? If not, please do so after Mass today - the booklets are just \$2 and will open up the spiritual riches of the Mass for you.

"Programs can harness the enthusiasm kindled by a great event"

I'm also happy to report about progress with our English music ministry. I'm certainly grateful for your patience with the variety of organists and cantors in the last few months. Because there are simultaneous Masses at Our Lady Star of the Sea and St. Nicholas of Tolentine, it seemed best to identify a music director for each church. I'm pleased to announce that Dr. Steven Ball is the music director for St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church. Dr. Ball is Director of Outreach and Staff Organist at Boardwalk Hall. Besides a wide education and a solid professional background in organ music, Dr. Ball also has experience in Catholic liturgical music, having previously served at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Philadelphia. At St. Nicholas, Dr. Ball will work to bring a consistently high quality to our liturgical music as befits such a majestic church. A search for a music director at Our Lady Star of the Sea is still underway. Please pray for Dr. Ball's success at St. Nicholas and a successful search at OLSS.

- 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**

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

At 9 N. Georgia Avenue
Corner of Atlantic Avenue
Fridays (except First Friday)

Free clothing to Homeless who provide proof of their homeless situation

Thrift Store Hours 9:30-11:30
Monday - Adult Clothing
Wednesday - Children & Housewares

Some bill pay services

Other services for the most needy in Atlantic County

Call 609-345-7737 to ask how you can help serve this Catholic Outreach Ministry

Open Monday-Friday

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

Franz Joseph Haydn's (1732-1809) first mass happens to be one of the original pieces of music which survives from the original choir library of St. Nicholas Church. This Sunday, it will be heard again for the first time in many decades. During the advent season, the no solo instrumental music or embellishments are permitted in the liturgy except for the 3rd Sunday of Advent—called "Gaudate Sunday" because of the first word of the introit (or entrance) antiphon for the day. The use of the organ and altar flowers on this Sunday are outward expressions in the liturgy of the Church rejoicing for joy as "The Lord who is now nigh and close at hand".

Fellow Austrian composer Johann Joseph Fux (1660-1741) is responsible for the settings of the offertory and communion texts: "You Have Favored, O Lord, Your Land" and "Say to Those Who Are Frightened: Be Strong, Fear Not!" His is the music of the Austrian court chapel, and he served Emperor Leopold I for many years as court composer.

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

Altar Servers Needed

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).

Saint Michaels's Church Preservation Society

in cooperation with

the Citywide Parish of Saint Monica presents The Architectural History of St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church

Everyone is invited to a Free presentation on Sunday, December 18, 2016 at 1:30 PM at St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church. Local native Dr. John Calabrese will discuss the historic and artistic influences embodied in the architecture of St. Nicholas Church and what it represents to the Atlantic City community. St. Nicholas Church was built in 1905 and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2001.

LIVE NATIVITY - Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish 7th Annual Live Nativity will be held on Saturday December 17th at the Galloway (Assumption) site, immediately following 4:00 pm Mass and will begin with Christmas Tree Lighting and Blessing. After that Assumption Regional Catholic School Choir will lead a candle light procession to the manger where you will witness a scene at the manger portrayed by student actors. Live animals in the manger are brought to us by Barnyard Friends including a real camel. Activities inside include Atlantic County 4H Train Display, photo opportunities with Saint Nicholas, Live dance performances by local dance companies, local choirs and food/refreshments.

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

NO MASS ON DECEMBER 12

Please note that there will be no regular 5:15 Mass on Monday, December 12, due to the celebration for our Lady of Guadalupe. Please join us for the 5:00 PM procession followed by Mass at 6:00 PM at Our Lady Star of the Sea. Festivities continue in the Memorial Hall gym after the Mass.

CONGRATULATIONS NICK SCHIAVO

Parishioner and altar server Nick Schiavo was inducted into the Holy Spirit High School chapter of the National Honor Society. He was also inducted into the Spanish Honor Society. Congratulations, Nick!

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 11:2-11 y luego reflexione sobre las preguntas.

Reflexión para Adultos: Una de las tareas de Juan el Bautista era ser el mensajero del Señor. ¿Cómo debe continuar ese ministerio? El otro aspecto del ministerio de Juan el Bautista era preparar el camino para la aceptación de Jesús. ¿Cómo puedes continuar ese aspecto de su ministerio también?

Reflexión para niños: ¿Cómo puedes ser el mensajero de 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

3º DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

"Deben ser pacientes también. Manténganse firmes de corazón, porque se acerca la venida del Señor." Santiago 5: 8

La paciencia es otra de las cosas por la que muchos de nosotros luchamos. Queremos que las cosas vayan de acuerdo a nuestro plan y a nuestra agenda. Cualquier cambio genera ansiedad y miedo. A través de la oración diaria nos alineamos mejor con la voluntad y el plan de Dios, que es mucho mejor de lo que podemos lograr por nuestra cuenta.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Mary Help of Christians Sodality of The Parish of St. Monica, Atlantic City, will be awarding a \$1,000.00 Scholarship to a female high school senior planning to further her education in the fall of 2017. She must meet all criteria, including a connection to Mary Help of Christians Sodality either from the former St. Michael's Parish or The Parish of St. Monica. Applications are now available through the local high schools' guidance department.

For any additional information/clarification, please call Sally Krause at 609-822-4008 or email at sk_614@yahoo.com. Do not contact the Parish office.

Mass Intentions for the Week - December 11, 2016

OLSS Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Dec 10	4:15	Margaret Campbell/Anne Campbell
		7:00	Por las benditas almas del purgatorio/intencion particular
Sunday	Dec 11	7:30	John McGettigan, Sr./Theresa 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
Monday	Dec 12	7:00	Florence & Dan Fritz/Dan, Trish & Peggy
		5:15	NO MASS
Tuesday	Dec 13	7:00	Jenny Beltran (Healing)/Friends
		5:15	Aurora Jamil/Lucena City Association
Wednesday	Dec 14	7:00	Charles B. Iannarello/Mary Help of Christians
		5:15	Baby Austin James/Mr. Robert Venofro & Family
		7:00	Gabino Vasquez/ofrece su familia
Thursday	Dec 15	7:00	Mary Horn/Norma Schick
		5:15	Erick A. Ericksen/G.L. Warrington
		6:30	Lucia Polido/ofrece su familia
Friday	Dec 16	7:00	Ester Kalman/Peggy Schmei
		5:15	Dolores Brennan/Steve Jones
		7:00	Willinton de los Santos/Familia
Saturday	Dec 17	8:00	Francis Estban Poson/Paz Poson

OLSS Church

		4:15	Dan & Rose Maguire/Family
		7:00	Delia Pama/ofrece su familia
Sunday	Dec 18	7:30	Bob Hasson/His Mother
		9:00	Jimmy Boyd/Tim & Cathy Kelly
		10:30	Jaime Duque/pfrece su familia
		12:00	Andrea Librone/Family
		2:30	Mark Gabrielli/ofrece su familia
		6:30	Mass for the People

St. Nicholas Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Dec 10	4:00	Pinchot Family (L&D) Holy Souls in Purgatory
Sunday	Dec 11	8:45	Joseph Scott Bochniak Paula Geleti (L)
		10:30	Dougherty Family (L & D)/ B. Kucharczuk Nancy Joan Owen Burns/ HSHS class "49"
		12:00	John T. McGettigan Wilfredo DeLos Reyes/Roger & Aida Reyes
Monday	Dec 12	8:00	Louis Marcel Costan Dennis Tuohy & Robert White
Tuesday	Dec 13	8:00	Wanda Francis Zientarski/ Randy & Omer
Wednesday	Dec 14	8:00	Formica & Cesario Families (L&D)
Thursday	Dec 15	8:00	Kevin Capone/Barbara Watson & Family
Friday	Dec 16	8:00	Most Abandoned Souls
Saturday	Dec 17	4:00	Pinchot Family (L&D) Sr. Mary Claude Damico

Word Of Life

Consider rereading Matthew 11:2-11 then reflect upon the appropriate question below.

Reflection for Adults: One of John the Baptist's tasks was to be the Lord's messenger. How should you continue that ministry? The other aspect of John the Baptist's ministry was to prepare the way for acceptance of Jesus. How can you continue that aspect of his ministry also?

Reflection for Children: How can you be Jesus' messenger?