



# 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.

**February 19, 2017** **7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## Mother Emma Lewis



**Celebrating 100 years of her Spirit** - The Knights of St. John and Ladies of Auxiliary visit the resting site of their Foundress, Mother Emma Lewis, in Pleasantville, NJ. The annual awards dinner honoring her memory is being held Sunday, February 26.

## 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

Sunday, March 19 11:00 AM  
Solemnity of St. Joseph

## UPCOMING EVENTS

<p><b>FEB 22</b> <b>Mass for AC Businesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St. Nicholas Church</li> <li>Special Mass at 5:30 PM</li> <li>Open to general public</li> <li>See page 3 for more</li> </ul>	<p><b>FEB 24</b> <b>Mary Help of Christians Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rosary in St. Michael's Church</li> <li>12:30 PM</li> <li>Meeting to follow in Quaremba Hall</li> </ul>	<p><b>FEB 26</b> <b>Mother Emma Lewis Dinner &amp; Awards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St. Michael's Church 10 N. Mississippi Ave.</li> <li>Community Mass at 12:00 PM</li> <li>Dinner following in Quaremba Hall</li> </ul>
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## CONTACT INFORMATION

- Parish of Saint Monica** • 2651 Atlantic Avenue • Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
www.accatholic.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

# Our Lady Star of the Sea School

School Principal: Mrs. Susan J. Tarrant School Staff: 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.**

School will be closed on Monday, February 20th in observance of President's Day.

Save the date: The annual Sister Shamus Walk will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2017 beginning at 8 am in the school gym. We invite all parishioners to join us. Prior to the walk there will be a raffle.

South Jersey Catholic Schools are living the mission. On Friday seventh and eighth grade students from St. Mary School in Vineland and their Principal, Mr. Steve Hogan visited OLSS School. Our students in Kindergarten through fourth grade enjoyed shared reading, fun activities, recess and lunch with them. In the fall OLSS students travelled to St. Mary School to see their school play. We are grateful for this wonderful partnership.

If you are interested in learning more about our school, please call 609-345-0648 to schedule a tour. OLSS offers classes for Pre K 3 and Pre K 4, Kindergarten to 8th grade, as well as, two levels of Special Education. Take the time to discover all a quality Catholic Education at OLSS has to offer.

## 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

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

## STEWARDSHIP

## 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Stewards Pray Always

*"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you..." Matthew 5:44*

Love your enemies, easier said than done, no doubt. But, remember, the foundation of Stewardship is prayer. When we are in close communication with God, it opens our heart and it turns our attention away from "me" and moves it towards God and others. It allows us to have a little more empathy for "our enemy". When we pray for others, even "our enemies", maybe it softens their hearts as well.

## 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*

Though tragic and complex, parish consolidations have reminded us of an important truth: parishes are not the same thing as churches. In the past, the rule was a parish had only one church, so that people used the terms interchangeably. Now, many parishes have multiple churches. Now that we have to distinguish between the *Parish* of Saint Monica and Our Lady Star of the Sea *Church* or St. Nicholas of Tolentine *Church*, we can see this truth more clearly: a parish is people; a church is a building. Indeed, Church law defines a parish as "a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in a particular church." Yes, the parish is *based* in a church, but it *is* a Christian community.

So, when I talk about building a great parish, I don't mean renovating churches. **I mean building the "community of the Christian faithful." There's a few proven ways to do that. First**, we need to meet each other. I've said before that there is little opportunity for fellowship at Sunday Mass. The schedule is pretty tight at Star of the Sea. Often, the liturgical ministers and music ministry are preparing for Mass before the previous one has ended. Fortunately, our parish has tons of events. The Vietnamese New Year late last month was a big hit for Vietnamese and non-Vietnamese alike. Last Monday, the Hispanic ministry hosted a beautiful dinner for couples in the parish. Next Sunday, the Mother Lewis Dinner follows the noon Mass in Quaremba Hall. Call the office or talk to an organizer to see if tickets are still available. On Wednesday the 22nd, I will celebrate a special Mass at 5:30 PM at St. Nicholas to pray for the success of Atlantic City area businesses. It's open to the public but if you're a member of the business community, please call the office for a personal invitation.

**Second**, parishioners need to feel like they really belong to the parish. Getting to know other parishioners helps, but the feeling of belonging is strongest when parishioners feel like the parish also belongs to them. Do you feel like you have a critical role in the parish? Do you feel like some parish achievements depended on your contribution? Do you feel like you have a voice in the parish? The more "yes" answers, the greater the sense of belonging.

**Third**, the parish must provide opportunities for its parishioners to develop their Christian faith. The Hispanic ministry has prayer groups and the Vietnamese community has a weekly holy hour. English-speaking opportunities to learn more about the faith will start with a three-week Bible study on the Mass in March (the 8th, 15th, and 22nd). Look for the schedule on [accatholic.org](http://accatholic.org).

**"...the feeling of belonging is strongest when parishioners feel like the parish also belongs to them."**

I cannot build our community without you. Will you help? I have three favors to ask:

1. Will you purchase a ticket for our first annual Parish Awards Dinner on Thursday, March 30 at 6 PM? We will honor our most active parishioners and our biggest donors. It is a served dinner with three courses with wine and a program. Tickets are \$50. Call the office.
2. Will you mark your calendar for Monday, May 8 at 7 PM? It will be our first "discernment meeting," a sort of town hall meeting at which a new pastoral council will be chosen. The council helps me and the other priests set and achieve our pastoral goals. I'll say more about this in the future.
3. Will you join me for "Prayer for the Parish" after the 5:15 Mass on certain Mondays? We'll pray for the success of our parish in Eucharistic adoration and end by 6:30 PM. The first Mondays will be February 27 and March 20 and 27.

- 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 FEBRUARY 20, 2017**

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Catholic Charities' case managers in Atlantic County provide a wide variety of services. Some examples are utility and rental assistance, disaster services in response to Hurricane Sandy as well as the Atlantic City casino closings, assistance to veterans who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, and financial coaching and education which includes the opportunity for clients to open matched savings accounts which can be used for them to purchase a home, start a business, or further their education. Services are available to undocumented individuals.

In 2016, the Atlantic City Office was able to provide food assistance to 1,358 individuals. Over 500 individuals, 50 of whom were homeless veterans, received rent or utility funding in order to prevent homelessness and disconnection. The office has also provided over 1000 changes of clothing, fresh hygiene products, and sandwiches to the homeless on Fridays.

The Atlantic City office, located at 9 North Georgia Ave., is open on Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM, and includes a food pantry, free baby supplies, and a thrift store.

**Thrift Store Hours:** 9:30-11:30 AM **Mondays:** Adult clothing **Wednesdays:** Children & housewares **Fridays** (except First Friday): Free clothing to those who provide proof of homelessness

For more information and a full list of services, please visit: <http://catholiccharitiescamden.org/?staff=atlantic-county> or call 609-345-3445.

## JOIN US

### 200 CLUB of Atlantic and Cape May Counties

The 32nd Annual Memorial Mass and Brunch of the 200 Club of Atlantic and Cape May Counties will be held on Sunday, March 12, 2017. Mass is at 10:30am at St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church in Atlantic City, followed by brunch in the TROPICANA Grand Ballroom at noon. The Guest Speaker is Lieutenant Colonel PAT CALLAHAN, Chief of Operations for the New Jersey State Police. BRUNCH TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE. Tickets are \$40 and are available online at [www.200clubofatlanticandcapemaycounties.org](http://www.200clubofatlanticandcapemaycounties.org) (PayPal only); by contacting Sally or Melissa at (609) 645-3800, or by e-mail through our ticketing partner: [swapforrent@yahoo.com](mailto:swapforrent@yahoo.com) Ticket deadline is March 3rd.

### Mary Help of Christians

The regular monthly meeting of Mary Help of Christians will be held on Friday, February 24th in Quaremba Hall.

Recitation of the rosary will be held in St. Michael's Church at 12:30 p.m. The meeting will follow immediately. We invite the women of the parish and friends to join us.

### St. Nicholas Shoppe

The religious gift shop is located next to the church. Proceeds from the gift shop go to support Our Lady Star of the Sea School and Church Restoration.

#### Store Hours

Friday: 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
Saturday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Sunday: 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

### 2017 EASTER BASKET DISTRIBUTION

Our annual Easter Basket Distribution Day will soon be here! Last year over 325 children enjoyed a visit with the Easter Bunny and received a basket. Unfortunately we did not have enough baskets for all of the children that showed up so we are working hard to make sure no child goes away empty handed. To raise funds, we will be accepting \$5.00 basket sponsorships after all masses the weekends of March 4th and 5th and 11th and 12th as well as on March 19th at Saint Michael's. Also needed are donations of individually wrapped Easter candy. Donations can be left at the parish office or at the Saint Nicholas Gift Shop. For more information please contact Margaret Steadman at 609-703-9093.

### Mother Emma Lewis Awards Dinner

Sponsored by the  
Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of St. John  
Sunday, February 26, 2017  
Community Mass at 12:00 PM  
Dinner Following in Quaremba Hall  
St. Michael's Church  
10 N. Mississippi Ave.  
Atlantic City

Tickets: \$40.00

More info: Pat Jackson (609) 344-2717  
Marilyn Kirkland (609) 646-2813



## BY THE NUMBERS

### PARISH COLLECTION FOR FEB 11-12

OFFERTORY. . . . . \$13,517.00  
BUDGET . . . . . \$12,506.00  
POOR. . . . . \$626.00

### MANY THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

NUMBER OF REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS . . . . . 1872

### DEAR VISITOR

I always thank God for time away, whether on a European vacation or on a day trip. I know many people do not have these opportunities. Therefore, when I attend Mass, I show my gratitude with a particularly generous gift to the local church. I am grateful for your generosity to us. Also, please tip your housekeepers and other hospitality staff – they are our parishioners!

## STARDUST TICKETS

Memberships are now available for the next cycle of the Stardust 50/50 Raffle Club. The donation is \$50 for a five month membership.

Applications & information regarding the club can be found in the racks at the church doors and online at [accatholic.org](http://accatholic.org). To date, 958 memberships have been sold, 42 memberships are still available for purchase.

### Stardust Winners February 10, 2017

Top Prize - \$2,877.00

#934 - Sam M. Au, Atlantic City, NJ

Second Prize - \$479.50

#647 - Marguerite Downey, Atlantic City, NJ

Third Prize - \$479.50

#172 Christine Merlino, Allentown, NJ

Fourth Prize - \$479.50

#569 - Mr and Mrs. Richard Bennis, Philadelphia, PA

Fifth Prize - \$479.50

#175 - Julie Librone, Ventnor, NJ

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### FIRST PENANCE

Saturday, February 25, 2017

10:00 AM in English

1:00 PM Espanol

### Retreat for Confirmation

Saturday March 4, 2017

10:00 AM to 2:30 PM

### Confirmation

Saturday April 1, 2017

10:00 AM in English

1:00 PM Espanol

Please let us know if you need sponsor forms

### RCIA

### Retreat for Confirmation

Saturday, March 18, 2017

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM in Cafeteria

### Retreat for First Communion

Saturday, March 25, 2017

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM in Cafeteria

## FIGHT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

### JOIN OUR US CATHOLIC SISTERS IN THEIR FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

February 8 is the feast of St. Josephine Bakhita who was sold into slavery as a child. PRAY for all children who live in slavery and are exploited. US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking ([sistersagainsttrafficking.org](http://sistersagainsttrafficking.org))

## EMPLOYEE GIVING CAMPAIGN

The employee giving campaign at your workplace presents an opportunity for you to support the parish and Our Lady Star of the Sea School.

Help the parish reach its House of Charity goal

In the donor choice section, write "HOUSE of Charity, 631 Market St, Camden, NJ 08102." Alternatively, you may be asked for a code. The United Way for Greater Phila. and Southern NJ code is 445. The South Jersey Public Employees (PECC) code is 9025. Ask to be acknowledged so your gift is counted toward the parish's goal.

Help students attend OLSSS through the Depko Family Foundation

The Foundation's United Way code is 51551.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

### MASS SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 1, 2017

#### OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH

7:00 AM  
9:00 AM  
12:10 PM  
5:15 PM

**7:00 PM Vietnamese**

**8:30 PM Spanish**

#### ST. NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINE CHURCH

8:00 AM  
12:00 Noon

**PLEASE NOTE: Beginning Thursday, March 2, 2017 during Lent on weekdays there will NOT be an 8:00 AM Mass at St. Nicholas. There will only be a 12:00 Noon Mass**

## Comunidad Hispana

### Horarios de Atención Oficina Hispana

Martes, Miércoles y Jueves ..... 10am - 2pm

Viernes ..... 11am - 2pm

**Secretaria Laura Esparza**

**609-345-1878 ext.19**

## LITURGIA DEL DOMINGO

### 7° DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARI

*"Pero yo les digo, amen a sus enemigos y recen por sus perseguidores..." MATEO 5;44*

Amar a tus enemigos, es más fácil decirlo que hacerlo, sin duda. Pero recuerda, el fundamento de la corresponsabilidad es la oración. Cuando estamos en estrecha comunicación con Dios, se abre nuestro corazón y se desvía nuestra atención del "yo" y se mueve hacia Dios y los demás. Esto nos permite tener un poco más de empatía por "nuestros enemigos". Cuando oramos por otros, incluso por "nuestros enemigos", tal vez eso suavice también sus corazones.

## COMMUNION BREAKFAST FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

The South Jersey Catholic Medical Association is hosting a Communion Breakfast for all Healthcare Workers on Sunday, March 12, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center Chapel, 1600 Haddon Avenue, Camden, NJ. Reverend Jeffery Cesarone, O. Praem., J.D., will be the celebrant. A complimentary breakfast will be served immediately following Mass, and our guest speaker will be, Thomas Cavalieri, DO, MACOI, FACP, AGSF, and Dean of Rowan University's School of Osteopathic Medicine. The presentation topic will be "Physician Assisted Suicide." The South Jersey Catholic Medical Association seeks to promote Catholic ethical principles and values in the delivery of healthcare and to provide a forum for spiritual support for Catholic physicians, nurses and healthcare workers as well as support of the Church's healthcare ministry. For further information about the South Jersey Catholic Medical Association organization or to R.S.V.P. for the Communion Breakfast please call Karen Fisher at the Diocese of Camden, VITALity Catholic Healthcare Services at (856)583-6123, or email [Karen.fisher@camdendiocese.org](mailto:Karen.fisher@camdendiocese.org).

## 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.

## Palabra de Vida

Considerar relectura Mateo 5:38-48 entonces reflexionar sobre la pregunta correspondiente más abajo.

Jesús intentaron enseñar a sus discípulos a amar a los demás más allá de aquellos que están más cercanas a ellas.

Reflexión para los adultos: ¿Por qué crees que era difícil para sus oyentes a aceptar mandamiento de Jesús de Amad a vuestros enemigos y orad por los que os persiguen? ¿Cómo puede amar incluso a aquellos que desafiarte?

Reflexión para niños: ¿Cómo puedo ser generoso con quienes necesitan ayuda?

# Mass Intentions for the Week - February 19, 2017

## OLSS Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Feb 18	4:15	Robert McDevitt/Emily Shaw
		7:00	Melania sifuentes/ofrece su familia
Sunday	Feb 19	7:30	Jack Gibson/Marilyn Gerhardt
		9:00	Sue Perry Davidson/Tim & Cathy Kelly
		10:30	Francisca Madrid/ofrece su familia
		12:00	Theresa Giordano/John & Annette DiSomma
		2:30	Bartolo Campos/ofrece su familia
		6:30	LH Anna Maria/ Bà Thanh Tôn xin
Monday	Feb 20	7:00	Robert Costello/Pavese Family
		5:15	Lucy Plenus/Ruffolo Family
Tuesday	Feb 21	7:00	Sister Margaret Bulfin/Liddy Family
		5:15	Isabel Gallagher (L)/Berni Lee
Wednesday	Feb 22	7:00	Mass for the People
		5:15	Brian Johnston/Christopher Simonetti
		7:00	Daniel Bovrges/ofrece su familia
Thursday	Feb 23	7:00	Isabel Gallagher (L)/Berni Lee
		5:15	William R. Sandman/Ron Grassi
		6:30	Juan Garcia/ofrece su familia
Friday	Feb 24	7:00	Mass for the People
		5:15	Arleen Walsh/Marcie & Jack
		7:00	Juvenal Marcos/ofrece su familia
Saturday	Feb 25	8:00	Lou Molinari/The Ruffolo Family

## OLSS Church

		4:15	Andrea Librone/Librone Family
		7:00	Mass for the People
Sunday	Feb 26	7:30	Robert McDevitt/Joe Formica
		9:00	Jack Gibson/Patricia Diamond
		10:30	Noelba Echeverry/ofrece su familia
		12:00	Nick Gentile/John & Annette DiSomma
		2:30	Guadalupe Bello/ofrece su familia

## St. Nicholas Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Feb 18	4:00	Pinchot Family (L&D) James Patrick & Mary Teresa Burke
Sunday	Feb 19	8:45	Msgr. James Innocenzi (L)/Ray & Barbara Sands
		10:30	Dr. Joseph Michael Formica (L) Bernadette Vasquez (L-Thanks-giving)
		12:00	Carol Roberto/John Roberto Madeline Hopper & Family
Monday	Feb 20	8:00	Shirley Del Gandley/Camillie
Tuesday	Feb 21	8:00	Marguerite Oldfield Madeline Hopper & Family
Wednesday	Feb 22	8:00	Joseph Scott Bochniak
Thursday	Feb 23	8:00	William Sandman, Jr./Zarych Family Jaime Bautista, Jr. (3rd Death Anniv)
Friday	Feb 24	8:00	Burke & Cox Families (L & D ) Madeline Hopper & Family
Saturday	Feb 25	4:00	Pinchot Family ( L & D ) Jean Nowak/Michael & Wanda Christian

# Word Of Life

Consider rereading Matthew 5:38-48 then reflect upon the appropriate question below.

Jesus tried to teach his disciples how to love others beyond those who are closest to them.

Reflection for Adults: Why do you think Jesus' command to love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you was hard for his listeners to accept? How can you love even those who challenge you?

Reflection for Children: How can I be generous to those who need help?