



# 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 26, 2017** **8th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## Students helping students



Seventh and eighth grade students from St. Mary's School came to Star of the Sea last Monday. The boys and girls from St. Mary's spent the day reading to our first and second grade students. A focus on caring and sharing is what a Catholic school education is all about.

## 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>MAR 11</b> <b>St. Patrick's Day Parade</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parade on the Boardwalk</li> <li>Parish participation</li> <li>1:00 PM</li> </ul>	<p><b>MAR 12</b> <b>200 Club Memorial Mass and Brunch</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mass St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church</li> <li>10:30 AM</li> <li>Brunch at Tropicana at 12:00 Noon</li> <li>Tickets \$40.00</li> </ul>	<p><b>MAR 30</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>First Annual Parish Awards Dinner</b></li> <li>Quaremba Hall</li> <li>6:00 PM</li> <li>Tickets \$50.00</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.**

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.

OLSS School basketball teams completed their regular season games which were all played in our refurbished Memorial gym. We are very grateful to Sister Debbie, Mr. Giordano, Mrs. Stanton, and Jaquay Neil for volunteering their time to coach our students. We are also grateful to Ms. Griffin, who ran the clock and Ms. Ireland and Ms. McCollum for facilitating the refreshment stand. The JV Boys, coached by Mr. Neil, will be competing in the St. Joseph Basketball tournament the weekend of March 4th.

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

## 8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Stewards Serve God

*"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (material wealth)." Matthew 6:24*

For many people, God and money run "neck and neck" as their first priority. Making money and spending money becomes the center of their life and they actually become a slave to money. The solution -live Stewardship by becoming more generous. Giving money to Church and charity frees us from slavery to money and from making money a "god" before God.

## 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

My voice was able to rest last weekend after I presented the House of Charity appeal at twelve Masses over the previous two weekends. I also enjoyed preaching on the Scriptures. On the other hand, I know very well that financial appeals are recorded in the Scriptures (see Acts 24:17, 1 Corinthians 16:1-2). Financial giving is part of the Catholic faith - not only as a practical matter of "keeping the lights on" but also as a matter of personal sacrifice and care for the needy. Some of you will remember learning the three "acts of religion" from Catholic school or catechism class: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Today we always connect these practices to Lent. But they're certainly not limited to Lent. Of course, we pray everyday and we also give to the collection every Sunday. Each year, we're also asked to directly support the work of the Church on the diocesan level.

The diocese needs funding because it does ministry that isn't done by the local parishes, like seminary education, hospital chaplaincy, and college campus ministry. The House of Charity supports this work. In my presentation, I mentioned several ways the diocese supports our parish and my own priestly ministry.

1. Prison Ministry - I celebrate the sacraments at Atlantic County Correctional Facility with the support of the diocese's prison ministry coordinator.
2. Hospital Chaplaincies - Fr. Bob Matysik, who resides in St. Nicholas Rectory, is chaplain at AtlantiCare. The diocese is responsible for his budget.
3. Catholic Charities - They provide social services on St. Michael's campus on Georgia Avenue.
4. Needy Schools - Our Lady Star of the Sea School receives support from the diocese.
5. Seminarians - Fr. Ed Kennedy and seminarian Paul Abbruscato have both been recipients of tuition and other forms of assistance from the diocese.
6. Hispanic and Black Catholic Ministry - The parish receives help from diocesan offices to reach out effectively to these special Catholic populations.

The House of Charity appeal is not like a special collection. Our parishioners normally contribute \$10 or \$20 to those collections for national and international causes. The House of Charity is the diocese's main source of income for carrying on the work of the Church locally in South Jersey. The diocese has asked us to contribute \$143,500 to its budget. The priests have got us started by contributing \$5,000 so far. \$300 is the average gift in the diocese. Our parish has a lot of small gifts (\$25, \$50, \$100) and a couple of large gifts (\$1,000). To reach our goal, we need many more average givers. The average contribution throughout the diocese is \$300. We are grateful to frequent visitors to our parish who make a \$100 or greater gift. I am personally grateful to the many parishioners who answered my call this year and have increased their gifts. Thank you! The Catholic Church will continue to proclaim the Good News of Christ in word and deed thanks to their generosity.

***"The parish receives help from diocesan offices to reach out effectively to these special Catholic populations."***

Before closing, I want to thank the Hispanic ministry for sponsoring a fantastic dinner on St. Valentine's Day. The food was gourmet. The entree is pictured (stuffed pork, bacon-wrapped asparagus, mashed potatoes, and a mushroom cream sauce) and I wish I had taken a photo of the salad, too - baked pears, fresh mozzarella, and French cut cucumbers, all drizzled with balsamic vinegar and served atop a leaf of lettuce. The invocation was offered in both English and Spanish and music ranged from Frank Sinatra to contemporary Spanish songs. Unfortunately, only two non-Hispanics attended (aside from myself). A great opportunity was missed at bringing English- and Spanish-speaking parishioners closer together. I hope we won't miss the next opportunity. Again, my thanks and congratulations to the Hispanic ministry for an amazing event!

- 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  
MARCH 21, 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.

### 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.

### Congratulations !!

Two of our parishioners and altar servers have received a special honor. Cadet Jimmy Luong and Cadet Daniel Luong were selected to compete in the National NJROTC Championships at the Naval Air Technical Training Center in Pensacola, Florida on April 7-8, 2017.

If you are making a donation for Cadets Jimmy and Daniel Luong by check, please make the check payable to: ACHS NJROTC Unit, 1400 North Albany Ave, Atlantic City, NJ 08401. Any amount you can provide will help help these fine young men become great future leaders. They thank you. We wish them great success!



## BY THE NUMBERS

### PARISH COLLECTION FOR FEB 18-19

OFFERTORY . . . . . \$15,111.00  
BUDGET . . . . . \$12,506.00  
POOR . . . . . \$51.00

### **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, 961 memberships have been sold, 39 memberships are still available for purchase.

## SANCTUARY LAMP

For the week of February 26, 2017  
At St. Nicholas Church  
Giving in Thanksgiving  
by Mr. & Mrs. James Poulson



### **Ducktown Association Meeting**

The next meeting of the Ducktown Neighborhood Association will be on Tuesday, March 21 at 6:00 PM in the Dante Hall Theater. Plan now to attend.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### **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

### 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**

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#### 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**

## 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 6: 24-34 entonces reflexionar sobre la pregunta correspondiente más abajo.

Dios nos cuida cada día y nunca nos olvidará.

Reflexión para los adultos : ¿Qué puede hacer para aumentar tu confianza en Dios y pasar menos tiempo preocupándose?

Reflexión para niños : Que tiene Dios envió a su vida para guiarlo y protegerlo?

## 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

### 8º DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

*"Nadie puede servir a dos amos; porque o bien odiará a uno y amará al otro, o se dedicará a uno y despreciará al otro. No puedes servir a Dios y a las riquezas (riquezas materiales)." MATEO 6;24*

Para mucha gente, Dios y el dinero corren "cabeza a cabeza" como su primera prioridad. Ganar dinero y gastar dinero se convierte en el centro de sus vidas y en realidad se convierten en esclavos del dinero. La solución - ser más generoso. Dar dinero a la Iglesia y a la caridad nos libera de la esclavitud del dinero y de hacer del dinero un "dios" ante Dios.

## 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.

# Mass Intentions for the Week - February 26, 2017

## OLSS Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Feb 25	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 Di Somma
		2:30	Bartolo Campos/ofrece su familia
		6:30	Giỗ LH Britgita/ Anh Chị Đệ và Thuý xin
Monday	Feb 27	7:00	Robert Costello/Pavese Family
		5:15	Grace Dixon/Ron & Dottie Grassi
Tuesday	Feb 28	7:00	Annatasia Tuohy & Deceased Members of Tuohy Family/ Theresa McGettigan Burke
		5:15	Nicodemo Scarfo/Basil Beck
Wednesday	Mar 1	7:00	Jack Kelly, 3rd (Birthday)/Kelly Family
		9:00	Mike Zingarelli/Mary Ellen Maguire
		5:15	Erick Ericksen/G.L. Warrington
<b>Spanish Mass St. Michael's</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	12:10	Mass for the People
		6:00	Elizabeth Benitez/ofrece su familia
		7:00	Vietnamese Mass
		8:30	Maria Luisa Ramirez/ofrece su familia
Thursday	Mar 2	7:00	Brian Todd/James Allison
		5:15	Kathy Scaldaferrri (L)/Berni Lee
		6:30	Difuntos familia Hidalgo
Friday	Mar 3	7:00	Mass for the People
		9:00	Mass for the People
		5:15	Nicodemo Scarfo/Coleen & Robert Rabena

## OLSS Church

		7:00	Ulises Garcia/ofrece su familia
Saturday	Mar 4	8:00	Mass for the People
		4:15	Florence & Dan Fritz
Sunday	Mar 5	7:00	Virginia Mendoza/ofrece su familia
		7:30	Mass for the People
		9:00	Joan Mullin/Second Cousins
		10:30	Luis Renteria/ofrece su familia
		12:00	Sister Jeanette Puglisi, FMA/ Christopher Simonetti
		2:30	Betsy Gonzalez/ofrece su familia

## St. Nicholas Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Feb 25	4:00	Pinchot Family (L&D)
			Jean Nowak/Michael & Wanda Christian
Sunday	Feb 26	8:45	Anne Marie Schuerch
			Lenora Santiago/Art & Sharon Valentine
		10:30	Lillian McManus/Jack Imfeld
		12:00	William Thomas Taylor
		12:00	Frances Sykes/Tony Zarych
			Aida O. Villena-Reyes (L- Healing & Thanksgiving)
Monday	Feb 27	8:00	The Souls in Purgatory
Tuesday	Feb 28	8:00	Most Abandoned Souls
			Madeline Hopper & Family
Wednesday	Mar 1	8:00	Madeline Hopper & Family
		12:00	Bob Immordino/Jim Pinchot
			Christina & Jeffrey Hammen (L)/ Nancy Chakmakian
Thursday	Mar 2	12:00	James Patrick & Mary Teresa Burke
			Madeline Hopper & Family
Friday	Mar 3	12:00	Purgatorial Society
			Madeline Hopper & Family
Saturday	Mar 4	4:00	Pinchot Family ( L & D )
			James Patrick & Mary Teresa Burke

## Word Of Life

Consider rereading Matthew 6: 24-34 then reflect upon the appropriate question below.

God cares for us every day and will never forget us.

Reflection for Adults: What can you do to increase your trust in God and spend less time worrying?

Reflection for Children: Who has God sent into your life to guide you and protect you?