



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.

April 2, 2017 **Fifth Sunday of Lent**

Contraction Action



Learning made fun - A group of second graders in OLSS School learn about spelling, grammar and contractions during a study rotation called "the Daily 5." Noel named it Contraction Action! Read more about OLSS School on page two of this bulletin.

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** 12 Noon

St. Michael's 10 North Mississippi Avenue

Palm Sunday - April 9 12 Noon

UPCOMING EVENTS

<p>APR 9 Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Cafeteria 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM Adults \$7.00 Children 8 and under \$5.00 	<p>APR 10 Lent Penance Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our Lady Star of the Sea Church 7:00 PM 	<p>APR 29 8th Annual Sister Shamus Walk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OLSS School Gymnasium Registration begins 7:00 AM Walk begins at 8:30 AM
--	---	---

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 our multi-cultural community.

Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast: April 9th from 8:00 to 1:00 in the school cafeteria. The donation is \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children.

Annual Sister Shamus Walk: 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 with wonderful prizes and four professional paintings. Entrance donation is \$20.00 with a T-shirt while supplies last.

During the week of March 27th several wonderful volunteers from Art Goes to School spent time with kindergarten through eighth grade. AGTS volunteers brought art reproductions ranging from cave to modern art, European, American, African-American, Hispanic, Asian, Middle Eastern, African and Aboriginal works and included pieces of sculpture. We are very grateful to the volunteers for giving their time to make fine art accessible to our students.

Registration for the 2017-18 school year is in progress. 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, a program specifically devoted to Special Education. Take the time to discover all a quality Catholic Education at OLSS has to offer. Financial assistance and transfer credits are available.

The Depko Family Foundation

"The Depko Family Foundation helps families send their children to our school. You can support the Foundation through United Way using code 51551. You can also support it by selecting "Depko Family" in the Amazon Smile program."

Stardust Tickets

Memberships are still available for the Stardust 50/50 Raffle Club. The donation is \$40 for a four month membership.

Applications & information regarding the club can be found in the racks at the church doors and online at accatholic.org. To date, 971 memberships have been sold, 29 memberships are still available for purchase.

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

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

The ingredients of the Mass

Since arriving in Atlantic City, I've made my visibility a priority. Thanks to gracious invitations and complimentary tickets from many people in the city, I've been able to get to know people in the community. Not everyone comes to church, so I've come to them! Thanks to these encounters, the parish was able to bring back the Wedding of the Sea Festival last year with the help of people from the larger community. Recent Masses at St. Nicholas for the 200 Club and the business community as well as last year's Mass at Star of the Sea for working families show that our church doors are open to newcomers.

At a recent dinner, Jeannette Giemza, owner of Circle Liquor of Somers Point, offered to donate our altar wine. I'm grateful to her and Chester Malloy, general manager, for the assistance. We have so many Masses in our parish (twelve a weekend and three to four a weekday) and we have started offering the chalice to the assembly at the 9 AM Mass on Sunday, so this will be a help. Thank you, Circle Liquor!

Speaking of Mass, my three-week Bible study on the Mass was attended by 25-30 parishioners. We followed a booklet called *Understanding the Mass*. If you didn't attend the study, you can pick up the booklet for \$5 in the St. Nicholas Shoppe. Those in attendance learned about the Bible's teaching on the sacrament of the Eucharist, which we commonly call Mass. They learned why the Mass is for Catholics "the source and summit" of the Christian faith - no mere church service but our means of offering our whole selves to God in love, following the example of Christ who sacrificed himself for us. There are other events coming up to form our parish in the Catholic teaching about the Mass, so stay tuned!

I sometimes ask school students to name the "ingredients" of the Mass. They usually name bread, wine, a priest, people, the Roman Missal, the lectionary, and sometimes the church building itself. Although a church isn't absolutely necessary for Mass, it is our usual experience. So it's important that we recognize churches for what they are: the sacred buildings chosen to host the Eucharistic gathering we call the Mass. The Mass is our most important activity as a parish and, in this way, the church should be maintained even better than our hall, gym, school, or rectories.

Those of you who worship at Star of the Sea know the church is past due for a rehab. The carpets and pews are shot and the sanctuary needs a refresh. Having the bathrooms deep inside the sacristy is also problematic. So for the past few months a committee of parishioners has met to determine the priorities for an interior restoration. I've included the current list of priorities below. If you have any comments, feel free to e-mail me at jthomas@accatholic.org. More information will follow.

- Fr. Jon

Star of the Sea Church Restoration Plans

- * Refinishing and installation of pews in good condition purchased from a closed church. The new pews are not padded.
- * New luxury vinyl tile (LVT) floor throughout the vestibule, nave, and possibly sanctuary and choir loft. The current mix of carpet, tile, and linoleum will be replaced by the LVT.
- * New bathroom from current footprint of sacristy. The current sacristy door will lead to two other doors: one to a new ADA-compliant bathroom and the other to a smaller sacristy.
- * Installation of the altar from Old St. Monica's, originally from Holy Spirit Church
- * Repainting of walls
- * New audio system
- * Possible upgrading of the electrical system

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
APRIL 17, 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 609-345-3448.

Our Parishioners Give

The people of the Parish of Saint Monica raised \$105,000 in 2016 in response to the Bishop's Annual Appeal to support Catholic Charities and other diocesan ministries. Some of our parishioners also volunteer in the local office. Thank you all for your participation.

JOIN US

8th Annual Sister Shamus Walk

Our Lady Star of the Sea Regional School will hold its 8th Annual "Sister Shamus Walk" on Saturday, April 29, 2017. Registration will begin at 7:00 am in the school gymnasium. The walk begins at 8:30 am and will go from the gymnasium up to the boardwalk and back. Participants may walk 1, 2 or 3 miles.

Our Lady Star of the Sea Regional School is Absecon Island's last standing Catholic school. We are promoting community involvement and fitness while at the same time raising money for the school.

All members of the community are welcome to join our faculty, students, parents and alumni members for this event.

All donations may be made payable to Our Lady Star of the Sea Regional School and mailed to the School attention "Sister Shamus Walk" 15 N. California Ave, Atlantic City.

Prayer for the Parish

A Prayer for the Parish will be held on Monday April 17th and 24th after the 5:15 Mass. This is an opportunity for us to pray together as a group for the success of our Parish. This 45 minute period of prayer includes Eucharistic adoration and the rosary.

Palm Sunday

PLEASE NOTE - PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 9TH - **NO** 12 Noon Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church

Mass at 12 Noon will be celebrated at St. Michael's Church and St. Nicholas Church

The complete Easter Mass schedule is available in the vestibule at the information center and online at accatholic.org under "Quick Links."

Lent Penance Service

The Lenten Penance Service will be held on Monday, April 10 at 7:00 PM at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church.

Website Registration

Did you know this bulletin is available online? You can stay on top of what is happening in your parish. Go to **accatholic.org**. Register a user name on the website by clicking the box in the bottom right corner of the page. Make sure to get your parent's permission if you are under 18. A confirmation email will be sent to you. That's all it takes. Join up now!

BY THE NUMBERS

PARISH COLLECTION FOR MAR 25-26

OFFERTORY \$16,529.00
BUDGET \$12,506.00
POOR \$485.00

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!

EMPLOYEE GIVING CAMPAIGN

The **House of Charity** supports the religious and charitable works of the Catholic Church in South Jersey. Our parish's 2017 goal is **\$143,000**. With **\$47,901.00** of pledges from you so far, we have reached **33.4%** of our goal. For information about pledging, e-mail jthomas@accatholic.org.

"Help us through United way using code 445 or through PECC using code 9025. If you aren't asked for a code, write "House of Charity, 631 Market St, Camden NJ 08102" Ask to be acknowledged so your gift will count toward our parish's goal.

DIOCESANA MATRIMONIAL

La fecha límite es el 26 de mayo del 2017!
Si usted está celebrando su aniversario matrimonial número 25, 50, 60, 70 o más durante este año, Acompáñenos a celebrar la Misa con el Obispo Dennis Sullivan el Domingo, 18 de junio del 2017 a las 3:00pm (Tendremos un compartir sencillo después de la celebración en el salón parroquial)

Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish
Our Lady of Lourdes Church
500 Greentree Road
Glassboro, NJ 08028

Los formularios de inscripción están disponibles a través de su parroquia local. La fecha límite es el 26 de mayo del 2017. Para obtener más información póngase en contacto con la oficina de su parroquia.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Rehearsal for First Communion

Tuesday, April 18th 11:00 AM -12:30 PM English
Miercoles, Abril 19th 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Espanol

First Communion rehearsals will be during spring break

First Holy Communion

Sabado Mayo 6th 1:00 PM Espanol
Saturday May 6th 4:15 PM English
Sunday May 7th 9:00 AM English
Sabado Mayo 13th 10:00 AM Espanol

22ND ANNUAL NJ CATHOLIC YOUTH RALLY

Celebrate with your family! The 22nd Annual NJ Catholic Youth Rally will be held at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, NJ on May 21st. This event is open to all families, youth groups, schools, scouting troops and you! Tickets are \$50 and includes park admission, all-you-can-eat lunch buffet, return ticket and parking. The Archdiocese of Newark is hosting 6 PM Mass at Plymouth Rock Arena. If you have any questions about this event or would like to purchase tickets please call Martha A. Scutte at 856-583-2909 or email at martha.scutte@camdendiocese.org.

DIOCESAN WEDDING

If in this calendar year (01/01/17. through 12/31/17), you are celebrating a milestone wedding anniversary of 25, 50, 60 or 70 years or more of marriage, please join us in celebrating on Sunday, June 18, at 3:00 p.m. Mass in Glassboro, at Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish. Bishop Sullivan will be the celebrant. A light reception will follow in the parish hall. Registration forms are available at all parish offices. Registration deadline is May 26, 2017. For more information please contact the parish office.

LENTEN MASS

The Lenten Mass will be celebrated at Holy Cross Mausoleum Chapel in Mays Landing, NJ on Monday, April 10, 2017 at 10:00 AM.

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

QUINTO DOMINGO DE CUARESMA

*"Jesús le dijo: ¿No te dije que si crees, verás la gloria de Dios?"
Juan 11:40*

Muchos de nosotros decimos que creemos en Dios. Vamos a la iglesia el domingo. Nos ofrecemos como voluntarios para eventos en nuestra parroquia. Pero cuando la vida se pone dura, cuando se nos pone presión, cuando no es como nos gusta, ¿creemos de verdad?, ¿realmente ponemos nuestra confianza en el Señor? Cuando vivimos una vida de gratitud, siendo agradecidos por los dones que se nos han dado, realmente vemos que Dios provee todo lo que necesitamos.

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

Considere la posibilidad de releer Juan 11: 1-45 y luego reflexione sobre la pregunta apropiada a continuación.

Reflexión para Adultos: Jesús dice a los apóstoles: "Me alegro de no haber estado allí, para que creáis". ¿Cómo puedes relatar esta historia sobre Lázaro a la lectura del evangelio de la semana pasada sobre el hombre ciego de nacimiento? ¿Qué clase de milagros has visto que aumentan tu fe?

Reflexión para los niños: ¿Cómo le das las gracias a Jesús por cuidar bien a tus amigos?

ST. NICHOLAS GIFT 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 During Lent

Monday and Tuesday:	CLOSED
Wednesday and Thursday:	11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Friday:	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Saturday:	10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Sunday:	9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

STEWARDSHIP

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Stewards Believe

"Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?'" John 11:40

Many of us say that we believe in God. We go to church on Sunday. We volunteer for events at our parish. But when life gets hard, the pressure is on, things aren't going our way, do we really believe, do we really put our trust in the Lord? When as Christian **Stewards** we live a life of gratitude, being thankful for the gifts we have been given, we really do see that God is providing all that we need.

Word Of Life

Consider rereading John 11:1-45 then reflect upon the appropriate question below.

Reflection for Adults: Jesus tells the apostles, "I am glad I was not there, that you may believe." How can you relate this story about Lazarus to last week's gospel reading about the man born blind? What kinds of miracles have you seen that increase your faith?

Reflection for Children: How do you thank Jesus for taking good care of your friends?

Mass Intentions for the Week - April 2, 2017

OLSS Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Apr 1	4:15	Andrea Librone/Librone Family
		7:00	Jose Ruiz/ofrece su familia
Sunday	Apr 2	7:30	Bob Costello/Aquilla Formica & Family
		9:00	William & Audrey Fritz/The Ruffolo Family
		10:30	Rosa Ocana/ofrece su familia
		12:00	Marie Braithwaite & Rosie Smith/Rodney Braithwaite
		2:30	Mass for the People
Monday	Apr 3	6:30	Giỗ LH Phêrô/ các cháu xin
		7:00	Segundina Axalan/Gigi Quitain
Tuesday	Apr 4	5:15	Florence & Dan Fritz/Dan, Peggy & Trish
		7:00	Rose Marie (Mooney) Sites (L - 90th Birthday)/Family
Wednesday	Apr 5	5:15	Maria Theresa Sumbilzo/Berni Lee
		7:00	Minnie Little/Alfred & Delsa Bechard
Thursday	Apr 6	5:15	Patrick McGeehin/Mary Ellen & Rosemary Maguire
		7:00	Tatiana Arredondo/ofrece su familia
		7:00	Mass for the People
Friday	Apr 7	5:15	Irma & Raymond Gormley/Family
		6:30	Maria Mejia/ofrece su familia
		7:00	Evelyn Dounton/Danny Fritz
Saturday	Apr 8	5:15	Emma Mancini/Family
		7:00	Elvia Tacho/ofrece su familia
		8:00	Mass for the People
Sunday	Apr 9	4:15	Raymond Gormley/Family
		7:00	David Rodriguez/ofrece su familia
		7:30	Anna Christian/Mary Ellen Maguire & Sandy Parker
		9:00	Leonardo & Remedios Magalong/Cecilia Magalong
		10:30	Iris Benavides/ofrece su familia
		2:30	Noel Rodas/ofrece su familia
		6:30	Mass for the People

St. Nicholas Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Apr 1	4:00	Pinchot Family (L&D) Juan Devesa/Roger & Aida Reyes
Sunday	Apr 2	8:45	Holy Souls in Purgatory
		10:30	Dr. James Patrick Burke (L)
		12:00	James Patrick & Mary Teresa Burke Florence & Anne Provenchur/ Martha Dunham
Monday	Apr 3	12:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory Madeline Hopper & Family
Tuesday	Apr 4	12:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday	Apr 5	12:00	Holy Souls n Purgatory Madeline Hopper & Family
Thursday	Apr 6	12:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Friday	Apr 7	12:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory Purgatorial Society
Saturday	Apr 8	4:00	Pinchot Family (L & D) Holy Souls in Purgatory

St. Michael's Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Sunday	Apr 9	12:00	Angelina & Joseph Smedile/ The Family Haas & Iannarello Family/Maria Haas



Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.