



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 16, 2017 **Easter Sunday**

Easter Basket Giving



Saturday, April 8, Easter basket giveaway. Left: Parish volunteers stand with over 300 special baskets prepared for local children. This annual act of charity, held at St. Nicholas church, puts smiles on the faces of children who would otherwise have no candy this season. Right: Cheerful children get a chance to pose with the Easter Bunny!

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

Saturday April 29 at 4:15
Feast of St. Catherine of Siena

UPCOMING EVENTS

APR 21

Mary Help of Christians

- Meeting
- Quaremba Hall
15 N. Georgia Ave.
- Meeting starts at 12:30 PM

APR 28

Penny Auction

Sponsored by Mary Help of Christians

- Quaremba Hall
- Doors Open at 5:00 PM
- Auction begins at 7:00 PM

APR 29

8th Annual Sister Shamus Walk

- 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.

The Students, Faculty, and Staff of Our Lady Star of the Sea Regional School wish our school families and our parishioners a most holy and joyous Easter. We are grateful for the sacrifices you make to ensure that Catholic Education endures and for this we keep you in our prayers.

We congratulate the following March Stars of the Month who received recognition for their effort in Physical Education: Jayden Clisham, Quamir Brewer, Jabari Younger, Brian Scott, Giancarlo Canayunan, Daniel Shah, Claire Kelly, Dan Luna, Ahnjeles Maldonado, Steven Tran and their demonstration of patience: Analeigha Kelly, Alexander Portal, Santino Stanton, Emmabelle Nguyen, Sophia Damayo, Yailene Blanco, Thalia Taing, Ivan Beltran, Kimberly Rodriguez, Victoria Orengo, Cassidy Ross, Jeffrey DeJean

Classes resume Monday, April 24th following Easter break.

We hope you will support the Annual Sister Shamus Walk 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 is accepting registrations for the 2017-2018 school year for Pre K 3 to Grade 8 and for students with Individualized Service Plans. If you are seeking a quality Catholic education, individualized instruction in a small class environment where a high level of success is encouraged, let us help you make that possible. We welcome new families to witness firsthand what sets us apart in addressing the needs of our students spiritually, academically, and socially. Please call to take a tour the school and speak to our Principal, Mrs. Tarrant. 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."

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

Christ is Risen!

Not many of us have visited monasteries, but we imagine them anyway. They must be quiet places with little decoration and no amenities. The monks wake up very early to pray, eat, and work - a cycle they repeat a few times a day. And one day is hardly different from the other. We might assume that this pattern of living is to be preferred by Christians and provides the most direct route to holiness.

To the contrary, one of the geniuses of Catholicism - what makes it accessible to everyone - is that it follows a natural rhythm of life. Joy and sorrow, penance and celebration, feast and fast, death and Resurrection are built into the mysteries of the rosary, the liturgical calendar, and the heart of our Catholic faith. So every year I try to take Lent seriously, making true sacrifices throughout the season so as to anchor myself again in Christian moderation. When Easter arrives, I'm ready to celebrate - and I take the feasting just as seriously. It's what the Church wants. Good Friday is a day of both fasting and abstinence from meat. But everyday in the week after Easter Sunday is a solemnity, the highest rank of feast day. And the celebratory Easter season continues for 50 days until Pentecost, longer than the 40 days of Lent.

It helps that Easter often coincides with the warmer weather of spring. We all breathe a sigh of relief as we can at last spend more time outside. But if we follow the natural rhythm of the liturgical seasons, we will wake up excited on Easter morning even if the day is cold and rainy. It's because the liturgical calendar has immersed us in the life of Christ. Throughout Easter, some Christians use a special greeting. One says, "Christ is risen." The other says, "He is risen indeed." Of course, it's true that Christ's Resurrection took place 2,000 years ago and it's not any truer in the Easter season. But we know that we can take things for granted. The liturgical seasons help us to appreciate the events of Christ's life all over again.

Even though the Resurrection is a past event, it has enduring value. It proves something to us. Remember how on Holy Thursday evening, in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus placed his complete trust in his Father with great difficulty, after fervent prayers and literally sweating blood. He taught his disciples to do the same, promising that the Father would always care for them. The Resurrection proves Jesus' lesson. He laid down his life but the Father raised it up again. Likewise, when we practice the Christian faith, obeying the commandments, emulating the virtues, and discerning God's will for us, God will give us every good thing - even more than we can imagine.

I'm so proud that our parishioners bring the power of the Resurrection into the lives of our neighbors in Atlantic City. The food distribution at St. Nicholas does this every month. Now we're delivering food from Quaremba Hall to homebound residents. Other parishioners delight in the seasonal distributions of Christmas toys and Easter baskets. Did you read The Press article about our distribution last Saturday? A ton of parishioners were involved in the project, which was a terrific success. A special shout-out to our high school youth ministry and youth leader Liz Guerra for organizing the activities for the children while they waited to receive the baskets.

Now, let's all go out and make Easter a joyful time for our families, friends, neighbors, and even the strangers among us. Christ is risen!

"... the genius of Catholicism is that it follows a natural rhythm of life."

- 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
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.

Penny Auction sponsored by Mary Help of Christians

A Penny Auction will be held on Friday, April 28, 2017 in Quaremba Hall, 15 N. Georgia Ave., Atlantic City. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and the auction begins at 7:00 p.m. Great prizes, good food and lots of fun. Benefits Our Lady Star of the Sea Regional School. Free parking available on illuminated lot.

Stardust Winners

April 10, 2017

First Prize - \$2,938.00

#464 - Florence LaMonica - Mineola, NY

Second Prize - \$488.00

#152 - Diane McAndrews - Philadelphia, PA

Third Prize - \$488.00

#865 - AC Moose Lodge #216 - Atlantic City, NJ

Fourth Prize - \$488.00

#736 - Michael Joyce - Randolph, NJ

Fifth Prize - \$488.00

#31 - James T. Poirier - Alexandria, VA

Congratulations to the winners !!

BY THE NUMBERS

PARISH COLLECTION FOR APR 8 & 9

OFFERTORY	\$19,862.00
BUDGET	\$12,506.00
POOR	\$368.00

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!

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

Around the Diocese

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, Acompañenos 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.

Afternoon of Jazz

Don't miss this 26th annual dinner dance to benefit the Diocesan Black Catholic Ministries' Scholarship Fund on Sun., April 23, 3 – 8 p.m. at Masso's Crystal Manor, 210 S. Delsea Dr., Glassboro. Send a check made out to "Diocese of Camden" for \$40 per person and mail it to James E. Andrews, Director, Black Catholic Ministries, 631 Market St., Camden, NJ 08102. Questions? Contact James at (856) 583-2907 or James.Andrews@camdendiocese.org.

Regarding burial and the cremation

A document was released in October by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith compiling the Church's teachings. Please look for the summary of this document entitle *To Rise with Christ* in your church bulletin or gathering space. For more information, please contact your parish ministers or visit us at SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org or via phone at 855-MyPrePlan (855-697-7375).

2018 Holy Land Pilgrimage

Father Robert Hughes is leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land departing from Philadelphia on Thursday, February 15, 2018 and returning February 24th. Visit all of the sites important to our Catholic Faith from Mount Carmel and the Sea of Galilee to Jerusalem and Bethlehem. The cost is \$3,629 per person double occupancy and includes roundtrip airfare, 8 nights at centrally located first class hotels, airport transfers, transportation by air-conditioned motor coach, breakfast daily, dinner with wine daily, professional Catholic guides, all admissions per itinerary, Mass and spiritual activities daily, luggage handling (1 bag), flight bag and portfolio of travel documents. Not included are lunches, tips to guide and driver, and optional travel insurance. An optional post-tour to Assisi (2 nights) and Rome (2 nights) is also available. To register online please visit www.pilgrimages.com/frhughes; for more information contact Robert.hughes@camdendiocese.org or call 856-583-2807.

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

DOMINGO DE PASCUA

"Pongan sus mentes en las cosas de arriba, no en las que están en la tierra." COLOSENSES 3: 2

¿Pones a Dios primero en todas las cosas? Posesiones, dinero, poder, ego, pueden convertirse fácilmente en dioses para muchos de nosotros. Haz una revisión rápida de lo que es importante para usted. ¿Está Dios en lo más alto de la lista? Si no es así, tus prioridades deben ser reajustadas. No permita que las cosas terrenales se conviertan en un dios ante Dios.

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.

Palabra de Vida

Considere la posibilidad de releer Juan 20: 1-9 y luego reflexione sobre la pregunta apropiada que se encuentra a continuación.

Reflexión para los adultos: La lectura de hoy nos dice que los discípulos no entendieron que Jesús tenía que levantarse de entre los muertos. Jesús les dijo repetidamente que esto sucedería. ¿Por qué crees que les costaba creer?

Reflexión para los niños: ¿Crees que Jesús resucitó de entre los muertos? ¿Por qué? ¿Cómo es esto posible?

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

EASTER SUNDAY

Stewards Look Above

"Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth." COLOSSIANS 3:2

Do you put God first in all things? Possessions, money, power, ego can easily become gods to many of us. Do a quick check on your **Stewardship**. Is God at the very top of the list? If not, your priorities need to be re-adjusted. Don't let earthly things become a god before God.

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.

Word Of Life

Consider rereading John 20:1-9 then reflect upon the appropriate question below.

Reflection for Adults: Today's reading tells us that the disciples did not understand that Jesus had to rise from the dead. Jesus told them repeatedly that this would happen. Why do you think they found it hard to believe?

Reflection for Children: Do you believe that Jesus rose from the dead? Why? How is this possible?

Mass Intentions for the Week - April 16, 2017

OLSS Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Apr 15	8:00	Easter Vigil
Sunday	Apr 16	7:30	Mass for the People
		9:00	Erick Ericksen/G.L. Warrington
		10:30	Rosa Feliciano/ofrece su familia
		12:00	Persecuted Christians/Christopher Simonetti
		2:30	Rosa Damian/ofrece su familia
		6:30	LH AnnaMaria Giỗ 100 Ngày/ Gia Đình xin
Monday	Apr 17	7:00	Anne Penny (L)/Tom & Clara Depko
		5:15	Mr. Ricardo Castro/Vesper Family
Tuesday	Apr 18	7:00	Alejandro Almario/Elsie Almarrio
		5:15	Holy Souls/Berni Lee
Wednesday	Apr 19	7:00	Pat & Bob Weber/Dan Fritz
		5:15	Toots & Danny Coan/Mary Ruane
		7:00	Eliazar Mendoza/ofrece su familia
Thursday	Apr 20	7:00	John DeMaris/Dan Fritz
		5:15	Catherine Scaldeferri (Healing)/Cecilia Magalong
		6:30	Edwin Lopez/ofrece su familia
Friday	Apr 21	7:00	Pilar Morales/Gina Dixon
		5:15	Frances Garofola/Marcia Mancini
		7:00	Alfredo Calero/ofrece su familia

OLSS Church

Saturday	Apr 22	8:00	Arlene McCarty/Norm & Vickie Ervine
		4:15	Emmett & Peg Delany/Margie, Barbara & Bob
		7:00	Adela Sandoval/ofrece su familia
Sunday	Apr 23	7:30	John Krumaker/Joe Formica
		9:00	Ken Beck/Mary Beck
		10:30	Mass for the People
		12:30	Al Bigler/Bigler Family
		2:30	Edelmira Dona/ofrece su familia
		6:30	LH Giuse Đỗ Huy/ Gia Đình xin

St. Nicholas Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Apr 15	8:00	Vigil Mass at OLSS Church 2651 Atlantic Ave.
Sunday	Apr 16	8:45	Joseph Persenda/wife Sara & Family
			Madeline Hopper & Family
		10:30	Formica & Cesario Family (L & D)
			Zarych Family (L & D)
		12:00	William & Theresa Nolan
			Karabasian Family (L)/Tony Zarych
Monday	Apr 17	8:00	Most Abandoned Souls
			Madeline Hopper & Family
Tuesday	Apr 18	8:00	James Patrick & Mary Teresa Burke
			Demetria & Alejandro Ferrer
Wednesday	Apr 19	8:00	Dr. James Patrick Burke (L)
			Madeline Hopper & Family
Thursday	Apr 20	8:00	Madeline Hopper & Family
Friday	Apr 22	8:00	Burke & Cox Families (L & D)

Remembering Sister Grace Nolan

I regret to have learned of the recent passing of Sister Grace Nolan, a cherished figure in our community, and wish to express my deepest sympathy. Between her time spent teaching and working with the Atlantic City branch of Catholic Charities, it clearly shows her loving and caring spirit. Her well known sense of humor and charismatic personality only compounded these truths. Sister Grace will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by the lives she has touched. I am certain Sister Grace had many stories to share with her students, parish and our community from her incredibly altruistic life.

Please know that I am keeping you in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Donald A. Guardian, Mayor of Atlantic City