



Parish of Saint Monica

Atlantic City, NJ



The Parish of Saint Monica serves all of Atlantic City. It includes the churches of Our Lady Star of the Sea, St. Nicholas of Tolentine, and St. Michael's.

March 10, 2019 **First Sunday of Lent**

"CARNIVAL AROUND THE WORLD"



Last Sunday the Black Catholic Ministry hosted "Carnival Around the World" in preparation for the upcoming Lenten Season. A good time was had by all.

MASS SCHEDULE

Our Lady Star of the Sea
2651 ATLANTIC AVENUE

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 8:00 AM, 4:15 PM
7:00 PM (Spanish)
Sunday 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM
10:30 AM (Spanish)
12:00 Noon
2:30 PM (Spanish)
6:30 PM (Vietnamese)

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. - Fri. 7:00 AM, 5:15 PM
Wednesday 7:00 PM (Spanish)
Thursday 6:30 PM (Spanish)
Friday 7:00 PM (Spanish)

Saint Nicholas of Tolentine
1409 PACIFIC AVENUE

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 10:30 AM
12:00 Noon

DAILY MASS

Mon. - Fri. 8:00 AM

Saint Michael's Church
10 N. MISSISSIPPI AVENUE

First Sunday of the Month
April 7, 2019 at 10:00 AM

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat/Sun, Mar. 9-10	Sun, Mar. 10	Tues, Mar. 12
Easter Basket Sponsor	200 Club Mass	Confirmation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After every mass OLSS & St. Nicholas \$5.00 donation Purchase at Welcome Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30 AM St. Nicholas Honors Fallen Police Officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 PM OLSS By Bishop Dennis Sullivan No 5:15 PM Mass No Bible Study

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish of Saint Monica • 2651 Atlantic Avenue • Atlantic City, NJ 08401
www.accatholic.org • phone 609-345-1878 • fax 609-348-0248

Our Lady Star of the Sea School • 15 North California Avenue • 609-345-0648

Catholic Charities • 9 North Georgia Avenue • 609-345-3448

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 Kathleen Given.

WANT TO BECOME CATHOLIC?

Classes have begun. Contact Fr. Jon for time and place.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the office when a parishioner is seriously sick so one of the priests may visit.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mondays
Grades 1 to 6 - 5:45 PM to 7:00 PM
Grades 6 to 12 - 7:00 PM to 8:15 PM
Adults - 7:00 PM to 8:15 PM

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Wednesday after the 5:15 Mass.

ROSARY

Monday - Friday after 7 AM Mass and before 5:15 PM Mass. Saturday after 8:00 AM Mass.

PADRE PIO MASS

Devotions to Padre Pio occur before and after the Thursday 5:15 PM Mass. They include veneration of a first-class relic.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Letters of suitability cannot be issued to persons not registered with the parish. You can register in person, in the office, or online.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Saturday and Sunday
CLOSED

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 unite our multicultural community through the Catholic values of Academic excellence, compassionate service and respect for all!"

TALK AND TOUR

Our Lady Star of the Sea School will host a Talk and Tour on Thursday, March 14. Talk and Tour offers families an opportunity to visit OLSS in a small group, visit the classes, and talk with administrators who can answer your questions. The program begins at 9:30 a.m. and highlights include a welcome from our Principal, Mrs. Tarrant, an overview of the blended learning program, and a presentation for parents about helping young learners adjust to school. To sign-up for the Talk and Tour, please call Sister Kathy at 609-345-2111.

STARS CARE

Stars Cares is the student outreach program at Our Lady Star of the Sea School. Each week, OLSS students make choices to skip a snack or treat in order to donate to the Stars Care collection. The proceeds are used to support local charitable organizations and address emergency needs in the community, locally and globally. In March, students collected \$119.54 bringing their donations since October to a total of \$701.82. We thank and congratulate our students for their generosity!

SAVE THE DATE - ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST

OLSS will host its second annual "All You Can Eat Breakfast" buffet on Sunday, April 14, featuring a selection of bacon, eggs, sausage, pork roll, pancakes, coffee tea, and juice. The cost of admissions is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children. Children under 3 eat free. The Breakfast is held in the school cafeteria from 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. and all proceeds benefit the students and programs of Our Lady Star of the Sea School. Additional parking is available that day across the street at the Police Department lot.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Jon P. Thomas
Pastor

Rev. Andrew T. Pham
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Cesar A. Rebolledo
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Robert Matysik
Hospital Chaplain

Joan Parker
Business Manager

Erick Duran
Facilities Manager

Maria Isabel Duran
*Religious Education
Coordinator*

Laura Bello
Pastoral Associate

Kathleen Given
Pastoral Associate

Maria Isabel Espinoza
*Secretary and Safe
Environment Coordinator*

CONTACT

PARISH OFFICE
609-345-1878

RELIGIOUS ED
609-345-1878 Ext-24

SCHOOL
609-345-0648

SCHOOL CONVENT
609-347-0434

ST. MICHAEL'S CONVENT
609-343-1545

WEB SITE
accatholic.org

The Faith Page

We attend Mass not only to witness the sacrifice of Christ but to become part of it.

"I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God." - *Romans 12:1*

"May he [Christ] make of us an eternal offering to you [the Father], so that we may obtain an inheritance with your elect." - *Eucharistic Prayer III*

"Tacking into the wind"

In a previous assignment, I complimented a parishioner who had lost a lot of weight. "How did you do it?" I asked. "Atkins? South Beach? Paleo? Keto?" I still remember his answer: "Healthy eating, exercise, and enough sleep. They're the body's natural cleansers."

These days, a lot of people are prescribing cures for the Church's ailments, like constant scandals and dwindling membership. Some propose modernization, like diversifying the Church's leadership and promoting transparency and accountability. Others propose a return to former days of the Latin Mass and a distinct Catholic culture.

As a pastor, I can only help set the vision for our parish. At St. Monica's, my vision has always been doing the basics extremely well. So what does healthy eating, exercise, and sleep look like for our parish?

The average person's expectation of Church membership is growth in holiness, though they might express it with different words, e.g. "getting closer to God," "being more spiritual." This is why every bulletin has questions to help us reflect on the Sunday readings, why we've distributed booklets after Masses a few times over the last three years, why I offer a weekly Bible study. Most parishioners have many obligations, so I am less enthused about asking them to pass time at the parish in socials and fundraisers. People can be entertained elsewhere, but the Church is one of the few places that teach growth in holiness.

I also think our parish needs goals specific to its circumstances. Our parish has two great goals: the survival and growth of Our Lady Star of the Sea School and the interior restoration of St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church. These goals are ambitious. Star of the Sea School's enrollment has steadily declined in the last several years. Few families can afford the tuition, which is already subsidized by the parish and many wonderful donors. To persevere, the school will have to be creative. On the other hand, we know what it will take to restore St. Nicholas: about \$1 million!

The bishop launched the Catholic Strong campaign to help parishes raise significant funds for goals such as these. Unfortunately, we did not even raise 50% of our goal.

Although these goals came from you, the parishioners, I know that some of you lose faith when you are confronted with the considerable challenges of reaching them - and perhaps also the disillusionment from the national and international news about the Church. Perhaps you have wondered whether the time has passed for Star of the Sea School and St. Nicholas Church.

I want you to know your pastor's opinion: their time has not passed. A parochial school connects us with the wider community in ways that a religious education program or youth ministry cannot. Even non-Catholics respect our commitment to education. St. Nicholas's unofficial status as the "cathedral" of Atlantic City attracts the majority of the city's visitors and allows us to host important civic events. Imagine our parish with only Star of the Sea Church. Our ability to reach the community would be significantly impaired.

Help parishioners grow in holiness, grow Star of the Sea School, restore St. Nicholas. Let me add one more prescription for our parish's health. We have to reach out. The Catholic Church is hurting, but Atlantic City may be hurting more. Poor leadership, corruption, and apathy have hurt this city. We Christians know that money alone cannot fuel the city's renaissance. Moral and social development are even more necessary. The parish halls host a lot of civic events and I attend a lot more. I hope that our parishioners will be active members of their neighborhood associations. I hope that we will turn out in large numbers for meetings at which critical decisions will be made. It's hard to be proud Catholics these days. Despite that, we still have something to offer.

The good news is that we don't have to follow strange diets - or complex strategies - to save our parish during this crisis of the Church. The challenge is that doing the basics extremely well is going to take a lot of work. I hope that you will join me in seeing it through.

Fr. Jon

How We Serve

FOOD PANTRY

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 18, 2019

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

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> or call 609-345-3448.

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.

BEGGARS POLICY

At recent meetings, the pastoral council has discussed the challenge of beggars on our grounds and in our churches. The council approved this policy.

1. Soliciting money from parishioners and others on our property is grounds for immediate removal by staff or police. Therefore, parishioners are asked not to encourage solicitors by giving money.

If you have been solicited, you may report it to the Welcome & Information Center or an usher. If you want to help personally, a safe alternative to giving money is buying food at the 7 Eleven locations next to Star of the Sea and St. Nicholas.

2. Beggars are welcome to come to the parish office during weekday business hours or to the Welcome & Information Center during weekend Masses. At the office, they can receive a light meal and a personal referral to a social service agency. At both the office and the Welcome Centers, they can receive a package with a pair of socks, a hat and/or gloves.

3. Homeless are generally welcome to sleep in the parish churches outside of Mass. Sleeping during Mass, however, is grounds for removal from the church.

If someone is sleeping during Mass, you may report it to the Welcome & Information Center or an usher.

Join Us

Holy Spirit High School presents "Hello Dolly"

When: March 15 - 16 at 7 PM
March 17 at 2 PM

Where: High School Theatre, Absecon, NJ

Tickets: \$12 adults-10 students & senior

Mary Help of Christians Meeting

When: Friday March 22, 2019

Time: 12:00 PM

Where: Quaremba Hall

Marriage Preparation

When: Saturday March 23, 2019

Time: 8:30 AM - 2:45 PM

Where: St. Simon Stock Parish
178 W. White Horse Pike, Berlin, NJ

Contact: Sue @ 856-767-2563 for registration

Lent Retreat By OLSS Charismatic Renovation with Fr. John Jairo Franco

When: Saturday March 16, 2019

Time: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Where: Memorial Hall (Gym)

Contact: 609-992-9504 / 609-335-6967
609-816-5972

Donation: \$10.00

Easter Basket Volunteers!

When: April 3 - 4, 2019

Time: 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Where: St. Nicholas Rectory

"Need help preparing baskets for children"

Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass

When: Sunday June 16, 2019

Time: 3:00 PM

Where: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

591 New Jersey Ave., Absecon, NJ 08201

Requirement: Fill out a form at your Parish Office

BY THE NUMBERS

PARISH COLLECTION FOR MAR. 02 - MAR. 03

OFFERTORY	\$13,675.00
BUDGET	\$15,609.00
POOR BOX	\$677.00

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

NUMBER OF REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS 2280

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!

WHY A SECOND COLLECTION?

About 15 times a year, the US bishops ask parishes to take a second collection for a special cause of national or international significance. For the sake of simplicity, our parish always takes a second collection. On unassigned Sundays, the second collection supports our parish in the same way as the first.

GIFT SHOPPE / MASS INTENTION

The Gift Shoppe at St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church is open thirty minutes before and after each weekend Mass. The shoppe can accommodate your Mass Intention Requests.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 11:00am - 3:00pm

Contact

Maria Isabel Duran, Director
mduran@accatholic.org

609-345-1878 ext. 24 - Direct 609-470-9157

"Prayers"

"Thank you God for giving my family and I another day to live. Please help those in need and help my parents to be able to buy a new house soon please." - Teresa Guadalupe Cabrera Andrae

"Pray for my mom so she can get better." - Marlene Santiago-Lopez

"God bless my family." - Michelle

BLACK CATHOLIC MINISTRY

Special Thank You!

The Black Catholic Leadership Ministry would like to thank all those who joined us on Sunday, March 3rd. for our first "CARNIVAL." We thank you for a well attended and successful event.

FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE RENEWAL

"Heart to Heart" Monthly Gathering for Teenagers

When: Saturday, March 17, 2019
Time: 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM
Where: St. Michael's Church
Includes: Pizza at Quaremba Hall then Adoration at the Church
Contact: Sr. Ann Kateri, CFR @ 609-343-1545

FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE RENEWAL

"First Saturday Reflection Day"

When: Saturday, April 6, 2019
Time: 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Where: St. Michael's Church
Includes: Mass, a Talk by a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal, Free Lunch in Quaremba Hall, Adoration, Confessions, Music, Rosary, Eucharistic Healing Service, and Benediction.
Contact: Sr. Chiara, CFR @ 609-343-1545



**Convocation
of Catholic Leaders**
The Joy of the Gospel in South Jersey

In March 2019, 650+ invited individuals from parishes across the diocese will gather at the Convocation of Catholic Leaders: The Joy of the Gospel in South Jersey to focus on building missionary disciples. Over four days, these lay leaders will pray, reflect, learn and talk with one another. They will then be commissioned to go back to their parishes with the task of reinvigorating and reenergizing their parishioners, ministries and communities. Pray for the pastors and lay leaders that the Holy Spirit works within each of them and empowers them to continue to build the kingdom of God.

Ministerio Hispano

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. La celebración del sacramento será los Domingos en la misa de las 2:30 PM.

Requisitos para bautismo

- 1- Llenar formulario e inscribirse en la oficina
- 2- Traer copia del certificado de nacimiento
- 3- Tomar la clase pre-bautismal

Presentación de niños

Se realizarán solo los Domingos en la misa de las 2:30 PM

Confesiones

- 1- Miércoles, Jueves, Viernes y Sábados serán antes de misa
- 2- Domingo antes de la misa de las 2:30 PM
- 3- En hora de oficina con cita solamente

EDUCACION RELIGIOSA

Horas de Oficina

Lunes - Jueves 11:00am - 3:00pm

Contactar

María Isabel Duran, Directora

mduran@accatholic.org

609-345-1878 ext. 24 - Directo 609-470-9157

"Oraciones"

"Dios te doy gracias por que hoy mi hermana Jacqueline y yo recibiremos el bautismo. Te pido que nos del bien. Amen" - Alexander Cacotla -Valladolid

RENOVACION CARISMATICA CATOLICA

Siervos De Cristo - Grupo de Oración

2nd y 3rd Miércoles del mes después de la Misa a las 7 PM en Nuestra Señora Estrella del Mar

"Y todos quedaron llenos del Espíritu Santo, y comenzaron a hablar en otras lenguas, según el Espíritu hacia que hablarán" – Hechos 2,4

"ORACIÓN PARA LA CONVOCACIÓN DE LÍDERES CATÓLICOS DEL 2019"

OH, ESPÍRITU SANTO, TÚ, QUE PRIMERO ENCENDISTE EN NUESTROS CORAZONES LA ALEGRÍA DEL EVANGELIO, RENUEDA ESA MISMA ALEGRÍA EN AQUELLOS QUE SE REUNIRÁN PARA ASISTIR A LA CONVOCACIÓN DE LÍDERES CATÓLICOS: LA ALEGRÍA DEL EVANGELIO EN EL SUR DE JERSEY.

CONTINÚA ENARDECIENDO LOS CORAZONES DE NUESTRO OBISPO, NUESTROS SACERDOTES Y SUS DELEGACIONES PARROQUIALES; A TODOS LOS CLÉRIGOS, RELIGIOSOS Y ORADORES; Y A TODOS LOS QUE HACEN POSIBLE ESTE EVENTO.

MUÉVENOS A DAR LA ACOGIDA A LA PALABRA DE VIDA EN LO MÁS PROFUNDO DE NUESTROS CORAZONES Y A RESPONDER AL LLAMADO DEL DISCIPULADO MISIONERO.

OH ESPÍRITU SANTO; TRANSFORMA NUESTROS CORAZONES Y PERMÍTENOS ENTRAR EN LA PERFECTA COMUNIÓN QUE COMPARTES CON EL PADRE Y EL HIJO.

MARÍA INMACULADA, TÚ QUE RECIBISTE EL EVANGELIO POR PRIMERA VEZ, RUEGA POR NOSOTROS. AMÉN

CORRESPONSABILIDAD

10 de Marzo del 2019

Primer Domingo de Cuaresma

" Y ahora yo traigo las primicias de los productos del suelo que tú, Yahveh, me has dado.» ". (Deuteronomio 26:10)

Esta línea del Antiguo Testamento ofrece dos desafíos. Primero, ¿le das a Dios de tus "primicias", lo mejor que tienes para ofrecer, o das de lo que queda? Segundo, ¿reconoces que todo lo que tienes te ha sido dado por Dios? Pídale a Dios un corazón agradecido y generoso, todos los días, en cualquier circunstancia.

Misa Diocesana de Aniversario de Bodas

Cuando: Domingo 16 de Junio del 2019

Hora: 3:00 PM

Donde: Parroquia St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

591 New Jersey Ave., Absecon, NJ 08201

Requisito: Llenar un formulario en su Parroquia

Mass Intentions for the Week - March 10, 2019

Our Lady Star of the Sea

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Mar.09	8:00	
		4:15	Mass for the People
		7:00	
Sunday	Mar.10	7:30	
		9:00	John Chrisp / Parishioners
		10:30	Romanita Torres(L) / Jack Imfeld
		12:00	
		2:30	
		6:30	Thanksgiving / Hiễn Vân
Monday	Mar.11	7:00	
		5:15	
Tuesday	Mar.12	7:00	
		5:15	
Wednesday	Mar.13	7:00	
		5:15	Frank DiGeorgio / Ann D'Addario
		7:00	
Thursday	Mar.14	7:00	
		5:15	John & Ann Gill / Wolf Family
		6:30	
Friday	Mar.15	7:00	Elizabeth Freund (L) / Family
		5:15	Mary Kiska / Rose Mary & Mary Ellen Maguire
Saturday	Mar.16	7:00	
		8:00	Claudia Thomas Billings / Family
		4:15	Claudia Thomas Billings / Family
Sunday	Mar.17	7:00	
		7:30	McGettigan, Hodge, Tuohy Family / Theresa McGettigan Kennedy
		9:00	Rosalie Kirkland (D) / Maryanne & Marilyn Kirkland
		10:30	
		12:00	Mass for the People
		6:30	Linh Hồn Phêrô, Lễ giỗ/ Bà Xuất Phi

St. Nicholas Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	Mar.09	4:00	Dave Peters / Daniel Dailey
Sunday	Mar.10	10:30	*Dr. & Mrs. Allan Simpson / Family *Sgt. Kenny Brown / Michele Baglivo *Patty Stinsman / Karen Warlich
		12:00	Michael Krajkovich Sr. / Lew & Anna Merkle
		8:00	Madeline Hopper & Family
Monday	Mar.11	8:00	Deceased Members of the Troy & Morris Families / Mary J. Morris
Tuesday	Mar.12	8:00	
Wednesday	Mar.13	8:00	Madeline Hopper & Family
Thursday	Mar.14	8:00	Living & Deceased Members of the Burke & Cox Families
Friday	Mar.15	8:00	Madeline Hopper & Family
Saturday	Mar.16	4:00	James Lorenc / Frances & Wayne Johnson
Sunday	Mar.17	10:30	*Holy Souls in Purgatory *Madeline Hopper & Family *Living & Deceased Members of the McDermott & McDowell Families
		12:00	Valerie Louis Smythe / Ian Angotti

"Homebound Request"
If someone you know is homebound and would like to receive communion, please call the parish office.

St. Michael's Church

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Sunday	Apr.07	10:00	Luigi & Maria Calderon / Maria Bongiovanni & Family
Sunday	May.05	10:00	Mary DiGiovanni / Mary Help of Christians