


OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA



First
Sunday
of Lent



*The Sanctuary Candle burns this week
For Rory & Christopher Barry*



The Altar Guild would like to offer all members of the Parish an opportunity to honor and remember loved ones on a birthday, anniversary, or a memorial event by placing flowers on the altar. The book with available dates is located on the bookshelf in the lobby.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

4:30pm **Elsie Barelli**
(req. by Rosalie Mastropaolo)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

9:00am **Greg Gjuraj**
(req. by Payne family)
11:00am **Jean Marie McLaughlin**
(req. by O'Rourke family)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

8:00am **Ann & J. Stewart Thorne** (req. by family)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

8:00am **Christine Cavallini** (req. by Bob & Terry Unnold)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

8:00am **Helena & Stefan Sienkiewicz**
(req. by Dobryzinski family)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

8:00am **Douglas Kane** (req. by family)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

8:00am **Aileen O'Keeffe White** (req. by family)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

4:30pm **Kol Gjuraj** (req. by family)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

9:00am **Vincent S. Morano** (req. by Joan & Paul Paolucci)
11:00am **Rory & Christopher Barry** (req. by Verina)



1st Sunday of Lent

Why do we always go to the desert? We see this example in Scripture time and time again. The Israelites wandered in the desert. King David and prophets were driven into the wilderness. And now Jesus is in the same place. Lent after Lent, we too are invited into a barren, desolate place. Why do we always go to the desert? Throughout Scripture, the desert is a place of testing. It's also a place of hiding and withdrawal. In the Old Testament, David fled into the wilderness to hide from Saul, Elijah from Jezebel, and Jonah from God! In other words, the desert is a place of "retreat." In Christian circles, we use the word to describe a spiritual weekend away. But its meaning comes from warfare, as we well know. To retreat means to draw back, to separate oneself from the fighting. Of course, a military retreat brings its own kind of "battle" -- the internal assessment of why the fighting went so poorly. As we enter into this Lenten season, we are invited to retreat into the desert with Jesus. Attending a day or weekend of reflection is a wonderful spiritual practice. This "desert spirituality," however, can fill all forty days. We can fulfill our Lenten resolutions with a purpose -- writing daily notes to family and friends can inspire new gratitude, every time we pass up that specific food item can be cause for intercession for deeper sufferings and privations of others. The Gospel tells us that "the Spirit drove him out into the desert." In other words, God wants us to be here. What feels uncomfortable is actually part of our spiritual journey. To be stretched, to be challenged, to confront our own areas of weakness -- these things are essential in our walk with God. This Lent, will you go to the desert?



WEEKLY COLLECTION:

This Year (02-11-18) \$ 3,089;
Last Year (02-12-17) \$ 3,144;

Utilities
\$ 971



Every Friday
of Lent at
7PM

*From the Organ Bench
Thank you all for your prayers, I am much, much better! The end of January I fell down my stairs, and landed in Bridgeport Hospital with two broken ribs and a partially collapsed lung. My kids came out to help me, and your prayers were instrumental in my recovery. This weekend I am on my annual 8 day silent retreat with the Jesuits in Gloucester MA. I will pray for all of you, dear ones!*



- Ruth

SAVE the DATE!



March 10-11:
OLSS Parish
Ministry Fair

Representatives from
Malta House, New Covenant Center,
St. Joseph's Parenting Center,
HomeFront and Building One Community
will provide information on the works being
done by their organizations and how the
members of our parish ministries can participate



The Leadership Institute works in tandem with parishes to ensure effective sacramental preparation by offering opportunities for support, formation and mentoring for parish leaders. Our collective mission is that all who are preparing to receive the sacraments may be transformed by their encounter with Jesus through the sacraments.

OLSS: Rosary Prayer Group

The rosary prayer group would like to include you in our prayers. A box has been placed on the bookshelves for you to place your intentions. We will pray for all intentions at our next meeting.

All are welcome.

Questions or prayer requests can be sent to

Mary Sabato; marytso718@gmail.com or call 914-714-5806



Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish has been providing the First Friday lunch meal every month at the New Covenant Center since the 1970's! That is a lot of meals! Here's how it works: There are four teams each preparing, delivering and serving the lunch meal three times per year. Team 1 needs a few new team members to grow the cooking and serving teams. If you are interested in finding out more about the leadership role or would like to join Team 1, please contact Maureen Carson at 203-324-2224 or at maureenscarson@aol.com. Thank You!



To register go to : www.covivo-us.org



Save the Date!
The next OLSS Book Club Meeting will be Saturday, April 14th. Join us for a discussion of The Story of a Soul by St. Thérèse of Lisieux. More details to follow

YOU'RE INVITED!

Family-style dinner Games
"Celebrity" wait staff D.J.
Trivia

JOIN GOOD COUNSEL MALTA HOUSE FOR A CASUAL FRIDAY DINNER

"For the Love of Babies"

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2018, STARTING AT 7:00 P.M.
\$50 PER PERSON

ST. ANN CLUB
16 HENDRICKS AVENUE, NORWALK, CT 06851
To R.S.V.P.

Contact Carey Dougherty, Director of Development at Good Counsel Malta House
203-857-0088, carey_dougherty@goodcounselhomes.org

St. Joseph's Parenting Center and New Covenant Center are looking for donations of: Cereal, Pasta, Rice, Baby food, Canned foods: Fish and meat, vegetables and fruits, canned pasta, stew and soups, Peanut butter and Jelly, Beans (black, pink, red), Tomato sauce, Tea mix and bags, Lemonade mix, Prepared meals, Baking goods, including small bags of flour, Sugar and Vegetable oil. Donations can be left in the basket in the church lobby. Thank you for your continued generosity.



Our Lady Star of the Sea is teaming up with HomeFront again this spring!

For 30 years HomeFront, a Stamford based, a community program dedicated to keeping low-income families in their homes with improved quality of life through basic repairs completed by volunteers at no cost to them. If you'd like to volunteer or find out how you can help please contact Ken Wiegand 203.348.9928 or email him at kcwiegand@aol.com

Let's Make a Difference, Together!

CLOTHING DRIVE

March 3-10: Clothing Drive for Norwalk Open Door Shelter Lightly worn outerwear such as pants, shirts, light jackets for men, women, children. New socks, underwear (tee shirts, shorts)