

Our Lady Star of the Sea

1st Sunday of Advent

9:00 & 11:00 am Masses

Guest Homilist



Fr. Herald Joseph Brock, CFR

Back by popular demand! Fr. Herald Brock, CFR, returns to OLSS on the First Sunday of Advent to share Reflections - helping us to prepare our hearts and minds for the approaching miracle of Christmas.

Fr. Herald Joseph Brock, CFR, is a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal based at St. Crispin Friary in the Bronx. He serves as director of St. Anthony Shelter, a refuge for homeless men. For over twenty years, Fr. Harold has worked among the world's poorest -- including in Honduras and the South Sudan -- sharing Christ's message of love and compassion.

WWW.OURLADYSTAROFTHESEASTAMFORD.ORG



The Sanctuary Candle burns this week
For the Riley children



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, DECEMBER 2

4:30pm **Danielle Marie Serafin**
(req. by Iwaszkiewicz family)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

9:00am **Riley children** (req.by family)
11:00am **Stephen Charles** (req. by O'Rourke family)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

8:00am **Jack Hagan** (req. by Charcalis family)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

8:00am **Deceased members of Bersha family** (req by family)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

8:00am **Kol Gjuraj** (req. by family)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

8:00am **Jose Pastilha** (req. by Neto family)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

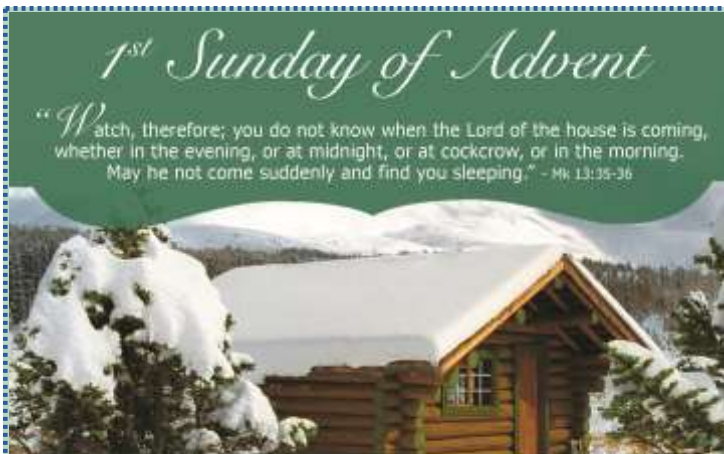
8:00am **Special Intention**
11:00am **Crescenzo & Tittina Tamborrino** (req. by family)
5:30pm **Aleksander Iwaszkiewicz** (req. by family)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

4:30pm **Patricia Matanis** (req. by family)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

9:00am **Timothy Patrick O'Neil** (req.by family)
11:00am **Luke Gauthier Jr** (req. by Grandparents)



1st Sunday of Advent

"What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'" The season of Advent begins with this exclamation from the Lord. He urges us, "Be watchful! Be alert!" This is not the time for a spiritual snooze. Advent is meant to serve as a wake-up call for those of us Christians who have a tendency to start drifting off after a while. We get into our routines, find the patterns that work for us, and then run the risk of just going through the motions. Maybe we say a morning prayer with consistency but have begun to forget to really think about the words. Perhaps we rouse ourselves enough to get to Mass on Sundays, but when we're there we let our minds daydream. Some of us might have made spiritual resolutions to overcome a bad habit or to begin some regular program of service, but instead of following through with the hard work of perseverance, we gave up the effort and fell back into our previous rut. Whatever the case, now is the time to shake ourselves free and to ask God to invigorate us once again. Now is the time to stop zoning out and start tuning in. Jesus' message today has the intention of getting our attention. He's doing what he can; the rest is up to us. As Advent begins, we would do well to pause for a few moments and reflect. What might be preventing me from being fully awake to my faith? What activities preoccupy my time and my thoughts? What bad habits blur my spiritual vision? How could I really listen to the voice of the Lord this Advent season? Saying a special prayer during these four weeks, committing to some spiritual reading, even simply putting an Advent wreath on the table: any of these things can help us stay awake as we continue watching and waiting for the coming of Christ.

OLSS Confirmation 2017-2018

If your son/daughter is in 9th grade or older and wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2018, you are invited to a kick-off session for our OLSS 2017-2018 Confirmation Program on Sunday Dec. 3 at noon. First class will begin the following Sunday on December 10th, 2017 at 10am. This kick-off session is for parents (or grand-parents, sponsors) and potential confirmands to learn about our new program. If you have any questions, please contact Adriana Tutillo at atutillo35@gmail.com. If you have any questions please feel free to call me at my office. The number is 914.631.1019 or call my cell at 203.918.6083.



Stewardship

WEEKLY COLLECTION:

This Year (11-26-17) \$ 4,778;
Last Year (11-27-16) \$ 5,069;



Immaculate Conception
Friday December 8th
MASS TIMES
8AM
12pm noon
5:30pm



Save the Date
Senior Luncheon
December 8th
After the 11am mass
RSVP 203.324.4634

Look what's coming up at OLSS!

December 8th

- *Feast day of the Immaculate Conception - Holy Day Obligation Mass Times 8am, 11am & 5:30pm
- *Senior luncheon following 11am mass - RSVP Parish office
- *Giving Tree unwrapped gifts due back
- *Challenge for Girls 5th-12th grade 6-8pm

December 9th

- *Christmas Tree and wreath sale - 10am-5:30pm
- *Fr Garrott Advent Retreat 7:00pm

December 10th, 11th & 12th

Fr Garrott Advent Retreat 7:00pm

December 14th

Rosary Prayer Group 6:30pm

December 15th

Conquest for ALL boys 6-8:30pm

December 16th-17th

Christmas Card Signing



We invite all children in Kindergarten and up to participate in this year's 4pm Christmas Eve Pageant! Children's choir members are encouraged to take part. Rehearsals last just 30 minutes, and follow the



vigil masses in December:

Dec 9 5.30

Dec 16 5.30

Dec 23 5.30

If your child would like to participate, please email the Director of Music Ministries, Ruth Rolander: ruthrolander@gmail.com

The Giving Tree returns again this year. Select a gift tag from the tree and return the item by December 8, 2017.

What is needed?

- * For the babies at Malta House: long sleeve t-shirts/body suits - 6 - 9 months; sleepers - 6 - 9 or 12 month size; snow suits - 12 -16 months; diapers, wipes and ointment.

For the moms: umbrellas

***For the parents at St Joseph's**

Parenting Center: Hats, gloves, scarves , adult men and women sizes When?

The tree will decorated with gift tags on handmade ornaments by Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 2017

Gifts should be returned unwrapped by Friday, December 8, 2017.

Thank you for your generosity.

- * Volunteers to wrap gifts are needed at SJPC during the week of December 4 and December 11. If you are interested, please contact

Tammy Dyckman, tamaradyckman@gmail.com, (704) 707-6727



Christmas Card Signing

You are invited to

sign Christmas Cards for the residents of St. Camillus Residence and visitors to New Covenant Center. A table will be set up after the masses on the weekend of December 16, 2017



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*; maryts0718@gmail.com or call 914-714-5806