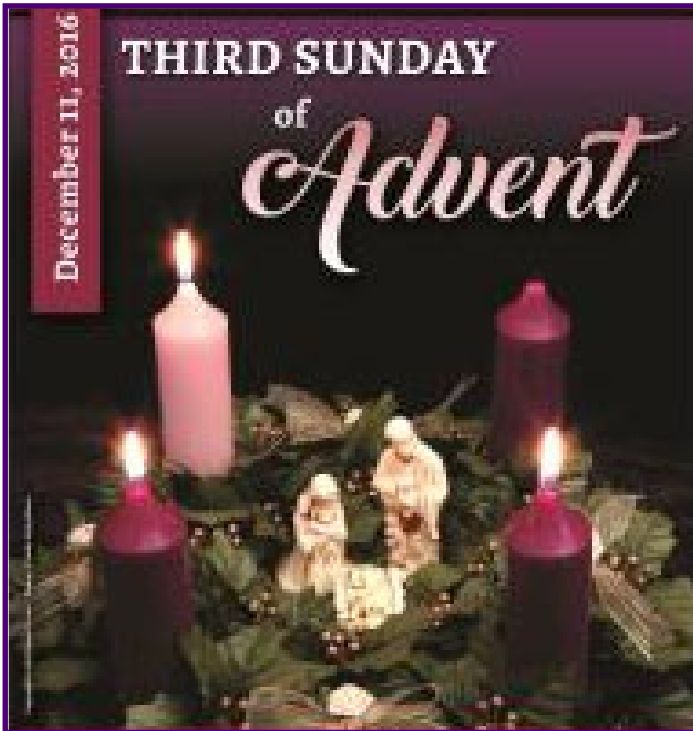


# Church of Saint Rita

281 Bradley Avenue - Staten Island, NY 10314

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2016**



## GAUDETE SUNDAY

Today is Gaudete Sunday, which means "rejoice." For three weeks now we have been preparing for Christmas and, one hopes, enjoying some peace to pray and anticipate the coming of the Lord, not just as a baby two thousand years ago, but also in the end-times, the parousia, when the Lord will come again in glory.

This is the Sunday when the rejoicing begins. Advent, unlike Lent, is not a penitential time, but a time of waiting and anticipation for the fulfillment of God's promises. We will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God" (Isaiah 35:2). So, "Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord... Make your hearts firm, because the Lord is at hand" (James 5:7, 8). -@J.S. Paluch Co., Inc.

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## **SIMBANG GABI**

Simbang Gabi", a Filipino tradition, is a nine-day Novena of evening Masses. All are invited to participate in this Advent Novena, a great way to prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

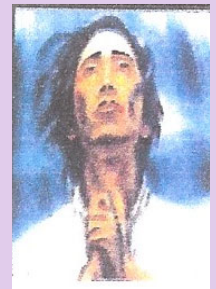
**St. Rita's Church will host the Novena on Thursday, December 22, 2016 at 8:00pm.** After the Mass, refreshments will be served in the Church Hall.

### SIMBAG GABI SCHEDULE 2016

DECEMBER 15-23

All Masses begin at 8pm:

December 15	St. Sylvester Church
December 16	St. Joseph Church -Rosebank
December 17	St. Joseph/St. Thomas Church
December 18	Blessed Sacrament Church
December 19	Holy Rosary Church
December 20	Our Lady of Pity Church
December 21	Sacred Heart Church
December 22	St. Rita Church
December 23	St. Peter's Church



# Welcome to St. Rita's Parish Community

Please introduce yourself and register at the parish office. We welcome new parishioners to participate in the spiritual and social life of our church.



**Church Website:** [www.stritachurch.net](http://www.stritachurch.net) **School Website:** [www.stritaschoolsi.org](http://www.stritaschoolsi.org)

## SERVED BY

Rev. Eugene J. Carrella, Pastor  
Rev. Anthony Gonzales, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Stephen Challman, In Residence

## PARISH OFFICES

61 Wellbrook Avenue ~ Phone: 718-698-3746  
Hours: Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm  
Ms. Mary Grace Liss, Parish Manager

## ST. RITA SCHOOL—S. I. REGION

30 Wellbrook Avenue ~ Phone: 718-761-2504  
Mrs. Nicole C. Fresca, Principal

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Phone: 718-982-6948  
Mrs. Mary Gillespie, Coordinator

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

4:00 Peter Gillespie, Sr.

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

8:00 Louis De Scalzo  
9:30 Cavallo Family  
11:00 Barbato & Lombardi Families  
12:30 Vincent Toa Nguyen  
6:00 For the People of the Parish

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

7:00 Alfred Ryan  
9:00 David Grace

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

7:00 Teodorico Alcantara  
9:00 In Thanksgiving to St. Lucy

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

7:00 Robert Messina  
9:00 Robert McCarthy

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

7:00 Diane Dai  
9:00 George Laub

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

7:00 Josephine Thomas  
9:00 Thomas Lynch, Sr. & Jr.

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

9:00 Paul Joseph Lemma  
4:00 Joseph P. Lorusso

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

8:00 Reynaldo O. & Felicidad Cacaos  
9:30 Ron Liss  
11:00 Luigi & Maria Romeo  
12:30 Connie & Frank Calabrese  
6:00 For the People of the Parish

*Tree of Life Call the Parish Office*

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday Evening: 4:00pm**

**Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 12:30pm,  
and 6:00pm**

**Monday to Friday: 7:00am and 9:00am**

**Saturday: 9:00am**

**Holy Days: Please refer to the bulletin or website**

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday from 3:00pm to 3:45pm,  
First Sunday of the month after the morning Masses  
and by appointment.

## BAPTISMS

Second & Fourth Sundays after the 12:30pm Mass.  
Baptism class for the parents is held on the  
Second Saturday of the month at 5:00pm by appt.

## SICK CALLS

Please call the Parish Office to arrange Communion  
Calls and Hospital Visits.

## MARRIAGES

Must be arranged six months in advance.  
Couples must see a priest to secure a date.

## OUR LADY OF GOOD HEALTH NOVENA

First Saturday of the month after the 4:00pm Mass,  
reception following in Church Hall.

## SAINT RITA NOVENA

Tuesdays after the 7:00am and 9:00am Masses

## MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Thursdays after the 7:00am and 9:00am Masses

## ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mondays 7:00pm in the Parish Center.

## ADULT CHOIR

Adults sing every Sunday at the 11:00am Mass.  
Rehearsal Wednesdays at 7:30pm in Church Hall.

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children sing every Sunday at the 9:30am Mass.  
Rehearsal Wednesdays at 5:15pm in Church Hall.

## LORD'S FLOCK

First Friday Mass at 8:00pm in the Chapel.  
Third Friday Prayer Meeting at 8:00pm in Chapel.

## ST. RITA'S LADIES GUILD

First Tuesday of the month at the 9:00am Mass,  
meeting following in the Parish Center.

## ST. RITA'S ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

First Monday at 7:30pm in the School Café.  
[stritasports@gmail.com](mailto:stritasports@gmail.com)

## ST. RITA'S BOY SCOUTS

Fridays at 7:30pm in the Parish Center.

## ST. RITA'S GOLDEN AGE CLUB

Thursdays at 12:00 noon in the Church Hall.

# CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2016

## VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 24, 2016

3:40pm – The Children's Choir will sing Christmas favorites.

4:00pm – Family Mass

11:30pm – The Adult Choir will present Christmas selections.

12:00am– Solemn Mass at Midnight

## MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday, December 25, 2016

9:30am, 11:00am & 12:30pm

*There will be music at all the Masses on Christmas Day.*

*(There will be NO 8:00am & 6:00pm Masses.)*

## Solemnity of Mary The Mother Of God – January 1, 2017

Saturday, December 31, 2016 – Vigil Mass – 4:00pm

Sunday, January 1, 2017– 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am & 12:30pm

*(There will be NO 6:00pm Mass.)*

## NEW TO ST. RITA SCHOOL

### Pre-K 3 tuition based program for the 2016-2017 school

Please call the school office for registration an additional information at 718-761-2504.

*2 Full Day: Tuesday & Thursday: \$3,000*

*3 Full Day: Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday: \$4,100*

*Registration Fee: \$100 per child , Activity Fee: \$200 per child*

**School Hours: 8:15am-2:30pm**

**Child must be 3 years of age by December 31, 2016.**

- All children must be fully toilet trained by the first day of school.
- School gym uniform is mandatory. This can be purchased through our school uniform company: Flynn & O'Hara
- After care is available on your child's scheduled day (s) of school for an additional cost.



## ALTAR BREADS

Week of December 12-18, 2016

In Thanksgiving to St. Lucy

Donated By Fr. Eugene



## ADVENT CONFESSIONS

During Advent, we will hear St. John the Baptist call us to "Prepare the Way of the Lord". In addition to our regular Saturday schedule, Confessions will be heard after the Sunday morning Masses on **December 11th and 18th**.

### ADVENT RECONCILIATION MONDAY

Fr. Carrella and Fr. Anthony will also be hearing Confessions on **Monday, December 19** from 4:00pm to 8:00pm. Cardinal Dolan designated this day as "Advent Reconciliation Monday". All parishes in the Archdiocese of New York are expected to provide the Sacrament of Reconciliation for all the faithful.



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[ParishPay.com](http://ParishPay.com)  
Please register as a parishioner

## PARISH REGISTRATION

New members are cordially invited to participate fully in the spirit and social life of our parish. Please register the parish office, Monday through Friday, from 9:00am to 5:00pm or call Mary Grace Liss for information.



### CHANGE OF ADDRESS & TELEPHONE

Please notify the parish office if you plan to move, whether it be in or out of the parish and if you change your telephone number.

### PLEASE NOTE

**Sponsor Certificates for Baptism and Confirmation will be given only to active registered parishioners of St. Rita's Church. You must be attending Mass weekly and present proof of your Confirmation.**

## WEDDING BANNERS

- 3) Dana Giallorenzo & Michael Bruno
- 1) Rony Xavier & Libymol Abraham

## ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC SINGLES

Saint Francis Catholic Singles (SFCS), for those in their 30s, 40s, and 50s, will meet on **Sunday, December 18th** from 6:30 to 9:30pm for their **16th Annual Christmas Dinner** at the West Shore Inn, 3955 Victory Blvd., SI, NY 10314. (Please bring a new, unwrapped toy for a child 3 to 14 years of age.) The price is \$35 per person, and will include full dinner, dessert and wine. *All payments must be received by Thursday, December 15* (sorry no exceptions and no paying at the door). Mail CHECKS made out to CASH (with SFCS Christmas Dinner in memo box) with your name, phone number and email to: Holy Family Parish; Attn. Singles Christmas Dinner; 366 Watchogue Rd., SI, NY 10314.

For more information, find them on Fb/ StFrancisCatholicSingles, check their website: [www.sgspci.org](http://www.sgspci.org) or email [sfcssi@gmail.com](mailto:sfcssi@gmail.com).

# GOD'S WORD FOR CHILDREN!

Third Sunday of Advent Year A

*John the Baptist sends people to ask Jesus if He is the one they have been waiting for.*

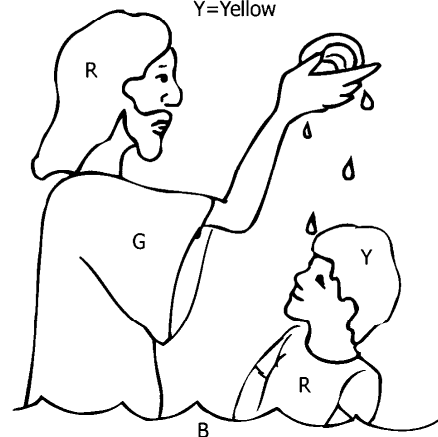
Is 35:1-6, 10      Ps 146:6-10      Jas 5:7-10      Mt 11:2-11

*People came from all over to have John the Baptist baptize them in the Jordan River.*

Is 11:1-10      Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17      Rom 15:4-9      Mt 3:1-12

Directions: Color the picture by using the color code.

B=Blue  
G=Green  
R=Red  
Y=Yellow





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- Start enjoying the best Catholic content all in one place!

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**If you have any questions please contact:**

**Mary Gillespie (718 982-6948)**

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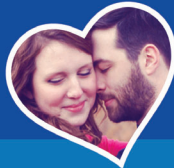
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drinks a cup  
of ADVERTISED coffee  
drives to work  
in an ADVERTISED car  
and then . . .  
refuses to ADVERTISE  
believing it doesn't pay.  
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he ADVERTISES it for sale.

**WHY IS IT?**