

# Church of Saint Rita

281 Bradley Avenue - Staten Island, NY 10314

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019**

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return  
and enter Zion singing,  
crowned with everlasting joy.

— Isaiah 35:10a



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## 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 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.

## ADVENT RECONCILIATION MONDAY

Fr. Eugene, Fr. Abraham and Fr. Challman will be hearing Confessions on **Monday, December 16th** 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.

# 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. Abraham Berko, 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  
Mrs. Deborah Williams, Music Director

## ST. RITA SCHOOL—S. I. REGION

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

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Phone: 718-982-6948 (Wednesday: 347-283-1610)  
Mrs. Mary Gillespie, Coordinator



Mass Intentions  
for the Week

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

4:00 Donna Marie Trezza O'Keefe

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

8:30 Elizabeth Gault

10:30 Thomas P. Lynch, Jr. & Sr.

12:30 Connie & Frank Calabrese

6:00 Madeline Crupi

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

7:00 Dr. Paulino V. Albano, Jr.

9:00 Correa - Rodriguez Family (Living)

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:00 Mary A. Dulski

9:00 Luigi, Maria & Frank Romeo

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00 Desmond Gillespie

9:00 Christian Buffa

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:00 Kwan Chong Seng

9:00 Jeannine & Thomas LaVerde

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:00 Quan Chong Seng

9:00 Theresa & Joseph Luongo

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:00 Luka Joseph Family (Living)

4:00 Robert McCarthy

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:30 Ron Liss

10:30 Gerald Pieroni

12:30 Lawrence Isler

6:00 Christine Brannigan

*Tree of Life Call the Parish Office*

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday Evening: 4:00pm**

**Sunday: 8:30am, 10:30am, 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 10:30am Mass.

Rehearsal Wednesdays at 7:00pm in Church Hall.

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children sing every Sunday at the 8:30am 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*

## ST. RITA'S BOY SCOUTS

Fridays at 7:30pm in the Parish Center.

# CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2019

## VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS

Tuesday, December 24, 2019

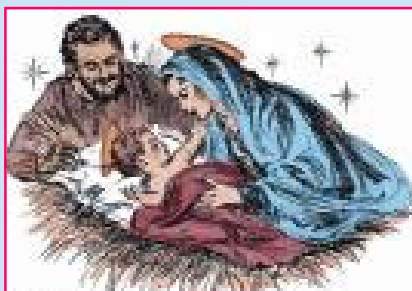
3:40pm – The Children's Choir will sing Christmas favorites.  
4:00pm – Family Mass  
11:30pm – The Adult Choir will present Christmas selections.  
12:00am – Solemn Mass at Midnight

## MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, December 25, 2019

10:30am & 12:30pm

*There will be music at both Masses on Christmas Day.  
(There will be NO 8:30am & 6:00pm Masses.)*



## SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD

*The feast is a Holy Day of Obligation.*

**Tuesday, December 31, 2019**

4:00pm

**Wednesday, January 1, 2020**

10:30am & 12:30pm

*(There will be NO 8:30am & 6:00pm Masses.)*

## MEMORIALS FOR THE ALTAR BREADS

We are accepting Memorials for the Altar Breads used for daily and Sunday Masses. The cost is \$50 per week; the week begins on Monday and ends on Sunday. You can memorialize the living or the deceased. It can be a remembrance of a birthday, wedding anniversary, death anniversary, or just to remember a loved one. The Memorial will be published in the weekly bulletin. This gives us the opportunity to keep our loved ones in prayer, as well as help our parish financially.



## ALTAR BREAD

Week of December 16-22, 2019

In Loving memory of Ralph Brech

Requested by Marie Brech

# SAVE THE DATES

## ST. RITA'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

The opening celebration for our 100th Anniversary year will begin on **Sunday, October 4, 2020** at the 12:30pm Mass, followed by a barbecue/picnic on the grounds of Nansen Park in Travis. It will be catered by "A Taste of Honey".

The closing celebration will take place on **Saturday, October 9, 2021** at the 4pm Mass celebrated by Cardinal Dolan, followed by a cocktail hour and dinner reception at 7pm at the Hilton. More information to follow. May St. Rita continue to guide and guard our Parish!

The Staten Island Right to Life Committee is sponsoring the

## ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE AND MARCH FOR LIFE IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

**Friday, January 24, 2020**

Departure will be from Sacred Heart Church  
981 Castleton Avenue after the 6:00am Mass.



*Join us for the grace-filled pilgrimage on behalf of vulnerable human life as we commemorate the 47th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the tragic Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. This will be the first March for Life since the passing of the devastating Reproductive Health Act last January. This is an opportunity for us as New Yorkers to make a pilgrimage on behalf of life, praying for our state and our nation.*

**The NY Pilgrim Mass will be celebrated by Cardinal Dolan at St. Patrick's Church, 619 10th Street, Washington, D.C. at 10:30am, in walking distance from the start of the Rally!!**

**Cost of the roundtrip bus is \$40.00 per person,**  
which includes a rail fee and tip for the bus driver.

To reserve a seat on the bus or for additional information,  
contact Elise DeSimone (Right to Life Committee) at 917-525-7139.

Saint Francis Catholic Singles, for those in their 30s, 40s, and 50s, will host their

## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER & SFCS FINAL FAREWELL GATHERING

on **Friday December 20, 2019** at 7:30pm at Bella Vita Cafe, 1919 Hylan Boulevard, Staten Island, NY 10306. Come enjoy a delicious four course meal, and celebrate Advent, Christmas and 18+ years of SFCS with friends, old and new, as they say farewell to a wonderful group. Please make the \$45 check payable to CASH, and mail by December 15th to St. Christopher Parish, 130 Midland Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10306, Attn: SFCS Christmas Dinner. Sorry, no payments accepted at the door. Fb/StFrancisCatholicSingles, or email [sfcssi@gmail.com](mailto:sfcssi@gmail.com).

# *St. Rita School presents its annual Christmas Spectacular Performance*



*“St. Rita School’s Living Nativity” will be performed by the 4th and 5th grade students, followed by Christmas Carols performed by grades 1, 2, and 3 and a special Christmas performance by our school band, accompanied by Ms. Lynn Truncale.*

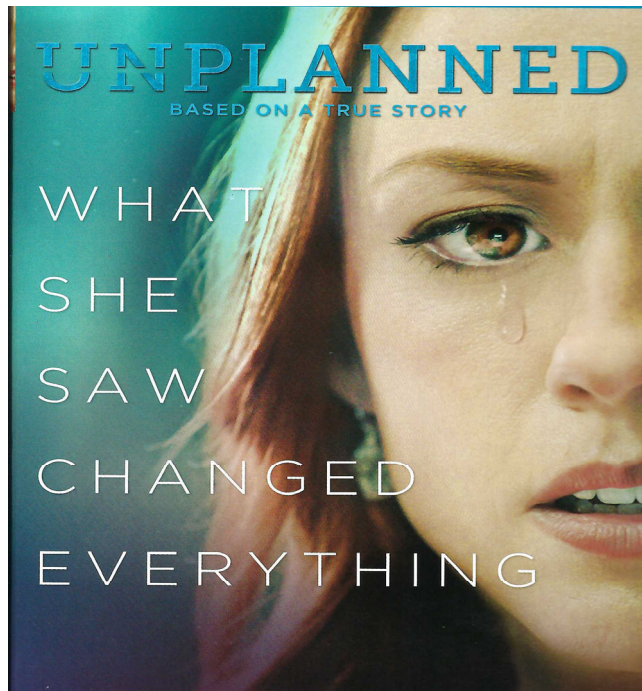
*Please join us on Friday, December 20, 2019  
at 7:00pm  
in the school auditorium.*

*Admission fee will be \$5.00 per person  
(This fee will be used toward our School’s Air Conditioning Fund)*

*Entrance will be on Bradley Avenue.*

*Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!*

***Start the New Year with a night out with those you love  
and for others who need our love and your prayers...***



*A true story from the memoirs of Abby Johnson, a former Planned Parenthood Director, is one of the most powerful films of 2019 that every young woman, young man along with their parents must see! This film is rated R because of one graphic scene.*

**Friday, January 3, 2020 at 7:00pm  
CHURCH OF ST. RITA  
281 BRADLEY AVENUE - GYMNASIUM  
(Doors will open at 6:30pm)**

**FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL \*\*\*AND COLLEGE STUDENTS**  
**\*\*\*Anyone under the age of 17 MUST be accompanied  
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in advance online at <http://morningrising.showclix.com>

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or email [40daysSI@gmail.com](mailto:40daysSI@gmail.com)

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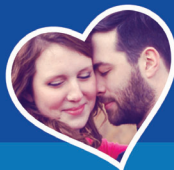
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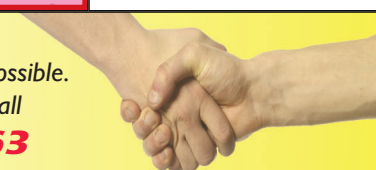
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on an ADVERTISED mattress  
and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas  
bathes in an ADVERTISED shower  
shaves with an ADVERTISED razor  
brushes his teeth  
with ADVERTISED toothpaste  
washes with ADVERTISED soap  
puts on ADVERTISED clothes  
drinks a cup  
of ADVERTISED coffee  
drives to work  
in an ADVERTISED car  
and then . . . .  
refuses to ADVERTISE  
believing it doesn't pay.  
Later if business is poor  
he ADVERTISES it for sale.

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