



Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish Community

Staffed by the Augustinian Friars and the
Sisters of Mercy for over a century

PENNSWOOD ROAD
BRYN MAWR, PA 19010

August 2, 2015

PARISH STAFF

Fr. John T. Denny, OSA, Pastor...Ext. 231

Fr. James Martinez, OSA, Pastor Emeritus

Fr. Dennis McGowan, OSA, Parochial Vicar...Ext. 236

Br. William C. Harkin, OSA, Deacon...Ext. 228

Mr. Joseph Carey, Facilities Manager...Ext. 262

Mrs. Karen Carey, Coordinator of Religious Education and
Youth Ministry...Ext. 258

Jo-Ann Stigliano, Director of Music Ministries...Ext. 238

Sr. Anne Woodshick, RSM, Parish Ministry...Ext. 234

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

5:00 P.M. - Saturday evening

7:30, 9:30, 11:15 A.M.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

6:30 A.M. (except Saturdays), 8:00 A.M.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated once a month during a parish Sunday Liturgy. Arrangements are to be made 3 months in advance.

NEW PARISHIONERS:

Our Mother of Good Counsel warmly welcomes new parishioners. We believe in the "Stewardship Program" committed to serving God through offering our gifts of time, talents, and treasure for the good of our parish and those in need. We ask you to register as soon as possible by completing a registration form available in the church office during regular office hours. Parishioners moving should notify the church office of any change in address or phone number.

COMMUNION/HOME VISITS

If you are ill or unable to come to Mass for any period of time, please call the Parish Office (610-525-0147) and we will be happy to visit you and bring Communion to you.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 11:30 - 12:00 Noon

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Friday 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Parish Office and Rectory Phone: (610) 525-0147

FAX NUMBER: (610) 525-0157

PARISH WEB SITE:

<http://www.OMGCPARISH.ORG>

LIVING ON EVERY WORD OF GOD

Today's Gospel (John 6:24-35) is part of the lengthy Bread of Life discourse, which served to explain the sign of the feeding of the multitude with loaves and fish. The crowds were pursuing Jesus, not because they understood and believed the sign, but because they had been caught up with the material and sensational aspects of such a wonder. They came for a free meal; instead, Jesus fed them with the fullness of his teaching.

Some thought the messianic era was dawning in Jesus, because popular expectation held that the messiah would repeat the miracle of the manna and effect a new exodus. Since they also expected the messiah to appear at Passover, hopes were high. To those who looked for a repeat performance of the manna or the loaves and fish, Jesus spoke of non-perishable food "that endures for eternal life." That would rule out the manna and the loaves, both of which were perishable. But the bread that God gives would never cease to fill them with blessings.

Like the author of Deuteronomy in the Hebrew Scriptures, who appealed to the hearts of his listeners with "we do not live on bread alone but on every word that comes for the mouth of God," Jesus challenged those who pursued him to raise their focus from their stomachs to their hearts. He wanted them to be hungry of spirit so that they would be open to the truth of his teaching. Like Wisdom, who invited all to her table to come, eat and live, Jesus invited believers to be fed by him. But while Wisdom's guests grew hungry again, those fed by Jesus would never again hunger or thirst.

When told that they should *work* for the bread of life, the disciples again misunderstood. The work required of them, explained Jesus, is faith in the One sent by God. Scripture scholar, Raymond Brown understood this dialogue as the evangelist's response to the issue of faith and works, which had already caused controversy in the first-century A.D. church. John did not counsel "faith without works" or "works without faith." Rather, he regarded faith as a work.

In the weeks to come, the Sunday Gospels will continue the Bread of Life discourse, where it will become clear that sometimes, as in today's Gospel, the term "bread of life" refers to Jesus' teaching or the bread of revelation that nourishes believers. At other times, the term will be sacramental and eucharistic, referring to the gift of Jesus himself. We cannot easily draw a line between the two meanings. Both are part of a single act of revelation and redemption that God has accomplished for humankind in Jesus.

PRAYER REQUESTS

In our prayers, we have been asked to remember:

Margaret Simyak, Pat Dobson,
Alexandria Goldstein, Evaline Walker
and Michael and Andrew McCaughey

Please call the Parish Office if you would like to request yourself or a family member be put on our prayer list for the next 4 weeks. You can also make a request that the prayers of the community be renewed for another 4 week period.

New Members: We welcome to our parish community Mr. & Mrs. Karl and Melisa Muego who recently registered with us.

Deceased: We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Edward Kenny and for the consolation of his family.

H.O.P.E.

If you need a trip to the doctor, shopping, etc., call Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147, ext. 234.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

Food Needs for IHN: If you can donate any of the following food items for our guests when they arrive on Sunday, **August 9**, please put them in the food box at the entrance of the church next Sunday:

soup	crackers	tuna fish
salad dressing	jelly	mustard
lemonade mix	ice tea mix	coffee
tea bags	cookies	peanut butter
cold cereal	mayonnaise	ketchup
hot cereal	juices: boxes or bottles	

A FAREWELL AND THANK YOU
from Fr. Dennis McGowan, OSA

Dear Parishioners,

Eight years isn't a long time. It just seems that I arrived at Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish (October 25, 2007, to be exact). And, now, it is time for me to say goodbye, at least in my present relationship with you. Much has happened in the parish during those eight years: a celebration of the parish's 125th anniversary; a celebration of our life as a community through the Visioning Process; the departure of Fr. Jim after 31 years; the arrival of Fr. Denny as his successor.

Much has happened in my life during those eight years: I celebrated my 25th Anniversary of Ordination; I turned sixty (which was difficult seeing that I'm only 42!); I said goodbye to my mother; I said goodbye to my brother.

This was an important time in the life of the parish and in my personal life and I have been greatly blessed and privileged to have been a part of all of it with you. You have been uplifting. You have been supportive. You have been loving. I have worked with a staff which is second to none.

I have lived with seven friars during that time who have really been brothers to me in the greatest sense. While I look forward to the challenges which lie ahead for me, I will always hold close to me this time I have spent among you. I ask for your prayers during this time and be assured that you are always in my prayers as well.

I'm only about 2 miles down the road, so I know that we will be seeing each other often. God bless you all and thank you from the bottom of my heart for everything.



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE
for July 26, 2015

The crowd in today's Gospel demanded a sign of Jesus and wanted to know what "work" He did to inspire their faith. May our faithful stewardship be a sign to others that we, like the Ephesians in the second reading, have laid aside our former way of life and acquired a "fresh, spiritual way of thinking" in Christ..

Envelope Contributions	\$6,522.00
Loose Contributions.....	\$525.00
Mailed in	\$1,095.00
Total Offertory Collection	\$8,142.00
Offering this time last year	\$9809.00
Parish giving of	\$805.00

Thank you for your Stewardship to your Parish.
Please remember the Church in your will.

MONTHLY OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

We have made a change from a monthly to a bi-monthly schedule for Offertory Envelopes being sent to our parishioners. With the next mailing, you will be receiving Offertory Envelopes for the months of August and September. You will receive your envelopes six (6) times a year instead of 12. This will allow a significant saving in postage.

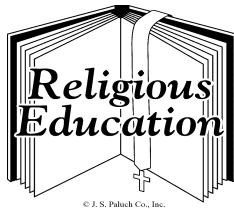
Thank you for your continued support of your parish. Your generosity is appreciated.



FEAST OF MARY'S ASSUMPTION
Saturday, August 15

The Feast of Mary's Assumption into Heaven falls on a Saturday this year. Therefore, it is NOT a Holyday of Obligation. The Feast will be celebrated on Saturday morning at the 8:00 a.m. Mass. Please join us if you would like to celebrate this special feast of Mary.

The Saturday Vigil Mass for the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time will occur as usual at 5:00 p.m. later that day.



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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Registrations are now being taken for the 2015 – 2016 Religious Education Year. Classes are held for students ages 4 years through 6th grade. Classes are held on Sunday mornings from 9:45 to 11:00 am. Registration packets will be mailed to those enrolled in the program last year. Anyone **new** to the parish or the program is asked to contact Karen Carey at 610-525-0147, ext. 258, for information and for a registration packet.

YOUTH GROUP

All parish students in grades 6 through 12 are invited to participate in Youth Group Activities unless specifically directed to certain grades. If you are interested in being part of our mailing list, please email Karen at kcarey@omgcparish.net to be added to the email list and therefore you won't miss out on any activities. There is no obligation to participate in any activities. Fall Festival and Haunted Maze are coming up quickly and we will need your help!



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FALL FESTIVAL

Plans are already underway for our Annual Fall Festival! This year, our Festival will take place on **Friday, October 16, Saturday, October 17** and conclude on **Sunday, October 17**. Please mark your calendars to join us for this a-MAZE-ing event!

HELP!! We are still in need of committee people to work with us in the various areas of our Fall Festival. If you can help and serve on a committee, either food, games, prizes, raffle...please contact Karen at 610-525-0147 ext. 258 or email her at kcarey@omgcparish.net



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Father Denny's 25th ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

Please join in Celebrating Fr. Denny's
Silver Anniversary
at 11:15 a.m. Mass

Sunday, August 23, 2015

Reception in the Gym following Mass

August 

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CLOTHING DRIVE

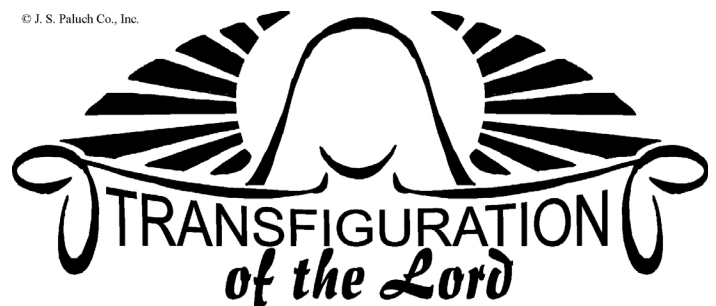
Our Parish will be hosting a clothing drive to benefit The St. Vincent DePaul Society on **Saturday, August 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

The Society will be using the services of GreenDrop to support their clothing drive. Look for the **GreenDrop** truck in the church parking lot where an attendant will be available to assist you with your donations. Their truck will be parked in front of the parish dumpsters so as not to interfere with funeral or wedding parking.

Please place your donations of usable men's, women's and children's clothing in plastic bags or boxes. Household items such as: kitchenware, games/toys, small appliances under 50 pounds, electronics, sporting goods, books, CDs and videos are also accepted. Unfortunately, **furniture, large appliances, TVs or computer monitors CANNOT be accepted.** For a full list of acceptable items visit www.gogreendrop.com.

To learn more about GreenDrop, visit their website: www.gogreendrop.com.

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SUMMER FILM SERIES

Theme: Caring for God's Creation

Join us for the 3rd and final film of our three-part Summer Film Series. The 3rd film to be shown is entitled, "Chasing Ice" - the story of one man's mission to change the tide of history by gathering evidence of our changing planet. This will take place on **Tuesday evening, August 4th at 7:00 p.m.** at St. Thomas of Villanova Parish Rosemont Auditorium, 1229 E. Lancaster Ave. in Rosemont.

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PRESCHOOL

Re-opens September 9th

Call today for an appointment...Space still available in our 2, 3, and 4 year old classes.

Office: 610-525-7554

Email: stv.maryshouse1@gmail.com

Website: www.stvpreschool.org

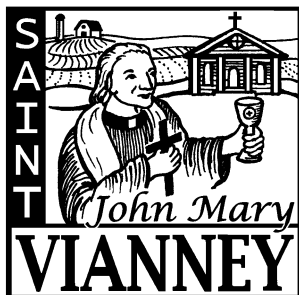
Teaching children for 35 years.



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SEARCHING FOR STILL WATERS

Are you struggling with the loss of a loved one? Grief is a journey fraught with complex feelings, thoughts and behaviors. Join us on the 2nd Saturday of every month from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. for conversation and compassionate support in navigating the turbulent waters of grief. Meetings will take place in the Ministries Center at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. Call 610-525-0766 for more information.



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CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

**of Thomas Merton
at Villanova University**

The Mission and Ministry Department of Villanova University will begin its celebration of Thomas Merton with an exhibit of art work in Connelly Center from **August 20 – September 24**. This exhibit is entitled: "The Zen Photography of Thomas Merton: A Hidden Wholeness."

A talk will be given by Dr. Paul Pearson on **August 28 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Art Gallery of Connelly Center. There will be an Exhibit Reception from 5-7pm.

On **September 9 at 4:30 p.m.** a cinema will be shown also in the Connelly Center, entitled "Drinking Tea: Thomas Merton's Legacy on Living, Learning and Loving," facilitated by Dr. Virginia Kalb Ratigan.



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THANK YOU

**from the
Divine Word Missionaries**

We are very grateful for your wonderful generosity toward the missionary work Divine Word Missionaries do for the Catholic Church around the world. Your financial help and prayerful support make it possible for us to continue building up the kingdom of God in some of the most difficult areas around the world. We are only able to spread the Gospel message with your prayers and generous support. We want to thank you for your warm welcome on the weekend of July 11 and 12, 2015. May God continue to bless all of you. Let us remember each other in prayer.

Sincerely,

Fr. Dominikus Baok, SVD

COACHING JOBS AVAILABLE

Merion Mercy Academy, an independent, all girls Catholic High School sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, is seeking to hire coaches for Field Hockey Head Varsity, JV and assistant coaches. Please contact Barbara Clarke, Athletic Director, at bclarke@merion-mercy.com.

READING BETWEEN THE LINES

Having learned about subliminal messages at school, Bill decided to send this letter home and see if the message got across:

Dear Dad, School i\$ really great. I am making lot\$ of friend\$ and \$tudying very hard. With all my \$tuff, I \$imply can't think of anything I need. \$o if you would like, you can ju\$t \$end me a card, a\$ I would love to hear from you. Love, Your \$on.

The reply came quickly:

Dear Son, I kNOW that astroNOMy, ecoNOMics, and oceaNOgraphy are eNOugh to keep even an hoNOr student busy. Do NOt forget that the pursuit of kNOWledge is a NOble task, and you can never study eNOugh. Love, Dad.

PRAYER FOR NON-VIOLENCE

O God of Mercy and Compassion, open our hearts to your grace. We ask you to:

Bless us with courage to embrace nonviolence in our everyday lives.

Bless us with vision to seek alternative when violence appears as the only solution.

Encourage us to look deeply at our own complicity that allows violence to continue in our own hearts and in our world.

Bless us with the tenacity to stay committed to the struggle to shape a more peaceful, nonviolent world for all your people.

O good and gracious God, source of all life, all creation is charged with your Divine Energy. Grant us the strength and courage, we pray, for a radical transformation of our own lives and a deeper realization of you Kin-dom among us.

Amen.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

- 7:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS
9:30 ELIZABETH BLIMM
11:15 MARY EBMEYER
(2ND ANNIVERSARY)

MONDAY, AUGUST 3

- 6:30 SEAN AND ERIC QUINN
8:00 MARY E. BOSSARD

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

- 6:30
8:00 BRIDGET DOHERTY

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

- 6:30 P.J. SCANLON
(15TH ANNIVERSARY)
8:00 HAROLD AND ROSE IRVING

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

- 6:30
8:00 MARY AND JAMES CORRIGAN, SR.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

- 6:30 JOHN TRAVERS
8:00 NUNZIATA PASTORE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

- 8:00 J. PATRICK KELLY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

- 7:30 ELIZABETH AND JOSEPH CASSIDY, JR.
(FOR A HAPPY MARRIAGE)
9:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS
11:15 MARY BORMAN AND CAMILLO
PORRECA