



Our Mother of Good Counsel

Parish Community

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PENNSWOOD ROAD
BRYN MAWR, PA 19010

August 23, 2015

PARISH STAFF

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

Fr. James Martinez, OSA, Pastor Emeritus

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 Woodeshick, 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>

HANGING ON FOR DEAR LIFE!

As we come to the end of John's Bread of Life discourse in today's Gospel (6:60-69), the evangelist is bringing the gospel of bread into final focus, showing how Jesus' words called the question for anyone vacillating about his or her discipleship. In last week's reading when Jesus said, "I am the living bread," he said more than we might notice at first. "I am" was a loaded phrase. That expression would have caused a religious earthquake for pious Jews because it was an unmistakable reference to God's own name.

As he moved through this discourse, Jesus identified himself more and more closely with God, and that became increasingly difficult for many of his disciples. By the end of this Gospel section, his words had provoked a crisis. Jesus' statements brought the disciples to the most decisive crossroads they would face until the time of the passion. They either had to continue with him, assenting to his claim to have been sent by God; or, if they could not believe, they had to renounce their allegiance to him because of his outlandish and plainly sacrilegious pretensions.

Many disciples understood quite clearly that Jesus had handed them an all-or-nothing proposition. Those who couldn't buy into it chose to return to their former way of life. What of the others, the Twelve and those who stayed on with them? When Jesus turned to them and articulated the question that had caused so many to turn back, Peter spoke up for everyone and laid out the essence of discipleship.

Peter's response, beginning with "To whom shall we go?" can spur profound meditation on the process of discipleship. Peter makes no sophisticated creedal or theological statements. He simply reflects on the human hunger for God and says that only in Jesus have they found it satisfied. Jesus said that his words were Spirit and life. Peter may not know how to explain that statement, but he says they have felt its truth; they have grasped what Jesus meant in saying, "No one can come to me unless it is granted by my Father." Or perhaps a better way of putting it would be to say that Peter speaks of the disciples' shared experience: They have been *grasped* by God. That is why they cannot leave.

As Peter continues, he gives us a hint of the discernment the community of disciples has been doing. He says, "We have come to believe." They have talked among themselves and confirmed the interior experience each has had. Somehow, they know that Jesus' words give them life. That is enough to convince them that he is the "Holy One of God." That is something they will continue to discover for the rest of their lives. For the moment, it is enough that they believe and know it is true.

PRAYER REQUESTS

In our prayers, we have been asked to remember:

Margaret Simyak, Evaline Walker,
Michael and Andrew McCaughey,
Jordan Wintrode, and Axel Grabowsky.

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.

Deceased: We pray for the happy repose of the souls of Michael J. McGee, Sr. and Salvatore Petroccia and for the consolation of their families.



H.O.P.E.

If you need a trip to the doctor, shopping, etc., call Joanne Bramley at 610-457-6638 or Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147, ext. 234.

Seniors

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SENIOR COMMUNITY GATHERING

The Senior Community members will gather again on **Friday, August 28 at 12 noon** in the Social Center of the school building for an enjoyable lunch and afternoon activity. Please bring your usual lunch sandwich with you. We will provide dessert and beverages for the occasion. Looking forward to seeing you there.

SUNSET ON THE SUNSET LITURGY

Dear Friends,

For the past three years, we have been celebrating our Sunset Liturgy at 5:00 p.m. on the First Sunday of the month, October through June. This Sunset Liturgy was a direct result of our Visioning Conference five years ago. At that time, a small group of “committee persons” met to make the Sunset Liturgy happen. Our goal was to celebrate liturgy in a family friendly way with a bit more contemporary music group. We have succeeded in doing this for the last three years. As our Sunset Liturgy Committee met at the close of this year, we began to question whether our celebration was still the same. We had noticed a slight drop in attendance at liturgy, but a larger drop at attendance at the supper that followed. We had gotten many Religious Education Families at the beginning, and now, our population had changed to a wider variety of persons and families. It is these ideas, along with the ever-taxing schedule of the priests anymore, that prompted us to make a change.

Our Sunset Liturgy will now be celebrated on the First Sunday of the Month, October through June, at the 11:15 parish Mass. Everything will remain the same, except the time and the title. The music, mood and atmosphere will all remain the same.

Our newly named **FIRST SUNDAY CELEBRATION** will now be more readily available to perhaps those who, for one reason or another, were not able to join us previously. We will continue to celebrate with a meal following the Liturgy (we might call it a brunch now), but our hope is that we will now be able to meet even more people in our worshipping family.

We are always looking for people to join our committee or help organize the meals or the set up, clean up, greeters, etc...so if you feel so inclined, please contact me at 610-525-0147, ext. 258, or kcarey@omgcparish.net to join our team!

Our first, First Sunday Celebration will take place on **Sunday, October 4 at the 11:15 liturgy.** Won't you please consider joining us to praise the Lord and meet some new people!

See you in church,
Karen

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

for August 16, 2015

In today's first reading, Joshua challenges the people to decide whom they will serve. Recalling God's faithfulness to them and to their ancestors, the people declare, "We also will serve the Lord, who is our God." May we, too, be mindful of God's gifts to us and renew our commitment to serve God with grateful hearts.

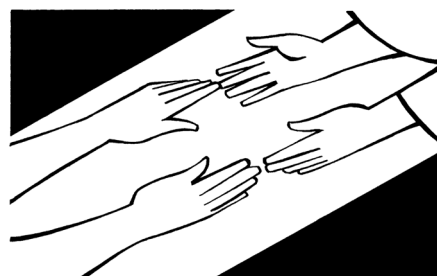
Envelope Contributions	\$5,866.00
Loose Contributions.....	\$645.00
Mailed in	\$690.00
Total Offertory Collection	\$7,201.00
Offering this time last year	\$7,904.00
Electronic giving of 8/15.....	\$4,222.00
Parish Giving.....	1,145.00

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

FEEDING THE HUNGRY

Women of Change

Members of the Gospel in Action team are organizing a group of parishioners to provide dinner for the residents of Women of Change on **Wednesday, September 16.** Women of Change, a ministry of Project Home, is a residence for chronically homeless women, many of whom are medically or emotionally fragile. While their permanent location is undergoing much needed renovation, the women are living at Project Home. Because they have less access to kitchen space, they need extra assistance with meals until they can return home. We are responding by cooking and delivering a hot meal to them. If you would like to help by preparing a portion of the meal, providing beverages or making a monetary donation to underwrite part of the meal, please contact Pat Byrne at pabshamrock@aol.com or 610-804-3227.



TRAGEDY HITS the Iraqi Refugee Families Van Needed

Since 2010, parishioners from OMGC and STV have helped resettle an Iraqi family, Hamza and Zeena and their two children. Hamza had worked for the U.S. in the Green Zone of Baghdad and, when his neighbors discovered it, his life was threatened. Our government brought him here to keep him safe. The same story is true of his brother, Hussain, who was brought here in 2013. His family includes his wife, Hanan, and four children. This family was aided by St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Ardmore. Both brothers worked at Villanova in food service. On Sunday, July 19th, Hussain had a heart attack while in the lake at Marsh Creek State Park. He died the next day. His body has been returned to Iraq for burial. His widow would like to remain in the U.S. for the sake of her four children. At this moment, the two families ask for this help.

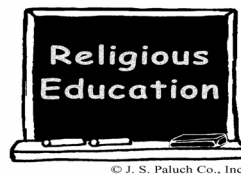
Does anyone have a van for sale at a good price in which Hamza could convey the two joined families, 9 people, 3 adults and 6 children? **Also, is there a second small car for sale at a reasonable price**, almost a Volkswagen, which Zeena could drive? She now has a driver's license but is uneasy driving a larger car.

If you can help with either request, please contact Joe Betz at 610-525-4499 or joseph.betz@villanova.edu.



R.C.I.A TEAM MEETING Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The RCIA Team will meet on **Tuesday evening, September 1 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Parish Center as we begin to plan a new start of the process of welcoming and assisting adults who are interested in knowing more about the Catholic Church.



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. 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.



FALL FESTIVAL NEWS

Our **raffle items** have begun coming in !!! Make sure you put our Fall Festival on your calendar! October 16, 17, 18! Come and bid on our two night stay at the Embassy Suites, or the 29 piece Titanium Drill Bit Set! There is something for everyone!!

HELP!! We are still in need of committee people to help make this happen! If you are able to spend a few hours helping with the preparation of any area of the festival - food, games, raffles, prizes - please let us know by contacting Karen at kcarey@omgcp parish.net.



THANK YOU from Julianne Shea

To all parishioners who helped my mother, Anne Shea, celebrate her Centennial Year – I would like to say “A HUGE THANK YOU.”

I am very glad that so many of you were able to come to the Mass and reception afterward celebrating the occasion. You definitely helped her to get her 100th year off to a good start.



SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION

Our Youth Group will be conducting a school supply collection for the Cole Hamels Foundation. The Hamels Foundation is dedicated to enriching the lives of children through the power of education by giving them the tools they need to achieve their goals.

The Hamels Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization founded by Philadelphia Phillies pitcher, Cole Hamels and his wife Heidi. The Hamels Foundation has a dual purpose to provide support for quality education in the United States and establish a school in Malawi, Africa. We will be collecting anything from school bags to pencils to copybooks to folders. When you are doing your shopping, why not pick up something for those who can't afford the supplies they need to work at school. The school supplies collected will be divided between the Namunda Primary School in Africa and the Webster Elementary School in Philadelphia. For more information about the Hamels Foundation, or the schools it serves, contact Lauren Henderson at 484-383-4710.



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Friday, September 4

as we begin the Labor Day Weekend.

The office will reopen Tuesday, September 8



ST. FRANCES CABRINI REGINAL SCHOOL

Catholic School Mentors Needed

Join St. Thomas of Villanova Parish Community for an **Information Session** to be held in their Parish Center on **Wednesday, September 9 at 1:00 p.m.** as they plan to begin a new year of mentoring students at St. Frances Cabrini Regional School. New volunteers are welcome to join with us on Tuesdays, October to early May, to minister with the students: **TIME** of service commitment is from 3:15 – 4:15 pm.

Mentoring a student on a 1-1 basis may include homework assignments, extra math or reading support. You can decide the age/grades of the children you feel comfortable working with and it will be arranged by the school staff.

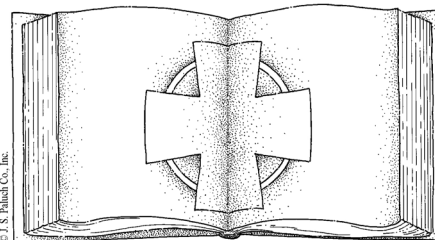
If you are interested but cannot attend this information session, contact Barb Gallin at 610-688-4168 or mmggbbcc@hotmail.com.

CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE to the Holy Land

Our Lady of Mount Carmel is sponsoring a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land from **November 9 – 18, 2015**. Daily Mass will be celebrated at the Holy Sites. Visit Jerusalem, Nazareth, Galilee, Bethlehem, the Dead Sea and more! Includes 3 Meals Daily. Air from Philadelphia.

Cost: \$3,549.00. For a flyer or more information, call Cathie or Mike Milano at 1-800-773-2660.

YOU HAVE
THE WORDS OF
ETERNAL
LIFE

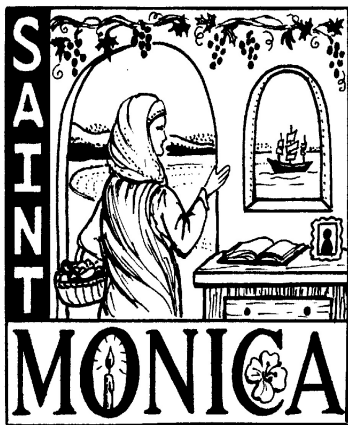


TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In many church buildings constructed in the early twentieth century, there is a window or statue of Pope St. Pius X. Often these windows were purchased with coins collected by grateful children, since in 1910 a decree admitted much younger children to First Communion. Before then, only teenagers were customarily confirmed and then admitted to the Eucharist. What we often think is ancient practice in fact sometimes has fairly shallow roots, in this case only ten decades. For centuries, Communion had marked the end of formal religious education, but a hundred years ago, Pius X located it at the point at which a child could express a desire for the sacrament and receive it with understanding. In 1917 a new code of canon law determined that age to be about seven, and this practice was observed almost everywhere until the beginning of the Second Vatican Council forty years ago.

In a growing number of dioceses, recent practice has restored the sacramental order that Pius X's generous decree upset, and increasingly confirmation is celebrated before First Communion. But the gift Pius gave to the children of the Roman Church remains firm: everywhere we admit children to the Lord's table. Where the traditional order has been restored, seven-year-old children are confirmed before First Communion.

-Rev. James Field, Copyright J.S. Paluch Co.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

- 7:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS
9:30 SPECIAL INTENTION
11:15 JOHN C. CASEY

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

- 6:30 NELL TRAVERS
8:00 LUCILLE D'AMICO

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

- 6:30 PEARL CIUKURESCU
8:00 AGNES DUFFY

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

- 6:30 CYNDIA LONG
8:00 MARK AND MICHELLE CONNOR

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

- 6:30
8:00 EGIDIO RICCO

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

- 6:30 MR. AND MRS. ANGELO IANNAcone
8:00 DOMENIC AND MARIA DI MARTINO

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

- 8:00 EMILY DU PREE-DOSCH

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

- 7:30 PAUL, MAUREEN & TOMMY BRENNAN
9:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS
11:15 ANTONIO DI IANNI

John J. Stretch, III F.D.
(Supervisor)

John J. Stretch, IV F.D.

Timothy J. Stretch F.D.

Edward F. (Ted) Power, F.D.

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