



# Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish Community

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Sisters of Mercy for over a century

PENNSWOOD ROAD  
BRYN MAWR, PA 19010

**November 8, 2015**

## PARISH STAFF

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

Fr. James Martinez, OSA, Pastor Emeritus

Fr. James McBurney, OSA, Parochial Vicar...Ext. 233

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>

## LOVE IS ITS OWN REWARD

In today's Gospel (Mark 12:38-44), Jesus begins by warning the crowd about some scribes who are clearly ostentatious about their religious authority, parading in long robes, accepting greetings and places of honor in both synagogues and banquets. The scribes were people who studied Torah and were able to discuss and interpret it for the people. They were the learned men who were supposed to know what God desires of us and follow through on it, while teaching God's ways to others. Instead, Jesus says, they "devour the houses of widows and, as a pretext, recite lengthy prayers."

Devouring the houses of widows probably refers to widows who, upon the death of their male guardians, entrusted their property to scribes whom they believed to be reputable in protecting their meager belongings. Jesus accuses the scribes of using their religious position to exploit poor, vulnerable and powerless widows. They willfully act contrary to the Torah and to what covenant relationship demands.

Mark now shifts the scene to Jesus sitting in the temple opposite the treasury and observing all those who make contributions for the upkeep of the temple. Thirteen trumpet-shaped metal receptacles were available for people to deposit their money. Those who made large contributions made a lot of noise when making their donations, probably attracting the attention of others and leading to pride and ostentation.

As Jesus watches, a poor, unnoticed widow puts in two small coins, worth very little. She neither made much noise nor called attention to herself, but she gave all she had to live on. Jesus calls his disciples and points to the widow as a model of true discipleship. Others contributed greatly from their surplus wealth. The widow's contribution is highlighted by the repetition of three phrases: "From her poverty...all she had...her whole livelihood."

There are many ways that scholars have interpreted this scene. The first is the message of giving our all, of showing total and true generosity out of religious dedication and devotion to God. Jesus is praising the widow for her willingness to risk and give totally of herself. Others see the widow as someone religiously abused by temple authorities who promised to use the money to care for the poor, but instead used it for their own purposes. In this interpretation, Jesus is lamenting the way the temple structure is actually abusing and oppressing the needy for the authorities' own selfish purposes.

Maybe both interpretations have some truth to them. What we do know is that Mark's Jesus will soon be giving of himself completely in his passion and death so that others may live. Jesus, like the widow, and like all disciples worthy of the name, are to be willing to give of themselves totally and completely so that others may have life.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

In our prayers, we have been asked to remember:

Pat Dobson, Judy Brown, Michael and Andrew McCaughey Margaret Simyak, Evanille Walker, Leaphy N. Nhek.

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.

**Baptism:** We welcome to our faith community John Robert Finn, son of Jeremy and Kelly, who was baptized in our Church recently.

## H.O.P.E.

If you need a trip to the doctor, shopping, etc., call Shelley Preston at 484-412-8309 or Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147 x234.

## PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT

If there is anything you would like to bring to the attention of the Council by way of ideas, suggestions or concerns, please call Susan Sessa at 610-527-6703 or [ssessa@aol.com](mailto:ssessa@aol.com)



## Welcome to Our New Parishioners ...

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Dear Friends,

This past Sunday, we held our fourth annual New Parishioners Brunch. All those who have registered as parishioners over the past two years were invited to join in the festive First Sunday brunch sponsored monthly by the Religious Education program. After the 11:15 Mass, 172 of us gathered in the Gymnasium. A wonderful spirit filled the room. There was lots of lively conversation and laughter as people from different towns, states and countries got to know each other now as members of the same parish. Those gathered ranged in age from a newborn soon to be baptized here to new recruits for our parish Senior group. Some had moved only a few miles before joining the parish. Others had moved over one thousand miles.

I was told repeatedly by the new parishioners how welcome they were made to feel by those already in the pews. The words "warm" and "friendly" kept being repeated as they described their initial experiences with the "veterans" of the parish. Well done, my friends. What wonderful testimony to our efforts to be a welcoming community.

Every year, I share with the group an interesting statistic about our parish. The overall number of people who belong to the parish (1,050 households) has been constant for fifteen years. Yet, every two years over 100 families register as new parishioners. That means that, at any given time, 10% of the parish has been here for less than two years. It would appear that although many in the parish have been members for a long time, some even for their whole lives, a significant number of those in our pews are always new.

For those who worship here, but are not registered, perhaps you would like to. Or perhaps, you would simply like to hear from us when we contact the parishioners. If either is the case, don't hesitate to call the parish office or send us an email.

May God continue to bless all of us!  
Father Denny

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE for November 1, 2015

Both widows in today's readings gave all they had to the work of the Lord, one using all her remaining food to feed Elijah and the other offering her two copper coins to the temple treasury. Faithful stewards give all that is asked and trust God to be faithful to God's promises.

|                                    |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Envelope Contributions .....       | \$9,347.00  |
| Loose Contributions.....           | \$782.00    |
| Mailed in.....                     | \$3,757.50  |
| Total Offertory Collection .....   | \$13,886.50 |
| Offering this time last year ..... | \$15,721.00 |
| Electronic giving of 11/1.....     | \$5,505.00  |
| Parish giving .....                | \$987.00    |

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

## YOUTH GROUP REMINDER

All Youth (students grades 6-12) are invited to join us for some planning and some games this evening, **Sunday, November 8** from 4:30 to 6:30. There will be food, fun, a few cool things raffled off, and sign ups for upcoming activities. Meet us in the school building.

## CLOTHING DRIVE

St. Vincent DePaul Society (GreenDrop) will be having a clothing drive on **Saturday, November 21 from 9:00am to 2:00pm**. Please take your donations to their truck which will be parked in the Parish parking lot near the Parish dumpsters during these hours.



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## SENIOR COMMUNITY GATHERING

The Senior Community members will gather again on **Friday, November 20 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.

## PEACE AND JUSTICE MEETING

The Peace and Justice Committee will meet again on **Monday, November 16 at 7:30 p.m.** in Our Mother of Good Counsel's Parish Center.

### HELP WANTED

We are looking for parents to help with our Annual Breakfast with Santa to be held on **Sunday, December 6**. We are in need of cooks to arrive early in the morning and help us cook for the pancake breakfast! If you are interested, please contact Karen Carey at 610-525-0147, ext. 258 OR [kcarey@omgcparish.net](mailto:kcarey@omgcparish.net).

### DO YOU HAVE A TALENT You Would Like to Share?

We are looking for interested men, women, children and families to join us for our Annual Talent Show on **Sunday, December 6**. This is a great opportunity to get to know others in our parish. If you can sing, dance, play an instrument, are in a band, can do magic, please consider being a part of our talent show. We will begin at approximately 1:00 pm immediately following our pizza lunch. Please contact Karen at 610-525-0147, ext. 258 OR [kcarey@omgcparish.net](mailto:kcarey@omgcparish.net) to sign up.

### WELCOME OLD AND NEW HANDBELL RINGERS

Handbell Choir will be rehearsing in the church on Saturdays in November, starting at 3:00PM. We welcome any new members who would like to join us at our practice sessions.

### SOUP'S ON: YEAR OF MERCY

Come, join us at the IHM Conference Center on **Wednesday, November 18 from 6:00-8:00pm** for a "Bowl and a Roll" and dessert. This simple meal will be followed by a Reflection on Mercy, presented by Ann Murray and quiet time for private prayer. To register, please call 610-521-0120 or email [ihmconference@verizon.net](mailto:ihmconference@verizon.net). Stipend for the poor: \$15.00.



## ANNUAL FAMILY ADVENT DAY

Our parish will once again celebrate the season of Advent with our Annual Family Fun Day. Please plan on joining us on **Sunday, December 6** for the following:

Breakfast with Santa

11:15 Liturgy

12:15 Lunch and Service Project

1:00 Talent Show

Finale – Cookies and Milk.

Bring a few dozen of your favorite recipes!

Please contact Karen at 610-525-0147, ext. 258 OR [kcarey@omgcparish.net](mailto:kcarey@omgcparish.net), if you are interested in helping with any of the above. We will need much help in making this a wonderful day for all.

### COMING HOME

#### Class of 1975 – 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion Prendie.Bonner Graduates

Join us on **Saturday, November 14** at St. Katharine Drexel Chapel in Archbishop Prendergast H.S. for Mass at 4:00 p.m., presided by our classmate Fr. John Denny, OSA.

The Reunion will follow immediately after Mass. For more information visit [www.BonnerPrendie.com](http://www.BonnerPrendie.com) (under Alumni Events) or email us at [prendie.bonner1975@gmail.com](mailto:prendie.bonner1975@gmail.com). Ticket price is \$50.00 – make check payable to MBAP Alumni Assoc. Check can be sent to Patti Mellon Germanovich '75, 730 S. Garfield Avenue, Glenolden, PA 19036. Patti can be reached at [pattig@kdi-inc.com](mailto:pattig@kdi-inc.com) or 610-368-6372.

### NEEDED: A FRIEND

Do you have one hour a week? Dolphins of Delaware Valley, a local organization, long affiliated with our parish, matches a volunteer with a nearby nursing home resident – not just any resident, but someone experiencing the long term isolation and loneliness which often occur in nursing homes. We always need both women and men visitors. Please learn more about being a volunteer by checking out our website at [www.dolphinsofdelawarevalley.org](http://www.dolphinsofdelawarevalley.org) or by calling Marilyn Knox, Volunteer Coordinator at 610-585-7141.

## THE AUGUSTINIANS ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Augustinian Province of St. Thomas of Villanova established a Heritage Room on the bottom floor of the Villanova Monastery some years ago to tell the story of the friars' arrival in the United States and its foundations especially in Philadelphia and Villanova. The site contains memorabilia of many friars and of the Province's mission in this country. The friars are desirous of making access to the Heritage Room available with regular hours of visitation, and are seeking individuals willing to volunteer some time to welcome visitors. The qualification are two: interest and a cheerful, hospitable spirit. Please contact Maria Manna at the Provincial Office for more information or to volunteer—610-572-3330 or [provincial@augustinian.org](mailto:provincial@augustinian.org).

## AN INVITATION

The Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus invite you to join us on **Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>** for a peaceful pause during the Advent Season to reflect on the true gift of Christmas. People of all ages are welcome. The event takes place at 1341 Montgomery Avenue in Rosemont. The day consists of: 9:30am – Welcome and refreshments; 9:45-10:15 – Reflection; 10:15 to 11:15 – Self Tour of International Nativity Scenes; 11:30 – Mass at New Sharon Chapel.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Tara Zoltek at 610-626-1400 (x315) or email her at [tzoltek@shcj.org](mailto:tzoltek@shcj.org).

## DISCERNMENT RETREAT

Young women (18-35) are invited to join us for this retreat which focuses on the IHM Charism and the importance of listening to God's call and discovering the many ways that God speaks to us. The Retreat will be held from **Friday, November 13** beginning at 6:00 p.m. and conclude on **Sunday, November 15** at 1:00 p.m. at Villa Maria House of Studies, located at 1140 King Road in Immaculata, PA

Time will be included for personal and communal prayer as well as the opportunity to interact with the sisters in Formation. Contact: [ihmvoc@aol.com](mailto:ihmvoc@aol.com) or 610-889-1553.

## PROJECT ELF

We are looking for families that may need assistance with either food or gifts during the upcoming holidays. If you, or someone you know, needs help fulfilling wishes for a beautiful holiday, please contact Karen Carey at [kcarey@omgcp parish.net](mailto:kcarey@omgcp parish.net) or 610-525-0147. All names and information is kept strictly confidential. Thank you to those who volunteered to be Elves. You will be contacted within the next two weeks.

## ANNUAL PARISH THANKGIVING

**Sunday, November 22**

**Evening Prayer at 4:00p.m.**

**Followed by Dinner in the Gym**

You are asked to bring a non-perishable food donation for our food pantry.

Please **respond** no later than **Friday, November 13** by calling the parish office at 610-525-0147 or by email at [bbieg@omgcp parish.net](mailto:brieg@omgcp parish.net) or by dropping a note in the collection basket with your name, contact information and the number of people attending.

## ALL CLASSES REUNION

**Our Lady of the Assumption School**

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, 35 Old Eagle School Road in Strafford will be hosting their first ever OLA All Classes Reunion on **Saturday, November 28**. Activities include: school tours, Mass at 5:00 p.m. and dinner following Mass to be held at Ristorante Primavera in Wayne. For more information or if you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Suzanne (DiMartini) Domenick at [olaalumni2015@gmail.com](mailto:olaalumni2015@gmail.com). Please follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OLAalumni> - We would love to see your old school pictures or hear from you!



*This  
poor widow  
put in more  
than all  
the others*

**HEALING RETREAT**

**For These Urgent Times:  
Sacraments. Healing. Deliverance.**

Malvern Retreat House will offer a mid-week Healing Retreat from **Monday, November 16 through Friday, November 20**. World-renowned preacher, author and minister of healing, Kathleen McCarthy, will direct this retreat. Fr. Dermot A. Roache, SMA, known internationally for preaching and healing, will participate as well. Please visit [www.malvernretreat.com](http://www.malvernretreat.com) or call 610-644-0400 for more information.

**CARDINAL O'HARA CLASS OF '85****High School Reunion**

Calling all Cardinal O'Hara Class of '85 graduates! Please join us in celebration of our 30-year Class Reunion on **Saturday, November 21 from 6:00-10:00pm** at the Lamb Tavern in Springfield. For more details, go to [eventbrite.com/e/cardinal-ohara-class-of-30th-year-reunion-tickets-16742281615](http://eventbrite.com/e/cardinal-ohara-class-of-30th-year-reunion-tickets-16742281615) or [facebook.com/groups/cohClassof85/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/cohClassof85/) or call 610-955-3737 or email: [cohclassof85@gmail.com](mailto:cohclassof85@gmail.com) for more information.

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- 7:30 MARIA AND LEWIS VAN DUSEN  
(80TH ANNIVERSARY)  
9:30 ROBERT VALENTINE  
(22ND ANNIVERSARY)  
11:15 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL  
PARISHIONERS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- 6:30 DARLENE DANIELS (ANNIVERSARY)  
8:00 ALVERTA SCOTT VAN DUSEN LEWIS  
(2ND ANNIVERSARY)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- 6:30 NOVEMBER LIST  
8:00 JOHN AND JANET PHILLIPS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- 6:30 DECEASED VETERANS OF  
ALL NATIONS  
8:00 ANNA AND CON HARKINS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

- 6:30 MR. AND MRS. JAMES J. WHITE  
8:00 BIAGIO PASQUAROSA DI LEO

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

- 6:30 DECEASED MEMBERS AND  
BENEFACTORS, OSA  
8:00 DOMINIC PASTORE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- 8:00 GAETANO AND ANTONIA CONICELLA

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- 7:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL  
PARISHIONERS  
9:30 KATHLEEN MC MANUS GUSS  
11:15 ACHILLE AND MARY BARONE



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