



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

November 15, 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>

BE VIGILANT ALWAYS

Today's Gospel (Mark 13:24-32) comes from the end of Jesus' public ministry. These are the last verses of Mark's Gospel before the passion narrative opens with the preparation of the Last Supper. Jesus' description of the end includes just about every dread event they could imagine: there would be false prophets, wars, natural disasters, trials, persecution and betrayals – but through it all, the presence of the Spirit and the promise of salvation.

Jesus was describing a situation that would be utterly and completely disorienting. The lack of “fixed light” would mean that the stability of creation had come undone; there would be nothing familiar, nothing comforting, nothing to give them their bearings. It would be almost like drowning on dry land. Then, and only then, would they behold the appearance of “the Son of Man.”

We need to remember to whom Jesus was talking. These were his disciples, the ones who had been quick to hope that Jesus would act like the kind of messiah on whom they pinned their hopes and dreams. Jesus wanted them to realize that they could not imagine the reality that was to come; it was only by using mysterious symbolic language that he could speak of it at all. If they could grasp nothing else, he wanted them to know that they would be terrified.

But terror is only part of the message. Yes, they would go through faith-shaking trials they could not imagine, beginning with his passion. Nevertheless, that was not all. In the midst of the chaos of body, mind and heart that was to come, they would see him and discover his true glory and power. Only as they watched everything else pass away would they understand that his words would not pass away.

Mark introduced this discourse with the stories of the widow and the awe-inspiring temple to illustrate the meaning of Jesus' discourse of the end times. While the temple architecture and its cult were impressive, they had no lasting meaning. None of the pomp visible in its liturgies, nothing of its international fame and honor would last. What did have value, what would not pass away, was the example of total giving foreshadowed by the widow and brought to completion by Jesus.

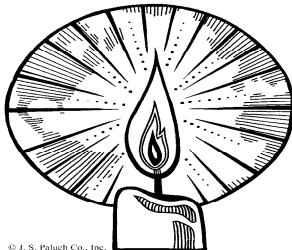
It is unlikely that the disciples understood that in the moment. They were experts at missing the point when it came to comprehending suffering or the need to let go of their own presuppositions. But they did remember the incident and how Jesus used it to contextualize his teaching about the end. Bit by bit, they got it! We can too.

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, and Barbara Tillman.

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.



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H.O.P.E.

If you need a trip to the doctor, shopping, etc., call 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 Dominic DiMartino at 610-525-6442.

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.

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

Dear Friends,

At the conclusion of Vatican Council II, Pope Paul VI promulgated several important documents that had emerged from the Bishops' three years of discussions. Documents were issued on: the nature of the Church, the Church's relationship with other religions, the celebration of Mass and a number of other topics. The document on the Church's understanding of Divine Revelation as found in the Sacred Scriptures is entitled "Dei Verbum" (the Word of God).

Pope Paul promulgated Dei Verbum on November 18, 1965. To celebrate Dei Verbum's fiftieth anniversary, our American Bishops have declared November 15 -21 National Bible Week. Strongly influenced by the preaching of Pope Francis, the Bishops have chosen "The Bible: A Book for the Family" as the theme for the week.

We Catholics have taken a much greater interest in the study of the Bible since Vatican II encouraged us to do so. To that end, many parishes, ourselves included, regularly offer some sort of course of study to better understand and more deeply appreciate God's Word. There are Bibles in the "library" in the back of church. Sign one out if you would like. If your home does not have a Bible, I strongly urge you to purchase one.

Many of us have been frustrated in our attempts to read the Bible. Often we approach it like any other book. We start on page one and hope, eventually, to read to the last page. Although admirable, that's not a particularly good approach. The Bible is a collection of Books that were each written separately and that's how they should be read. Begin anywhere in the Bible. Begin with something that interests you. In the Old Testament decide to read: the Psalms, or Wisdom, or the Book of Genesis, or one of the Prophets. Or choose something from the New Testament: one of the Gospels, or St. Paul's Letter to the Romans, or his letters to the Corinthians, or the Acts of the Apostles.

Happy Reading!
Father Denny

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

for November 8, 2015

The readings today speak of the end of the world and the coming of the Kingdom. The bishops' pastoral on stewardship says clearly that "that 'life to come' is in continuity with this present life through the human goods, the worthy human purposes, which people foster now." May our good stewardship cause us to be numbered among the chosen on the last day!

Envelope Contributions	\$7,170.00
Loose Contributions.....	\$933.00
Mailed in	\$2,970.00
Total Offertory Collection	\$11,073.00
Offering this time last year	\$15,721.00
Parish giving	\$745.00

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



THANKSGIVING PARISH SCHEDULE

**Thursday, November 26
One Mass only at 9:00 a.m.**

**Parish Office will be Closed
Thursday and Friday, November 27
Have a Wonderful Weekend!**

GOSPEL IN ACTION Hope Partnership for Education

Thank you to all who donated generously to Hope Partnership for Education during our Gospel in Action campaign that ended last Sunday. We raised \$2,042 to assist Hope Partnership in their mission to end poverty through education. Several parishioners also offered to share their talents at the school as volunteers. If you are interested in learning more about Hope Partnership, there are pamphlets in the pamphlet racks in the vestibule or you can visit their website: www.hope-partnership.org.

Seniors

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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.

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@omgcp parish.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.

DRIVER NEEDED

A woman in our parish is looking for a driver to take her on errands and to appointments during the week. This is a paid position. If you are interested in this part-time or occasional work, please call Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147, ext. 234.

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@omgcp parish.net.

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.

JUBILEE OF MERCY

December 2nd & 3rd

Fr. James Keenan, SJ

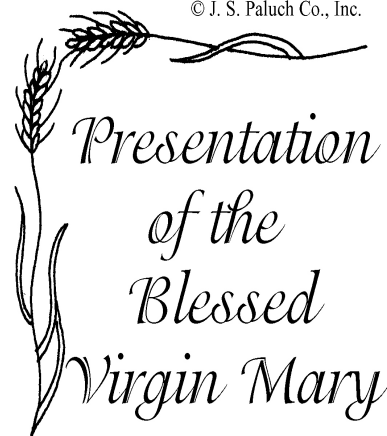
Join us on **Wednesday, December 2nd from 6:30 – 8:00 pm** at St. Thomas of Villanova Church on the campus of the University to hear Fr. James Keenan, SJ speak on “The Centrality of the Works of Mercy within the Catholic Tradition.”

On **Thursday, December 3rd at 7:30 p.m.**, Lessons and Carols will present *Mercy in the Flesh*, presented by the Villanova Pastoral Musicians and the St. Thomas of Villanova Parish Choir also being held at the Church on the University Campus.

PRAYER AS AWAKENING

Before the busyness of Christmas preparation begins, the IHM Sisters invite you to their retreat house at 401 Bryn Mawr Avenue in Bryn Mawr for a day of slowing down and considering what God is communicating/doing in our lives. Quiet time will help us ponder life with the “eyes of our hearts.” Presenter: Sr Mary Henrich, IHM; Time” **Tuesday, December 1 from 9:30 -2:30pm**. The day includes light breakfast, dinner, Mass. Stipend: \$40. For reservations, please call 610-581-0120 or email us at ihmconference@verizon.net.

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**Saturday,
November 21**

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 **tomorrow, Monday, November 16** 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.

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.

GETTING THROUGH THE TOUGH TIMES

"It's going to get worse before it gets better," is a phrase that prepares us to buckle up for a rough ride. We know that enduring a difficult time will require some strenuous physical or emotional energy on our part before we experience the calm of normality. Our past experience tells us that we can endure the difficult pressure better when we know how long it will last and if we know that something better awaits us. Getting through the tough times while holding to the promise that awaits us is the message of this weekend's readings. They point toward the promises of God's kingdom that will come after the maelstroms and chaos of this world.

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Youth Activities

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YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR NEWS

All youth in our parish are invited to join us on any of the upcoming events. Please contact Karen at kcarey@omgcp parish.net for more information on any of the events listed. All 6th through 12th grade Youth are invited and encouraged to attend.

Sunday, November 15 – 6pm to 8pm – service project and Advent Day Preparation. Snacks provided. Meet in school building.

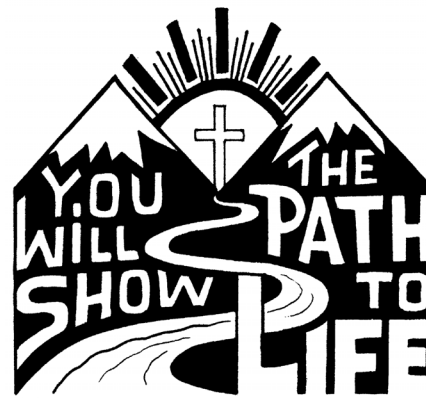
Sunday, November 22 – 4:00 p.m. – All are encouraged to come to the Thanksgiving Dinner preceded by evening prayer at 4 pm in the church. Please RSVP by calling the parish office at 610-525-0147 **tomorrow, Monday November 16.**

Sunday, November 29 – no Youth Group.

Sunday, December 6 – All youth (grades 6 – 12) are invited to participate in the Advent Family Day. Please dress as elves and meet in the gym at 8:30 a.m. The day will end at approximately 3:00 pm.

Saturday, December 11 - Trip to Walnut Street Theater to see "A Christmas Carol" at 11 am. Followed by lunch in the city. Note: anyone attending this **MUST** register by contacting Karen at kcarey@omgcp parish.net **NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 29.**

Sunday, December 20 – 4:00 pm – Trip to Shady Brook Farm Holiday Light Show and Christmas Party. Anyone attending this **MUST** contact Karen at kcarey@omgcp parish.net **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 7.**



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 or [facebook.com/groups/cohClassof85/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/cohClassof85/) or call 610-955-3737 or email: cohclassof85@gmail.com for more information.

A SEARCH FOR CLASSMATES Archbishop Prendergast – Class of 1966

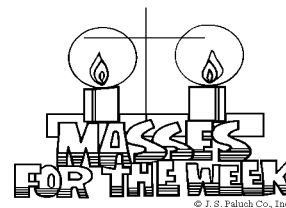
We are looking for classmates from Prendie, Class of 1966. Guess why? Yes, it has been 50 years. Time to reunite! Please contact Dottie Bracken Evangelista at: evangedb@gmail.com for information. We want to get in touch with you!

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE From Philadelphia June 20-30, 2016

Join Msgr. Ken McAteer, Pastor of St. Ephrem in Bensalem and Deacon Tom and Mary Jane Fox for an incredible journey of faith. Come and experience the land Our Lord sanctified with His very life. Imagine: 1 night at Mt Carmel by the Mediterranean Sea; 3 nights on Mt. of Beatitudes by the Sea of Galilee; and 5 nights in Jerusalem. This customized pilgrimage includes daily Mass, accommodations, airfare, 3 daily meals, tips and so much more! For information, call Pilgrim Center of Hope at 210-521-3377 or visit www.pilgrimcenterofhope.org.



**ST. MARGARET OF
SCOTLAND**
November 15



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- 6:30 LEWIS H. VAN DUSEN, JR.
(10TH ANNIVERSARY)
8:00 PEGGY GALLAGHER
(6TH ANNIVERSARY)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- 6:30 SIR CHARLES VILLIERS
8:00 THOMAS MC GRANAHAN

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

- 6:30 NOVEMBER LIST
8:00 JOHN PHILLIPS, JR.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

- 6:30 SHIRLEY JABLONSKI (ANNIVERSARY)
8:00 JAMES CORRIGAN

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- 6:30 MURIEL LEILA MARY LUND
VAN DUSEN (70TH ANNIVERSARY)
8:00 NICOLA FALCONE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- 8:00 JIM KILGALLEN

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- 7:30 JAMES D. SHERIDAN
9:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS
11:15 TRUDY GILDEA

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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