



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 22, 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 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>

ARE YOU A SON OR DAUGHTER OF GOD? DO YOU LIVE THIS TRUTH?

The choice of John 18:33-37 as the Gospel for the feast of Christ the King emphasizes this celebration as the culmination of the church year, reminding us that the original celebration of Christ as King is the feast of the Ascension, and that the one who ascended to the right hand of the Father is the crucified and risen Christ. So today's feast is not just a celebration of a title of Christ but one that recapitulates the entire church year. It proclaims who Christ is, from where and why he came; and it reminds us of what sort of kingship he wields.

John's portrayal of Jesus' trial before Pilate depicts Jesus and Pilate having a rather extended dialogue over Jesus' identity as a king. The first point to notice here is that what goes on between Pilate and Jesus is indeed a dialogue. As is typical in the Gospel of John, Pilate's discussion with Jesus has multiple layers of meaning and includes Jesus' attempt to lure Pilate to become involved in a deeper level of interaction than he is ready or willing to risk.

As in the Synoptic accounts, Pilate's opening question to Jesus is: "Are you the King of the Jews?" In typical fashion, Jesus responds to Pilate without answering his question. Pilate asked if Jesus is the King of the Jews and what he did to be handed over by them. Jesus responds by explaining that his kingdom is not of this world: It is not the sort of kingdom that Pilate is prepared to understand. Pilate comprehends a rule in which the sovereign can enforce his will, in fact his every whim. But everything that Jesus is about pertains to another plane, one based on loving relationships.

Jesus says that he has come into the world to testify to the truth – the truth of who God is, of what God is like. When Jesus tells Pilate that "everyone who belongs to the truth" hears his voice, he implies that his kingship is that of the Good Shepherd. That statement recalls the role of the king of Israel as a shepherd, a shepherd whose voice the sheep cherish, the voice of a non-coercive leader who looks out first for the least and the lost.

The choice of this Gospel for the feast of Christ the King invites us to review the year's liturgies, to recall what we have learned of the Lord Jesus and the truth about the kingdom we are invited to enjoy together. It reminds us that God's reign is "not of this world" in the sense that it is neither territorial nor conventionally political. To participate in God's reign, we need but hear and heed the voice of our Shepherd-King.

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, Barbara Tillman, Greta Zybon, and Oscar Santos.

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, Antoinette Christine Furia, daughter of Thomas and Kelly, who was baptized in our church recently.

H.O.P.E.

If you need a trip to the doctor, shopping, etc., call Carol Way at 610-525-5817 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 Ron Hicks at 610-449-2748.

SPIRITUAL READING GROUP

The Spiritual Reading Group will meet again on **Friday, December 4 at 10:00 a.m.** in the Parish Center.

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Dear Friends,

Thanksgiving is a great national tradition handed on to us nearly 400 years ago by the natives of this land and the recently arrived English Pilgrims. The first Thanksgiving modeled America at its best – ethnically, racially and religiously diverse people sharing a meal in joy-filled peace.

Thanksgiving may be my favorite holiday. I love holidays, but as a priest, some holidays are simply exhausting. I also watch my seven siblings go non-stop during holidays. However, Thanksgiving refreshes and renews me. With the notable and wonderful exception of the food preparation, there is not a lot of undue fuss associated with Thanksgiving. For the fifth year, I'll cook right here at the rectory. Over the last fifteen years, I have hosted Thanksgiving dinner at each of my assignments for my Mom and my brother Tim and his family – sixteen in all. It is a lot of work and a ton of fun. I'll prepare the turkey and all the trimmings. My sister-in-law and her sister bake the breads and the pies. Thanksgiving's expectations are so simple: to gather with loved ones in order to share a special meal, and to give thanks to God for the things that really matter. We express, with humility and good cheer, our thanks for: our families, our freedoms, our friendships and our faith.

I join the parish staff and my Augustinian brothers in wishing all of you a wonderful Thanksgiving. For those of you who will be traveling, we pray for safe journeys. For those staying local, consider beginning your day by coming to our Thanksgiving Mass here at 9am. The Thanksgiving table continues to call everyone to the feast. Enjoy!

God Bless,
Father Denny

THANKSGIVING



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**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE
for November 15, 2015**

Today's second reading reminds us that the sacrifice of Christ frees us from sin and makes us a royal nation of priests *in the service* of God. How am I using my gifts to serve God and others?

Envelope Contributions	\$7,158.00
Loose Contributions.....	\$894.00
Mailed in	\$1,827.00
Total Offertory Collection	\$9,879.00
Electronic giving of 11/16/15.....	\$4,222.00
Parish Giving.....	\$1,145.00

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

PARISH EVENING OF REFLECTION

The Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Presenter: Fr. Dennis McGowan, OSA

Thursday, December 3

7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

When we think of Isaiah, we often think of the Advent-Christmas Season. So many of the images of the season we hold dear to us come from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. But Isaiah has much more to say to us, as was the case with the People of Israel of old. Last year, we looked at the beginning of that great work and its scriptural prominence during Advent and Christmastime. We will continue to look to the rest of Isaiah as a work that brought challenge and consolation to the People of Israel. We will continue to look at what Isaiah has to say to us today and its importance during other times of the liturgical year.



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REMINDER FOR LECTORS

If you have not picked up the 2016 Lector Workbook, it is available for you in the Sunday sacristy. The season of Advent and Cycle "C" readings begin on the weekend of November 28-29.

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!

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.

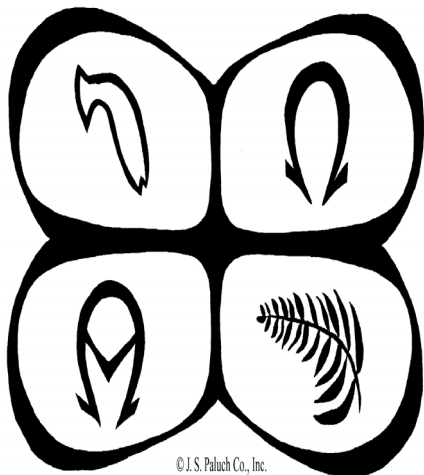
“SOUP’S ON!”

The Good Samaritan: A Lens for Mercy
Presenter: Fr. James McBurney, OSA
Wednesday, December 9

Come, join us at the IHM Conference Center (401 Bryn Mawr Avenue) for “a bowl, a roll, a dessert and some quiet time for prayer and reflection.” The evening will be held from **6:00 – 8:00 p.m.** Stipend: \$15.00. To register, please call 610-521-0120 or email ihmconference@verizon.net.

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.



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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, if you are interested in helping with any of the above. We will need much help in making this a wonderful day for all.

AN INVITATION

You are cordially invited to a free Winter Concert on **Monday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m.** at St. Luke Lutheran Church, Conestoga and Valley Forge Roads in Devon, PA 19333. The Coterie Women’s Chorus, directed by Lisa Willson DeNolfo, and the Coterie Chamber Musicians will perform. Cathy Conway, an OMGC cantor, and Carolyn Hammond, a choir member, will sing with the Coterie Chorus favorites such as Pergolesi’s “Glory to God in the Highest,” “Mary, Did You Know?” and “A Swinging Christmas.” Reception and refreshments will conclude this winter evening of Christmas music.

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.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

R.C.I.A. Beginnings

Our Parish Community invites interested candidates who are considering becoming fully-initiated members of the Catholic Church to participate in the first phase of the RCIA process, known as the Inquiry Sessions. These sessions will be held on 6 consecutive evenings in our Parish Center and will begin whenever a person or persons are ready to begin this journey.

Vatican II's Decree on the Church's Missionary Activity states: "But this Christian initiation through the RCIA process should be taken care of not only by catechists or priests, but by the entire community of the faithful, so that right from the outset, the candidates may feel that they belong to the people of God."

The Council Fathers emphasized that the RCIA is a journey of conversion for the person participating in the initiation process, and by extension it is often a journey of conversion for the whole parish. Conversion happens if the parish fully embraces the process of initiation and walks the journey of faith with the candidates for initiation.

Every baptized parishioner has a role in initiation of our new members. We are part of that mentoring community that apprentices the new disciples. By observing our prayer, words, deeds and actions in the parish and in the broader community, our newest members learn what it means to live as a Catholic Christian today. We provide the examples. RCIA depends on all of us because we make up the Christian community.

Every worshipping parishioner is involved in the RCIA through participation in the liturgical rites of initiation that usually happen at our 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass especially in the months before Easter, but also throughout the year. These are major liturgical rituals that mark the progress of the candidates who are in the initiation process. These liturgical rites are major events not only for the candidates in the process, but also for the entire parish. During the rites, the parish recognizes and celebrates the candidates. As a member of this parish, you are asked to pray with and for those in the initiation process. As a member of the Body of Christ, you also make manifest Christ's presence in

the community. We are a sign of Christ to the candidates in the RCIA process.

Youth Activities

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YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR NEWS

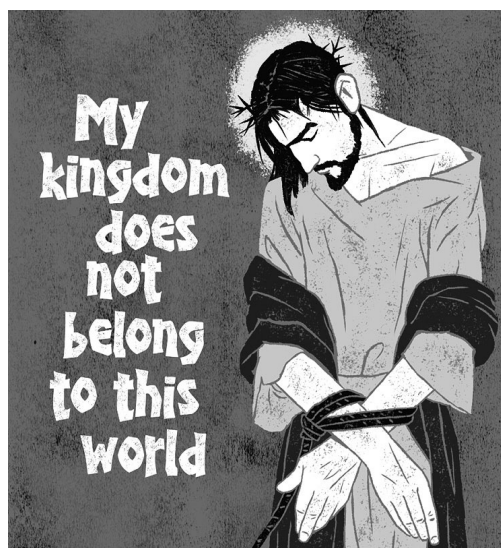
All youth in our parish are invited to join us on any of the upcoming events. Please contact Karen at kcarey@omgcp parish.net for more information on any of the events listed. All 6th through 12th grade Youth are invited and encouraged to attend.

Sunday, November 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.



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IMPORTANT REQUEST

Please do not bring food that contains peanuts, nuts, peanut products or nut products inside the church; someone sitting near you may have a serious allergy.

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.

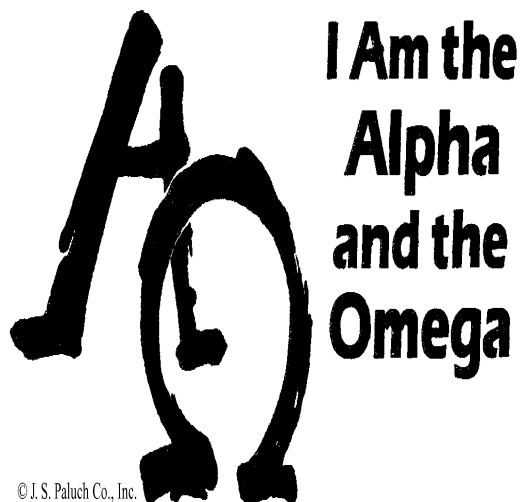
A SEARCH FOR CLASSMATES

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.

TRUE GRATITUDE

Let us remember that, as much has been given to us, much will be expected from us, and that true homage comes from the heart as well as from the lips and shows itself in deed. –Theodore Roosevelt



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- 6:30 EMILIE AND ALBERT GERHARD
 8:00 NICK RANDAZZO

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

- 6:30 NOVEMBER LIST
 8:00 MARGARET DE LUCA
 (47TH ANNIVERSARY)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

- 6:30 RHE BROOKE MESEROLE VAN DUSEN
 (39TH ANNIVERSARY)
 8:00 MARK AND MICHELLE CONNOR

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26 THANKSGIVING

- 9:00 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
 PARISHIONERS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

- 6:30 DR. RUTH PATRICK HODGE
 VAN DUSEN (108TH ANNIVERSARY)
 8:00 THOMAS L. ROSSER
 (63RD ANNIVERSARY)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

- 8:00 JOHN MALONEY, SR. AND
 CECELIA MALONEY KELLY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- 7:30 EDWARD AND NORA MORAN
 9:30 OUR MOTHER OR GOOD COUNSEL
 PARISHIONERS
 11:15 JOHN T. SCHIKEL

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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