



Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish Community

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PENNSWOOD ROAD
BRYN MAWR, PA 19010

November 29, 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>

IN THE MIDST OF GREAT TRIALS, SHOW COURAGE AND FAITH

In today's Gospel (Luke 21:25-28;34-36), the evangelist, Luke, moves into the inner world of people by referring to hearing and breath. Hearing and breath both take place inside the body. Luke is telling us that the interior life of people will be shaken. They will hear the "sound of sea and waves," the soundtrack of the *apocalypse* (immanent end of the world). The early Hebrews believed that God had tamed the primordial waters at the beginning of creation. In so doing, God brought order out of chaos and human life became possible. But it all could be easily overturned. The "sound of sea and waves" expresses his foreboding threat.

"And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." In Luke, Jesus uses "Son of Man" to recall Daniel 7:13, "...like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven..." In Daniel, the Son of Man – literally "the Human One" - will have royal power. He will be king. Luke preserves this sense in saying: "When you see these things coming to pass, know that the kingdom of God is near."

In an apocalyptic situation, with the world appearing to come apart, its foundations shaken, most people would "duck and cover." Yet, says Luke, this is precisely the time for people to show courage and faith. "Stand erect and raise your heads!" The form of the Greek word for "straighten up," was often used to express elation after great sorrow. What appears to be bad news is really good news, "for your redemption is at hand." And here we see the author's working definition of redemption. It is God's faithfulness bringing forth liberation from a world hostile to Christians.

What we project onto an apocalyptic future time often reflects present suffering. Many live in situations of impending doom right now. Things are not suddenly going to get worse as a precursor to the end. Things are horrible now. The vicissitudes of life play no favorites. At one time or another, for every person on earth, everything that used to feel solid and sure will start to come apart.

And so, as Luke says, we "keep vigil at all times." Still we pray for the strength "to escape these things, all the things coming to be. We pray, "to be stood" before the Son of Man. We don't do the standing. We will be stood. "All the things coming to be" include both the bad, 'the shaking of the foundations' of the world, and the good, the work of Christ to seek and save the lost. Christ will raise you up before him. There, in his power, you will "be stood."

PRAYER REQUESTS

In our prayers, we have been asked to remember:

Michael and Andrew McCaughey,
Margaret Simyak, Evanille Walker,
Leaphy Nhek, Barbara Tillman,
Greta Zyban 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.

H.O.P.E.

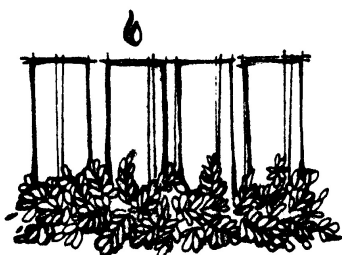
If you need a trip to the doctor, shopping, etc., call Shelley Preston at 484-412-8309 Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147 x234.

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 Dianne Meyer at 610-310-0506 or DAMEYER1620@comcast.net.

SPIRITUAL READING GROUP

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



PRAYER AFTER THE PARIS BOMBINGS

Father Denny wished to share this prayer with our parish community:

Christ, you mourn again because of a city,
because of the senseless violence
that pits brother against brother, sister against sister.

Have mercy on the souls of all the dead in Paris.
Heal the living who were wounded in body and soul
in the city of Notre Dame, Mother of all.
We grieve with her and her children.

We mourn the breakdown of our global family,
and the violence in so many places
when humans created in the image of God choose
hate,
when they choose death instead of life,
when they choose revenge instead of mercy.

Have mercy, Prince of Peace, on all the souls
destroyed by hate and violence in Europe,
in the United States, in Lebanon, in Iraq, in
Afghanistan:

in all places where guns and bombs
continue to be seen as the only response.

Grant us the deep wisdom to somehow move beyond
this seemingly endless cycle of violence.

Guide us to wage peace with the same passion
others wage war, so the peace
may be the final monument to those who have died.

Amen

Jane Deren, PH.D
Center of Concern
Education for Justice



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STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

“Be on guard,” Jesus warns in today’s Gospel, lest your spirits become bloated with indulgence.” Let us heed His warning and follow the advice of St. Paul, conducting ourselves in a way pleasing to God, overflowing with love for one another.

Because of the early bulletin deadline due to Thanksgiving, donation totals for November 22 will be reported next week.

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

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

A Holyday of Obligation

Vigil Mass, Monday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m.

**Masses during the Day, December 8
6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m. and 12:10 p.m.**

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY Begins December 8, 2015

Besides a new liturgical year, this Advent features an additional “beginning” – next week’s opening of the *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, a graced opportunity to contemplate more profoundly and live more concretely the mystery of God’s unconditional love. Pope Francis says that mercy, as the bridge connecting God and the human family, opens our hearts to welcome God’s love for us sinners and our eyes to recognize others, especially society’s least loved and most vulnerable, as brothers and sisters entrusted to our care. Today’s scriptures provide a perfect Jubilee preparation. Jeremiah comforts us with the promise of God’s justice; Paul challenges us to abound in love for all; Luke bids us anticipate Jesus’ future coming as a joyful advent of our redemption. But in a unique way, this Jubilee Year’s Advent reminds us that Jesus whose coming we await, is already present among us, in those for whom we need to become instruments of God’s mercy.

Peter Scagnelli, Copyright J.S. Paluch, Inc.

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.

“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.

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.

ADVENT TAIZE PRAYER

Join us on **Sunday afternoon, December 20 at 4:00 p.m.** here at Our Mother of Good Counsel Church for an experience of Taize Prayer, facilitated by two members of the Spirituality Committee, Joanne Bramley and Mary Callan. This is a very reflective and quiet prayer experience that we could find very helpful in the midst of the busy holiday activity.

CAUSE OF FATHER BILL ATKINSON



On November 17, 2015, Archbishop Chaput encouraged the approval of the Cause of Bill Atkinson, OSA, to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. He spoke of the timeliness of Fr. Bill’s witness, especially as a **quadriplegic**, offering encouragement to others in similar situations, and to the religious community and family of Fr. Bill for their care of him. “William Atkinson’s Cause will be a beautiful one, because it will be a source of encouragement...it reminds us of the great generosity of his family and his [Augustinian] religious community; they are called to holiness by their special care for this man. I think he will fit very beautifully into the niche of the communion of saints as a very special patron.” The president of the USCCB requested assent and unanimous applause followed.

OMGC ADVENT PROJECT

No Room at the Inn

This Advent, our Mother of Good Counsel will be participating in a project titled “NO ROOM AT THE INN” founded by a group called Cross Catholic Outreach. Our goal this Advent is to unite with other Catholics to build homes for poor families in Haiti. Please see the insert in the bulletin for more information. You can donate by placing your gift in the manger box in the back of church. If you choose to write a check, please make the check out to OMGC and write “No Room at the Inn” in the memo. Let’s see if we can build an entire house at the cost of \$5,520!



COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

Our parish will celebrate its Advent Communal Penance Service on **Tuesday evening, December 15 at 7:30 p.m.** in our Parish Church.



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.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

Parish Committee Meeting

The IHN Committee will meet on **Wednesday, December 9 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Parish Center as we prepare for the January 10 – 17 week of hosting.

SPIRITUALITY COMMITTEE

The Spirituality Committee will meet on **Tuesday, December 8 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Parish Center.

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.

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.

LITURGICAL SOUNDS OF ADVENT SEASON

The month of Advent is upon us. Changes in music and the environment appear, preparing for the coming of Our Lord. Memorable hymns return for these four short weeks of anticipation. Handbell choir revisits with simple accompaniments to familiar melodies. The penitential rite is once again sung in gentle tones. The setting of the ordinary parts of the Mass also shifts into the quiet longing of the season, drawing hearts deeper into Advent’s spirit of patience, hope and expectation.

Jo-Ann Stigliano

Director of Music Ministries



GAUDEAMUS MUSIC MINISTRY

Candlelight Christmas Concert

The musicians of Gaudeamus will perform their annual Candlelight Christmas Concert on **Sunday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m.** at Epiphany of Our Lord Church in Plymouth Meeting. The concert will feature traditional, classical and sacred songs of the season. Concerts are free and open to the public. A free will donation will benefit *Angel Flight East*, a local non-profit organization that provides free air transportation for critically ill patients. If you would like additional information, please call 610-291-4255 or visit www.letusrejoice.org.

“A MANSION CAROL NIGHT”

The IHM Conference Center, located at 401 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue in Bryn Mawr, presents “A Mansion Carol Night.” Journey through the Mansion celebrating Advent/Christmas joy through song, prayer, scripture and fellowship on **Wednesday, December 16 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.** Join us and bring your family and friends! A good will offering is appreciated.

To register, call 610-581-0120 by Saturday, December 12.

CAREGIVER AVAILABLE/PART-TIME

A caregiver, who has worked with some of our parishioners, is looking for employment. Also, experienced in cleaning, cooking lunch or dinner, etc. Dependable, Trustworthy, Honest...Please call Veronica at 484-222-1178.



Mass Intentions



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- 6:30 NOVEMBER LIST
8:00 CHARLES HARTLEY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

- 6:30 ROBERT BUCHANAN, SR.
8:00 MARIA DI MARTINO

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

- 6:30 DECEASED MEMBERS AND
BENEFACTORS, OSA
8:00 HAROLD AND ROSE IRVING

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

- 6:30 SPECIAL INTENTION
8:00 FRANK AND MARY CORR

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

- 6:30 GERALD J. BRENNAN
8:00 JANET D. DAGIT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

- 8:00 THE VALENTINE FAMILY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

- 7:30 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE
CIRO IANNOTTA FAMILY
9:30 BOB RYAN
11:15 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS

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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