



Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish Community

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PENNSWOOD ROAD
BRYN MAWR, PA 19010

February 21, 2016

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>

A GLIMPSE OF GOD!

The synoptic Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke agree on the essential details of today's account of the Transfiguration (Luke 9:28-36). The change in Jesus' appearance and his luminous clothes are reminders of God's appearance to Moses on the mountain. The two Hebrew Scripture figures who appeared with Jesus may represent the law (Moses) and the prophets (Elijah); they are also two whose final circumstances were mysterious: no one knows where Moses was buried and according to Elisha, Elijah didn't die but was "taken up" in a fiery chariot.

Luke also concurs with Matthew and Mark in telling about Peter's offer to set up three tents, a suggestion that makes a double-pronged blunder. First, Peter is seemingly trying to confine or control a mystical experience. Secondly, giving each person a tent seems to treat Jesus, Moses and Elijah equally – an intention countermanded by the divine voice that thunders from the heavens identifying Jesus as the Chosen One to whom all should listen.

Luke adds some very human details to the story. Paralleling what would later take place in the Garden of Gethsemane, Luke points out that drowsiness impeded the disciples' awareness of the happening until it was almost too late. In addition, only Luke gives us the detail that they were afraid when they heard the heavenly voice, emphasizing the fact that encounters with the divine are overwhelming.

Finally, whereas Mark and Matthew have Jesus direct the disciples not to tell anyone what they have seen, Luke simply says that they kept silence. But that vital detail stresses the depth of this faith experience. Peter was generally all too ready to respond, explain, redirect Jesus, etc., but this time he and the others realized that they were in over their heads. They needed time to allow what they had seen and heard to settle in their souls. They needed time to understand Jesus anew in the light of this mountaintop experience. They were being called to a new dimension of faith, which meant that everything they thought had to be rearranged. Witnessing Jesus' Transfiguration brought them to a new stage of transformation, and they had to integrate it for themselves before they could talk about it to others.

Taken together, today's readings invite us to let God lead us along the disorienting, unpredictable pilgrimage of faith. With the examples of Abraham (first reading) the Philippian community (second reading) and the disciples as models, we are assured that there are multiple paths all opened by the same God. What they have in common is the element of mystery. God is always going to invite us beyond our current stage of growth – be it with overwhelming promise or insight or through the simple example of the community.

PRAYER REQUESTS

In our prayers, we have been asked to remember:

Margaret Simyak, Janine Hoffman,
Ellie Chazeriat, Jerry Solomon.
Michael and Andrew McCaughey,
Evanille Walker, Carol Luty, James Neville,
Evan Macrone, and Nancy McDermott Wallace.

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.

New Member: We welcome to our parish community Rosa Laboy-Ramos who recently registered with us.

Deceased: We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Marie Lenzi and for the consolation of her family.

SENIOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS

The next Seniors' Gathering will take place in our Social Center of the school building on **Friday, February 26 at 12 noon**. We look forward to seeing you there for an enjoyable afternoon.

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.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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“A CONCRETE SUGGESTION”

Dear Friends,

Often, toward the end of my homily, I urge all of us to make a difference in our world when we leave Mass and return to our daily routines. One Sunday after Mass, a parishioner approached and told me that he enjoyed my homily and that he would take my challenge to heart. He concluded our pleasant exchange by suggesting that people like “concrete suggestions.” He said that I should “review the Corporal Works of Mercy. I haven’t heard them mentioned in awhile.” I thought he had a wonderful suggestion. I also hoped that he wouldn’t ask me to recite them right there!

To review, the Corporal Works of Mercy are: to feed the hungry, to give drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to shelter the homeless, to visit the sick, to visit the imprisoned and to bury the dead. The origins of the first six can be found in the 25th Chapter of the Gospel of St. Matthew. The final one comes from the 12th Chapter of the Book of Tobias. (“To visit the imprisoned” was originally “to ransom the captives” referring to medieval Christians taken hostage by Moslems.)

There are many and varied ways that we can make the Corporal Works of Mercy a conscious part of our lives. We can be personally involved in those acts of mercy, support those who are, or some combination of the two. Concrete suggestions really do help us to put our faith into practice. Given that, perhaps we might also review: the Spiritual Works of Mercy, the Fruits of the Holy Spirit, the Cardinal Virtues, the Beatitudes, and...the list goes on. Start with any of them and watch our world become a better place.

God Bless!
Father Denny

Master, it is good that we are here



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STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE for February 14, 2016

Peter, James, and John wanted to build a “booth” for Jesus and just stay on the mountain where His transfiguration took place. But the Son of God, the Chosen One, knew that He must instead keep moving toward His Crucifixion. We, too, must rise from worship and do what we can to hasten the coming of the Kingdom.

Envelope Contributions	\$6,876.00
Loose Contributions.....	\$1,090.00
Mailed in	\$3,353.00
Total Offertory Collection	\$11,319.00
Offering this time last year	\$7,136.00
Electronic giving of 2/15.....	\$4,157.00
Parish giving.....	\$1,125.00

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

CONTRIBUTIONS LETTER

The End of the Year substantiation letter will be sent to all parishioners who have contributed \$600.00 or more to the parish during 2015.

If you do not receive a letter and need a list of your contributions, please email Peggy Juhline at pjuhline@omgcp parish.net or call 610-525-0147 x225.



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WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday, March 4

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

Theme: Receive Children, Receive Me

Please plan to join us for the annual World Day of Prayer for Peace at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, 625 Montgomery Avenue in Bryn Mawr where Christian Churches around the world will gather on this date to pray for Peace. This prayer was written by the women of Cuba and will be facilitated by the community at Bryn Mawr Pres. You are welcome to Congregational Hall at 10:00 a.m. for a social opportunity to meet the people who will be gathering for **prayer in their Church at 11:00 a.m.** Any questions can be directed to Mary Richards at 610-525-2821 or maryrichards@bmpc.org.

A PRAYERFUL INVITATION TO YOU

You are invited in the
Jubilee Year of Mercy
To Pray, Learn, Discuss, Act and Encounter
RACISM
in our region

On **Sunday, March 6 from 1:00 to 3:30pm**, we encourage all interested parishioners to join us for the 2nd Encounter in the Jubilee Year of Mercy series bringing together parishioners from 12 diverse parishes across the Archdiocese to reflect on and share on issues which exclude many of our neighbors from society. Through these Encounters, we hope to be about actions that address the root causes of the issues we discuss. Although this began as a summer **pilot** program, we welcome all voices to join the discussion.

Racism is one of those “social sins.” It is a legacy we have inherited as Americans and also as Christians. But it is one we dare not hand on to our children and grandchildren! For that we need each other – and God’s steady, just and loving guidance.

In honor of Lent, and in honor of Pope Francis’ call for this to be a “Year of Mercy,” St. Vincent DePaul Parish will host a conversation on **Racism on Sunday, March 6 from 1:00 – 3:30 pm** at the nearby Banquet Hall of the Central Association of the Miraculous Medal, 475 E. Chelton (enter lot off Morton Street). Lunch will be provided. Members of 11 other parishes participating in the “Year of Encounter with Pope Francis” program will also join us there.

To register for the day, please contact Sr. Anne Woodeshick at 610-525-0147, ext. 234 or at awoodeshick@omgcp parish.net by Wednesday, March 2. Thank you for considering this important invitation.



LENTEN TAIZE PRAYER

Join us **Sunday, March 13 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 Lenten Season.

LENTEN SERIES

Thursday Evenings from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
February 18, February 25, March 3

Please plan to attend our Lenten Series again this year when Father John Denny, OSA and Sisters Mary Anne Nolan, RSM and Marie Michele Donnelly RSM will share with us on two different themes during this series.

During his 3-week series, Father Denny will highlight the four Gospels with the hope of encouraging individuals to feel empowered to read the Scriptures on their own. It would be helpful if participants would bring a copy of the New Testament with them.

The **second** evening, **February 25**, will give a brief overview of each of the four Gospels, pointing out the differences between the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) and the Gospel of John. The **final** evening, **March 3**, will provide the opportunity for questions and musings.

Sr. Marie Michele will continue with the topic of ‘Mercy’ as we celebrate this *Jubilee Year of Mercy*.

On **Thursday, February 25**, Sr. Marie Michele will focus on the **Corporal Works of Mercy**, which we find spelled out for us in Chapter 25 of Matthew’s Gospel. It is here that we hear Jesus set these actions as the criteria for our final judgment. Join us as we examine how we might engage in a daily practice of these Works of Mercy especially during our Lenten journey.

On **Thursday, March 3**, Sr. Marie Michele will highlight the **Spiritual Works of Mercy**. Even though the Corporal Works may seem to get more attention because they seem more practical, the Spiritual Works are equally important in our relationship with our brothers and sisters. They may even require more thought and effort on our part. We will take time to see how our practice of these Works can benefit others as well as nourish our own spiritual growth. During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has invited us to a special focus on practicing The Works of Mercy.

All conferences will be held in the Church and Daily Chapel as we have done in the past. All are welcome and encouraged to attend these faith enriching experiences during this holy season of Lent.

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

December 8, 2015–November 20, 2016

Many icons depicting Jesus' transfiguration bear the Greek title *Metamorphosis*, a technical term also for nature's springtime transformation. Fittingly, this *Jubilee Year of Mercy* coincides with the Lectionary's Year of Luke, for only Luke specifies Moses and Elijah speaking about Jesus' "exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem." Israel's exodus liberated from slavery; Jesus' exodus liberates from sin's living death of selfishness. Pope Francis suggests that Lent's prayer, fasting and works of charity can transfigure the world, if Christians translate Isaiah's challenge into our daily lived experience of Jesus' life-giving exodus by releasing those bound unjustly, setting free the oppressed, sharing your bread with the hungry, bringing the afflicted and homeless into your house, clothing the naked, not turning your back on your own. "If you remove from your midst oppression, and malicious speech...then light shall rise for you in the darkness...you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring whose water never fails." (Is. 58:9-11)

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LIVING STATIONS

All students, grades 2 through 12, are invited and encouraged to participate in our parish's annual "Living Stations." As a parish community, this is a great opportunity to come together and allow the young people to recreate the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord. Please encourage your children to participate. There will be three gatherings before the performance on **Sunday March 13 following the 11:15 Mass.**

Our first gathering will take place on **Sunday, February 21 at 12:15.** We will gather in the school building and have a pizza lunch. We will conclude at 1:30. Please email Karen at kcarey@omgcp parish.net if your child will be participating so we can order enough food!

YOUTH GROUP

All students, grade 6 – 12, are encouraged to participate in our Living Stations. Please join us on **Sunday, February 21 at 12:15.** Your participation and your help with costumes, etc., is very much needed. Please consider being one of our readers or apostles. Contact Karen at kcarey@omgcp parish.net to let me know you will be joining us.

TAIZE PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS

For Young Adults

Sisters of Mercy

515 Montgomery Avenue, Merion PA

Wednesday, March 9 from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

(Light refreshments to follow)

RSVP: ksekula@mercymidatlantic.org

REMEMBERING WITH GRATITUDE/JOY

God in an apron,

God in a Garden,

God on a Tree

MASS FOR PERSONS

Who Are Homebound

St. John Chrysostom in Wallingford airs their Sunday Mass at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and 12 noon on Thursdays on Comcast Channel 190.** Or view their Mass anytime online at www.sjcp parish.org/televised-mass. Parish phone number: 610-874-3418.

CYO NEWS

BASKETBALL: The varsity Boys Basketball team from OMGC/STV has advanced to the Elite 8 of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia Tournament after two strong wins last weekend. The quarterfinal game was yesterday, Feb. 20th.

TRACK: Joe Manion announces signups for 1-8 grade boys and girls track teams is on St. Katharine's site. All OMGC and STV parishioners are invited to practice and run together with SKS. Practices are Tues/Thurs and Sunday meets, lots of smiles, lots of planks, you know the drill. You can find the registration here: <http://www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=skscy0>

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.

IRISH DAY CELEBRATION

St. Lucy Day School

(for Children with Visual Impairments)

Archbishop Ryan Academy for the Deaf

On

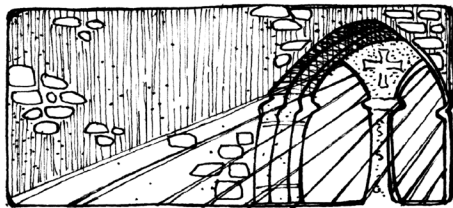
Saturday, March 5 – 12noon – 4:00 pm

At Holy Innocents Parish Center

4251 L Street in Philadelphia 215-289-4220

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\$12.00 for Adults; \$6.00 for Children



DIVORCED & SEPARATED SERIES

New Series starts on March 6

At Daylesford Abbey

You are not alone! A 12-week series is starting on **Sunday evenings March 6 from 7:15-8:45pm** at Daylesford Abbey in Paoli. This is a **free** Catholic ministry offering welcome, support and direction in navigating this most stressful, confusing and painful time. Topics covered include anger, depression, loneliness, forgiveness, finances, children and more. **Contact:** Cathy Peacock, Program Director at stepsforhealing@gmail.com. Pastoral support, Deacon John Lozano. Daylesford Abbey phone 610-647-2530.

POST-ABORTION HEALING

RETREAT

March 11, 12, 13, 2016

Malvern Retreat House

The Retreat Center is offering this retreat experience designed to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God. It will help you focus on the buried emotions of the past and begin healing in a non-judgmental, safe, loving and confidential environment. It will give you hope for your future and freedom from the pain within your heart and soul. For more information, call: Geri at 610-399-0890 or Priscilla at 215-906-6337. All inquiries are strictly confidential. Financial aid is offered if needed.

MASSSES for the WEEK

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- 7:30 KATHERINE AND CIRO IANNOTTA
 9:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISHIONERS
 11:15 MICHAEL MCGEE, SR.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- 6:30 MARTHA P. BUCHANAN
 8:00 KEVIN FLATLEY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- 6:30 BRIDGET AND JOHN CASSIDY
 8:00 MARGARET MCFADDEN

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- 6:30 MR. AND MRS. JAMES J. WHITE, JR.
 8:00 JOAN LEGEE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- 6:30 JOHN PHILLIPS, JR.
 8:00 JANET DAGIT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- 6:30 MR. AND MRS. JAMES J. WHITE, JR.
 8:00 DR. JOSEPH FOOTE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

- 8:00 DR. JOSEPH FOOTE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

- 7:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISHIONERS
 9:30 DR. JOSEPH FOOTE
 11:15 ANNA FARRELLY



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

John J. Stretch, IV F.D.

Timothy J. Stretch F.D.

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