



# Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish Community

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31 PENNSWOOD ROAD  
BRYN MAWR, PA 19010

**August 28, 2016**

## PARISH STAFF

Fr. Liam O'Doherty, OSA, Administrator pro tem...Ext. 231

Fr. James Martinez, OSA, Pastor Emeritus

Fr. John Deary, OSA, Parochial Vicar...Ext. 252

Fr. James McBurney, OSA, In Residence...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: 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.

Closed on Fridays during July and August

Parish Office and Rectory Phone: (610) 525-0147

**FAX NUMBER:** (610) 525-0157

## PARISH WEB SITE:

<http://www.OMGCPARISH.ORG>

## COME UP HIGHER

In today's Gospel (Luke 14:1, 7-14), we return to the party table with Jesus. As Luke begins this story, we get the strong impression that the folks at the gathering have an agenda that goes beyond a simple get-together with one another. First, Luke says that people were observing Jesus carefully. That's thinly disguised code for the idea that they were scrutinizing his every move, and presumably not so that they could learn and follow his example.

When we get inside, Luke tells us that Jesus was carefully observing the same people who had been watching him and saw them performing a sort of rooster rumble as they vied for the best positions. Jesus offered them some free advice about how to save face. He warned them that their smug self-concepts might not match the host's ranking of the guest list. Rather than suffer the mortification of being exiled to a lower realm, they should put themselves in a position to be invited up higher. He ended his editorial with one of his oft-repeated lessons about the least and the greatest, in this case using it to point out that nobody enjoys being around self-important show-offs: If your table conversation is all about your greatness, you'll enjoy the rapt admiration only of the person sitting in your own seat.

In order to understand the scene, we need to remember that Jesus never sat at a meal that did not become a call to communion – communion among the guests and with the Creator God in whose name they blessed their table. Thus, when he looked at the people jockeying for position, he realized that they were blinded by mirror vision: No matter what was before them, they saw only themselves and how circumstances reflected on them. His advice to look around, to find an unostentatious place, implied the invitation to see the others who were there. Seeing only themselves would have made for a boring banquet for them and for others.

What is intriguing here is that Jesus suggests that the host invite the poor to his table. In Jesus's day, sharing a meal was a profound act of solidarity. To sit at table with someone implied that you would pray together, and that implied that you shared your relationship with God with one another. While not everyone probably thought it through in those terms, that was precisely why Jews could not eat with gentiles: They could not pray in communion and they could not eat without praying. Therefore you could eat only with "your own." Entering into communion with God's poor would not put any hosts on the social register, but according to Jesus, God would be in their debt. Their repayment would give them a place in the resurrection of the righteous.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

We are asked to remember in our prayers:

Margaret Simyak, Janine Hoffman,  
Michael and Andrew McCaughey,  
Valerie Ziccardi, Roma Mazza,  
Phyllis Valentine, Peggy Waters and  
Deacon George McAndrews.

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 Members:** We welcome to our parish community Ms. Tara Nestor who recently registered with us.

### H.O.P.E.

If you need a trip to the doctor, shopping, etc., call S. Anne at 610-525-0147.

### LABOR DAY WEEKEND SCHEDULE

**Parish Office will be closed  
Friday, September 2 and  
Labor Day, Monday, September 5  
One Mass only will be celebrated on  
Labor Day at 9:00 a.m.**

### A SPECIAL REMINDER

**The 6:30 a.m. weekday Mass,  
Monday through Friday,  
will resume on *Thursday, September 1.***



## AS SUMMER DRAWS TO A CLOSE...

Dear Friends,

I thank all of you for the very warm welcome you have shown me here at Our Mother of Good Counsel. By the time you read this, nearly 8 weeks will have passed since I arrived. Of course, this period has also been a time of mourning for your beloved pastor and my dear friend, Father Jack Denny, OSA. We continue to pray for him and his family. We have been sharing stories about the things that he did to make us laugh, to encourage us, or sometimes things he did to make us mad. We will continue to be sad but we know that the Lord will change our sadness into acceptance, and even now into an expectant hope that we will be reunited with him in the Resurrection.

For most of these 8 weeks, I have been trying to learn the ropes here. Every parish is a little bit different, and I'm trying to get to know as many of you as I can. I mentioned early on that I am trying to learn as many of your names as I can. I am often not as successful at this task as I would like to be. So please be patient with me! I may have to ask your name multiple times. Not just now, but maybe even a year or two in the future again!

Last week (August 15 – 19), we had Vacation Bible School here at OMGC. It was a delight to work with the children, Mrs. Carey, our CRE and youth minister, and all the other adults and young people on the team. I'm already looking forward to doing it next year again.

Besides getting to know and to work with all of you, one of the nice things about living in Bryn Mawr is that I am much closer to my mother. My mother, Kathleen, lives in Media in a retirement community. When I lived in Staten Island, I tried to spend time with her every Tuesday afternoon. The trip was 2 hours each way. Now, she's less than 30 minutes away! Since coming here, I've been able to see her twice a week. Please keep her in your prayers. At 91 years of age, she is facing a number of challenges. But she is getting good care, thanks to God – and to the nurses and the CNAs.

In my homily of Sunday, July 10, I spent a little time introducing myself and sharing some

thoughts about beginning ministry here at OMGC. In case you did not hear that homily, I have posted a portion of it online. If you would like to read it, please go to [www.liamod.org](http://www.liamod.org) and look for "Some thoughts about coming to OMGC in Bryn Mawr."

Next Sunday (August 28) is the feast of St. Augustine – a very special day for us Augustinian friars and the people we serve. It also is one of the markers for the end of summer. As summer turns into fall and our lives get busier, let us pledge to pray for and support each other in our journeys with the Lord!

Peace,  
Father Liam



## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE for August 21, 2016

In the Gospel today, Jesus warns us not to give in hopes of repayment, but to give openhandedly to the poor and needy. That sort of giving mirrors the bountiful giving of God, and Jesus assures us it is blessed indeed!

Envelope Contributions .....	\$10,421.00
Loose Contributions.....	\$970.00
Mailed in .....	\$2,228.00
Total Offertory Collection .....	\$13,619.00
Offering this time last year .....	\$9,366.50
Parish Giving ..	\$985.00

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

## MASS OF THANKSGIVING for the Canonization of Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Join us as we thank God for the gift of one of the greatest saints of our times, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who will be canonized on September 4. The Archdiocesan Mass of Thanksgiving will take place on **Sunday, September 11 at 12 Noon** at St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish, 256 Swamp Pike, Schwenksville, PA. Presider: Bishop John McIntyre; Homilist: Fr. Shaun Mahoney; No registration necessary. For more info: <http://www.stteresacalcutta.com/> or email [badmin@stteresacalcutta.com](mailto:badmin@stteresacalcutta.com).



## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

### *Inquiry Sessions Begin*

On Tuesday evening, **September 27 at 7:30 p.m.**, a new series of RCIA Inquiry sessions will begin for anyone who may be considering becoming a member of the Catholic Church or who may be interested in learning more about the Catholic Church. If you or anyone you know may be interested in becoming a part of this initial step of Inquiry about the Catholic faith, please call S. Anne Woodshick at 610-525-0147 (ext. 234) or email her at [awoodshick@omgcp parish.net](mailto:awoodshick@omgcp parish.net) for more information or to register for this opening session.

Brochures are now available in the pamphlet racks and on the table at the entrance of the Church for you to take and share with someone who may be interested in attending the initial "Inquiry Session."

## SPIRITUAL READING GROUP

The Spiritual Reading Group will resume its monthly gatherings on **Friday, September 9 at 10:00 a.m.** in the Parish Center. At this gathering, we will conclude reading, "Thomas Merton: Faithful Visionary" by Michael W. Higgins.

Beginning on Friday, October 7, we will begin reading "Dorothy Day: Love in Action" by Patrick Jordan. These books are published by Liturgical Press in Collegeville, Minnesota. If you think you would like to join us beginning in October, please contact S. Anne Woodshick 610-525-0147, ext. 234 or email [awoodshick@omgcp parish.net](mailto:awoodshick@omgcp parish.net) and let me know so that books can be ordered in time

The Spiritual Reading Group usually meets on the first Friday of each month from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.



## CONFIRMATION AT OMGC

Confirmation will take place this school year at Our Mother of Good Counsel. All students in grades 6 and 7 are eligible to be confirmed. Students in Catholic Schools are expected to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in their **PARISH**, not the school.

All eligible students, according to our data system, will be receiving a letter within the next week. It will explain our Confirmation Instruction Program here at Our Mother of Good Counsel. Please read it carefully and return the enclosed form, registering your child for the Confirmation Program.

## YOUTH GROUP NEWS

All students, grades 6 through 12 are invited to join us on **Sunday, September 11 at 11:30 am until 12:30 pm.** We will have pizza and planning for the 2016-2017 school year! Fall Festival/Haunted Maze sign-ups will take place at this meeting.



## PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP) REGISTRATION

All children in grades 1 through 6, who attend public schools or private schools, must be registered for PREP. The Parish Religious Education Program strives to teach the truths and traditions of our faith. Sacrament preparation is included in the program.

PREP classes are held on Sunday mornings from 9:40 until 11:00am. PREP classes do not take the place of Mass. You are still expected to attend Mass as a family. Registration Packets are available at the entrance to the church. Please fill out and return registration forms as soon as possible. Invoices will be sent separately. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Carey at 610-525-0147 or [kcarey@omgcp parish.net](mailto:kcarey@omgcp parish.net).





## FALL FESTIVAL CORNER

October 14, 15, 16, 2016

Believe it or not, plans for the 2016 Fall Festival have been underway for three months now! Please mark your calendars to join our parish in our Annual Fall Festival featuring our HAUNTED MAZE! The Festival also includes vendors, games, prizes, food, raffles and more! Plan to join us on October 14, 15, and 16 this year for fun, adventure and prizes! Please watch the bulletin for ways in which you can help or participate!

### The Fall Festival Needs You Before the Event:

We are looking for persons who are able to donate raffle items! If you own a business or are in a position to ask at your business for a donation to our raffle, please contact MaryAnn Gallagher at 610-283-8831. She will be able to give you tax information and forms. We had GREAT SUCCESS with our themed baskets last year. If you or a group of people, parish friends, neighborhoods, etc... would like to get together and create a raffle basket to donate, please contact Karen Carey at 610-525-0147 for ideas or to let us know you are willing to donate!

We are also looking for persons to join our committee of games and prizes. We meet for about an hour a week over the next month until the event! We need your input for ideas, suggestions and brainstorming. If interested in becoming part of this team, contact Karen or Joe at 610-525-0147.

### During the Event:

We are in need of parents to help work games during the three day festival. We will need parents to help oversee the moon bounces. We are in need of parents to supervise the cupcake booth. We are in need of parents to man/woman the "Selfie Corner," and we are in need of parents to work the raffle tables, the ticket tables, the prizes booth, and of course, the kitchen! If you are able to give a bit of time in 90 minute increments, please contact volunteer coordinator, Karen Carey, at 610-525-0147 or [kcarey@omgcp parish.net](mailto:kcarey@omgcp parish.net). Help make our event a success!!

## "SCARRED BY STRUGGLE"

S. Joan Chittister, OSB, an internationally acclaimed speaker, will provide a seminar at Chestnut Hill College on **Sunday, September 25 from 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.** in Sorgenti Arena at the College. The seminar will include her presentation, Q and A, and book signing opportunities.

As we look at our world, our political system, our church, our neighborhoods, our families and our own hearts, we see that we all bear the scars of struggle, past and present. Joan Chittister, OSB is prophetic and someone who speaks boldly from where she stands. Sister Joan is part of the long Benedictine tradition of one who "listens with the ear of the heart." From that sacred space, Joan will reflect on and share with us the hope that's born only through enduring the scars and embracing the struggle.

S. Joan is a Benedictine Sister of Erie, PA and is an outspoken advocate of justice, peace and equality – especially for women world-wide – and has been one of America's visionary spiritual voices for more than 30 years.

To register, contact Catherine Nerney, SSJ at: [www.forgive@chc.edu](mailto:www.forgive@chc.edu) or 215-248-7099.

## JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

December 8, 2015-November 20, 2016

"Alms atone for sins" (Sirach 2:29). Alms are mercy translated into hands-on compassion. Jesus confirms Sirach's wisdom, "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy." "Conduct your affairs with humility." Humility: we're all alike and special, for we are children of God. Jesus confirms that wisdom, too: "Do not recline at table in the place of honor. Take the lowest place." In fact, "When you hold a lunch or a dinner do not invite friends, relatives, wealthy neighbors. Invite the poor, crippled, lame, blind," physically or figuratively, society's most vulnerable and marginalized, "who cannot repay you." Jesus seems to be telling us to prepare for eternity with God's chosen by becoming their friend here and now. Mercy is measured not by our delight in welcoming those we like most or who can repay us best, but by sincerely embracing those we like least, who cannot repay us at all. Utter humility inspires pure mercy; pure mercy leads to eternal joy.

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

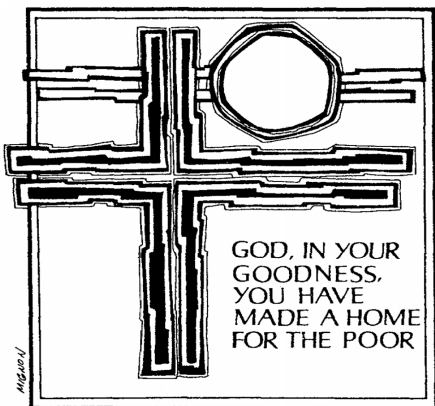
**SCHOOL MENTORS NEEDED**  
**at St. Frances Cabrini**  
**Regional Catholic School**

New Volunteers are welcome to join St. Thomas of Villanova Parish Mentors on **Tuesday, from October to early May**, to minister with the students: TIME of service commitment 2:30 – 5:00 pm which includes carpooling to and from the school in West Philadelphia.

Mentoring a student on a 1-1 basis can include homework assignments, extra math or reading support. You can decide the age/grades of the children you feel comfortable working with and it will be arranged by the school staff.

New volunteers need to go through a 2 ½ hour training program at STV's Parish Center, called "Protecting God's Children" and complete background checks this fall.

An information Session will be held in the Parish Center on **Tuesday, September 13 at 2:00 p.m.** If you are interested but cannot attend this session, contact **Barb Gollin at 610-688-4168 or [mmgbbcc@hotmail.com](mailto:mmgbbcc@hotmail.com)**.

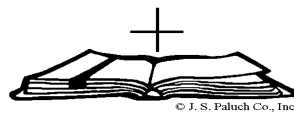


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**“ART AND SOUL:  
 Visual Nourishment For Your Soul”**

Sister Helen David, IHM will present this seminar on **Saturday, September 17 from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm** at the IHM Conference Center, 401 S. Bryn Mawr Ave. on the grounds of St. Aloysius Academy. The Day begins in the Gatehouse/Art Studio. The attendance is limited to 20 participants, so please register as soon as possible at 610-581-0120 or e-mail Sister Marie at [mdgipprich@gmail.com](mailto:mdgipprich@gmail.com).

**Mass Intentions**



SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

- 7:30 MAUREEN, PAUL AND  
 TOMMY BRENNAN  
 9:30 ROBERT VALENTINE  
 11:15 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL  
 PARISHIONERS

MONDAY, AUGUST 29

- 8:00 DOMENIC AND MARIA DI MARTINO

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30

- 8:00 FATHER JOHN DENNY, OSA

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31

- 8:00 CONCETTA D'ORAZIO

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

- 6:30 MANUEL IGNACIO  
 8:00 FATHER JOHN DENNY, OSA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

- 6:30 MR. AND MRS. ANGELO IANNAcone  
 8:00 FATHER JOHN DENNY, OSA

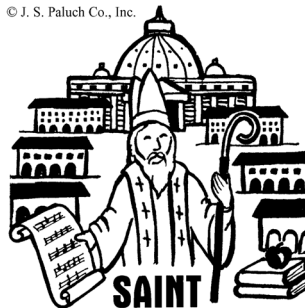
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

- 8:00 MR. AND MRS. JOHN BRENNAN

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- 7:30 FATHER JOHN DENNY, OSA  
 9:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL  
 PARISHIONERS  
 11:15 FILOMENA SANTANGELO

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**Saturday,  
 September 3**

**SAINT  
 GREGORY the GREAT**



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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**Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will.**  
For further information, please call the Parish Office.