



Our Mother of Good Counsel

Parish Community

Staffed by the Augustinian Friars and the Sisters of Mercy for over a century

31 PENNSWOOD ROAD
BRYN MAWR, PA 19010

September 11, 2016

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Liam O'Doherty, OSA, Administrator pro tem...Ext. 230

Fr. James Martinez, OSA, Pastor Emeritus

Fr. John Deary, OSA, Parochial Vicar...Ext. 228

Fr. James McBurney, OSA, In Residence...Ext. 233

Br. William C. Harkin, OSA, Deacon...Ext. 249

Mr. Joseph Carey, Facilities Manager...Ext. 262

Mrs. Karen Carey, Coordinator of Religious Education and
Youth Ministry...Ext. 227

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:

Monday-Friday 6:30 A.M.

Monday-Saturday 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>

“LOST AND FOUND” IN THE FORGIVING HEART OF GOD

Today’s Gospel (Luke 15:1-32) describes the rejoicing among the angels over one sinner who repents. It may seem surprising that the repentance of one individual would be so important. Yet, slowly and surely, the kingdom of God increases by one. Today’s account of the Prodigal Son reveals the great power of God’s love for each of us as it flows through our lives.

When the younger son asked for his share of his father’s property, he was within his legal rights, but in doing so he was, in effect, declaring his father dead to him, for such a dissolution of property usually happened after someone (the father) died. Money in hand, the son made his way to what could only have been gentile territory, because after he lost it all, he took a job feeding pigs. These animals were regarded as unclean by Jews who neither ate nor raised them.

When the son “came to his senses,” he knew his father had no legal obligation to him, but he returned home nevertheless. How encouraging for all who sin! God has no legal obligation to us, but we know God to be merciful and forgiving, like the father who set all dignity and logic aside and ran to welcome his son, not as a hired hand, but as a beloved child.

Unfortunately, we might see something of ourselves in the elder son angry, resentful and full of his own importance, he refused to accept his brother or his father’s willingness to forgive and forget. First, he thinks of himself as a servant. He thinks that his service should have earned him a decent reward; he is in a contract relationship with his father. He disowns his brother, calling him “your son.” He resents the fact that the younger son has “swallowed up” the property, lessening the amount that would eventually have fallen to himself. He is not willing to rejoice because he is not willing to love.

There the parable ends, and we are left to wonder: Well, where do I stand? If I count myself among the faithful and the righteous, doesn’t God owe me? Isn’t it only right that my efforts be recognized and rewarded? The answer to both questions is “No!” The parable challenges those who think themselves righteous to look upon others with compassion and to look inward with honesty and humility. No sinner is irretrievably lost, and we will not find any self-canonized saints in heaven.

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. Charmaine Vertucio who recently registered with us.

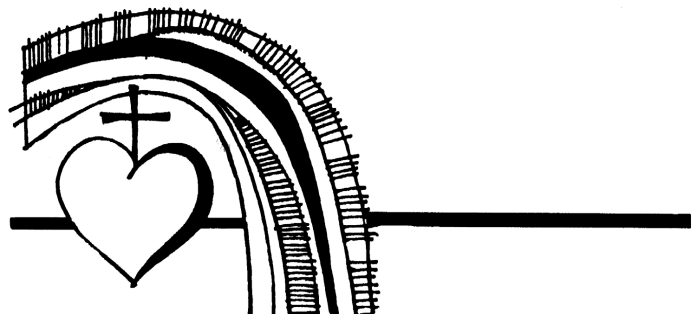
Deceased: We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Mary Fran Wallace and for the consolation of her family.

H.O.P.E.

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

SENIOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Our Senior parish members and others from nearby Churches will gather once again on **Friday, September 23 at 12 noon**. If you would like to join us, please bring your usual lunch edibles, knowing that beverages and desserts will be provided by our generous members. It is always a very enjoyable afternoon together.



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 Woodeshick at 610-525-0147 (ext. 234) or email her at awoodeshick@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."

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Meeting: The Parish Council will resume its monthly meetings on **Monday, September 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center.** Parishioners are always welcome and encouraged to attend these monthly meetings. If you plan to do so, please call President Phil Ahr at 610-527-5679 or email him at AHRPM@yahoo.com.

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.

PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The P&J Committee will resume its monthly meetings on **Tuesday evening, September 20 at 7:30 p.m.** at St. Thomas of Villanova Parish Center in Rosemont. Any parishioner who may be interested in joining this committee is asked to call Sr. Anne Woodeshick at 610-525-0147 (ext. 234) or email her at awoodeshick@omgcp parish.net.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE for September 4, 2016

We can hear God speaking to us today in the words of the father to his elder son: "You are with me always, and everything I have is yours." What is my response to such remarkable generosity? Do I give joyfully and generously as God give to me.

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|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Envelope Contributions | \$8,713.00 |
| Loose Contributions..... | \$961.00 |
| Mailed in | \$1,350.00 |
| Total Offertory Collection | \$11,024.00 |
| Offering this time last year | \$8,876.00 |
| Parish giving | \$950.00 |

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



HELP NEEDED

We are in great need of altar servers for our parish. Anyone in grade 4 through adult is welcome to become an altar server. We will train you and you will work with a veteran the first several times you serve. It is an honor to help celebrate the Eucharist in this way. Please consider joining our small team and help to make it easier to schedule. We would like to train persons now so as to have them ready for big events like Confirmation this year as well as our Triduum. If you are interested, please contact Karen Carey at kcarey@omgcp parish.net or 610-525-0147.

DID YOU MARK YOUR CALENDAR YOUTH GROUP?

Sunday, September 11 from 11:30am until 12:30pm, join us for pizza and planning. Meet us in the Social Center and help plan out our activities for the year. Finish at 12:30 so you are home in time for the Eagles! Check out OMGC Youth Group on Facebook and let us know if you are coming!





FALL FESTIVAL CORNER NEW THIS YEAR! Bake Sale...

We are looking for persons who are willing to bake and donate to our Fall Festival Bake Sale! One of our Vendor Tables will be devoted to baked goods. Please contact Karen Carey at kcarey@omgcp parish.net if you are willing to bake an item or two for sale. We will need all baked items to be delivered **Thursday or Friday, October 13 or 14**. What a great way to help out and help our Youth Group.

Have You?

Marked your calendar for **October 14-15-16**?
Thought about how you can volunteer in a game or booth?

Talked to friends about getting together to donate a themed basket for the raffle?

Emailed kcarey@omgcp parish.net or

jkcarey@omgcp parish.net to see how you can help?

Thought of a way to bring the word of this fun event to others?

PLEASE DO SO TODAY! This is a fundraiser for our Youth Group who spend time getting to know each other and serve others and have fun, and praise God, and learn about others, and work to build a better tomorrow. Please consider helping out!

Fall Festival Lawn Signs

If you had a Fall Festival Lawn Sign on your lawn last year and it is still sitting in your garage somewhere, please return them to Joe Carey. All returned Lawn Signs will get you five free raffle tickets for our Fall Festival this year.



CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

Sunday, September 18 is the Archdiocesan Catechetical Sunday. At our 9:30 am Mass. Catechists of the Religious Education Program and our RCIA Team members will be acknowledged and blessed in gratitude for their ministry to the young members of our parish community and to those who are seeking communion with the Catholic faith community here in Bryn Mawr and with the universal Church.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF BACK-TO-SCHOOL DRIVE

See the children play! Hear the children read!

School starts soon. This fall, Our Mother of Good Counsel PREP (Parish Religious Education Program) will sponsor a book drive for a first grade classroom in a West Philadelphia elementary school.

The teacher, Ms. Fuller, seeks gently-used books for children in the primary grades (K-2). Ms. Fuller hopes to fill the classroom library shelves with books ranging from picture to chapter; from authors like Dr. Seuss and Kevin Henkes; and/or from book series like the Magic Tree House, Junie B. Jones and Flat Stanley. Ms. Fuller welcomes any book that will bring a smile to a first grader's face.

We will be collecting the books through the month of September. If you are able to donate, please bring your books to the Parish Office during the hours of 9-5, Monday through Friday (until 3pm) or drop them off at the beginning of PREP at 9:30 on Sunday, September 25.

SPIRITUALITY COMMITTEE

The Spirituality Committee will meet for the first time since our summer break on **Wednesday, September 21 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Parish Center. If the theme of spirituality is a particularly interesting one for you, and if the time of our monthly meetings from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the afternoon is possible for you, please plan to join us and become a part of this committee's work of planning spiritually-enriching programs for our parish community. If interested, call Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147 (ext. 234).

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that you can register your 4 or 5 year old for PREP? We have a two-year program that the little ones can become a part of if they are 4 before September 1. The classes are held the same time as the rest of the PREP program, from 9:40 to 11:00 on Sunday mornings. The children are permitted to stay in the program for two years, then move on to first grade. If you are interested in signing your child up for this, please contact Karen Carey at 610-525-0147 or kcarey@omgcp parish.net.

SILOAM'S ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Please join S. Bernadette Kinniry, RSM in support of her dedication to Siloam at Siloam's 17th Annual Golf Outing, Dinner and Auction, Monday, September 26th at Llanerch Country Club in Havertown, PA.

Not a golfer: Join us for cocktails, dinner and the auction for only \$100 per person.

Guest Speaker: Rev. Peter Donohue, OSA, PhD, President of Villanova University.

Siloam Wellness was created in 1995 by S. Bernadette Kinniry and Rev. Donald Reilly OSA and offers a safe, caring, hope-filled environment that enriches the well-being of people impacted by HIV/AIDS by providing mind/body/spirit wellness services as a complement to traditional medicine.

Questions? Call Tom Rosser at 310-888-0762

CATECHISTS WANTED

Our Mother of Good Counsel PREP program is looking for a catechist for our fifth grade class, as well as a team teacher for our prek – k program. Please take a few moments and pray to see if perhaps God is calling you to help spread God's word to our young people. You will need to complete background clearances and attend the Safe Environment Sessions. Classes are held on **Sunday mornings from 9:40 – 11:00am**. The rewards of teaching are so great and to impart God's love and the truths and traditions of our church to young people is such an important task today. No teaching experience is required; we will train you. If interested, please contact Karen Carey at kcarey@omgcp parish.net or 610-525-0147.

DO YOU DESIRE

**an Extended Time of Silence and Prayer?
Consider a Fall Directed Retreat**

St. Raphaela Center in Haverford
Staff Spiritual Directors

Directed Retreat I – September 20 – 27

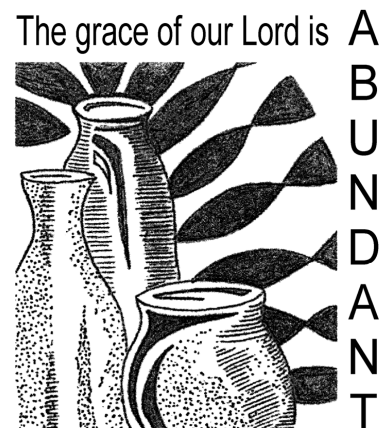
Directed Retreat II – September 30 – October 7

Please register online at mheenan@straphaelcenter.org or call 610-642-5715.

CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL GARDEN

As you may have noticed, alongside the back entrance of Our Mother of Good Counsel Church, a garden has slowly taken form. This garden is the work of Michael Kanehann, a 17 year old boy who will be a senior at Harriton High School in the upcoming year. The garden and its creation was inspired by two people very close to Michael that have passed away far too young. One being Sean Alexander King, a lifelong friend of Michael who passed away in 2012 and Michael's oldest brother, Billy, who passed away the following year. This garden will last year after year in honor of these and other children/young adults who go on to join them in Heaven. Perennials will persist through every spring and summer to remind us not only of those young parishioners we lost but also of the beauty and peace they now have in everlasting life with God in Heaven. Feel welcome to sit within the garden and enjoy the brilliance of the flowers, the warmth of the sun, and the hum of nature as well as take the opportunity to remember those who we miss so dearly.

While this Children's Memorial Garden was inspired by Billy and Sean, in no way does Michael or Our Mother of Good Counsel wish for others who have experienced similar losses to be excluded. If you wish to have the name of a family member from Our Mother of Good Counsel, who passed away at a young age included on the plaque that will be installed, please contact Joe or Karen Carey at the OMGC office at 610-525-0147. Please, I encourage you to visit the garden and take a chance to pray and meditate. Do it for Billy, do it for Sean, do it for all the young parishioners who once prayed by our side but who now look down upon us for the Kingdom of Heaven.



PATRICIAN SOCIETY

The Patrician Society is in great need of bags of rice for their clients for the month of September and October. Therefore, instead of our annual Peanut Butter and Jelly drive this year, we will be holding a Rice Drive for the Patrician Society of Norristown. We are asking for donations of rice or rice mixes to help serve the 1300 families that rely on them for food in the Norristown area. Please do not purchase the bags of rice; it is easier to fill their food bags with the small bags. We are grateful for all your donations of rice between now and October 30.

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

December 8, 2015-November 20, 2016

When religious people complained that Jesus welcomed and ate with sinners, Jesus challenged them to change their image of God. Imagine God as a shepherd, abandoning ninety-nine obedient sheep to seek the stupid one who got lost. Imagine God as a distraught woman (could religious men imagine that?), losing something and turning the house upside down to find it. Imagine God as an unconditionally forgiving father granting an unworthy son an undeserved feast. Then Jesus added a character whom religious people might imagine, even recognize, all too well. The elder son stayed home; obeyed the father's will; then exploded with rage and judgment and refused to join his brother's welcome-home feast. This *Jubilee Year of Mercy* asks, which half of Jesus' audience do I belong to? How do I imagine God? How can I become like the searching shepherd, the sweeping woman, the forgiving father? How else can I expect a welcome to Jesus' feast of forgiveness?

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ARCHBISHOP PRENDERGAST HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 1966 – 50th Class Reunion
October 15, 2016 at

Springfield Country Club in Springfield, PA

Buffet Lunch 11:30 – 3:30 pm

Cost - \$55.00

If you have not received your invitation in the mail, contact Dottie Bracken Evangelista at evangedb@gmail.com or 610-436-0427.

Masses for the Week

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

7:30 MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR DIEM
9:30 BOB RYAN
11:15 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

6:30 MR. AND MRS. JAMES J. WHITE, 3RD
8:00 DR. SHELDON HACKNEY
(3RD ANNIVERSARY)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

6:30 FATHER JOHN DENNY, OSA
8:00 HAROLD AND ROSE IRVING

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

6:30 NELSON CHRISTIAN WOEHRLE
8:00 BILLY FERRY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

6:30 FATHER JOHN DENNY, OSA
8:00 JAMES CORRIGAN

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

6:30 IMELDA MOONAN KELLY
8:00 HOPE M. HAYES
(18TH ANNIVERSARY)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

8:00 JOHN LA FOUNTAIN

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

7:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS
9:30 FATHER JOHN DENNY, OSA
11:15 MARY E. GEORGE

