



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

November 27, 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>

THE SEED BEGINS TO BE SOWN

Today's reading from Matthew (Mt. 24:37-44) skips over the line most scholars see as the first of this short selection: "But of that day and hour, no one knows, neither the angels of heaven nor the Son, but the Father alone." As one commentary noted, the end of the world is a pretty big deal for God to keep secret from Jesus and the angels! That unknowing fits right in with the adages we hear in this short reading. The only definitive thing Jesus says about "that day" is that the disciples should stay awake and be ready for it.

The examples Jesus used in his selection are even more confusing than typical parables. When he talked about Noah it was pretty clear that the people on the losing end of the deal were those who ate and drank and married instead of building an ark. But in the examples of the men working in the field or the women at the mill, it is unclear whether to "be taken" is reward or punishment. The final example about the thief in the night is pretty clear – nobody wants to be robbed. We are left wondering if and why Jesus might want us to think of him as a burglar.

Apparently, the thrust of Jesus' teaching is to say that there is no point in speculating about the end. The only thing for sure is that it will come at an unexpected time and in an unexpected way. It seems that the gist of the message is "Live as if you were going to die tomorrow and as if you were going to live forever." That is the truth.

Christians are called to live in a strange equilibrium, loving life and every bit of God's creation while holding it lightly because we know it is destined for transformation. Advent invites us to remember the long and the short of it. We look to Christ's return in glory but don't worry about the details. Instead, we keep Isaiah's vision in mind, allowing it to orient and lead us to participate in making the things of this earth all that they can be.

PRAYER REQUESTS

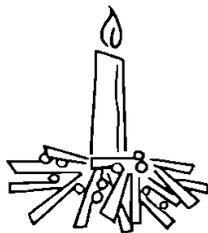
We are asked to remember in our prayers:

Margaret Simyak, Janine Hoffman,
Michael and Andrew McCaughey,
Deacon George McAndrews,
Christian Milton,
and Fr. Michael Hilden, OSA.

Please call the Parish Office (610-525-0147) 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 as often as needed or desired.

H.O.P.E.

If you need a trip to the doctor, shopping, etc., call S. Anne at 610-525-0147, ext 234.



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IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

A Holyday of Obligation

Vigil Mass – Wednesday, December 7 at 7:30pm
Masses on Thursday, December 8
6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m. and 12:10 p.m.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

In lieu of its regular-style Parish Council meeting, the Council will be participating in an Advent Retreat evening of prayer and reflection on **Monday evening, December 5 beginning at 6:30 pm.**

If there is anything you would like to bring to the attention of the Council by way of ideas, suggestions or concerns, please call Dominic DiMartino at 610-525-6442.

ADVENT FAMILY DAY

Dear Friends,

Our Annual Advent Family Day will be here next Sunday, December 4, 2016! We are looking forward to seeing many parishioners join us for our fun-filled morning. There will be something for everyone so please join us! Our activities include:

-Breakfast – served from 8 am to 11 am.

-Gingerbread House Contest: As a family, create a Gingerbread House! Bring it to the gym on Sunday and it will be entered into a contest for: most creative, most candy, cutest, and most unique! Winners will receive ribbons! Houses will be donated to local Senior Living Facilities.

-Sing-a-Long – as you move through the gym, join in the songs that are being sung, played or simply start one of your own.

-Get your wish list ready! Santa will be here for photos and visits with the children from 9 am to 11am.

-Create an ornament at home, make sure your family name is on it. Bring it with you on Family Day and it will be displayed on the tree in the vestibule of church!

-Write a Christmas Card to the Troops abroad or the prisoners at Graterford!

-Create an Advent Wreath – we have the supplies! Take it home, or donate it!

-Play a Christmas Game! Color a Christmas Picture!

-Make a bag of reindeer food so the reindeer know where to go on Christmas Eve!

-Bring several copies of your favorite Christmas Cookie Recipe and exchange them!

When you arrive at the gym, pick up a checklist, complete at least 6 different activities and receive a prize! There will be a lot to do and many people are needed to help cook, serve, assist at tables, and simply be there! If you can spare an hour or two, contact Karen at kcarey@omgcparish.net. This will be a wonderful, joy-filled day to begin the Advent Season!

See you in the gym!

Karen Carey
Coordinator of Religious Education
and Youth Ministry

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come,” says today’s Gospel. Good stewards know that they are accountable to God for all they have and are and strive to live in readiness for the coming of God into our daily lives.

Due to early bulletin deadlines for the Thanksgiving Holiday, donations totals will be published in next week’s bulletin.

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

ADVENT REFLECTION EVENING

The Spirituality Committee is sponsoring a one-evening Advent Reflection on **Tuesday, December 6 from 7:30 – 8:30pm** in our Daily Chapel.

Sister Marie Michele Donnelly, RSM will give the reflection, entitled, “Jesus – One of Us.” Please plan to join us as we journey through this sacred season of prayerful anticipation of the celebration of Christmas, the Mystery of the Incarnation of God becoming Human.



FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE!

You can find a copy of the OMGC 2017 calendar at www.omgcparish.org. All events are subject to change. Because the calendar is not all-inclusive, we will continue to include updated monthly calendars in the bulletin and on the website.

SEASONAL HANDBELL CHOIR

Newcomers Welcome!

Our beautiful handbell choir is readying to play for the Seasons of Advent and Christmastide. Anyone interested in joining should be of junior high age and up, no previous experience needed. An introductory overview is offered at a time convenient for you. For further details, please call Jo-Ann Stigliano at the parish office—610-525-0147, extension 238.



RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE
OMGC Gym – 2:30 – 7:15 pm
Thursday, December 15

Please consider donating a pint of blood when the Red Cross Bloodmobile comes to OMGC’s gym on **Thursday, December 15th from 2:30 to 7:15 pm.** Please invite a friend to come with you to donate as well. The need for blood is great in the Christmas travel season. If you can donate, please fill out the pledge form here, or one from the pews, and place it in the Red Cross box at the entrance of the church. Also, you can phone or email your pledge to Joe Betz at 610-525-4499 or joseph.betz@villanova.edu or Frank Quinn at 610-525-7262 or fc.quinn@verizon.net. Or pledge on line at www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: our mother good counsel.

 Pledge Form (please place in box on the table at the entrance of the church)

I will try to donate blood to the Red Cross at OMGC’s gym.

Name _____

Phone _____

Postal Address _____

Email Address _____

Appointment Time _____ (in 15 minute intervals between 2:30 and 7:15 pm)



2016 DAY OF SANCTIFICATION
For Priests

The priests of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia assemble each year for a day of prayer and reflection on the Sacred Priesthood. This year our priests will gather with Archbishop Chaput at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary of **Monday, November 28** for the 2016 Day of Sanctification for Priests. Please pray for all priests of the Archdiocese, especially this weekend and Monday, with the following prayer from the *Roman Missal*:

*Lord our God, who in governing your people
 make use of the ministry of Priests,
 grant to these men
 a persevering obedience to your will,
 so that by their ministry and life
 they may gain glory for you in Christ.
 Who lives and reigns with you in the
 unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
 for ever and ever. Amen.*

PEACE AND JUSTICE

The Peace and Justice Committee will meet on **Tuesday evening, November 29 at 7:30 p.m.** at St. Thomas of Villanova Parish Center in **Rosemont.** The date that appears on the November Calendar sent out to all OMGC parishioners is *incorrect.* The correct date and location is listed above.

SPIRITUAL READING GROUP

The Spiritual Reading Group will meet for their monthly gathering on **Friday, December 2 at 10:00 a.m.** in OMGC’s Parish Center.



YOUTH GROUP NEWS

All students grades 6 through 12 are invited to join us on **December 10** late in the afternoon to take a trip to Escape the Room in King of Prussia. If you are interested in going, please email kcarey@omgcparish.net for permission slip and details.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK (IHN)

Meeting: The IHN Parish Committee will meet again on **Thursday, December 1st at 4:00pm** at OMGC's Parish Center/Church Office building. We will begin planning for our December 25 – January 1, 2017 week of hosting.

Week of Hosting: Our parish will be hosting the IHN families once again during **Christmas Week, Sunday, December 25 to Sunday, January 1**. If you can help in any of the following ways, please give us a call:

- a. If you can help **set-up** the Social Center on **Saturday, DECEMBER 17 at 10:00 a.m. or take-down** and pack away equipment on **Sunday, January 1 at 12:15 p.m.**, please call Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147 (ext. 234) or email her at awoodeshick@omgcp parish.net. *We are setting up a week early so as not to have to set-up on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24).*
- b. If you can **prepare a meal** one evening of that week, please call Toni Betz at 610-525-4499.
- c. If you can serve as an **evening host**, during the week from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. or as an **overnight host** from 8:30 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. once during the week, please call Barbara Noone at 610-649-4268.



ADVENT DAY OF PRAYER

Listen to the Heartbeat of God
St. Raphaela Center in Haverford, PA
610-642-5715

Director: Sister Megan Brown, RSM

Wednesday, November 30

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$35.00 which includes lunch

PROJECT ELF

Once again, our parish will conduct Project Elf. We have a number of families that will have a difficult time making Christmas a happy time in their homes due to financial circumstances. We also have a number of families that are able to help out by becoming an “Elf” for these families. Needy families will provide us with a “wish list.” Elf families will then be asked to “adopt” the needy family and help by providing items on their wish list. Many of these families also need a Christmas meal. We have “Elves” that help with that as well. We had a very successful year last year and were able to provide a very nice Christmas for 12 families right here in our own parish. If you are interested in being an “Elf” family, please contact Karen Carey at 610-525-0147 or kcarey@omgcp parish.net for more information.

FAMILIES IN NEED

If you know a family that may need some help this Christmas, either with gifts or food, and you think they may benefit from Project Elf, please contact Karen Carey at 610-525-0147 or kcarey@omgcp parish.net. Even if that family is yourself.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

The Gladwyne Fire Company is announcing its Annual Christmas Tree Sale of Douglas Firs, Fraser Firs, Wreaths (Decorated and undecorated), White Pine Roping and Holiday Accessories. The sale begins on **Saturday, November 26th**:

**Monday thru Friday from 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm
and Saturday and Sunday, 9:00 am to 6:00 pm.**

The Christmas Tree sale is located at 1044 Black Rock Road at the Gladwyne Fire House.

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.

A PEACEFUL PAUSE DURING ADVENT

The Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus invite you to join us on **Sunday, December 4th** for a peaceful pause during the Advent Season to reflect on the true gift of Christmas. People of all ages are welcome. The event takes place at 1341 Montgomery Ave. in Rosemont.

9:30a.m. – Welcome/Refreshments

10:00 to 10:30 a.m. – Reflection

10:30 – 11:15 a.m. – Self Tour
of International Nativity Scenes

11:30 a.m. – Mass at New Sharon Chapel

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Tara Zoltek at 610-626-1400 x315 or email her at www.tzoltek@shcj.org.

MUSIC ON THE STAIRS

Our Prendie Tradition Continues

Monday, December 5th at 7:00 p.m.

Prendie Building Main Hall

Music director: Meggie Murphy Gribbin, '99

Light refreshments immediately following

Contact Patti Mellon Germanovich, '75

pattig@kdi-inc.com

Singers please email me so we can get numbers and arrive at 6:30 for quick practice.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND February 12 – 21, 2017

Experience a spiritual journey of personal discovery and reaffirmation while following in the footsteps of Jesus on this all-inclusive 10-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The pilgrimage features nonstop flights from Newark, first-class hotel accommodations, breakfast, lunch & dinner daily, entrance fees, all taxes and all gratuities, Mass each day thanks to Fr. Robert Gross, and time for prayer and spiritual reflection. Brochure and more information are available online at www.grandviewtours.com or by contacting Denise Hay at 610-361-7979.



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

- 7:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS
- 9:30 THOMAS M. FLATLEY
(10TH ANNIVERSARY)
- 11:15 THOMAS L. ROSSER
(65TH ANNIVERSARY)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

- 6:30 NOVEMBER LIST
- 8:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE
MC GRANAHAN FAMILY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- 6:30 SHIRLEY TINSLEY
- 8:00 JACK NEWMAN

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- 6:30 JAMES AND MARY AGNES HAGAN
- 8:00 MARK, MICHELLE AND
MICHAEL CONNOR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

- 6:30 DECEASED MEMBERS AND
BENEFACTORS, OSA
- 8:00 PAUL MAGOLON

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

- 6:30 ROBERT E. AND MICHELINA C.
CAFFREY
- 8:00 DIANE DAGIT SOMMER

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

- 8:00 MAUREEN STEWART

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

- 7:30 ANNA MC GUCKEN
- 9:30 JANET DAGIT
- 11:15 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS