



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

February 5, 2017

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

Fr. Thomas Pohto, OSA, In Residence

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 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:

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>

FLAVOR AND ILLUMINE THE WORLD WITH YOUR LIVES

As we continue through the Sermon on the Mount, Chapters 5, 6 and 7 in Matthew's Gospel, we must remember that although many see Jesus here as the new Moses, he is not acting as a law-giver, but rather a dispenser of wisdom. The Beatitudes were counterintuitive sayings that make sense only when we reflect on them from practicing them. In addition, although the entire sermon is generally thought to be a collection of teachings rather than a homily delivered all at one time, Matthew framed it as a discourse and therefore wanted his readers to take it as such. With that in mind we need to remember that Jesus addressed the statements about salt and light to *you*, meaning those disciples to whom he had previously just stated "blessed are those who are persecuted."

Jesus was a great one for playing with words, and he did so in the saying about salt. Salt, in addition to its attributes as a flavor enhancer and food preservative, was a common metaphor for wisdom. So, the word Jesus used for the idea of salt losing its flavor was one which could connote foolishness. That concept makes for a great addition to what Paul had to say about human wisdom and the power of God.

Following up on the last phrase of the Beatitudes, Jesus indicates that persecuted disciples who are blessed and possess the kingdom of heaven are the salty wise ones. But if they lose that saltiness, their wisdom truly becomes folly, not only for them, but in the sight of the world that laughs because they gave up on what they had begun.

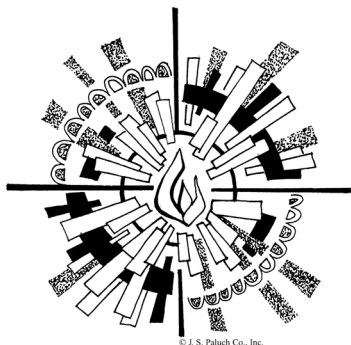
The second pair of images, the light and shining city on the hilltop is even more powerful when understood in a biblical context. Light was a common symbol for God's word: "Your word is a lamp to my feet, a light to my path" in Ps. 119; and even for God: "The Lord is my light and my salvation" in Ps. 27. The city on the hilltop was Jerusalem, the dwelling place of God. With these images, Jesus teaches that the persecuted and blessed disciples are an extension of God's very presence in the world, a presence that can never be hidden or snuffed out.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are asked to remember in our prayers:

Margaret Simyak, Janine Hoffman,
Michael and Andrew McCaughey,
Christian Milton, Carol Luty,
Lori Lesutis, Fran Weinzettle,
Ann Marie Dean, Joanne Dalesandro,
Mary Campo, and Pat Mallon.

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.



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H.O.P.E.

If you need a trip to the doctor, shopping, etc., call Carol Way at 610-525-5817 or S. Anne at 610-525-0147, ext 234.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Meeting: The Parish Council will hold its next meeting on **Monday, February 6 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 Barry Mulhern at 610-527-5197 or rmul742@gmail.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 Dianne Meyer at 610-310-0506 or dameyer1620@comcast.net.

PARISH LENTEN SERIES

Save the Dates

This year, our parish is providing six evenings of input and reflection on the Scripture Readings of Lent on **Thursday evenings from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.** The schedule will develop as follows:

March 2 Fr. John Deary will share on the theme of Baptism as found in the Sunday Gospels of Year A.

March 9 Fr. Liam O'Doherty will use the readings of St. Paul to speak on Baptism in the lives of the First Christians.

March 16 Fr. Liam will speak on the topic of the Psalms for Repenters.

March 23, 30 and April 6 Mrs. Michelle Francl-Donnay will present the Psalms which Jesus used for his own prayer and preaching.

A more thorough explanation of each week's topic will be presented prior to the week of its presentation. Please plan to join us for this opportunity to become more deeply aware of the spirituality of the Lenten Season. The talks will take place (as of now) either in the Church or the Daily Chapel as the number of those attending can be accommodated.

BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

This year's Baby Bottle Drive will take place during the month of February for the Mothers' Home in Darby, located in the former convent of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish. Please take a bottle home with you which, hopefully, will be available on the **weekend of February 4/5**, fill it with coins, cash or checks and return it to Church by the **weekend of February 18/19**. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Empty bottles are available in the bassinet in the vestibule of the Church. A container will be available for donated bottles to be returned.

AN INVITATION

If you are interested in learning more about the Augustinian Order and what it means to be an Augustinian, please visit this website: www.augustinianvocations.org.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

for January 25, 2017

In the first reading, Isaiah urges us in the name of the Lord to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and clothe the naked. If we do so, he assures us, God will hear and answer our cries for help in time of need.

Envelope Contributions	\$8,099.00
Loose Contributions.....	\$741.00
Mailed in.....	\$2,282.00
Total Offertory Collection	\$11,122.00
Offering this time last year	\$12,982.00
Electronic giving of 2/1/17.....	\$5,620.00
Parish Giving.....	\$940.00

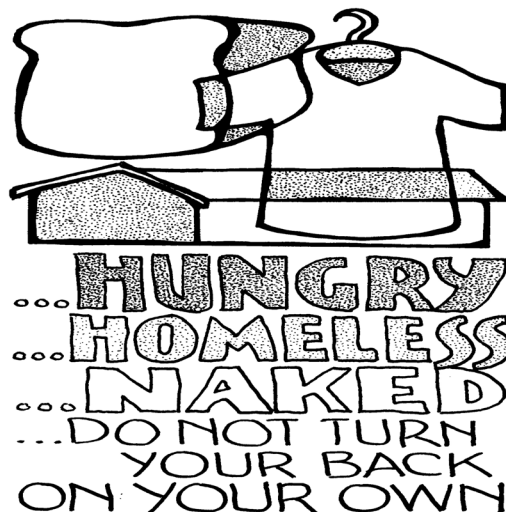
Parish Giving Program—Parish Giving is a safe, secure and easy way to make online parish and church related donations. To get started, log onto our website at www.omgcp parish.org and click on the Parish Giving logo in the upper right hand corner. Follow the easy registration steps. If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Juhline at 610-525-0147 or pjuhline@omgcp parish.net.

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

2016 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 2016.

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.





YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Get Air Trip on **Sunday, February 12** – All students, grades 6-12 invited to join us from 11:30 – 12:30 followed by lunch. Cost is \$10 plus your cost for lunch. If interested, please email Karen at kcarey@omgcparish.net for further instructions, and permission slip. Must register by February 9.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK (IHN)

Week of Hosting: Our parish will be hosting the IHN families once again during the week of **February 26 – March 5**. 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, February 25 at 10:00 a.m.** or take-down and pack away equipment on **Sunday, March 5 at 12:15 p.m.**, please call Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147 (ext. 234) or email her at awoodeshick@omgcparish.net.
- 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 Michele Geraghty at 610-642-7113 or email mgeraghty@comcast.net.

H.O.P.E. DRIVERS NEEDED

We would ask you to consider offering your driving skills for parishioners who need a ride to local doctors' offices, shopping, etc. Your group would be assigned every third week. The group leader will contact you if she receives a request for transportation. If you are available, a "yes" always makes a group leader very grateful. But if you are not available at the day or time needed, your group leader will also be grateful that you returned her call, telling her that it is not a good time for you. If you need to talk about this commitment, please call Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147 (ext. 234).

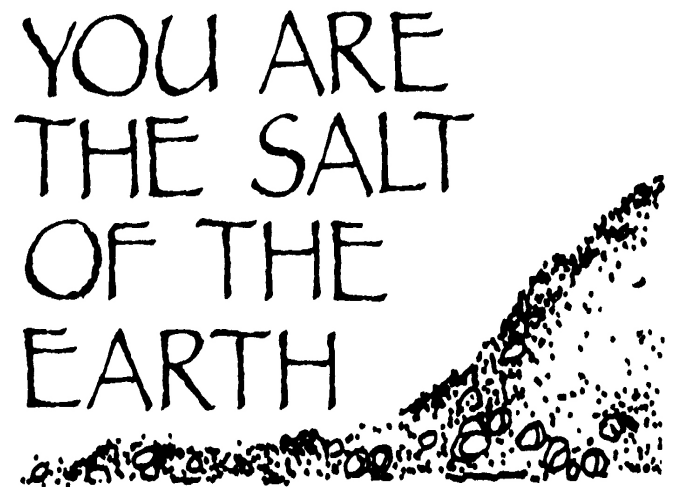
CLOTHING DRIVE

The St. Vincent DePaul Society, through the services of GreenDrop, will be here on **Saturday, February 11 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** to collect donations of usable men's, women's and children's clothing which must be brought in plastic bags or boxes to be distributed to those in need. Please take all donations to the GreenDrop truck which will be parked in the rear parking lot near Barrett Avenue. They will also accept kitchenware, games/toys, small appliances under 50 pounds, electronics, sporting goods, books, CDs and videos. To learn more about GreenDrop, visit their website: www.gogreendrop.com.

MAN-UP PHILLY Men on a Mission

This year Man Up Philly will be holding the 9th annual Men's Spirituality Conference in Philadelphia on **Saturday, March 4 at St. Joseph's University – Hagan Arena**. We encourage all men to join us for an inspiring time of faith and sharing. Experience our area's largest Men's Spirituality conference first-hand and join others who are ready to Man-Up, by living our true mission as Catholic Men. Speakers include: Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Ph.D, New Your Times best-selling author; Kevin Reilly, Former NFL Player for the Phila. Eagles; Damon Clarke Owens, international speaker and evangelist; Mark Forrest, acclaimed Irish tenor.

Visit www.ManUpPhilly.com for more Information and to Register. Register now and save \$10 as an Early Bird Special.



THANK YOU

On behalf of the Patrician Society Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and clients, I thank the entire Mother of Good Counsel Parish community for your year-round support of our emergency food cupboard.

Please know that we are always blessed by and appreciative of your involvement in helping us to provide assistance for our 1,500 different verifiably needy families in the Norristown area.

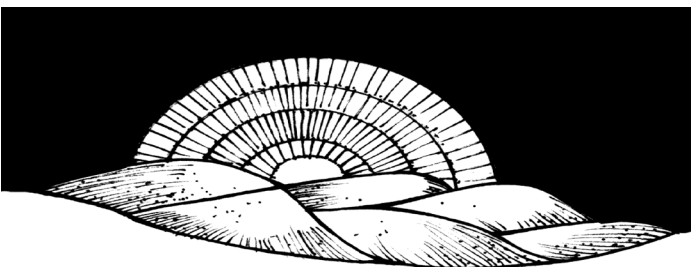
Joseph Maccolini
Executive Director

2017 FRANCE PILGRIMAGE

St. Rita's Shrine is happy to announce that they will sponsor a pilgrimage to France from **October 6th through the 15th**. Fr. Jim Spenard, OSA will lead the group as the Spiritual Director. This pilgrimage honors our Mother Mary, visiting Lourdes, Nevers, Lisieux, Paris, La Salette and Lyon, France. Please know that there will be only 30 seats available for this trip. The total cost is \$3,089 (based on double occupancy) and payment plans are available. Please call Pat Bruno at 215-755-7084 or email snetwork@saintritashrine.org for more information or to reserve your seat.

NEEDED: A FRIEND!

Do you have one hour a week? Dolphins of Delaware Valley, a local organization, long affiliated with our parish, matches a volunteer with a nearby nursing home resident – not just any resident, but someone experiencing the long term isolation and loneliness which often occur in nursing homes. We always need both women and men visitors. Please learn more about being a volunteer by checking out our website at www.dolphinsofdelawarevalley.org, or by calling Marilyn Knox, Volunteer Coordinator at 610-585-7141 or email her at marilynk@ecs1870.org.



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HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TESTS

Merion Mercy Academy: We welcome all seventh grade students, both girls and boys, to take the practice High School Placement Test at Merion Mercy on **Saturday, February 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Parents are offered a school tour at 9:15 a.m. on the test day. The cost is \$40 and includes lunch for students. For more information and to register, please visit our website at www.merion-mercy.com and click on the link for the practice test, listed on the homepage.

Mount Saint Joseph Academy: The Mount invites all interested 7th grade girls to register for the **Pre-HSPT** to be given on **Saturday, March 25 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

The Pre-HSPT is a 7th grade edition of the actual Scholarship/Entrance Exam given to eighth grade applicants. Registration is available **online only**. Register at: www.msjacad.org/practice_test. You will receive registration confirmation via email.

TWO PART-TIME POSITIONS AVAILABLE

St. John Chrysostom Parish and our regional school, Mother of Providence in Wallingford, are hiring for two part-time positions:

Church Sacristan Needed: St. John Chrysostom Church is seeking a part-time sacristan (typically, one Saturday and one Sunday each month). This is a paid position and training is provided. Responsibilities include unlocking and locking the church for Masses, setting up and cleaning up items for Mass, and other occasional light duties. Contact Rosemary Endres at 610-874-3418 – ext. 108.

Mid-Day School Help Needed: Mother of Providence Regional Catholic School is in need of mid-day help (2-1/2 to 3-1/2 hours) on full school days. This position entails setting up and breaking down lunch tables, light maintenance, cleaning and other duties as needed. Contact Mrs. Therese Waters, school principal at 610-876-7110 or twaters@mpregional.org.

SILENCE

“Be quiet, you’re in church now!” Many of us grew up being reminded regularly that the appropriate behavior for us during Mass was to be silent. Church and the library had that in common. With the reforms of the Second Vatican Council, active participation became the norm. Usually active participation is understood as joining in the singing and saying the responses along with everyone else. Rarely do we expand the definition of participation to include communal silence.

Public silence is frequently very awkward. We assume someone forgot their cue or made an embarrassing mistake. Yet, we also know the heart-gripping impact when a grandstand full of people observes a moment of silence. The liturgy invites us to pray without words several times during Sunday Mass. Before the opening prayer, after the readings and the homily, perhaps during the intercessions and again after communion, we are given the opportunity to call to mind God’s presence in our midst, to offer our personal petitions and express our thanks for God’s continuing blessings.

Such silence is not a passive “shutting down” but rather an attentive awareness of our intimate connection with the Lord and with one another. Such awareness requires ample time to develop – ample time not only at a particular liturgy, but Sunday after Sunday after Sunday. Only then will the inevitable coughing, kneeler banging and fussing babies mark the beginning of our silence and not the end of it!

In another, more profound sense, we are always silent at liturgy – even when we speak. We sing psalms and speak prayers that are not our own but rather the words of our ancestors in faith and the words of the church. Our individualistic American culture finds such behavior suspicious or even threatening: “I am my own person!” But it is precisely in that surrender to the power of ritual and the life of the larger community that we discover our true voice.

(Liturgy Training Publications, Chicago, 1997)

BLACK

HISTORY

MONTH

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Mass Intentions

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

- 7:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS
9:30 WILLIAM LILIENTHAL
11:15 NICOLA FALCONE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

- 6:30 MR. ANGELO IANNAcone
(17TH ANNIVERSARY)
8:00 MARIE VANDUSEN
(105TH BIRTHDAY)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- 6:30
8:00 JOHN CASEY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- 6:30
8:00 EDWARD BLONSKI
(ANNIVERSARY MASS)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

- 6:30
8:00 SOPHIE GALLAGHER

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

- 6:30
8:00 DOMENICO CONICELLA LUISETTA

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- 8:00 SEAN QUINN
(ANNIVERSARY MASS)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- 7:30 KATHERINE AND CIRO IANNOTTA
9:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS
11:15 IRENE BRENT

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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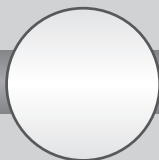


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