



Our Mother of Good Counsel

Parish Community

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31 PENNSWOOD ROAD
BRYN MAWR, PA 19010

March 19, 2017

PARISH STAFF

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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>

JESUS MADE GOD AS ACCESSIBLE AS A VILLAGE WELL!

During Lent, we might approach the incident with the woman at the well as a screen play depicting conversion and salvation through interactions around food and drink and personal and theological discussions. The opening scene in today's Gospel (John 4:5-42) presents Jesus sitting alongside the well. The scene is more suggestive than 21st century people may realize as the well could be a place of wooing, a gathering place for women and a symbol of God's gifts of water and therefore of life itself. When Jesus sat down at Jacob's well he was doing more than resting: He was symbolically putting himself in the place of the ancient well as source of life. His posture was the first sign of all that was to come.

Enter the woman with her jug. Jesus addresses her with a familiar tone, asking for a drink. Lacking stage instructions, all we know is that the woman replied ironically, asking why a member of a group who considered themselves superior and too pure to mix with Samaritans would stoop to ask her for a favor. Jesus disregarded any hostility in her tone of voice just as he ignored the taboos that should have prevented him from speaking to a woman alone, much less a Samaritan. Ignoring the tradition of enmity, his two-pronged reply challenged her to recognize God's gifts and who it was that spoke to her. That recognition held out the promise of living water.

In a very odd turn of plot, Jesus told her to go get her husband. When she stated quite simply that she had no husband, he replied that she had had five and was with one now who was not a husband to her. Recognizing him as a prophet, her response led to the theological question underneath their people's mutual animosity. She asked about the place of true worship: Was it where the Israelites destroyed the Samaritan temple on Mount Gerizim or in Jerusalem's still standing Temple? In reply, Jesus went right back to what he had originally said, but presented it in a new way. He wasn't concerned about water or temples, but "Spirit and truth."

She had now gone from animosity to curiosity, to genuine questioning. Now, having heard more, she explained her belief: "When the Messiah comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus simply replied, "I am he, the one speaking to you."

The arrival of the disciples gave her the motive to return to town to tell her people what she had encountered. When it came time to put it into words, she didn't talk about temples or wells or even the Spirit and truth. She said, "He told me everything I have done." Like the first disciples who went to tell their friends about Jesus, what she told her people sparked enough faith to get them to go see for themselves.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are asked to remember in our prayers:

Margaret Simyak, Janine Hoffman,
Michael and Andrew McCaughey,
Christian Milton, Ann Marie Dean,
Joann Dalesandro, Mary Campo,
Pat Mallon, David Innaurato
Lori Lesutis, Fr. Michael Scuderi, OSA,
and Carol Luty.

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.

Deceased: We pray for the happy repose of the soul of John Pius Onumah and for Joseph Rogers and for the consolation of their families.

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.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Penance will be available on **Wednesday evenings** during Lent from **7:00 – 8:00 p.m.** in our Parish Church.



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE for March 12, 2017

When Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water, He opened the door for a life-changing relationship with Him. Scripture says her testimony drew many others to Him as well. We, too, must be ready to respond whenever and wherever the Lord speaks to us and be prepared for it to change our lives!

Envelope Contributions	\$5,607.00
Loose Contributions.....	\$720.00
Total Offertory Collection	\$6,377.00
Offering this time last year	\$7,404.00
Electronic giving of March 15.....	\$4,650.00
Parish Giving.....	\$1,035.00

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

SENIOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS

The Senior Members of our Parish and surrounding parishes will meet on **Friday, March 24 at 12 noon** for an afternoon of community building and enjoyment of one another's companionship. All are welcome to join us. Please bring a sandwich (meatless!) or whatever lunch you choose. Beverages and desserts will be provided by generous members who have already volunteered to help out.

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 Dominic Di Martino at 610-525-6442.

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PARISH-WIDE GATHERING

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

It is my honor and privilege to serve as the current president of the Parish Council, and I am very pleased to invite you to join us at this year's parish-wide meeting. This meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, March 26th from 12:30 to 2:30 pm** in the Social Center of the school building.

We have held a parish-wide meeting for the past several years and it has proven to be a most successful and informative event – with information passing both from the parish leadership to parishioners and from the parishioners to the parish staff and Parish Council. We will start with a box lunch and Fr. Liam will provide an update of parish news. This will include information about projects relating to facilities, parish finances, our ministries and the approach of Holy Week and Easter, and some time for questions and answers.

We will then engage in a short discussion on the topic **“Creating Contagious Enthusiasm Within Our Parish”** so that ideas about what our parish does well and what we can improve upon can be exchanged. Everyone's opinion is valued.

In addition, this meeting provides you with the opportunity to meet some of our parishioners that you do not already know. There are many wonderful people here at Our Mother of Good Counsel, and you will be sure to see some old friends and meet some new friends. Please be sure to **rsvp** no later than **March 20** by sending an email to Peggy Juhline at pjuhline@omgcp parish.net or calling the parish office at 610-525-0147 or clipping the reply form below and dropping it in the Sunday collection basket; please state the number of people who will be attending and whether you will need child care during the meeting.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the meeting on the 26th.

Warmly,
Barry Mulhern

I will be attending the Parish-Wide Meeting on Sunday, March 26 beginning at 12:30 pm.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number of people attending: _____

Child Care Needed: Yes No

2017 – CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL

Giving Hope to All

The Catholic Charities Appeal is the Archdiocese of Philadelphia's single most important annual fundraising initiative, and we are counting on your support. The Appeal's beneficiaries are grouped into five key areas of focus: ***Education; Social Services; Evangelization, Parish and Spiritual Life; Clergy; Local Mission Activities.***

God, our Father, You call us to open our hearts to share what we have been given. Grant that through giving to the Catholic Charities Appeal, we may bring joy, hope and strength to those most in need. Amen.

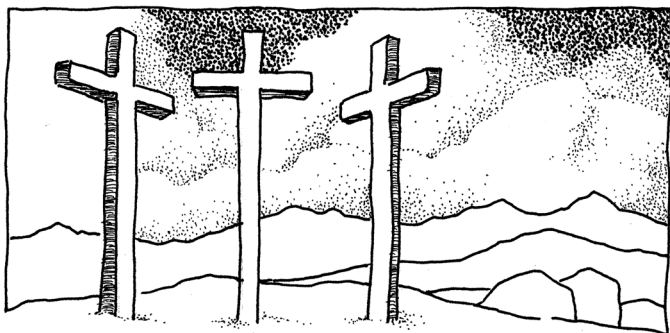
YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Upcoming Events

All 6th through 12th grade students are invited to join us on **Sunday, March 19 from 12:30 – 3:00pm** for a Lenten Reflection Afternoon. Lunch is included. Please email kcarey@omgcparish.net to register. The afternoon will consist of discussion, reflection, service to help us on our Lenten journey.

LIVING STATIONS

We are still in need of students to participate in our Annual Living Stations to be presented to the parish on **Sunday, April 2 following the 11:15 Mass.** All students, grades 3 through 12, are welcome and encouraged to participate. The program takes about 20 minutes and is a great way to have students learn about Jesus' journey to the cross. Our **next practice** is scheduled for Saturday, March 25 from 10 am to 11:30 am. Please consider joining us. Contact Karen Carey with any questions at kcarey@omgcparish.net.



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EASTER TREATS

The Youth Group will be collecting bags of individually wrapped candy for the filling of our Easter Eggs for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt for the young people of the parish to be held on Easter Sunday following the 11:15 Mass. If you are able to contribute, please either drop your donation of candy at the parish office, or bring it to church and mark it "Youth Group" and place it in the food baskets. Thank you for helping to make this such a wonderful event for the young persons in our parish.

PEACE AND JUSTICE

The Peace and Justice Committee will meet again on **Wednesday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m.** at Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish Center.

LIVE-IN CAREGIVER NEEDED

Family is in search of a live-in caregiver for an elderly woman who lives in Haverford, PA. The home is in an ideal location, close to public transportation (bus and regional rail) and shopping. Perfect opportunity for someone currently in need of housing and who does not want to live alone any longer. Looking for care in exchange for room and some compensation. Would prefer no agencies. For more information, contact Mary at 484-343-6393. Email: mkferrara@yahoo.com.

HOPE PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION

Hope Partnership for Education and Polka Dots Boutique in Paoli are teaming up for an Easter pop-up shop! Polka Dots offers fun, trendy clothes and accessories for women of all ages. Between **4:00 – 8:00pm on Wednesday, April 12**, 20% of all sales benefit Hope Partnership, a private, independent Middle School, Graduate Support and Adult Education Center in one of North Philadelphia's most under-resourced neighborhoods. For more information on Hope, visit www.hope-partnership.org. Find your Easter outfit while helping deserving students and supporting a local small business! Polka Dots Paoli is located in the Paoli Shopping Center, 29 Leopard Road.

MASS HONORING THE GIFTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

A Special Mass will be celebrated on **Saturday, April 1 at 10:30 a.m.** at the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul, 18th and Benjamin Franklin Parkway, for Persons with Disabilities, the Deaf Community, Family, Friends and Caregivers. Archbishop Charles Chaput, O.F.M.Cap. will be the presider and homilist. There will be a light reception immediately following the Mass. All are Welcome. To RSVP, go to www.opdarchphilly.org or call the Office for Persons with Disabilities at 215-587-3530.

CAMP VERITAS 2017

Camp Veritas is a one-week play-and-pray sleep away summer camp for teens going into 7th to 12th grades. It will be held at three USA locations in 2017: Mount St. Mary College in Newburgh, NY – July 16-22; Summit Lake Camp in Emmitsburg, MD – July 23-29; Camp Lakota in Wurtsboro, NY – August 13-19. Enrollment opened January 1 and the enrollment price for each week is \$450 per camper. Early bird rates (if paid in full by 4/1/17) are \$400 for all sites. There is no additional charge for the dance and basketball program options (at Mount St. Mary College only). Volunteers must be over 18 years old, are needed and attend free! More details can be found at www.campveritas.com.



YOU ARE INVITED

You are invited to a Lenten Brown Bag Lunch on **Monday, March 20 at 12:45pm** at St. Thomas of Villanova Rosemont Auditorium. Topic: “Discovering the Origin and History of the Stations of the Cross: Through the Lens of Great Artists.” Sr. Kathleen Szpila, SSJ from Chestnut Hill College will be the presenter. This talk will examine the origins of this devotion and the ways artists have interpreted each station over time. Bring your Lunch! Dessert and drinks will be available.

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 continue to develop as follows:

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

March 23 What prayers did Jesus say? Where might he have learned them, and when and how did he use them? In Lent and in Holy Week, how might we pray as Jesus did?

Week 4 of This Series: *Hidden in plain sight: The Old Testament within the New.*

The four Gospels quote more than one hundred different verses from the Old Testament. The two books most often quoted by Jesus are Isaiah – and the Psalms, which then, as now for us, were sung at worship. Mary quotes from the psalms in her Magnificat. How can we use these poetic prayers to recognize and praise God at work within us?

March 30 **Week 5 of This Series:** *My rock, my fortress, my deliverer*

When challenged, whether by the Pharisees in the streets or Satan in the desert, Jesus often pulls from the Psalms in response. Amma Syncletica, one of the desert mothers, advised turning to the psalms when life and prayer felt challenging, a practice described by St. Augustine as well. When we are “surrounded by bees” (Ps 118:12) where can we turn in the psalms for help, as Jesus did?

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 in the Daily Chapel of Church.



BABY'S BREATH RUN FOR LIFE

Please come and enjoy a morning of family fun on **Saturday, April 8th** at the Norristown Farm for the annual Run for Life – benefitting A Baby's Breath Crisis Pregnancy Center – helping Moms and their families for 17 years! 1 Mile Fun Run - 9:00a.m; 5K Run at 9:30 a.m. Walk, Run or Wheel! Please register at http://www.ababysbreath.org/events/NOR_RFL.html. For more information, please contact Dorothy Swedkowski, Race Director at 610-316-6281 or budswed@verizon.net.

HANDICAPPED ENCOUNTER CHRIST (HEC) Retreat – April 2, 2017 St. Raphaela Center 616 Coopertown Road, Haverford

Please RSVP by March 25!! We need to plan for food and space. Contact: Joanne Burns at joanne_c_burns@yahoo.com or phone Stephen Allman at 610-494-3032. HEC retreats were developed for people with disabilities who could not otherwise attend a spiritual retreat due to accessibility issues. All need the support of others on their spiritual journey. Come join us as we share talks, group discussions and song. Dinner is included.



**St. Joseph,
Spouse of Mary**

**Monday,
March 20**

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Annunciation Of the Lord

**Saturday,
March 25**



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Mass Intentions



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SUNDAY, MARCH 19

- 7:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISHIONERS
- 9:30 PHIL SHERIDAN
- 11:15 DANNY WARD

MONDAY, MARCH 20

- 6:30 LIVING MEMBERS OF THE ALBERS FAMILY
- 8:00 ODILE WACHE

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

- 6:30
- 8:00

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

- 6:30
- 8:00

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

- 6:30
- 8:00 DARA VOGEL

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

- 6:30
- 8:00

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

- 8:00

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

- 7:30 MARIA VAN DUSEN (23RD ANNIVERSARY)
- 9:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISHIONERS
- 11:15 ACHILLE (KELLY) BARONE

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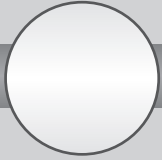
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