



Our Mother of Good Counsel

Parish Community

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

31 PENNSWOOD ROAD
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April 16, 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>

THE BEGINNING OF EASTER FAITH

The Gospel of John is coming to an end. John's reflection opened with the words: "In the beginning." With that John signaled that what followed would contemplate God's work of creation as an ongoing activity of love that came to fulfillment when Jesus, raised up on the cross, proclaimed, "It is finished." The next scene, depicted in today's Gospel (John 20:1-9), opens in the early morning "on the first day" of God's new creation.

While in the dark, Mary of Magdala saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. It made no sense. She might as well have seen the sun rising in the west or rain rising from the grass toward the clouds. There was but one logical conclusion: some enemy decided to guarantee an end to even the memory of Jesus by desecrating his resting place. Mary had been the first to decide to honor Jesus' memory by visiting his tomb. When even that possibility was ripped from her, she ran to the disciples. Finding Peter and another disciple, she gave them her interpretation of the events: Some unnamed "they" were prolonging the humiliation of the crucifixion by stealing the broken body of their beloved Lord.

The two of them ran back with Mary, prepared to see destruction on top of death. The one peeked into the tomb, but allowed Peter to go in first. It was not a robbery – everything was well placed, just not in any conceivable order. In Jesus' tomb the burial linens were there to see and the veil that had covered his head was placed to make it clear that it was unneeded. The evangelist says that the beloved disciple followed Peter into the tomb to see all of this, and that unlike Peter, he "believed." What the beloved disciple believed was that the cast-off face veil represented Jesus' return to the Father. He would never again be among them in mortal flesh.

This is the beginning of Easter faith; it recalls what Jesus said at the Last Supper: "I came from the Father and have come into the world. Now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father." The beloved disciple believed that Jesus the Christ had risen, that he is the Son of God whose life and death definitively reveal who God is. The beginning of Easter faith was this belief about what had happened to Jesus. What would fill out that faith would be the experience that taught the disciples what Jesus' resurrection meant for them. That part of the story begins as soon as the two male disciples return home and Mary meets the risen Christ in the garden.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are asked to remember in our prayers:

Christian Milton, Ann Dean,
Fr. Michael Scuderi, OSA, Janine Hoffman,
Michael and Andrew McCaughey,
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.

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 DiMartino at 610-525-6442.

PLEASE NOTE!

**The Parish Office will be CLOSED on
Easter Monday, April 17.**

SENIOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS

The Senior Group will meet on **Friday, April 28 at 12 noon** in the Social Center of our school building. On this occasion, we will enjoy a "Penny Auction". Those attending are asked to bring one or several items from your home that are barely used or not used at all. Bring these items which you no longer have any use or need for, **unwrapped**, and enjoy watching your friends and neighbors bid on them. It's always a fun afternoon. Come and join us for lunch. Bring a sandwich or your usual lunch nourishment and we will provide beverages and desserts.



EASTER

Dear Friends,

Hallelujah! Christ has risen;
He has risen as He said! Hallelujah!

I extend wishes for a happy and holy Easter to all parishioners, staff, and visitors who have gathered here at Our Mother of Good Counsel Church today to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Anyone who has heard more than a few of my homilies knows that I often preach about the importance of the Sacrament of Baptism. Even though most of us were only a few weeks old when we received that sacrament, it is the sacrament that “plugs us in” to the mystery of salvation. Jesus Christ became a human being just like us so that he could redeem us from our sinfulness and unite us to His heavenly Father. It is through Baptism that we are decisively bound to Jesus Christ in the mystery of His passion and death on the cross. It is through Baptism that we are irrevocably united to Jesus Christ in the mystery of His Resurrection from the dead and have a share in His new life.

We as a parish community have journeyed together through the 40 days of Lent. During that time we have attempted to deepen the relationship that we have with Jesus Christ as a result of our Baptism into His death and resurrection. We have made an attempt through prayer, fasting, and abstinence to open our hearts to the grace of repentance so that we might be able to deepen the promises made on our behalf at the time of our Baptisms. Now, at the Easter liturgy, we renew those promises in the midst of the joy and gladness of this holy feast.

As you know, I am a newcomer here. This is my first Holy Week and Easter at OMGC. I am grateful for all of the guidance and support of my fellow Augustinian friars, the staff and the members of the parish during these ten months, with a special shout-out to those involved in all of the liturgical ministries during this holy season of God’s grace.

As a pastor, I take very seriously my responsibility to pray for you, the people of the OMGC parish community every day. I pray for your happiness, for your health, and I pray every day that your love for Our Lord Jesus Christ deepens. Please pray for us, the friars and staff of OMGC as well.

Yours in Easter joy,
Fr. Liam

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Very early in the morning after the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb to anoint Jesus’ body with precious oils. The reward of this good and conscientious steward was to be the first to know that Jesus had been raised from the dead! Alleluia!

Due to early bulletin deadlines, stewardship totals are not available. Reporting of collection totals will resume next week.

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

RICE BOWL DONATION

If you have not already put your Rice Bowl donation into our collection basket during Holy Week, please do so by the weekend of April 22/23. You may do so either in the Rice Bowl boxes on in an envelope, marked “Rice Bowl Donation.” Our contribution to the Catholic Relief Services, the sponsors of the Lenten Rice Bowl program will then be sent to them. Thank you for all who participated in this special Almsgiving feature of Lent.

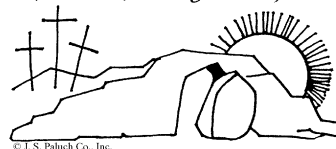
PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Peace and Justice Committee will meet again on **Wednesday, April 26 at 7:30pm at St. Thomas of Villanova Parish Center.**

H.O.P.E.

If you need a trip to the doctor, shopping, etc., call Shelley Preston at 484-412-8309 or S. Anne at 610-525-0147, ext 234.

This is the day to rejoice



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INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

IHN 25TH Anniversary Benefit
Sunday, April 30 from 4:00 – 6:30 pm
at Appleford
770 Mt. Moro Road in Villanova

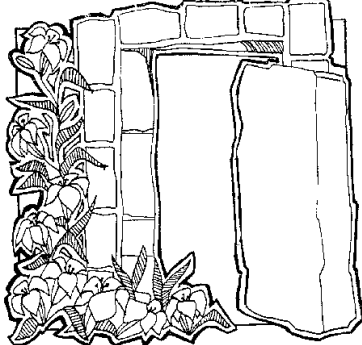
Our Parish Community has been a part of this outreach to families, mostly women and children, for these 25 years. IHN will provide an afternoon of Music, Wine and Light Fare together with a Fund-a-Need Auction. Guests will have an opportunity to make donations to IHN to purchase specific items for our families.

The cost of the tickets is \$75 per person and \$140 per couple. To purchase tickets or become a sponsor, please register and pay online at www.IHNcares.org. You may also contact Jen Doyle, IHN's Executive Director, at 610-277-0977 and request a response card/invitation to be sent to you by mail. Come and celebrate this special anniversary event which our parish and other Congregations have been a part of for these 25 years.

ADVOCACY WORKSHOP

Please join the Peace and Justice Committee and other parishioners of both St. Thomas of Villanova and Our Mother of Good Counsel to a workshop presented to us by Sr. Mary Elizabeth Clark, S.S.J. on **Wednesday evening, April 19th at 7:00 p.m.** at St. Thomas of Villanova Rosemont Auditorium. The goal of this workshop is to deepen our response to Global and Local Hunger. As people of faith we will share ideas and plan ways to ignite the minds and hearts of our parishioners to stand and advocate for God's hungry people. We will learn what it means to be an advocate, a voice, for those whose voices are not listened to in our times.

CHRIST IS RISEN!



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IHN PARISH PREPARATION for Families Joining Us Next Month

Meeting: The IHN Committee will meet on **Thursday, April 20 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Parish Center as we prepare for our May 21 – 28 week of hosting.

Week of Hosting: Our parish will be hosting the IHN families once again during the week of **May 21 – 28**. 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, May 20 at 10:00 a.m.** or take-down and pack away equipment on **Sunday, May 28 at 12:15 p.m.**, please call Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147 (ext. 234) or email her at awoodeshick@omgceparish.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 Barbara Noone at 610-649-4268 or email her at banoone9@gmail.com.



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“BREAKING OPEN THE WORD” of Easter Sundays Gospels

The Spirituality Committee of our parish extends an invitation to join other parishioners for an hour of reflection and prayer on three of the Gospels of the Easter Season on **Thursday evenings, April 27, May 4 and May 11**. The time of these gatherings will be held from **7:00 – 8:00 pm** in the Parish Center/Church Office building. Please call Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147, ext. 234 if you would like the experience of looking more deeply into some of the Gospels of the Easter Season this year.

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. With your financial generosity, we can support *Evangelization, Parish and Spiritual Life* offices:

Newman Centers on local college campuses
Office for Life and Family
Office for Persons with Disabilities
Office for New Evangelization
Office of Worship, etc.

God, our Father, help us to do all we can to make sure the "poor have their fill" of your blessings. Amen.

VOLUNTEER TUTOR OF ENGLISH

ESL Information Session

You are invited to this Volunteer Information session on **Wednesday, April 19 from 11:00am to 12 noon** at St. Thomas of Villanova Parish in Rosemont – 1st floor. What is required of a tutor? A three day –half day training course and a bi-weekly tutoring session with a student. Join us and see if this ministry is for you! RSVP by calling Anne Murphy at 610-525-4801 or email: service@stvparish.org.

ST. JOHN NEUMANN

Garage Sale

The annual garage sale at St. John Neumann Church, 380 Highland Lane in Bryn Mawr is planned for **Saturday, April 22 from 9:00am to 3:00pm** and **Sunday, April 23 from 8:30am to 1:30pm**. This is a major fund-raiser for the parish. You will find wonderful treasures at bargain prices, all donated by parishioners. Included are better clothing, a designer Boutique for lovely ready-to-wear apparel, accessories, jewelry, bric-a-brac, housewares, linens, toys, books, small appliances, electronics, holiday decorations and furniture. The sale is held in two indoor locations.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

In Delaware County

I am writing to share information about possible local participation in the 24th Annual National Day of Prayer. On **Thursday, May 4th**, residents of Delaware County will gather at three separate locations throughout the day to pray for our country and government, families and marriage, our churches and clergy and other petitions. The main celebration will take place at 11:30 a.m. in Rose Tree Park (Media) under the big flag. **Bring chairs with you at this location.** The event will include performances by the Rockdale Boys, Savior Soul and others. Other county prayer celebrations will take place at the following locations: Delaware County Courthouse (Media) at 12 noon and the Spruce Street Baptist Church (Newtown Square) at 6:30 p.m.

Sincerely in Christ,
Rev. Msgr. Daniel J. Sullivan

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Are you celebrating a special anniversary this Year? The annual Archdiocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass will take place on **Saturday, May 6 at 5:15pm** at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul with Archbishop Charles Chaput, presiding. This Mass is to pray for and with all married couples who are newlyweds or who have been married 25 years or more, or 50 years or more. Friends and family are welcome and encouraged to attend.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

To register, visit:
www.phillycatholiclife.org



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YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

“What’s Next?”

St. Raphaela Center

April 21 – 23, 2017

Join us for the “What’s Next” Retreat to connect with other young adults who are also navigating periods of transitions; encountering the ways God is present in the midst of uncertainty; growing in your faith so that it can support you through transitions in your life.

For more information and to register, visit:

www.straphaelacenter.org/calendar/15/1047-Young-Adult-Retreat.

RETREAT DAY**for Mothers of Children with Disabilities****Tuesday, May 3 from 9:30am – 2:00pm**

Malvern Retreat House

315 S. Warren Avenue, Malvern, PA

Cost: \$35 made payable to Malvern Retreat House

Questions? Contact Sr. Kathleen at 215-587-3530.

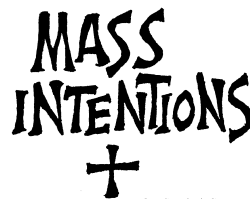
MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY**120 Wissahickon Avenue in Flourtown**

The Academy invites 7th grade girls to experience life at the Mount. Join us for a morning visit. Half day visitations will continue through May 23rd. A parent may go online to arrange a visit. Visit our website at www.msjacad.org for more information.

CATHOLIC HOMESCHOOL**CONFERENCE****April 28, 2017**

The IHM Philadelphia Homeschool Conference will be held at St. Helena Catholic Church, 1489 DeKalb Pike in Blue Bell, PA on **Friday, April 28th from 12:00noon to 6:00pm**. This is the perfect event for those who are curious and want to discover more about Catholic homeschooling.

Admission is free and pre-registration is not required. For more information, please visit www.ihmconference.org or email: info@ihmconference.org.



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SUNDAY, APRIL 16 EASTER SUNDAY

7:30

9:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS

11:15

MONDAY, APRIL 17

6:30

8:00 JENNIE BLONSKI
(ANNIVERSARY MASS)

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

6:30

8:00 MARY KILLILEA
ANNA AND CON HARKIN

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

6:30

8:00 DECEASED MEMBERS AND
BENEFACTORS, OSA
CATHERINE JUDGE

THURSDAY, APRIL 20

6:30

8:00 JOHN AND ELSIE ALBERS
PATSY DUSHANE

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

6:30

8:00 SALLY MURPHY
(25TH ANNIVERSARY)
VINCENT COSTELLO

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

8:00

JOHN MC CONOMY

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

7:30

9:30 NELL TRAVERS
LAURA MARCHESANI
(ANNIVERSARY MASS)

11:15

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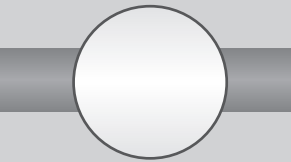
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