



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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September 17, 2017

PARISH STAFF

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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. (Except June, July, & August)
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>

FORGIVE...FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN!

Today's Gospel (Mt 18:21-35) takes us into the humorous heart of Jesus the story-teller and teacher. The fact that the incident opens with a question from Peter gives us advance notice that we are about to hear the most sincere and blundering of disciples open the door for Jesus to launch into another of his stories that stick. Peter was hoping to help his teacher with a set-up question: "How often must I forgive?" Then, to give Jesus ample room to congratulate him for his perception and generosity, he asks, "Seven times?" Seven was not just a number he pulled out of his headdress. Seven was Peter's way of demonstrating uncommon generosity. Offering to forgive seven times was like saying, "I'll put up with anything if that's what you suggest." Jesus doubles down on him and replies, "Not just seven, my friend, but seventy-seven...forever and ever, Amen!"

Peter's numbers game offered Jesus the take-off point for a story about how things get worked out in the kingdom of heaven. The word translated as "huge" is 10,000, which wasn't meant to be literal, it was simply the highest number calculable in those days. We would probably say "a gazillion." Now, the audience was really getting the picture. If the debtor, "Mr. D," had shown up ready to pay, he would have arrived accompanied by a parade of a gazillion servants, each weighed down by someone else's wealth.

It goes without saying that Mr. D had no way to pay it off. Even so, he made a show of asking for just a little more time. The master, endowed with a heart even bigger than his fortune, wrote off the loan. So far, the parable has set up a world in which the forgiveness of such an immense fortune makes it look as if anything is possible. It's Jubilee time! But, just as the audience pictured the relieved debtor dancing down the road to home, Jesus began narrating the second act of the drama.

Now those who had seen or heard what had happened to Mr. D are watching to see what he does next. How is he going to celebrate his good fortune? He hunted down one of his own debtors. Happy face erased, Mr. D grabs the guy by the neck. As if he had been listening in while Mr. D performed before the master, the guy steals Mr. D's lines, but his pitiful plea for compassion has no effect on its original author. Mr. D wants nothing more than his money. Proving that he has no idea of what mercy is, he sends the unfortunate fellow to prison.

Peter asked Jesus how many times community members were expected to forgive one another. Jesus told them a tall tale that asked them what kind of world they wanted to create and what it was worth to them. The person who counts the number of times they will pardon another is not forgiving but keeping score.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are asked to remember in our prayers:

Janine Hoffman, Adrienne D'Amato,
P. Snead, Lori Lesutis,
William Denny, Carol Luty,
Michael and Andrew McCaughey.

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.

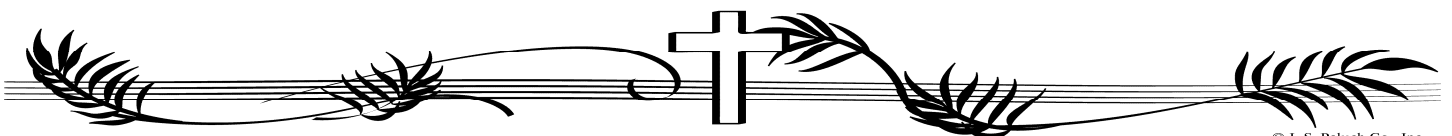
Deceased: We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Kathleen O'Doherty and for the consolation of Fr. Liam and his family.

H.O.P.E

If you need a trip to the doctor, shopping, etc., call Joanne Bramley at 610-459-6638 or S. Anne at 610-525-0147, ext. 234.

SENIOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS

The Senior Members of our Parish will gather on the afternoon of **Friday, September 29 at 12 noon** in the Social Center of the school building. If you plan to join us for a relaxing and community-building afternoon, please bring your usual lunch nourishment. Beverages and desserts will be provided by the members who have already volunteered to do so. If you are not among the volunteers this month, please come and enjoy time with others.





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COMMUNAL ANOINTING MASS

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated on **Saturday evening, October 7 at the 5:00 p.m. Mass.** The name of the Sacrament, Anointing of the Sick, tells us that the sacrament is for those who are sick, not just for the dying. It is a sacrament of healing, and the Church wants us to ask for this sacrament before we are at the point of death. It instructs all those who minister to the sick that great care and concern should be taken to see that those of the faithful whose health is impaired by sickness or old age receive this sacrament.

Please come to church in plenty of time to be registered for the sacrament and helped to be seated in special places for the priests to anoint you. People will be on hand by 4:30 p.m. to welcome you to this special celebration.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Inquiry Sessions: A new series of Inquiry sessions will begin on **Tuesday evening, September 26 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Parish Center of Our Mother of Counsel Parish. This is the beginning phase of the RCIA process 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 someone you know, may be interested in learning more about the RCIA process, please call S. Anne Woodeshick at 610-525-0147 (ext. 234) or email her at awoodeshick@omgcp parish.net. **Brochures** are available in the pamphlet rack at the entrance of the Church or on the table inside. Help yourself and share it with someone who may be interested in joining us for this initial evening of Inquiry.

Sunday Morning Sessions resume: We continue to journey with our catechumen, Camille Kautzmann, as she meets with us on Sunday mornings after the 9:30 a.m. liturgy to look more deeply and reflectively into the Scripture readings of the day and to continue to learn about the various teachings and wisdom of the Catholic Church. These Sunday Morning sessions will resume on **Sunday, September 24.**

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE
for September 10**

Stewardship is not optional! “None of us lives as his own master and none of us dies as his own master,” says St. Paul. “While we live we are responsible to the Lord, and when we die we die as his servants.

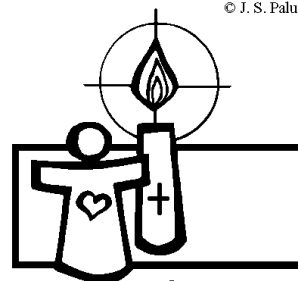
Envelope Contributions	\$5,470.00
Loose Contributions.....	\$1,291.00
Mailed in	\$2,220.00
Total Offertory Collection	\$8,981.00
Offering this time last year	\$13,122.00
Parish giving.....	\$850.00

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

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.

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Altar Servers

MINISTRY OF ALTAR SERVER

We are grateful to all those who have participated over the years in the ministry of Altar Server. Several of our Altar Servers have recently moved away from the parish because of their work or their going to school out of the area. We are now in need for more volunteers to become Altar Servers. It is a great opportunity for people to be able to offer their service in the Liturgy, especially young people. This ministry is open to all people who are at least in the fourth grade or older, all adults included.

If you would like to volunteer as an Altar Server, please contact Fr. John Deary at 610-525-0147, ext. 252.

FIRST SUNDAY LITURGY

October 1, 2017

On **Sunday, October 1**, our parish will celebrate our first First Sunday Mass and lunch of the new school year. Please join us at the 11:15 Mass followed by a potluck lunch. This is open to **ALL PARISHIONERS!!!** Please use the following link to bring something to share.

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080D4EA5AE22A57-october1. Any questions, please contact Karen Carey at 610-525-0147.

PREP REGISTRATION

Our Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) is held for children in non-catholic schools who are seeking Religious Education and Sacramental Preparation. Classes are held on Sunday mornings from 9:40 until 11:00am. Registrations for returning PREP students have been mailed. If you have not yet received your registration, or if you are new to the program, please contact Karen Carey at 610-525-0147 as soon as possible.

PREP BEGINNINGS

September 24: Classes will begin. While children are in class, parents are to stay in the gym for an overview of the year.

October 1: Students report regular time for class. Students will then move over to church for the 11:15 Mass. Following Mass, all are invited to join us for a pot luck lunch. To sign up to bring a dish, please use the following link: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080D4EA5AE22A57-october1.

October 8: Class as usual.

PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY COLLECTION

The Religious Education Program, in conjunction with the Archdiocese of Philadelphia schools and PREP Programs, will be collecting jars of peanut butter and jelly to be donated to local food banks. Our donations will go to the Patrician Society which feeds hundreds of families right in our own backyard in Norristown. Please bring your donations to church the **weekends of September 24 and October 1**. Thank you for helping those in need.



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YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS

ALL 6th through 12th grade students, no matter where you go to school, are invited to join us on **Sunday, September 24 from 6:30-8:00pm** for our Youth Opening and Welcoming of our newest students. At this time, we will also be taking sign-ups for working at the Fall Festival. Any students interested in participating in the Haunt or working the games must attend this meeting. There is limited space available in the Haunt so please mark your calendars!

RECYCLE YOUR HOLIDAY AND HOME DECORATIONS

Do you have holiday décor that hasn't made it out of your storage container for several holiday seasons or other household décor that simply needs a new home? Donate it to OMGC! We are accepting donations of new or gently used indoor or outdoor holiday décor for any occasion from Halloween through Easter. This includes Christmas decorations. We will also collect everyday home décor. Donations will be available for sale at OMGC Fall Fest, **October 13-15th**. All proceeds will benefit OMGC's religious education and youth group programs. Please drop off donations in the back of church **BEFORE** Mass on one of the following weekends: **September 16-17; September 23-24; September 30-October 1**

No items will be taken after October 1. For large item drop-offs or questions, contact Colette Sutton at colettesutton309@yahoo.com or 610-517-0158.



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YOU ARE INVITED to a Brown Bag Lunch

We all know someone who might have one or perhaps all of the following diagnosis: Anxiety-Depression – Dementia. The chances for developing one of these conditions increases as we get older. The better informed we are – the better prepared we will be to help someone who may be experiencing some of the symptoms. Join us on:

**Monday, September 25 at 12:45
at St. Thomas' Rosemont Auditorium**

Speaker: Mary Ellen Herbert, R.N.
Nurse Care Manager at
Surrey Services for Seniors

*Bring your lunch –
Drinks and Desserts will be provided.*

ST. RAPHAELA CENTER

St. Raphaela Center offers retreats for an extended time of prayer and silence, accompanied by a Spiritual Director. **Weekend Dates:** December 8 – 10; **Weeklong Dates:** December 8 – 15. Contact St. Raphaela Center in Haverford at 610-642-5715 or www.straphaelacenter.org.



**We
are the
Lord's**



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WINE

National Catholic Women's Conference

Join women from the greater Philadelphia area and across the country for the first-ever National Catholic Women's Conference hosted by WINE: Women In the New Evangelization! Dynamic Catholic speakers Kelly Wahlquist, Teresa Tomeo, Kitty Cleveland and Sarah Christmyer will inspire you and musician Amanda Vernon will rejuvenate your spirit. The day will include time for Mass, Confession, prayer, rest, socializing and shopping.

Saturday, October 21 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm at the National Shrine of our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, PA. Special group rate available, so bring your friends! For more information and to register, visit www.wineconference.org.

OMGC AND STV ADVOCATES FOR THE POOR AND HUNGRY

A group of OMGC and STV Parishioners have joined together as Advocates for the Poor and Hungry. We work with Bread for the World (BFW) a non-partisan Christian organization that researches the causes for hunger in the world. Based on that research BFW lobbies the US Administration and Congressional leaders for changes in policies, programs, and systems that allow hunger to persist in the US and the rest of the world. Congress is back at work on a 2018 budget proposal that would drastically cut funding for many key US programs that have helped to cut the incidence of hunger in half over the last 25 years. The cuts would directly increase hunger and poverty. Want to help? Join this group of Advocates in contacting our Senators and Representatives urging them to retain current levels of funding. You can contact Bill Jones (OMGC) or Ann Rafferty (STV) to find out how.

SCHOOLS' OPEN HOUSE and Entrance Exam

Academy of Notre Dame de Namur: Scholarship and Entrance Exam will be offered on **Saturday, October 21 and Sunday, October 29.** Open House will be held on **Sunday, October 1 from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm.** For more information, call 610- 971-0498 or visit ndapa.org/admissions. Notre Dame Academy is a private, Catholic, college preparatory school for girls in grades 6 – 12, located at 560 Sproul Road in Villanova.

Mount Saint Joseph Academy: Open House – **Sunday, October 8th from 12:00 – 3:00 pm.** To pre-register for the Open House online visit our website at www.msjacad.org and scroll down to Quick Links – Open House. Scholarship and Entrance Exam will be given on **Saturday, October 28th at 8:00 am.** For more information, please call the Admission Office at 215-233-9133 or visit us online at the above address.

Waldron Mercy Academy: A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, located in Merion Station, is a Catholic, co-educational, independent Preschool through Grade 8 and is sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy. This school provides a nurturing and enriching environment for children. A challenging and well-rounded curriculum offers opportunities to develop the whole child academically, athletically and artistically. To learn more about WMA, please call Sr. Joellen at 610-664-9847, ext. 113 or www.waldronmercy.org.

CYO BASKETBALL
Fall Open Gym Sessions

Open gym sessions will take place this Fall for boys and girls, grades 5 through 8, who are interested in trying out for CYO basketball. Open gym sessions will start the week of September 4th and run through the week of October 23rd. Fall open gym is an opportunity to come work on your skills through group drills and playing games.

**Boys open gym: Friday evenings,
 5:30-7:00pm at OMGC gym;**
**Girls open gym: Thursday evenings,
 7:00-8:30pm at OMGC gym.**

Please email Matt Hutelmyer with any questions: mhutelmyer@gmail.com.

RESIDENCE AVAILABLE

Minimal rent of \$375/month in exchange for driving an elderly woman to church, doctor appointments and errands two or three times a week. Room and private bathroom available in lovely house on a quiet cul-de-sac in Haverford that is walking distance to Suburban Square in Ardmore. WiFi, kitchen and laundry privileges as well as off-street parking included. Looking for a mature, responsible and quiet person with own car and friendly personality and who will benefit from plenty of time to pursue her own interests. If interested, please contact Niki at 212-517-8497



St. Matthew

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**Thursday
 September 21**

**Saturday
 September 23**



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**Mass Intentions
 For The Week** 

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- 7:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISHIONERS
- 9:30 BOB RYAN
- 11:15 PATSY DUSHANE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- 6:30 MILDRED MURTAUGH
- 8:00 IMELDA KELLY

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- 6:30
- 8:00 MILLIE MATTIOLI
 (19TH ANNIVERSARY)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

- 6:30
- 8:00 MILDRED MURTAUGH

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- 6:30
- 8:00 PAULINE ABBONIZIA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- 6:30
- 8:00 MILDRED MURTAUGH

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- 8:00 MARGE AND ARTHUR STODDER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- 7:30 DR. RUTH PATRICK HODGE
 VAN DUSEN (4TH ANNIVERSARY)
- 9:30 VINCENT MC NALLY
- 11:15 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
 PARISHIONERS



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John J. Stretch, III F.D.
(Supervisor)

John J. Stretch, IV F.D.

Timothy J. Stretch F.D.

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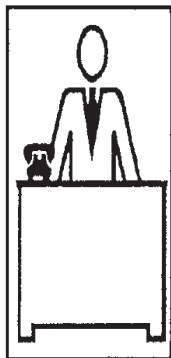
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