



Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish Community

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31 PENNSWOOD ROAD
BRYN MAWR, PA 19010

December 3, 2017

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Liam O'Doherty, OSA, Pastor, 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. (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>

YOU DO NOT KNOW THE *TIME!*

Jesus spoke about the master's return after telling his disciples to remain watchful and alert. The master left servants in charge of his affairs, giving each of them their own work and assigning one to be the vigilant gatekeeper. Ironically, while the master expected everyone to do their jobs, the times at which he suggested that the master might return were non-working hours: dinner, midnight, pre-dawn and early morning. Then again, the *times* he mentioned were the precise hours when important events of Jesus' passion took place.

The *evening* was the time of the last meal Jesus shared with his disciples. It was *night* when Jesus prayed and the disciples slept until his arrest. *Cockcrow* was most famously the time of Peter's test of faithfulness. The *early morning* was the time of the women's journey to the empty tomb. Each of these hours represents a crucial moment in the disciples' relationship with Jesus. In Jesus' own life, each of these moments was revelatory. Each of them focused on his ministry and the meaning of his life.

As we begin Advent, the Gospel today (Mark 13:33-37) calls us to be alert and watchful. When Jesus told the disciples that they needed to be as aware in their time off as during their working hours, he let them know that serious discipleship will refocus their entire life. Disciples who want to be ready for the master, who want to notice the signs of God's presence in the world need to imitate parents who cultivate an ongoing awareness of their little ones. Parents and those who care for people who are frail and elderly don't have to dote unceasingly on the person they are caring for, but they have to keep one ear constantly attuned for any call that demands a response.

In this season so full of glitzy distractions, the Gospel reminds us that God's ongoing advent into our lives is not bound to a calendar or even to a liturgical schedule. There is no predicting the moment when God will show up in our lives. We never know at what moment the Master will be seeking our faithful response.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are asked to remember in our prayers:

Janine Hoffman, Lori Lesutis, P. Snead, Carol Luty,
Alice Ritter, William O'Donnell, Lenore Lilly
Michael and Andrew McCaughey,
Dahlia Nichols, Joan and Paul Gorham.

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.

Baptisms: We welcome to our faith community Andersen Kevin Wolf, son of Kevin and Jennifer who was baptized in our Church recently.

Deceased: We pray for the happy repose of the soul of George D. Connor and for the consolation of his family.

H.O.P.E

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



FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION A Holyday of Obligation

Vigil Mass Thursday, December 7 at 7:30pm
Masses on Friday, December 8
6:30 and 8:00am and 12:10pm

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE

The Advent Communal Penance Service will be held at Our Mother of Good Counsel Church on **Monday evening, December 11 at 7:30 p.m.** Parishioners are encouraged to attend this service during the season of Advent as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Christ's life on earth during the Christmas season and beyond into the new liturgical year of the Church.



LITURGICAL MINISTRY AT OMGC

A few weeks ago, Fr. Liam spoke at all the Masses with an invitation for all parishioners to become involved in liturgical ministry here at OMGC – as altar servers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion or lectors. Since that time, Fr. John has been working with several young members of the parish to train them to serve as altar servers.

I would like to follow up with my own special invitation to all of you, my fellow parishioners, to share in the joy, the abundant blessings and the immeasurable graces that we who serve in liturgical ministry experience. Our young altar servers, who have received the Sacraments of Initiation, assist the presider at the altar during our weekend liturgies. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion assist in the distribution of Holy Communion. And lectors, like myself, proclaim the Word of God on a regularly scheduled basis at Mass.

The Church teaches that we, the faithful, form “a holy people of God” and that we should never refuse to serve “in gladness” whenever asked to perform a particular service or ministry during our liturgical celebrations, (GRIM 95,97). And so, I ask, is Our Lord calling you to liturgical ministry at OMGC? Please search your conscience and your heart, and if you feel called to service, please let Fr. John or me know. You will be well trained and prepared before actually serving, and I can assure you that you will be blessed abundantly for your service.

Sincerely,
 Fr. John Deary: frjdeary@omgcp parish.net or 610-525-0147 ext. 252
 Tom Buchanan: ministerschedule@omgcp parish.net or 610-299-4298

CORRECTION ON THE DECEMBER CALENDAR

On the December calendar which was enclosed in the November 26 Bulletin, the Mass times on Christmas Day has an error. The final Mass that morning is at 11:15am rather than 11:30 as listed.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE for November 19, 2017

Envelope Contributions	\$5,542.00
Loose Contributions.....	\$932.00
Mailed in	\$715.00
Total Offertory Collection	\$7,189.00
Offering this time last year	\$9,182.00

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE for November 26, 2017

We are the servants of God, each with his or her own task. We will be judged good stewards if, at His coming, God finds us ready and conscientiously pursuing the tasks to which we have been called.

Envelope Contributions	\$6,365.00
Loose Contributions.....	\$1,350.00
Mailed in	\$365.00
Total Offertory Collection	\$8,080.00
Offering this time last year	\$8,999.00
Parish giving.....	\$450.00

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 at pjuhline@omgcp parish.net.

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 contact Steve or Colette Sutton at colettesutton309@yahoo.com or 610-520-2501.

In lieu of its regular first Monday meeting on December 4th, the Parish Council and Staff will be attending an Advent evening of reflection at the IHM Conference Center. We will remember the intentions of our parish community in our prayers.



December 6, 2017

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

Food Needs for IHN: If you can donate any of the following food items for our guests when they arrive on **Sunday, December 10**, please put them in the food box at the entrance of the church next Sunday:

soup	crackers	tuna fish
salad dressing	jelly	mustard
lemonade mix	ice tea mix	coffee
tea bags	cookies	peanut butter
cold cereal	mayonnaise	ketchup
juice boxes/bottles	hot cereal packages	

AMAZONSMILE *You Shop. Amazon Gives*

When shopping for holiday gifts, please visit <https://smile.amazon.com/> and select Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line as the nonprofit you would like to support. Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to IHN. Thank you for your support.

ADVOCATES CORNER *Life and Dignity of the Human Person*

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) published “Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching” on their website (usccb.org). The Church, in the first theme, “Life and Dignity of the Human Person” proclaims that human life is sacred and the dignity of the human person is the foundation for a moral society and for all the principles of our social teaching. USCCB states: “Just as the commandment “Thou shalt not kill” sets a clear limit in order to safeguard the value of human life, today we also have to say “Thou shalt not” to an economy of exclusion and inequality.” “Today everything comes under the laws of competition and the survival of the fittest where the powerful feed upon the powerless. As a consequence, masses of people find themselves excluded and marginalized: without work, without possibilities, without any means of escape.”

This theme requires economic choices by our government that respect all humans. It guides OMGC/STV Advocates for the Poor and Hungry in our advocacy based on research by Bread for the World, a non-partisan Christianity based organization. To learn more, email Ann Rafferty: raffertyannah@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS EVE Children’s Help Wanted

Any children, ages 4 and up who are interested in participating in our little play at the Christmas Eve Mass at 6:00 p.m., please contact Karen Carey at kcarey@omgcp parish.net this week. There will be a brief practice shortly before Christmas.

PROJECT ELF



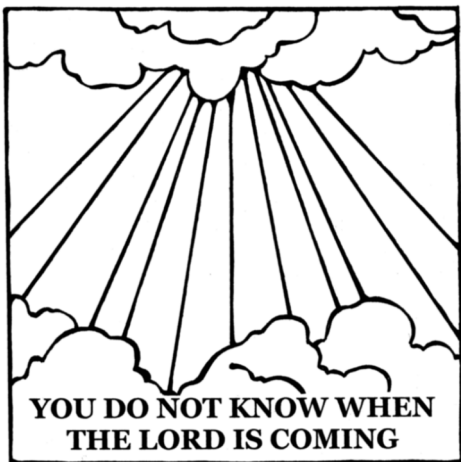
Once again, our parish will conduct Project Elf. We have a number of families that will have a difficult time making Christmas a happy time in their home due to financial circumstances. We also have a number of families that are able to help out by becoming an Elf for these families. Needy families will be provided with a wish list. Elf families will then be asked to help purchase the items on the family’s wish list. Many of these families will also need a family meal. We are in need of Elves to help with that as well.

Last year, we provided a nice Christmas for 13 families in our own parish and two outside our parish. If you are interested in being an Elf, for one gift, or a few gifts, or a meal, or part of a meal, please contact Karen at kcarey@omgcp parish.net or 610-525-0147 ext. 258.

Families in Need: If you are, or know of, a family in need of Elf assistance this Christmas, please contact Karen at kcarey@omgcp parish.net or 610-525-0147, ext. 258. All information is kept confidential.



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RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE
OMGC Gym – 2:30 – 7:30 pm
Thursday, December 14

Please consider donating a pint of blood when the Red Cross Bloodmobile comes to OMGC’s gym on **Thursday, December 14th from 2:30 to 7:30 pm**. The need for blood is great in the Christmas travel season. Auto accidents are many near Christmas, and blood donors are few. If you can donate, please fill out a pledge form on the table 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. Bless you and bless any friend you want to bring for donating.

 Or deposit this form in the Red Cross box at the entrance of church.

I will do my best to come and donate a pint of blood at the OMGC Bloodmobile on **Thursday, December 14** in the parish gym.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Best Time (in 15 min. segments between 2:30 - 7:30pm) _____

A REQUEST FOR A RIDE TO CHURCH
on Weekends

A woman in our parish who lives on Winsor Lane in Haverford has called asking if someone could provide a ride for her to church, either for the 5:00 pm Mass on Saturdays or the 9:30 am Mass on Sundays. If not every weekend, even occasionally would be a benefit to her who is no longer able to drive. Katherine’s number is 610-649-2744. Or you may call Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147 (ext. 234) in case you have any questions.

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 her own car and friendly personality and who will benefit from plenty of time to pursue her own interests. If interested, please contact Niki at 1-212-517-8497.

THREE-MONTH POSITION
AVAILABLE
as College Counselor

Merion Mercy Academy seeks to fill this temporary position starting in January, 2018. Essential responsibilities include educating and assisting juniors, seniors and parents through the college search and application process. Candidates should have excellent writing ability, facility with technology (Naviance) and strong communication and organizational skills. Priority will be given to candidates with experience as a college counselor and/or experience working in a selective college admission office. Candidates should electronically submit a letter of intent, resume, a copy of all transcripts, and clearances to Mary Ann Danovich at madanovich@merion-mercy.com no later than December 12.



CLOTHING NEEDED FOR ERITREAN REFUGEES

Holy Rosary Sister, Sr. Florence Enechukwu, seeks help in clothing a family of 8 Eritrean refugees. The father was separated from the family for 12 years and was only reunited with his wife and children as they were resettled in the U.S in September by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for whom Sr. Florence works. They need all kind of winter clothing and school supplies. Family members are:

Mehret, 45, mother; Philemon, 26, son;
Emanuel, 24, son; Feven, 22, daughter;
Yersusalem, 19, daughter; Simon, 16, son;
Arsema, 13, daughter

Donations may be delivered to Sr. Florence at 741 Polo Road in Bryn Mawr (267-282-3487 or enechufn@yahoo.com) or Joe Betz (610-525-4499 or joseph.betz@villanova.edu) will pick them up from you. Many thanks for your consideration!

PART-TIME JOB OPPORTUNITY Housekeeping Position

A part-time (up to 19 hours a week) position is available at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. Responsibilities include washing, ironing and general cleaning of residence rooms. Interested candidates, email your resume to jwhite@scs.edu or mail to St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Attention: J. White, 100 E. Wynnewood Road, Wynnewood, PA 19096.

NEW YEAR'S EVE RETREAT

St. Raphaela Center in Haverford
December 31–6:00pm to January 1–12:00pm

Presenter: Rev. Bernard Farley
Special Dinner, Presentation, Midnight Mass
Celebration, Morning Brunch
Call: 610-642-5715 or www.straphaelacenter.org



FEAST OF
ST. JUAN DIEGO
December 9, 2017

MassSchedule

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

7:30 LAWRENCE GUINAN
9:30 THOMAS & LUCILLE RYAN
11:15 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

6:30 ROBERT & MARTHA BUCHANAN
8:00 MARIA DI MARTINO

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

6:30 ROBERT BUCHANAN, SR.
8:00 MILLIE MURTAUGH

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

6:30 SUSAN HOPPS-DESCANO
8:00 DECEASED MEMBERS
& BENEFACTORS OF OSA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

6:30 CARMELA & NANCY DAMIANO
8:00 SPECIAL INTENTION
7:30 JOSEPHINE & JOHN DESCANO

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8
FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION

6:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS
8:00 FR. JOHN DENNY, OSA
12:10 PEGGY SHERIDAN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

8:00 HILDA PETERMAN

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

7:30 LEWIS H. VAN DUSEN
(69TH ANNIVERSARY)
9:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS
11:15 JOSEPH GAGLIARDI

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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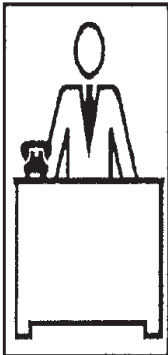
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