



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

August 26, 2018

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...Ext. 250
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 Woodshick, RSM, Parish Ministry...Ext. 234
Donna Descano, Administrative Assistant...Ext. 221
Peggy Juhline, Business Manager...Ext. 225

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.

Summer: Office Closed on Fridays in July & August

Parish Office and Rectory Phone: (610) 525-0147

FAX NUMBER: (610) 525-0157

PARISH WEB SITE:

<http://www.OMGCPARISH.ORG>

THE *SYMBOLIC ACTIONS* OF THE EUCHARIST

We are reaching the end of the “Bread of Life Discourse” in today’s Gospel (John 6:60-69). Our opening line refers back to last week’s Gospel in which Jesus called himself the bread which gives life to the world. As we saw, his claims upset people who thought he was blaspheming as well as those who were appropriately awed/frightened by the immensity of what he offered to them. The readings from last week left us pondering the meaning of all of it. Now we hear how those who heard Jesus responded.

The “Bread of Life Discourse” we have been hearing for five weeks presents John’s theology of the Eucharist – a theology summarized in *symbolic action* at the Last Supper when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. In this discourse, Jesus presents himself as God’s self-gift for the life of the world. The images of bread and flesh and blood make his message as concrete as possible, indicating that the Word of God became flesh to give life to everyone who would accept it, to anyone who would receive and take in that Word. As we noted, God’s self-offering upends traditional notions of sacrifice and undercuts any self-interested motives for discipleship. Jesus’ offer to those who would receive him is nothing less than an invitation to the adventure of unlimited love that leads to unlimited life.

Those disciples who have remained this long with Jesus understand the implications of what he had been teaching well enough to say “This is too hard.” Those who are concerned primarily with their own well-being will not be able to stay with him. He is approaching them on the level of the Spirit of God, not the flesh. That is why he says again that no one can come to him unless the Father grants it. Only those who allow themselves to be drawn by grace can accept his counter-intuitive, counter-cultural message.

That was finally enough for many would-be disciples. When they left, Jesus turned to the twelve, the representatives of the new community, and asked, “Do you also want to leave?” Now we see that Peter has learned something from his master. Rather than answer the question Jesus asked, Peter responded that there was no one with whom they would rather be.

Peter’s last statement says it all. He says, “We have come to believe...” Although he goes on to add more than he can understand at the moment, that first phrase said enough. They are committed to remain, to abide with him as they continue to come to believe.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are asked to remember in our prayers:

Janine Hoffman, Anne Shea, Frances Ward,
Joseph Smith, Hank Murray, Jane Shaw,
William O’Donnell, Carol Luty, John Cassandro,
Michael and Andrew McCaughey,
Bill and Ella Denny, Karen Schubert,
Pelham McClellan, April Novasitis,
S. Helena McNeill, MSHR

and all who care for the sick and dying.

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.

H.O.P.E.

Helping Other People in Emergencies

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

New Members: We welcome to our parish community Eric & Kristen Woods who recently registered with us.



Monday, August 27



Tuesday, August 28

LABOR DAY SCHEDULE

Monday, September 3, 2018

One Mass Only at 9:00 a.m.

Parish Office is Closed

THE PA GRAND JURY REPORT

Dear Friends,

“Gut-wrenching,” “heart-breaking,” “unspeakably awful,” “painful,” “horrific” – these are only some of the adjectives that come to mind when reading the stories of the victim-survivors spoken of in last week’s Grand Jury Report. They have suffered so much for so long! And at the hands of men who knew better! Wrong decisions, by church leaders whose priorities were so sorely misplaced, contributed to their continued suffering.

Every time a new revelation surfaces, such as the McCarrick story in June and now this report, we are filled with sorrow for the victim-survivors. At the same time, we are heartsick over how this affects our fellow-Catholics and the majority of good, faithful priests we know. Things like this can shake our confidence in the church and shatter trust in people we love and respect.

Hard work and vigilance have brought about genuine progress in the protection of minors over the past 15 years in the US Catholic Church. We must remain vigilant. The vast majority of situations in the report were pre-2002. Still, I believe the Church needs reform. More laity (especially women) should be enlisted to help assess, evaluate and reform structures that allowed these tragic situations to exist and continue.

Scripture shows us time and again that God can make good out of evil. My hope is that in this dark time, God will help us to become a more loving, a more faithful church. We need to work hard and to pray hard – for the victim-survivors and for the church!

I invite you to offer Masses with me for the Victims of Abuse on Sunday, August 26 at 9:30 AM and on Sunday, September 2 at 11:15 AM. Please pray for them in your daily prayers and rosaries as well.

In Him,
Fr. Liam

If you are a victim-survivor in need of assistance, please contact someone at the Archdiocesan Office for Victim Assistance: 888.800.8780 * philavac@archphila.org.

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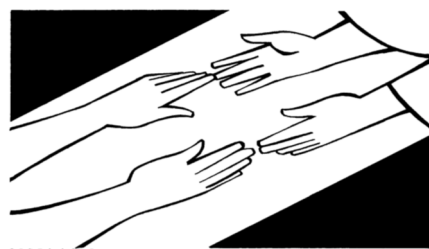


STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE for August 19, 2018

In today’s first reading Joshua challenges the people to decide whom they will serve. Recalling God’s faithfulness to them and to their ancestors, the people declare, “We also will serve the Lord, who is our God.” May we, too, be mindful of God’s gifts to us and renew our commitment to serve God with grateful hearts.

Envelope Contributions	\$4,471.00
Loose Contributions.....	\$814.00
Mailed in	\$2,754.00
Total Offertory Collection	\$8,039.00
Offering this time last year	\$6,846.00
Parish Giving.....	\$445.00

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



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INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

Week of Hosting: Our parish will be hosting the IHN families once again during the week of **September 16 – 23, 2018**. If you can help in any of the following ways, please give us a call:

- If you can help **set-up** the Social Center on **Saturday, September 15 at 10:00am** or **take-down** and pack away equipment on **Sunday, September 23 at 12:15pm**, please call Karen Carey at 610-525-0147, ext. 227 or email kcarey@omgceparish.net or Joe Carey at ext. 262 or email jcarey@omgceparish.net.
- If you can **prepare a meal** one evening of that week, please call Toni Betz at 610-525-4499.
- If you can serve as an **evening host** during the week from 6:00 – 8:30pm or serve as an **overnight host** from 8:30pm to 6:00am the following morning, once during the week, please contact Mary Callan at 610-789-2297 or email mliz82@aol.com.

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

We are looking for parents to assist with our Liturgy of the Word for Children Program. This program takes place at the 11:15 Liturgy each Sunday. The children are called forth and sent with a blessing to the daily chapel. There, they hear the Word of God on a level that is more understandable to them. We are looking for ministers to teach the lessons. There is no training needed and all materials are provided for you.

If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Karen Carey at 610-525-0147.

MANNA

On **September 9**, our children will be handing out Manna Food Bags. The Patrician Society in Norristown will be the recipient of our donations. This time of year their food cupboard runs very low as it is before the holiday season. Please consider taking a food bag, filling it with non-perishable food items, and returning it on the weekends of **September 16 or 23**.

We are grateful for your generosity.

LOCAL TALENT NEEDED

Music and singing enhance Liturgy, promoting deeper prayer and worship. Adult Choir is in need of more male and female voices from soprano and alto, to tenor and bass.

There is also a need for more cantors. All ages are welcome, starting with sixth grade through junior and senior high, college, young adults and beyond! Instruction and training will be provided.

Please contact Jo-Ann Stigliano, Director of Music Ministries at 610-525-0147, extension 238.

SENIOR COMMUNITY GATHERING

The Senior members of our Parish and friends will gather again on **Friday, August 31 at 12 noon** for their monthly gathering in our Social Center of the school building. Folks attending bring their own sandwiches, with beverages and desserts being provided. The theme that was suggested for this time of the year is a trip to **Hawaii**. Wear your most colorful outfit, an "island type hat" if you have one, and enjoy the afternoon with some Hawaiian desserts and activities. Looking forward to seeing you there.

SPIRITUAL READING GROUP

The Spiritual Reading Group will resume its monthly gatherings on **Friday, September 7 at 10:00 a.m.** in the Church Office/Parish Center building. The books we have been reading recently are published by Liturgical Press in Collegeville, Minnesota. The group will begin reading a biography of Flannery O'Connor: *Fiction Fired by Faith*.

In this insightful new biography, Angela Alaimo O'Donnell depicts O'Connor's passionate devotion to her vocation, despite her crippling illness, the rich interior life she lived through her reading and correspondence, and the development of her deep and abiding faith in the face of her own impending mortality. O'Donnell's biography recounts the poignant story of America's pre-eminent Catholic writer and offers the reader a guide to her novels and stories so deeply informed by her Catholic faith.

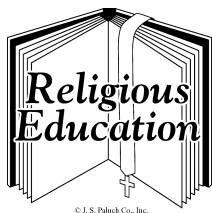
The Spiritual Reading Group usually meets on the **first Friday of each month from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.** If you think you would like to join us, beginning on September 7, please call S. Anne Woodeshick at 610-525-0147, ext. 234 or email her at awoodeshick@omgcp parish.net. Several books are still available for newcomers and more can be ordered if needed.



COMMUNION ANTIPHON

During the month of August at the suggestion of Fr. John, we've introduced a short refrain to be sung before Communion, entitled "This is Jesus" by Jim Cowan. This was a favorite hymn at Fr. John's former parish, where this was sung each week as a communion antiphon.

This composition is perhaps the most popular download at the publisher's website. Cards will be in the pews and you can listen to it on line at the following link: <https://youtu.be/p7-bF1LxOr8>.



PREP INFORMATION

Registrations were mailed to all PREP families that were in the program last year. If you are new to the area, or are in need of registering your child for PREP, please contact Karen Carey at 610-525-0147 for information and registration forms.

All children, ages 4 through 8th grade, are encouraged to participate.

FALL FESTIVAL

Our Annual Fall Festival will take place this year on **October 19, 20 and 21**. We are looking for your help! We are in great need of committee chairpersons or members. The event takes many hands to pull off and is so much fun!

If you are looking for an opportunity to participate in any fashion, please contact Karen Carey at 610-525-0147. Your talent, whatever it is, is needed.

FALL FESTIVAL RAFFLE

We are once again looking for donations for our Fall Festival Raffle. If you would like to create a raffle basket, OR you are in a position to offer some donations such as gift cards, sporting tickets, movie passes, restaurant gift certificates, or any kind of donation, please contact Karen Carey for more details at 610-525-0147.

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TAKE TIME TO GET IN TOUCH...

*with whom you are called to be,
with what God's purpose is for you...
by quiet, reflection, prayer and conversation.*

A Fall Retreat for young adult single women, ages 21+ is being offered by the Sisters of Mercy on **Saturday, September 8 from 10:00am – 3:00pm**. The retreat will be held at the Sisters of Mercy Convent, 515 Montgomery Avenue in Merion, PA. RSVP by August 31 to S. Terry Saetta at tsaetta@mercymidatlantic.org. Response is needed for a lunch count.

TESTIMONY REQUESTED

The Historical Commission for the sainthood cause of Fr. Bill Atkinson, OSA (1946-2006), seeks information on him from the general public. We are asking anyone who knew Fr. Atkinson to contact us and relate what you know about him. No story or encounter is too small. Whether you met him at Msgr. Bonner High School or at Archbishop Prendergast High School, or at any of the parishes where he celebrated Mass or the Sacraments, we wish to have your written recollections. In particular, we are interested in obtaining any personal letters or documents, mementos and unpublished source materials that may be used to foster a greater understanding of Father Atkinson's life. Photographs or videos of Father Atkinson would also be useful. Please give your contact information to us, the Historical Commission for the Cause of Fr. Bill Atkinson, OSA by email at Atkinson.cause@gmail.com or by telephone message to 610-519-6937.

Thank you,
Fr. Joseph Ryan, OSA (chair)



INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES and Autism Help-Line

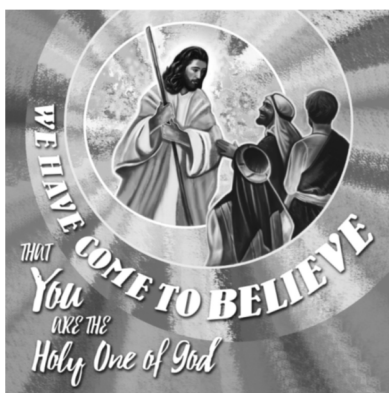
Do you need help accessing services and supports for someone with an intellectual disability or Autism? A collaboration of Catholic Social Services-Developmental Programs, the Office for Persons with Disabilities and the Schools of Special Education of the Archdiocese is offering this convenient help-line to assist families connect to disabilities services provided by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

To reach the **Help-Line** call: 484-472-5041 or email: IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org.

**OUR LADY OF CONFIDENCE
Christian Retreat for Persons with
Disabilities**

A three-day retreat at Malvern Retreat House has been scheduled for **Tuesday through Thursday, October 9, 10 and 11** for adults with disabilities. The retreat is geared for adults with intellectual, physical or emotional disabilities. If you or someone you know would enjoy a three-day retreat that includes having your faith in God refreshed and strengthened, please email OLCRetreat@gmail.com or call Malvern Retreat Center at 610-644-0400 for a brochure and registration form. The registration form is on line at www.opdarchphilly.org.

If you would like to be a volunteer companion on this retreat, contact Ed Seiders at OLCRetreat@gmail.com.



HOUSING AVAILABLE

An offer came in from a woman home-owner who has space in her home to share with someone in need of housing. The home is located on College Avenue in Haverford. If interested in more information, please contact Alexis at 610-420-8731. The woman does not need companion services or housekeeping work done. She simply wants to offer space in her home to someone who is looking for a place to live.

**IMPORTANT REQUEST
Concerning Allergies**

Please do not bring food that contains peanuts, nuts, peanut products or nut products inside the church. Someone sitting near you may have a serious allergy. Thank you.

**Mass Intentions
For The Week** 

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 26

- 7:30 PAUL, MAUREEN & TOMMY BRENNAN
- 9:30 FOR VICTIMS OF ABUSE
- 11:15 CONCETTA D'ORAZIO

MONDAY, AUGUST 27

- 6:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISHIONERS
- 8:00 ROBERT TATAR (2ND ANNIVERSARY)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28

- 6:30
- 8:00 DOMENIC & MARIA DI MARTINO

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29

- 6:30
- 8:00

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30

- 6:30
- 8:00

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31

- 6:30
- 8:00

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

- 8:00

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

- 7:30 CIRO IANNOTTA
- 9:30 MILDRED MURTAUGH (1ST ANNIVERSARY)
- 11:15 FOR VICTIMS OF ABUSE

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