



# Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish Community

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31 PENNSWOOD ROAD  
BRYN MAWR, PA 19010

**March 31, 2019**

## 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 MYSTERY OF RECONCILIATION

The dimensions of reconciliation in today's Gospel (Lk.15:1-3; 11-32) are multifaceted. Nowhere in any other Gospel story do we see the intersection between reconciliation and celebration come to life as it does in the parable of the prodigal son. Luke's story opens with Jesus trying to quell the complaints of the Pharisees and scribes who are annoyed at the fact that he welcomes and eats with sinners. This parable, the longest one of all the parables, opens with a son asking for and receiving his inheritance. What we see here is the younger son cutting ties with his family and having no regrets about his actions.

This younger son squanders all of his inheritance, and he is forced to hire himself out. He takes a job tending pigs. In ancient days, caring for pigs evoked the idea of apostasy and the loss of everything that once identified the younger son as a member of his family and God's people. Hunger and calamity finally bring the younger son to his senses, and he returns home as a hired servant.

The father's all-embracing love for and response to his younger son is what moves that son to take responsibility for what he has done. The gift that the father gives to this wayward son is compassion. Compassion is one of the most consoling, renewing and transforming words in both the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures. In the biblical texts, we see that divine compassion embraces not only human beings but also all sentient beings. Hence, divine compassion, as we see it, embraces all of life. This divine, all-inclusive compassionate attitude toward life is not just a warm and fuzzy feeling; it is an attitude that is at the heart of life-sustaining, life-renewing and life-transforming actions. The father's compassion leads to his younger son's change of attitude and change of heart.

In the midst of the younger son's story is the older son's story. The elder son's anger and self-righteousness make him resentful. Not even the return of his brother will make him want to share in the family celebration. Here, we see once again the pivot of the father's love. The father goes out to the elder son just as he went out to the younger son. He wants them both to be happy. The elder son, however, cannot see this kind gesture. He is caught in his own anger. Yet, his anger is understandable; he is totally frustrated with his father. Now, the father has to be a negotiator. With tenderness, he tries to help the elder son grasp the fullness of what his brother's return truly means. Whether or not the elder son comes to a new place of understanding is not known. What we do know is that the elder son has been invited to celebrate with the family.

Reconciliation has occurred; celebration is to happen. The elder son has been called to the table. We too are called. Reconciliation demands that we "let go" so that we can join in the celebration and the transformation of life into new life.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

We are asked to remember in our prayers:



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Janine Hoffman, Anne Shea,  
Carol Luty, Lori Lesutis  
Fran Ward,  
William O'Donnell,  
Michael and Andrew  
McCaughey,  
Bill and Ella Denny, Karen  
Schubert,  
Pelham McClellen, Jane Shaw

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 Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147 ext. 234.

Baptism  
in  
Christ

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**Baptisms:** We welcome to our faith community Isabella Rose Kobeski daughter of Alexandra & Justin and Nicholas Patrick Castro Lepore son of Karla & Michael who were baptized in our Church recently.



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## Roof Work Has Begun

Dear Friends,

Work on the **roof project** has finally begun! As I write this letter, the workers are constructing the scaffolding on the railroad side of the church. In a few days, we will meet with Miller Roofing and others involved to plan for the next steps.

All during this project, we will have access to all the **entrances** to the church. The only exception to this will be the unavoidable closure of the door into the daily sacristy for a period of a couple weeks. Sorry for this minor inconvenience. The handicapped entrance on the railroad side of the church will always be available, though at present it is only accessible from the rear parking lot.

Sincere thanks to all of you who have donated so far. As of this week we have received 97 donations totaling \$69,120 since the kickoff of our campaign on February 24. Although we now have 65% of the \$1,325,000 needed to complete the whole project, we still have far to go to reach our goal. Again, thank you for your generosity so far. As the literature you received describes, there are many ways to donate including a set amount over several months or even a few years. If you have any questions about doing that through Parish Giving, please give a call to the office.

You can access the latest information and photos of the project at: [omgcp parish.org/roof](http://omgcp parish.org/roof)

**Peggy Juhline**, our Parish Business Manager, has worked at OMGC for 31 years. 18 years at the school and 13 years on the parish staff. Peggy has decided to retire. We hate to see her go!

Donna Descano, who came to us two years ago as our secretary/ receptionist will take over as Parish Business Manager in April. We hired Michele Marchetti as our new secretary/receptionist. She will begin in April and I'll introduce her in this space at that time.

During Lent (and at other times) Father John and I try to visit all our homebound parishioners to offer a chance to receive Holy Communion and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (and Anointing of the Sick if needed). If you or someone in your household, or perhaps a neighbor, are not able to get to Mass because of sickness or old age, please contact the parish office. We will gladly come to visit.

Let us continue to pray for and with each other as we continue our Lenten journeys.

Peace,  
Fr. Liam

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE for March 24

The stewardship message in the parable of the Prodigal Son is that it is never too late to become a good steward. Blessed is the elder brother who had been a good steward all along, but blessed too, is the prodigal who had to lose all he had in order to understand the value of what he's been given.

Sunday Offertory Envelopes.....	\$6,622.00
Non-Envelope Cash Contributions .....	\$797.00
Mailed in Contributions .....	\$1,387.00
Total Offertory Collection .....	\$8,806.00
Offertory this time last year .....	\$8,234.00
On-line Parish Giving.....	\$455.00

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



## UPCOMING LENT EVENT

Join us on **Friday, April 5** for a Lenten Simple Supper followed by a Communal Penance Service. Dinner will be served in the Social Center from 6 to 6:45. We will then move over to the church where our priests will be leading us in a communal penance service.

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

**Meeting:** The Parish Council will hold its next meeting on **Monday, April 1 at 7:30pm** in the Parish Center. Parishioners are always welcome and encouraged to attend these monthly meetings. If you plan to do so, please call President Barry Mulhern at 610-527-5197 or [rmul742@gmail.com](mailto:rmul742@gmail.com).

**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 Dominic DiMartino at 610-525-6442.

## PARISH WIDE MEETING

**Sunday, April 7, 2019**

Our annual Parish-Wide Meeting will be held on **Sunday, April 7 from 12:30 until 2:30** in the Social Center. Lunch will be served.

Fr. Liam will present his state of the parish comments with updates on all relevant parish news, including the roof project and the Roof Legacy Campaign.

In addition, we will welcome back Fr. Dennis McGowan, who will talk to us about the stewardship of time and talent as a ministry to which we are called. We will then engage in a short discussion about increasing participation in our many ministry opportunities.

Everyone is encouraged to attend this meeting to get the latest information about Our Mother of Good Counsel parish and to provide your input. If you can attend, please RSVP by contacting Donna Descano at [ddescano@omgcp parish.net](mailto:ddescano@omgcp parish.net) or call her at 610-525-0147 during regular business hours. Please be sure to indicate the number of people who will be attending so that we are sure to order enough box lunches. Responses are requested by **April 2**.

## LECTORS MEETING

Father Liam will hold a meeting for all current lectors on **Wednesday evening, May 1 at 7:15 PM** in the Church. The meeting will include some time for prayer and reflection on the spiritual and liturgical meaning of this ministry, as well as some practical discussion on how we can better serve God and the parish community through our efforts.

More details to follow as date approaches.



## PREP CALENDAR FOR APRIL

**Sunday, April 14**

**PREP Class**

**9:30-11:00am**

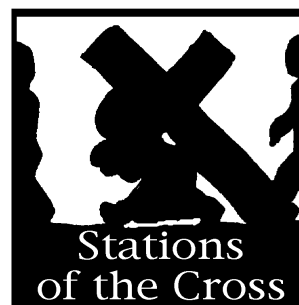
**Gym**

**Sunday, April 28**

**Confirmation Class**

**4:00-6:00pm**

**Social Center**



## LIVING STATIONS

Any ages, 4 through 17, are encouraged and invited to participate in our Living Stations Presentation on **Friday evening, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm**. We are in need of persons to simply be a part of the crowd as well as other roles, so all are welcome! If you are interested, please contact Karen at [kcarey@omgcp parish.net](mailto:kcarey@omgcp parish.net) or 610-525-0147.

We will hold practice on the following dates:

Sunday, March 31 from 12:15 to 1:15pm

Thursday, April 11 from 6:30 to 7:30pm

Practices will be held in the School building unless otherwise notified. The presentation takes about 30 minutes.

## SPIRITUAL READING GROUP

The Spiritual Reading Group will meet on **Friday, April 5 at 10:00 a.m.** in the Parish Center/Church Office building.



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## EASTER CANDY NEEDED

The **OMGC Youth** will once again host an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday following the 11:15 Mass. We are in need of donations to fill the eggs. If you are able, please send in to the parish office or place in the back of church, a bag marked Easter Candy.

We can accept only individually wrapped candy that can fit in the average plastic Easter egg. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

**Youth Group:** All students in grades 6 through 12 are invited to join us in the Social Center on **Sunday, April 14 from 12:15 until 1:30**. We are in need of many hands to help fill Easter eggs and tag some books. Snacks will be provided.

## ST. RAPHAELA CENTER 616 Coopertown Rd. in Haverford

**Women's Weekend III** – from **April 12 at 4:00pm to April 14 at 12 noon**. As Jesus journeyed to Jerusalem, we gather this weekend to continue on our path of life as we reflect upon our baptismal call to be as Jesus was, anointed priest, prophet and king. How do we embrace God's invitation to grow where we are planted, to announce God's good news, and to wholeheartedly "love one another" in our everyday life experiences and relationships? This weekend offers a time away as we prepare to remember and celebrate God's gift, Jesus, during Holy Week and beyond. **Presenter:** Deacon David Schaffer

To **register** call us at 610-642-5715 or email us at [straphaelacenter@gmail.com](mailto:straphaelacenter@gmail.com).

## SPONSORED DAY OF PRAYER April 16 – 8:30am-5:00pm (flexible)

Come for a day of spiritual renewal and discover some peace and quiet in this whirlwind of a life that we all live. We set aside one Private Retreat Day each month for individuals that would like to spend the day in private prayer or quiet reflection at the Center. There is also the possibility of having a session with one of our Spiritual Directors on staff.

**Register** online at [www.straphaelacenter.org](http://www.straphaelacenter.org) OR call us at 610-642-5715 OR email us at [straphaelacenter@gmail.com](mailto:straphaelacenter@gmail.com).

## IHM CONFERENCE CENTER 401 S. Bryn Mawr Ave. in Bryn Mawr 610-581-0120

Join us on **Tuesday, April 9 from 9:30am – 2:30pm** for a Conference Day, entitled "Forgiveness, the Other Side of Love." In a world where violence is escalating, the awareness and practice of forgiveness becomes even more vital. What is forgiveness? Where do we learn to forgive and how can we forgive as Jesus did? Models of forgiveness will be presented as we explore today's theme.

**Presenter:** Sister Beth Woodward, IHM  
**Stipend:** \$40 (includes breakfast, lunch, confession and Mass)

## RETRouvaille

### Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage!

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their Marriages through Retrouvaille (Retro-VIE). If you know of anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass it on. The next program in your area begins on the weekend of **April 26-28** at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register for this weekend, visit our website at: [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

## RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

Our next retreat will be held on the weekend of **May 3 – 5** at Malvern Retreat House, located at 315 So. Warren Ave. in Malvern. The retreat weekend is a beautiful opportunity for emotional and spiritual healing for any woman or man who has struggled with abortion. For more information, contact Nan Freeman at 302-333-1904 or visit [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org).

## MALVERN RETREAT HOUSE 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Golf Classic

Please join us for this annual Spring Golf Classic on **Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>** at the fantastic Whitmarsh Valley CC in Lafayette Hill. Partial proceeds will benefit the area homeless through our Malvern Cares program. Outing includes lunch, championship golf, reception, dinner, live/silent auctions and a golfer gift. Players/donors/ sponsorship opportunities are still available! For more information, visit: [www.malvernretreat.com](http://www.malvernretreat.com).

**ST. MARGARET SCHOOL**  
**“Walk in Wednesday”**  
**Enrollment for prekindergarten**  
**and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

St. Margaret School is rooted in a rich legacy of faith formation, academic achievement and social development. A goal for 2019-2020 remains serving area parishes and providing a quality Catholic education. Your next family blessing could be St. Margaret School located at 227 N. Narberth Ave. in Narberth. **Visit us to learn more of our enrollment opportunity for Prekindergarten 4 year olds and 1<sup>st</sup> grade.** Come on Walk in Wednesday from 9:00 to 11:00am or email for more information. Our diverse school community welcomes you and your family. Email: [info@smsnarberth.org](mailto:info@smsnarberth.org).

**A WOMEN’S INTERFAITH**  
**GATHERING**

**Refugees and Asylum Seekers**  
**Share Their Stories of Exodus**  
**Sunday, April 7 from 3:00 – 5:00pm**  
**Main Line Reform Temple**  
**410 Montgomery Ave. in Wynnewood**

There is no charge for this event, but please consider donating some of the following: paper towels, sponges, dish detergent, toilet paper, facial tissue, deodorant, can openers, razors, etc. RSVP to Linda Finkelstein at [ldfink999@gmail.com](mailto:ldfink999@gmail.com) or 610-331-7136 by March 29.

**CATHOLIC HISTORY LECTURE**

On **Tuesday, April 9 (6pm dinner; 7pm lecture)**, Dr. Mary Ellen O’Donnell will speak on her book, “Ingrained Habits: Growing Up Catholic in Mid-20<sup>th</sup> C America” at the American Catholic Historical Society, 263 South 4th Street. RSVP required. For information, visit [www.amchs.org](http://www.amchs.org).

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**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.

**MASSSES**

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**SUNDAY, MARCH 31**

- 7:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL  
PARISHIONERS  
 9:30 JOSEPHINE DESCANO  
(11TH ANNIVERSARY)  
 11:15 JOSEPH KALINOSKI

**MONDAY, APRIL 1**

- 6:30 RICH SUTTON  
 8:00 LUISETTA DI LEO CONICELLA

**TUESDAY, APRIL 2**

- 6:30 JOSEPH BLONSKI (ANNIVERSARY)  
 8:00 JOANN DALESANDRO

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3**

- 6:30  
 8:00 JOHN & JANET PHILLIPS

**THURSDAY, APRIL 4**

- 6:30  
 8:00 JOSEPH JEANTET

**FRIDAY, APRIL 5**

- 6:30 DECEASED MEMBERS  
& BENEFACTORS OF OSA  
 8:00 TOM, JOHN, BILL, JIM  
& BETTY NEVILLE

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6**

- 8:00 JOSEPHINE DESCANO  
(85TH BIRTHDAY)

**SUNDAY, APRIL 7**

- 7:30 HELEN LUIPERSBECK  
 9:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL  
PARISHIONERS  
 11:15 DIANE SOLANO

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Whoever is in Christ is a new creation;  
 the old things have passed away,  
 behold, new things have come  
 — 2 Corinthians 5:17



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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