



Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish Community

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31 PENNSWOOD ROAD
BRYN MAWR, PA 19010

April 7, 2019

PARISH STAFF

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Fr. John Deary, OSA, Parochial Vicar...Ext. 228

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Fr. Thomas Pohto, OSA, In Residence...Ext. 250

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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

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>

NEITHER DO I CONDEMN YOU

Prior to Jesus' encounter with the woman in today's Gospel (John 8:1-11), he had been teaching daily in the temple while spending his nights on the Mount of Olives. Crowds had been coming to hear him, and this may have angered the scribes and Pharisees, who regarded themselves as Judaism's official teachers. Although they were respected for their astute knowledge of every minute detail of the law, they were also feared because of how they wielded their authority.

Today's Gospel indicates that the accusers of the woman caught in adultery were up to no good. Whether or not they were genuinely offended and wanted to punish the adulteress, they were using her as a pawn to checkmate Jesus. Nothing about the incident gives the impression that they were seeking truth or God's merciful love. Later in John's Gospel, crowds like this will twice be ready to stone Jesus himself.

Preachers, scholars and people in the pews have speculated for thousands of years about what Jesus wrote on the ground. One suggestion is said to have originated with St. Jerome who proposed that Jesus was detailing the sins of the accusers. Whatever Jesus wrote, it failed to dissuade the crowd. But rather than question the woman, he turned to the accusers and dared them to proclaim their own purity or innocence. There is nothing like a well-placed, ironic invitation to expose the shallowness of a mob! Just imagine the look on Jesus' face as he said, "Let the one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."

Jesus knew that while accusing another can elicit feelings of superiority, there are few people so self-unaware and shameless that they would claim perfect innocence in the presence of their neighbors. And if that were Jesus' opening gambit, dread of what he might say next must have been part of what dispersed the entire crowd.

This Gospel incident reminds us that we can choose mercy over misery. Judgment of others is ultimately a weapon of self-destruction as it involves us in creating a world too harsh for fallible people to thrive in. Jesus' mercy is not one of letting people do as they choose, afraid to make any moral judgment, it simply concentrates more on the potential for conversion than on the sins of the past. As Isaiah the prophet says, God is all about creating something new. That goes for each of us and all of us as well.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are asked to remember in our prayers:

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

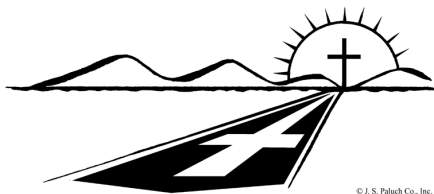
If you need a ride to the doctor, shopping, etc., call Joanne Bramley at 610-457-6638 or call Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147 ext. 234.

Baptisms: We welcome to our faith community Clark Gerald Markowitz son of Lee & Kathleen who was baptized in our Church recently.



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**The Parish Office will be CLOSED on
Good Friday April 19
and Easter Monday, April 22**



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DIVORCED CATHOLICS AND THE SACRAMENTS

Dear Friends,

There is often some confusion among Catholics about Divorced Catholics and the sacraments. Occasionally, I hear people say something like: “My friend is now excommunicated because she got a divorce.”

That statement is not true! Divorced persons are full members of the Church and are encouraged to participate in its activities. The U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults says” “When divorce is the only possible recourse, the Church offers her support to those involved and encourages them to remain close to the Lord through frequent reception of the Sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist.”

If you know someone among your family or circle of friends who think they cannot receive because of divorce, please encourage them to consult with a priest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation or to ask for an opportunity to meet a priest and discuss his or her situation.

A Catholic who had divorced and then remarried outside of the Church is in a different situation. He or she should consult with a priest to discuss their particular circumstances and find out how they might be able to regularize their situation in the sight of God and the Church. If it’s a situation that can be remedied through an annulment, it’s good to know that since the beginning of Pope Francis’ papacy the process has been streamlined and does not require thousands of dollars as it did in the past.

Pope John Paul II wrote: *“I earnestly call upon pastors and the whole community of the faithful to help the divorced and with solicitous care, to make sure that they do not consider themselves as separated from the Church... Let the Church pray for them, encourage them and show herself a merciful mother and thus sustain them in faith and hope.”*

If you have any questions at all about this topic, please don’t hesitate to contact Fr. John or me. We’ll be happy to help in whatever way we are able.

Don’t forget the **Parish-wide Meeting** this Sunday from 12:30 until 2:30 in the Social Center. Lunch will be served. I will present the “State of the Parish” talk, including the roof project. Also, we will welcome 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.

If you can attend, please RSVP by contacting Donna Descano at 610-525-0147 during regular business hours or ddescano@omgcp parish.net. We need to have a number for the caterer for lunch.

Peace,
Fr. Liam



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE for March 31

In today’s second reading, St. Paul says, “For Christ’s sake I have forfeited everything: I have accounted all else rubbish so that Christ may be my wealth.” Does my stewardship suggest that I could say the same?

Sunday Offertory Envelopes.....	\$5,264.00
Non-Envelope Cash Contributions	\$782.00
Mailed in Contributions	\$974.00
Total Offertory Collection	\$7,020.00
Offertory this time last year	\$9,103.00
Electronic Giving of Apr. 1st..	\$4,690.00
On-line Parish Giving.....	\$480.00

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



PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Membership on the Parish Council consists of elected members, pastor's appointees and ex officio members (such as the pastor, the parochial vicar and representatives of various parish committees). We have not held elections for a few years, and they will resume this spring.

We are looking for at least four nominees to run for election for two open positions on the Parish Council. Terms are two years with a limit of two consecutive terms. Service on the Parish Council involves participating in meetings on the first Monday of each month from September through June and also participating in other parish activities like the Parish-Wide Meeting and the New Parishioners Brunch. The qualification for nominees is current active membership in the parish and the approval of the Pastor.

Elections will be held for a three week period that includes the last Sunday of April and the first two Sundays of May. Votes will be submitted in written form with ballots that will be available in the pews and placed in the collection basket, or electronically on the parish web site.

Service on the Parish Council is a way to have your voice heard for the betterment of Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish and to work collaboratively with a number of very good parish staff members and fellow parishioners. If you would like to run for election, or if you can recommend someone whom you believe would be a good representative on the Parish Council, please contact Fr. Liam at liamod@omgcparish.net or 610-525-0147.

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 Ron Hicks at 610-449-2748.

PREP CALENDAR FOR APRIL

Sunday, April 14
PREP Class
9:30-11:00am in the Gym

Sunday, April 28
Confirmation Class
4:00-6:00pm in the Social Center

LENT EVENTS

Join us on **Friday, April 12** for a Lenten Simple Supper followed by a Living Stations performed by the youth of our parish. Dinner will be served in the Social Center from **6:00 – 6:45**. We will then move over to the church where our youth will lead us in prayer through the Stations of the Cross.

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Easter Egg Hunt 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.

YOUNG SINGERS

Looking for young singers ranging from grade school through high school who wish to sing Mass for Our Mother of Good Counsel. You are invited to join with our present group of the Umana family to sing once a month, either on a Saturday at 5:00 pm or a Sunday at 11:15 am. Practice is minimal, usually before Mass, and preparation can be done from home.

For further details, please contact Ms. Stigliano, Director of Music Ministries at the parish office, 610.525.0147 ext. 238.

EASTER LITURGY SCHEDULE

Rehearsals for Triduum Liturgies

Monday, April 15 at 7:00pm – Easter Vigil
 Tuesday, April 16 at 7:00pm – Music Ministries
 Wednesday, April 17 at 7:00pm – Good Friday
 Wednesday, April 17 at 7:45pm – Holy Thursday

Holy Thursday – April 18

9:00 am – Morning Prayer
 7:30 pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper
 10:30 pm – Night Prayer

Good Friday – April 19

9:00 am – Morning Prayer
 3:00 pm – Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday – April 20

9:00 am – Morning Prayer
 7:50 pm – Easter Vigil begins

Easter Sunday – April 21

Masses at 7:30, 9:30 and 11:15 am
 Children's Easter Egg Hunt
 follows the 11:15 am Mass

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CLOTHING DRIVE

**Saturday, May 11, 2019
 9:00a.m. – 2:00p.m.**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be using the services of GreenDrop to support their clothing drive. Look for the GreenDrop truck in the church parking area in the back lot near Barrett Avenue where an attendant will be available to assist you with your donations. Please place your donations of usable men's, women's and children's clothing in plastic bags or boxes. Household items such as: kitchenware, games/toys, small appliances under 50 pounds, electronics, sporting goods, books, CDs and video are also accepted. Unfortunately, furniture, large appliances, TVs or computer monitors cannot be accepted. For a full list of acceptable items visit www.gogreendrop.com. Tax receipts are available upon request.

LENTEN CONCERT

**National Shrine of St. Rita
 Thursday, April 11–7:30pm–Upper Church**

The Collegiate Choir of Philadelphia will present a Lenten Concert in the exquisite sanctuary of the National Shrine of St. Rita of Cascia, located at 1166 S. Broad St. in Phila. Listen to Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross composed by Gounod; and the Stabat Mater composed by Schubert. This Concert is free and open to the public! A free-will offering to benefit the Shrine and its ministries. Free parking next to the Shrine.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

Mangia! Join us at a yummy fundraiser at TECA for the Little Sisters of the Poor! 20% of your bill will benefit the needy elderly Residents at Holy Family Home. Event will be held on **Thursday, April 11 from 11:30am to 10:00pm.** Call the restaurant at 484-420-4010 and make reservations under "Little Sisters of the Poor Day." TECA is located at 191 S. Newtown Street Rd. in Newtown Square. Thank you for your prayers and support!

ST. RAPHAELA CENTER

616 Coopertown Rd. in Haverford

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
 OR call us at 610-642-5715 OR email us at straphaelacenter@gmail.com.

***Care for Creation...a Day of Service
 and Reflection on Environmental Awareness***
April 29 – 8:30am-3:00pm

Highlights of the day include: Outside gardening, Education and Reflection on Pope Francis' Encyclical on "Laudato Si," Resources for going green in everyday living, Mass, Adoration, meditation, spiritual direction. All are welcome!

Cost: \$40.00 (including lunch); Spiritual Direction: To be booked in advance: Sliding scale \$35-\$75.

To Register: See above information.

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)

Women in the Old Testament
“Our Mothers in Faith”
Tuesdays, April 23 and April 30
10:00am – 1:00pm

Many women of the Old Testament stories are our Mothers in faith. Their lives were intertwined with the life of the Israelite people and they are an important part of our salvation history. We will look at such women as Sarah (and Hagar), Miriam, Ruth (and Naomi), and Hannah. This event is a two-day presentation)

Presenter: Sister Marie Gipprich, IHM;
Stipend: \$20 each session (includes lunch)

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 or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



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Mass Intentions
For The Week



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SUNDAY, APRIL 7

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

MONDAY, APRIL 8

- 6:30 JOHN BERRESFORD
8:00 FRANK FARRELLY

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

- 6:30 JOHN CASEY (4TH ANNIVERSARY)
8:00 JOHN PHILLIPS, JR.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

- 6:30
8:00 CATHERINE & THOMAS NEVILLE

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

- 6:30
8:00 MARK, MICHELLE & MICHAEL
CONNOR

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

- 6:30
8:00 JOSEPH GAGLIARDI

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

- 8:00 SARA & JOSEPH BURNS

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

- 7:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISHIONERS
9:30 SALVATORE PETROCCIA
11:15 VINCENZO SALVATI

I consider everything as a loss
because of the supreme good of knowing
Christ Jesus my Lord.
—*Philippians 3:8*

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