Our Mother of Good Counsel

Parish Community

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31 PENNSWOOD ROAD
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February 2, 2020

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. 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 Woodeshick, RSM, Parish Ministry...Ext. 234
Michelle Marchetti, Administrative Assistant...Ext. 221
Donna Descano, 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

GOD IN UNEXPECTED GUISE

by Mary M. McGlone

Luke's Gospel on this Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple (Luke 1:22-40) was a bit like our baptisms. This was the formal dedication of a firstborn boy to the God who gave him life. Like baptism, it symbolized the child's consecration as part of a people of faith moving toward God. In our traditions, some families bring the baby dressed in a gown that has passed through the clan, symbolizing ties of faith that link families and generations.

Beginning with that gown, the signs of light, the anointing, and passing through the water all symbolize dimensions of the Christian life into which the child is being introduced. The family gathered round may not fully grasp the meaning of each sign, but everybody gets in on the act and somehow understands that every member of the community has been changed and their responsibilities have grown because this new person has been brought into their circle. That's the dynamic of sacrament: It does what it symbolizes: it changes us in ways we may not fully comprehend.

Luke's depiction of what happened when Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to the Temple is likewise full of symbol and mystery. Prophets like Malachi had promised that the Lord would one day come to the Temple with a power no one could withstand. Luke's story reveals that only saintly seniors recognize the divine visitation in the guise of the infant child of poor, simple parents. Luke put everything together in this one scene: The parents were fulfilling the law; God appeared in the Temple; the prophets had predicted the coming; the elders celebrated the event. The scene summarized the mystery of God's presence among us: the law, the prophets, tradition and the Temple. And none of it looked like most people would have anticipated.

What are we to take from this memory and celebration? First, it repeats a lesson we resist no matter how often we come up against it: God does not live up to our expectations. God does not act on our agenda nor fit the cast of characters we would plot out for the salvation of the world. God doesn't turn the tables; God creates and transforms. We continuously stand before the mystery of life. If we are open, we can hear the holy prophets remind us how and where God can be found in it.

No matter our starting point, the feast of the Presentation of the Lord invites us to recognize God's fledgling appearances in our world, to marvel at the mystery and to dedicate ourselves to nurturing it. Simeon promised Mary a broken heart. Anna's joy reminds us that there will also be smiles that almost break our faces and laughter that doubles us over in joy and wonder.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are asked to remember in our prayers:
Janine Hoffman, Anne Shea,
Carol Luty, William O'Donnell,
Michael and Andrew McCaughey,
Bill Denny, Lori Lesutis,
Jo-Ann Stigliano, Thomas Kelly,
Johnny Descano
and all who care for those who are sick.

Please call the Parish Office at 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

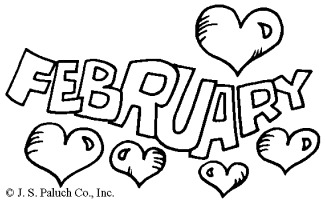
If you need a ride to the doctor, shopping, etc., call Sr. Anne at 610-525-0147 ext. 234.

DECEASED

We pray for the happy repose of the soul of ***Frances Ward*** and the consolation of her family.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Parish Council will hold its next meeting on **Monday, February 3 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Parish Center. Parishioners are always welcome and encouraged to attend these monthly meetings. If you plan to do so, please call the Parish Office at 610-525-0147 and Michelle will notify Fr. Liam until a new President of the Council has been elected.



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2019 CONTRIBUTION LETTERS

The End of the Year Substantiation letter was sent to all parishioners who contributed $600.00 or more to the parish during 2019.

If you did not receive a letter and need an acknowledgement of your contributions, please email Donna Descano at ddescano@omgcparish.net or call 610-525-0147 and a receipt will be provided to you.

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LENTEN RETREAT

March 11th, 18th, 25th, April 1st
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
STV Rosemont Auditorium
Climate, Crisis, Choices:
The Call to Conversion in 'Laudato Si'

The four week retreat will focus on the Four Pathways to Sustainable Living:

Shelter and Energy
Transportation and Travel
Food and Water
Consumer Purchases

For more information, go to:
https://www.pathwaystosustainableliving.org/
Registration information will follow.

CLOTHING DRIVE
Saturday, February 15
9:00am to 2:00pm

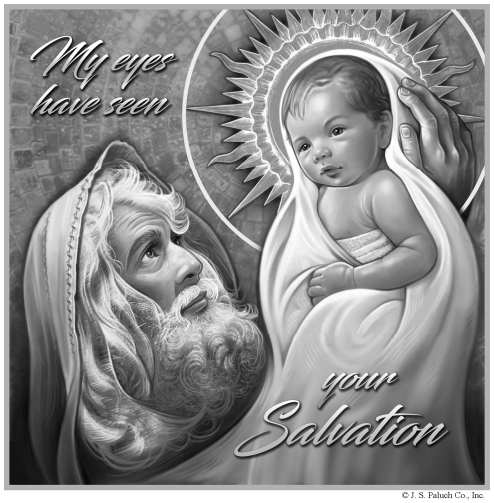
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be using the services of GreenDrop to support their clothing drive. Look for the **GreenDrop** truck in the church parking lot (near our dumpsters) where an attendant will be available to assist you with your donations. Please place your donations of usable men's women's and children's clothing in plastic bags or boxes. For a full list of acceptable items, visit www.gogreendrop.com.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE
for January 26, 2020

When Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple, they offered a sacrificial gift "in accord with the dictate in the law of the Lord." An offering of a specific size or kind is not "dictated" when we bring our gifts to the altar at Mass. Is my gift reflective of the many blessings I have received?

Sunday Offertory Envelopes	$6,806.00
Non-Envelope Cash Contributions	$611.00
Mailed in Contributions	$328.00
Total Offertory Collection	$7,745.00
Offertory this time last year	$7,709.00
On-line Parish Giving	$442.00

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



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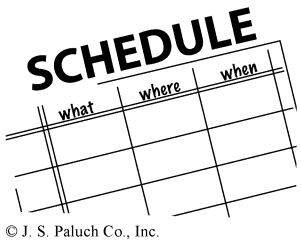
SPIRITUAL READING GROUP
Friday, February 7 at 10:00am

The Spiritual Reading Group began its monthly meetings again on Friday, January 3, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Office/Church Office building. At this first gathering of the new year, we began reading a new book put out by Liturgical Press, entitled ***Oscar Romero: Love Must Win Out.***

Copies of the book are available for those who still wish to join this monthly reading group. If you are interested, please contact Sr. Anne Woodeshick at 610-525-0147 (ext. 234) or email her at www.awoodeshick@omgcparish.net. Our next gathering will take place on **Friday, February 7 from 10:00-11:30 a.m.**



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FEBRUARY PREP SCHEDULE

February 2 – PREP Class – 9:30-11:00am
Family Catechesis:
2:00-3:00pm

February 9 – PREP Class – 9:30-11:00am
Confirmation Class
4:00-5:30pm

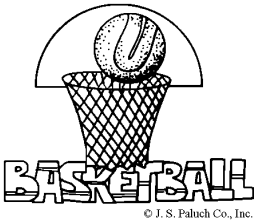
February 16 – Presidents Weekend – No Class

February 22 – Confirmation Retreat
1:00-6:00pm

February 23 – PREP Class – 9:30-11:00pm

YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES

Friday – February 21 – Movie Night. Join us for a movie in the Social Center. Popcorn, soda, and movie lite snacks will be available. Start time – 7:00pm. Movie will be ***A WALK TO REMEMBER.***



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HARCUM BASKETBALL

The Harcum Basketball team has games scheduled right here in our gym weekly. We invite all our parishioners to come and watch some great basketball by our Harcum Bears. Come out and support the team that rents space from us, works with us on Martin Luther King Day, and plays their hearts out! This weeks schedule is:

Tuesday, Feb 4,
Women's game at home at 7:00 pm

Thursday, Feb 6,
Women's game at home at 7:00 pm

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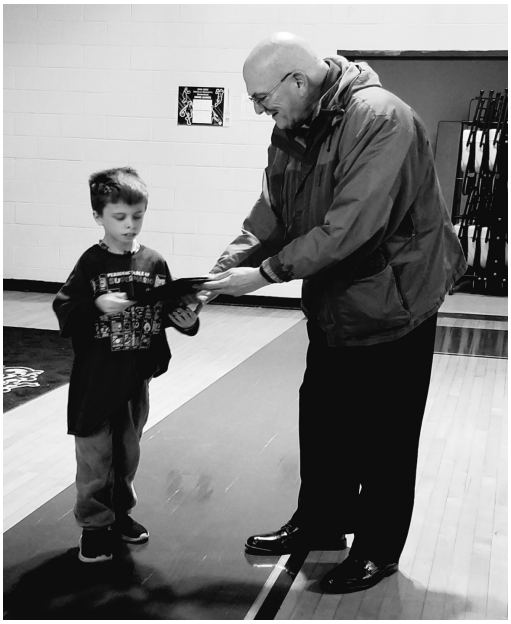
to JACK DAGIT

Jack Dagit, one of our fifth grade PREP students was the recent recipient of our Annual Sean King Memorial Award. The award is given to a child each year who exemplifies Sean's qualities of love, kindness, and friendship. We are so proud of Jack and the example he sets for those around him.



St. Patrick

RAPHAELA RETREAT CENTER

616 Coopertown Rd. in Haverford
Celtic Day of Prayer

March 11 – 9:00am to 2:30pm
The Spirit Seethed in Me:
The Great Hymn of St. Patrick

Come for a day of reflection and celebration, led by Sister Megan Brown, RSM, a dynamic presenter who has done extensive studies of Celtic spirituality. During our time together we will reflect on the beautiful breastplate prayer attributed to St. Patrick. Lunch will be particularly Irish.

Cost: $40.00
Registration:
On-line -www.straphaelacenter.org
Phone - 610-642-5715
Email -straphaelacenter@gmail.com

Dear Parishioners of OMGC,

With all of our students, faculty and staff, we celebrate you and thank you for your generous contribution of gift cards and monetary donations to our IHM Literacy Center. Your gifts enabled many hard-working and deserving adult immigrants to afford "a little extra" for their families this past Christmas.

While the students do not know you personally, they are very aware that "good folks" help us to maintain our facilities. If you are ever in the "hood" of Northeast Philly, please feel free to come and visit. It would be wonderful for the students to meet some of those "good folks" who believe in them, and they, dear friends, will steal your hearts!

Gratefully,

S. Marcille McEntee, IHM
Director of IHM Center for Literacy

ELDERNET OF LOWER MERION

Seeking Volunteers!

ElderNet of Lower Merion needs compassionate, friendly volunteers who can provide escorted rides for lower-income, homebound older adults still living independently in their own homes. Your help ensures that these vulnerable neighbors have access to medical appointments, banks, pharmacies and grocery stores, while providing social interaction and reducing isolation. An online scheduling system means when and how often you volunteer is completely up to you! ElderNet staff are always on hand to assist and answer any questions.

ElderNet volunteers have been helping Lower Merion's older and younger disabled adults to remain in their homes with safety and dignity for over 40 years. For more information, visit www.eldernetonline.org, or contact Liz Hill, Volunteer Coordinator, at 610-525-0706.
Thank you.

THE 1619 PROJECT SYMPOSIUM:

Changing the Narrative in 2020
February 23 from 3:00 – 5:00 PM

Join us at St. Luke United Methodist Church, 568 Montgomery Ave. in Bryn Mawr to hear Maghan Keita, PhD, Professor of History and Director of the Institute for Global Interdisciplinary Studies at Villanova University.

Sponsors: POWER Main Line, Central Baptist Church, St. Luke Church, Main Line NAACP & others. *"Our founding ideals of liberty and equality were false when they were written. Black Americans fought to make them true. Without this struggle, America would have no democracy at all."*

Registration is available on EventBrite. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-1619-project-symposium-changing-the-narrative-tickets-89905115621?aff=ebdssbeac

SACRED HEART ACADEMY INVITATIONS

480 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue in Bryn Mawr

Please join us at Sacred Heart Academy on **Wednesday, February 12th from 4:30 – 6:30pm** for our All School Open House (Grades K-12).

Information and registration is available at www.SHAbrynmawr.org or by calling our admissions office at 610-527-3915, ext. 214.

INVITATION TO HIGH SCHOOL

Scholarship/Entrance Exam

Mount St. Joseph Academy, a catholic preparatory school for girls, invites all interested 7th grade girls to the 7th Grade Practice Test (Pre-HSPT) to be given on **Saturday, March 21 from 8:00 – 11:30a.m**. The Pre-HSPT is a 7th grade edition of the actual Scholarship/Entrance Exam given to eighth grade applicants.

Registration is available online only at www.msjacad.org/practicetest. You will receive registration confirmation via email.

PENNSYLVANIANS FOR HUMAN LIFE

Annual Celebrate Life Banquet

Join PHL Education Services at our Annual Celebrate Life Banquet with special guest speaker Scott Klusendorf, author and President of the Life Training Institute, and Dr. Monique Ruberu, Ob/Gyn, recipient of Margaret Hoffner Award, advocate for life through her medical practice.

When: February 23; Reception 4pm; Dinner 5pm Springfield Country Club, 400 W. Sproul Rd.

Phone: 610-696-0780

Website: www.pennsylvaniansforhumanlife.org

MASSES

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

7:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISHIONERS
9:30 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE RYAN AND ADCROFT FAMILIES
11:15 THANKSGIVING AND IN HONOR OF ST. JUDE AND LIAM DRIES (BIRTHDAY MASS)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

6:30 FELIX BLONSKI (57TH ANNIVERSARY MASS)
8:00 JOSEPH SPYCH

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

6:30 FUMI CURRAN
8:00 NICOLA FALCONE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

6:30 POLLY HOFFMAN
8:00 HAROLD AND ROSE IRVING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

6:30 MR. ANGELO IANNACONE (20TH ANNIVERSARY)
8:00 MAUREEN BARR

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

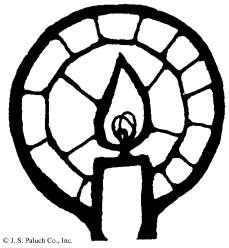
6:30 FRANCES WARD
8:00 JOHN CASEY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

8:00 EDWARD BLONSKI (61ST ANNIVERSARY)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

7:30 OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISHIONERS
9:30 JEANETTE GAGLIARDI
11:15 MADELINE CONLON



FEBRUARY 2020
OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:30 AM PREP	3 7:30 PM Parish Council Meeting	4 1:00 PM Faith Sharing 7:00 PM Augustine Spirituality	5 7:30 PM Adult Choir	6 7:00 PM Discovering Christ	7 10:00 AM Spiritual Reading Group 7:00 PM Roof Thank You GALA	8
9 9:30 AM PREP 4:00-6:00 PM Confirmation Class	10	11 7:00 PM Liturgy Committee	12 7:30 PM Adult Choir	13 7:00 PM Discovering Christ	14	15 9:00AM-2:00PM St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive
16 No PREP	17 President's Day Parish Office Closed	18 7:00 PM Augustine Spirituality	19 7:30 PM Adult Choir	20 7:00 PM Discovering Christ	21 Snow Date Roof Thank You GALA	22
23 9:30 AM PREP 4:00-6:00 PM Confirmation Class	24	25	26 ASH Wednesday 6:300am, 8:00am, 12:10pm & 7:30pm	27 7:00 PM Discovering Christ	28 12:00 PM Senior Gathering 6:00 PM Dinner 7:00 PM Lent Event	29

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