

# Our Lady of Good Counsel

137 West Upper Ferry Road West Trenton, New Jersey 08628

## THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD JANUARY 1, 2017

**Fr. Michael Hall, Pastor**  
**Mmgr. James G. Innocenzi, in Residence**  
**Deacon John Bonner**  
**Deacon Steven Szmuto**  
**Brenda O'Callaghan, CRE**

### Parish Ministries & Services

**PARISH RECTORY & OFFICE** 609 882 3277  
Office Hours: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Fax: 609 882 4375  
Monday thru Friday Website: [olgcc.net](http://olgcc.net)  
E-mail: [olgc@comcast.net](mailto:olgc@comcast.net)

**MASSES** Weekdays:  
Monday thru Friday 7:30 AM  
Saturday 8:00 AM  
Weekends:  
Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM  
Sunday 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM  
Holy Days: 7:30 AM, Noon, & 7:00 PM

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
Brenda O'Callaghan, CRE 883 9005  
E-mail: [religiouseducation.olgc@comcast.net](mailto:religiouseducation.olgc@comcast.net)

**RECONCILIATION** Saturdays, 4:00 to 4:30 PM

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
Deacon John 771 8288  
Rosalie Brenna 883 1792

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** Mondays, 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**  
Deacon Steve 947 0587

**INFANT BAPTISM** Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays at Noon with prior arrangements made at least three months in advance with the Infant Baptism Ministry. Parents are required to attend a parish preparation program. Godparents must be practicing Catholics in good standing with their local parish. See the ministry brochure in parish Literature Racks.

**CONSOLATION MINISTRY**  
Deacon John 771 8288

**MARRIAGES** Arrangements should be made at least one year in advance. Couples are required to participate in a parish marriage preparation program and to attend a pre-marital conference sponsored by the Diocese. Weddings must be scheduled before 2:00 PM on Saturdays.

**HOMEBOUND OUTREACH**  
Rectory Office 882 3277

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** To arrange for the spiritual needs of the homebound or sick, contact the Rectory Office and see the ministry brochure in parish Literature Racks. Urgent sick calls at any time.

**INFANT BAPTISM**  
Mary Szmuto 847 0796

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
Michael Murphy, Grand Knight 575 7699  
Gary Vanderbilt, Church Director 882 8474

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**  
Rectory Office 882 3277

**MUSIC MINISTRY**  
Deirdre Hindley, Organist 882 3215

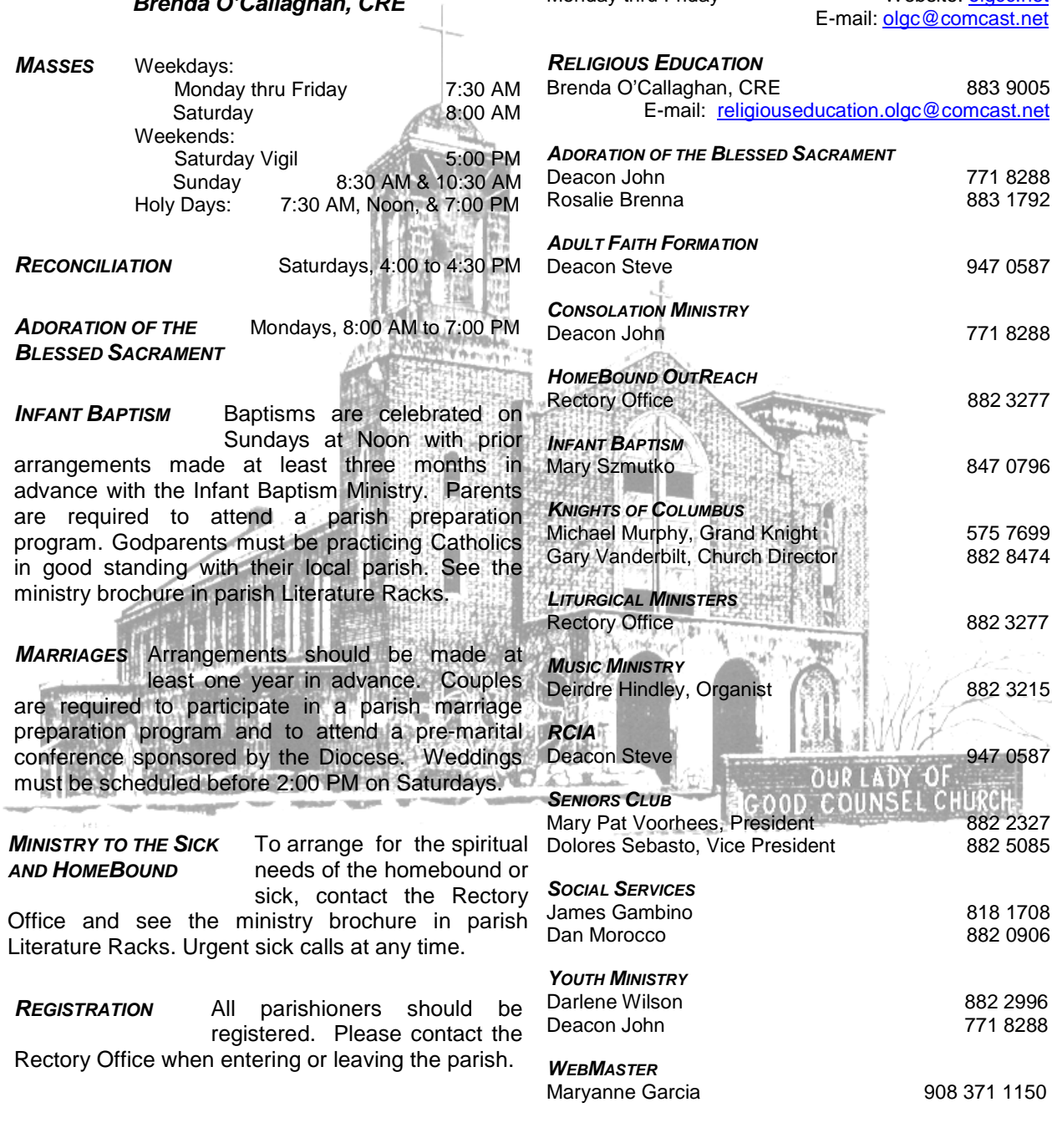
**RCIA**  
Deacon Steve 947 0587

**SENIORS CLUB**  
Mary Pat Voorhees, President 882 2327  
Dolores Sebasto, Vice President 882 5085

**SOCIAL SERVICES**  
James Gambino 818 1708  
Dan Morocco 882 0906

**YOUTH MINISTRY**  
Darlene Wilson 882 2996  
Deacon John 771 8288

**WEBMASTER**  
Maryanne Garcia 908 371 1150



# Schedule for the Week

## MASSES & SERVICES

**Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**  
*The Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary*  
There is no morning Mass.  
5:00 PM People of the Parish  
Marie & William Dolton r/o Helen Marie Dolton  
**Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**  
*The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*  
8:30 AM John Lally r/o Angela & Kees Geurds  
Don Smith r/o Gail Ann Palatine  
10:30 AM Mary DeForte r/o Philomena Muscente  
**Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
7:30 AM Fekete & Walley Families r/o Family  
**Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
7:30 AM Mary DeForte r/o Cellini Family  
**Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>**  
7:30 AM Mary DeForte r/o Kerry, Kevin, & Carol Gallagher  
**Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>**  
7:30 AM Patrick Boisley r/o Aurora Parrella  
**Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**  
7:30 AM Mary DeForte r/o Ron & Lynn Fiori  
**Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**  
8:00 AM Special Intention.  
5:00 PM John Lally r/o Elaine Palatine  
Don Smith r/o Bonny & Jack Kelly  
**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**  
*The Epiphany of the Lord*  
8:30 AM People of the Parish  
John Lally r/o Angela & Kees Geurds  
10:30 AM For the Intentions of Pauline Dauphers & Family  
r/o Harriet & Albert Waranis  
Gerard Finn r/o Nancy Finn

## EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

**Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, Home visits arranged.**  
**Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**  
5:00 PM Elaine Palatine, Mary Szmuto, & Fran Zenchak  
**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30 AM Carol Lake, Michael Lake, & Laura Shea  
10:00 AM *PreferredCare Visits:* Carol Lake  
10:30 AM Vickey Aneser, Tony Jones, & Linda Reasoner  
**Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>.** Reposition.  
Fran Golinski

*May God have pity on us and bless us;  
may he let his face shine upon us.  
So may your way be known upon earth;  
among all nations, your salvation.  
May the nations be glad and exult  
because you rule the peoples in equity;  
the nations on the earth you guide.  
May the peoples praise you, O God;  
may all the peoples praise you!  
May God bless us,  
and may all the ends of the earth fear him!  
May God bless us in his mercy.*

## READERS

**Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**  
5:00 PM Theresa Gregorio  
**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30 AM James King  
10:30 AM Darlene Wilson

## ALTAR SERVERS

**Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**  
5:00 PM Marshall Barrett  
**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30 AM Mary Catherine Shea  
10:30 AM Kevin Toler

## PARISH EVENTS

**December 31<sup>st</sup>:** Morning Mass takes place at 8:00 AM. Novenas follow morning Mass.

Reconciliation will take place at 4:00 PM.

**January 1<sup>st</sup>:** *The Solemnity of Mary*

There are no Sunday Religious ED Classes.

**January 2<sup>nd</sup>:** *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament* is cancelled.

There are no Religious ED Classes.

**January 3<sup>rd</sup>:** The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a social night at the Incarnation / St. James Church Center at 7:30 PM. Everyone is welcome.

**January 4<sup>th</sup>:** The Seniors Club will meet in the Church Hall at 11:00 AM.

**January 7<sup>th</sup>:** Morning Mass takes place at 8:00 AM. Novenas follow morning Mass.

Reconciliation will take place at 4:00 PM.

**January 8<sup>th</sup>:** *The Epiphany of the Lord*

There are no Sunday Religious ED Classes.

Sunday Religious ED Classes will take place in the Church Hall Opdenaker Room from 9:15 to 10:45 AM for Grade 8 students.

## CHRISTMAS GIVING OUTREACH

*Many thanks to all parishioners who participated in this year's gift giving opportunity to help brighten Christmas morning for struggling families in our Trenton Diocese. The turnout was tremendous. Together we helped provide more than 400 gifts to our local Catholic Charities and Mount Carmel Guild. Adult gifts were taken to the Rescue Mission of Trenton.*

*And special thanks to two of our parish families who participated in the Catholic Charities Adopt-a-Family Program this year. Thank you all for your generous support of our outreach program and for caring to help those in need this Christmas.*

# Announcements

## PARISH NEWS

## MARY, JOSEPH, & THE CHILD

**Catholic Preschool & Playdates** This Catholic ministry is geared towards parents and caregivers and their young children. This ministry will hold weekly meetings on Wednesday mornings in the Church Hall from 9:00 AM to Noon with prayer, craft, snacks, and open play time with toys or games, excepting the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month which will be a field trip with no meeting in the Church Hall.

This ministry is open to all who would want to participate: there are no dues; parents or caregivers must stay with their children; it is not a day-care, drop-off style group. Right now, there are about five moms and their children who will participate. For information, contact Michele Solomon at 731 1694.

**Pilgrimage to Fatima & Lourdes** Fr. John Garret extends an invitation to join a pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes from October 7<sup>th</sup> to October 17<sup>th</sup>. For complete details join those attending the pilgrimage at the Parish of the Resurrection on January 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in Delran. Contact Graycar Travel at 800 214 6723 for information and specifics.

**New Jersey Adoption Law Change** Beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>, adoptees and certain relatives will be able to obtain a copy of their original birth certificate without a court order. The birth certificate will include the names of the birth parents who placed children for adoption unless a birth parent requests their name be omitted.

Birth parents who wish to preserve their privacy must submit a *Redaction Request Form* to the New Jersey Department of Health no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year: this *Request Form* can be obtained by calling 866 649 8726, X582.

The Catholic Church has always supported reunions between adoptees and birth parents if such unions are by mutual consent. The Church continues to do so through their Catholic Charities agencies. If you are aware of someone who would be affected by these adoption law changes, suggest that they call a free helpline at 989 4809.

**Holy Land Christian Art** Olive wood carvings from the Holy Land will be available for purchase in the Church Hall on the weekend of January 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Olive wood carvings have evolved as a cultural tradition over the centuries and is dedicated to supporting the Christian community in the holy land.

May we all receive the benefit of having recourse to the holy Virgin and Mother of God. Those of you who are now virgins should be devoted to the mother of the Lord, because it is she who procures for you this fair and incorruptible possession. Truly great is the wonder of the Virgin.

What can ever be found greater than all that exists? She alone has appeared wider than earth and heaven. Who is holier than she? She is unsurpassed by our an-cestors, by the prophets, apostles, or martyrs, by the patriarchs or the Fathers, by the angels, thrones, domin-ions, seraphim or cherubim, or by any other created thing visible or invisible. She is a servant and the Mother of God, a virgin and a mother. And let no one be doubtful and ask how she can be a servant and the Mother of God, or how she can be a virgin and a mother. Accept with faith and do not doubt teachings that have been examined and approved by the Fathers.

Instead, stand in awe and believe without question, or rather, without being inquisitive. If your beliefs correspond to your own ideas, perceive your danger. But if you believe the word that is preached, it is no longer you who must render and account but the bishop. Believe what we say about the Virgin, then, and do not hesitate to confess her to be both servant and Mother of God, both virgin and mother. She is a servant as the creature of him who was born of her; she is the other of God inasmuch as of her God was born in human flesh. She is a virgin because she did not conceive from the seed of man; she is a mother because she gave birth and became the mother of him who before all eternity was begotten of the Father.

She is therefore the mother of the Lord of angels and our mother; from her the Son of God received the human body in which he consented to be crucified. Do you desire to know how far the Virgin surpasses the powers of heaven? Give me your attention then. They veil their faces as they hover in fear and trembling, but she offers the human race to God, and through her we receive the forgiveness of our sins. She bore him whom the angels glorified when they came with reverence to be present at his birth and sang: *Glory to God in the highest, they sang, and peace to his people on earth.*

Rejoice then, mother and heaven, maiden and cloud, virgin and throne, the boast and foundation of our Church. Plead earnestly for us that through you we may obtain mercy on the Day of Judgement and attain the good things reserved for those who love God, through the grace and love of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with the Father and the Holy Spirit be glory, power, and honor now and forever and for all eternity.

*John Chrysostom, 407*

# *Reflection*

# Announcements

## THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY

*And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. (Luke 2: 19)*

Today, we reflect upon Mary, our Blessed Mother, who bore the Christ child and raised Jesus in his humanity. She was the first disciple and remains the greatest disciple and the model for faithful obedience. We honor her as a model for all who strive to follow Christ as his faithful disciples.

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

From the moment of her Immaculate Conception, when by the power of God, she was preserved from original sin, until she was taken up to heaven as celebrated on the Solemnity of the Assumption, Mary was without sin; she was the spotless virgin, the new ark of the covenant, the morning star. Preserved from the corruption of sin, she is honored as Queen of Heaven.

*Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen!*

Despite her wondrous nature, we do not worship Mary as a God. No, that is reserved to God — Father, Son and Holy Spirit — alone. Rather, we revere her for her piety, to her devotion, and to her submission to God's will. Through her choice, she answered the Father's call and bore His Son, nurturing him both before his miraculous birth and throughout his life with complete love, trust and fidelity. She is truly first among all the Saints in the Heavenly Kingdom. We pray to Mary not for her own sake, but to intercede for us on our behalf with her son, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As we bid farewell to 2016 and welcome 2017, in this New Year, let us pray for joy, love and peace for all men and women so that all might live in harmony with the LORD. As we heard in the first reading from the Book of Numbers: *The LORD bless you and keep you! The LORD let his face shine upon you and be gracious to you! The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace!"*

May the peace of Christ reside in our hearts, so that we might be a shining example of his goodness as we offer ourselves in service to proclaim the Gospel message.



*Guido Reni, Nativity at Night, 1640.*

*The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph and the infant lying in the manger.*

*The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger.*

*When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child.*

*All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds.*

*And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.*

*Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.*