

Our Lady of Good Counsel

137 West Upper Ferry Road West Trenton, New Jersey 08628

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 21, 2018

Rev. Michael Hall, Pastor
Rev. Jason Parzynski, 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: olgc.net
E-mail: 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

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 637 0779

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 637 0779

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Mike Narcowich, Grand Knight 558 2450
George Steward, Acting Church Director 883 9173

LITURGICAL MINISTERS
Rectory Office 882 3277

MUSIC MINISTRY
Deirdre Hindley, Organist 882 3215

RCIA
Deacon Steve 637 0779

SENIOR'S CLUB
Mary Pat Voorhees, President 570 290 2373
Dolores Sebasto, Vice President 882 5085

SOCIAL SERVICES
James Gambino 818 1708
Dan Morocco 882 0906

REGISTRATION All parishioners should be registered. Please contact the Rectory Office when entering or leaving the parish.

YOUTH MINISTRY
Darlene Wilson 882 2996
Deacon John 771 8288

WEBMASTER
Maryanne Garcia 908 371 1150

Schedule for the Week

MASSES & SERVICES

8:00 AM **Saturday January 20th**
Special Intention
Youth Mass

5:00 PM Phyllis Conturso r/o Gail Ann Palatine
Living & Deceased Members of the Palatine Family
r/o Elaine Palatine

Sunday, January 21st
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Jessica Masterson r/o Parents
10:30 AM James Conlon r/o Judith Fielding
Dorothy Mikolai r/o Elaine Palatine

Monday, January 22nd
7:30 AM Special Intention

Tuesday, January 23rd
7:30 AM Maria Monaco r/o Vincent & Phyllis Monaco
Msgr. Liam Monogue r/o Harry & Sherry Masterson

Wednesday, January 24th
7:30 AM Anthony Remoli r/o Mary Lou Delahanty

Thursday, January 25th
7:30 AM Emily Lombardi r/o Connie & Lou Cifelli & Family

Friday, January 26th
7:30 AM Nancy Belonzi r/o Mary Lou Delahanty

Saturday January 27th
8:00 AM Special Intention
5:00 PM Fekete & Walley Families r/o Family
John Gusz r/o Barbara Gusz

Sunday, January 28th
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Dorothy Mikolai r/o Debbie & Bob Smith
Martina Ramus r/o Peter Coiante

10:30 AM Alysso Blatt r/o Stan & Joanne Sliwinski & Family
John & Lillian Zuccarelli r/o the Masterson Family

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5:00 PM **Saturday, January 27th**
Anna Adomaitis, Ginny Evans, & Butch Kramer

Sunday, January 28th
8:30 AM Claude LeGall, Mary Anne LeGall, & Mary Szmuto
10:00 AM *Preferred Care Visits:* Mary Anne LeGall
10:30 AM Vickey Aneser, Tony Jones, & Linda Reasoner

Monday, January 29th. Reposition.
Fran Golinski

CONTRIBUTIONS

Registered Parishioners	784 families
Parishioners using envelopes	196
Envelope Contributions	\$5,213.00
Average Contribution	\$26.60
Loose Cash	\$709.00
Contributions for January 14 th	\$5,932.00

*I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.*

READERS

5:00 PM **Saturday, January 27th**
Trish Williams

Sunday, January 28th
8:30 AM Fran Golinski
10:30 AM Michael Delehanty

ALTAR SERVERS

5:00 PM **Saturday, January 27th**
Michael Montagna

Sunday, January 28th
8:30 AM Marshall Barrett
10:30 AM Alex Medwick

PARISH EVENTS

January 20th: Morning Mass takes place at 8:00 AM. Novenas follow morning Mass.
Reconciliation will take place at 4:00 PM.
Our *Parish Youth Group* will celebrate a Youth Mass with music provided by the *Villa Victoria Honey Bee Choir*. A Youth Meeting follows Mass with food, games, and fun. All teens are invited.

January 21st: *3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*
Sunday Confirmation Classes will take place in the Church Hall from 9:15 to 10:25 AM.
Fall Adult Faith Formation sessions will take place in the Church Hall at 6:00 PM.

January 22nd: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows morning Mass in the Church until 7:00PM.
Religious ED classes will take place at Villa Victoria Academy from 4:30 to 6:00 PM.

January 25th: Parents of Religious ED Students who will receive 1st Reconciliation will meet in the Church Hall at 7:30 PM.

January 27th: Morning Mass takes place at 8:00 AM. Novenas follow morning Mass.
Reconciliation will take place at 4:00 PM.

January 28th: *4th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
Sunday Confirmation Classes will take place in the Church Hall from 9:15 to 10:25 AM.

MASS & RALLY FOR LIFE

On Monday, January 22nd, the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, join hundreds of people from all over New Jersey who oppose the killing of the innocent unborn through abortion as we *PRAY & RALLY for LIFE!* This day will be Pro-Life, Pro-Woman, and Pro-Family!

Join Bishop O'Connell for a Mass for Life at 9:30 AM at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption in Trenton. After Mass, we will process to the Statehouse Annex, 131 W. State St. (next to the State House) for the Rally for Life which will begin at 11:00 AM and end at about 1:00 PM. Signs will be provided by NJ Right to Life.

Come to hear Pro-Life Leaders, elected officials, and clergy address the current abortion related issues. Be a Voice for the Voiceless and join us in Trenton!

Announcements

PARISH NEWS

Meals-on-Wheels Volunteers Needed Are you looking for an opportunity where just your smile or a kind word will ease the daily isolation of a homebound person? Then come join as a volunteer with Mercer County Meals-on-Wheels and see for yourself how nourishment is not just about food but also about the soul!

Meals on Wheels delivers meals Monday thru Friday to homebound residents and is in need of both regular (weekly) volunteers and substitutes. Please call 695 3483 for more information or send an e-mail to volunteerservices@mealsonwheels-mercer.org.

Cathedral High School Reunion St. Mary's Cathedral High School Class of 1968 will be celebrating its 50th reunion on June 2nd, 2018 at the Hilton Garden Inn on Route 130. For information, call 902 3133.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Blessed Pope John Paul II once said: *The Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic Adoration. Jesus waits for us in this Sacrament of love. May our adoration never cease.*



The greatest thing in the world that you can do is encourage others and yourself to participate in Adoration of the

Blessed Sacrament: **IT IS THE REAL PRESENCE OF JESUS ON EARTH.** The Blessed Sacrament is exposed every Monday following the 7:30 AM Mass until close at 7:00 PM. Come and rest in the Lord. He is waiting to see you.

*In his presence are majesty and splendor,
strength and honor in his holy place.*



WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Bob Arcaidipane, Mason Brown, Rosemarie Buker, Anthony Carabelli, Mary DeFrancesco, Raymond Dietrich, Nick Gregorio, James & Eileen Keenan, Joe Maloney, Dolores Megyesy, Marie Muscente, Angelika Nirnanjan, Stephen Thoma, Roy Toler, Gary Vanderbilt, Laura Varone, & Marion Vogler; and, all parishioners who are either sick or homebound.

To pray for a family member or friend,
just contact the Rectory Office.

TRUE TO GOD'S WORD

The 1st Reading poses a puzzle that has bedeviled philosophers and theologians. God commands Jonah to tell the people of Ninevah these words: *Forty days more and Ninevah shall be destroyed.*

Now, the people of Ninevah believed that God's words are true, and they repented. And God was pleased with them for believing his words and repenting. But — God's words seem to be false. At any rate, forty days after Jonah's telling the people God's words, the city is still standing. And so here is the puzzle: could God say words that are false, and could God be pleased with the people of Ninevah for believing a falsehood?

Philosophers and theologians have had a lot to say about this puzzle. But here is a simple thought. When God's words call you, God puts your life at a crossroad. You can ignore him and continue stubbornly with your old life, as if God didn't really matter, or didn't really care what you did, or maybe didn't really exist at all. Or you can open yourself to God. You can respond to him with a willingness to trust and obey. But if you do this, you will be leaving your old life behind for a new life that might well have been unimaginable to you beforehand. You won't be who you were before. You will be a new person, in God and for him.

The people of Ninevah respond to God's call in this second way. They believe God's words and will to be obedient to God, and that is why they repent their former ways. As a result they become very different from the people they had been. The whole city becomes a very different city from the one it had been. There are, then, two ways in which the Lord's words to Ninevah can be true. Ninevah can be destroyed either because God demolishes the city or because the people cease to be the Ninevah that they were. Either way, the old Ninevah will no longer exist.

Therefore, God's words to Ninevah were true. When the people of Ninevah responded to God's words with trust and obedience, they ceased to be what they were — and the old Ninevah was destroyed. God's words are always true, and God is always true to his word.

Eleonore Stump, SLU

Reflection

3RD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME



Domenico Ghirlandaio, Calling of the Apostles, 1481.

**Jesus said to them, *Come after me,
and I will make you fishers of men.***

NO GREATER CHALLENGE

The kingdom of God is near! The time is short! Reform your lives, just as the people of Nineveh turned from their evil way. Leave behind your attachment to possessions and security, and come follow Jesus.

There is much for which we have to repent: poverty, hunger, homelessness, discrimination, war, the destruction of the earth and the wasting of its resources. Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed.

The Christian believes what Paul wrote, that the world as we know it is passing away. Ahead lies the kingdom of God, and each of us must choose between solidarity with a world headed for destruction and solidarity with a world ruled by God. Things can change for us, as they did for Nineveh when they believed God, who shows sinners the way and guides the humble to justice.

No greater challenge or higher priority can be imagined than the development and perfection of a theology of peace suited to a civilization poised on the brink of self-destruction.

Gerald Darring,

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we had direct instructions about our lives, like the ones in the First Reading and the Gospel? Instead of going around in a fog and trying our best to remember how to live, maybe how to pray once in a while, and to get to Mass at least on Sunday, wouldn't it be great to be caught up into a command that focused our lives, drew us on like a far-shining star? Yes, but notice that Jonah was quite repelled by the call God gave him. And in the Gospel the disciples surely had no idea what they were getting into when they dropped everything and followed Jesus. Would they have been so quick if they had known about the crucifixion? It is probably best to begin with the beginning of Jonah's story which is several chapters earlier than our present reading.

There God says to Jonah, *Set out for the great city of Nineveh, and preach against it; their wickedness has come up before me.* Jonah does exactly the opposite, like a house cat does sometimes. He drops everything and races off to Joppa and boards a ship to Tarshish, apparently trying get as far from God's words as possible. So God sends a terrible storm. Jonah admits to the crew that he is fleeing God. He says, *Pick me up and hurl me into the sea and then the sea will calm down for you, for I know that this great storm has come upon you because of me.* When nothing else works, with great reluctance, they toss him overboard. The sea turns quiet. Jonah in turn is swallowed by whale.

In residence there, Jonah has plenty of time for retrospection. He prays a psalm-like prayer about what he has done. God hears him and saves him and tells him a second time to go to the great and sinful city of Nineveh to announce the Lord's message. Jonah submits at last and in today's the whole city is converted.

Why in the world didn't Jonah just follow God's command instead of running off in the opposite direction? One speculation is that Jonah did not want Nineveh, the pagan city, to convert and be saved because this city was an enemy of the Hebrews. But you and I both know what it is like to run from what God asks, so we can make our own speculations.

As for the apostles, they didn't run away at all. They followed Jesus almost blindly. Possibly they wanted political action. With Jesus' gentle guidance they found out gradually what following the Messiah really meant. Whereas Jonah had imagined the worst and run away, the apostles imagined the best and ran to follow Jesus. As it happened, they ran into the worst: the passion and crucifixion. Lucky for us all, the resurrection followed since suffering seems to be inevitable in human life, and here was an answer.

Are we running away, like Jonah, or running like the apostles, toward Jesus? Either way you will surely have suffering. But God will keep after you, pulling you out from fishy environments, pushing you, over and over, asking you to learn, in your obedience, what love is really about.

John Foley, SJ