

Our Lady of Good Counsel

137 West Upper Ferry Road West Trenton, New Jersey 08628

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 19TH, 2017

Fr. Michael Hall, Pastor
Msgr. James G. Innocenzi, Weekend Assistant
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
E-mail: olgcc@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
During Lent on Wednesdays, 6:30 to 7:00 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

HOMEBOUND OUTREACH
Rectory Office 882 3277

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.

INFANT BAPTISM
Mary Szmuto 847 0796

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

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.

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

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 Special Intention
 5:00 PM People of the Parish
 John Harbison r/o Elaine Palatine
Sunday, March 26th
4th Sunday of Lent
 8:30 AM James Gambino, Sr. r/o Mary Lincoln
 John Lally r/o the Maloney Family
 10:30 AM Special Intention r/o Family
 David Schino r/o Dolores Brienza
Monday, March 27th
 7:30 AM Joseph Gambino, Jr. r/o Angela & Kees Geurds
Tuesday, March 28th
 7:30 AM Irven Hazel Brown & Grandson & Wife
Wednesday, March 29th
 7:30 AM Sheila Sindora r/o Teer, Shaw, & Gilleo Families
 6:30 PM *Sacrament of Reconciliation*
Thursday, March 30th
 7:30 AM John Abhondanza r/o Norman Buttaci
Friday, March 31st
 7:30 AM Josephine Suozzi r/o George & Sophie
 Guzikowski
 7:00 PM *Stations of the Cross*
Saturday, April 1st
 8:00 AM Special Intention
 5:00 PM Joseph Gambino, Jr. r/o Melissa & Chris Haley
Sunday, April 2nd
5th Sunday of Lent
 8:30 AM John Ola Fasusi r/o Josephine Fasusi
 John Lally r/o Carol & Mike Lake
 10:30 AM People of the Parish
 Angela Jarembak Mignone r/o David & Amanda
 Freytak

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Friday, March 31st, Home visits arranged.
Saturday, April 1st
 5:00 PM Vickey Aneser, Elaine Palatine, & Mary Szmuto
Sunday, April 2nd
 8:30 AM Joan Fallon, Fran Golinski, & Mary Szmuto
 10:00 AM *PreferredCare Visits:* Mary Anne LeGall
 10:30 AM Tony Jones, Carol Lake, & Michael Lake
Monday, April 3rd, Reposition.
 Thomas Voorhees

SENIORS' CLUB NEWS

Thirty-Two members were present at the last meeting including one guest. The Club is in the process of updating its membership list: should a member need to update their membership information, contact Linda Solinski at 883 0350.

Sandy Jones and Judy Totten are planning an *Ice Cream Social* for the June meeting as well as our *Annual Picnic* in August.

Refreshments for the April meeting will be provided by Joan Keefe, Joan Pattera, and George Steward. Please remember to bring a non-perishable food item for our Food Pantry.

READERS

Saturday, April 1st
 5:00 PM Theresa Gregorio
Sunday, April 2nd
 8:30 AM James King
 10:30 AM Patricia Williams

ALTAR SERVERS

Friday, March 31st, Stations of the Cross
 7:00 PM Mary Catherine and Nora Shea, & Connor Greig
Saturday, April 1st
 5:00 PM Alex Medwick
Sunday, April 2nd
 8:30 AM Mary Catherine Shea
 10:30 AM Marshall Barrett

PARISH EVENTS

March 25th: Morning Mass takes place at 8:00 AM. Novenas follow morning Mass.

Reconciliation will take place at 4:00 PM.

March 26th: *4th Sunday of Lent*

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

March 27th: *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament* will take place from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM. The Rectory-side door of the Church will be open.

Religious ED Classes will take place at Villa Victoria Academy from 4:30 to 6:00 PM, Grades 1 - 7.

March 28th: The Children's Home Society will meet in the Church Hall at 7:00 PM.

March 29th: *Catholic Preschool* will meet in the Church Hall from 9:00 AM to Noon.

During Lent, *Reconciliation* will be take place at 6:30 PM.

March 31st: *Stations of the Cross* will be prayed at 7:00 PM.

April 1st: Morning Mass takes place at 8:00 AM. Novenas follow morning Mass.

A *Retreat for First Communion* Students will take place in the Church Hall at 10:00 AM.

April 2nd: *5th Sunday of Lent*

CONTRIBUTIONS

Registered Parishioners	771 families
Parishioners using envelopes	214
Envelope Contributions	\$4,769.00
Average Contribution	\$22.29
Loose Cash	\$630.00
Contributions for March 19 th	\$5,399.00

Announcements

PARISH NEWS

Easter Egg Hunt Our annual Parish Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, April 8th at 10:00 AM on the Rectory grounds. All children ages 5th grade and under are invited to attend.

Help is needed to make the hunt a success. Con-firmation students in need of service hours are encouraged to help. Please contact Joyce Christensen at 651 0466 if you have any questions or if you can donate your time. In the event of inclement weather, the hunt will take place in the Church Hall.

Cinderella Villa Victoria will present *Cinderella*, a Rogers and Hammerstein classic, on Saturday, March 25th at 7:00 PM and on Sunday, March 26th at 3:00 PM. Tickets at the door are \$16.

Children's Home Society Bingo The Children's Home Society of New Jersey will hold a Designer Handbag Bingo on Friday, May 5th at 7:00 PM in the Church Hall to benefit the foster care program of the Society. Tickets purchased in advance are 30\$ per person or 35\$ at the door. For information and ticket sales contact Maureen Killeen at 732 616 5312.

Iron Mikes Gala The Trenton Catholic Academy School community invites everyone to attend the *Iron Mikes Gala* on April 22nd at 6:00 PM at Cedar Gardens in Hamilton. Here we will honor Most Reverend Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M., Judith Persichilli, alumni Marty Flynn, Rick Dell, and former teacher Mr. Jack Lally who will be honored posthumously. Ticket and sponsorship details at <https://trentoncatholic.org> is available or by contacting Tracey Destribats at 586 3705, X 135.

Knights Membership On the weekend of March 25th and 26th, the Ewing Council of the Knights of Colum-bus will have members at the doors of the Church to give information and answer questions about membership in their fraternal organization. Please stop by on your way out of Mass.

In addition, the Ewing Knights will host an Open House on Wednesday evening, March 29th beginning at 6:30 PM in the Church Hall . . . come and see who we are and what we do. Learn how to help our parish, the needy, and to serve our community. For information, contact Grand Knight Mike Murphy 575 7699.

FAITH IN OUR FUTURE UPDATE

The next phase of the *Faith In Our Future* initiative commenced on March 9th with a Cohort Training session for Mercer County Cohorts teams at Trenton Catholic Academy.

As you know from the Fall, Our Lady of Good Counsel will be collaborating on resources and ministries with Incarnation / St. James Church. Each parish has a five-member implementation team: for Incarnation / St. James the team will be Fr. Tom Morris, Pete Brennan (Chairperson), Dan and Nina Gowaty (Secretary), and Joe Bogdan; for Our Lady of Good Counsel the team will be Fr. Mike Hall, Patricia Williams, Mary Lincoln, Darlene Wilson (Co-Secretary), and George Steward. Organized by the Diocesan Implementation Commission and run by the Reid Group, we were introduced to the process of developing Collaborative ministries along the lines of the Bishop's directives.

Our two parish teams will have our first planning meeting this week under the guidance of Pat Stokley from the Diocesan team and he will lead us through the initial planning steps. Thereafter, we will identify areas where we can collaborate as a Cohort beginning on July 1st. We must turn in our 2017 plan to the Diocese by May 31st along with a 5-year plan detailing additional progression of sharing resources as well as connecting the plans to greater Evangelization.

We will strive to keep parishioners updated as we begin this new era of parish cooperation and sharing through Cohort development.



Capital Singers of Trenton The Capital Singers of Trenton (CST) honors American composers from William Billings to Billy Joel in its *America Sings!* concerts featuring solos, small ensemble pieces, and full choral masterpieces spanning the 1700's to today. CST invites its audience to experience the nation's rich musical history in two of the region's architectural and acoustic treasures: Princeton Abbey, formerly St. Joseph's Seminary, at 4:00 PM on Saturday, April 29th and Sacred Heart Church, listed on both the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places, at 4:00 PM on Sunday, April 30th.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.capitalsingers.org or call 609-434-2781.

Reflection

REACHING OUT

During these few weeks of Lent, we read three beautiful stories from John's Gospel about people who encountered Jesus: they are the story of the Samaritan woman, the story of the man born blind, and the story of the raising of Lazarus.

The story of the Samaritan woman and the man born blind are moving illustrations of the way that Jesus reaches out to people: he doesn't always wait for people to come to him; he likes to take the initiative especially when the timing is right. Oftentimes, these initiatives are chance encounters.

Jesus just happened to be at the Well of Jacob when the Samaritan woman came to draw water, at a time when most people would have already filled their water jars for the day, because she was an outcast in her own community and did not want to meet anyone. He could have said nothing to her or have just exchanged pleasantries; but, he choose in his mercy to reach out to her instead. In the brokenness of her past, this woman was isolated and separated from her community; but, in her encounter with Jesus, she is transformed from suspicious outsider full of doubts and misunderstandings to a spiritual seeker who finally becomes an evangelist sharing the news of her belief in Jesus. Jesus pours out his mercy and forgiveness like living water . . . purifying, cleansing, and renewing her heart.

Lent invites us to seek God's mercy too; and, just as we seek God we come to know that God is also seeking us . . . taking the initiative so that we might lead lives that bring us close to him. No one is excluded. These stories in John's Gospel, particularly concerning the Samaritan woman, show us that Jesus reaches out to people who feel rejected and alone. No sin is so great that it turns him away. No one is a complete failure or a hopeless cause. Anyone who feels embarrassed, ashamed, or defined by their sin needs to know that this is not how Jesus sees them: he sees all of us as beloved children of his Father. No matter who we are or how we feel about ourselves, Jesus is reaching out to us . . . just as we are or where we might be . . . wanting to share his love and his very being with us.

When Jesus spoke to the Samaritan woman about her life and sin, she did not respond in fear. She didn't even seem ashamed. Instead, she was in awe. She was touched by the mercy of Jesus and made new: he offered her a new life and to set her free; he offered her his love that would fill-her-up and change her . . . and it did. By the grace and discipline of this Lent, Jesus is reaching out to each of us also wanting to fill-us-up with his mercy and love which like a spring of water will well-up within us and bring us to eternal life.



Healing the Blind Man, El Greco, 1570

*Jesus smeared clay on the man's eyes and said to him,
Go wash in the pool of Siloam.*

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