

Our Lady of Good Counsel

137 West Upper Ferry Road West Trenton, New Jersey 08628

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH

DECEMBER 31, 2017

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: 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.olgcc@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 Joseph Gambino, Jr. r/o Mom & Dad
5:00 PM Marie & William Dolton r/o Helen Marie Dolton
Gofus & Palatine Family r/o Gail Ann Palatine
Sunday, December 31st
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
8:30 AM People of the Parish
Dorothy Mikolai r/o Mike & Carol Lake
Pat, Anthony, & John Muscente r/o Joan
10:30 AM Muscente
5:00 PM *Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of Mary*
Special Intention
Monday, January 1st
The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
9:00 AM James Aversano r/o Mary-Ellen Schragger
Tuesday, January 2nd
7:30 AM Fekete & Walley Families
Wednesday, January 3rd
7:30 AM Joseph Borgia r/o Eileen Masterson
Thursday, January 4th
7:30 AM For the Intentions of Sharon Cameron r/o Eileen &
Harry Masterson, Sr.
Friday, January 5th
7:30 AM Louis Esposito r/o OLGCC Seniors Club
Saturday January 6th
8:00 AM Special Intention
5:00 PM Godfrey Schroth r/o Elaine Palatine
Don Smith r/o Ann Smith & Family
Sunday, January 7th
The Epiphany of the Lord
8:30 AM People of the Parish
Dorothy Mikolai r/o Mike & Carol Lake
Nicholas Pratico r/o Lynn Lally
10:30 AM Jacqueline r/o Judith Fielding
Michael Daderko r/o the Masterson Family

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday, January 6th
5:00 PM Anna Adomaitis, Jacqueline Crane, &
Elaine Palatine
Sunday, January 7th
8:30 AM Carol Lake, Michael Lake, & Thomas
Voorhees
10:00 AM *Preferred Care Visits:* Claude LeGall
10:30 AM Vickey Aneser, Tony Jones, & Brenda
O'Callaghan
Monday, January 8th. Reposition.

CHRISTMAS GIFT GIVING THANKS

A special 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 482 gifts to Catholic Charities of Trenton and Mount Carmel Guild.

Thanks also who participated in the Adopt-a-Family program this year and to our Social Service Committee members and other volunteers who helped process these gifts. May all have a Merry Christmas.

READERS

Saturday, January 6th
5:00 PM Theresa Gregorio
Sunday, January 7th
8:30 AM Mary Anne LeGall
10:30 AM Linda Schmeirer

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday, January 6th
5:00 PM Marshall Barrett
Sunday, January 7th
8:30 AM Chris Corban
10:30 AM James Gummel

PARISH EVENTS

December 30th: Morning Mass takes place at 8:00 AM. Novenas follow morning Mass. Reconciliation will take place at 4:00 PM.
December 31st: *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph*
There are no Sunday Confirmation Classes or Adult Faith Formation sessions.
The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, which is typically a Holy Day of Obligation on January 1st, does not carry the obligation to attend this year because it falls on a Monday. We will still celebrate Mass for the Solemnity at 5:00 PM this Sunday, December 31st and on Monday, January 1st at 9:00 AM to afford an opportunity for all to begin the New Year with the Sacrament of the Eucharist.
January 1st: *The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God*
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is cancelled. There are no Religious ED classes.
January 2nd: The Knights of Columbus Council 3756 will sponsor a social night at the Incarnation / St. James Church center at 7:30 PM. Everyone is welcome.
January 3rd: The Seniors Club will meet in the Church Hall at 11:00 AM.
January 6th: Morning Mass takes place at 8:00 AM. Novenas follow morning Mass. Reconciliation will take place at 4:00 PM.
January 7th: *The Epiphany of the Lord*
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.

*The shepherds went in haste and found
Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.
This day a light has shone upon us,
for the Lord is born to us.
He will be called Prince of peace
and his reign will be without end.*

Announcements

PARISH NEWS

New Year's Eve Party St. Raphael - Holy Angels Elderberry Club will throw a New Year's Eve Party on Sunday, December 31st from 6:30 PM to 1:00 AM in the Parish Center in Hamilton. Live music, hot buffet catered by Amari's, \$35 per person, BYOB: call 802 1711 for tickets.

March for Life Join fellow parishioners as well as 100,000 others from all over the U.S. for the 2018 March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Why? . . . it's a great way to stand up for life with an up-beat crowd of people of all ages. When? . . . January 19th. How? . . . Sign-up for a seat on a bus leaving OLGCC.

The bus will leave the OLGCC parking lot at 8:15 AM: pack a lunch for the bus: departure from D.C. at 4:00 PM; dinner break at the Whitemarsh Mall Food Court; the cost is \$25 per seat. For more details and ticket purchases, call Deacon Golazeski at 538 8727.

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@mealson-wheelsmercer.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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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.

PEACE CONSOLATION GLORY

In the Gospel Reading, Simeon is waiting in the Temple, because the Holy Spirit has revealed to him that he will meet the Messiah there. When Simeon does finally see Jesus, the Gospel tells us, Simeon had been waiting a long time.

Waiting can be so hard. Think of the young mother waiting for lab results about her cancer or the women waiting for news about her son in Afghanistan. Think of the aspiring novelist waiting to hear if the press will accept his manuscript or the scientist waiting to know if his life's work will be honored with a great prize. Peace is so often lost by such a wait.

While a person is waiting, he is anxious — what if the thing he is waiting for never comes? And he is sad or sorrowful, because he does not yet have the thing he wants and is waiting for. Then there's the undeniable humiliation of having to wait. A person who waits knows that what he wants depends on things outside his own control. Having to wait brings home to him his vulnerability and neediness.

And so look at what Simeon says when his wait is finally over and he sees Jesus. Seeing this baby, Simeon says, let Simeon die in peace. This baby overturns anxiety and brings peace — not a theoretical kind of peace which has no purchase on a person's emotions, but real peace, the kind that brings with it easy breathing. And why peace? Because, as the Holy Spirit revealed to Simeon, this baby is God's consolation for all his people. If God himself gives a person consolation, he will have God's peace as well.

And, finally, this peace is not the kind of peace that makes a person ready to accept defeat with resignation. No, on the contrary: it makes a person rise to glory. That is why Simeon says in his prayer that this baby brings glory to God's people. And so here is the thing for us to think about at Christmas time. In our anxieties, in our sorrows, in our defeats and humiliations, can we turn and look at this baby? No matter what anxiety, sorrow, or defeat the world has given us, nothing can take this baby away from us. Our consolation, our peace, and our glory lie with him.

Eleonore Stump, SLU

Reflection

THE HOLY FAMILY

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

On this, the Solemnity of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, we are reminded that Our Lord, although the Eternal Word of God, became flesh, sharing with us the fullness of humanity. For most of his life, he lived with Mary, His Blessed Mother, and Saint Joseph, who assumed the role of Jesus' earthly father. Particular to their time, the family lived as families do today: living in the circle of their household and community, sharing joys, sorrows, hopes, fears, work, worship, celebrations, and sorrows. Under the watchful eyes of Mary and Joseph, the infant Jesus grew to maturity in the small village of Nazareth, learning the ways of the Jewish people and preparing for adulthood. And yet, Jesus was destined to be, in his divinity, the focal point for all men and women, the light that shines in the darkness.

At the time of purification in Jerusalem, Simeon, a righteous and devout man, foretold with great insight, the destiny of Jesus. Simeon, who had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord, said to Mary: *Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel; and, to be a sign that will be contradicted and you yourself a sword will pierce so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.* Anna, a prophetess who worshiped in the temple night and day, echoed Simeon's words: *She gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem.*

As we come to the end of the calendar year, let us reflect upon the nature of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Together, they serve as the model for all family life, so that we might be inspired to journey in fidelity to God. As we begin 2018, may we grow in faith, hope and love to a deeper and richer relationship with God. And as witnesses to the Gospel, let us shine forth as disciples, sharing the Gospel to all those whom we encounter in our daily lives.

Deacon Steven Szmutko



Rembrandt, Simeon, Propetess Anna, and the Child, 1669.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. There was also a prophetess, Anna.



WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Bob Arcaidipane, Mason Brown, Rosemarie Buker, Mary DeFrancesco, Raymond Dietrich, Nick Gregorio, Joe Maloney, Dolores Megyesy, Marie Muscente, Angelika Niranjan, Jeff Papp, Stephen Thoma, Roy Toler, Gary Vanderbilt, Joel Van Ness, Laura Varone, & Marion Vogler; and, all parish-ioners who are either sick or homebound.

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

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