



Our Lady of Good Counsel

www.olgcc.net

March 23, 2025

Tel: 609-882-3277

Fax: 609-882-4375

Fr. Ariel Robles, Pastor

Email: FrAriel@olgcc.net

Deacon Steven Szmuto

Email:

Deaconstevenszmuto@gmail.com

Brenda O'Callaghan, CRE

Email: olgc.re.wt@gmail.com

PARISH WEBSITE: WWW.OLGCC.NET

PARISH EMAIL:

RECTORYOFFICE@OLGCC.NET

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday 7:30 am

Saturday – 8:00 am

Monday's of Holiday Weekends - Daily

Mass time moves to 8:30 am

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday – 5:00 pm

Sunday – 8:30 am and 10:30 am

Confessions Saturday: 4:00 to 4:30 pm

Holy Days

7:30 am, 12 Noon & 7:00 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of every month 8:00 am to

7:00 pm

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

Parish Secretary:

Monday-Wednesday Debbie Smith

Webmaster/Bulletin 609-882-3277

Email: dsmith@olgcc.net

Administrative Assistant:

Thursday-Friday Mary Szmuto

Email: Mszmuto@olgcc.net

Third Sunday of Lent



Our Lady of Good Counsel Church

137 West Upper Ferry Road, West Trenton, NJ

Parish Ministries & Services

Parish Rectory & Office

609-882-3277

Office Hours:

Fax: 609-882-4375

M–F 9AM to 3PM

Religious Education—Brenda O'Callaghan, CRE

E-mail: olgc.re.wt@gmail.com

609-883-9005

Adoration Tom Hankinson

609-731-4542

Adult Faith Formation/RCIA

Deacon Steve Szmuto

609-947-0587

Altar Mary Pat Voorhees

570-290-2373

Consolation Ministry Mary Szmuto

609-882-3277x3

Infant Baptism Mary Szmuto

609-847-0796

Liturgical Ministers Mary Szmuto

609-882-3277x3

Mary's of Mary-Mary Arcadipane

609-883-7620

Music Ministry Deirdre Hindley

609-882-3215

Sr.'s Club Mary Pat Voorhees, Pres.

570-290-2373

Dolores Sebasto, Vice President

609-882-5085

Social Services James Gambino

609-818-1708

Ewing Knights of Columbus #3756

Bob Smythe, Deputy GK: NJ Bob10@Verizon.net

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM	MARCH 22, 2025 M/M James Russell r/o M/M Mike Giglio Family Special Intentions
SUNDAY, 8:30 AM	MARCH 23, 2025 Third Sunday of Lent Jill Haggerty r/o Nancy Finn Edward V. Holland, Jr. r/o Hope People of the Parish
10:30 AM	Shirley O'Dowd r/o Judy Fielding r/o Keenan Family Joan Muscente r/o Aunt Marie & Fam
MONDAY 7:30 AM	MARCH 24, 2025 For an Increase in Vocations
TUESDAY 7:30 AM	MARCH 25, 2025 The Annunciation Fekete & Walley Family r/o Family Gertrude Arcadipane r/o Mary
WEDNESDAY, 7:30 AM	MARCH 26, 2025 Poor Souls in Purgatory
THURSDAY, 7:30 AM	MARCH 27, 2025 Frank & Mildred Ryba r/o Daughter & Son-in-law
FRIDAY, 7:30 AM	MARCH 28, 2025 Poor Souls in Purgatory
7:00 PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS	
SATURDAY, 8:00 AM	MARCH 29, 2025 Priest's Intention
5:00 PM	Barbara Ann Gusz r/o Jane & Larry Kammer Antonio Muscente r/o Dave & Donna Collins
SUNDAY, 8:30 AM	MARCH 30, 2025 Fourth Sunday of Lent Jean Muscente r/o Aunt Marie & Fam. Frank Mattis r/o Mary Arcadipane
10:30 AM	Donna J. Morello r/o Joseph Massone People of the Parish

COLLECTION REPORT

Registered Parish Families	698
Parishioners using envelopes	105
Envelope Contributions	\$2,455.00
Average Contribution	\$23.38
Loose Cash	\$815.00
Total Contributions March 16:	\$3,270.00

Thank you for your generosity!

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FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM:

<https://www.instagram.com/olgcchurch/>



Readers

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM	MARCH 29 Chaya Collazzo
SUNDAY, 8:30 AM	MARCH 30 Keri Wilkes
10:30 AM	Maeve Cannon

Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM	MARCH 29 Ginny Evans
SUNDAY, 8:30 AM	MARCH 30 Dennis Hice
10:30 AM	Tony Jones

Altar Servers

FRIDAY, 7:00 PM	MARCH 28 STATIONS of the CROSS Ryan Spina, Daniel Wilkes
SATURDAY, 5:00 PM	MARCH 29 Alan Colazzo
SUNDAY, 8:30 AM	MARCH 30 Brayden Spina, Daniel Wilkes
10:30 AM	Dylan Rutkowski, Ryan Spina

News & Events

March 22-23 Ewing Knights Diaper Drive ends.

Sunday, March 23, Adult Faith Formation will meet in the Parish Hall from 6-8:00 pm.

Monday, March 24, Religious Education Classes from 6-7:15 PM in the Parish Hall.

Friday, March 28 Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 22, Novenas in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and St. Jude follow morning Mass. Reconciliation 4-4:30 PM.

Collection for Catholic Relief March 29-30



Pray for our Sick:

Jennifer Andres, Kevin Baker, Rosalie Baldanzi, Erin Barbato, Col. Gabriel Beck, Rosemarie Buker, Richard Cook, Marilyn Dablewski, Jack Devlin, Al Gatto, Leo Genovesi, Brian Gershon, Phil Glaser, Sandra Goeke, Elizabeth Gonzalez, Theresa Gregorio, Sherri Hanlon, Eileen and James A. Keenan, IV, Mary Lou Kramli, Carol Lake, Laura Lynch, Maria Matteo, Kevin Mattis, Kevin McBride, Keith Mello, Joan Moore, Marie Muscente, Kim Nash, Angelika Niranjan, Debbie Paterson, Carol Perrine, Dominic Petito, Gadiel Quiroga, Tom Ryan, Lucy Saganowski, Vincent Schnell, G. Welly Samuels, Debbie Sattler, Gregory Schafer, Steve and Pamela Schmierer, Dolores Sebasto, Kristy Shanahan, Linda Solinski, Dorothy Stanley, Brenda Thornley, Erin Cahill Wetzell, Peter Wojciechowski, Stanley Wrobel and all parishioners who are sick or homebound. Please call the parish office to add a name to the prayer list and to inform us when all is well so we may take a name off the list.



“For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none” (Gospel)

Reflection

Reading I: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15

Responsorial Psalm: 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

*“Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; if it may bear fruit in the future. If not, you can cut it down.”
(Luke 13: 8-9: The Parable of the Fig Tree)*

Although Lent is often seen as one of the gloomier times of the liturgical year, beginning as it does in the last gasps of winter, today’s Gospel reading reminds us of the continued renewal of God’s covenant with His people. The crocuses, poking their stems through the last vestiges of winter snow, remind us that the earth will soon burst forth with new life. So too, the promise of Easter can be seen even in the midst of Lenten repentance as we turn our faces to Jesus Christ. Like the fig tree, we may not always be fruitful. We may often stumble and fall on our journey. There may be times when we turn away from the face of God who reaches ever out to us in loving relationship. Yet, ever the LORD cultivates his garden within us so that one day we might bear fruit..

To an agricultural society, Luke knew that the image of the fig tree would resound within the hearts of the people. Living close to the land, intimately connected to and bound by the seasons and whims of nature, the people could appreciate the mercy and patience of God, just as a gardener is patient. Fruit will appear at its appointed time, when we chose to allow ourselves to be cultivated by the Master.

As we look at our lives, we can see that God has indeed been patient with us. For many of us, the seeds of faith have taken years to burst forth. Fortunately, God is patient, loving, merciful and forgiving. To those who repent and turn to Him in faith, hope and love, they will know the kindness of a loving Father.

*“Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger and abounding in kindness. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.”
(Psalm 103: 8, 11)*

Deacon Steve Szmuto



Ewing Knights of Columbus Diaper Drive to benefit Choice One March 22-23.

You may bring your gifts to any mass those two weekends. **Please leave items in the Parish Hall on or under the tables marked “Diaper Drive.”** Diapers, wipes, onesies and gift cards are most needed. New baby items, Bibs, Blankets, bottles, pacifiers, shampoo, brushes and combs are also requested. Gifts do not need to be wrapped. Gift Cards may be placed in the weekly collection basket in an envelope marked “Diaper Drive” or you may drop them off to the Rectory during business hours M-F 9-3:00. **Thank you for support!**



EUCCHARIST FOR THE HOMEBOUND

If you or someone you know is unable to come to Mass because of significant illness or long-term disability, Fr. Ariel and our Eucharistic Ministers will visit area homes to bring the Blessed Sacrament. Please call the parish office at 609-882-3277x3 to inform us you would like to be added to the **Communion Call list**.

Homebound members will be scheduled to receive the Eucharist at home.

Candle at the Blessed Mother Altar
March 22–29

For the Intentions of: Marie Grimm

Candle at Blessed Mother & St. Joseph
In Loving Memory of Bernadine Medwick
(10 month Anniversary of her passing)





Handing on of the Creed
Third Sunday of Lent,
 3/23 (Leah, Thomas) | Fourth
 Sunday of Lent, 3/29 (Amanda)

The Rite of Handing On of the Creed takes place at a time after the Penitential Rite. This rite symbolizes the candidates' acceptance of Creed – the summary of what the Church teaches and what the faithful believe.

Remember to pray for our Candidates, **Leah Alabrè, Thomas O'Neal, and Amanda Nicole Duspiva** as they continue to grow in the knowledge and devotion to the faith. Deacon Steve



*Make a pilgrimage around Mercer County this Lenten Season
 Inspired by the Station Churches of Rome*

MERCER COUNTY LENTEN PILGRIMAGE

Every year, the Churches in Mercer County offer a Mass for the county and invite all to participate. As we move from church to church we can imagine the thousands of people who have journeyed to these churches and made holy the ground on which they are rooted. Journey with us this week:

Monday, March 24 ~ St. Greg's (7:00 PM)~

4620 Nottingham Way Hamilton Square

Tuesday, March 25 ~ St. Ann (7:00 PM)

1253 Lawrence Rd. Lawrenceville

Wednesday, March 26 ~ Sacred Heart (7:00 PM)

343 S Broad St. Trenton

Thursday, March 27 ~ St. Anthony (7:00 PM)

626 S Olden Ave, Trenton Confessions 6:30

For a complete schedule go to olgcc.net and select LENT from top menu then click on Station Churches.



Friday 7:00 p.m.
We will meet every
Friday throughout Lent for
Stations of the Cross.

Calling all Youth!
 We are in search of
 volunteers who would
 like to lead a Station
 of the Cross on Friday,
April 4th at 7 pm.

Open to all parish
 youth. We will pray the
 Stations with The Way
 of the Cross for
 Children.

If you can help -
Please RVSP to
nfinn1121@gmail.com



FRIDAY
APRIL 4,
7:00PM

Come pray with us.



HELP IS NEEDED!
FRIDAY, APRIL 4TH

Friday evening following our Youth Stations of the Cross we will meet in the Parish Hall to stuff the Easter Eggs for our Parish Easter Egg Hunt. This is the perfect opportunity for Confirmation Students to earn their necessary service hours. Adults are most welcome. For more information please contact Joyce Christensen at **609-651-0466**.



PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY
Diocese of Trenton Is Sponsoring

Rachel's Vineyard Retreats

Healing the Wounds of Abortion—The psychological and spiritual wounds of abortion can be sharp, deep and crippling.

You may feel a deep numbness and may not be able to name the pain or recognize any of the symptoms. It can also have a devastating impact on the father or grandparents of the aborted child and friend/s of the mother. You do not have to continue to hide in shame and fear. Rachel's Vineyard's Retreat is a chance to focus on this painful time in your life through a supportive non-judgmental process, in an atmosphere of confidentiality, understanding, and compassion. It is described to help both women and men experience the mercy and compassion of God.

If you suffered through an abortion and have isolated yourself from healing and forgiveness, you might consider attending one of our retreat weekends. For more information, contact Judy Warenkiewicz at 732-536-6871. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

2025 Weekend Retreats

March 28-30, 2025

November 14-16, 2025





The Community of Parishes
Lenten Penance Service
Saturday, April 5
10:00 AM
Our Lady of Good Counsel Church

Priest from all three parishes
 will be available for
 Confessions.

ANNUAL **CATHOLIC** 2025
Appeal

Your Gift Makes a Difference

Our Parish Goal & How We Can Reach It

The Diocese has set parish goals reflecting both overall needs and the offertory income of each parish. For Our Lady of Good Counsel, our goal for 2025 is \$24,000. We are optimistic about meeting this challenge, as we have consistently witnessed our parish community demonstrating faith and generosity to support the Church's needs.

Maximizing Our Parish Benefits

By working together to reach and surpass our goal, we not only support the vital ministries of the Diocese but also receive direct benefits for our parish:
100% Rebate on all funds raised beyond our goal
5% Rebate of the goal (\$1,200) if we increase our donor participation by 5% (just 9 more donors than last year)

5% Rebate of the goal (\$1,200) if we meet our pledge goal amount by July 31, 2025 While the rebate structure has changed, our collective generosity ensures that Our Lady of Good Counsel remains a thriving parish, strengthened by the blessings we share with others.

Your Gift Makes a Difference

If you haven't yet made a gift to the appeal, I encourage you to prayerfully consider joining your fellow parishioners in this mission of hope. Every gift—no matter the size—helps us reach our goal and strengthens our community of faith. You can make your contribution using the **pledge cards** at the entrance of the church or by visiting **giveaca.org**. Let's continue to work together to reach our parish goal. Thank you for your continued support and generosity. God bless!

2025 Annual Catholic Appeal Progress Report:

Goal: \$24,000.00
Pledged: \$12,181.00 (51% of goal)
Paid: \$10,796.50 (45% to goal)
Total Donors: 62
Average Gift: \$174.01



Make your gift online at
giveaca.org

40 Cans for Lent

Our Social Services Committee invites everyone to participate. Please leave your donated cans of fruit, low-salt soup, or vegetables in the designated area in our Church Hall. Thank you for your generosity.



DAY OF PRAYER FOR WOMEN ~ OASIS ~

sponsored by the Religious Teachers Filippini, will take place on **Saturday, April 5th** between 9:30 AM and 3:00 PM at Villa Walsh. Please send a Registration Fee of \$15 p.p., payable to Villa Walsh. Mail Payment to: Sr. Patricia Martin, MPF, Villa Walsh, 455 Western Ave. Morristown, NJ 07960 include your name, address, phone. For more information, call Sr. Alice at 732-238-9222. Includes: Mass, Reconciliation, Rosary/Stations & Adoration. (Outdoor Stations) bring your own brown bag lunch, drinks provided, Handicapped accessible. Gift Shop onsite. *Come aside and rest with the Lord.*



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

Parish Feast Day ~ April 28, 2025

10:30 Mass

Marian Procession

Catered Dinner (by Sal deForte) Parish Hall

You may begin donating items to the Tricky Tray in the Parish Hall on the designated table.

Tickets will be sold after all Masses beginning

March 22-23 through April 12-13

\$15 adult, \$5 ages 6-18

5 & under Free



CATHOLIC RELIEF COLLECTION~ MARCH 29-30

Next week our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and **reveal Christ's love** to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Villa Joseph Marie High School ~ Open House ~ Thursday, April 24

Join us on **Thursday, April 24, 2025, from 6:00–8:00 p.m.** to explore all that Villa has to offer! Tour the school with a student guide and discover our mission, academics, athletics, and extracurricular opportunities. Register today at vjmhs.org/visit.

Villa Joseph Marie High School ~ Summer@Villa

Camps for rising 3rd-9th graders

Villa Joseph Marie presents a range summer camp programs for girls designed to educate, excite, and inspire. Check out our programs in academic enrichment, visual and performing arts, and athletics! Register today at vjmhs.org/summer.



FAMILY MASS & EASTER EGG HUNT

THE OLGC ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT WILL BEGIN WITH A SPECIAL BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN AT 10:30 MASS

DATE: APRIL 6, 2025

ALL FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN 10 AND UNDER ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN US AT MASS FOLLOWED BY THE EASTER EGG HUNT ON THE PARISH GROUNDS

**Volunteers are needed
Contact Joyce Christensen
609-651-0466**

Inclement weather the hunt will be held in the Church Hall.

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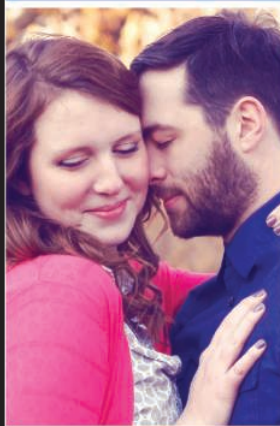
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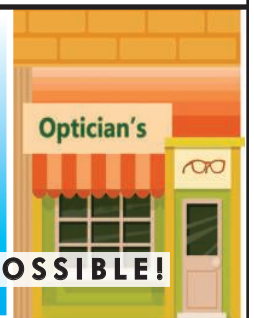
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