

Our Lady of Good Counsel

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT • DECEMBER 3, 2023

STAY AWAKE!

For you do not know
on which day your
Lord will come.

MATTHEW 24:42



©JPPC

Rev. Ariel Robles, Pastor
Email: FrAriel@olgcc.net
Deacon Steven Szmuto
Brenda O'Callaghan, CRE

Parish Rectory & Office 609-882-3277
Office Hours M-F: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Fax: 609-882-4375

Website: olgcc.net
E-mail: rectoryoffice@olgcc.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

Reconciliation:

Saturdays 4:00 to 4:30 PM

Advent Penance Service
December 9 at 10:00 AM

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CHURCH

Mass Intentions

.SATURDAY, 5:00 PM	DECEMBER 2, 2023 Intentions of Nathaniel P. Medwick r/o Uncle Paul Jennie Ferri r/o Donna & David Collins
SUNDAY, 8:30 AM	DECEMBER 3, 2023 First Sunday of Advent Rocco Zangrilli r/o Donna & David Collins For the People of the Parish
10:30 AM	Charles Cruser r/o Dolores DeBlasio Thomas Volk r/o Dot Prunetti
MONDAY, 7:30 AM	DECEMBER 4, 2023 Lucille Sebben r/o Carol & Stefanie Przechacki
TUESDAY, 7:30 AM	DECEMBER 5, 2023 Anthony Carabelli r/o Beatrice Galloni
WEDNESDAY, 7:30 AM	DECEMBER 6, 2023 James E. Newell, III r/o Sister, Debbie
THURSDAY, 7:30 AM	DECEMBER 7, 2023 Rocco Zangrilli r/o Diane Hutton
FRIDAY, 7:30 AM	DECEMBER 8, 2023 Holy Day Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mary & Thomas Miles r/o Helen Marie Dolton Respect Life and an end to Abortion r/o Mary Arcadipane
12 Noon	Francis A. Goeke r/o Ed & Ginny Evans
7:00 PM	Helen Marie Dolton r/o Gail Palatine
SATURDAY, 8:00 AM 5:00 PM	DECEMBER 9, 2023 Priest's Intentions Al DeBlasio r/o Dolores DeBlasio Maria DeFrancesco r/o David & Donna Collins
SUNDAY, 8:30 AM	DECEMBER 10, 2023 Second Sunday of Advent Healing Intentions of Mary Timlen Hope Holland Fekete & Walley Deceased Family r/o Family
10:30 AM	Rocco Zangrilli r/o Craig, Jamie & Chloe Smolar For the People of the Parish



Readers

Please note: see olgcc.net for holy day schedule

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM	DECEMBER 9 Jackie Crane
SUNDAY, 8:30 AM	DECEMBER 10 Laura Shea
10:30 AM	Religious Ed

Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM	DECEMBER 9 Ginny Evans
SUNDAY, 8:30 AM	DECEMBER 10 Dennis Hice
10:30 AM	Danny Morales

Altar Servers

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM	DECEMBER 9 James Gummel
SUNDAY, 8:30 AM	DECEMBER 10 Brayden Spina, Daniel Wilkes, Elizabeth Baron
10:30 AM	Dylan Rutkowski, Ryan Spina

News & Events

12/2 Saturday—Parent Night Out 6-9:00pm in Parish hall.
12/3 Sunday - RCIA Session 11:30. Religious ED Classes GR 8 at 7pm in the Parish Hall.
12/4 Monday— Religious ED Grades 1-7 in the Parish Hall 6:00-7:15pm. Next week is our Birthday Party for Jesus.
12/5 Tuesday—Children's Home Society Hall at 7pm.
12/7 Thursday—Good News Sunday 7pm in the Opdenacker Room of Parish Hall and Friday morning at 10am. All are welcome!
12/8 Friday-Is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception a Holy day of obligation. Masses: 7:30am, 12Noon, 7pm.
12/9-Saturday - Novenas in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and St. Jude follow morning Mass.
Advent Penance Service—10 a.m. Additional Priest will be available for Confessions.



The Senior Citizens Club will hold their annual Christmas Luncheon on **December 6th at 12 Noon** at Sal DeForte's Restaurant. Merry Christmas!



EUCHARIST 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 609-882-3277 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.

DEADLINE

Please Note **Early** Bulletin Deadlines

Articles for 12/10 Bulletin Due 12/04
 Articles for 12/17 Bulletin Due 12/04
 Articles for 12/24 Bulletin Due 12/11
 Articles for 12/31 Bulletin Due 12/11



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<https://www.facebook.com/OlgcWestTrenton/>



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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Reflection First Sunday of Advent



This weekend we begin the Season of Advent, the beginning of the new liturgical year and the period of preparation before the great Solemnity of Christmas. It is a time for repentance, preparation, and anticipation for the commemoration of the Nativity, the birth of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ – one in divinity with the Father and the Holy Spirit through all eternity – into the world of humanity. The word *Advent* is taken from the Latin word *adventus*, which means “coming.” In turn, *adventus* is taken from the Greek word *parousia*; the latter term is typically used in the context of the Second Coming of Christ. From a Christian perspective then, *Advent* is a time of anticipation of Christ both into history – two thousand years ago – and at the end of the world. This theme is reflected in the blessing and lighting of the advent wreath, which contains three purple candles and one rose candle. Each successive week, the candles are lit as a reminder of the splendor of Christ and a sign of his promise of salvation. The light of Christ, symbolized in the candles’ flame, enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. The purple candles (and purple vestments) symbolize the penitential or preparatory nature of the season; the rose-colored candle, lit on the Third Sunday of Advent, known as *Gaudete Sunday*. The Latin word *Gaudete*, means *rejoice*; and the readings on that weekend suggest the joyful imminent birth of the Savior to the Blessed Virgin Mary and her most chaste spouse, Saint Joseph. The readings today, the First Sunday of Advent anticipate the Second Coming of Christ. The first reading, from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah, recounts the Lord’s promise of a Messiah to Israel and Judah. It emphasizes the path to holiness through covenantal faith in the one true God. The reading from the Gospel of Luke is taken from Christ’s discourse on his second coming. Jesus promised: *There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves.* He exhorted his developers to “Be vigilant at all times”

The Season of Advent has become largely forgotten in most corners of our secular society; true repentance and preparation for the birth of Christ has been replaced by crass commercialism and superficial treacle poured into our skulls by marketers, advertisers and profiteers. However, for the true disciple, Advent is a time of renewal, a rededication of our unconditional commitment to Jesus Christ. By setting aside a few moments each day for prayer, by acts of patience, kindness and understanding, we can prepare our hearts and minds and souls to welcome him into our lives. In a very special way, we ponder the greatest gift, the Eucharist as the singular visible reminder of Christ’s presence in our lives: his Precious Body and Blood, a tangible physical presence in the present. Just as Jesus walked the earth two thousand years ago and will come again in glory and power, he is with us in sacred physical presence. Let us offer our hearts to the one who resides in the center of our very being, the source and summit of our existence, and the way to eternal life.

Deacon Steven Szmuto



Pray for our Sick:

Kevin Baker, Erin Barbato, Col. Gabriel Beck, Christina Beck, Rosemarie Buker, Richard Cook, Steve Dill, Sarah Dowd, John Finn, Al Gatto, Leo Genovesi, Brian Gershon, Phil Glaser, Elizabeth Gonzalez, Theresa Gregorio, Sherri Hanlon, Eileen and James A. Keenan, IV, Henry Louis Kopruckim, Mary Lou Kramli, Carol Lake, Laura Lynch, Kevin McBride, Keith Mello, Joan Moore, Marie Muscente, Kim Nash, Angelika Niranjan, Carol Perrine, Lucy Saganowski, Vincent Schnell, G. Welly Samuels, Debbie Sattler, Gregory Schafer, Steve Schmierer, Dolores Sebasto, Kristy Shanahan, Linda Solinski, Ann Szostak, Brenda Thornley, Stanley Wrobel and all parishioners who are sick or homebound.

Please call the parish office at 609-882-3277 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.



Pray for our Military:

TSgt. Andrew G. Vrancik, Air National Guard

Please email: dsmith@olgcc.net to add your soldier to the prayer list.



FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Friday, December 8th Masses:

7:30 AM ~ Rosary recited after mass

12:00 Noon ~ Rosary recited 30 minutes before Mass

7:00 PM ~ Rosary recited 30 minutes before Mass

This is a Holy day of obligation.



OLGCC ~ ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE
Cohort 9 ~ Community of Parishes

Saturday, December 9th at 10:00 a.m.

*Additional Priest available for Confession.
Come prepare your heart for our Infant King!*



RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION

Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a Lifetime.

A special collection to benefit the **Retirement Fund for Religious** will be taken up during Masses in parishes across the Diocese of Trenton the weekend of Dec.9-10.

Aging Religious need your help. In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please say, "Yes Sister", one more time.

Central Jersey Choral Society Presents A Community Singing Event: The Messiah

by George Friedrich Handel

Join our choir singing the classic Christmas masterwork
(or just come to listen)

Sheet music provided for those wishing to sing

Sunday, December 10,
2023, 3:00 pm

Our Lady of Good Counsel
Roman Catholic Church
137 West Upper Ferry Rd.
Ewing, NJ



Suggested Donation: \$10

For more information visit cjchoralsociety.org



central jersey choral society

Christopher Loeffler,
Artistic Director



This program is made possible in part by the Mercer County Cultural and Arts Center through funding from the Mercer County Board of Chosen Fundations, and the New Jersey State Council for the Development of Arts, and Parks, and the National Endowment of the Arts.



Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids

The Ewing Knights of Columbus will be donating warm winter coats to children in need in our area.

If you would like to help the Knights provide as many coats as possible you can send a donation to the following address:

Knights of Columbus
Coats for Kids
Post Office Box 7647
Ewing NJ 08628

The cost of each coat is approximately \$ 25.00.



FAMILY SUNDAY ~ CHILDREN'S LITURGY ~ DECEMBER 10TH at 10:30 AM MASS

On the 2nd Sunday of each month our religious education children will take part in serving at the 10:30 AM Mass. The children will serve as Greeters, Ushers and Readers. All children of the parish are welcome to participate! For information please email:

Brenda O'Callahan CRE: olgcc.re.wt@gmail.com

Family Sunday ~ Refreshments will follow the 10:30 Mass in the Parish Hall. Join us for some hot brewed coffee and treats.



Did you know?

OLGCC has our own **imprinted Shirts and Jackets** available to order. Please contact Mary Pat Voorhees at 570-290-2373 for more information.



SIMBANG GABI

A special part of Christmas celebrations of the Filipinos is **Simbang Gabi** (literally means "night Mass"). This is a novena of Masses in preparation for Christmas. The Filipino-American community has organized *Simbang Gabi* here in Mercer County: a Nightly Mass is being celebrated in nine different churches. Our Lady of Good Counsel Church has been chosen to host the Mass on **December 22, 2023 at 7:00PM**. All are invited to take part in this special Christmas preparation and celebration. See you there!



ADVENT WREATH CANDLES

The Advent Wreath candles are Donated **In Loving Memory** of:
Rusty (Howard) Scott
by Robyn G. Scott



EWING KNIGHTS

The Ewing Knights of Columbus Council #3756 will be selling **"Keep Christ in Christmas"** Car Magnets and Christmas Cards at **all** Masses the weekends of : December 2/3 and December 9/10. All proceeds will be used to support our various Charities. *Thanks for your help!*

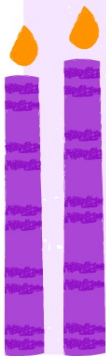


OLGCC Advent Mission Day
Saturday, December 16th

8 a.m. - Mass

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Talk presented by
JMJ Missions - **"Source & Summit"**

10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Exposition, Adoration and
Benediction



Evangelizing for Christ... one soul at a time

Advent

PLEASE JOIN US

Christmas Gifting Outreach

Once again it is your opportunity to participate in our **Christmas Gifting Outreach** ministry where our parishioners purchase gifts for those in need in our Diocese to help brighten their Christmas holiday.

To participate, please take a gift tag, or more, from the baskets located in the front Church vestibule. This years' tags include infant (0-2 yrs.), toddler (2-4 yrs.), child (5-10 yrs.), and teen (11-13 yrs.). Purchase the gift, attach your gift tag to it and return it to the designated table in the **Parish Hall by Monday, December 11th. Please do NOT wrap your gift.**

For those who *do* like to wrap gifts, consider adopting a family this Christmas. Catholic Charities of Trenton is searching for **Adopt-a-Family** donors right now. Struggling families of various sizes provide wish lists for specific items, which you can help provide. Family sizes include Small (2 people), Medium (3-5 people), Large (6 or more) or No preference.



Please call Jim Gambino of our Social Services Committee at **609-818-1708** to find out how you can participate in this program and help brighten Christmas morning for a struggling family in our Diocese this year. Adopt-a-Family gifts may also be left in the Parish Hall on the designated tables. Thank you!

DECEMBER 3, 2023



Saturday, 16 December 2023

Following 5 PM Mass in the Parish Hall
Pizza, Pop Corn and Light Refreshments

Please RSVP to:
Nfinn1121@gmail.com
This will help us plan quantities!

For unto us
a child is born!



Calling all Parish children!
Be part of the
Annual Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 24, 5:00 pm Mass

- Multiple non-speaking roles - You could be a King, a Shepherd, an Angel, Mary or Joseph!
- Narrator needed
- Practice in Church - Friday, December 22 - 4:00 pm
Saturday, December 23 - 3:00 pm

For more information contact:
✓ Brenda O'Callaghan at olgc.re.wt@gmail.com