



Our Lady of Good Counsel



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT • December 8, 2019

137 West Upper Ferry Road • West Trenton, New Jersey 08628

Rev. Michael Hall, Pastor
Email: FrMike@olgcc.net
Deacon Steven Szmuto
Brenda O'Callaghan, CRE

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Suspended during Construction

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: rectory office@olgcc.net

Religious Education
Brenda O'Callaghan, CRE 609-883-9005
E-mail: religiouseducation.olgc@comcast.net

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Rectory Office 609-882-3277

Adult Faith Formation
Deacon Steve 609-947-0587

Consolation Ministry
Rectory Office 609-882-3277

Homebound Out Reach
Rectory Office 609-882-3277

Infant Baptism
Mary Szmuto 609-847-0796

Knights of Columbus
Frank Ferdetta, Grand Knight 609-883-1559
George Steward, Church Director 609-883-9173

Liturgical Ministers
Rectory Office 609-882-3277

Music Ministry
Deirdre Hindley, Organist 609-882-3215

RCIA
Deacon Steve 609-947-0587

Senior's Club
Mary Pat Voorhees, President 570-290-2373
Dolores Sebasto, Vice President 609-882-5085

Social Services
James Gambino 609-818-1708

Youth Ministry
Darlene Wilson 609-882-2996

Web Master
Debbie Smith 609-882-3277



Our Lady of Good Counsel Church

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2019
 5:00 PM Kathleen Urbano r/o Dolores DeBlasio
 Carole W. Conroy r/o Elaine Palatine

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019
Second Sunday of Advent
 8:30 AM Rev. Adam Kearns
 10:30 AM Daniel DeFrancesco r/o Mary DeFrancesco
 Al DeBlasio r/o Wife, Dolores



December
 Month of The
 Immaculate
 Conception

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION moved from Sunday December 8th to Monday, December 9th However, Not a Holy Day Of Obligation this year. Daily Mass 7:30 AM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2019
 7:30 AM Mary & Thomas Miles
 r/o Helen Marie Dolton

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2019
 7:30 AM Fekete & Walley Families r/o Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019
 7:30 AM Nicholas P. Zuccarello
 r/o Virginia & Charles Palumbo

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019
 7:30 AM Msgr. Philip Lowery

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2019
 7:30 AM Special Intention

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2019
 8:00 AM Special Intention
 5:00 PM Connie Davidson
 r/o Sister, Dolores DeBlasio
 Joseph Filippo r/o Wife, Frances & Son

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019
Third Sunday Of Advent
 8:30 AM Leon Beauvais
 10:30 AM Anthony Persichilli
 r/o Stan & Joanne Sliwinski



I Tina Rutkowski OLGC & Michael Giovanni



COINS FOR CHARITY
IS THIS WEEKEND DECEMBER 7-8.
PLEASE BE GENEROUS!

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14
 5:00 PM Anna Adamaitis, Dennis Hice, Fran Zenchak

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
 8:30 AM Vicky Aneser, Michael Lake, Laura Shea
 10:00 AM **Preferred Care Visits: Butch Kramer**
 10:30 AM Mary Anne & Claude LeGall, Darlene Wilson

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9 Adoration Closed

READERS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14
 5:00 PM Elise Stankus

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
 8:30 AM Carol Lake
 10:30 AM Mike Delehenty

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14
 5:00 PM Jacob Pasquito

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
 8:30 AM Nora Shea
 10:30 AM Brayden Spina

PARISH EVENTS

Saturday, December 7, Novenas in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and St. Jude follow morning Mass. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place at 4:00

Sunday, December 8, Grade 8 CCD Classes are in the Rectory 9:15-10:25.

Monday, December 9, CCD All Grades Happy Birthday to Jesus Party at Villa Victoria Academy 4:30-6:00.



Pray for our Sick:

Michael Babick, Rosemarie Buker, Richard Cook, Sara Cooper, Daniel DeFrancesco,

Elizabeth Gervasoni, Nick Gregorio, Sherri Hanlon, Thomas McGuire, Dolores Megesy, Keith Mello, Joan Moore, Marie Muscente, Kim Nash, Angelika Niranjan, Rita Obed, Vincent O'Dell, Elaine Palatine, Jeff Papp, Pat Robinson, Lucy Saganowski, Kristy Shanahan, Joan Shaw, Elayne Smith, Paul Sollami, Stephen Thoma, & Gary Vanderbilt 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.

CHURCH SUPPORT

Collection Totals	November 24 th	December 1 st
Registered Parishioners	736 families	same
Parishioners using envelopes	211	219
Envelope Contributions	\$4,661.00	\$6,562.50
Average Contribution	\$22.09	\$29.97
Loose Cash	\$817.00	\$806.00
Total Contributions	\$5,478.00	\$7,368.50

Thank you for your generosity.

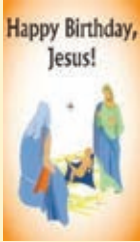
2ND Collection is for Religious Retirement this weekend.

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THE COMING OF OUR
Lord Jesus Christ!

Second Sunday **Advent**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Happy Birthday Jesus Party



We will meet Monday, December 9th at Villa Victoria for our Happy Birthday, Jesus Party at 4:30 PM.

Please note: There will be no Religious Education classes 12/15-16, 12/22-23 & 12/29-30. **Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to our Parish Family!**



Knights Korner News
"Coats for Kids"



Ewing Council 3756 is helping to provide warmth to needy young children by participating in the Knights of Columbus "Coats for Kids" program. The goal of the "Coats for Kids" program as well as our goal is to ensure that needy children in our Parishes and surrounding communities will have their own winter coat. So far this year, these local business owners have made contributions to the program: **PrimoHoagies, David DePaola & Company Real Estate, West Trenton True Value Hardware, Ruch Tire, Ronald Prykanowski, Realtor.** Any business owner or parishioner who may also wish to participate should do so by sending a check made payable to the Ewing Knights of Columbus Council 3756 and mail to:

**Coats for Kids,
 Knights of Columbus Ewing Council #3756
 PO Box 7647
 Ewing NJ, 08628
 Thank You for your Support!**



**Thursday,
 December 19
 7:00 P.M.**

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

Children's Christmas Choir

Join us for Practice Sundays 9:20-10:20 am, in the cry room of the church. We will sing at the Christmas Eve 5 PM Mass. For more information or any questions, please contact **Mary Anne LeGall** at cmlegall@gmail.com or call 609-883-4464.



CONGRATULATIONS to our parish Notre Dame student who has achieved academic excellence with Honor Roll (no grade lower than 88%) for the past marking period of the 2019-20 School year.

Annalisa Benziger (2020) Honor Roll

Please Note: Notre Dame application deadlines:

Early decision deadline: December 9,
 All applications due: January 31.

ALTAR CANDLES FOR MARY AND JOSEPH

Please note: December 15th is the final date candles/flowers may be requested for the Altar of Mary and/or Joseph. The Candles will burn for a week 12/15—12/21 then our Christmas decorations will be going up.

ADVENT WREATH CANDLES

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



Our Christmas Gifting Outreach for 2019 is rapidly ending!

All gifts are due Monday, December 9th. Please bring

your gifts with tags attached and return to the designated table in our Rectory Garage. **Adopt-a-Family** gifts are also due Monday, December 9th please drop off in the Rectory Garage.

Please Note Early Bulletin Deadlines



Articles for 12/22 Bulletin Due 12/09
 Articles for 12/29 Bulletin Due 12/16
 Articles for 01/05 Bulletin Due 12/23



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

The Mother of Jesus, Mary the Mother of God, has been honored with hundreds of titles through the centuries. Religious communities, lay associations, tribes, and nations have all contributed to the many names by which she is known and by which her intercession is sought.

The Augustinians have contributed three titles to Mary's litany: Our Lady of Grace, Our Mother of Consolation, and Our Mother of Good Counsel. If our Mother (or Lady) is the patroness of a parish or a church or any other ministry there is almost certainly an Augustinian connection. The original fresco depicted here is titled **"Our Mother of Good Counsel"** it is in the Augustinian church in the Italian town of Genazzano, forty miles east of Rome.

December 8, 2019



Deacon Steve Szmuto's Reflection on the Sunday Readings December 8, 2019 – 2nd Sunday of Advent Isaiah 11: 1-10 Ps 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 Romans 15: 4-9 Matthew 3: 1-12

Although December 8 is *the Feast of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – the Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America*, when the day falls on a Sunday, the Advent readings take precedence. This year, the Feast Day will be celebrated on December 9th. Although not observed as a Holy Day of Obligation this year, it remains a Feast of great importance, and all are encouraged to take part in the Sacred Liturgy. Let us recall the words of Elizabeth (the mother of John the Baptist), who upon hearing Mary's greeting and filled with the Holy Spirit said, "*Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.*" (Luke 1: 42b)

"A voice of one crying out in the desert, 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'" (Matthew 3: 3)

John the Baptist remains one of the most enigmatic figures of the New Testament. His appearance could be described as bizarre, perhaps even frightening. His diet, consisting of locusts and wild honey was not exactly standard fare. He did not have the polished facade of a political or religious leader; in fact, he seemed to have little respect for those who thought that they merited salvation by virtue of their ancestry in Abraham. Yet his stern message – a call to repentance in anticipation of the Kingdom of God – resonated in the hearts and minds of his disciples, who sought baptism in the waters of the Jordan River as a sign of atonement. He is the last and the greatest of the prophets.

No doubt his disciples would have proclaimed him as the messiah and made him king. However, John was not the Messiah, only the messenger and he said so to the crowds. His mission was to prepare the way for the Lord, to call others to a change of heart so that they would be prepared for the coming of the Savior. He possessed great awareness in who and what he was, and in who and what he was not. John the Baptist was the last of the great prophets, the one who would take part in the manifestation of Christ at the beginning of his ministry.

Let us strive to follow the example of John the Baptist: courageous, devoted to the Lord, and faithful to our role as humble servants. As we gather to celebrate the Eucharist during the Season of Advent, let us repent of our sins and amend our lives so that we may be made worthy to the one who came to save humanity. Let the spirit of the LORD enter our hearts as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

"The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD, and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD." (Isaiah 11: 2-3a)

Deacon Steven K. Szmuto

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION

A special collection to benefit **the Retirement Fund for Religious** will be taken up during Masses in parishes across the Diocese of Trenton **this weekend, Dec. 7 & 8.**

Aging Religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests ministered for years for little to no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.



Next weekend 12/14 we welcome the Villa Victoria Honey Bees to sing at the Saturday, 5:00 PM Liturgy.



SAINT ANN YOUTH CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019

The Saint Ann Youth Choir will present their annual "**Christmas Concert**" on **Sunday, December 15th** beginning at **3:00 PM** in the Church of Saint Ann, 1253 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648. Please mark your calendar for a "**GREAT**" way to celebrate the coming of the Birth of Baby Jesus, and have an **enjoyable afternoon** with our **WONDERFUL Youth Choir**. The concert is free and open to the public. A reception will immediately follow the concert in the Pope John Paul Community Room. **You are in for a "GREAT TREAT"!**

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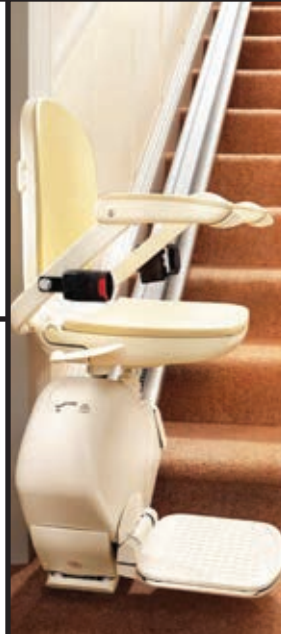
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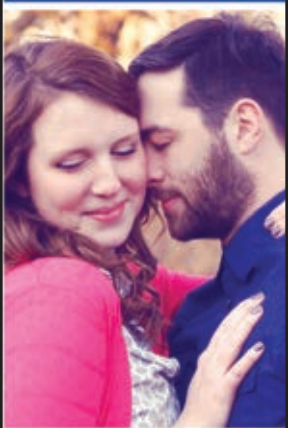
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