

# Our Lady of Good Counsel

111 Worcester Street West Boylston, Ma 01583



**Welcome!** We are a vibrant and diverse Roman Catholic community serving the West Boylston area. In the name of Christ, we welcome all who gather with us in worship and prayer. Though imperfect, we strive to be a community of open hearts, enlivened by the gospel, growing in faith, hope and love. Whether you are a visitor, traveler, new to the parish or in search of a spiritual home, feel free to introduce yourself after Mass. Your presence is a blessing to us all!



## THE HOLY FAMILY



The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom;  
and the favor of God was upon him. - Lk 2:40

Excerpts from the Lecterning for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

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## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### Lord's Day Masses

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30pm

Sunday Masses: 8:30am & 10:30am

### Weekday Masses

9:00am Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday

### Holy Day Masses

9:00am & 7:00pm

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:00-3:45pm  
(in the sacristy)

### Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays: 3:00-6:00pm

Website: [www.goodcounselma.com](http://www.goodcounselma.com)

## PARISH STAFF

Rev. Steven M. Labaire, Pastor

Martin W. Beck, Deacon

Scott Camilleri, Acolyte

Kevin O'Connell, Religious Education

Director

Terri King, Admin. Asst. & Rel. Education  
Secretary

John Leslie, Organist & Choir Director

Rev. Adriano Lessa, in residence

# Our Lady of Good Counsel

Parish Office (located in the Rectory)

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am-4:30 pm (except on civic holidays)

Parish Phone: 508-835-3606 Fax: 508-835-5456

## PASTORAL CONTACTS:

**Rev. Steven M. Labaire, Pastor**

[s.labaire@goodcounselma.com](mailto:s.labaire@goodcounselma.com)

**Deacon Mick Beck**

[m.beck@goodcounselma.com](mailto:m.beck@goodcounselma.com)

**Kevin O'Connell, Director of Religious Education**

[k.oconnell@goodcounselma.com](mailto:k.oconnell@goodcounselma.com)

Rel. Ed. Office: 508-835-6336

**Terri King, Office Administrator**

[t.king@goodcounselma.com](mailto:t.king@goodcounselma.com)

**John Leslie, Director of Music**

[j.leslie@goodcounselma.com](mailto:j.leslie@goodcounselma.com)

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM FOR CHILDREN-

Parents wishing to have their child baptized should contact the parish office. Prior to the actual celebration of the sacrament there is a catechesis for parents on the meaning of baptism and Christian parenting.

## SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION FOR ADULTS-

Adults seeking to be baptized as well as those already baptized (in both Catholic and non-Catholic communities) who seek to be confirmed and to receive Holy Communion, are invited to join with others in exploring our Catholic faith. Please contact the parish office.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE-** Couples intending to marry should contact the parish priest at least six months prior to the intended wedding date.

## HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK & HOMEBOUND-

We are eager to bring Holy Communion to those unable to come to church. The priest, deacon and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion will assure that the Eucharist is brought to homes of those wishing to receive it.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK-** Those experiencing serious illness should contact the parish office or speak with the parish priest as soon as possible.

**PARISH PRAYER LINE-** Those who wish to have their personal intentions remembered in prayer are asked to contact Renate Isbell at 508.835.3286.

Advent and Christmas Greetings to Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish Family from John Leslie.



I can only imagine that some of you may have wondered: "What happened to our organist and choir director, John Leslie?" or "We haven't seen 'that guy' up in the organ loft for a long time." or "Did he get the virus???" Let me assure you that I did not get the virus. After Holy Week and Easter masses, "way back" in April, I was

temporarily laid off from my job as OLG C organist, since the church was shut down due to the pandemic. Being a professional musician, all of my other professional music work was also canceled: teaching, accompanying, directing. Schools, studios and theaters were all closed! At the same time, my 95-year old uncle in California (San José area) was having difficulty living on his own. He wanted to remain in the home he had enjoyed for almost 60 years; so since I had available time, not working, I flew out to see how I could help him. I have been with him for eight months now, and likely to be with him through the pandemic, at least. I dearly miss all of the OLG C cantors, the choir members; and I will miss, especially at this time of year, working with guest musicians and the OLG C children preparing Christmas music for your holiday masses. I miss the work relationship I enjoyed with Fr. Steven and Terri King in the parish office. My gratefulness cannot be expressed enough to Fr. Steven during my absence and to Janet Vignaly, who has done so well working with the cantors, playing piano for so many masses and getting substitutes when she is not available. Advent is a time for waiting and preparing our hearts. In a quote from Pope Francis: "Advent is the time we are given to welcome the Lord who comes to encounter us, and also to verify our longing for God, to look forward and prepare ourselves for Christ's return." In addition to my heartfelt greeting, I pray that you may all be filled with Wonder and Joy as you await the coming of Jesus in your lives and in your homes, and I look forward to seeing you and sharing in ministry with you again some time in 2021. "Happy Advent, Glad New Year!"

# December 27, 2020

## INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK THANK YOU

We extend our gratitude to all who helped our parish serve at the Interfaith Hospitality Network from December 6 to 13. Thank you to Evening and Overnight Hosts: Kevin O'Connell, Mike and Tina Muir, Janet Such, Mary LaCaire, Tina Buono, Lee Maleno, John Wild, David and Karen Hennessy, and Vinny Vignaly. And thank you to all who kept this important ministry in your prayers during the week!

Also, our deepest appreciation to all our parishioners who donated money to purchase Christmas gifts for the children in the IHN shelter. You were most generous this year in spite of the challenging times we find ourselves in. A huge thank you to our amazing shopper Cathy Richardson and our fabulous gift wrapper Bob Richardson. as well as Cathy's brother John for his very generous donation. May God bless you all for the hope and smiles you brought to the faces of these children and their families.

## NEW YEAR'S DAY

Friday, January 1, 2021 is the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. It is a holyday in our liturgical calendar. We will gather to celebrate Mass at **10:30 am on January 1st**. On the threshold of the New Year, Mary serves as a model of one who lived her days (and her years) open to the grace of God. We pray that we would follow in her footsteps in our own time.

## Readings for the week of December 27, 2020

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Friday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

## NATIVITY SCENES ARE THE SCHOOL OF LIFE

During the Christmas season, nativity (manger) scenes are commonplace in our churches and in many of our homes. Both Popes Benedict and Francis have invited us to ponder the spiritual message which these nativity scenes convey.

*"When we gaze upon the nativity scene, the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph do not appear to be a very privileged family. Their child was born amidst great hardship. Yet they are full of joy because they love one another, they help one another and, above all, they trust that God is at work in the story of their lives..." Pope Benedict XVI*

*"The shepherds become the first to see the most essential thing of all is the gift of salvation."*

*"The Kings (Magi) teach us that people can come to Christ by a very long route..."*

*"The manger (feeding trough) in which Jesus was laid, proclaims in a meek yet powerful way, the need for sharing with the poor as the path to a more humane world in which no one is excluded or marginalized."*

*"The nativity scene is a living gospel rising up from the pages of sacred Scripture proclaiming the humility of God who became man in order to encounter every man and woman." Pope Francis*

*During these trying times, the Nativity scene reminds us that God is with us amidst our challenges.*

As you pass by the nativity scene in our church during this Christmas season and gaze upon the Holy Family, please pray for all the diverse families that make up our parish community. May they experience the love of God amidst all the joys and sorrows of life's journey.

## THANK YOU!

Please accept my deep appreciation and gratitude for the many cards, letters and gifts of food that I received from so many parishioners during the Christmas season. Your goodness is a blessing. It is a privilege to be a part of such a warm and caring parish community.

*Thank you! Merci beaucoup!*

*Father Steven Labaire*



# THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

## Mass Intentions

December 26, 2020 to January 3, 2021

### Sat December 26

4:30pm **Anniv 11:** Lucy Castonguay  
req. by Sheila Supernor

### Sun December 27

8:30am **Mem:** Kenneth Michaud [month's Mind]  
req. by Jane Michaud & family

10:30am **Mem:** Adelard & Celena Beaudoin  
req. by Rachel Girard

### Mon December 28

9:00am **MFP:** Mass for the people

### Tues December 29

9:00am Souls in Purgatory

### Wed December 30

9:00am **Mem:** Timothy Rice

### Thurs December 31

9:00am: Mass for OLGc shut-ins

### Sat January 2

4:30pm **Mem:** Kenneth Michaud  
req. by Terri & Dave King

### Sun January 3

8:30am **Anniv 18:** Rev. Roy Devaney  
req. by Janet Such

## Liturgical Roles

### LORD'S DAY MASSES

January 2 & 3, 2021

### Sat January 2 4:30pm

**Priest:** Fr. Steven Labaire  
**Deacon:** Mick Beck  
**Lector:** John Eisner  
**Acolytes:** Scott Camilleri  
Barbara Mard

### Sun January 3 8:30am

**Priest:** Fr. Steven Labaire  
**Lector:** Alan Farwell  
**Acolytes:** Scott Camilleri  
Jim Bruce

### Sun January 3 10:30am

**Priest:** Fr. Steven Labaire  
**Deacon:** Mick Beck  
**Lector:** Vinny Vignaly  
**Acolytes:** Dave King  
Barbara Reynolds



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SELL HOPE FOR HOUSING CARDS

Due to the retirement of 3 of our volunteer card sellers, we find ourselves in need of new volunteers to replace them. It only takes about 10 minutes of your time to sell the cards after Mass. Please contact Terri at the parish office if you can help with this homelessness prevention program: 508-835-3606 or [terri@goodcounselma](mailto:terri@goodcounselma). Instructions will be given on how the procedure works. Thank you so much to Bob Johnson, Lucy Galli & Betty Perry for their years of dedicated service.



### HIS UNFAILING PRESENCE

Another year I enter Its history  
unknown;

Oh, how my feet would tremble  
To tread its path alone!

But I have heard a whisper,  
I know I shall be blest;

"My presence shall go with thee,  
And I will give thee rest.

What will the New Year bring me?

I may not, must not know;

Will it be love and rapture,

Or loneliness and woe?

Hush! Hush! I hear the whisper;

I surely shall be blest;

"My presence shall go with thee,

And I will give thee rest."

DECEMBER 27, 2020

JOIN IN PRAYER

- +We join our hearts in prayer to all those overwhelmed by anxiety and fear.
- + We pray for physicians, nurses, health care providers, researchers, hospital chaplains, medical researchers and all who are on the front lines in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic.
- + We pray for those who provide essential services, especially police officers, firefighters and emergency help providers.
- + We pray for those facing economic and financial hardships.
- + We pray for our nation during this time of transition and for all newly-elected leaders.
- + We keep Pope Francis' personal prayer intention for the month of January in our hearts: That the different religions our world live in fellowship and peace.
- + We pray for those who find the holiday season difficult and the winter months a burden.
- + During the Christmas season we pray for all those awaiting the birth of a child.
- + We pray for our parishioners who are sick or recovering from injury, illness or surgery, especially, retired Deacon John Barton and Father Thirburse Millott.
- + We pray for those who have died, especially those lost to the ongoing pandemic. May all the faithful departed find mercy and peace with God.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Week of Sunday December 13, 2020

Parish Offertory Income: \$5581.00  
 Electronic Giving Income: \$1072.00  
 Parish Expenses Paid: \$4957.82

So that we may maintain our parish finances during these challenging times, please consider, as you are able, mailing your offertory envelopes to: *Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 111 Worcester St., W. Boylston, MA 01583.* All contributions will be duly recorded as usual. Electronic giving assures your gift to the parish is always received. If the present realities inspire you to consider signing up for electronic giving, Terri King (508-835-3606) is most willing to assist. Thank you for your generosity to the parish.

Attorney Wayne P. Tupper



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