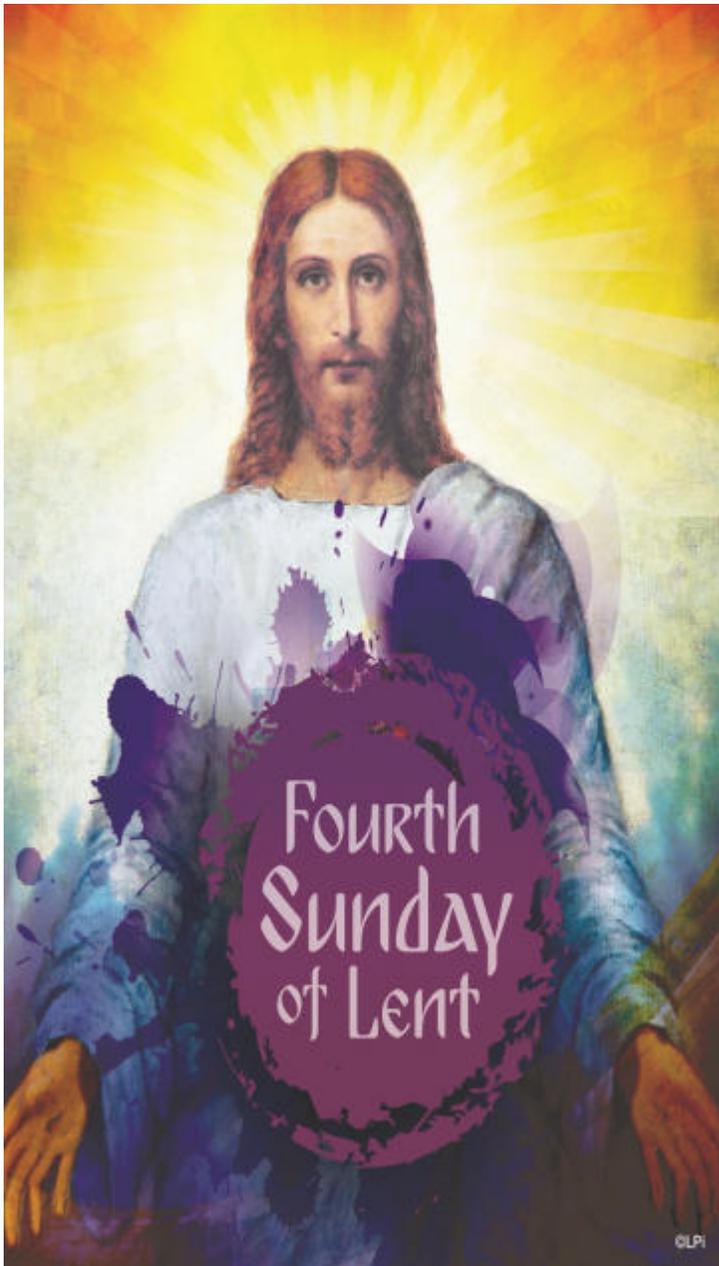


Our Lady of Good Counsel

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!



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

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

Deacon Mick Beck

m.beck@goodcounselma.com

Kevin O'Connell, Director of Religious Education

k.oconnell@goodcounselma.com

Rel. Ed. Office: 508-835-6336

Terri King, Office Administrator

t.king@goodcounselma.com

John Leslie, Director of Music

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.

WAYS TO OBSERVE LENT

This year, our observance of Lent may have to be a bit more unconventional. Here are some practices that you might consider incorporating into your daily or weekly routines:

*Call someone who is lonely. **Cement a friendship.** Talk to a person who is a generation older or younger and listen! **Spend 30 minutes alone quiet in church.** Try not to waste anything for a day. **Pray for an enemy.** If you love someone, say so. **Buy one grocery item a week to contribute to the food pantry.** Be a shoulder to cry on. **Give up snacks and donate monies saved to a relief agency.** Refuse to gossip. **Learn more about your faith and what Jesus taught.** Spend 15 minutes each day thinking about how much you've been given are blessed. **Help without being asked.** Affirm a colleague's work. **Pray for a friend who is struggling.** Walk outside with friends and talk about how your faith helps you to live fully. **Resist trying to be the center of attention.** Make sure your financial investments are socially responsible. **Spend less time watching the news and more time helping others.** Refuse to categorize others. **Recognize the truth about yourself no matter how good.** Give away stuff that you never use or don't need. **Pray with someone who is anxious.** Allow others to speak and really listen. **Create a quiet place at home or outside to pray, think and reflect. Go there.***

2020 PARISH CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS.... a print out of your contributions to OLGc may be secured by calling Terri at the parish office at 508-835-3606 or email her at terri@goodcounselma.org. You may pick it up, or at your request, she will mail it to you. **Please note:** Parishioners who give electronically will receive their contribution statements from LPI "We Share" as they have the record of your 2020 contributions.

March 14, 2021

PARISH PROPERTY UPDATE

Some time ago both the Parish Council and Finance Board voted unanimously that the property at 40 Church Street should be sold. Monies derived from the rental of the house do not generate any income for the parish once all expenses are factored in. The house does need a good amount of repair and upgrading. There is also agreement that being a "landlord" in this day and age can bring about too many complications and liabilities.

Hence, we are moving forward with the sale of the property. We are keeping everyone updated as we move forward.

March 8th update: We await one final document before the property is listed for sale.

We can also report that the flooding issues in the church hall (basement) appear to have been resolved. Since the installation of the roof gutters last fall, there appears to be no more flooding after heavy rains or rapid snow melts. Soon we will need to address those areas in the basement interior that were damaged by water and now require repair.

The parking lot church entrance door frame has warped due to moisture. The door along with the entire frame may need to be replaced. We are having the situation evaluated.

February 22 update: We are receiving estimates regarding the work that will need to be done. The initial cost projections are \$4,000- \$10,000, depending on the extent of the damage and needed door/frame replacement.

Finally, the parish rectory is sorely in need of a new roof. Upon recent inspection by the Diocesan Facilities Director, the present roof was deemed "very much overdue" for replacement. It was pointed out that whole sections of roof are missing shingles. The strong winds and heavy rains at Christmas further damaged the roof resulting in some water damage to the rectory interior. We are in the process of receiving estimates for the roof replacement project.

March 8th update: The rectory roof work is now complete!

TODAY IS LAETARE SUNDAY

This week, the fourth week of Lent, we reach the mid-point of the Lenten Season.

The Mass vestments this Sunday are *rose* colored, rather than the customary Lenten violet. The custom dates back to the middle ages when the Pope (the Bishop of Rome) carried a single rose in his right hand when returning from Mass. At the time, the rose was a symbol of Christ due to its being at once beautiful and yet covered with thorns, a reminder of Christ's painful crown of thorns. The Pope's carrying the rose was a visual reminder that the celebration of Christ's Passion is not far off. Soon, during Holy week, united with the entire church, we will experience the beauty and the pain of Christ's love for us. While the Pope's custom was eventually abandoned, the symbolism continues with the rose-colored vestments.

It isn't too late to make this Lenten Season a time of personal renewal through prayer, fasting and works of charity. The word "Lent" comes from the old English word for "springtime." Looking around, we can now definitely see some subtle signs of spring appearing. The liturgy is inviting us to experience a "springtime" within. How can you renew yourself from within? How can we as a parish "grow" more perfectly into the image of the Risen Christ?

LOOKING AHEAD TO HOLY WEEK 2021

March 27-28, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the

Lord: Palm branches will be blessed and the Passion of the Lord proclaimed at all Masses this weekend.

March 29 at 9:00 am Mass for Monday of Holy Week

March 30 at 9:00 am Mass for Tuesday of Holy week

March 31 at 9:00 am Mass for Wednesday of Holy Week

There will be no Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesday of Holy week

April 1st, Holy Thursday: There is no 9 am Mass on Holy Thursday.

The Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at 7:00 pm. The church will be open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 pm.

April 2, Good Friday: **The Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 3:00 pm.**

The Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Death will be celebrated at 7:00pm.

April 3, Holy Saturday: **The Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter will be celebrated at 7:00pm.** (There are no confessions and no 4:30 pm Mass on Holy Saturday.)

April 4th, Easter Sunday: Masses on Easter Sunday will be celebrated at 8:30 am and 10:30 am.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Mass Intentions

March 13 to March 21, 2021

Sat March 13

4:30pm MFP: Mass for the people

Sun March 14

8:30am Anniv 29: Eleanor Such
req. by Janet Such

10:30am Mem: Barbara Spence
req. by Kim, Mike & Shae Fitzpatrick

Mon March 15

9:00am Month's Mind: Raymond Turini
req. by Terri & Dave King

Tues March 16

9:00am Mem: John Kelly
req. by the estate of Frances Underwood

Wed March 17

9:00am For those mourning the loss of
someone they love

Thurs March 18

9:00am Mem: David Desarro
req. by Frank & Annie George

Sat March 20

4:30pm MFP: Mass for the people

Sun March 21

8:30am Mem: Matthew Bruce

10:30am Mem: Fr. Timothy O'Mara

Liturgical Roles

LORD'S DAY MASSES

March 20 & 21, 2021

Sat March 20 4:30pm

Priest: Fr. Steven Labaire

Lector: Ria Garriepy

Acolytes: Scott Camilleri

Barbara Mard

Sun March 21 8:30am

Priest: Fr. Steven Labaire

Lector: Paula Alexandrowicz

Acolytes: Scott Camilleri

Barbara Mard

Sun March 21 10:30am

Priest: Fr. Steven Labaire

Deacon: Mick Beck

Lector: Harold Knapp

Acolyte: Janet Knapp

PARTNERS IN CHARITY APPEAL UPDATE

This February every member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish is invited to support the work of the Catholic Community of Central MA made possible through this annual appeal. Our parish goal is \$58,600. **To date we have raised \$40,650.00 (69% of our goal). We are in need of \$17,950.00 to reach our goal.** Please complete your pledge envelope. The pledge envelopes are available in the pews and also have been mailed to all parish members. It is important for all of us to participate in order to support our mission as a diocese. Please be as generous as possible. If you have already made a gift to the 2021 Appeal we thank you. Your gift will help us in reaching our parish goal. You can also make your gift online at www.partners-charity.net. If you know how to send a text message, you can make a donation to Partners in Charity in seconds on your phone. Best yet, Our Lady of Good Counsel will receive credit. Text the word **donate84576**. Thank you!



TICKETS FOR EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

Although capacity limits have been raised for Houses of Worship in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, out of an abundance of caution, entry to the church for the **8:30 am and**

10:30 am Easter Sunday Masses on April 4th will be on a ticket basis only. The tickets will be available after Masses this weekend (March 13-14) and next (March 20-21). No ticket will be required for the 7pm Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday, April 3rd. We encourage parishioners, especially this year in light of the continued restrictions to consider attending the Saturday Easter Vigil.

MARCH 14, 2021

WE JOIN IN PRAYER

- + We join our hearts in prayer to all those overwhelmed by anxiety and fear.
- + We pray for healing, respectful dialogue and unity in our nation.
- + 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 assure essential services, especially police officers, firefighters and emergency help providers.
- + We pray for those facing financial hardships.
- + We keep **Pope Francis' personal prayer intention for the month of March: That the Sacrament of Reconciliation be an occasion for many to taste the infinite mercy of God.**
- + We pray that this season of Lent be a time of spiritual renewal for our entire parish. We pray for all those preparing for the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.
- + 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 our departed brothers and sisters, especially for Father Dennis Timothy O'Mara, Pastor of Saint Parish in Blackstone who died suddenly last week. May all the dead find mercy and peace with God.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Week of Sunday March 7, 2021

Parish Offertory Income: \$6673.00

Electronic Giving Income: \$1072.00

Parish Expenses Paid: \$5759.90

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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