

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.



UNDERSTANDING OUR LITURGY

PART SEVEN :

THE FINAL WEEKS OF LENT: PASSIONTIDE

During the forty days of Lent, we “fast” from certain foods and activities so as to master our desires and to give of our resources to care for the hungry and the poor. In the liturgy we

“fast” from singing the *Gloria* and the *Alleluia* in order to sing them with renewed exuberance and joy on Easter Day. We “fast” from flowers at the altar so as to more deeply appreciate these tokens of beauty and life on the day of the Lord’s resurrection.

Now, during the last two weeks of Lent, our “fasting” is extended further. The statues, images and crosses of the church are veiled as we “fast” from the images of devotion.

The last two weeks of Lent are often referred to as Passiontide because the readings and prayers for Mass draw our attention to the Passion and Death of our Lord Jesus Christ. During this period, the covering of the familiar objects of devotion calls us to focus more intently on the solemn liturgical celebrations to come.

Fasting is the practice of “letting go” or foregoing something for a while so that we can experience it with renewed meaning and appreciation at a later time. During the COVID-19 epidemic so many have had to undertake a necessary “fasting” from being with family and friends, “fasting” from hugging and embracing those we love. It is our deepest hope that this temporary, yet necessary, “fasting” from our usual human connections will lead us all to a deeper appreciation of the bonds of love and affection. To put it simply: When the long Lent of our Covid “fasting” is over, may we more deeply cherish and never take for granted the embrace of those we love!

March 21, 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.

March 15th update: The property is now 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 15th update: The rectory roof work is now complete. Repair and painting of interior areas damaged by water has now begun. Father Adriano, our resident priest, has enlisted volunteers from the Brazilian community to replace flooring and repaint basement laundry room which is sorely need of repair. Thank you, Father Adriano and friends!



LOOKING AHEAD TO HOLY WEEK 2021

United with the whole church, we gather to celebrate the holiest week of the Christian calendar. Our schedule of liturgies is as follows:

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. Tickets are required for these two Masses.



WEST BOYLSTON FOOD PANTRY NEWS

The Agricultural Commission is sponsoring a food drive at the First Congregational Church on April 11 from 1-4 pm. to benefit the West Boylston Food Pantry .

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Mass Intentions

March 20 to March 28, 2021

Sat March 20

4:30pm MFP: Mass for the people

Sun March 21

8:30am Anniv 6: Matthew Bruce

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

Wed March 24

9:00am Anniv 40: Delia French

Anniv 17: Marion Lecuyer

req. by Siobhan Bohanson

Thurs March 25

9:00am Anniv 8: Jack McGrail

req. by Linda McGrail

Sat March 27

4:30pm Anniv 31: Roger Nowak
req. by Barbara Wyatt & family

Sun March 28

8:30am MFP: Mass for the people

10:30am Mem: Cesare Cappellini

req. by Terri & Dave King & family



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 20-21 and at the parish office during usual office hours. 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.

Liturgical Roles

LORD'S DAY MASSES

March 27 & 28, 2021

Sat March 27 4:30pm

Priest: Fr. Steven Labaire

Deacon: Mick Beck

Lectors: Phil Mallet & Ria Garriepy

Acolyte: Janine Gould

Sun March 28 8:30am

Priest: Fr. Steven Labaire

Lectors: Ed Goodwin & Alan Farwell

Acolytes: Scott Camilleri
Jim Bruce

Sun March 28 10:30am

Priest: Fr. Steven Labaire

Lectors: Vincent Vignaly & Deb Puleo

Acolytes: Scott Camilleri
Shirley Pukaite

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 \$41,870.00. We are in need of \$16,730.00 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!

MARCH 21, 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 these final weeks 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 those lost to the ongoing pandemic. May all the dead find mercy and peace with God.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Week of Sunday March 13, 2021

Parish Offertory Income: \$3688.00

Electronic Giving Income: \$1072.00

Parish Expenses Paid: \$6635.94

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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consultation.
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