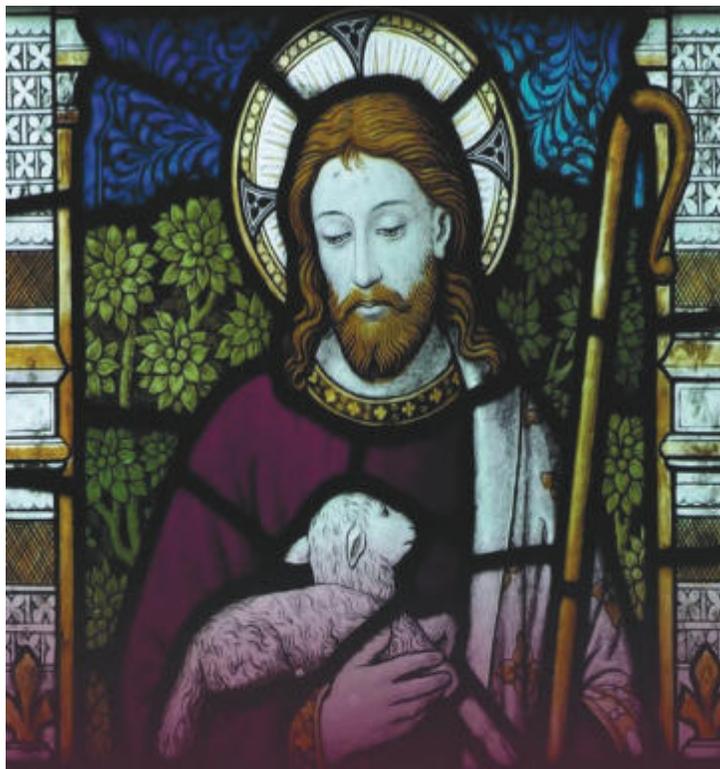


Our Lady of Good Counsel

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!



4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd." - Jn 10:17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 GCD.

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 TEN: LIGHTING VOTIVE CANDLES IN CHURCH

Upon entering our parish church you will notice white

votive (vigil) candles burning to the left and to the right of the sanctuary in front of the images of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and the tableau of the North American Saints.

The custom reaches back to the earliest centuries of the church.

Our Christian ancestors would often place small lighted oil lamps at the tombs of martyrs. The lighted lamp represented the prayer of the individual seeking the intercession of the brave and heroic martyr. It was way of expressing the hope that we would obtain the strength that the martyr possessed in our own daily struggles.

In time the custom of lighting candles before the images of any saint prevailed. And yet the connection with prayer continued.

When we see the tiny flames of the votive lights flicker, we should remember that the flame represents someone's prayer. Within the church we are surrounded by the prayers of others. The flame invites us to join our prayers to theirs.

Anyone may light a votive candle whenever coming to church to pray. The offering for each candle is \$10. The proceeds from the candle offerings go to support the charitable works of the **Saint Vincent de Paul Society**.

Hence, in lighting the candle we bring light to the church and to our community. The flame of the burning candle is a "prayer-filled" reminder of our charity helping those most in need. Through prayer and good works, the work of Christ and the saints carries on!



April 25, 2021



LEGACY OF HOPE CAMPAIGN

Our parish is now participating in the diocesan **Legacy of Hope Campaign**. Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish is part of a final group of parishes participating.

Already our neighbors at Saint Richard's in Sterling, Saint Mary's in Jefferson, Saint Rose of Lima in Northborough and Saint Mary's in Shrewsbury have successfully participated in this endeavor.

Legacy of Hope has been launched in recognition of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Worcester. It is intended to help shape the future of the Catholic community throughout Worcester County and here at our home at Our Lady of Good Counsel.

The campaign seeks to support our retired priests, parish-based Charitable Outreach and Evangelization, the Cathedral of Saint Paul, and most importantly, our own parish needs.

We do have a number of issues that need to be addressed on the parish property: the front church steps, front walkway and the north side (town common side) exterior church entrance steps are in urgent need of repair. The church steeple is deteriorating and the chimes no longer function properly. The church chimney needs to be re-pointed. The parking lot entrance door to the church needs to be completely replaced. Water damage has warped the transom and damaged the foundation. Many parishioners have commented that after 35 years, the church interior could use a fresh repainting. Beyond all this, our parish hall could certainly use repainting and repairing as well.

Neither our present parish resources nor the sale of the property on Church Street will cover the expenditures required to address all our needs. However, with careful prioritization of our needs, prudent use of our present resources, along with a generous response to the **Legacy of Hope**, we can attend to the lion's share of our challenges.

A parish is certainly more than buildings! But we cannot ignore the buildings either. Like a home, they provide a place for us to gather. Our parish church was built through the sacrifices of those who have gone before us. Now we have an opportunity to uphold the legacy.

More information will be shared during the upcoming weeks. There will be opportunities for questions and answers pertaining to all aspects of the campaign. It is important that those who participate feel confident about how the funds will be used and that there be a clearly defined plan and timetable as to what needed parish projects will be undertaken first.

JOB DESCRIPTION FOR PARISH OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Terri King, our parish office administrator, will be retiring this summer. What follows is a job description for the position which is now open for applications.

Job title: Parish Office Administrator. Reports to: Pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish. Position status: Part time: 24 hours per week.

Purpose: The parish office administrator is responsible for managing the administrative and business affairs of the parish while working with church members and staff to achieve the parish's mission objectives.

Job skills and requirements: A regular participant in the life of the church being familiar with the rhythm and patterns of parish life; ability to collaborate closely with the pastor; an ability to communicate effectively with a variety of "publics," including other parish staff/ministers, business vendors, community leaders and parishioners with various needs and requests both in-person, via phone and by internet; computer skills in Microsoft Word, Access, Excel; willingness to learn ParishSoft computer platform; ability to work with specific deadlines; attentiveness to detail.

Applicants should submit a resume and 3 recommendations/references to Fr. Steven.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mass Intentions

April 24 to May 2, 2021

Sat April 24

4:30pm Month's Mind: Jack McCormick
req. by Terri & Dave King

Sun April 25

8:30am MFP: Mass for the people

10:30am Mem: Anthony Tambolleo &
deceased members of Tambolleo family
req by the family

Wed April 28

9:00am Month's Mind: Charles Bryan
req. by the David Hennessy family

Thurs April 29

9:00am Mem: Barbara Ann Doyle
req. by the estate of Frances Underwood

Sat May 1

4:30pm MFP: Mass for the people

Sun May 2

8:30am Mem: George Holland, Jr.
req by Dick Holland

10:30am: Mem: Junie, Nettie, Ginny,
George, Edward, Michael Brennan
req by the Brennan family



SUMMER YOUTH VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Team registration is now open for the 2021 Worcester Diocese Summer Youth Volleyball League! The league is open to youth *currently* in grades 7-12. Our Lady of Good Counsel has had a team for a number of years and folks have had a lot fun playing.

The commitment would be Monday evenings from Mid June to early August and maybe a practice or two at the beginning...just to get to know each other! We play at St. Christopher's on West Boylston Street or St. Joseph's in Charlton.

This is a RECREATIONAL league. It is all about having fun and building community! Don't worry about skill level. The parish pays the registration fee for the team. The only cost a player is responsible for is \$10 for a shirt.

If you are interested, please reach out to Andrea Allen andreapallen@aol.com or 413-478-3338.

Liturgical Roles

LORD'S DAY MASSES

May 1 & 2, 2021

Sat May 1 4:30pm

Priest: Fr. Steven Labaire
Lector: John Eisner
Acolytes: Scott Camilleri
Barbara Mard

Sun May 2 8:30am

Priest: Fr. Steven Labaire
Deacon: Mick Beck
Lector: Paula Alexandrowicz
Acolyte: Jim Bruce

Sun May 2 10:30am

Priest: Fr. Steven Labaire
Lector: Bev Salate
Acolytes: Scott Camilleri
Janet Knapp

PARTNERS IN CHARITY APPEAL UPDATE

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 \$45,240.00 (77%) of our goal. We are in need of \$13,360.00 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. Text the word **donate84576**. Thank you!

APRIL 25, 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 an end to the violence and shootings plaguing 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.
- + **Pope Francis' personal prayer intention for the month of April: We pray for those striving to uphold basic human rights under dictatorships, authoritative regimes and democracies in crisis.**
- + We pray that the Easter Season be a time of spiritual renewal for our entire parish. We pray for Michael, Jacob and Diane who received the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.
- + We pray for our parishioners who are sick or recovering from injury, illness or surgery, especially, retired Deacon John Barton and Father Thirbuse Millott.
- + We pray for our departed brothers and sisters. May all the dead find mercy and peace with God.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Week of Sunday April 18, 2021

Parish Offertory Income: \$6117.00

Electronic Giving Income: \$1072.00

Parish Expenses Paid: \$2246.40

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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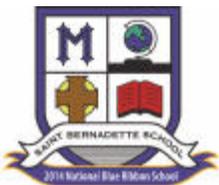
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