Our Lady of Good Counsel
Roman Catholic Church

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PARISH TRUSTEES

Bob Cipoletti, Bev Rothman

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday
8:00am, 11:15am

Weekdays
8:00am

Saturday
5:00pm Vigil

Holy Days
8:00am, 12:00 & 7:00pm

OUR MISSION

"We, the Roman Catholic Community of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, endeavor to create an environment of peace, joy and hospitality.

We are nurtured by the Word of God and the Eucharist.

We welcome each and every person to walk in our mission for the Father, as Disciples of Christ.

We celebrate God's mercy and compassion for all and honor His will as inspired by the Holy Spirit."

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Please contact Carla Troast
973-839-2447 or
ministries@goodcounsel.org

Marriage: Arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance.

Baptism: Celebrated on the first and third weekends each month. Saturday or Sunday at 12:30 pm. Requests for other dates and/or times will be honored as possible.

Penance: Saturdays, 3:45 - 4:30 pm, or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: Those of advanced age and those seriously ill should be prepared to receive this Sacrament. Please contact the parish office to make arrangements.

SANCTUARY CANDLE MEMORIAL

THIS WEEKEND
THE SANCTUARY CANDLE
WILL BURN IN MEMORY OF ...

BRIAN SPRING

MASS INTENTIONS

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CHURCH

SATURDAY, September 18th - Blessed Virgin Mary
8:00AM People of the Parish †
5:00PM Paul McLaughlin † Dr. Charles F. DelRosso †

SUNDAY, September 19th - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00AM Jack Moran † Brian Spring †
9:30AM People of the Parish †
11:15AM Therese Sabbath † MaryAnn Evans † Warren Helms †

MONDAY, September 20th - Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Paul Chŏng Ha-sang
8:00AM Mary Kavanaugh †

TUESDAY, September 21st - St. Matthew
8:00AM Jeanne Marie Cromley - Special Intention

WEDNESDAY, September 22nd
8:00AM Emilio Reyes †

THURSDAY, September 23rd - St. Pius of Pietrelcina
8:00AM Vincent Albano † Joseph Messino †

FRIDAY, September 24th
8:00AM Kristin Compton - Special Intention

SATURDAY, September 25th
8:00AM People of the Parish †
5:00PM People of the Parish †

SUNDAY, September 26th - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00AM Julia & Joseph Messino †
11:15AM Evelyn Johannemann † Therese Sabbath † Lou Oberti † John L. McAloney † Martin Quinn †

PRAYER REQUESTS

FOR THE SICK

Luca Ataide
Sandra Bellomo
Marilyn Beneventine
Ben Beneventine
Doug Billitz
Tricia Billitz
Anastasia Borovskis
Gavin Brady
Evelina Capelli
Dina Conforti
Yolanda Chavez
Jeanne Cromley
Mary DeWitt
Kira Dilley
Adelaide Elliott
Kathleen Hart
Lydia Hartford
Vince Herald
James Horvath
Maureen Karsen
Eileen Kapotes
Nancy Klein
Therese Knight
Jennifer Kraft
Bob LoFaro
Deacon Alan Lucibello
Roger Lynch
Jim Mackin, Jr.
Cindy McLaren
Thomas J. McCloughy
Maureen McIntosh
Deanna Melone
Bill Michaels
Maryann Miksits
Geraldine Moore
Jesse Morella
Maureen Morella
Beth Newman
Fr. John Pierce
Constance Quarantino
Jeanne Sabido
Kara Skafalstad
Julien Ste Marie
Edward Thomson

FOR THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY

PFC Christian Baxter
MAJ Daniel J. Ciccarelli
PVT Brandon Janz
MAJ Craig T. Robertson
SGT Andrew Tucker

HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?

When Requested, names will be included on the "Pray for the Sick" list for 4 weeks. If you would like the name added again or, if someone's name can be removed sooner, please let us know. Also, let us know if you have a loved one serving in the armed forces. Call 973-839-2447 or email ministries@goodcounsel.org.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

There is something about being first. Whether it be first in line, first to be picked for the team, or the first one to finish their work, great satisfaction is achieved. Our egos love being first. It somehow sets us apart from everyone else, gives us a sense of pride and positions us to feel better than others. When we are first, we can glory in our efforts, skills, and achievements. Isn't that what really matters? After all, we are taught from a very young age to be proficient, stay on top, be the best at what we do, and win the praise and esteem of others. This is the stuff that makes us successful and provides us with a comfortable, satisfying life.

Jesus wants none of it. All of the details we anguish over mean little to the kingdom of God. You want to be first? Then, be a servant and welcome a child. All of this is the opposite of our often vehement pursuits. If we are serious about following Jesus and living the Gospel, then we must put the needs of others before our own. If we continue to listen only to the noise of the world, we are going to continue to believe the illusions we inherit. Those illusions come in many forms, but all have things in common: me before you, being on top and not the bottom, us versus them, personal security over universal harmony and peace. When are we going to learn that always striving to be the best and first is an empty pursuit in our struggle for happiness? While satisfying our ego with this momentary boost of esteem may feel good for a moment, is it what we really desire?

If we can break from the world's noise and create a space of sacred silence in our lives, we can begin to listen and see that we are being called in another direction. What we really desire is not the bolstering of our egos but the innocence we lost somewhere along the way. When we can be playful, joyful, and even somewhat carefree, life is good. We want our relationships to work, a place to call home, and to live peaceful lives with our sisters and brothers. Only a servant can do this. The servant's prayer seeks to detach from self-concern in order to be used by God. Rather than worrying about being first and coming out on top, we can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led to do good works. Stop worrying about being first and put greater energy into feeling joy.

STEWARDSHIP – A WAY OF LIFE

WEEKLY COLLECTION:

September 12, 2021: $6,876.00
Pennies for the Poor: $43.00

DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT

Collections resume Sept. 19th

Next weekend: There is only one collection.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

First Reading:
Let us condemn him to a shameful death; for according to his own words, God will take care of him. (Wis 2:20)

Psalm:
The Lord upholds my life. (Ps 54)

Second Reading:
And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace. (Jas 3:18)

Gospel:
"The Son of Man is to be handed over to men and they will kill him, and three days after his death the Son of Man will rise." (Mk 9:31)

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Virtual GIFT Class

Classes will be virtual next week. Please look for an email via Flocknote with the link for your child's specific grade.

Update your Flocknote!

Did you update the new grades for your children? Here's how: Log in to Flocknote and click the grey and white person icon in the top left part of the screen. Your profile will pop up on the right side of the screen; click on the groups icon to see the ministries you are getting messages from. Scroll down to the bottom of your list and click on the Join another group button, and you can add the specific grade(s) for your family.

Did You Know?

Growing In Faith Together is our integrated Youth & Religious Education ministry known as GIFT. Using guidelines from the Diocese of Paterson and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, GIFT Ministry offers developmentally appropriate programs, activities and catechesis that promote personal and spiritual growth for children in grades Kindergarten through 12.

Why are Catholics required to fast before communion?

The practice of fasting before receiving the Eucharist is a centuries-old act of devotion that was once very different than it is today. In the 1917 Code of Canon Law, for example, anyone who wanted to receive the Eucharist had to fast from midnight until the time of communion (even water and medications were forbidden). Over the following decades, the rules for the Eucharistic fast were relaxed, first by Pope Pius XII and, later, by Pope Saint Paul VI.

The current Code of Canon Law (1983) states very clearly: "A person who is to receive the Most Holy Eucharist is to abstain for at least one hour before holy communion from any food and drink, except for only water and medicine" (Canon 919, §1). And, in the case of those who are ill and the elderly, the rules are even more accommodating, "The elderly, the infirm, and those who care for them can receive the Most Holy Eucharist even if they have eaten something within the preceding hour" (Canon 919, §3).

So, if we strictly follow the "letter of the law," the fast is calculated from the time of Holy Communion and not the start of Mass. However, when we remember why we fast — it is a reminder of the deeper hungers of the spirit that our physical thirst or hunger symbolize — we see that the issue is much bigger than simply fulfilling what is called for by Church Law and tradition. Joining fasting to our prayers and reflection before Mass is an opportunity to really center ourselves and to prepare our minds, hearts, and bodies to welcome the One we receive in the Eucharist.

Kids Corner

READ THE GOSPEL & COLOR

God smiles when you help others. Take water to the thirsty. Donate your old clothes to the needy. Comfort those who are crying. Give one of your toys to a child with no toys. Share your favorite blanket with a child who is cold. If you spend your life helping others, God will take your hand and say, "Come, my child. Live with me in heaven forever."

PRAYER
Lord, fill my heart with love to help others, even when I would rather play a game.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK
Every day I will ask my parents, "Do you need any help?"

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SAVE THE DATE

Tues., Sept. 21st - Engage! - 7pm, Gathering Area. Join us for the second in the two-part series from Bishop Barron. Didn't attend the first session? No worries! You can still attend on 9/21.

Wed., Sept. 23rd - Women of Faith - 7pm, Holy Family Room. All women of the parish are invited to participate in their program "A Biblical Walk Through the Mass".

Sun., Sept. 26th - Parish Picnic! Join us after the 11:15am Mass. Great food, games, activities & more!

Tues., Sept. 28th - Year of Love Book Club begins! - We hope you will join us for this exciting program, which runs for 5 weeks, concluding on 10/26. Each week we hold 2 sessions, 10am & 7pm - Register for the time that fits your schedule, visit our website at: **www.goodcounsel.org/book-club-registration**

Mon., Oct. 4th - Blessing of Animals - Celebrate St. Francis of Assisi, a great lover of animals, by having your pet blessed! Join us in the parking lot at 3:15pm. For the safety of all our pets, dogs must be leashed, carriers are recommended for other small pets.

Tues., Oct. 5th - Year of Love Book Club continues with sessions at 10am & 7pm in the Holy Family Room.
Rosary Altar Society—Monthly meeting at 7pm in the Church. All women of the parish are invited!

Youth Ministry Tip:

Nearly 3 out of 4 young people are religious, but they don't always feel their faith community is a place they can turn to. Want to learn more about supporting the youth of our parish? Click here for a brief research report: springtide-guide-for-serving-young-people.pdf (springtideresearch.org)

RCIA
A STRONG START TO THE FAITH

The RCIA is a journey - a process of conversion both for those interested in becoming Catholic and those who are Baptized, but have not received First Eucharist and/or Confirmation.

These three Sacraments are called the Sacraments of Initiation, and make us full members in the Catholic Church. The ancient Church administered all three Sacraments together at the Easter Vigil to *catechumens*, the unbaptized who spent time being formed in the faith. The RCIA program recalls this ancient journey, and provides the formation necessary to receive one or more of the Sacraments of Initiation.

Adults interested in RCIA come to us by many paths. Perhaps they were invited by a spouse, fiancé, friend, neighbor or parishioner. Others experience a calling by the Holy Spirit on their own.

OLGC's RCIA begins with weekly sessions, Sundays after the reading of the Gospel at Mass, to reflect and discuss briefly, and one evening per week for instruction and discussion of the Catholic faith.

Our RCIA journey begins in October for those who are not yet Baptized, and in January for those who have been Baptized but have not received their other Sacraments.

If you or someone you know has an interest in the RCIA, please email Deacon Marc Mackin at: deaconmarc@goodcounsel.org or call the church office.

Life!

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL CHOICE

Father Frank Pavone, National Director of Priests for Life, has a message for lawmakers and others throughout the country who oppose the Texas Heartbeat Law and the protections it extends to unborn children: "If you don't like the law, come and take it. We're ready."

Father Pavone said he and other national pro-life leaders have been gauging the increasingly hysterical reaction that pro-abortion activists, politicians and media pundits have had to the law and to pro-lifers. "We know full well that the other side is in hysterics, but their reaction is not reasonable...They are reading things into the law that aren't there and in desperation are striking out at pro-lifers. But that's what they have been doing for almost 50 years, so we're used to it.

"We are ready to do battle on a number of fronts. First and foremost, and as always, the pro-life movement stands ready to extend a hand to any woman who had been planning an abortion and now is planning instead for the birth of her child. We are here to help.

"We are ready for the legal challenges to come because we are confident that the Texas Heartbeat Law has staying power. "We are ready, finally, to use the attention being paid to this law as a teachable moment, when we can show and tell ordinarily complacent Americans about life in the womb. My Heart Beats Just Like Yours, a Priests for Life initiative...aims to introduce people to the unborn children in the early stages of pregnancy...There is no longer a way for abortion extremists to ignore the science..."

Father Pavone concluded: "The pro-life movement is advancing. We are winning, and the other side knows it. And we will not stop until every child is protected, every Mom and Dad assisted, and every wound healed. So if you oppose it, then as Texans say..., *come and take it.**

** The expression "come and take it" stems from the Battle of Gonzales in 1835, when American colonists refused to give a canon back to the Mexican army. The famous flag from that Gonzales clash has become a hallmark of Texas pride. Priests for Life (EndAbortion.US)*

May God richly bless you,

Heather

Mission of Hope

October 31 — Nov. 7

MISSION TRIP

Join us as at Batey Lecheria outside of Santo Domingo! We will spend time doing service projects in the local community and at both the school and church we helped to build and sustain.

Plans are to depart Sunday morning, 10/31 and return Sunday evening, 11/7. ***Total cost is $800 ($750 for those who help at our Fish Fry fundraiser or packing events.)*** The cost includes: airfare, food, lodging & transportation.

Under normal circumstances we would have months to form a group but this year we delayed locking in our airfare until we felt comfortable that travel would be safe due to COVID.

All participants are required to be vaccinated.

Safety will always be our top priority and if things should change, we will cancel.

Decisions need to be made quickly. - There are 21 seats available on a first come basis.

Interested? Contact Nancy Baran at 908-425-1380 or email: njbaran06@gmail.com

Want to help but can't travel?

Consider purchasing school supplies, while the sales are still going! There is no limitation to what we can use - if it can be used by students or teachers, we would be very grateful for any and all donations. Last year's backpack needing an upgrade? We welcome used backpacks as well! A collection barrel can be found in the entrance to the church.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of this mission.

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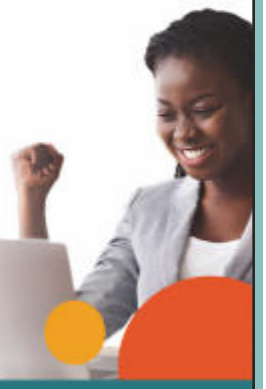

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