

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church Endicott, NY

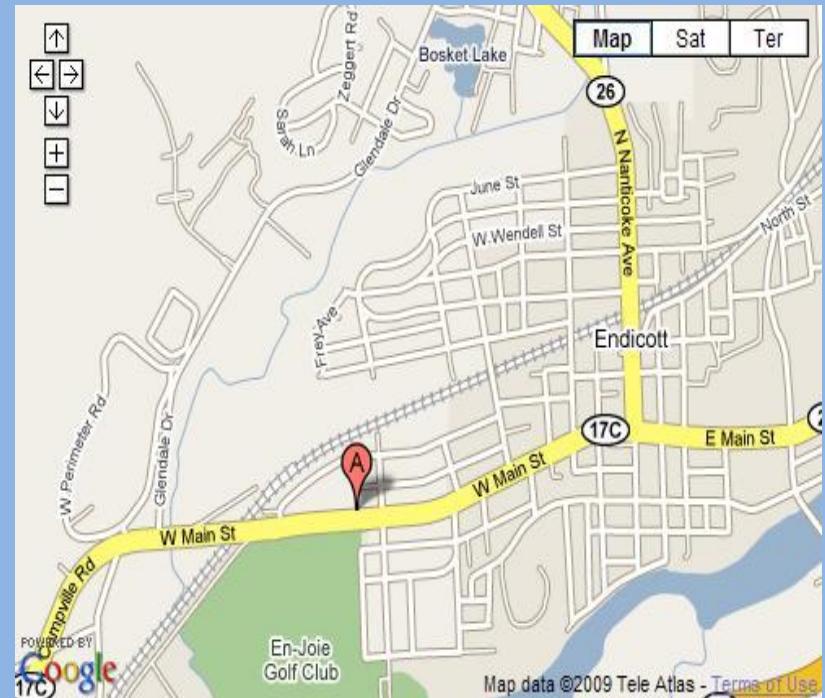
A Brief History

Parish History/Timeline

- November 3, 1940 Our Lady of Good Counsel had its beginnings on as a Mission Church of St. Ambrose parish under the patronage of Monsignor Alexis L. Hopkins.
- The new church would serve 243 Endicott families in the area west of Nanticoke Avenue.
- August 31, 1941 - Construction completed
- September 6, 1941 - Reverend Charles O'Farrell was appointed the first pastor. Father resided in the rectory of St. Ambrose until a suitable dwelling was found close to the church.
- October 1941 Our Lady of Good Counsel church was officially dedicated by Bishop Walter Foery.

What was my church's focus at the founding? What stories have been passed down from that time?

- Establishing a church to serve the Catholic community west of Nanticoke Ave in Endicott
- OLG has never been identified with any specific ethnic immigrant community
- OLG inherited a generation of IBM, General Electric, Endicott Johnson workers who established a Parish home for their children
- BAE, Lockheed Martin still attract employees from around the country that find a home at OLG
- OLG continues a rich tradition of outreach and pastoral ministries.



Endicott

Mission Churches of St. Ambrose

- August 1941 – Our Lady of Good Counsel, Endicott
 - \$38,541.78 for construction
 - 243 families 925 People
- January 1942 – Our Lady of Sorrows, Vestal (across the river)
 - \$16,332.03 of which \$10,365.39 was for construction
 - 65 families
- January 1949 – Christ the King, Endwell
 - 112 families

In the early days (circa 1941)



CardCow.com

August 1941 – Our Lady of Good Counsel Church

- **\$38,541.78 for construction**



Parish History/School

- **September 25, 1948** - 176 students attended Catechetical classes.
- **September 1954** – Enrollment increases to 1,700, and four Sisters of St. Francis were responsible for the largest Catechetical Center in the Diocese.
- This prompted a call to build a school.
- **September 7, 1960** – 200 Students attended classes in the new school. Beginning with the first four grades and adding a grade each year until eight grades and a capacity of 400 students was reached.
- **Total Cost of construction \$415,000** & included a **2nd floor penthouse convent** that could accommodate 20 sisters.



Sister Kathleen Owens, Sister M. Paulette, Sister James Michael, Sister M. Renatta

OLGC Past



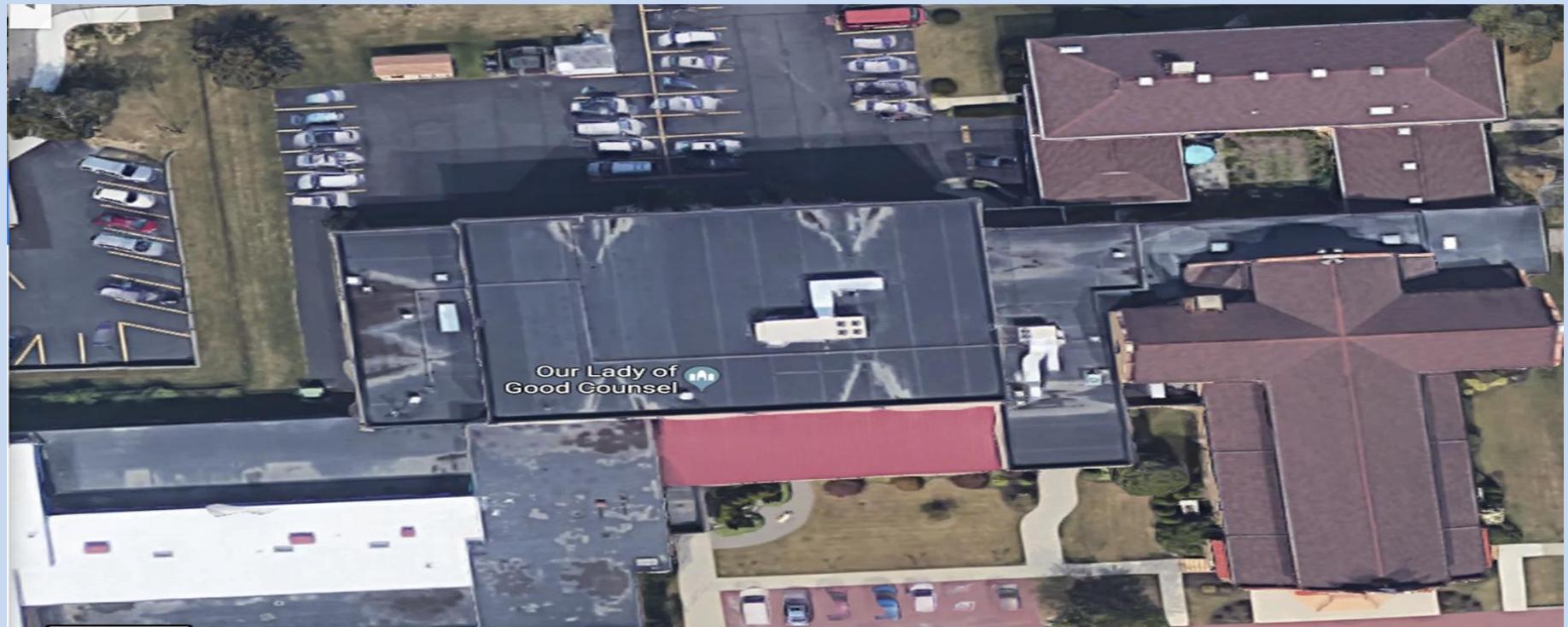
Our Lady of Good Counsel Today



Parish Center & Atrium
added in 2006



Birds eye view



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
Endicott, New York
1940-Present

Father Alexis L. Hopkins, Patron
1940-1941
Father Charles M. O'Farrell, Pastor
1941-1963
Father John K. Ryan
1946-1947
Father Robert P. Donovan
1947-1950
Father Donald J. Slimbaugh
1950-1952
Father J. Robert Quigley
1951-1953
Father Leo J. Crowley
1952-1953
Father Edgar M. Holihan
1953-1955
Father William S. Baker
1956-1964
Father Paul T. LeStrange
1959-1960
Father Donald C. VanAmburgh
1961-1968 & 1978
Father William J. Kiefer, Pastor
1963-1965
Father Eugene L. Gacek
1964-1968 & 1971-1978
Father John H. Alfred, Pastor
1965-1984
Father G. David Sears
1966-1967
Father Edmund J. Durr
1967-1968
Father Joseph P. Kearney
1968-1969
Father Daniel G. Murphy
1969-1971
Father Thomas E. Keating
1970-1972
Father Jerome A. Katz
1972-1973
Father Richard M. Snyder
1973-1976
Father Bernard F. Walsh
1974
Father James T. Queen
1978-1979

Seminarians

Clifford A. Auth 1996-1997
Paul Carman 1999

Members of OLGC Ordained

Father James J. Cuddy 1962
Father James Herter
Father William S. Dinga 1975

Father Richard E. Dellos
1979-1985
Father William T. Guckert
1979-1983
Father Thomas J. Catucci
1983-1987
Father William Powell
1983-1984
Father Thomas F. Hobbes, Pastor
1984-1994
Father Jerome F. Weber
1984-1985
Father Joseph A. Pace
1991-1992
Father Robert G. Tierney
1992-1993
Father Corey S. VanKuren
1993-1994
Father John M. Quinn
1994-1995
Father Richard J. Giblin, Pastor
1994-1998
Father Stephen P. Wirkes
1994-1995
Father James M. Cesta
1995-1996
Father Darr F. Schoenhofen
1997-1998
Father Edward J. Zandy, Pastor
1998-2010
Father Brian E. Lang
1998-1999
Father Charles A. Currie
1999-2000
Father Edward Owusu-Ansah
2002-2005
Father Slawomir Urbanczyk
2007
Father Michael Galuppi, Pastor
2010-2021
Father Richard P. Prior Jr., Pastor
2022-Present

Deacons

Deacon Thomas Harley 1991-Present
Deacon Michael Carroll 2022-Present
Deacon Paul Heiland 2022-Present

By: Robert A. Shelansky

Who were our Pastors, and what was their tenure? Each Pastor transitioned out as determined by the Bishop

Pastors

1. Fr. Charles M. O'Farrell 1941 – 1963
2. Fr. William J. Kiefer 1963 – 1965
3. Fr. John H. Alfred 1965 – 1984
4. Fr. Thomas F. Hobbes 1984 – 1994
5. Fr. Richard J. Giblin 1994 – 1998
6. Fr. Edward J. Zandy 1998 – 2010
7. Fr. Michael P. Galuppi 2010 - 2021
8. Fr. Richard P. Prior, Jr. 2022 - Present

Our Longest Serving Clergyman - Deacon Thomas Harley 1995 - Present



Ministries & Organizations

- **Ministries**

- **Liturgical:**

- Eucharistic ministers

- Adult Funeral Servers

- Lectors

- Ushers & Greeters

- Youth Altar Servers

- Seder Dinner

- Stations of the Cross during Lent

- Memorial & Healing during the year

- **Pastoral Care:**

- Visitation Ministry

- Jail Ministry

- Funeral Planning Ministry

- Transportation Ministry

- Emergency Home Help Ministry

- Minor Repair Ministry

Ministries & Organizations

- **Youth Minstry**
- **God's Garden Ministry**
- **Over 50 Luncheon First Fridays**
- **Fresh Air Fund Ministry**
- **Music Ministry**
 - Adult Choir All Weekend Masses
 - Resurrection Choir for Funerals & Memorial Services
- **From The Heart Ministry**
- **Altar/Rosary Society**
 - Maintain Altar & Altar Linens
 - Provide Flowers throughout the year
 - Decorate Altar for Christmas & Easter

Ministries & Organizations

- **Faith Formation Ministry**
 - Kindergarten & Preschool Program
 - Elementary (Grades 1-5) Program
 - Middle School (Grades 6-8) Program
 - High School (Grades 9-10) Program
 - Bible Study (Adults)
 - Sacramental Preparation
 - OCIA
- **Outreach**
 - Food Pantry
 - Holiday Baskets (Thanksgiving, Christmas & Easter)
 - Soup Kitchen (Friday Evening 5:30-6:30)
 - Funeral Luncheon Ministry
- **Prayer Network Ministry**
- **Craft Ministry**
- **Yarn Ministry** Creates & provides prayer shawls and cancer caps
- **Health Ministry**

What is the relationship of the Parish with the wider denominational family?

Ugandan Girls School Mission

Our mission is to enable women to achieve empowerment and overcome poverty and oppression through education, financial and emotional assistance.

Started as a vague idea, but with a strong commitment to assist poverty-stricken women and girls, it has since flourished into a spiritual and successful journey that brought us to Uganda and Father Varghese's mission there. Through the generosity of the parish, we are currently supporting the education of 46 girls in Iyolwa, Uganda! This provides a life-changing path of hope for these girls.

An excerpt from a letter from Uganda. Rose Mary was raised in deep poverty by her Grandmother before she had the opportunity to go to the school in Iyolwa

I am Rose Mary who has been helped by the family of OLGC. With deep appreciation and gratitude to God and to you, friends from OLGC, for the kind support you render to me and other girls. My life has been a tapestry of challenges and blessings...a journey that has shaped me into the person I am today. I faced circumstances that tested my resilience and determination.

With your help I've completed my Secondary School, and I desire to join the sisters. I discovered my calling to serve a higher purpose, to offer my life in the service of a religious congregation. I am now in Kenya doing my aspirancy. Your contributions have made me who I am today, and for that, I am eternally grateful.

Heifer International Mission

Since the Mission's inception in 2013, our Religious Education Classes 1-12, with Heifer International, have given so much to alleviate poverty for the world's poor. In doing so, the kids have gained so much!

What they've given: Each school year, they've donated to purchase many animals, which lifted families and communities out of a life of poverty. They now have sustainable income and economic security.

What they've gained: They've learned that even kids can make a difference. They've learned the joy of giving and formed a lifetime of commitment to social justice. They've learned about the animals and other cultures and countries. They've learned how fortunate they are in comparison to so many others. **They've also had fun, played games and earned prizes!**

What is the history of the congregation with relation to its building or buildings?

- Church supported all expansion projects through fund raising to relieve the Parish of the debt taken on to complete these projects.
- The only lingering regret was shutting off the view of the Stained Glass windows behind the Altar when the Eucharistic Chapel was created in 1990. This was corrected in 2015 during the Sanctuary Renovation Re-exposing the OLGC windows

Altar(ation)



Before
1991-2016



After
2016-Present

What strands do I see in the present that stretch back to the past?

Altar, Presiders Chair, Ambo, and Baptismal Font were all built by Richard Avery, a 2nd generation parishioner from a charter family.

Crucifix over the Altar, and the Processional Cross are both originals to OLGC, dating back to 1941.

Stained Glass Windows in the Atrium were formerly from St. Mary's Church, Binghamton.

Over 50 Luncheon has been active for 40 years. Wonderful opportunity to connect with "Golden Agers"

How can I use the stories of the past to strengthen the congregation, and myself, in the present?

We hear wonderful stories of how parishioners grieved, celebrated and lived their faith well through our community connections. Sadly, we hear most of these stories during funeral and memorial service reflections.

Still, sharing these memories remind us that we do have a great impact on any and all people in our lives, and recognize the impact others have had upon ours.

Stained Glass Windows

15 Large Stained Glass Windows in the body of the church
depict the 5 Joyful, 5 Sorrowful, 5 Glorious Mysteries of the
Rosary



Stained Glass Windows



THE STORY TOLD BY THE STAINED GLASS WINDOW

Our Lady
of
Good Counsel



Endicott
New York