

St. Hilary of Poitiers Parish

820 SUSQUEHANNA ROAD, RYDAL, PA 19046

215-884-3252 / sthilaryrydal@gmail.com / www.sthilarypoitiers.org

DECEMBER 14, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

JOY



PASTOR'S CORNER

POPE BENEDICT XVI ON WAITING

"Every one of us, therefore, especially in this season which prepares us for Christmas, can ask himself: What am I waiting for? What, at this moment of my life, does my heart long for? And this same question can be posed at the level of the family, of the community, of the nation. What are we waiting for together? What unites our aspirations, what brings them together?"

In the time before Jesus' birth, the expectation of the Messiah was very strong in Israel – that is, the expectation of an Anointed One, a descendent of King David, who would at last set the people free from every form of moral and political slavery, and find the kingdom of God. But no one would have imagined that the Messiah could be born of a humble girl like Mary, the betrothed of a righteous man, Joseph. Nor would she have ever thought of it, and yet in her heart, the expectation of the Savior was so great, her faith and hope were so ardent, that He was able to find in her a worthy mother. Moreover, God himself had prepared her before time. There is a mysterious correspondence between the waiting of God and that of Mary, the creature "full of grace" – totally transparent to the loving plan of the Most High.

Let us learn from her, the Woman of Advent, how to live our daily actions with a new spirit, with the feeling of profound expectation that only the coming of God can fulfill."

-- Angelus address, Nov. 28, 2010

Jesus
Others
You
Joy

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

5:00pm Vigil ~ Kathleen Weiseman

8:30am ~ William and Anna Sheerin

10:30am ~ Daniel Callahan

Monday, December 15, 2025

8:00am ~ Timothy O'Connor

*** 7:00 - 8:00pm ~ *Confessions*

*** *Adoration 8:30am to 4:00pm*

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

8:00am ~ Timothy Smith

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

8:00am ~ Joe Hartey

Thursday, December 18, 2025

8:00am ~ Janet Gliwa

Friday, December 19, 2025

8:00am ~ William and Rosemary Wynne

Saturday, December 20, 2025

5:00pm ~ Walt Griffin, Jr.

Sunday, December 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30am ~ John, Rose and Henry McErlean

10:30am ~ Joe Hartey

*The 2026 Mass Book
for Announced Masses is open.*

ST. HILARY WEDNESDAY NIGHT ROSARY GROUP



Please join us on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm on the first floor of the Parish Center to pray the Rosary. All are welcome! For more information, contact Maria Greenberg 215-603-3092 or mariastell72@gmail.com

CHECK OUT THE ST. HILARY PARISH TWITTER ACCOUNT, INSTAGRAM, AND FACEBOOK PAGE!

St. Hilary of Poitiers Online (Rydal, PA) (@sthilary_rydal) / Twitter

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ANGELUS



The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary, and she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

*Behold the handmaid of the Lord,
Be it done unto me according to your Word.*

Hail Mary...

*And the Word was made flesh,
And dwelt among us.*

Hail Mary...

*Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts: that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

WHY DO CATHOLICS DISPLAY NATIVITY SCENES?

The tradition of displaying nativity scenes began with St. Francis of Assisi, who was awed that God humbled Himself to be born in humility and poverty. To illustrate, he displayed a manger scene in a cave near the Franciscans' chapel, complete with donkey and ox. According to an eyewitness, the wax figure of the Christ Child came alive as he celebrated Christmas Mass. We are reminded that "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

GOT SIN? GET MERCY!

Prepare well for Christmas and let Jesus be your Lord and Redeemer!

There will be confessions

THIS Monday, Dec. 15 from 7:00-8:00pm.

**We will have several priests to assist
with confessions.**

ST. HILARY OF POITIERS SCHOOL
PreK Kindergarten Grades 1-8

**ST. HILARY OF POITIERS
2025 CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL
THIS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13
6:00 - 8:00pm ~ ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Live Nativity

Pictures with Santa

Secret Santa Shop

Bake Sale

Food

Music

Games

Cash and Basket Raffles & More!



**CONGRATULATIONS TO
FATHER JACOB JOHN ON
HIS 25th JUBILEE!
THANKS TO ALL WHO
RECENTLY JOINED US FOR
THIS CELEBRATION!**



The **2025-26 St. Charles Borromeo Seminary Appeal** invites us to support those preparing to serve the Church. Your gift to the Appeal helps form seminarians, candidates for the Permanent Diaconate, and lay leaders who will guide and care for God's people. Most importantly, your generosity provides for the future of our faith. Please prayerfully consider making a contribution this year to help prepare the next generation of shepherds for Christ's flock. You can also donate by mail or use the QR code here. Thank you!



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS



Father, in your plan for our salvation, you provide shepherds for your people. Fill your Church with the spirit of courage and love. Give the Church more priests, worthy ministers for your altars and ardent but gentle servants of the Gospel. Grant also to us an increase in vocations to the Religious Life. May more of our young people respond to your call in a spirit of joyful generosity. May they serve your people in love by following in the footsteps of Christ your Son and provide by their way of life a convincing sign of Your Kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord.



The goal of a Catholic Liturgy is to communicate a transcendent awareness of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ.

Faith in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist demands great beauty, dignity, and reverence.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RECENTLY BAPTIZED :

*William Michael O'Malley,
son of Michael & Madolin*

*Mia Grace Pascarella,
daughter of Matthew and Rachel*

*Weston Jack Matkowski,
son of Daniel and Ania*

*Eviee Jae Pross,
daughter of Justin and Tonya*

*Francis John Tracey,
son of Matthew and Rachel*



CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL

Thank you for your most generous response to the Catholic Charities Appeal. So far, we have raised \$34,720 toward our parish goal of \$47,000. "Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found."

ST. HILARY OF POITIERS ANNUAL GIVING TREE!

**** Gifts are due back to Church by NEXT weekend ****

The gifts will benefit 3 organizations:

- * **Birthright** which aids women in crisis pregnancy and after childbirth
- * **Cradle of Hope** which provides warmth and shelter for single moms
- * **St. Francis Inn** which meets the most immediate needs of the destitute

The Giving Tree is now placed at the main entrance to the Church with tags listing the needed items. Also, inside the Church, a basket with tags can be found by both of the side exit doors, and you can pick up a tag from there as well. We ask that all gifts be **UNWRAPPED** and placed under the tree at the entrance to Church by Dec. 20th/21st. Thanks to your kind generosity, this drive has always been a great success and a wonderful way to begin the season of giving!



SAINTS OF ADVENT

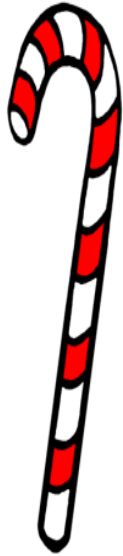
Many of us find ourselves running frantically from one event to another in Advent. Blessed Nicolas Steno (1638-86) could not focus. He wanted nothing more than to focus on the study of medicine, but he kept getting distracted. It drove him nuts, to the point that he wrote, "I pray thee, oh God, take this plaque from me and free my soul of all distraction and to work on medicine alone." And God said no. He could have taken away Steno's ADHD (though of course he lived long before such a diagnosis would have been made) but if God had answered Steno's prayer, Steno would never have essentially invented geology or laid the groundwork for paleontology. And he wouldn't have become Catholic. He wouldn't have become a priest and a bishop, and he wouldn't have been beatified. He was willing to trust God in the midst of all the distractions of his complicated life. This Advent, it's important to honor the actual life you have, and to praise God in the midst of the distractions and seek Him in the frantic times. On the feast of Blessed Nicolas Steno on Dec. 5, take time to ask God to guide your overall life & to make His love known in the midst of it all.

CHRISTMAS MAGNETS

St. Hilary Knights of Columbus are selling Christmas magnets (\$5 each) during Advent at all Masses. Thanks!



THE LEGEND OF THE CANDY CANE



The **hard candy** reminds us that *Jesus is our rock*. (Psalm 61:2)

The **cane shape** reminds us of a *shepherd's staff* and the shepherd that came to worship Jesus. It also reminds us of how Jesus came into the world to be a shepherd of his people. (Luke 2:8-15 and John 10:11)

The upside-down candy cane forms the **letter "J"** and reminds us of the name of *Jesus* which means "God saves." (Matthew 1:21)

The **peppermint flavor** reminds us of the *gift of spices* from the Wise Men. (Matthew 2:11)

The **white candy** reminds us of *purity and holiness*. It recalls the virgin birth of Christ, the sinless life of Christ and the holy life that Jesus wants his people to live. (Matthew 1:23 and 1 Peter 1:15)

The **color red** reminds us that *Jesus became a real flesh and blood man* and spilled his blood to save his people. (Hebrews 2:14)

The **stripes** remind us of the *lashes Jesus received* when he suffered for us and ultimately bore our sins that we might be healed. (1 Peter 2:24-25)



ST. HILARY PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to our newly elected St. Hilary
Parish Council members:

Stacey Ellis
Joe Kelly
Matt Matkowski
Mike Schell
Meghan Vito

Many thanks to all of our nominees and to all those who submitted ballots during the voting process.

Present Parish Council Members:

Father Kevin Murray	Deacon Joe Bernauer
Eileen Fagan	Debbie Brazukas
Anthony Cesarini	Bridget Drumm
Stacey Ellis	Noreen Forkin
Joe Kelly	Bob Lattanzi
Beth Lewandowski	Karen Looby
Allyson Burton-McCreery	Matt Matkowski
Bridget McErlean	Rosemary Naab
Adrienne Rehiel	Mike Schell
Kevin Tracey	Meghan Vito



ADVENT SEASON

"Come, Lord Jesus"

DAILY MASS Monday to Friday at
8:00am

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Mondays 8:30am to 4:00pm;
private visits encouraged



SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUPS are on Tuesday
afternoons and Wednesday nights; four weekly
sessions which started the week of November 17th

CONFESSIONS are **every** Saturday 4-4:45pm;
the Sundays in Advent after the 10:30am Mass;
and on Monday, December 15th at 7:00pm



CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wednesday,
December 24th
4:00pm

and
Thursday, Dec. 25th
8:30am & 10:30am

MASSES FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Wednesday,
December 31st
4:00pm

and
Thursday, January 1,
2026
8:30am & 10:30am



"...it is necessary to
understand that the whole of
our life must be an 'advent,' a
vigilant awaiting of the final
coming of Christ."



Pope St. John Paul II

SAINT HILARY'S 55+ SPIRIT CLUB

St. Hilary's 55+ Spirit Club will have its next meeting on **Wed., December 17**. This will be a special one that will include lunch and we will be entertained by the SHS Choir. There's a rumor that we may be joined by "the jolly man in the red suit." New members are always welcome - we are a fun & welcoming group! You don't need to be a parishioner. If you have questions, please call Ro Schell at 215-206-5313 or Mike Schell at 215-206-4530. Looking forward to seeing you Dec 17. Doors open 9am & meeting 10am.

ST. HILARY'S EAGLES FOOTBAL BLOCK POOL

Week 12 Winners ~ Fagans and Justin Muttreja
Week 11 Winners ~ Maryann McDonald & Greenfield Fam.
Week 10 Winners ~ Mike Coyle and Dan Cifuni
Week 09 Winners ~ Mosie Barrett and Debbie Comas
Week 08 Winners ~ Alex Muttreja and Egan Family
Week 07 Winners ~ Forkin Family and Anthony Cesarini
Week 06 Winners ~ Steve Farrell and Frank Davis
Week 05 Winners ~ Steve Farrell and Frank Davis
Week 04 Winners ~ Connie Fennell & Fenstermaker Fam.
Week 03 Winners ~ Dan & Mary McVey and Terri Supka
Week 02 Winners ~ Dave Luschni and Gracie DiCiacco
Week 01 Winners ~ Ed McDonald and Tom Gilton

PRAYER LINE

Help is needed for our Parish Prayer Line. If you would like to be part of the Prayer Line and be contacted to pray for the sick, please call Virginia at 215-663-1418.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SICK:

Michael Dooley, Jack Avak, Michael Brown, Nicolas Lid-
dy, Bob Kilcoyne, Mary Jane Namola, Elizabeth
Dieckman, Sophia Southerling, TJ McDonald, Ahmed
Abdul, Sal Sermania, Sue Masantonio, Angela Gavin, Wil-
liam Hartner, Mary Jane Hummel, Michele Kelly, Tina
Savarino, Sarah Koehler, Paris Luckowski, Judy Sklar,
Bernadette Redican, Gina Devaney, Bob Steele, Linda
Smithson, Eileen Burger, Brian Bailie, Lionel Melly
Wright, Cole Plachter, Mary Jo Reaby, Kevin Rosenbaum,
Capt. Schaffr, Dan Webb, Rhodena Thompson, Bruce
Thompson II, Linda Urie, Sonna Alamar, Sharon Fainelli,
Donald Budrejko, Maura Murphy, Gregory Marrone, Jim
Comet, Ian Reilly, Kira McKeever, Michael Lucas, John
Rieth, Holly Judge, Greg Ziembe, Anne Visco, Daniel
Hare, BJ Verdon, Fidelia Almerini, Liliana DeGrazia, Leila
Koehler, Martha Serdner, Theresa Williams, Bob Donnolly,
Ilda Leal, Isaiah Walter, Regina Carberry, Scott Paris, Ben
Paris, Michelle Hannah, Michael Keough, Joanne McKee,
Jamie Leal, Helen Toland, Maryanne Powell, Sandra Rog-
ers, Timothy Funk, Michelle Stuetz, Kim Huntoweski, Ari-
el Cleveland, Mary Garcia, Soon Lee

*Please pray for the souls
of the recently deceased:*

Drew Dickson

ST. HILARY OF POITIERS CHURCH

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturdays at 5:00pm
Sundays at 8:30am and 10:30am,

WEEKDAY MASSES

8 AM on Monday thru Friday

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays 4 – 4:45 PM; Sundays in Lent after 10:30am Mass

HOLY DAYS

7 PM Vigil; 8 AM and 10 AM on holy day

Pastor ~ Rev. Kevin P. Murray

Weekend Assistant ~ Msgr. Gregory J. Fairbanks

In Residence ~ Rev. Jacob John

Deacon ~ Deacon Joseph W. Bernauer, Jr.

School Principal ~ Eileen Fagan

efagan@sainthilaryschool.com School phone: 215-887-4520

Coordinator of Religious Education ~ Noreen Forkin

sthilaryprep@gmail.com

Business Manager ~ Maureen Maher

Parish Secretary ~ Marian Stengel 215-884-3252

sthilaryrydal@gmail.com

Music Director ~ Justin Jue Plant Manager ~ Hal Fagan

BAPTISM: Sundays after the 10:30am Mass. Please email or call the Rectory for more information.

MATRIMONY: Couples planning to marry should contact the Rectory six months before the desired date.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Thursday 8:30am to 4pm; closed for lunch 12-1

Fridays 8:30am to noon

Please note that church envelopes, as well as Tuition payments and other school payments, can be dropped off in the secure BLACK lockbox outside the rectory during off-hours.



ANNUAL BLOCK COLLECTION

Thanks to all those who have already contributed to our annual Parish Block Collection! **Total contributed to-date is \$23,220.** Your generosity & kindness are appreciated!

-- Father Murray



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

TOTAL WEEKLY SUNDAY COLLECTION

December 7, 2025

Sunday Offering: \$4,747

Electronic Giving: **\$3,544**

Total: \$8,291

December 8, 2024

Sunday Offering: \$4,362

Electronic Giving: **\$3,771**

Total: \$8,133

Immaculate Conception holy day: \$1,057

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