

St. Hilary of Poitiers Parish

820 SUSQUEHANNA ROAD, RYDAL, PA 19046

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

APRIL 5, 2026

EASTER SUNDAY

*He is
Risen*



PASTOR'S CORNER



"The night shall be as bright as day." (Exsultet)

In an address to young people, Pope St. John Paul II said:

"Do not let hope die; stake your life on it. We are not the sum of our weakness and failures; we are the sum of the Father's love for us and our real capacity to become the image of His Son."

On this Easter Day, we are called to heed those prophetic words. Our hope is in a Person, who came back from the dead. Our hope is renewed each morning no matter how dark the night has been. The light of Jesus Christ, risen from the dark night of death, burnt away the guilt, failures, and weaknesses of the Apostles. Because of the Father's love for them, they were able to rise from the tomb of their failures. They were able to become the image of his Son and change the world.

At times, we can experience long nights; nightmares of worries and anxieties that we can't seem to awaken from. Jesus risen is calling us all out of our tombs - the tombs of fear, despair, regrets, and sin. With Christ ever before us, the future is full of hope and promise. The Father's love now at work in us will enable us to become the image of His Son. May we all rise when this darkness is over to become better persons...kinder, compassionate, and ever more grateful for the gift of life.

As the beautiful Easter Exsultet proclaims:

"The sanctifying power of the night dispels wickedness, washes away faults, restores innocence to the fallen and joy to mourners, fosters concord and brings down the mighty."

Christ is risen ~ let us rejoice and be glad! God's grace and peace.

Happy Easter,
Father Murray

*Mass Intentions
for the Week*

Sunday, April 5, 2026

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

7:30pm Easter Vigil ~ William Hughes

8:30am ~ Joseph Curcillo, Jr.

10:30am ~ Kathleen T. Murray

Monday, April 6, 2026

*** No 8:00am Daily Mass today

*** *No Adoration today*

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

8:00am ~ Lidia Yacilla

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

8:00am ~ Frank Hauser

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Thursday within the Octave of Easter

8:00am ~ Bobby Coccagna

Friday, April 10, 2026

Friday within the Octave of Easter

8:00am ~ Charles Sheridan, Jr.

Saturday, April 11, 2026

Saturday within the Octave of Easter

5:00pm ~ Celeste Tate

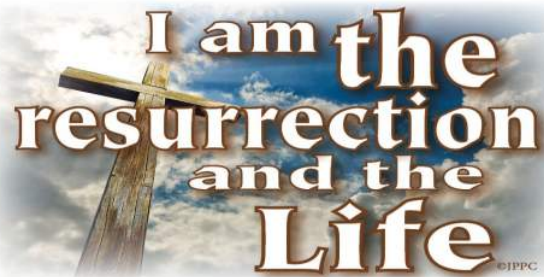
Sunday, April 12, 2026

Second Sunday of Easter

8:30am ~ Anna Plawa

10:30am ~ Joseph DeGrazia III

There are still Announced Masses left for 2026



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

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[St Hilary of Poitiers - Rydal, PA \(@sthilary_rydal\) | Instagram](#)

[St Hilary of Poitiers Church - Rydal, PA | Abington PA | Facebook](#)

**ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!
HE HAS RISEN FROM THE DEAD!**



Our prayers and meditations during this season, which lasts seven weeks from Easter Sunday until Pentecost, can also remind us of the many ways in which, what we commonly refer to as the Paschal Mystery, is not some whimsical story, as some might have you believe these days. (The Paschal Mystery refers to Jesus' Passion, Resurrection, Ascension into Heaven, and sending of the Holy Spirit.) Christ wasn't just some philosopher or prophet but was indeed the Son of God, the Second Person of the Trinity! After His Resurrection, Jesus wasn't a ghost either! One of the apostles, St. Thomas, inadvertently helped provide proof of that when, at Jesus' bequest, he touched His wounds from His crucifixion, after having previously expressed his doubts about our Lord's rising from the dead. After His Resurrection, Christ had a glorified body, one that could move and appear or disappear instantaneously, much as the two disciples discovered when they met Him on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13).

When we renew our baptismal vows at Mass on Easter Sunday, we strengthen our faith and our determination to "walk in newness of life" with our Lord, as St. Paul put it so well (Rom. 6:4). With Christ's help, we can free ourselves from the shackles of our sins and share Eternal Life with Him when we pass away. Just as He conquered death, then so can each of us, if we persevere in prayer & in sincerely trying to do His will.

Easter prayers also help us reflect on the fact that these efforts toward holiness will indeed be rewarded in heaven or in hell at the Last Judgment, reaffirming the eternal destination established at our death. Our bodies in heaven will be immortal, pain-free, and able to move at the speed of thought, much like Christ's in the gospel accounts of events between His Resurrection and His Ascension! (Imagine never having to worry about aches and pains again? Or about some craving that will only make you more miserable afterwards?)

In our Easter prayers, let us keep "our eyes on the prize" as we contemplate St. Paul's words that our bodies shall rise in power and in incorruptibility to join our souls if we have attained Eternal Life with God. Happy Easter!

ST. HILARY OF POITIERS SCHOOL

PreK Kindergarten Grades 1-8

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You can also contact the principal,
Mrs. Fagan, at 215-887-4520 or email to
efagan@sainthilaryschool.com



**SCHOOL REGISTRATION
FOR NEW STUDENTS AS
WELL AS RETURNING
STUDENTS FOR THE
2026-27 YEAR IS NOW
OPEN FOR PREK - 8th!**

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Cub Run (Age 6 and under): \$10
Shirt only: \$15

12 APRIL 2026
1PM AT SHS

Link to signup!
New this year: This race will be timed by
Run the Day!

Sign up here!

**LADIES NIGHT OUT!
PHILADELPHIA FREEDOM
FRIDAY, MAY 8 (6:30-9:30pm)**

**ST. JAMES PARISH HALL
\$40pp; INCLUDES FOOD & DRINKS**

Tickets will be sold in the Parish Center after the 10:30am Masses on April 19 and April 26. All proceeds will go toward improving technology, academics, and arts at St. Hilary School. Please join us ~ all ladies, parishioners & non-parishioners, are welcome!

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".



Dear Parishioners,

I have long wrestled with how best to make this announcement. I find it easier for me to communicate it with this letter. As you may know, the retirement age for priests in the Archdiocese is 75. This coming spring, I will be turning 75 years old! It is hard for me to imagine that I have reached this milestone...I even checked my birth certificate to be sure - and so it is! With this in mind, and with mixed emotions, I wish to inform you that I will be retiring as your pastor this coming June.

I can't begin to express my heartfelt gratitude for your support over these many years. Your good faith, your loyalty in good times and in bad, and the many ways you have generously shared your time, talent, and treasure have been sources of many graces.

Your good will and care for our parish have enabled us to accomplish many needed projects for our church and school. How blessed I have been with an incredible support group! The Rectory and School Staffs and my brother priests, as well as our Parish Organizations, have enabled me to carry out my responsibilities as Pastor and have eased the challenges and burdens of administration.

What an absolutely wonderful gift to be a priest, and to celebrate Mass, preach the Gospel, and administer the sacraments to our youth and elderly and everyone in between. Thank you for allowing me to walk with you in the ways of faith in these many years. You will long be remembered in my thoughts and prayers, as well as at Masses. Please say a prayer for me as I embrace this new phase of priestly life. In closing, I pray God's grace and peace be with you and your loved ones.

Sincerely yours,
Rev. Kevin P. Murray

Archdiocese of Philadelphia Office of the Archbishop

Dear Father Murray,

I write in response to your letter in which you submitted your resignation as Pastor, St. Hilary of Poitiers, and indicated your desire to retire. I take this opportunity to express to you my profound appreciation for the faithful service you have given at St. Hilary Parish as its Pastor for the past 22 years. It is my prayer that God's presence will continue to be a source of strength and support for your priestly ministry for many more years.

After consultation with the Priest Personnel Board, I hereby accept your resignation, and grant your request for retirement. This resignation will become effective in June 2026 upon the appointment of a new Pastor. At that time, you will be appointed Pastor Emeritus. It is my fervent prayer that you will be blessed with much peace during these special years of your life.

Fraternally yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez, D.D.
Archbishop of Philadelphia

ST. HILARY OF POITIERS FUNDRAISER

2026 Raffle

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Tickets are \$10 each!
Cash Prizes
Grand Prize Winner
\$5,000!!!
(Seller of Grand Prize Ticket receives \$250)

One Winner receives \$2,500 (Seller \$125)
One Winner receives \$1,000 (Seller \$100)
One Winner receives \$500 (Seller \$50)

Drawing will be held Sunday, May 24, 2026,
after the 10:30AM Mass.

Each ticket is \$10. Great prizes to be had!

Raffle Tickets will be on sale after all Masses at 2 of the Church entrances. Raffle Tickets will also be on sale in the Rectory Mondays thru Thursdays from 8:30am to 4:00pm (closed 12-1).

** It would be greatly appreciated if you would take a packet of 25 tickets to sell them (anyone can sell the tickets). There will be an Instruction Sheet included. Please stop by the table after Mass to pick up a packet to sell (special incentive for sellers, too)! Thanks for your consideration!

If you have any questions, please call the Rectory 215-884-3252 or you can email to sthilaryrydal@gmail.com

ST. HILARY 20th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2026
North Hills Country Club

Golf Package (\$245pp) All Inclusive:

- Golf
- Cart
- BBQ Lunch
- Dinner (beer, wine, soda)
- Awards
- Drinks provided on the course

GREAT Raffle Prizes!!!



Brochures for this fun-filled Golf Tournament are in the Church and Rectory. Any questions, please call 215-884-3252 or email sthilaryrydal@gmail.com Please join us!

(Deadline to sign up is May 1.)

THE ST. HILARY PARISH PREP STUDENTS & TEACHERS PUT TOGETHER 320 BREAKFAST BAGS FOR "CARING FOR FRIENDS" ~ THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED FOOD FOR THOSE IN NEED!



MEN'S RETREAT

Many thanks to all the men of the parish who took the time to join us for our annual Men's Spring Retreat. They all survived! It was a special time of prayer and fellowship, nourished in spirit & body. Special thanks to Fr. Stephen DeLacey who offered valuable & beautiful insights to St. Joseph as Protector, Builder, Husband, and Father. Many thanks to all for your support!



Jelly Bean Prayer

Red is for the blood He gave.
Green is for the grass He made.
Yellow is for the sun so bright.
Orange is for the edge of night.
Black is for the sins we made.
White is for the grace He gave.
Purple is for His hour of sorrow.
Pink is for our new tomorrow.

A bag full of jellybeans,
colorful and sweet
is a prayer, is a promise,
is an Easter treat!



St. Hilary Knights of Columbus
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Members Meeting

(members & those interested)
on Wednesday, April 8 at 7:00pm
in the Rectory

Growing Together in Faith: Our DMI Survey Journey

In 2022 and 2025, our parish participated in the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Survey, a tool provided by the Catholic Leadership Institute to help us understand our strengths and opportunities for growth. Your honest feedback has truly provided a clear roadmap for our future.

We are excited to share these key highlights comparing our 2022 and 2025 results:

A Younger, Growing Parish: We are welcoming many new faces! In 2025, 16% of respondents had been members for fewer than 5 years, compared to 9% in 2022.

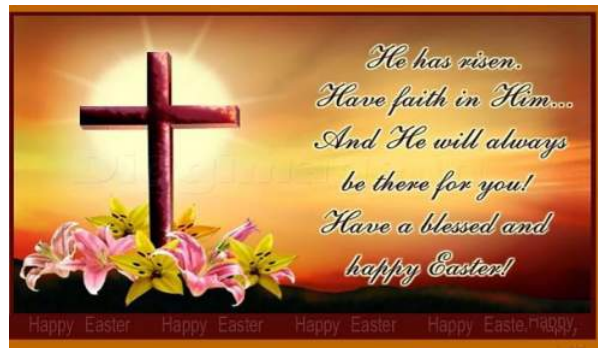
Empowered Leadership: Our community is more engaged than ever. 79% of you now feel you have opportunities to serve the parish, up from 67% in 2022.

A Deeper Sunday Experience: The Eucharist remains our heart. 63% of respondents in 2025 reported growing spiritually from attending Mass, an increase from 59% in 2022.

Stronger Spiritual Practices: Our personal prayer lives are flourishing. 71% of parishioners now pray daily, up from 64% in 2022.

A Rising Missionary Impulse: We are sharing our faith! 64% of you invited someone to a parish activity this past year, a significant jump from 48% in 2022.

Thank you for your participation! These results show a vibrant community that is praying, serving, and inviting others into a deeper relationship with Christ.



KEEP EASTER JOY ALIVE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

This Easter joy can't be contained to just one day...
the Church gives us a whole season to celebrate!

Try these ideas to prolong the joy of Easter:

- * Keep a Lenten practice that helped you grow closer to God (small sacrifice, attend extra Mass, acts of charity, etc)
- * Decorate the house by displaying an image of the Risen Christ in your home; put out bouquets of flowers (real or artificial) for the garden in which Jesus rose (John 19:41)
- * Proclaim the Good News by wearing a cross or crucifix, saying grace in public, talking about His grace, and imitating His forgiveness.

SAINT HILARY'S 55+ SPIRIT CLUB

St. Hilary's 55+ Spirit Club will have its next meeting on Wed., April 15. At this meeting, Don Rose will return to talk to the Club with his topic, "Talk of the Town." New members are always welcome - we are a fun & welcoming group! You don't need to be a parish member to join. If you have questions, please call Ro Schell at 215-206-5313 or Mike Schell at 215-206-4530. Doors open at 9am; meeting at 10am.



MARCH MADNESS POOL WINNERS

Our Round 1 Winners (\$50 each, unless noted otherwise): Brazukas Family, Joe Kilian, John Dunleavy, Rosemary & Joe Albanese, Greenberg Family (\$150), Big Ed Bongard, Pat & Cass Egan, George Metro, Radtke Family, Donna & Sean Martin, Kolla/Heaps, Meredith Merlini (\$100), Kevin Tracey, Hal & Eileen Fagan, David Luschini, Jeff Long, Karen Monteleone, Alex Shute, Izzy & Cubby Adair, Jennifer Powers, Foley Family, Leo & Ann Vaccaro, Carly Calabrese, Denise Tyszka, Vito Family, 3 Unsold Blocks

(Due to early Bulletin deadlines, our Round 2 Winners won't be published until after Easter)

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 Masantonina, Angela Gavin, William Hartner, Mary Jane Hummel, 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, Lilitiana 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 Rogers, Timothy Funk, Michelle Stuetz, Kim Huntowski, Ariel Cleveland, Mary Garcia, Soon Lee, Thomas Decicico, Jr., Irene Tucci

Please pray for the souls of all of the deceased

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
THERE IS NO DAILY MASS ON MONDAY, 4/6/26

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays 4 – 4:45 PM

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

RECTORY IS CLOSED ON EASTER MONDAY, 4/6/26

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.

Thank you!



THANK YOU to all those who kindly & generously contributed to our Snow Removal bills! To-date, we have received \$9,162 from your kind & generous snow removal donations!! Thank you much!!

***** Our "updated" snow removal bills (these include ALL of the bills) now total \$20,025.** If you'd like to contribute, please mark an envelope "Snow Removal" and put it in the collection basket at Mass or drop it in the secure black lockbox outside the Rectory at any time of night or day. Thanks so much for your consideration!



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