

St. Hilary of Poitiers Parish

820 SUSQUEHANNA ROAD, RYDAL, PA 19046

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

JANUARY 7, 2024

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

And behold, the
STAR.

MATTHEW 2:9



PASTOR'S CORNER

"Come, let us adore Him"

The stories of Jesus' birth portray great drama and conflict. The stories of His death do the same. King Herod and the religious authorities want Him destroyed at His birth. Others like the Magi came to adore and worship Him. At the end of His life, the political and religious leaders thought they had Jesus destroyed by His crucifixion. Yet again, just as at His birth, God intervened in a most spectacular way. Jesus is raised from the dead - which is God's affirmation that Jesus' way of living is right and just and true for everyone.

There will always be those who see Jesus Christ as a threat. They remain in the dark and want to destroy Christianity. They mock and crucify Christian virtues and morality. Yet there will always be those who take the long difficult journey of faith to worship Jesus, our Lord - like the Magi. The Magi returned home by a different path. May we imitate their wisdom and not follow the paths of the world. In the new year, let us all follow Christ...the Way, the Truth, and the Life...and find our true home.

Merry Christmas,
Father Murray



*Mass Intentions
for the Week*

Sunday, January 7, 2024

The Epiphany of the Lord

5:00pm ~ Patsy and Jack Whalen

8:30am ~ Vincent Tartaglia

10:30am ~ Janet Haney

The new Sunday Mass Schedule starts this weekend

Monday, January 8, 2024

The Baptism of the Lord

8:00am ~ Rosie Duffy

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

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

8:00am ~ Claire Gulli

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

8:00am ~ Billy Hamburger

Thursday, January 11, 2024

8:00am ~ Jack Whalen

Friday, January 12, 2024

8:00am ~ Jeannette Bradley

Saturday, January 13, 2024

5:00pm ~ Robert Seifert

Sunday, January 14, 2024

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am ~ Carmen and Ester Morina

10:30am ~ Dorothy Donatelli

**ST. HILARY PARISH NOW HAS A
TWITTER ACCOUNT, INSTAGRAM, AND FACEBOOK PAGE!
PLEASE SEE THE LINKS BELOW ~ YOU CAN ALSO
ACCESS THESE SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS BY GOING TO OUR
PARISH WEBSITE AT: www.sthilarypoitiers.org**

[St. Hilary of Poitiers Online \(Rydal, PA\) \(@sthilary_rydal\) / Twitter](#)

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

**PLEASE "FOLLOW / LIKE" THESE PAGES,
AND ASK YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY TO DO THE
SAME! THANKS!**

UPDATE TO THE ST. HILARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



This June, we have completed the first year of our two-year Capital Campaign. As previously noted, our original goal was \$350,000. The generosity of our parishioners has been overwhelming. Currently a total of \$422,176.25 has been pledged. Of that amount, we have collected and deposited \$328,268. Of the 231 families who have pledged, 163 families are paid in full. All of our projects have been completed...now we just have to pay the bills! I hope you enjoyed our new air conditioning system in the Church in summer. Our children and teachers were kept cool with our brand new school air conditioning system. Our new lighting in the parking lot and the new beautiful side Church doors have been a most welcome addition as well. So, as we are in the second year of our Campaign, I am most grateful for your kind generosity. As always, the people of St. Hilary always come through! God's grace and peace.

ST. HILARY OF POITIERS

Feast Day: January 13

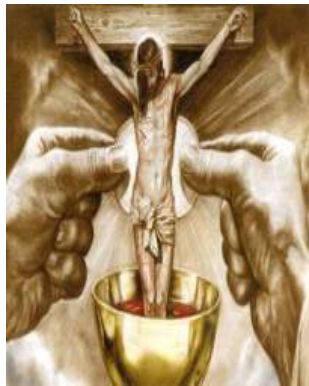
How does a pagan man eventually become one of the most important Christians of his time? The story of St. Hilary helps us see that God can and does work through each one of us.

Hilary was born in Poitiers, France, sometime around the year 300. His parents were very wealthy and made sure he received a good education. Hilary was raised as a pagan. Pagans worshipped many gods. That did not make sense to Hilary. He thought that there could only be one true God. To learn more, Hilary read the Scriptures. Meeting Jesus in the Gospels and learning what Jesus taught about God the Father changed Hilary's heart. He was baptized and became a Christian.

Hilary was married and had a daughter, so it was surprising when he was chosen to be the Bishop of Poitiers. But in those days, bishops were chosen by local priests and approved by the people. Hilary was very respected for his intelligence and his modesty. People thought that he would make a good leader.

At that time, a priest named Arius was preaching that Jesus not truly God. This was a heresy, or false teaching, but many people - including the emperor - began to believe in Arius's preaching. Hilary opposed Arius's ideas and spoke out against him. He wanted everyone to know that it is through Jesus, God's only Son, that we are saved. The emperor punished Hilary by sending him away to a part of ancient Greece that is today know as Turkey.

Hilary made good use of his four years in exile. He wrote important books and sermons about the Blessed Trinity, and he composed hymns that expressed the beliefs of our faith. When he was finally permitted to return to Poitiers, the people gathered in the town square to cheer him. He spent the rest of his life writing and preaching. He died around 368 and was named a Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius IX in 1851. Today he is invoked as the patron saint against snake bites.



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".



In this year of reviving our devotion to the Eucharist and encouraging everyone to return to Mass, we will offer weekly meditations, reflections, and poetry from various saints and authors on the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, which is "the source and summit of the Christian life." Excerpts are taken from the book *The Holy Hour*, a Word on Fire publication.

Reflection: Stay With Us, Lord (by Bishop Robert Barron)

We are owed precisely nothing. We have nothing coming to us in this life. Every fiber of our being is a gift. To switch it around, we owe everything to God. For what, then, should we be grateful? Precisely everything. That's why Paul says to "devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving." (Col. 4:2) In many ways, that sums up the Christian life. Your life is about rendering thanks to God for the gift he gives you every moment. That's why as Catholics we return to the Mass over and over again. The Mass is the Eucharist, from the Greek "eudharistia" which means thanksgiving and act of gratitude. How often should we say thanks to God? With every breath, at every moment, our whole life should become and act of gratitude.

NEW SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY MASS
STARTING IN 2024

I am grateful for all of you who have returned to Mass after the pandemic. I hope and pray that more of our parishioners will return to Mass as well. There is nothing like being there! Watching Mass on TV no longer fulfills the Sunday obligation, unless you are sick, elderly, have an emergency or have conflicts with work schedules. With this in mind, please note our new Mass Schedule **BEGINNING THIS WEEKEND JANUARY 6/7, 2024:**

2024 Winter/Spring/Fall Schedule
(January 6th / 7th thru June, and Sept. thru Dec., 2024)

Saturdays at 5:00pm

Sundays at 8:30am and 10:30am

2024 Summer Schedule

(1st Sunday in July thru Labor Day in Sept. '24)

Saturdays at 5:00pm

Sundays at 9:00am and 11:00am

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Many thanks to everyone who made our Christmas celebration so special at St. Hilary Church... the Church decorators, the choir, cantors and instrumentalists lead by Justin Jue, the altar servers, Extraordinary Ministers, Lectors, and Santa, who stopped by to pray silently at the manger on Christmas Eve.

Thanks also to those who dropped off Christmas gifts and delicious goodies at the Rectory (trust me, they have been very much enjoyed!) I greatly appreciate your Christmas cards, and the ones with nice family photos are always extra special and have an honored place again on my fridge! Thanks to all those who gave to our Christmas Collection and also the donations for Christmas Flowers. Your presence, loyalty, and kindness are wonderful blessings to me.

-- Father Murray

JOY
NOEL
ANGEL
JESUS
PEACE HOPE
WISEMEN
CHRISTMAS
BELIEVE FAITH
PRINCE OF PEACE
THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who joined us on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to celebrate the Birth of Christ in our beautifully decorated Church!



Our Nativity is a very welcome sight each year.



Father Murray invited all the children to join him at the altar for the homily.

Santa stopped by our Church on Christmas Eve to pray silently at the Manger; a very poignant moment.





GIVING TREE THANKS

The Outreach Group expresses its gratitude for your generous Giving Tree donations! This year, over 175 items will go to Ukraine Relief, and 60 clothes items and numerous packages of diapers will go to Birthright. **May your goodness of spirit light your Christmas season!**



CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD BLESS the following who was recently baptized at St. Hilary Church:

Natalie Ann Tracey, daughter of Matthew and Rachel Tracey.

ST HILARY EAGLES BLOCK POOL WINNERS



Week 15 Winners

Pool #1: Ray Vandegrift

Pool #2: St. Hilary



Week 14 Winners

Pool #1: Frank Altamuro

Pool #2: St. Hilary

Week 13 Winners

Pool #1: Kathy Lennon

Pool #2: Hueber Family

Week 12 Winners

Pool #1: Maria Greenberg

Pool #2: Katie Toffling

Week 11 Winners

Pool #1: Dan & Mary McVey

Pool #2: Art Fry (Schein)

Week 10 Winners

Pool #1: Kathy Lennon

Pool #2: Hueber Family

Week 09 Winners

Pool #1: Joe McGinty

Pool #2: Hal Fagan

Week 08 Winners

Pool #1: Greenberg Family

Pool #2: Rehiel Family

Week 07 Winners

Pool #1: Alex Muttreja

Pool #2: Egan Family

Week 06 Winners

Pool #1: The Stengels

Pool #2: Valentino Fam.

Week 05 Winners

Pool #1: Michele Stefanelli

Pool #2: Ed Walker

Week 04 Winners

Pool #1: Joe Henry

Pool #2: Mary McCallister

Week 03 Winners

Pool #1: Anne Wise

Pool #2: Alaina DiCiaccio

Week 02 Winners

Pool #1: Steve Farrell

Pool #2: Linda Powers

Week 01 Winners

Pool #1: Alex Muttreja

Pool #2: Egan Family

FLIGHT 2024 INSTRUCTIONS

Good morning and welcome to Flight 2024.

We are prepared to take off into the New Year.

Please make sure your Positive Attitude and Gratitude are secured and locked in the upright position.

All self-destruct devices: pity, anger, pride, selfishness, and resentment should be turned off at this time.

All negativity, hurt, and discouragement should be put away.

Should you lose your Positive Attitude under pressure during this flight, reach up and pull down a prayer. Prayers will automatically be activated by Faith.

Once your Faith is activated, you can assist other passengers who are of little faith.

There will be NO BAGGAGE allowed on this flight.

God, our Captain, has cleared us for take-off.

Destination ~ GREATNESS!

Wishing you a New Year filled with new HOPE, new JOY, and new BEGINNINGS!

Stay Blessed and welcome in 2024



MASS FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND PRESENTATION OF ANNIVERSARY AWARDS

Saturday, January 13, 2024 at 11:00am

Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul

CONGRATULATIONS

to two of our parishioners who will be receiving the St. John Neumann Award

for 5 years of Volunteer Service as PREP Catechists at St. Hilary Parish:

DR. CELESTE CATTIE

MRS. STACEY ELLIS

Thank you for sharing your time & talent at St. Hilary!

ST. HILARY 55+ SPIRIT CLUB NEWS

The St. Hilary 55+ Spirit Club **next meeting is Wednesday, January 17, 2024.** New members are always welcome. We are a very welcoming & fun group! You do not have to be a parish member to join. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Ro or Mike Schell at 215-663-1421 or Rossylvania McDonald at 215-219-0651. Looking forward to seeing you on January 17th - doors open at 9am and the meeting starts at 10am.

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 and infirmed, please join by calling Virginia at 215-663-1418.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SICK:

Michael Dooley, Jack Avak, Michael Brown, Nicolas Liddy, Bob Kilcoyne, Mary Jane Namola, Elizabeth Dieckman, Sophia Southerling, TJ McDonald, Ahmed Abdul, Sal Sermania, Sue Masantonia, Angela Gavin, William Hartner, Mary Jane Hummel, Pat Cass, Michele Kelly, Tina Savarino, Nicholas Esposito, 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, Dilynn Listman, Anne Visco, Daniel Hare, Gloria Hannah, BJ Verdon, Fidelia Almerini, Liliana DeGrazia, Leila Koehler, Martha Serdner, Rolando Juarez, Colleen Legare, Tom Montvydas, Theresa Williams, Jim Curley, Bob Donnolly

*Please pray for the souls of the recently deceased:
Bob Greaves Constance Knecht*

ST. HILARY OF POITIERS CHURCH

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturdays at 5:00pm
Sundays at 8:30am and 10:30am,
(new schedule started in January 2024))

WEEKDAY MASSES

8 AM on Monday thru Friday

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.

Pastor Emeritus ~ Msgr. Michael J. Carroll

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 12pm 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 Friday 8:30am to 4pm

Closed for Lunch: 12 PM to 1 PM

*Please note that church envelopes as well as Tuition payments can be dropped off in the secure **BLACK** lockbox outside the rectory during off-hours. Thanks!*



**SOME PHOTOS FROM
THE 55+ SPIRIT CLUB
CHRISTMAS
GATHERING...
A FUN TIME WAS HAD BY
ALL WITH LUNCH, A VISIT
FROM SANTA AND THE
SHS CHOIR!**



Special Savings Offer for All Parish Members!

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*Valid thru December 31, 2023. Valid on advance planning cemetery space purchases only in specific areas of the cemetery. See location manager for details. Monthly payment is subject to down payment, interest rate and term. Minimum of 5% down payment required. Cannot be combined with other offers. Excludes prior purchases. Vault and Opening and Closing required for Burial. Limit 10 cemetery spaces per family.

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#WHATSMYNAME

In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson

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