

St. Hilary of Poitiers Parish

820 SUSQUEHANNA ROAD, RYDAL, PA 19046

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

AUGUST 16, 2026

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*O woman,
great is your faith!*

MATTHEW 15:28



This weekend, we move ahead in our reading of Matthew's Gospel. Last week we read about Jesus walking on the water and the disciples' confession of faith that Jesus is the Son of God. If we were reading Matthew's entire Gospel, we would have read about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees about Jewish purity laws. Jesus argues that it is not what goes into us that makes us unclean; he is referring to the strict Jewish dietary rules. Instead our words and our actions - what comes out of us - make us unclean because they emerge from a heart that is unclean.

Knowing about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees helps us to understand today's Gospel. Today we hear Jesus' exchange with the Canaanite woman. The woman, who is not Jewish, approaches Jesus, requesting that he heal her demon-possessed daughter. At first Jesus ignores her; he says nothing. The disciples ask Jesus to send her away, and Jesus agrees, remarking that he was sent to minister to the Jews alone.

The woman persists, paying homage to Jesus, and yet Jesus denies her request again. He even insults her, using a Jewish word of derision for Gentiles, "dog." But the woman cleverly turns Jesus' insult into an affirmation of faith. Only then does Jesus grant her request and heal her daughter.

Many of us are uncomfortable with this exchange. Of the four Gospels, Matthew is the one most directed to the people of Israel. Behind Matthew's text we can hear this early Christian community's struggle to understand how God's selection of Israel is consistent with two events: Israel's rejection of Jesus and the Gentiles' acceptance of Jesus. Just as Jesus was surprised by the faith expressed by the Canaanite woman, so too the first Christians were surprised that the Gentiles would receive the salvation God offered through Christ. In today's second reading from Paul's letter to the Romans, we hear the apostle Paul considering this same concern.

The faith that the Canaanite woman expresses is an affirmation of and confidence in God's abundant mercy. Yes, salvation comes through Israel, but it overflows for the benefit of all.

Oremus pro invicem
(Let us pray for one another)



*Monsignor
Fairbanks*

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, August 16, 2026

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00pm Vigil ~ 50th Wedding Anniversary of

Joe and Marilyn Henry

8:30am ~ Annie McReynolds

10:30am ~ Michael Thaddeus Laganella

Monday, August 17, 2026

8:00am ~ Peace for the World

*** *Monday Adoration will resume in September*

Tuesday, August 18, 2026

8:00am ~ Joseph Magee III

Wednesday, August 19, 2026

Saint John Eudes, Priest

8:00am ~ Thomas Sheerin, Jr.

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

8:00am ~ James and Maryanne McGovern

Friday, August 21, 2026

Saint Pius X, Pope

8:00am ~ Forgotten Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, August 22, 2026

5:00pm ~ Madeleine Kelly

Sunday, August 23, 2026

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am ~ Frank Hauser

10:30am ~ Verna Cauvin



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

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

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

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



FATHER JACOB JOHN

Father Jacob has been in residence at St. Hilary's for a little over four years, and we have been blessed by his presence. He worked in hospital ministry while residing here, and he was found presiding over daily and weekend Masses from time to time. His faith and enthusiasm have been contagious, and he will truly be missed. He has been transferred and will continue to share his love of God with others. He will be the Parochial Vicar at Holy Trinity Parish and St. John the Evangelist Parish, both in Morrisville, PA. Our prayers and gratitude go with him, and we ask God to bless him going forward in his new ministry.

SPECIAL SECOND COLLECTION **THIS WEEKEND ~ AUGUST 15-16, 2026**

The powerful earthquakes last month in Venezuela ravaged vast regions of that country resulting in a devastating loss of life, thousands of injuries, and destruction of personal property and infrastructure on a massive scale. In the wake of this natural disaster, Archbishop Nelson Perez is asking that parishes consider assisting the Venezuelan people in two ways. First, we lift up in prayer all those who are suffering and mourning at this time. Second, we can provide for the many needs of those reeling in the wake of the earthquakes by financially supporting the work of Catholic Relief Services, the official overseas relief agency of the Catholic Church in the US. To that end, all parishes are asked to take up a special second collection during the weekend of August 15-16, 2026. This collection provides an opportunity for all in the Catholic Church of Philadelphia to serve as the compassionate hands of Christ for our brothers & sisters facing immense hardship in South America.

Thank you for your consideration of our 2nd Collection this weekend; you can also donate next weekend as well.

2027 MASS BOOK FOR **ANNOUNCED MASSES AT ST. HILARY**

The 2027 Mass Book for Announced Masses for the deceased is now open. You can request Masses during business hours Mondays thru Thursdays only (8:30am to noon and 1:00pm to 4:00pm)

Any questions, please contact Marian at the Rectory at sthilaryrydal@gmail.com or call 215-884-3252.

ST. HILARY OF POITIERS SCHOOL

PreK

Kindergarten

Grades 1-8



Please visit
www.sainthilaryschool.com
for more information.

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

Wed., Sept. 9 ~ Opening of School Grades 5-8
Thurs., Sept. 10 ~ Opening of School Grades 1-4
Fri., Sept. 11 ~ Grades PreK-8 (noon dismissal)

St. Hilary of Poitiers School has developed and maintains an Asbestos Inspection & Management Plan as required by the Asbestos Emergency Response Act of 1986 (AHERA). A copy of the plan is available for your inspection at the school office during regular office hours. Inquiries regarding the plan should be directed to Acer Associates, the school's asbestos consultant, at 856-809-1202. Thank you.

St. Hilary of Poitiers School admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin. All rights, privileges, programs, and activities accorded are made available to all students of our school. Similar policies apply to the school staff. Our school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, or in any school administered program.

ST. HILARY CYO **FALL SPORTS**

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

We're excited to get back to school and another great season of St. Hilary CYO sports, teamwork and fun!

FALL SPORTS OFFERED

-  **COED CADET SOCCER**
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-  **3RD & 4TH GRADE BOYS SOCCER**
-  **3RD & 4TH GRADE GIRLS SOCCER**
-  **JV BOYS SOCCER**
-  **JV GIRLS SOCCER**
-  **VARSITY BOYS SOCCER**
-  **VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER**
-  **JV GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**
-  **VARSITY GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**



We would love to get as many practices in as possible before the season begins!

REGISTER HERE



Use the link below to register today!

<https://registration.teamsnap.com/form/65356>

Thank you for being part of the
ST. HILARY CYO COMMUNITY!



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<https://registration.teamsnap.com/form/65356>



OCIA
(Order of Christian
Initiation of Adults)
St. Hilary of Poitiers Parish

OCIA, Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, is the process by which people who are interested in learning about the Catholic Faith can attend classes and have the opportunity to become members of the Catholic Church.

OCIA is for adults who:

- Are interested in learning about the Catholic Faith
- Have never been baptized
- Have been baptized in another Christian faith and are interested in the Catholic faith
- Are baptized Catholics who have not yet received the Sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation
- Are married to a Catholic and attend Mass, and would like to take the next steps to become a member of the Catholic Church

OCIA is a spiritual formation process beginning in October and ending with initiation in the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. Please contact Msgr. Fairbanks at the Rectory if you or anyone you know might be interested.



SAVE THE DATES...



Women's Retreat at St. Hilary on
Saturday, October 3, 2026 in the Parish Center
Facilitator: Prof. Kristi Bushner
(more details to follow...)

Forty Hours at St. Hilary Church on
October 18th, 19th, and 20th at 7:00pm
Speaker: Rev. Joshua Vargas, C.O.

PREP REGISTRATION
(Parish Religious Education Program)
AT ST. HILARY PARISH

PREP registration for 2026-2027 is now underway. Classes are on Tuesdays at 6:30pm.

*** **You need to register online by going to the parish website:** www.sthilarypoitiers.org

Follow the prompts for "PREP" once you are on the parish website. You can drop off payment in the secure black lockbox outside the Rectory at any time, for your convenience, or mail it to the Rectory. Please mark your envelope "PREP". Also, 1st graders need a copy of their baptism certificate, which can also be dropped off or mailed. If you have questions, please contact Noreen Forkin at sthilaryprep@gmail.com. Thanks!



ANNUAL MISSION CO-OP

Weekend of
August 29th/30th

We will be visited by Rev. Chanlis Chacko who will speak to us about the Diocese of Pathanamthitta, India. The diocese is 11 years old and it tries to give the Gospel of Our Lord to the 45,000 faithful there, as well as the many inhabitants of the county. There are 107 priests in the diocese and some are retired due to their old age and some are studying abroad. Currently there are 65 priests in active ministry in mission churches and different institutions. They have 56 seminarians studying for the priesthood but their parents are not well off to support them, so it is the responsibility of the diocese to provide their basic needs during their formation of 12 years. Their primary concentration is in reviving and consolidating the spiritual renewal of the faithful through separate prayer groups for women, men, and youth. They give great priority in assisting the poorest of the poor as well as for autistic children, the mentally ill, and homeless. They are appreciative of our parish's prayers & support. The Mission Co-Op weekend is sponsored by the Pontifical Mission Societies, to help build up the Church in dioceses worldwide, where Christianity is new. You can use your Mission Co-Op blue envelopes in your bi-monthly mailing or your own marked envelope. Thank you.

KIDS KNOW HOW TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS...

How Do You Decide Whom to Marry?

You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming. - Alan, age 10

What is the Right Age to Get Married?

Twenty-three is the best age because you know the person FOREVER by then. - Camille, age 10

How Can a Stranger Tell if Two People Are Married?

You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids. - Derrick, age 8

Is it Better to be Single or Married?

It's better for girls to be single but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them. - Anita, age 9

What Do Most People Do On a Date?

On the 1st date, they tell each other lies and that usually gets them interested enough to do a 2nd date. - Hal, age 8

What Do You Think Your Mom & Dad Have in Common?

Both of them don't want any more kids. - Lori, age 8

THE LIFE WE LIVE



Sometimes we may not realize that everything we do affects not only our lives but touches others, too.

For every time you offer someone a helping hand, every time you show a friend you care and understand, every time you have a kind and gentle word to give - you help someone find beauty in this precious life we live.

God is not with you
because it is a difficult
situation.

God is there
with you because
He has never left you.



Almighty and eternal God,
in your unfailing love,
You provide ministers for your Church.
We pray for those whom you call to serve
the Church of Philadelphia as priests, deacons,
and religious brothers and sisters.
Inspire all those called
to give a generous response.
Grant them courage
and vision to serve your people.
May their lives and service
call your people to respond
to the presence of your Spirit among us,
faithful to the Gospel and hope of Jesus Christ,
that we may: announce glad tidings to the
poor,
proclaim liberty to captives,
set prisoners free,
and renew the face of the earth!

For our College, High School and Grade School Parishioners:

Prayer to Begin a School Year/Semester

Blessed are you, Lord God,
Creator of body and mind and heart;
you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and
knowledge to guide your people
in all their ways.
At the beginning of this new school year
(or semester/term)
we implore your mercy:
bless the students, teachers, and staff,
that together we may grow in faith, hope,
and love as we learn from you and each
other how to follow your Son Jesus.
Expand the horizons of our minds,
that we may grow in wisdom,
understanding, and knowledge;
deepen our commitment to seek
the truth of your ways;
and enliven our faith to reach out
to those in need.
Glory and praise to you, Lord God,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus
forever and ever.
Amen



**CONTINUE TO PRAY
FOR PEACE IN OUR
HEARTS, OUR
COMMUNITY,
OUR COUNTRY, AND
THE WORLD**

Loving God, our hearts are troubled by the
violence and hatred that surround us.
We are called in these moments to wrestle with the
devastation, grief, and fear that remain.
We acknowledge the sinfulness of any act of
racism, discrimination, or hatred,
because we know it is not of you.
We repent of any part we may have had in
allowing this evil to continue, and ask your
forgiveness for those times when we failed
to support others.
As your children, we seek your grace and the cour-
age we need to demand dignity and justice for all
people, regardless of race, creed, or color.
Heal us as your family in these tragic moments.
May those affected by these horrors in any way,
whom we commend to you, remind us of the ten
commandments you give us,
and the greatest commandment of all —
to love one another. Amen.

ST. HILARY 55+ SPIRIT CLUB

We are happy and proud to announce that Michele Laganella will be the Spirit Club's new President beginning with the September 16th meeting. We would like to thank Roseann Schell for her prior leadership over the last three years.

St. Hilary 55+ Spirit Club will have its next meeting on **Wednesday, September 16**. At this meeting, we will be having Don Rose returning for his presentation: "Off the Wall 2 - Colors and Pigments."

New members are always welcome. We are a very welcoming and fun group! You do not have to be a parish member to join. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Michele at 215-498-5908. Looking forward to seeing you in September - doors open at 9am; starts at 10.

On Dec. 6, 2026, join us for a wonderful Holiday Opera Gala at the Tomasello Winery. Price is \$120pp and includes roundtrip motorcoach, dinner, tax, gratuities, and bus driver tip. Further information can be found in the flyer at the rear of Church. All are welcome!

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 Liddy, Bob Kilcoyne, Mary Jane Namola, Elizabeth Dieckman, Sophia Southerling, TJ McDonald, Ahmed Abdul, Sal Sermania, Sue Masantonio, 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, 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 Rogers, Timothy Funk, Michelle Stuetz, Kim Huntowski, Ariel Cleveland, Mary Garcia, Soon Lee, Thomas Decicico, Jr., Irene Tucci, John McGahey

*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

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays 4 – 4:45 PM

HOLY DAYS

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

Parochial Administrator ~ Msgr. Gregory J. Fairbanks

Pastor Emeritus ~ Rev. Kevin P. Murray

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 at least 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.

**WE CONTINUE TO GIVE
THANKS FOR
FATHER MURRAY!
HIS 22 YEARS AT
ST. HILARY PARISH WILL
BE LONG REMEMBERED!
GOD BLESS HIM IN
HIS RETIREMENT!**



STEWARDSHIP REPORT **TOTAL WEEKLY SUNDAY COLLECTION**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

August 9, 2026

Sunday Offering: \$4,149

Electronic Giving: \$4,007

Total: \$8,156

August 10, 2025

Sunday Offering: \$4,344

Electronic Giving: \$3,388

Total: \$7,732

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