

# St. Hilary of Poitiers Parish

820 SUSQUEHANNA ROAD, RYDAL, PA 19046

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

DECEMBER 4, 2022

*SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

PEACE



## PASTOR'S CORNER

### “PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD”

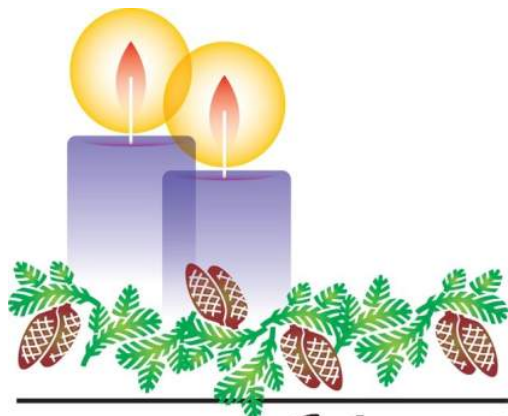
-- Matthew 3:1-12

In our First Reading today, Isaiah laments that his world is falling apart. His once prosperous nation is in utter ruin. Yet he remains a person of hope that the majestic Israel, now a mere stump, will come to life again. A new king is coming to rule...not with weapons of war, but with mercy. It is God's mercy that will enable the “wolf to be a guest of the lamb, the calf and lion browse together, and that a little child will lead them.”

Jesus Christ is the child of Isaiah's dream. Advent is now our call to follow the Lord's lead. Pope Francis reminds us that we must be willing to be lead; to come out of ourselves and to find the God of perpetual surprises. The wolf and the lamb, the calf and the lion, are within us all. They are present within our struggle between good and evil, and within the pride that wants our will to be done, not God's.

The little child comes to us today humbly in the Eucharist. May we derive hope from His lessons of mercy and prepare a way for Him to enter our minds and hearts. His presence within will be a source of unending hope, no matter the situation. This is the season “to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day.”

Happy Advent,  
*Father Murray*



SECOND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Sunday, December 4, 2022

*Second Sunday of Advent*

5:00pm Vigil ~ Walt Griffin

8:00am ~ Judson and Jane McCallister

10:00am ~ Dr. Joseph C. Toland

12:00pm ~ Mary Rielly Gregor

### Monday, December 5, 2022

8:00am ~ Thomas and Rita Sheerin

\*\*\* 8:30am-4pm ~ *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

### Tuesday, December 6, 2022

*St. Nicholas, Bishop*

8:00am ~ Carmen Scalfaro

### Wednesday, December 7, 2022

*Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

8:00am ~ Adam and Anna Kolla

7:00pm Vigil for Holyday ~ Patsy Whalen

### Thursday, December 8, 2022

*The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

8:00am ~ Eileen O'Donnell

10:00am ~ Virginia Gilton

### Friday, December 9, 2022

*Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtatoatzin*

8:00am ~ Jim McGilvery

### Saturday, December 10, 2022

5:00pm ~ Kathleen Matthews

### Sunday, December 11, 2022

*Third Sunday of Advent*

8:00am ~ Philip and Dorothy Traum

10:00am ~ Edward A. Metzger

12:00pm ~ Madge and John Hogan

**The 2023 Mass Book for Announced Masses is open. Stop by or call the Rectory.**



### **PLEASE SIGN UP FOR FLOCKNOTES!**

*If we don't have your email address to send you parish news, please either call the Rectory with it, or email us at [sthilaryrydal@gmail.com](mailto:sthilaryrydal@gmail.com). Thanks!*

## ST. HILARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

I want to thank this parish community for the tremendous support for the 2022 Diamond Jubilee Capital Campaign. Seeing the progression of this campaign these past few months has been truly a blessing. We have an exciting update; this campaign has raised \$356,571.25. Through your prayers and help, we have even surpassed our initial goal of \$350,000.

For those who have yet to donate to the campaign, it is definitely not too late to still support. Please remember that this initiative will be beneficial for both our Parish and School. The sooner that the pledges are redeemed, the better it will be for paying for these projects. We currently have about \$180,000 of the campaign contributions deposited, and it is imperative that we continue to collect all payments on pledges to ensure we can complete all the capital work. Thank you again!



Gratefully,  
*Father Murray*

### 2022 Day of Sanctification For Priests

The priests of the Archdiocese assemble each year for a day of prayer and reflection on the Sacred Priesthood. This year, our priests will gather with Archbishop Perez at St. Charles Seminary **this Monday, Dec. 5**, for the Day of Sanctification for Priests. Please pray for all priests of the Archdiocese.

*Lord our God, who in governing your people make use of the ministry of Priests, grant to these men a persevering obedience to your will, so that by their ministry and life they may gain glory for you in Christ. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.*

### STEWARDSHIP REPORT TOTAL WEEKLY SUNDAY COLLECTION

#### November 20, 2022

Sunday Offering: \$4,332  
Electronic Giving: \$2,684

**Total: \$7,016**

#### November 21, 2021

Sunday Offering: \$5,249  
Electronic Giving: \$2,781

**Total: \$8,030**

#### November 27, 2022

Sunday Offering: \$4,389  
Electronic Giving: \$1,908

**Total: \$6,297**

#### November 28, 2021

Sunday Offering: \$4,517  
Electronic Giving: \$2,116

**Total: \$6,633**

## THANK YOU

### FROM ST. HILARY PARISH OUTREACH!!!

The Outreach Program commends the generosity of the parish yet again! Even as Giving Tree gifts are mounting up, we continue to disperse donations to the needy thru local charitable organizations. Recently, funds were sent to support two food programs (Manor College Pantry and Jenkintown Food Cupboard) Also, the work of St. Margaret of Castello Maternity Home was supported financially. Thank you for your continuing outstanding support!



### ST. HILARY CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Saturday, Dec. 3 at 6:00pm



**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO IS JOINING IN ON THE FUN AT THE ST. HILARY CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL ~ AND THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO PUT THIS GREAT EVENT TOGETHER!**

### MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:

**Wednesday, Dec. 7 at 7:00pm**  
**and**  
**Thursday, Dec. 8**  
**at**  
**8:00am and 10:00am**



On this day, we commemorate that Mary was conceived in St. Anne's womb without Original Sin. In addition to attending Mass for this Holy Day of Obligation, praying a joyful Rosary is a great way to celebrate.

### ST. HILARY ANNUAL BLOCK COLLECTION

**Thank You!**

Thanks to all those who have already contributed! Your kind generosity and sacrifices are greatly appreciated! Your loyalty and care for the needs of the parish have been an inspiration. Thanks & God bless you.

-- Father Murray

Please take a moment to read this recent quote of Pope Francis. It's fitting for believers and non-believers alike.

"You can have flaws, be anxious and even be angry, but do not forget that your life is the greatest enterprise in the world. Only you can stop it from failing. You are appreciated, admired, and loved by so many. Remember that being happy is not having a sky without a storm, a road without accidents, a job without effort, a relationship without disappointments. To be happy is to stop feeling like a victim and become the author of your own fate. It's walking through deserts, but being able to find an oasis deep in the soul. It is thanking God every morning for the miracle of life. It's kissing your children, cuddling your parents, having poetic moments with your friends, even when they hurt us. Being happy is letting the creature that lives in each of us live free, joyful and simple. You have the maturity to be able to say, 'I've made mistakes' and it's having the courage to say you're sorry. It's having the sense to say, 'I need you' and having the ability to say, 'I love you'. May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness. And when you make a mistake, start over. Because only then will you be in love with life. You'll discover that being happy isn't having a perfect life. But use tears to irrigate tolerance. Use your defeats to train your patience. Above all, never give up on the people that love you. Never give up on being happy, because life is an incredible spectacle."

-- Pope Francis

### **Some suggestions for this 2nd Week of Advent in preparing for the Lord:**

**Sunday** ~ Read Matthew 3:1-12. Tonight, light one violet candle and a second one for Faith..

**Monday** ~ Pray the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. Ask Mary, who received Christ perfectly, to help you welcome Him.

**Tuesday** ~ Perform a simple act of kindness in honor of St. Nicholas of Myra, a generous saint.

**Wednesday** ~ Singing is praying twice. Play some Advent hymns to get into the season and sing along.

**Thursday** ~ To honor the Blessed Virgin Mary, attend Mass and pray for the Church in the United States.

**Friday** ~ Contact Catholic Relief Services to see how you can help (877-HELP-CRS or [www.catholicrelief.org](http://www.catholicrelief.org))

**Saturday** ~ Attend Confession and experience God's mercy. Find an examination of conscience, or you can get one here under "Prayers" at <https://www.usccb.org>.

## **ADVENT SEASON** *"Come, Lord Jesus"*



**DAILY MASS** Monday to Friday at 8:00am

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
on Mondays 8:30am to 4:00pm;  
private visits encouraged.



**SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUPS**  
are on Mondays, Tuesdays, and  
Wednesdays; started the week of  
November 13<sup>th</sup>

**CONFESSIONS** every Saturday 4:00-4:45pm;  
the Sundays in Advent after the 10:00am Mass;  
and on Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

**TAIZE PRAYER** is on  
Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>  
at 7:00pm; join us for  
Prayer, Music, Scripture,  
and Reflection



## **CHRISTMAS MASSES**



**Saturday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>**  
at 4:00pm

**Sunday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> at**  
**8:00am, 10:00am,**  
**and 12:00pm**

**MASSES FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY**  
**Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 4:00pm**

**and**  
**Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at 8:00am,**  
**10:00am, and 12:00pm**

*"We must consider how to inspire one another on love and good works. We should not stay away from our assembly, as is the custom of some, but encourage one another, and all the more as you see the day of the Lord coming near."*

-- Hebrews 10:24-25



## ST HILARY EAGLES BLOCK POOL



### Week 10 Winners

Otto Family and St. Hilary

### Week 09 Winners

Barbara Ferrari and Meredith Merlini

### Week 08 Winners

Dan McVey and Ed Walker

### Week 07 Winners

St. Hilary and George Naab

### Week 06 Winners

Ed Bongard and Rosemary Naab

*("Bye" Week on 10/23/22)*

### Week 05 Winners

McCrea Family and Carbone Family

### Week 04 Winners

Jim Brady and Bob & Celeste Tate

### Week 03 Winners

The Stengels and Valentino - for 7th Grade

### Week 02 Winners

Christy Stefanelli and Egan Family

### Week 01 Winners

Kathy McCaffrey and Roy & Carol Stein

*Thanks for your participation!*



## ST. HILARY OF POITIERS CHURCH

### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturdays at 5:00pm  
Sundays at 8:00am, 10:00pm, and 12pm

### WEEKDAY MASSES

8 AM on Monday thru Friday

### CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays 4 – 4:45 PM; **Sundays in Advent after 10am Mass**

### HOLY DAYS

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

**Pastor ~ Rev. Kevin P. Murray**

**Weekend Assistant ~ Msgr. Gregory J. Fairbanks**

**In Residence ~ Rev. Jacob John**

**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**

**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: 8:30 AM to 4 PM

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!*



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CYO WREATH  
RAFFLE WINNER ~ KEVIN KOTS!  
THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

### JOIN THE ADVENT CHALLENGE WITH THE HALO APP

In the foyer of the Church, you will see a large pink poster with a barcode - you are invited to join the Advent Challenge. It is free for 14 days. Take a picture of the barcode with your cell phone, and it allows you to browse prayers, meditations, etc. It's a fun way to start the Advent season with this free app for 14 days (after 14 days, you would have to pay but you can check out the trial free for 14 days)

**RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS** annual collection will greatly assist in providing for the needs of faithful servants of the Church, as it addresses the deficit in retirement savings and ongoing needs of the aging members. Thanks in advance for your support.

### 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 and to make His love known in the midst of it all.

**UPDATED 55+ SPIRIT NEWS:**

**Our 55+ Spirit Club Group** ~ all enjoyed the November presentation by Ray Vandegrift, a parishioner and Equitable Advisor. He and his associate, Fran Doherty, had interesting material and a very enlightening way of conveying it. We also thank Ray for lunch! Our next meeting is on **Wednesday, December 21 at 10am** in the Parish Ctr. We will celebrate with Christmas music from Elizabeth Knecht and with cheer from Santa himself. We welcome all bakers to show us their cookie expertise, and everyone will go home with a variety of sweets. We have 8 bakers baking as of now. Instead of a Pollyanna, we will collect for a donation to St. Hilary's Outreach Program.  
-- Margie Magee 215-885-8722

**Divine Mercy's Mother said on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception to St. Faustina:**

"My daughter, at God's command I am to be, in a special and exclusive way your Mother; but I desire that you, too, in a special way, be My child." (St. Faustina Diary, 1414)

*(Used with permission of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the B.V.M.)*

**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 215-663-1046.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SICK:**

Michael Dooley, Jack Avak, Michael Brown, Nicolas Liddy, Bob Kilcoyne, Mary Jane Namola, Elizabeth Dieckman, Sophia Southerling, Mary Deely, 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, Tina Hardimon, 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, Timothy Dempsey, Dilynn Listman, Anne Visco, Daniel Hare, Gloria Hannah, BJ Verdon, Jim Curley, Fidelia Almerini, Liliana DeGrazia, Leila Koehler, Chap Nowiicke

*Please pray for the souls of all the deceased  
Joan Gallagher  
Andrew Kroyos Edward Luckiewicz*

In 1965, Charles Schulz, a devout Christian and creator of the Peanuts comic strip, was asked to create a Christmas special for CBS featuring the Peanuts characters. He agreed, with one requirement...that they allow him to include the story of the birth of Jesus. Although the station's executives were hesitant and tried to convince him otherwise, Schulz was insistent. As a result, for the past 50 plus years, millions of people have watched "A Charlie Brown Christmas" and heard the story of Jesus and "what Christmas is all about."

Linus, a child who seems to have some insecurities, carries a security blanket with him at all times. Linus never drops his blanket, except while sharing the message of "what Christmas is all about." He drops it at the exact moment he says the words, "Fear not!" In this seemingly innocent moment, Linus delivers a powerful reminder of the true meaning of Christmas. We are to "fear not," for Jesus is born. We needn't rely on material things for security; we have God with us, "Immanuel" (Matthew 1:23), Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior - the true meaning of Christmas.

Linus picks up his blanket at the end of his speech. However, he "drops" it again later. Amid big, bright, colorful, shiny artificial trees, Charlie Brown chose the least of these...a little, wooden tree with just a few branches. Shortly thereafter, Linus uses his blanket to wrap about the base of the tree and says, "Maybe it just needs a little love." In that moment, the tree "awakens," stands tall and firm, and we are reminded that no matter who we are, how many mistakes we've made, a "little love" can make all the difference.



**Let's strive to "fear not" (Luke 2:10) and "love one another" (John 13:34) ~ not just at Christmastime, but the whole year through.**

**FROM THE SISTERS OF LIFE:** "Thank you for all the ways you have invited Christ to be the King in your life. You have responded to the Lord's invitation to be an instrument of His providential love towards the most vulnerable in society. Please know of our gratitude for your donations and gifts from Respect Life Month! Thank you for supporting our mission. We feel so upheld by your generosity. As we enter this new liturgical year, may we allow His reign to permeate our own minds and hearts. Know of our continued prayers for you and your loved ones."

*Sister Maeve Nativitas, SV*

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