

St. Hilary of Poitiers Parish

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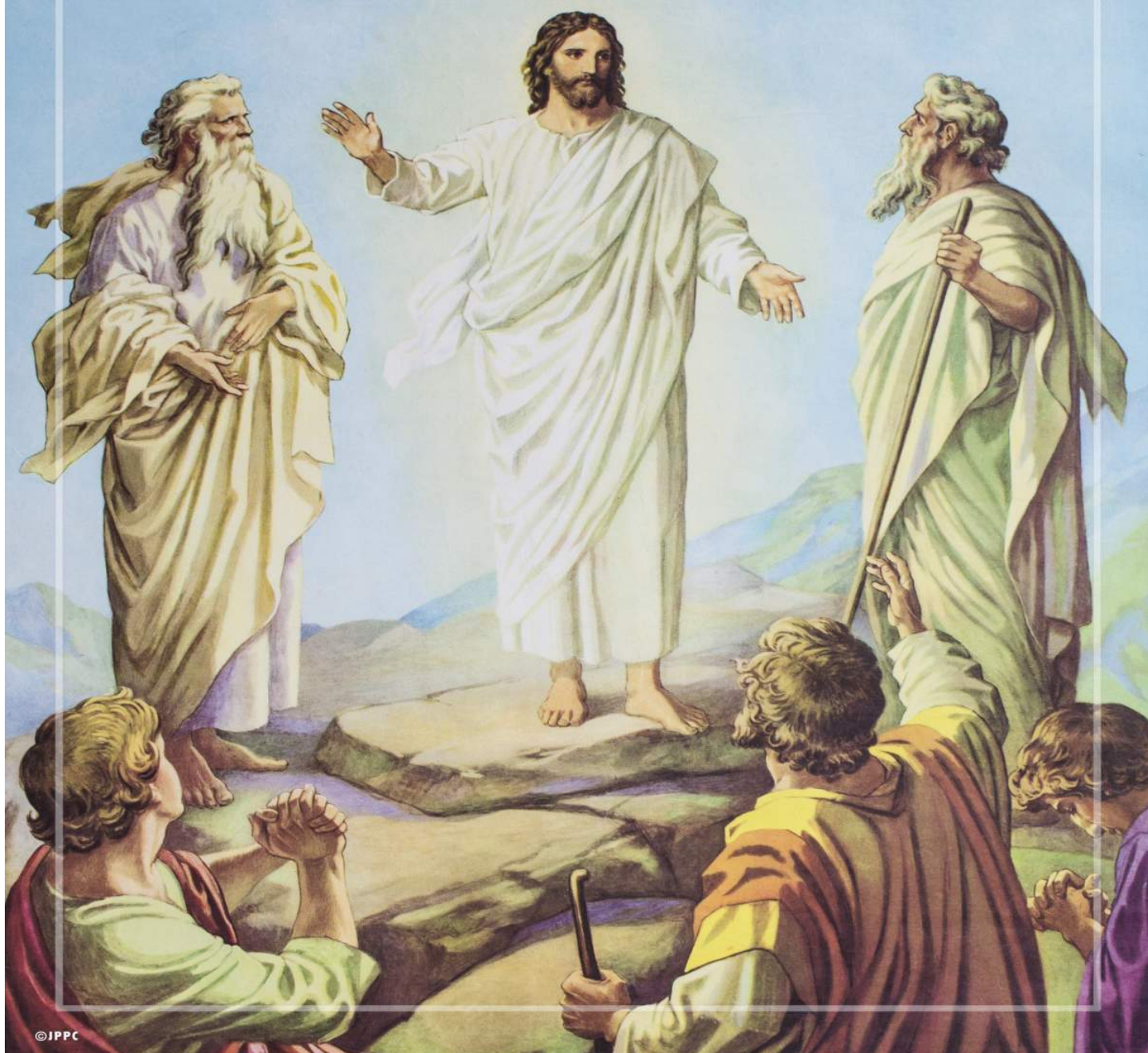
APRIL 12, 2026

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER / DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

THIS IS MY BELOVED SON

with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

MATTHEW 17:5



PASTOR'S CORNER

"Peace be with you."

At the young age of 29, St. Maria Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938) had a vision of the Risen Christ. Christ gave her this message of mercy: "On the cross, the fountain of mercy was opened wide by the lance...no one have I excluded. The flames of mercy are burning me...I want to pour them out on all souls." Today, we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. As He often did in His public ministry, Jesus returns to the Apostles who are hiding in fear and shame. He returns not to scold or blame them, but to restore shattered lives. One of the great proofs of Christ's resurrection was the apostles' acceptance of Christ's forgiveness. The healing was not self-generated; it could only have happened by their experience of seeing the Risen Christ and being embraced by His mercy.

The fountain of mercy awaits all of us in and through the Sacrament of Penance. Here in this great sacrament, the Risen Christ awaits us to draw us out of our self-created tombs. The confessional is not a torcher chamber, as Pope Francis tells us, but a chamber of mercy. Just like the Apostles, we all, at times, have denied Christ - and like Thomas, we have had our doubts. Yet we must come to believe the message of Christ ~ there is no sin greater than His mercy.

Let that mercy overflow in us and spill over to others...to forgive as the Lord has forgiven us. The gift we have received we should then give as a gift. Pope John XXIII reminded us that "we are not on earth to be museum keepers, but to cultivate gardens of life." Pope John Paul II once spoke of mercy as "content of intimacy with our Lord; the content of our dialogue with Him."

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, let us rejoice and be glad that the Lord is risen! He comes to raise us up out of guilt and shame. May we show our intimacy with Him by our acts of mercy, while we cultivate gardens of new life.



Happy Easter,
Father Murray

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, April 12, 2026

Second Sunday of Easter

5:00pm Vigil ~ Celeste Tate

8:30am ~ Anna Plawa

10:30am ~ Joseph DeGrazia III

Monday, April 13, 2026

Saint Martin I, Pope and Martyr

8:00am ~ Joan Barbetta

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

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

8:00am ~ Jane and James McMahon

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

8:00am ~ Timothy Smith

Thursday, April 16, 2026

8:00am ~ Marian Stevens

Friday, April 17, 2026

8:00am ~ Christopher M. Stever

Saturday, April 18, 2026

5:00pm ~ William Bonsall

Sunday, April 19, 2026

Third Sunday of Easter

8:30am ~ William and Rosemary Wynne

10:30am ~ Arthur Mattia, Jr.

There are still Announced Masses left for 2026



**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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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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JULIE MUHLFELD WHO WAS RECEIVED INTO FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AT THE EASTER VIGIL



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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!**



St. Hilary School celebrated the opening of the Phillies and the end of Terra Nova with hot dogs & Rita's water ice!

The SHS 7th graders and the school choir performed the Living Stations during Holy Week for the community.



The SHS Student Council and EDGE members attended the Chrism Mass on Holy Thursday at the Cathedral.



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

Sponsored by
St. Hilary
of Poitiers

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 \$50)
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

** 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)! Thank you for your consideration!

*** Sellers - please return completed packets asap.

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!



THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CELEBRATED THE TRIDUUM AND EASTER WITH US AT ST. HILARY CHURCH! AND THANKS FOR YOUR KIND & GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EASTER & FLOWER COLLECTIONS! THANKS TO OUR DEVOTED DECORATORS FOR OUR BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED CHURCH DURING EASTER SEASON!!



ST. HILARY MARCH MADNESS BLOCK POOL



**We sold 187 blocks! THANK YOU!
We made \$3,500 for the parish, including
three 1st Round Unsold Blocks that won \$50 each.
We have \$6,000 for prizes.**

This year's winners are as follows:

\$775 Championship, 1st Round and Elite 8 Winner (1): Kolla/Heaps had the same block win twice, and a 2nd block win the Championship prize.

\$600 Championship Winner (1): George and Joann Brenner

\$325 Sweet 16 and Final 4 Winner (1): Tom Yaegel had 2 different winning blocks

\$300 1st Round and Final 4 Winner (1): Marilyn & Joe Henry had 2 different winning blocks

\$250 Final 4 Winners (2): Kittie Pennington and Kathy Lenon

\$200 1st Round and Sweet 16 Winner (1): Brazukas Family had 3 different winning blocks

\$175 1st Round and Elite 8 Winners (3): Hal & Eileen Fagan had 2 different winning blocks; Jennifer Powers, Rosemary & Joe Albanese had the same winning block

\$150 1st Round Winner (1): Greenberg Family had the same block win twice, and a 2nd block win once

\$125 Elite 8 Winners (4): Linda Powers, Marian Stengel, Michele Stefanelli, and Rick Alegado

\$125 1st Round and Sweet 16 Winners (4): The Foley Family and Radtke Family had 2 different winning blocks; Jeff Long and Leo & Ann Vaccarro had the same winning block

\$100 1st Round Winner (1): Meredith Merlini had the same winning block

\$75 Sweet 16 Winners (9): Ann Wise, Anthony Cesarini, Brian Westfall, Connie Fennell, Harry & Karen Looby, Mike & Roseann Schell, Moose Kelly, Nick Lattanzi, and Timmy Parks

\$50 1st Round Winners (14): Alex Shute, Big Ed Bongard, Carly Calabrese, David Luschini, Denise Tyszka, Donna & Sean Martin, George Metro, Izzy & Cubby Adair, Joe Kilian, John Dunleavy, Karen Monteleone, Kevin Tracey, Pat and Cass Egan, and Vito Family

**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!

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.

The St. Hilary Memorial Fund is used to purchase vestments and other items for the Church.

Our Palm this Holy Season was donated in memory of:

**Rocco Lomaistro
Patricia Cass
Robert Donnelly**

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.



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 Masantonia, Angela Gavin, Wil- liam Hartner, Mary Jane Hummel, Tina Savarino, Sarah Koehler, Paris Luckowski, Judy Sklar, Bernadette Redi- can, 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, Fide- lia 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, Hel- en Toland, Maryanne Powell, Sandra Rogers, Timothy Funk, Michelle Stuetz, Kim Huntoweski, 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

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

*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 \$9,832 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!***

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

TOTAL WEEKLY SUNDAY COLLECTION

March 29, 2026

Sunday Offering: \$5,715

Electronic Giving: \$2,355

Total: \$8,070

March 30, 2025

Sunday Offering: \$4,854

Electronic Giving: \$2,371

Total: \$7,225

EASTER COLLECTION TO-DATE: \$19,308

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