



Transforming Lives for Jesus Christ

*Transforming lives for Jesus Christ
through vibrant worship, life long
faith formation, social action
and evangelization*

DECEMBER 1, 2024 | 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WELCOME

New parishioners are most welcome!
Please call the office to register.

MASSES

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 am & 5:30 pm
Mon, Tue, Fri 7:00 & 9:30 am
Wed & Thurs 7:00 am

ADORATION

Wednesdays 7:30 am – 7:00 pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:00 – 3:45 pm or by appt.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: To arrange your child's Baptism & participation in the Baptism Preparation, contact Beth Rado, Ext. 206
Sacrament of Matrimony: The engaged couple should contact one of the clergy at least 6 months before the desired wedding date.

R.C.I.A.

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):
Adults interested in the Catholic faith should call Randy Malick, Ext. 209

EUCHARIST FOR THE HOMEBOUND

To arrange Eucharist for a homebound parishioner OR to volunteer as a Eucharistic Minister for the Homebound please contact Beth Rado, Ext. 206

ST. HILARY PARISH

2750 West Market Street
Fairlawn, Ohio 44333
Phone: 330-867-1055
Fax: 330-869-2312
sthilarychurch.org



MASS SCHEDULE, READINGS & INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

7:00 AM Bob Meadows (Susie Straits)

9:30 AM Mary Scalia (Joe Scalia)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

St. Francis Xavier, Priest

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

7:00 AM Josephine Scarpitti (Suzanne Scarpitti)

9:30 AM Vincent & Patty Bradley (Michele Mills)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

7:00 AM Jessica Smith-Badger
(Elaine Shannon-Smith)

7:30 AM-7 PM Adoration

7:00 PM Advent Event Prayer

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

7:00 AM Florence Dziewisz (Moloney Family)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

St. Nicholas, Bishop

Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

7:00 AM Katie Ann Pelland (Buzz & Patty Pelland)

9:30 AM Father Ralph Coletta (Anna Buzzelli)

7:30 PM Healing Rosary

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

4:00 PM Jean Hauser (Fr. Steve Brunovsky)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

2nd Sunday of Advent

Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

7:30 AM People of St. Hilary

9:00 AM Agnes Ribes (Eberhardt Family)

11:00 AM Catherine Marthouse (Tom Hlivko)

5:30 PM John Bird (Pat Bird)

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

**OH MARY,
CONCEIVED
WITHOUT SIN,
PRAY FOR US
WHO HAVE
RECOURSE
TO THEE.**



The Diocese of Cleveland has affirmed that the Monday, December 9 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation. Therefore, Masses for the Holy Day for St. Hilary Parish will be at 7:00 am, 12:10 pm and 7:00 pm.



Eric, Jennifer, Anthony & Lucia Bernard



Please remember in your prayers the recently departed and their families, especially:

Jack Price, husband of Angie

Stephany Shanoski

Parish Business Office Update

Please note a change in our parish business office. Trey Baker has resigned from his position as Business Manager, so please communicate with our Accounting Assistant Lisa Luby at 330-867-1055 x201 or at lluby@sthilarychurch.org for the foreseeable future.



In the quiet anticipation of Christmas, a time of profound spiritual reflection and preparation unfolds within the Christian calendar. For many, it is a time marked by the lighting of candles, the joy of cherished traditions, and the vibrant chords of carols that herald the birth of a child in Bethlehem. This sacred season is known as Advent, a word that itself holds the promise of something extraordinary yet to come.

The Advent season is a four-week period before Christmas that celebrates the anticipation and coming of Jesus Christ, the Messiah. Not only is the Christian meaning for preparing and celebrating the coming of Jesus Christ, his birth at Christmas, but also to celebrate the new life when someone accepts Jesus Christ as their Savior, and lastly, the anticipation of Jesus returning again.

There are beautiful and rich traditions behind the celebration of Advent. Let's take a deeper look at the focus and themes of each week of Advent, and some of the traditions celebrated worldwide during the Advent season. May you find time to slow down this Christmas season, say "no" to the things that distract you from Jesus, and say "yes" to the gift that God wants you to experience.

December 4 ~ Wednesday

7:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer

December 9 ~ Monday

7:00 AM Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

12:10 PM Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

7:00 PM Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

December 10 ~ Tuesday

7:00 PM Advent Communal Reconciliation

December 11 ~ Wednesday

7:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer

December 15 ~ Sunday

7:00 PM Gaudete Concert and Reception

December 18 ~ Wednesday

7:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer

December 24 ~ Tuesday ~ Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Vigil Mass in CHURCH♦(Livestreamed)

4:00 PM Vigil Mass in HORNING HALL

6:00 PM Vigil Mass in CHURCH

10:00 PM Vigil Mass in CHURCH♦(Livestreamed)

December 25 ~ Wednesday ~ Christmas Day

9:00 AM Mass in CHURCH♦(Livestreamed)

11:00 AM Mass in CHURCH♦(Livestreamed)

Gospel Reflection

The liturgical season of Advent, which means "coming", requires us to be time travelers. We are asked to focus on three different "comings" of Jesus: To look back to the in-breaking of the kingdom of God in the person of Jesus born at Bethlehem, to look forward to his coming again at the end of time and, finally, to pay attention to his coming to us daily in our present lives.

The focus of today's gospel is his future coming and the gospel contains some frightening imagery: "People will die of fright", "The powers of the heavens will be shaken."

For the just, however there is nothing to fear. Jesus tells his disciples, "When these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand."

The future can be frightening because it is something over which we have no control. But today's gospel reminds us that our future is in God's hands.

Disciples of Jesus have important work to do. He has left us his example and his preaching to light our way. Like him, we care for the marginalized, oppose unjust structures and prioritize acceptance and inclusion. But ultimately the coming of the kingdom is God's accomplishment. We are God's servants. And if we are faithful disciples we need not be afraid.

Today, on the First Sunday of Advent, the church begins a new liturgical year, with scripture readings in the "C" cycle. This year most of our gospel selections will be from the gospel of Luke.

If you read these columns regularly, I assume your intention is to apply the scriptures to your daily life. Imagine how helpful it would be to familiarize yourself with the readings before you come to the weekend liturgy!

A resource I have found very helpful for many years is *At Home With the Word*. Each annual edition contains the scriptures for the year, background material for the gospel, commentary and a few discussion questions. I highly recommended it for use individually or and in faith sharing groups. New copies are available now in the parish office for \$10.

Pat Schnee

Join us for Parents R.O.C.K. (Raising Our Catholic Kids) on Friday, December 6!

Join us for an evening of community for Catholic Parents on Friday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m. We begin with time for community (beverages and light appetizers provided), followed by a presentation from our guest speaker Dr. Andrew Staron, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology at St. Mary Seminary. He will be talking with us about finding God in our families. It will be a great way to enter into the Advent season, keeping God at the center of our families. Please register at sthilarychurch.org/parentsrock.

Gaudete Sunday Concert: Longing for the Light Sunday, December 15

Join the 11:00 Adult Choir, the Trinitas Children's Choir, the Handbell Choir, and the St. Hilary Dance Ministry as we focus on the coming light on Gaudete Sunday, December 15 at 7:00 pm in Church. Choral and instrumental music will be interspersed with Advent readings and assembly singing, all celebrating this season of anticipation. A reception will follow in the gathering area. Come join us!

ATTENTION All Lectors!

Lector Workbooks for the upcoming 2025 Liturgical Year are available for pick up in the Spiritual Center.

Join St. Hilary Parish in watching "Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist" on FORMED!

It's not about what it is. It's about *Who* it is. The same Jesus who walked the streets of Jerusalem and Galilee 2,000 years ago is truly present to us sacramentally under the appearance of bread and wine. In the Eucharist, the God of the universe invites us into a deeper experience of his perfect love—and he is waiting for you. **We invite you to watch "Presence, the Mystery of the Eucharist" on FORMED.** This can be done individually or within a small faith sharing group. To find this program, visit FORMED.org and search for "Presence." FORMED is a free subscription through the parish. To create an account, visit signup.formed.org. If you are not a part of a small faith sharing group and are interested in joining one, please email Maureen Capellas, Stewardship Minister, at mcapellas@sthilarychurch.org.

Caring & Participating | Social Action

St. Hilary Giving Tree Gifts due back on December 15!



The 43rd Annual St. Hilary Christmas Giving Tree has begun! The trees are in place in the Gathering Area and in the back of the church. There are many tags for children, teens, young adults and seniors. We work with 22 agencies and inner city schools that are aware of the families' situation.

Please wrap your gifts and tape the tag **SECURELY** on your gift...this is the only way we know where the gift will go. This is extremely important! If you have more than one gift for one tag, please place the gifts in a bag (like a kitchen trash bag). Do not tie together as they often get separated. You can also write the number of the tag on each of your boxes.

Please also wrap all **GIFT CARDS** in a box. You can tape the gift card on top of a box of candy or cookies, and wrap it with your tag on top of the box. Please write the amount of your gift card on the card so your senior knows how much they can spend.

When you take your tag from the tree, please take a picture of it or keep track of agency or school that's on the right hand corner of the tag. If you lose your tag, you will know the section your child is in. Each year we have lost tags and it's hard to know what child you are trying to help.

Please have all gifts back under the trees by NOON ON DECEMBER 15. The schools begin picking up at 5 p.m.

If you have questions, or you do lose your tag, please call Betty at 330-475-9587.

We truly thank you for all your help with making this year's Giving Tree a success! We are here to help so many children, families, and seniors that are living in poverty. We are always grateful for your help!

We have a few special needs as well: used or new bibles or children's religious books and doll houses; Unwanted Halloween candy; and **UNUSED, UNOPENED travel items (shampoos, soaps, etc.,** please drop off in the Spiritual Center Donation Hallway with "Attention Betty."

THANK YOU for your continued generosity!

The ITE Project Gift Wrapping Fundraiser

Support The ITE Project by volunteering your time at the Christmas Gift Wrapping Fundraiser event happening on December 13th (6 PM - 9 PM) & 15th (8 AM - 1 PM) at St Francis de Sales (Memorare Center) in Akron. Presents will be wrapped in beautiful paper with all the trimmings for a suggested donation. Funds raised will be used to pay for food, speakers, and expenses at ITE events throughout the year to keep attendance for participants free. Not a good wrapper? That's okay! We also need people to organize gifts, cut paper, write gift tags, and more! Join us in making the Christmas season a little easier for folks! More details on our website! <https://www.theiteproject.com/calendar>

Finding Peace this Holiday Season: Catholic Charities is here to help!

The holiday season can be joyful, but it can also bring stress and heightened emotions as we face family gatherings, financial pressures, and the complexities of personal relationships. If you or a loved one are feeling overwhelmed, Catholic Charities is here to help. Our compassionate, licensed counselors are available for both in-person and telehealth sessions, providing support tailored to your needs. We offer individual, family, and couples counseling, as well as specialized care for children, teens, and those dealing with addiction. Together, we work towards mental wellness, personal growth, and healing, offering a supportive space where you can feel heard and understood. To start, simply call our central intake line at 1 (800) 860-7373. You don't have to navigate the holiday season alone—Catholic Charities is here for you.

Holy Spirit Prayer Group December meetings

Holy Spirit Prayer Group will be meeting the first and third Tuesdays in December, at 7:00PM. We are located in the lower level of the church.

Dec 3: Praise, worship, scripture, conversation and intercessory prayer

Dec 17: Praise, worship, scripture, conversation and video of Chris Stefanik's talk at the National Eucharistic Conference.

Our meetings are open to everyone and we invite you to join us.

Caring & Participating | Social Action

Wayside Furniture's After Thanksgiving Giving Event Ends Monday, December 2!

Dear St Hilary Church Parishioners,

Wayside Furniture is again offering their "After Thanksgiving Giving Event" and the Society of St Vincent De Paul is one of the recipients. This is a very simple and easy opportunity to have your donation of up to \$100 matched by Wayside Furniture. Here is all you do: Make a check out to St. Hilary SVDP Please put your conference also in the Memo Section of the check. Donation can be made out for any amount, but Wayside will only match up to \$100. You must hand deliver a check to the Wayside Furniture store located at 1367 Canton Road, Akron Ohio 44312 during normal store hours on Friday November 29, Saturday November 30, Sunday December 1, and Monday December 2, 2024. THE CHECKS MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE STORE IN PERSON AND ONE CHECK PER INDIVIDUAL. NO CASH OR CREDIT CARDS. PLEASE COME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ENSURE DONATION WILL BE MATCHED. THERE ARE ONLY LIMITED FUNDS AVAILABLE. This is a great opportunity to help St. Hilary Society of St Vincent De Paul.

If there are any questions, please contact me. Tom Peltier 330 690-7621

Looking for that Perfect Gift?

Are you looking for the perfect Christmas gift for that family member or friend who has everything he or she needs? Consider honoring your family member or friend with an eloquent tribute through a gift to the St. Hilary Parish Foundation. Such gifts help to grow the Foundation, enhancing its ability to serve the St. Hilary community. To learn more, please contact Diane Sarkis, Executive Director, at 330-608-4787.

SVDP food Collection November 30 and December 1

We will be accepting donations at the masses on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1. Look for the bins at the church entrances. Thanks to all those who donated throughout the year. We are happy to take any donation, but this month the items we are most in need of are **cookies, paper goods, cereal and pancake mix**. Please check the expiration dates since dispose of anything that is expired. Our neighbors in need really appreciate your generosity.

Oplatki is Coming!

Oplatki, a central Europe Christian Christmas tradition, will be available after all Masses the weekend of December 14 and 15.



The Challenge & Spirituality of Catholic Social Teaching Book Study

Did you know that we, as Catholics, are called to put the poor and vulnerable first, to protect the dignity of workers, and to care for our planet? Many of us are familiar with Catholic teaching on human life, but that is not where our responsibilities end. Catholic social teaching provides a framework for building a just society and living a life of holiness in the modern world. Catholic social teaching is centered around seven principles:

- Life and dignity of the human person;
- Call to family, community, and participation
- Rights and responsibilities
- Option for the poor and vulnerable
- The dignity of work and the rights of workers
- Solidarity
- Care for God's creation

Please join us for a book study of *The Challenge and Spirituality of Catholic Social Teaching* by Marvin L. Krier Mich on Wednesdays from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM starting January 22, 2025

If you have questions or to register, please contact Maureen Capellas at 330-867-1055, extension 217, or mcapellas@sthilarychurch.org.

Blessings in a Backpack Ornament Sale December 7 & 8

Don't miss the Blessings in a Backpack ornament sale on Saturday and Sunday, December 7 & 8 after all Masses. The cost is \$30. Proceeds provide food on weekends for school children in Akron who may otherwise go hungry.



If you are unable to purchase after mass, you can make your purchase by emailing blessingsakron@gmail.com. Payable by cash, credit or check. (Payable to Blessings in a Backpack-Akron).



Join the #WeGiveCatholic movement on Giving Tuesday and support St. Hilary School!

**Tuesday, December 3, 2024
12:00 AM - 11:59 PM**

Your support during these 24 hours will be divided evenly between two important St. Hilary School causes:

- Support for our teachers and staff:
 - Stipends for staff members coordinating clubs and committees
 - Investing in Our Future Campaign
- General Building Upgrades (to be completed during the summer of 2025)

Make your gift on 12/3/24 online by:

- clicking the #WeGiveCatholic link on our school homepage at www.st-hilaryschool.org
- scanning the QR Code to the right

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates!
Questions? Call 330-867-1055 ext. 203



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

SVDP Food Sunday

10:15 AM-11:00 AM	Choir	St. Katharine (2), St. Cecilia (3)
11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Post Homily Scripture Sharing	Our Lady of Guadalupe (LL1)
4:00 PM-5:15 PM	Teen Choir Practice	Church

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

9:30 AM-11:30 AM	Family Life Mom's Group	Main Level Meeting Rooms
5:30 PM-6:30 PM	Trinitas Choir Practice	Church
6:30 PM-8:00 PM	Stewardship Ministry Meeting	Our Lady of Guadalupe (LL1)
8:30 PM-10:00 PM	Men's Basketball	Horning Hall

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting	Lower Level
7:00 PM-9:30 PM	KOC General Meeting	Gathering Area
7:00 PM-9:00 PM	Holy Spirit Prayer Group	Lower Level

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

1:30 PM-3:30 PM	Card Party Wednesday	St. Vincent (1), St. Katharine (2)
7:00 PM-9:00 PM	OCIA	Lower Level
7:00 PM-8:00 PM	Advent Evening Prayer	Church

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

9:00 AM-11:00 AM	Catechesis of the Good Shepherd	Lower Level
6:00 PM-7:45 PM	Rosary Making & Repair Ministry Meeting	St. Vincent (1)
6:30 PM-7:30 PM	Handbell Choir Practice	St. Katharine (2), St. Cecilia (3)
7:30 PM-8:30 PM	Choir Practice	St. Katharine (2), St. Cecilia (3)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

6:30 PM-9:00 PM	Parents R.O.C.K.	Gathering Area
7:30 PM-8:00 PM	Healing Rosary	Church

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

2nd Collection: Retirement Fund for Religious

Blessings in a Backpack Ornament Sale after all Masses

3:00 PM-3:45 PM	Reconciliation	Reconciliation Rooms
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ST. HILARY PARISH OFFICE:

OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Thu: 8:30 am-8 pm; Fri: 8:30 am-5 pm

PHONE: 330-867-1055 **EMAIL:** church@sthilarychurch.org

CLERGY

Pastor..... Rev. Steven K. Brunovsky, Ext. 204

Parochial Vicar Rev. Cameron D. Popik, Ext. 207

PASTORAL STAFF

Music and Liturgy Meg Matuska, Ext. 202

Pastoral Minister Beth Rado, Ext. 206

Faith Formation for Adults..... Randy Malick, Ext. 209

Faith Formation for Teens/Young Adults.....Joe Peach, Ext. 208

Faith Formation for Children Jeannie Hohlefelder, Ext. 213

StewardshipMaureen Capellas, Ext. 217

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Business Office..... Ext. 203

Parish Secretary Joan Heegan, Ext. 200

Accounting Assistant Lisa Luby, Ext. 201

Communications Coordinator Angela Dublikar, Ext. 205

Faith Formation Associate Meghan Tuck, Ext. 211

Faith Formation Associate.....Katie McCarthy, Ext. 211

Virtus (Monday 5-8 pm)Jan Giles, Ext. 201

Maintenance ManagerAdam Glaus, 330-867-0300, ext. 226

ST. HILARY PARISH FOUNDATION

WEBSITE: www.sthilaryfoundation.org

Executive Director Diane Sarkis, 330-608-4787

ST. HILARY PARISH SCHOOL:

PHONE: 330-867-8720 **ADDRESS:** 645 Moorfield Road

WEBSITE: www.st-hilaryschool.org

PrincipalJennifer Woodman, Ext. 223

Assistant Principal..... Darcy Alexander, Ext. 224

Director of Marketing & Admissions Debbie Sinopoli, Ext. 343

PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

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Paul Heil, Debby Kirkpatrick, Derek Makin, Russell Mounts, Nicole

Quester, Michael Zorena

CLUSTER PARISHES

ST. VICTOR PARISH: 330-659-6591

Saturday Vigil: 5 pm; Sunday: 8:45 & 11:30 am; Reconciliation: Saturday: 4:30 pm

GUARDIAN ANGELS CHURCH: 330-666-1373

Saturday Vigil: 5 pm; Sunday: 9 & 11 am; Reconciliation: Saturday: 4 pm

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: 330-253-5117

ALTERNATIVES TO ABORTION: 330-825-1900, 330-644-4490

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE: 330-374-1111

SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE: 1-800-273-8255

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025

NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINTING

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Mike Andy, Jr., Marcia Anway, John Bartlebaugh*, Josepha Boeske, Evans Cottman, Debi Coudriet, Jim Dietrich, Susan Donahue, Debbie Gwin, Dave Holvey, Claire Hood*, Christine Jakiela-Myers*, Barbara Jensen, Donna Jones*, Patti Kelleher*, Jim Kilcoyne*, Vonni Laughlin*, Bob McDowell, Teresa McGee, Peyton Mcneely*, James Misanko, Judy O’Keefe, Shirley Petrich, David Riegler, Noreen Roman*, John V. Santin, Bob Sarich*, Stephen Sonderman, Mary Ann Uille, Laurie Umana-Kipp*, Heidi Vierheller, Ellen Vollman*

*Newly added

God Bless Our Troops

Nicholas Abbott, Acadia Broscius, Tyler Chopko, Justin Colletti, Robert Copeland, William Crowder-Hughes, David Diamond, Ross Faetanini, Christopher Todd Foust, Simon Hamad, Joseph Cortland Hatch, Nicholas Holvey, Mitchel Ickes, Benjamin Kovesci, Daniel Lloyd, Michael Londa, Daniel MacInnis, Ian Michelson, Matthew Nedolast, Aaron Ravenscraft, Brandon Paul Robb, Anthony Ryba, Michael Saponetti, Logan Sarina, Michael Scantling, Todd Scarpitti, Jobie Siemer, John Silliman, Liam Slater, José M. Suárez, Alex Worner

Prayers for those parishioners discerning Vocations to the Religious Life or Priesthood

Deacon James Parisi, St. Mary Seminary, Diocese of Cleveland; Keith Novak, Permanent Diaconate, Aspirant 1

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