

ST. KATHARINE OF SIENA

Wayne, Pennsylvania | Parish Community



WELCOME TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

SERVED BY

Rev. Msgr. Hans A. L. Brouwers
Pastor

Rev. Msgr. John J. Jagodzinski
Pastor Emeritus

Father Scott Reilly, LC
Weekend Assistant
484-422-8117

David Wang
Transitional Deacon

Stephanie Twohig
Youth Minister

Kim O'Neill
Coordinator for Parish Life and
Ministry: 610-688-4584

Adria Crowley, School Principal
610-688-5451

S. Mary Elizabeth Karalis, SSJ
Director of Religious Education
610-688-7890

MaryAnn Crowe
Parish Nurse: 610-688-9479

Dr. Ted Latham
Liturgical Music Director
610-688-9489

Laura Kerr
Organist/Adult Choir Director
Evangelization

Angela Kusterbeck
Business Manager

Barbara Lombardi
Parish Secretary

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 9:30 & 11:30am

Weekday Masses

Monday-Friday 6:30, 8:00am
Saturday 8:00am

Holy Days

Vigil 6:00pm
Day: 6:30am, 8:00am, 12:10pm & 7:00pm

Adoration

Monday 8:30am - 4:30pm with
Benediction 4:30-4:45pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays 4:00-4:45pm

Sacrament of Baptism

Sundays 12:45pm
Please contact the rectory to make
arrangements.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples planning to be married
are asked to contact the parish priest at
least 6 months in advance.

Sacrament of the Sick

For those who are seriously ill, aged or
infirm, or who are scheduled for surgery.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Rev. Msgr. Hans Brouwers, Sr. Mary Elizabeth Karalis, SSJ, Kim O'Neill,
Adria Crowley, Donna Blumeris, Sarah Bradley, Charles Cognata, Tina
Grandizio, Kevin Haynes, Ed Kubala, Bill Lehner, Mary Packer, Jeff Walken-
horst

PARISH FINANCIAL COUNCIL

Rev. Msgr. Hans Brouwers, Angela Kusterbeck, Carolyn Evans, Adria Crow-
ley, Richard Craft, Joseph Chott

MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023

9:30 AM Maria Mencarelli
11:30 AM Virginia Svoboda

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023

6:30 AM Lewers/Shea Families
8:00 AM Domenico Martino

Eucharistic Adoration will begin after the 8:00 am Mass today with Benediction starting at 4:30 pm.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023

6:30 AM James and Marjorie White
8:00 AM Randy Burde

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023

6:30 AM Special Intention
8:00 AM Edna Cellucci

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023

6:30 AM Special Intention
8:00 AM Mary Kelly

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2023

6:30 AM Special Intention
8:00 AM Walter Daly

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023

8:00 AM Thomas Robinson
5:00 PM Veith/Williams Families

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023

9:30 AM Bo and Tess Connor
11:30 AM Richard and Rita Dougherty

Readings: *Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thes 5:16-24;
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28*

Requests for Prayers Sick Prayer List:

If you wish to have your name or the name of a loved one added to this prayer list, please call or email us. **New names will appear in bold. Other than critical or terminal conditions, the names will remain on this list for 30 days.** Please help us keep our prayer list current by letting us know when the status of a person on the sick list changes. Due to HIPAA laws, parish staff does not know if a parishioner is hospitalized or placed in a nursing home unless someone informs them. If you or a loved one would like the parish nurse or parish priest to visit the home or hospital, please call the rectory to make arrangements.

Jim Arimond	Rosemary Grimm	Madeleine O'Keefe
Joan Beiter	Ginny Jackson	Paula Rudnick
Robert Bruno	Wesley Jones	Dan Sivini
Ryan Carlton	Libby Judge	Logan Schweiter
Charles Carr	Tony Lopez	Claire Sieracki
Jackie Chedeville	Timothy Mahoney	Greg Schmidt
Brady Duperreault	John McCabe	Jessica Smucker
Jamie Lynn Donnelly	Mark Megaw	Debbie Snyder
Patrick Graham	MaryEllen O'Dwyer	Maryanne Sullivan

Deceased Prayer List:

Vittorio Predi, Scott Belveal, Elizabeth Greenwood

PARISH ACTIVITIES



OUR STEWARDSHIP IN TREASURE Week of: 28 November – 4 December 2023

PARISH INCOME

Sunday Collection: \$8,920.00
Electronic Giving: \$8,852.00

Tuition: \$12,981.00
Socials/Donations: \$85,669.13
Stewardship Appeal:
\$16,450.00

PARISH EXPENSES

Salaries: \$82,997.01
Maintenance: \$19,342.96
Administration Expenses:
\$5,834.39

Other Income: \$5,747.02
Weekly Income: \$138,619.15
YTD Income: \$2,207,423.90

Other Expenses: \$5,108.69
Weekly Expenses \$113,283.05
YTD Expenses: \$1,982,972.20

YTD Balance: \$224,451.70

Home Visits

Would you like Holy Communion brought to you in your home? Please call the rectory at 610-688-4584.



HOLIDAY BULLETIN INFORMATION



Information for the December 17th Parish Bulletin was due to the rectory by 12:00pm on Friday, December 8th.

Information for the December 24th Parish Bulletin is due to the rectory by 12:00pm on Thursday, December 14th.

Information for the December 31st Parish Bulletin is due to the rectory by 12:00pm on Monday, December 18th.

Visit our website: www.sksparish.org



From the desk of Monsignor Brouwers

THE GOSPEL OF MARK

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way." (*Mark* 1:1-2)

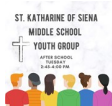
As we enter into this new liturgical year, we hear again today from the Gospel of Mark. As I mentioned in last week's article, we will be hearing almost all of Mark's Gospel over the course of this year since it is year B in the liturgical calendar. As we begin to hear from this, the first canonical Gospel to be written, I would like to reflect a little more on it and on gospels in general.

It is so easy to read the gospels as short biographies about Jesus Christ. And, we can, in fact, derive some biographical information about Jesus from them. If we examine them side by side, however, we begin to see some troubling contradictions. The most striking contradiction is found in the three synoptic gospel's presentation of our Lord's Ascension into heaven – a very important event, to be sure! In Mark's Gospel, it is not clear where the risen Lord ascended into heaven but it appears that it was in Jerusalem (cf. *Mk* 16:14ff). In the Gospel of Matthew, on the other hand, it seems that Jesus ascended in Galilee, some 70 miles north of Jerusalem (cf. *Mt* 26:16ff). Luke's Gospel specifies that Jesus ascended to heaven from Bethany, less than two miles from Jerusalem (cf. *Lk* 24:50ff). In all three of the synoptic Gospels, he appears to ascend only once shortly after his Resurrection. The Gospel of John has a very different account of our Lord's Ascension, however. In this Gospel, the risen Lord seems to ascend immediately after his Resurrection but then returns and appears to several people over the course of several days (cf. *Jn* 20:17ff). Of all the biographical events in Jesus' life, one would think that the authors would get this one right. Of course, this geographical contradiction, along with many others found throughout the four gospels, lead us to consider that the gospels are not biographies. Rather, they are a unique literary form produced by the early Christian community, written by believers for believers to recall the joyous revelation of God's intention to save all those who believe in Jesus Christ, and to call believers to live out a faith based on the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

And, as I mentioned last week, each gospel is written at a particular time, a particular place under particular circumstances and to a particular audience for a particular purpose. All of these factors lead the inspired authors to present the actions and teachings of Jesus in slightly different ways. The *Gospel of Mark* is generally thought to be written between 65AD (when the Roman Emperor Nero began his persecution in Rome) and 70AD (when Jerusalem was destroyed), probably in Syria. Many of the Christians in Rome had fled to Syria and were passing on their faith to the next generation who had not personally encountered the eye witnesses of Jesus' great deeds and revolutionary teachings and, most important, his Resurrection. This next generation was struggling with their faith in Jesus and so to encourage them, the Gospel of Mark was written as the story of Jesus as well as the story of the response to the call of Jesus. We hear of Jesus teaching the disciples privately (cf. *Mk* 4:34; 7:17; 9:28), giving them the "mystery of the kingdom" (cf. *Mk* 4:10-12), rescuing them when they are threatened by a storm and making them privileged witnesses to his power (cf. *Mk* 4:35-41; 5:37-40). To all of this, the disciples in Mark respond sometimes well and sometimes not so well. For example, when Jesus calls, they follow "immediately" and they are summoned to be with him and to do the things that he does: teach, heal and cast out demons (cf. *Mk* 1:16-20; 3:13-19). But, the disciples also demonstrate a growing estrangement from Jesus. Early on in the Gospel, they misunderstand his miracles and teaching (cf. *Mk* 4:40; 7:18; 8:16-21). Then, every time that Jesus states that it is God's will that he suffer and die, they misunderstand and instead, bicker over rank and prestige (cf. *Mk* 8:31-33; 9:31-34; 10:32-45). Finally, during the Marcan Passion Narrative, despite the privilege of sharing the Passover meal with him, one disciple betrays him (cf. *Mk* 14:18), all the disciples flee when he is arrested (cf. *Mk* 14:50) and Peter denies ever knowing him (cf. *Mk* 14:66-72).

This double-sided portrait of the first disciples of Jesus was intended to encourage the later Christians as they struggled with their faith in the face of the fierce Roman persecution that began in 64AD. For us today, it remains an encouragement whenever we find ourselves weak in our faith. As we listen to the Gospel of Mark throughout the year, let us remember that the passages speak to us today with the same meaning as they did when they were first written because they were written by the first believers for all believers to recall the joyous revelation of God's intention to save all those who believe in Jesus Christ, and to call us to live out a faith based on the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, the Son of God! During this Advent Season, we await his return in glory as we prepare to celebrate his coming in time at Christmas. How privileged we are for the opportunity to grow, every year, ever stronger in our faith.

PARISH ACTIVITIES



Middle School Youth Group will meet on Tuesday, December 19th, from 2:45 - 4:15pm.

During this season of Advent our Middle School and High School Youth Groups made snack bags for Catholic Social Services and sandwiches for St. Patrick's in Norristown. The Middle School teens attend SKS and Radnor Middle and the High School teens attend Radnor HS, Archbishop Carroll, Haverford HS and Valley Forge Military Academy!



The Youth Group will hold their Luminary Light fundraiser after all the Masses this weekend. The money raised will help with their Catholic Retreat to Steubenville in July 2024!

The lights will illuminate the outside of St. Katharine's Church on Christmas Eve Night.

Christmas Tableau

All are welcome to attend our annual Christmas Tableau, presented by grades 5-8 on Wednesday, December 13th at 6:30pm.

For those that would prefer not to venture out at night, please feel welcome to attend the matinee performance of the Tableau on Tuesday, December 13th at 1:00pm in church.

Hope to see you all there!

Advent Prayer Service

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a short Advent Prayer Service following the 5:00 pm Mass on Saturday, December 16th in the church. The service will consist of prayer, meditative silences and songs in preparation for the coming of the Light of the World.

Please join us in this time of preparation for the Christmas miracle when God became man.

Parish Coffees



There will be a parish coffee in the parish center after the 9:30am Mass next Sunday. The parish coffee is being hosted by Home & School and Faithful Families will have a craft for the kids. All are welcome and we hope to see you there.

Mercy Hospice Christmas Food Collection

Thank you for your generosity with the Thanksgiving food collection. We were able to deliver turkeys, potatoes, vegetables and desserts to Mercy Hospice just in time for the Thanksgiving holiday. The chef here is so grateful for all of you! Our parish is truly helping to make a difference in the lives of the residents at Mercy Hospice as well as the homeless people who come in daily for a hot meal.

Please consider donating one of the following items for a Christmas meal at Mercy Hospice:

- * Frozen vegetables such as broccoli, green beans and spinach—"Costco" or family size packages, or multiple packages of the same vegetable are appreciated.
- * Whole roast beef—uncooked, chef will prepare, please freeze and then bring to the parish center freezer.
- * Ham—pre-cooked, pre-sliced or canned, frozen
- * Frozen vegetables and beef can be put in the freezer located at the back of the parish center (where the casseroles are stored).
- * Instant mashed potatoes
- * Beef Gravy
- * Christmas cookies, Christmas candy—store bought please.
- * NO TURKEYS NEEDED AT THIS TIME

Items will be delivered on Friday, December 15, 2023. Drop off your donations to the freezer or church library by Wednesday, December 13th. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Mercy Hospice Giving Tree

Bring your **unwrapped** gift to the church and place it in the wrapped open box located at the St. Therese or St. Joseph Shrine by today, Sunday, December 10th. For more information please contact Jane Dwyer at 610-306-9171, or Jane Dooner at 610-505-1436.

Close-knit Community

The St Katharine group of knitters and crocheters meets every Wednesday in the parish center from 1:00 to 2:30 pm. All are welcome to join us in making warm items for the needy. Rides can be arranged. For information, call Marie Rauscher at (610) 608-4447.

Men's Evening of Reflection

Please join us for a Men's Evening of Reflection with Father Scott Reilly, LC next Tuesday evening, December 19th, starting at 6:30pm in church with Mass, followed by Father Scott's reflections in the parish center. For more information, please contact Father Scott at frscott@legionaries.org.

H.O.P.E

(Helping Other People in Emergencies)

H.O.P.E is a group of caring people who are willing to give a little time to help others within the parish. Volunteers might be asked to: drive parishioners to appointments, run errands for the homebound, prepare meals or provide transportation to Mass.

The time commitment is minimal and you help out as your schedule permits. Please consider volunteering! For more information, contact Shauna Munshower at 610-688-4348 or smunch918@comcast.net.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

Retrouvaille – a Lifeline for Married Couples Hope for a Better Marriage Retreat February 16-18, 2024

Marriage is the most important relationship on earth and is worth investing your time, energy and efforts to make it the best it can be. This weekend retreat offers powerful tools to help heal your relationship, communicate better with your spouse and connect at a deeper level.

For more information, please visit www.helpourmarriage.com.



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, of St. Katharine of Siena Parish, believe that we have been gifted with life, faith and discipleship. Empowered by Jesus in word and sacrament, we are called to grow in wisdom and grace, fidelity to His Church, and in service to our brothers and sisters.



SERVICE

Caring for Friends

Kim O'Neill
610-688-4584

Athletic Association

Michael Gompers
ad@sksparish.org

Cub Scouts

Jeff Walkenhorst
skspack219@gmail.com

C.A.R.E.S. (Children Are Receiving Extended Care)

Michael Gavin
610-587-7440

Close Knit Community

Marie Rauscher
610-964-0642

Family Promise

Adrienne Carroll
610-905-3583
loveaemail@gmail.com

H.O.P.E. (Helping Other People in Emergencies)

Shauna Munshower
610-688-4348

Knights of Columbus

Bill Lehner
610-764-6267

Mercy Hospice Casserole Program

Jane Dwyer
610-306-9171
Jane Dooner
610-505-1436
Susan Wiener
610-331-3847

Parish Library

Christine Purkiss
610-202-5360

St. Martin de Porres Outreach

Maria Carrillo
610-357-2392

WORSHIP

Adoration

Maureen Reilly
610-989-3747
Marie Northington
610-687-6498

Adult Altar Servers

Paul and Alicia Peterson
610-989-0277

Altar Servers

Dan Hayes
610-772-7760

Charismatic Prayer Group

Paul Hayes
610-687-8835

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Betty Sabol
610-688-9489
Michele Staves
mcstaves@gmail.com

Church Environment

Amy Tahtabrounian
610-688-3970

Eucharistic Ministers

Patrice Polgar
484-620-2282

Liturgical Music Ministries

Dr. Ted Latham
610-688-9489

Ministers of Hospitality

Janna Forte
484-432-2640

Ministers of the Word (Lectors)

Dan Hayes
610-772-7760

Pre Jordan

Sister Mary Elizabeth
610-688-7890

Rosary Group

Mary Ann Mahoney
610-324-3437

CATECHESIS

Bible Study

Msgr. Brouwers
610-688-4584

Home and School Association

Jessica Bryan
610-310-6749

Marriage Preparation

Dan and Julie Pijawka
610-247-0582

Parish School

Adria Crowley
610-688-5451

P.R.E.P. and P.R.E.P. Board (CCD Advisory Board)

Sr. Mary Elizabeth Karalis
610-688-7890

Respect Life

skspectlife@gmail.com

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Msgr. Brouwers
610-688-4584

ABUSE POLICY

Report Abuse to :

Office of Child and Youth
Protection Archdiocese of
Philadelphia
888-800-8780
www.archphila.org/protection
Pennsylvania Child Abuse
Hotline
1-800-932-0313

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Alcoholics Anonymous

Contact Rectory
610-688-4584

Hospitality Committee (Newcomers)

Helen Gleason
610-688-0124

Mothers of Young Children

Emily Monastra
emily_devoe@yahoo.com

Parish Center Reservations Manager

Kim O'Neill
610-688-4584

Walking with Purpose

Maureen Reilly
610-989-3747

Faithful Families

Kate Mallach
215-858-9507

OUT OF PARISH RESOURCES

Archdiocesan Information

215-587-3600

Crisis Pregnancy Line

1-800-CARE-002

Metropolitan Tribunal

215-587-3750

Separated and Divorced Catholics

215-587-0500

If you are interested in learning more about any of the groups call the contact name above or the rectory at 610-688-4584.