

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 31, 2023

9:30 AM Thomas Robinson
11:30 AM Richard and Rita Dougherty

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024

6:30 AM Special Intention
8:30 AM Paulette Brennan

There will be NO Adoration today.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024

6:30 AM Special Intention
8:00 AM Theresa Brennan (Living)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024

6:30 AM Special Intention
8:00 AM Eileen Flynn

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024

6:30 AM Special Intention
8:00 AM Joan Lewers

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2024

6:30 AM Danny Ferole, Sr.
8:00 AM Lewers/Shea Families

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2024

8:00 AM Brannon Appicciafuoco
5:00 PM Lila Miles

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024

9:30 AM John Greenwood
11:30 AM Margaret Rocco

Readings: Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

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:

Mary Ann Martillotti, James Childress

Visit our website: www.sksparish.org



PARISH ACTIVITIES

LOOKING FOR A RECTORY HOUSEKEEPER

We congratulate Joyce Ngugi, our current housekeeper, who recently graduated from nursing school. As she leaves to pursue her nursing career, we are looking for someone to succeed her. We are looking for someone to perform light housekeeping, including laundry and grocery shopping for Msgr. Brouwers and Deacon David at our rectory, as well as Abp. Charles Chaput, who lives in retirement at nearby St. Edmond's Home. It is a part time paid position with flexible hours. Please contact the rectory (610-688-4584) if interested.

Women's Evening of Reflection Thursday, January 4, 2024 6:00-8:30pm Church and Parish Center

If you have any questions or would like to RSVP, please reach out to Laura Kerr, evangelization@sksparish.org or Patty Clerkin, pattyclerkin@gmail.com.

Charismatic Mass with Healing Service Thursday, January 4th 7:00-7:30pm Worship and Praise 7:30-9:00pm Mass Celebrant: Rev. Michael Flanagan

For more information please contact Paul Hayes at 610-687-8835 or Melli Schrem at 484-831-5159.

Home Visits

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

Pray the Rosary

The Rosary group meets every Tuesday evening at 7pm in the church or parish center.

From the desk of Monsignor Brouwers

SOLEMNITY OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

As you may recall, I was the chancellor of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem before I was assigned here in 2011. In that previous position, I had the privilege of working with this international Catholic organization that supports the Christians living in the Holy Land, most particularly in the West Bank and Gaza. We would raise approximately \$10 million annually to support parishes, schools, orphanages and hospitals operating in the West Bank and Gaza. This support was essential for the Christians who are trapped there due to the oppressive measures that the Israeli government imposes on them. It was a daunting task back then and, as you can well imagine, it is even more daunting – and more critical – today since the Christians are among the Palestinians being targeted by Israel during this ongoing, tragic war. I had the opportunity on several occasions to meet the then Fr. Pierbattista Pizzaballa, a Franciscan friar who was living and serving at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem. He is now Cardinal Pizzaballa, the Patriarch of Jerusalem. He recently sent out this message:

Around noon on December 16, 2023, a sniper of the IDF murdered two Christian women inside the Holy Family Parish in Gaza, where the majority of Christian families has taken refuge since the start of the war. Nahida and her daughter, Samar, were shot and killed as they walked to the Sister's Convent. One was killed as she tried to carry the other to safety. Seven more people were shot and wounded as they tried to protect others inside the church compound. No warning was given, no notification was provided. They were shot in cold blood inside the premises of the Parish, where there are no belligerents.

Earlier in the morning, a rocket fired from an IDF tank targeted the Convent of the Sisters of Mother Theresa (Missionaries of Charity). The Convent is home to over 54 disabled persons and is part of the church compound, which was signaled as a place of worship since the beginning of the war. The building's generator (the only source of electricity) and the fuel resources were destroyed. The house was damaged by the resulting explosion and massive fire. Two more rockets, fired by an IDF tank, targeted the same Convent and rendered the home uninhabitable. The 54 disabled persons are currently displaced and without access to the respirators that some of them need to survive.

In addition, as a result of the heavy bombing in the area, three people have been wounded inside the church compound. Furthermore, solar panels and water tanks, which are indispensable for the survival of the community, were destroyed.

We are all familiar with the spark that ignited this war when, on 7 October 2023, Hamas launched an attack against Israel and took over 240 hostages. And, we've certainly heard of or read about the atrocities that both the Hamas and the Israelis have committed against innocent people throughout this war. Unfortunately, this is just one of the most recent examples of the cruelty we humans are capable of inflicting on each other. It all began when Cain slew Abel and it tears families apart and threatens entire nations.

In the midst of this tragic human story, God reveals his love and mercy. And, he often does so in the context of the family. We can easily understand why God acts within families since they are the foundation of every nation. And so today, just a week after celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we celebrate the Holy Family into which he was born, the family of Joseph and Mary. They were living under conditions similar to those of the Christians now living in Palestine since they were under the cruel and oppressive rule of the Roman Empire. And yet, they put their faith in God and accepted his call to be instruments of our salvation through Mary's son who Joseph adopted as his own, naming him Jesus as directed by an angel.

This was the fullness of God's intervention that began when he appeared to Abraham, as we hear in this Sunday's first reading:

The Lord took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." Abram put his faith in the Lord, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness. (*Genesis 15:5 - 6*).

As we continue our celebration of the Christmas Octave on this feast of *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*, this Sunday we hear readings at Mass that are about just that: family - accented by promise, faith and legacy. They give us hope as we struggle with the wars in Israel, Palestine, Ukraine and so many other regions around the world. In our first reading from the *Book of Genesis*, we hear that Abram (who would later be called Abraham), concerned about an heir, has a heart-to-heart talk with God about Sarah's childlessness. God quells Abram's anxiety by promising him that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars in the sky - what a marvelous promise! Abram's response is to trust God and we hear that God views Abram's decision as an act of righteousness, which means that Abram is in a right relationship with God. We know that God fulfills his promise; Sarah bears a son whom Abraham calls Isaac. Isaac becomes the father of Jacob, who then has twelve sons – the foundation of the twelve nations – that is, extended families – of Israel! Abraham has not only a family but also a very impressive future legacy. He is the father of Judaism, Christianity and, in fact, Islam.

In the *Letter to the Hebrews*, we hear the author briefly recount three *Genesis* stories about Abraham: Abraham's call narrative (*Gn.* 12:1-9); God's covenant with Abraham and eventual birth of Isaac and later descendants (15:1-6; 16:1-16; 21:1-7); and the near sacrifice of Isaac by Abraham (22:1-19). The author of the *Letter to the Hebrews* instructs his audience about the great theological virtue of faith. He uses Abraham as his primary example to showcase this virtue. At the same time, he demonstrates that God is faithful to his promises: Abraham has "descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sands on the seashore" (*Hb* 11:12). Once again, we hear the message of Abraham's descendants as his legacy.

The Gospel reading from *Luke* 2:22-40 also focuses on family, faith, promises fulfilled and legacy. Joseph and Mary take their young child Jesus to Jerusalem to present him to God in the Temple as was dictated by the law God gave to Moses. In the Temple, the family meets Simeon who was divinely promised that he would not die until he had seen the Christ of the Lord. With faith in God and God's promise, Simeon waits. To his delight, he not only meets Jesus – he is able to embrace him! God's promise to Simeon is fulfilled. In the Temple, the family also encounters Anna, a devout prophetess. Both she and Simeon speak about the child and his future mission. Joseph and Mary's family legacy will involve having a son who will bring hope and contradiction to an oppressed world awaiting liberation and salvation.

As you see, all three readings center on family, faith and legacy. Abraham and Sarah, Joseph and Mary, Simeon and Anna were all righteous people of deep faith. All received divine promises that God fulfilled because they believed. Furthermore, Jesus, who is a descendant of David, Jacob, Isaac and Abraham, will be a blessing for all the families of the earth, thus bringing God's promise to Abraham to deeper fulfillment (*Gn.* 12:3; 15:4 and *Mt.* 1:1). As we celebrate the *Feast of the Holy Family*, these readings invite us to think about our family, to evaluate our legacy, and to believe wholeheartedly in the One whose word and promises are true. As we pray for all of those families so tragically affected by the wars around the world, let us honor the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph because they, too, were righteous people, attentive and faithful to God's promises to them, we acknowledge that we are called to live in faithful obedience to God's plan for us in our families and in the larger family of families - our parish and the universal Church.

As we prepare to begin a New Year still filled with conflict but also with God's grace, let us re-dedicate ourselves to following the example that Abraham and Sarah, Joseph and Mary, Simeon and Anna give us so that God's promises may be fulfilled in us. Then we, too, may be faith-filled followers of Christ and holy families, strong in our faith in God and eager to leave a legacy of righteousness to our descendants in the midst of a world that so often turns away from God and seems bent on erasing their enemies and their descendants. In our faithfulness, we will continue the legacy that God's faithful families have established. This is God's eternal plan for all who put their trust in him.



PARISH ACTIVITIES

Knights of Columbus Meeting Wednesday, January 10 at 7:00pm SKS Parish Center

Men of St. Katharine's, are you looking to strengthen your spiritual life and support your pastor, parish and community? You can do all of that with the Knights of Columbus. When you join the Knights, you gain access to faith formation resources, Knights of Columbus insurance programs, opportunities to perform charity work and membership in a Catholic fraternity with over two million men. You can also apply for scholarships for your children! To join click kofc.org; we're Council #15982.

Our next meeting is January 10th at 7:00pm in the parish center and includes a spiritual talk followed by a social gathering. All men in the parish are invited!

Parish Nurse Ministry

Reminders for dealing with the cold:

1. Drink plenty of fluids, eat a healthy diet, avoid caffeine and alcohol before going outside.
2. Check to make sure you have plenty of batteries.
3. No generator should be inside the home. Place the generator at least 20 feet from the house.
4. Never shovel or go walking alone in frigid weather.
5. Wear no-skid boots when shoveling.
6. Shovel on an hourly basis instead of all at once.
7. Push snow to the side and lift with legs, not back, with no twist of the torso.
8. If you have a life alert, keep it on you at all times.



ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

Family Promise Host Week December 31-January 7 Volunteers Needed!

Family Promise (fpmainline.org) is committed to helping families experiencing homelessness in our community. Families in the program stay at Wayne Presbyterian Church (WPC) several times during the year; WPC relies on St. Katharine's to help provide hospitality and meals. SKS volunteers buy groceries, drop off dinners or stay at WPC for dinner or as an overnight host.

The next host week at WPC is December 31-January 7. To volunteer or receive more information, please contact Adrienne Carroll at loveaemail@gmail.com or 610-905-3583 or Barbara Todd at bcivi@hotmail.com or 610-585-5044.

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 week-end 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.

**HAVE A
HOLY AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
MSGR. BROUWERS
FATHER REILLY
DEACON WANG
AND THE
ENTIRE
PARISH STAFF**

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
610-608-4447

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

skrespectlife@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.