FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 21, 2025

# 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
Rev. Kien Do

Priest in Residence

David Wang

Transitional Deacon

Kim O'Neill

Coordinator for Parish Life and Ministry: 610-688-4584

Jeanne Mulvanerty School Principal 610-688-5451 Stephanie Twohig Youth Ministry

Director of Religious Education

610-688-7890

MaryAnn Crowe Parish Nurse: 610-688-9479

Laura Kerr

Liturgical Music Director

610-688-9489 Evangelization

Angela Kusterbeck Business Manager

Barbara Lombardi Parish Secretary

#### **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Rev. Msgr. Hans Brouwers, Stephanie Twohig, Kim O'Neill, Jeanne Mulvanerty, Donna Blumeris, Sarah Bradley, Charles Cognata, Tina Rovito, Kevin Haynes, Ed Kubala, Bill Lehner, Mary Packer, Jeff Walkenhorst

#### PARISH FINANCIAL COUNCIL

Rev. Msgr. Hans Brouwers, Angela Kusterbeck, Jeanne Mulvanerty, Richard Craft, Joseph Chott, Rita Tuma

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

#### 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.

#### MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025

9:30 AM John H. Shelsy 11:30 AM Maryann Martillotti

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2025

**6:30 AM** Maria Kovolski **8:00 AM** Richard McDonnell

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2025 6:30 AM Special Intention 8:00 AM Msgr. Michael Carroll

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2025

**Christmas Eve** 

6:30 AM Special Intention
8:00 AM Pat Graham
4:00 PM Special Intention
6:00 PM Danny Lincicome

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2025

**Christmas Day** 

9:30 AM Schleicher/McCafferty Families 11:30 AM Gleason/Higgins Families

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2025

**6:30 AM** William Blumeris **8:00 AM** Elizabeth Readie

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2025

8:00 AM Marie Dooner 5:00 PM Mark Congdon

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025 9:30 AM Patricia Reusche 11:30 AM Diane Robb

Readings: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

## 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.

Sally Bellwoar
Joan Beiter
Robert Bruno
Michael Bushey
Ryan Carlton
Charles Carr
Jackie Chedeville
Nancy DeFelice
Brady Duperreault
Jamie Donnelly
Patrick Graham

Rosemary Grimm Felix Houvig Ginny Jackson Wesley Jones Libby Judge Tony Lopez Timothy Mahoney John McCabe Mark Megaw Mary Ann Moffitt Madeleine O'Keefe

Jeanie Rogers
Paula Rudnick
Logan Schweiter
Greg Schmidt
Jessica Smucker
Debbie Snyder
Maryanne Sullivan
Sr. William Therese
Thomas Wallace
Kathleen Ward

#### PARISH ACTIVITIES



## OUR STEWARDSHIP IN TREASURE Week of: 10 December - 16 December 2025

#### **PARISH INCOME**

Sunday Collections: \$5,761.00

Electronic Giving: \$8,691.00.00 Stewardship Appeal: \$17,308.00 Schools/Donations: \$15,819.50

#### **PARISH EXPENSES**

Salaries: \$94,186.75 Diocesan Assessment: \$14,675.00 Insurance: \$6,037.42 Maintenance: \$11,146.27 Administration Expenses: \$10,693.70 Fundraising Expenses: \$8,348.43

\$8,348.43 Utilities: \$4,110.01

Other Income: \$5,564.50 Other Expenses: \$8,599.72 Weekly Income: \$53,144.00 YTD Income: \$2,534,650.29 YTD Expenses: \$2,244,063.16

YTD Balance: \$290,587.13

#### **CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

2025

#### **CONFESSIONS**

Saturday, December 20th 4:00 PM – 4:45 PM

#### **CHRISTMAS MASSES**

Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Eve 4:00 PM Vigil Mass 5:30 PM Choir Concert 6:00 PM Vigil Mass

Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Day 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM

> Wednesday, December 31, 2025 6:00 PM Vigil Mass

Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, Mary, Mother of God 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM

Visit our website: www.sksparish.org







# From the desk of Monsignor Brouwers

## **ADVENT COMES TO AN END**

All of this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: *Behold, the virgin will conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,* which means "God is with us." (*Mt.* 1:22-23)

On this, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we all realize that Christmas is just a few days away! As we hear proclaimed in both our first reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah and our gospel from Matthew, Jesus, the son of Mary, is also truly God: Emmanuel - that is God-with-us. As we contemplate this most important moment in human history, allow me to offer some reflections on its significance to us, 2,000 years later.

I think we can all agree that we live in very challenging times. We are struggling with much social and political strife not only in our country but around the world. The ongoing war in Ukraine, the fragile peace in Israel and escalating tension in so many other countries has only added to the stress, division, distrust and disharmony among us. It seems that we cannot come together on so many issues but are being torn apart in so many ways. We need intervention and reconciliation.

As he did 2,000 years ago, Jesus is the one who can provide us with intervention and reconciliation. As you know, Jesus was born into a troubled world that, like ours, was divided into kingdoms that were often hostile to each other. His nation – Israel – had been conquered by successive empires: Babylonian, Greek and Roman. His people were eagerly awaiting a Messiah – an anointed one like King David – who would lead them to overcome their oppressors and make them a great, united nation once again. But, as we heard in last week's gospel account, Jesus did not come as a warrior king. He came so that the blind could regain their sight, the lame walk, the deaf hear, lepers become cleansed and the dead be raised. He came not to reestablish an earthly kingdom but to establish God's kingdom. All of his miracles demonstrated God's mercy on the afflicted and foreshadowed the heavenly kingdom where there would be no more sadness and death but only eternal joy in the loving embrace of God.

As the greatest sign of God's love, Jesus offered himself generously to us under the forms of bread and wine in the Eucharist and to the Father on the cross in expiation for our sins. In dying for us, he overcame the final effect of sin – death – as he rose from the dead. His Resurrection allows us to be raised to eternal life with him. And, before he returned to his rightful place at the hand of God, he promised the Holy Spirit of God to continue to lead and guide us. Yes, Jesus, the Son of God who became the son of Mary, has showered us with gifts and we are blessed every day of our lives as we benefit from them. In a world of strife and discord, he brings God's peace and harmony into our lives.

This is why it is so important to join regularly in the Eucharist Celebration, where we learn about God's great deeds and are reminded of God's great generosity to us. In turn, we are strengthened and encouraged to share God's love with those around us. In the *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council remind us that our Lord, who came once in history to accomplish his great work of salvation, and will come again at the end of time to lead all the faithful to our heavenly Father, remains in our midst, especially through the Eucharist:

To accomplish so great a work, Christ is always present in His Church, especially in her liturgical celebrations. He is present in the sacrifice of the Mass... particularly under the Eucharistic species.

It has been a real delight for me to see an increase in Mass attendance this year. Just as we need food to nourish our bodies and keep them healthy, we need the Eucharist to nourish our spirits and keep them healthy. Christmas only tells the beginning of the story. Jesus came to offer us his lifegiving Body and Blood and we are so blessed to be able to receive it regularly, especially during these stressful times!

Yes, our coming together to worship God is the most sacred action we can perform as we gratefully acknowledge all that God has done for us, especially through his Son, Jesus, who is God with us. And, it guides and directs our daily lives in imitation of Christ's great work. As we come to the end of another Advent Season, let us give ourselves time to meditate on this great mystery and so prepare ourselves ever more deeply to receive our Lord as we celebrate his coming on Christmas in just a few days. Remember, the very word "Christmas" means "Celebration of the Messiah" – that's what we do every time we celebrate the Eucharist.



#### **PARISH ACTIVITIES**

## Thanks to All Who Helped with Adopt-a-Family!

A huge "Thank You" to everyone who generously helped with the 2025 Adopt-a-Family program. Gift baskets for 90 families and many, many food boxes were delivered to St. Martin de Porres and immediately distributed to the families or the church food pantry. The SMdP community is grateful and sends wishes that all the gifts of this wonderful season be yours!



#### **BULLETIN INFORMATION**

Ordinarily, all bulletin announcements need to be to the rectory by Monday at 5pm for the upcoming weekend. The Christmas holidays are different, however.

Below is a detailed weekly submission schedule for the 2025 Holiday Season. Please have all bulletin announcements to the rectory by Noon on the date listed:

- December 28th was due by December 15th
- January 4th is was by December 19th
- January 11th is due by January 5th

### Marie's Closet January 10th—18th

St. Katharine's will be holding a drive for Marie's Closet, a ministry that serves the homeless and low-income residents in Kensington. More information to follow.



## Coping with Grief during the Holidays

You may feel pressure to be happy, angry at your loved one for leaving you, and/ or guilty because you are sad at Christmas time. It's OK! Try some coping mechanisms this holiday season such as:

- Share ideas with family and set boundaries with friends on how you want to celebrate Christmas.
- \* Start new traditions remembering your loved one but keep some things the same.
- Be gentle with yourself, breathe and let Our Lord hold your hand.





### Pre-Jordan/Baptismal Instruction

If you are having your first child baptized, the Archdiocese requires the parents to attend a Pre-Jordan class. The classes take place at 7:00pm the first Tuesday of the month. The next class is scheduled for Tuesday, January 6th. Contact Stephanie Twohig for further information at 610-688-7890, ext. 126 or by email at sksdre@sksparish.org.

We welcome newly baptized Madelyn Hanna and Ruby Keefer to the church family of St. Katharine of Siena and congratulate their parents, Andrew & Megan Hanna and Joseph & Abigail Keefer.





HAVE A

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND

A HOLY AND

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MSGR. BROUWERS

FATHER KIEN

DEACON DAVID

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. ewardship

**SERVICE** 

**Caring for Friends** Kim O'Neill 610-688-4584

**Athletic Association** Michael Gompers ad@sksparish.org

**Cub Scouts** Jason Botzler Shawn Sweeney 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 610-764-1527

**Knights of Columbus** Tom Reusche skskofc@gmail.com

**Mercy Hospice Casserole Program** Jane Dwyer 610-306-9171 Jane Dooner 610-505-1436

**Parish Library** Christine Purkiss 610-202-5360

St. Martin de Porres Outreach Maria Carrillo 610-357-2392

#### **WORSHIP**

#### Adoration

Maureen Reilly 610-745-6320 Marie Northington 484-686-7744

#### **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

Michele Staves mcstaves@gmail.com

#### **Church Environment**

Rectory 610-688-4584

#### **Eucharistic Ministers**

Patrice Polgar 484-620-2282

#### **Liturgical Music Ministries**

Laura Kerr 610-688-9489

#### Ministers of Hospitality

Janna Forte 484-432-2640

#### Ministers of the Word (Lectors)

Dan Hayes 610-772-7760

#### Pre Jordan

Stephanie Twohig 610-688-7890

#### **Rosary Group** Mary Ann Mahoney 610-324-3437

**CATECHESIS** Bible Study

Msgr. Brouwers 610-688-4584

#### **Home and School Association**

Allison Morris

homeandschool@sksschool.org

#### **Marriage Preparation**

Dan and Julie Pijawka 610-247-0582

#### **Parish School**

Jeanne Mulvanerty 610-688-5451

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

Stephanie Twohig 610-688-7890

#### Respect Life

sksrespectlife@gmail.com

## **Order of Christian Initiation** of Adults (OCIA)

Msgr. Brouwers 610-688-4584

## **COMMUNITY BUILDING**

#### **Alcoholics Anonymous** Contact Rectory

610-688-4584

### **Mothers of Young Children**

Kristen Nicholls moyc@sksparish.org

## **Parish Center Reservations**

Kim O'Neill 610-688-4584

#### Walking with Purpose

Kate Mallach 215-858-9507

Maureen Reilly 610-745-6320

#### **Faithful Families**

Kate Mallach 215-858-9507

## Retrouvaille: Marriage Help

215-766-3944

www.marriagehelpdelval.org

#### **Gym Reservations**

Ben Piazza 215-760-9743

#### 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

#### **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.