Hello St Hilary's Parishioners,

In this week's email you will find news, important announcements, and the bulletins for Sunday.

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• Photos from the Order of the Diocese of Toronto Presentation

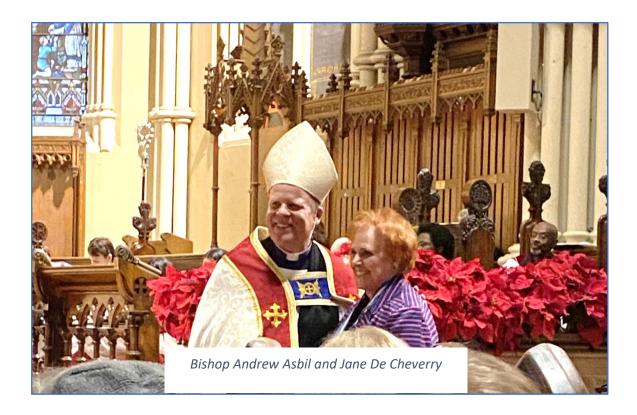
On January 1st our beloved treasurer, Jane De Chevery, received the Order of the Diocese of Toronto.

The presentation was made at the Bishop's Levee at St. James Cathedral on the Feast of the Naming of Jesus, on January 1st, 2025.

Congratulations Jane!



Jane De Cheverry and Pat Brown





St Hilary of Poitiers Day – January 13th



dwelt among us . . ." (De Trinitate 1.12).

c. 315-367

Patron Saint of children academically behind, children learning to walk, mothers, and the sick.

Born into a wealthy pagan family in Poitiers, France, Hilary was well educated in the classics. As he looked into his own soul, he knew that he did not exist for the sole purpose of seeking pleasure, enjoying leisure, obtaining wealth, or merely satisfying his fleshly desires. Hilary reasoned that the human soul did not exist simply to die. Instead, it must exist for something more, something eternal, something glorious. When his pagan culture did not suffice and philosophy fell short, Hilary finally found what he was searching for when he stumbled upon the Scriptures.

Hilary was first struck by the mysterious name of God in the Old Testament: "I AM WHO I AM." God had revealed Himself as eternal, without beginning or end—Existence itself. Then Hilary discovered the Son of God in the Gospel of John 1:1-14. Of this discovery, Hilary said, "My soul measured the mighty workings of God, wrought on the scale of His eternal omnipotence . . . by a boundless faith . . . that God was in the beginning with God, and that the Word became flesh and

Hilary was baptized a Christian and went on to defend the doctrine of the Trinity against the "insanity and ignorance of men." He so impressed the faithful that they chose him to be their bishop.

The heresy of Arianism denied the divinity of Christ, instead holding that the Son was inferior to the Father. After Hilary was a bishop for only about five years, the emperor, an Arian himself, ordered every bishop to pledge their support for this heresy. Hilary refused. Instead, he vigorously defended the truth, and for his brave stance was exiled to Phrygia, in modern-day Turkey. While there he composed a comprehensive defense of the doctrine of the Trinity as it was taught in the Nicene Creed. In the end his defense help to end the Arianism movement.

Let me, in short, adore You our Father, and Your Son together with You; let me win the favor of Your Holy Spirit, who is from You, through Your Only-begotten. For I have a convincing Witness to my faith, Who says, "Father, all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine" (John 17:10), even my Lord Jesus Christ, abiding in You, and from You, and with You, forever God: Who is blessed for ever and ever. Amen. ~De Trinitate 12.57

• What We Heard on Sunday

Matthew 2: 1 – 12

A star is seen in the East and moving westward, and it is a comet. The meaning of comets, 2000 years ago, in this part of the world, depended on its direction. "Sometimes there is a comet in the western sky, usually a terrifying star and not easily explained," Pliny the Elder tells us. He then describes the political calamities signified by that type of star. Of course, such a star would make Herod and Jerusalem with him duly troubled."

Last Sunday was Epiphany, the festival of lights, as symbolized in that star seen in the heavens just over 2,000 years ago. It symbolizes hope, new beginnings and for some political calamities. Isaiah 60 begins with 'arise Jerusalem, and shine light the sun, the glory of the Lord is shining on you." And at the centre of that light is Christ.

Life for Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus was beginning to settle into a normal pattern of daily life with a new born. The message of the angels and shepherds was beginning to fade into the past. And yet there was still the star. And into Mary and Josephs lives came the 3 Wise Men, drawn by that light. Not even they expected the deep, radical impact that the life at the foot of the star would bring to their lives.

The Epiphany light brings with it many messages. It shows us that Christ's impact was to be upon all of us, not just one group. The Christ's message was inclusive of everyone. That his message will have global dimensions and we all have a part to play in it.

The Epiphany light compels us and empowers us toward an inclusive church that affirms all people. It compels us to think beyond our own homes and church into the broader community. If makes the needs of all, our responsibility. The Epiphany light is bright enough to cause each of us to grow. To see that we are all in this together. To learn to love each other. May we all experience this. The light of Christ is brighter and greater than we can imagine.

(References include: 'Social-Science Commentary on the Gospel of John", and 'The Expositors Bible Commentary Book 10)

• Upcoming at St Hilary's

Sunday January 12th The Baptism of the Lord

8.30am Said Eucharist 10.30am Grannum Baptism & Sung Eucharist

Wednesday, January 15th 10am Bible Study 11am Study of the Beatitudes

Saturday, January 18th

Games Day has been postponed

Sunday January 19th Second Sunday after Epiphany

8.30am Said Eucharist 10.30am Sung Eucharist

• Reading The Bulletin on Your Smart Phone

If you would like to read the bulletin on your Smart Phone, please follow these steps:

- 1. Go to sthilarys.com
- 2. Click on the menu icon
- 3. Click on Worship
- 4. Click on Worship Services
- 5. Scroll down to 'Download This Week's Bulletin'
- 6. Click on 'Click Here'
- 7. The bulletin will appear in PDF format for you to peruse
 - OR

Open Weekly Email and then click on the bulletin attachment.

Viewing on your phone is beneficial as you can zoom in on text to make it larger and easier to read and it saves paper!

YouTube Link to Livestreaming

Please click here to view the livestreaming of this Sunday's 10.30am service.

Memorial Flowers & Aumbry Candle

There are several open spots for the remainder of 2025 for Memorial Flowers and the Aumbry Candle.

Should you wish to kindly donate flowers in memory of a loved one, please contact Molly on 416 253 6443 / mollymangalathu@gmail.com. Please include who the memorial is for, who the memorial is from, the short message that you would like to have in the bulletin and the date you would like it to appear in the bulletin. An example of a bulletin message is: 'To the Glory of God and in Loving memory of Jane Doe, Grandmother of Anne Doe, and Great-Grandmother of Mary Doe, from her family.' Please note there is a \$40 fee for this request.

To light the Aumbry Candle in memory of a loved one, please contact <u>sthilaryscooksville@toronto.anglican.ca</u> or 905 279 2304. A \$5 donation fee is requested.

• Giving to St Hilary's

If you would like to donate you can do so by:

- Sending an e-transfer to sthilarycooksville@toronto.anglican.ca (please email us the password)
- Signing up to PAR (Pre-authorized Remittance). PAR is automatically withdrawn on a monthly basis and will go toward the area of your choosing

We thank you for any contribution you are able to make.

For more information on giving, please call the church office at 905-279-2304.

• Good News from Around the World

Please <u>click here</u> to enjoy good news stories from around the world.

Thank you for reading and have a great day.