#### **Saint Anne Church**

400 Hoodridge Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15234 412-531-5964



#### Saint Winifred Church

550 Sleepy Hollow Road Pittsburgh, PA 15228 412-531-5964

## SAINT PAUL OF THE CROSS

PARISH

www.stpaulofthecross.com

#### Father Michael Caridi,

Pastor mcaridi@stpaulofthecross.com

### Father Richard Infante,

Retired-In Residence

#### **Deacon Victor DeFazio**

vdefazio@stpaulofthecross.com

### **Deacon Joe Kosko**

jkosko@stpaulofthecross.com

### **Deacon Philip Martorano**

pmartorano@stpaulofthecross.com

#### Mass Schedule:

#### Saint Anne Church

Every day: 8:00 a.m.

Tuesdays: 8:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Saturdays (Vigil): 4:00 p.m.

Sundays: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,

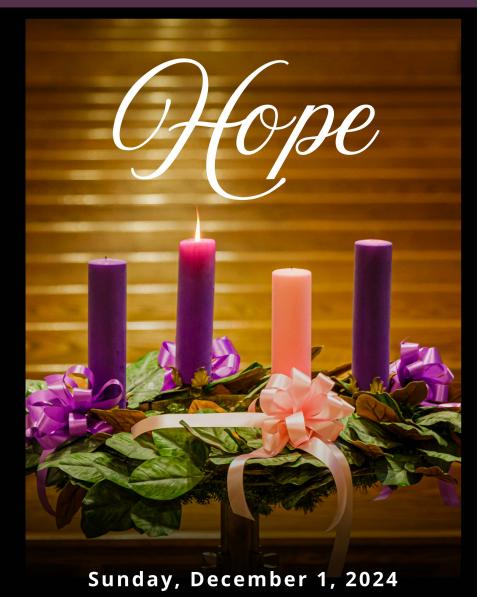
and 6:00 p.m.

#### **Saint Winifred Church**

M, W, F: 8:45 a.m.

Saturdays (Vigil): 5:30 p.m.

Sundays: 11:30 a.m.



The First Sunday of Advent

#### Confessions:

Saint Anne Church

Tuesdays: 5:15 - 6:15 PM

Saturdays: 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

Saint Winifred Church

Saturdays: 4:45 PM - 5:15 PM



#### **Eucharistic Adoration:**

Saint Anne Church

Tuesdays, after the 8:00 AM mass, with Benediction at 6:15 PM.

#### **Divine Mercy Holy Hour:**

Saint Anne Church

Tuesdays, at 3:00 PM

## Mass Intentions

#### Monday, December 2, 2024

8:00 AM (St. A) Marianne Ranalli, requested by The Women's Guild

8:45 AM (St.W) Aaron Paul Infante-Levy, requested by Fr. Richard Infante

#### Tuesday, December 3, 2024

8:00 AM (St. A) Thomas DeFilippi, requested by James Murray

6:30 PM (St. A) Edward Page, Sr. (AD), requested by The Page Family

#### Wednesday, December 4, 2024

8:00 AM (St. A) Rudy & Pat Pallan, requested by Geri Burdelski

8:45 AM (St.W) Daniel Goff, requested by The Gwynn Family

#### Thursday, December 5, 2024

8:00 AM (St. A) Janice Murphy, requested by Barbara Hutchin and Ken

#### Friday, December 6, 2024

8:00 AM (St. A) Michael Gerald, requested by his Mom

8:45 AM (St. W) Monica & Gabriel Hudock, requested by The Hudock Family

#### Saturday, December 7, 2024

8:00 AM (St. A) Deceased Members of SPOTC Catholic Men's Fellowship,

requested by their current members

4:00 PM (St. A) Henry Simon, requested by his wife, Dorothy and daughters

5:30 PM (St. W) Dr. Patricia Seibel (BR), requested by Claude & Madeline Carson

#### Sunday, December 8, 2024

8:00 AM (St. A) Lawrence Camarda (AD), requested by his family

10:00 AM (St. A) Joseph Hackett, requested by his wife, Bette and family

11:30 AM (St. W) For the People of the Parish

6:00 PM (St. A) Giuseppe Strangis, requested by Maria Strangis and family



"Then they will see
the Son of Man
coming in a cloud
with power and great
glory. But when
these signs begin to
happen,
stand erect and raise
your heads because
your redemption is at
hand."
- Lk 21:27-28



In your prayers please also remember to pray for **Margaret Gibbon** and all the deceased members of Saint Paul of the Cross Parish.

## From the Pastor

## ADVENT - Preparing For Christ

Today begins Advent, a season of hope and preparation as we anticipate the coming of Christ both at Christmas and His return at the end of time. During these weeks the Church invites us to reflect on God's promise of salvation and ready our hearts for the Savior's arrival.

One of the major biblical figures put before us at this time is Saint John the Baptist who preached repentance as the primary way of preparing for the Messiah's arrival. Therefore, an essential part of Advent is the Sacrament of Penance! Just as we tidy up our homes to welcome a guest, we are called upon by means of sacramental Confession to cleanse our souls to welcome Jesus.

Confession offers us the opportunity to reconcile with God and restore the joy of our relationship with Him, and clear away the spiritual clutter that distracts us from the true meaning of Christmas, and allows the peace and grace of Christ's birth to take root in our lives.

Please take advantage of one of the many opportunities for Confession scheduled for the weeks ahead.

Saturdays: 11:00 AM -11:45 AM in Saint Anne church 4:45 PM – 5:15 PM in Saint Winifred church Tuesdays: 5:15 PM – 6:15 PM in Saint Anne church

Wednesday, December 11 - 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM PM in Saint Anne Church Monday, December 23 @ 6 PM -- Five priests will be available to hear

Confessions



At the 10:00am Mass today we publicly welcome Kat Smith and Nathaniel Thomas. For the past three months they have been attending our parish's OCIA sessions and will be received into the Catholic Church next Easter. During today's Rite of Welcoming they formally announce their intention to reflect more deeply on the mystery of the Sacraments and teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and join with us in our life of prayer and service. Please keep them in your prayers.

#### RENOVATIONS UPDATE

As you know, the renovations to Harkins Hall have begun and will run until at around Easter. Demolition is just about complete and shortly excavation work will begin next to the church for the elevator shaft. Thank you for your continued patience, especially with the downstairs restrooms being closed. Please note that we are planning on bringing in portable restrooms for the Christmas crowd.

Last Monday the installation of new HVAC system for the church began and should be completed over the next few days.

Finally, we are finalizing plans for new security cameras throughout the church and sacristies and hope to have this work done early in the New Year.

As always, thanks for your generosity, which has made these wonderful improvements possible.





## Quarterly Report

#### 821001 - Saint Paul of the Cross

(Quarter-1 2024/2025 Year to Date)

#### **OPERATING REVENUE:**

Offertory Collections	233,572
Donations & Bequests	67,134
Fundraising	68,000
Campaign Income	42,351
Other Income	2,417
	413,474
OPERATING EXPENSE:	
101 1 2 3 3 5	

Carer meome	
	413,474
OPERATING EXPENSE:	
Administration	122,817
Liturgical & Rectory	85,036
Religious Ed & C.A.R.E.S.	64,268
Operations & Maintenance	35,397
Social/ Outreach/ Other	14,553
Property & Liability Insurance	10,421
	332,492

#### OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)

#### 80,982

#### **NON-OPERATING ITEMS:**

Extraordinary Maintenance Expense	(152,016)
Net Third Party Collections	9,790
Proceeds from Insurance Claim (Net)	6,995
	(135 231)

#### FEATURED ASSETS and LIABILITIES at 9/30/2024

#### ASSETS:

#### **Unrestricted Funds:**

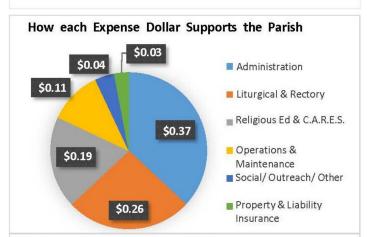
4,011
16,586
20,597
1,645,061
4,981
4,378
,
1,654,420

#### LIABILITIES:

Insurance Past Due	-
Deposit & Loan Borrowing Debt	-
Other Payables	(2,200)
	(2,200)

#### Revenue vs. Expense for 7-1-2024 thru 9-30-2024

Revenue: **413,474** Expense: **332,492** 



#### Line items include but are not limited to:

Offertory Collections: Offertory, Parish Appeal Campaign Income: Capital Imp., Debt Reduction, etc. Other Income: Interest Income, Hall Rentals, Votive Administration: Staff, Supplies, Management Fee Operations & Maintenance:

Staff, Church Utilities, Upkeep, Taxes, Supplies Religious Ed & C.A.R.E.S.: Staff, Supplies, CCD, Adult Ed, RCIA, Catholic Assistance for Regional Elem Schools Liturgical & Rectory: Staff, Worship, Rectory Upkeep Social/Outreach/Other:

Youth, Community, Net Rental Property, Preschool Extraordinary Maintenance Expense: > \$4,000 Net 3rd Party Collections: e.g. Holy Land, Peter's Pence

#### **NOTES:**

**Fundraising: Parish Fair proceeds** 

<u>Extraordinary Maintenance Expense</u>: Church renovation expenses (bell tower doors, altar microphones), plus gas line and parking lot repair expenses covered by insurance

## Parish News



Masses for the Solemnity of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE

Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday, Dec. 9th\* 8:00 AM in St. Anne Church 8:45 AM in St. Winifred Church 6:30 PM in St. Anne Church

\*The Holy Day is being transferred to Dec. 9 so as not to coincide with the 2nd Sunday of Advent

On December 9th this year, the Church will celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation. In doing so, we will reflect upon our Catholic belief that at the moment Mary was conceived in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne, God intervened and granted Mary a special grace that preserved her from Original Sin. Therefore, because of her sinlessness, Mary could become that worthy vessel through which the Son of God could enter into human history.

#### **Christmas Flower Memorials**



Envelopes for the annual Christmas Flower offering are included in your envelope packet and will be available soon at the entrances of the churches. You can make a donation in memory of someone or make a donation in your name. Please make sure to *print the names clearly* on the envelope. You can make a flower donation through Faith Direct as well. Look in their "annual collection" section. Please remember to indicate who the donation is for in the note section beneath the donation field. The flower memorials will be published in a bulletin following Christmas, so please get your envelopes in early.

### That Maketh The Seven Stars

An Epiphany Concert for Organ and Choir

Sunday, January 5, 2025 at 3:00 P.M.

Please join us for an Epiphany Concert featuring original compositions by Brendan Lowery and Luke Wenceslas Mayernik.

The concert will also feature works by Will Todd, and Jonathan Dove.

There will be a free-will offering taken to offset costs of the performance (suggested donation of \$20 per person)

### Parish Offertory November 17, 2024

Offertory: \$ 18,799.38 Utilities: \$ 325.63



### **The Giving Trees**

Thanks for supporting the tradition of gift giving again this year. If you have not done so yet, please return your gift, with the tag attached to the outside, as soon as possible. We would like all gifts returned by December 2nd. Gifts may be left in either church or brought to the parish office Sunday before noon.

Please contact Joan Kilgore (412) 531-5964 with any questions.

#### St. Nicholas

is coming!

Sunday, December 1 following the 10 AM Mass in St. Anne Church

**Share your pictures** with snovelli@stpaulofthecross.com for inclusion in a future bulletin.



#### **END OF YEAR GIFT GIVING**

All registered families will shortly receive an end of the year parish appeal letter. Please prayerfully consider giving to this annual collection.

Many non-parishioners regularly choose to attend weekday and Sunday Masses in our parish because they appreciate our style of worship. If you'd like to make an end of the year gift to Saint Paul of the Cross Parish you can simply send a check, to Fr. Mike's attention, to the parish office, or contribute online by selecting the "Support" button at the top of our home page on our website, www.stpaulofthecross.com. Thank you for your consideration.

Due to Early bulletins deadlines, the collection taken on Sunday, November 24th, will be listed in next week's bulletin.

There will be a second collection for our Youth Ministry on 12/8/2024.

## Ministry Announcements

### Help the Women's Guild this Weekend. Buy a Hoagie!

The Women's Guild is selling Italian hoagies. The hoagies are served on a large bun, with Ham, Salami, Capicola, lettuce, tomato, white and yellow American cheese, and Italian Dressing (on the side). Hoagie's will be sold after all the Masses this weekend until they sell out. Hoagies cost \$10.00. Please make checks out to *St. Paul of the Cross Parish*.



#### **Safe Environment Workshop**

Parishioners who want to volunteer and need assistance becoming compliant with the Safe Environment Policy of the Diocese of Pittsburgh are invited to meet with our Safe Environment Coordinator, Don Fontana, in the DePalma Room on Tuesday, December 3rd, between 1:00 - 4:00 PM. Reservations can be made by contacting Don Fontana at dfontana@stpaulofthecross.com.

If you have never volunteered in the parish before, and need help to create a **new** on-line VIRTUS account please read the following documents in advance: Code of Pastoral Conduct, Reporting of Child Abuse & the Child Protective Services Law of PA, and Declarations. All three documents are available in the document racks of both churches.

## YOUTH MINISTRY



#### **DEC. 1 - TURKEY BOWL 2024**

3:00 - 4:30 PM Armstrong Park Our annual Flag Football game! Includes Lunch, Gatorade, Hot Chocolate, & Long-sleeved team T-shirts!

#### **DEC. 8 - FAITH NIGHT**

Topics: Our Lady of Loreto & Our Lady of Guadalupe 7:00 – 8:30 pm at St. Anne Church Adoration, Novena Prayers, Service Project (TBD), Nachos, Minute-To-Win-It Games

#### **DEC. 15 - CHRISTMAS PARTY**

4-6 PM @ MT. LEBANON LANES
A Bowling Party to celebrate Christmas!
Bowling, Refreshments, and Arcade Cards
Prizes for lane(s) with highest combined scores

Students interested in these events should contact
Andrew Barnhart - abarnhart@stpaulofthecross.com
-Events are open to all students in grades 8-12!

#### **Tuesday Evening Advent Series**

Dec. 3, 10, 17: Tuesday evenings, in the Convent Dining Room at 7:15 PM, join Don Fontana for an audio series called *An Advent Retreat with Mary.* 

Go on "retreat" this Advent with Mary, and let her help you prepare your heart and mind to celebrate the great feast of the Incarnation through Dr. Brant Pitre's audio bible study series. Learn more on our website.

#### HAPPENING THIS WEEK

#### Mon. December 2

5:00 PM CCD at South hills Catholic Academy

#### **Tues. December 3**

8:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration in St. Anne church
1:00 PM Safe Environment Workshop in the DePalma Rm
3:00 PM Divine Mercy Holy Hour in St. Anne church
5:15 - 6:15 PM Confessions in St. Anne church
7:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul in the DePalma Rm
7:15 PM Adult Education Advent Series in the Convent Dining Rm

#### Wed. December 4

7:00 PM OCIA in the DePalma Rm 8:30 PM A.A. in the Convent Dining Rm

#### Thurs. December 5

7:00 PM Catholic Men's Fellowship in the Convent Dining Rm

#### Sat. December 7

7:15 AM Five First Saturdays Devotion in St. Anne church11:00 AM Confessions in St. Anne church4:45 PM Confessions in St. Winifred church

9:30 PM NA in the Convent Dining Rm

#### Sun. December 8

9:00 AM Carmelites meeting in the DePalma Rm 11:30 AM Carmelites meeting in the Convent Dining Rm 7:00 PM Youth Ministry In the DePalma Rm

## Ministries and Contact Information

#### MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS



Book Discussion GroupLynne Aber (412) 833-3578	
Caring CompanionsAnthony DiNardo ajdinardo3@gmail.com	
Catholic Men's FellowshipJohn Raimondi (412) 344-9690	
Eucharistic AdorationMary Weaver (724) 814-2077	
Fair/Fish Fry CommitteeRudy Richtar rudysmoke@comcast.net	
Food PantryMargi (724) 819-6518	
Funeral Mass MinistryMary Weaver (724) 814-2077	
Homebound MinistryJoan Kilgore (412) 531-5964	
jkilgore@stpaulofthecross.com	
Journey of Grief MinistryKathy Raimondi (412) 344-9690	
Ladies of CharityTeri Ranalli (412) 341-3066	
Lunches for the HungryMary Ann Raymer (412) 719-7847	
Mass MinistryMary Weaver (724) 814-2077	
Respect LifeKathy & John Raimondi (412) 344-9690	
St. Vincent de Paul SocietyContact the Parish Office (412) 531-5964	
Substance Addiction MinistryJoan Kilgore (412) 531-5964	
jkilgore@stpaulofthecross.com	
Women's GuildDarlene Vietmeier (412) 343-6929	

#### **PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Sun. 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Mon. and Wed. 8:30 AM - 7:30 PM Tues., Thurs. and Fri. 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

#### **GET CONNECTED**

#### **Visit Our Website**

www.stpaulofthecross.com has all the news of the parish, plus links to other content and information.

#### **Check out our Facebook Page!**

By following, liking and sharing our posts, you will not only stay up to date with current events, but also help to spread the news of the great things happening here to our South Hills community. Visit facebook.com/Saint.Paul.of.the.Cross.Parish

#### **Register for Flocknote!**

Text STPAULOFTHECROSS to 84576

#### **BULLETIN REQUESTS**

If your ministry would like to see something appear in an upcoming bulletin, please plan ahead. The deadline for submission to a bulletin is noon, the Monday prior to the publication date.

#### **PARISH STAFF**

Office Administrator	Sue Novelli (412) 531-5964 snovelli@stpaulofthecross.com
Business Manager	Beth Guzowski (412) 531-5964 bguzowski@stpaulofthecross.com
Director of Music	Brendan Lowery 412) 531-5964 blowery@stpaulofthecross.com
Sacristan (Saint Anne Church)	Mary Weaver (724) 814-2077 mweaver@stpaulofthecross.com
Sacristan (Saint Winifred Church)	Andrew Barnhart (412) 452-6052 abarnhart@stpaulofthecross.com
Social Minister	Joan Kilgore (412) 531-5964 jkilgore@stpaulofthecross.com
Safe Environment Coordinator	. Don Fontana (412) 531-5964 dfontana@stpaulofthecross.com

#### **FAITH FORMATION**

Director of Faith Formation (Adult)	Don Fontana (412) 531-5964 <i>dfontana@stpaulofthecross.com</i>
Director of Faith Formation (Elementary Education)	Harmony Stewart (412) 631-3131 hstewart@shcacademy.com
Director of Faith Formation (Youth Group)	Andrew Barnhart (412) 452-6052 abarnhart@stpaulofthecross.com

## Reconciliation

During Advent, there will be many opportunities to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation. A sincere Confession unites us with Jesus. This act of leaving sin behind is not easy sometimes. Remorse may bring us to tears of regret when we

realize the impact of our hard-hearted actions. Mercifully, forgiveness is assured. Reconciliation is achieved because the Father still welcomes home prodigal sons and daughters. If you haven't been to Confession for a while, consider taking advantage of the many opportunities to go during these weeks of advent. (exact times are on the *From the Pastor* page of this bulletin and on our website).

Before celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation, one should prepare with an Examination of Conscience, which involves reflecting prayerfully on one's thoughts, words, and deeds in order to identify any sins. There are various ways to examine your conscience but the one you use should be rooted in Scripture; particularly, the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes, like the ones printed below.



#### **For Adults**

I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me. Have I treated people, events, or things as more important than God?

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain. Have my words, actively or passively, put down God, the Church, or people?

Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day. Do I go to Mass every Sunday (or Saturday Vigil) and on Holy Days of Obligation? Do I avoid, when possible, work that impedes worship to God, joy for the Lord's Day, and proper relaxation of mind and body? Do I look for ways to spend time with family or in service on Sunday? Honor your father and your mother. Do I show my parents due respect? Do I seek to maintain good communication with my parents where possible? Do I criticize them for lacking skills I think they should have? You shall not kill. Have I harmed another through physical, verbal, or emotional means, including gossip or manipulation of any kind? Have I participated in an abortion, or encouraged someone to do so?

#### You shall not commit adultery.

Have I respected the physical and sexual dignity of others and myself, and been faithful in marriage? **You shall not steal.** Have I taken or wasted time or resources that belonged to another?

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. Have I gossiped, told lies, or embellished stories at the expense of another?

You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse. Have I honored my spouse with my full affection and exclusive love?

You shall not covet your neighbor's goods. Am I content with my own means and needs, or do I compare myself to others unnecessarily?

#### For Children

#### **Responsibilities to God:**

Have I prayed every day?

Have I prayed my morning prayers and night prayers?

Have I prayed with my parents and family?

Have I been moody and rebellious about praying and going to church on Sunday?

Have I asked the Holy Spirit to help me whenever I have been tempted to sin?

Have I asked the Holy Spirit to help me do what is right?

#### **Responsibilities to others:**

Have I been obedient and respectful to my parents?

Have I lied or been deceitful to them or to others?

Have I been arrogant, stubborn or rebellious?

Have I talked back to parents, teachers or other adults?

Have I pouted and been moody?

Have I been selfish toward my parents, brothers, and sisters, teachers, or my friends and schoolmates?

Have I gotten angry at them? Have I hit anyone?

Have I held grudges or not forgiven others?

Have I treated other children with respect or have I made fun of them and called them names?

Have I used bad language?

Have I stolen anything? Have I returned it?

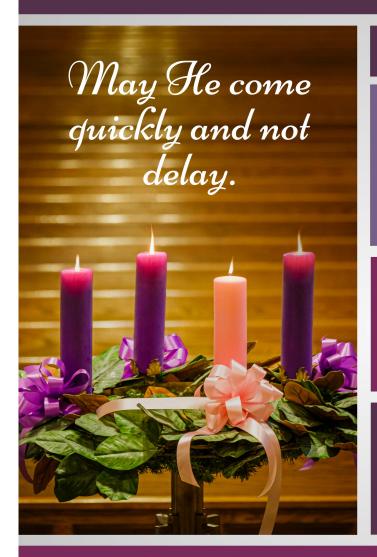
Have I performed my responsibilities, such as homework and household chores?

Have I been helpful and affectionate toward my family?

Have I been kind and generous with my friends?

Have I cheated in school?

### All About the Advent Wreath



"Advent" (Latin) means *a coming or arrival* 

Usually made up of evergreen branches or boughs placed in a circle, topped with four candles, and used as a prayerful way to reflect the passage of the Advent season

The wreath is blessed and one candle is lit on the first Sunday of Advent; another candle is lit every Sunday until all four candles are burning brightly

PURPLE CANDLES
This color serves as a
visual reminder of the
season's call to spiritual
reflection our need for
penitence

The EVERGREENS remind us of the everlasting life promised to us by the gift of Jesus Christ, who came among us to save us from sin and death

The act of LIGHTING
THE CANDLES banishes
the darkness: a
reminder of Jesus Christ,
the Light who
has come into the world
through His birth, and
who continues to shine
brightly through His
Church

A PINK CANDLE for the third Sunday reminds us that the time of Christ's arrival is fast approaching and we must prepare

O God, as light comes from this candle, may the blessing of Jesus Christ come to us, warming our hearts and brightening our way. May Christ our Savior bring life into the darkness of this world, and to us, as we wait for His coming. Amen.



### Christmas Mass Times

## Tuesday, <u>December 24</u>

4:00 PM St. Anne Church 5:30 PM St. Winifred Church Midnight St. Anne Church (Choral Prelude to begin at 11:30 p.m.)

## Wednesday, <u>December 25</u>

8:00 AM St. Anne Church 10:00 AM St. Anne Church 11:30 AM St. Winifred Church



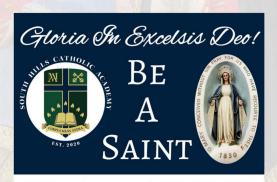
Dear Friends of South Hills Catholic Academy,

Each day, the students of South Hills Catholic Academy (SHCA) aspire to be saints through prayer and deed. On All Saints Day, we began our annual Saints Alive Scholarship Drive to benefit the students of SHCA!

Did you know that it costs more than \$7,000 to educate each of our students? However, the maximum tuition charged does not cover those costs. That means that every student at SHCA receives a scholarship. In order to do that, SHCA relies on generous benefactors, donors, and of course, fundraising.

We are blessed by a very dedicated faculty, staff, and Board of Directors. Through their efforts, we can provide an unmatched Classical Catholic education to our incredible students. We are asking for your spiritual and financial support.

Through this Scholarship Drive, our goal is to raise \$25,000 by December 31 for our Scholarship Fund.



SHCAcademy.com | 412-631-3131

Donations of \$100 or more come with a "Be A Saint" yard sign to display in your yard! (See design to the left. Sign must be picked up in the school office.)

Donations may be made using the pre-addressed #SAINTSALIVE SCHOLARSHIP DRIVE envelopes located in the parish office. Simply enclose your donation (checks preferred, payable to South Hills Catholic Academy) and either deliver to the school office, or affix a stamp and mail!

Additionally, donations may be made via PayPal, debit, or credit card at www.SHCAcademy/support in the "How to Donate" section. Or, simply scan the QR Code to the right – it will take you to the SHCA website.

Any questions? Please email Director of Marketing, Yvonne Creehan at ycreehan@shcacademy.com, or call the school office at 412-631-3131.



Thank you in advance for your continued support of South Hills Catholic Academy and its mission. Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Pray for Us!



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