

THE DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN

SACRED HEART CHURCH

243 LAFAYETTE AVENUE ~ PALMERTON PA 18071

Rectory Office: 610-826-2335 • Fax: 610-826-5360

shpmtn@ptd.net • www.shcpalmerton.org

Office Hours: Mon. – Fri. 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"As the family of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, we come together in faith to renew ourselves through the celebration of sacraments and strive to be the welcoming hands of Christ in our community."

SACRAMENTAL & PRAYER LIFE

Sacrament of the Eucharist / Mass

Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM Sunday Morning 9:30 AM

January 14, 2024

PASTORAL & SUPPORT STAFF

Reverend Michael Mullins *Pastor*
Steven Uhnak *Coordinator, Religious Education*
Sandy Miller *Bookkeeper/Secretary*
Bonnie Lazorick *Secretary*
Dan Podorsky *Part Time Maintenance*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Office 610-826-2335

St. John Neumann Regional School

Dr. Christopher Heery, Principal 610-826-2354
Palmerton Campus www.sjnrnschool.org

Allentown Central Catholic High School 610-437-4601
www.acchs.info

Marian Catholic High School 570-467-3335
www.marianhighschool.org

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday Friday: 7:00-8:00 AM
Saturday: 4:00 – 4:45 PM.
First Friday of the Month: 6:00-7:00 PM
By appointment call the Rectory Office

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptismal Classes are held on an as needed basis.
Please call the Parish Office to schedule a class.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples planning to get married should inform the Church as soon as possible (at least one year) prior to the wedding to begin marriage preparation. Marriage Preparation Class must be taken prior to six months before the marriage is celebrated.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND

Anyone wishing to arrange for a home visit is to contact the Parish Office. Please do not wait for an emergency.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

Private church visits Monday to Friday, 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Please contact the Chairperson of committee or the Rectory Office for details/contact info.

Altar Guild	Cass Chies	Pro Life Coordinator	Veronica Scarpati
Altar Servers	Father Mullins	Safety, Security and	
Bereavement Sharers	Olivia Erickson	Maintenance Committee	Jim Matsko
Bible Study/Prayer Group/ Prayer Chain	Peg Duell	Sacred Heart Helping Hands	Rectory Office
C.A.C.P.A.C.	Sue Steigerwalt / Lori Nemeth	Vocation Promoter	Rectory Office
Cemetery	Frank Hager	Catholic Charities:	
Choir/Music Liaison	Joann Kercsmar	Tom Miller	610-435-1541 ext. 374
Disability Advocates	Marian Carty	Protecting God's Children	
Financial Council	Joe Koma	Safe Environment Coordinator	
Funeral Luncheon Committee	Roseann Heydt/Peg Duell	Pamela Russo	610-871-5200, ext. 2204
High School Ministry	Tricia Matsko	Victim Assistance Coordinator	
Knights of Columbus	Joe Koma	Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC800-791-9209	
Men of Good News	Ed Sidleck	Allegations of abuse against a Bishop, contact	
Palmerton Festival	Dana Massey	Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at:	
Pastoral Council	Jerome Scarpati	www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or	
	Lisa Kistler	call: 1-800-276-1562.	

January 14 – Second Sunday In Ordinary Time



Saturday (January 13):
5:00 PM Antonio G. Dias by wife and sons

Sunday (January 14):
9:30 AM Hertha Langan by Palmerton Library
 Monday Book Club

Monday (January 15):
8:30 AM Parishioners of Sacred Heart

Wednesday (January 17):
8:30 AM Hertha Langan by
 Teresa and Joe Amorim

Thursday (January 18):
8:30 AM Bill Smelas by Rosalie Gerhart

Friday (January 19):
8:30 AM Michael Heery by
 Michael and Marian Carty

Saturday (January 20):
5:00 PM Darryl Moyer by Andress family

Sunday (January 21):
9:30 AM Milton Stemler by
 Michael and Marian Carty

Sacrament of Penance Schedule

Saturday: 4:00-4:45 PM
Before weekday Mass: 7:00-8:00 AM
First Friday of the Month: 6:00-7:00 PM
Confessions also by appointment, please call the Rectory Office.



Please remember in your prayers our recently deceased, especially **Manuel Amorim**. May he be welcomed into the company of the Saints and may our dear Lord comfort their families.

Let us continue to remember and pray for all our deceased relatives, friends, benefactors, and parishioners, those serving in the military, those struggling with addictions, the homebound and those who are sick and have asked for our prayers. Individual names will be added to the list of Prayers for the Sick upon request from the individual or from the sick person's Power of Attorney.



Sanctuary Candle: *Peter Haja, Sr.*
 by wife and sons.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Reading I: 1 Samuel 3: 3b-10, 19

The call of young Samuel is itself a classic description of how such a call can be misinterpreted at first. In this case, the future prophet is given a command to communicate a particular Word to the people.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 6: 13c-15a, 17-20

Sexual pleasure for its own sake and unconnected with conception contradicts the fact that our bodies "are not our own." Saint Paul's powerful message is that our bodies are Temples of the indwelling Holy Spirit.

The Gospel: John 1: 35-42

The Baptist's preaching is fulfilled when two of his former disciples, namely Andrew and his brother Simon, decide to follow Jesus. The Lord, in turn, poses to them (and us) a life-altering question: "What are you looking for?"

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23 Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13 Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28 Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10 Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13 Mk 3:7-12

Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21 Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 Ps 80:2-3, 5-7 Mk 3:20-21

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10 Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 1 Cor 7:29-31 Mk 1:14-20



The Parish family of Sacred Heart extends a warm welcome to our newest parishioners, **Nancy and son Christopher Harvilla**. May you continue to be spiritually enriched and your membership in the Church be long, happy and fruitful.

Ash Wednesday

Remember that you are dust,
 and to dust you shall return.



**Lent begins Wednesday
 February 14, 2024.**



Last year, on January 1, 2023, Jean L. Halmi (93) went to our Lord. May she rest in peace. We recently received notice that her support of our Church continues through a charitable bequest. We are grateful to her and to all those who contribute to the maintenance and mission of our parish. Establishing a Will ensures your legacy of family and important causes continue; our diocese offers a free and easy way for one to create a legally-binding Will in just 20 minutes. For details please visit: <https://www.freewill.com/allentowndiocese>.

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC)

#289 "When does the Church oblige her members to participate at Holy Mass?"

The Church obliges the faithful to participate at Holy Mass every Sunday and on holy days of obligation. She recommends participation at Holy Mass on other days as well.

#290 "When must one receive Holy Communion?"

The Church recommends that the faithful, if they have the required dispositions, receive Holy Communion whenever they participate at Holy Mass. However, the Church obliges them to receive Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter season.

#291 "What is required to receive Holy Communion?"

To receive Holy Communion, one must be fully incorporated into the Catholic Church and be in the state of grace, that is, not conscious of being in mortal sin. Anyone who is conscious of having committed a grave sin must first receive the sacrament of Reconciliation before going to Communion. Also important for those receiving Holy Communion are a spirit of recollection and prayer, observance of the fast prescribed by the Church, and an appropriate disposition of the body (gestures and dress) as a sign of respect for Christ.

Word of the Week:

Anathema - solemn condemnation, of biblical origin, used by the Church to declare that some position or teaching contradicts Catholic faith and doctrine. In Paul's letter to the Galatians (Gal 1:9), "If anyone preach to you a gospel besides what you have received, let him be anathema." Reflecting the Church's concern to preserve the integrity of faith, the Fathers anathematized heretics in a variety of terms.

Saint Quotes of the Week:

"I saw the snares that the enemy spreads out over the world and I said groaning, 'What can get through from such snares?' Then I heard a voice saying to me, 'Humility.'" – St. Anthony of Egypt.

"Whoever hammers a lump of iron, first decides what he is going to make of it, a scythe, a sword, or an axe. Even so we ought to make up our minds what kind of virtue we want to forge, or else we labor in vain." -- St. Anthony of Egypt.



Saint of the Week: Anthony of Egypt (c. 251-356) Associated with the beginnings of monasticism, Anthony gave his inherited lands and wealth in Egypt to the poor. From the age of 20 until his death at 105, he lived as a hermit in remote locations in the hills and deserts.

What is known about him comes from a life written by Saint Athanasius of Alexandria. Around 306, Anthony began to accept disciples, founding his first monastery as a collection of hermit cells. He cultivated a garden, wove reed mats, and fought many temptations and demons. Visitors sought his wise counsel, captured in the Sayings of the "desert fathers," and the bishops of Alexandria summoned him at age 87 to help refute the heresy Arianism. He is the patron saint of basket and basket makers, butchers and gravediggers. Feast Day: 17 January.



First Friday, February 2 Eucharistic Adoration.

The Eucharist is the secret of my day. It gives strength and meaning to all my activities of service to the Church and to the whole world. Let Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament speak to your hearts. It is He who is the true answer of life that you seek. He stays here with us: He is God with us. Seek Him without tiring, welcome him without reserve, love him without interruption: today, tomorrow, forever. Saint John Paul II.

Come spend time with Jesus. **Join us for Adoration between 4:00 – 7:00 PM. All are welcome to stop by for a few minutes, an hour or for however long you are able.** Father Mullins is available for Confessions from 6:00 to 7:00 PM. **Plan to join us Friday, February 2.**

welcome
we are glad you are here!
to our church

*Are you a new parishioner
or visiting for the first time?*

Welcome! Please introduce yourself to Father. We invite you to become an active participant of our parish community and welcome you. Please call or stop by the Rectory Office during the week between 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM or call the Rectory Office at: 610-826-2335 to Register. We look forward to having you as a part of our parish community.

If you are planning on receiving an upcoming Sacrament (Baptism, Marriage, etc.) you must first be registered in the Parish, worshipping and supporting the Church regularly. To make arrangements to Register, please contact the Rectory Office at 610-826-2335.

Any parishioner who is engaged is reminded that you need to set up a meeting with Father Mullins so everything can be arranged with the Church. In the Diocese of Allentown, a minimum of 6 months (although a year is preferable) notice is required to complete everything necessary for a marriage. Please call Father Mullins at: 610-826-2335 to arrange an appointment.



The distinctive purpose of **St. John Neumann Regional School** is to create Catholic-centered education enlivened by the Gospel spirit of love. The school community exists to maintain academic standards and to foster catholic values and to empower children to be all that they can be. We encourage our families to consider giving your child (children) the gift of a Catholic School education.

Kindergarten registration is now open! Children who will be age 5 by October 15, 2024 are eligible to register for Kindergarten. Please contact the Palmerton Office at 610-826-2354 or email: office.sjnrschool@gmail.com for a registration packet and schedule a tour with Dr. Heery, Principal.

SJNRS is also accepting students for the 2nd Semester of the 2023-24 school year and new enrollments up to Grade 8 for the 2024-2025 school year. Please contact Dr. Chris Heery, Principal.

Catholic Schools Week begins January 28 thru February 3. The theme is "United in Faith and Community." Come see what we are all about!

A few 2024 Calendars are available at the Church exits. Please take a calendar as you leave Mass today.

Weekly Offering



01/13-01/14: In Support of the Parish
01/20-01/21: In Support of the Parish
Second Collection: Education Fund

Attendance weekly goal: 450
Actual 12/30-12/31: 299
Actual 1/6-1/7: 109 (snowstorm)

Please encourage family, friends and neighbors to come celebrate with us at Mass. If we reach our attendance goal, Father Mullins will consider adding another Mass on Sunday.

Next weekend our Second Collection will be in support of our educational efforts. This includes support of SJNRS, PREP and RCIA. We ask you to be generous as we show good faith towards the educational support of our children; the future of our Church.



Online giving . . . Visit our parish website at: www.shcpalmerton.org to find out how you can sign up for online giving with "MyEoffering." Questions, contact Sandy Miller in the Rectory Office at: 610-826-2335.

Contribution Statements

If you would like to receive a 2023 Charitable contribution statement, please sign the sheets located at the writing desks at the Church exits. Please fill out sheet completely with name, address, phone number and email. Statements will be emailed to all who provide their email address. All other Statements will be placed in the Parish Center by January 31 for pick up. Questions can be directed to Sandy via email at: shpmtn@ptd.net.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**FREE THROW
CHAMPIONSHIP**

BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 9-14

January 20, 2024 – 10:00 AM

SJNRS Gym, 259 Lafayette Avenue Palmerton

Open to all public and private school-age children ages 9-14. Contact Joe Koma via text or phone at: 610-554-8524 or Email: joekoma2280@gmail.com.

If you would like to donate this year's Paschal Candle in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please call the Rectory Office this week. This candle is blessed at the Easter Vigil and burned at every Mass in the Easter Season to Pentecost Sunday. The Paschal Candle is also lit for every Baptism and Funeral until the following Holy Saturday. The cost of the Paschal candle varies between \$150 and \$200+.

Collection of Old Palms: Old Palms will be collected for two weeks from 1/15 through 1/29/24. These Palms will be burnt for this year's Ash Wednesday Celebrations. Please place only Palms in the box in the back of the Church.



Bus trip to Sight and Sound for the presentation of "**Daniel**" on Saturday, April 13, 2024 for the 11:00 AM show.

The bus will leave Sacred Heart's parking lot at 8:00 AM and will return back by 4:30 PM. **Cost** \$130 per person includes bus and show. Bring a box lunch to eat on the way back. From the fiery furnace to the infamous den of lions, **DANIEL** is a spectacular theatrical experience for the whole family. Witness one of the Bible's most hope-filled stories as it comes to life on stage. Call the Rectory Office to reserve your seat today.

Designer Purse Bingo

SJNRS HSA will be holding a Designer Purse Bingo, Bake Sale and Basket Auction on Saturday, February 3 at the Mahoning Valley Ambulance, 902 Mill Road, Lehigh, PA. The Bingo benefits all SJNRS students and the Bake Sale will benefit the 8th Grade Class Trip. Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door. Doors Open at Noon. The Bingo will begin at 1:00 PM. To purchase your tickets in advance or for more info contact **Pam Keer at: 610-657-7850.**

RETROUVAILLE: Rediscover The Love In Your Marriage. Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille. If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program is February 16-18, at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For info or to register, visit: www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Reminder: Please follow the Borough regulations when attending Mass on days when we receive 2 inches or more of snow and the forty-eight hours following the end of the snowfall. On even-numbered days, park on the even-numbered house side of the street. On odd-numbered days, park on the odd-numbered house side of the street. Attending Mass does not exclude anyone from following these directives. Your cooperation will enable our Borough to clean designated sides of our streets to benefit everyone.

Marian Catholic High School Open House

Sunday, January 28, 2:00-4:00 PM

Come, learn how to make a Marian education possible. To RSVP, please contact Mary Milosh at: mmilosh@mariancatholic.org or 570-467-3335 ext. 117.

Unfortunately, due to the weather last weekend, we had to postpone our **Volunteer Appreciation Dinner**. Father is looking forward to rescheduling in the Spring, hopefully no weather issues. Please watch bulletin for updated information.



COOKS WITH COLLARS

www.cookswithcollars.com

website went live on Friday, January 12, 2024 and closes on February 12, 2024.

What is Cooks with Collars: An online cooking competition to raise funds for parishes and Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Allentown. Sacred Heart is excited to announce that Father Mullins will represent Sacred Heart Church this year. This translates into a fun and great fundraiser for us!

Each participating parish creates a cooking video showcasing a particular recipe. Videos will be featured on the **COOKS WITH COLLARS** website where individuals can vote – via online donations – for their favorite **COOKS WITH COLLARS**. All voting money Sacred Heart receives stays right in our parish.

Visit www.cookswithcollars.com to see **Father Mullins** and other priests from around the Diocese creating delicious kitchen concoctions. Vote early and vote often (deadline February 12). Remember all voting proceeds benefit our parish. Share the website with all your family and friends. Thanks for making Father Mullins and Sacred Heart a winner!!



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IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

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