

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

February 18, 2024

PASTORAL & SUPPORT STAFF

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Office 610-826-2335

St. John Neumann Regional School

Dr. Christopher Heery, Principal 610-826-2354
 Palmerton Campus www.sjnrschool.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 Kercksmar	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.	


February 18 – First Sunday Of Lent

MASS Intentions

Saturday 5:00 PM	(February 17): Nancy Herzog by Mary Ann and Bob Martenak
Sunday 9:30 AM	(February 18): Antoinette Homlak by children
Monday 8:30 AM	(February 19): Elizabeth "Ella" Gruber by Deacon and Mrs. Jack
Wednesday 8:30 AM	(February 21): Gerald Schieffer by Joe and Mary Tobia
Thursday 8:30 AM	(February 22): Parishioners of Sacred Heart
Friday 8:30 AM	(February 23): Michael Heery by Palmerton Campus Teachers
Saturday 5:00 PM	(February 24): Gloria by Michael and Marian Carty
Sunday 9:30 AM	(February 25): Manuel and Maria Dias and sons by Maria Dias and sons

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.	

 *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.



ADORATION
of the
BLESSED
SACRAMENT

First Friday, March 1
Eucharistic Adoration

4:00 – 7:00 PM.

Confessions: 6:00 to 7:00 PM.

All are welcome to stop by for a few minutes, an hour or for however long you are able.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Reading I: Genesis 9: 8-15

The story of the Great Flood and Noah's leadership is one in which the world is cleansed by water. There follows a covenant between God and the people symbolized by a rainbow which will mean the end of future rainstorms before they destroy the world.

Reading II: 1 Peter 3: 18-22

The victory of Christ over sin is applied to Christians by baptism. This was prefigured by the cleansing waters of the Great Flood.

The Gospel: Mark 1: 12-15

The brief and simple narrative of Mark contrasts with the more elaborate scriptural debate between the devil and Jesus, as portrayed in both Matthew and Luke, both of which followed Mark in time.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday:	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday:	Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday:	Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32
Thursday:	1 Pt 5:1-4 Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 Mt 16:13-19
Friday:	Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 Mt 5:20-26
Saturday:	Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Mt 5:43-48
Sunday:	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 Rom 8:31b-34 Mk 9:2-10



LIGHT A
CANDLE
FOR YOUR
SPECIAL
INTENTIONS

Sanctuary Candle:

Manny Amorim by Homlak family

Marian Altar (2):

Vergilo, Jose and Adosinda Pinto
by Orlando and Sameira Amorim.



During the time of Noah, the people had engaged in great sin, and the overwhelming majority were participating in it. Only Noah and

his family listened to the Lord and created the ark to protect them and the animals from the storm. All else were destroyed in the flood of sin. God does not seek the destruction of His people. He gives us a warning and provides us with safe passage: "Repent and believe in the Gospel." We are called to turn away from sin and turn towards God. Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving are forms of discipline as a way to strengthen our will to resist evil and choose God's will.

Some different ways to draw closer to God:

- **Private Adoration:** in our Church Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 2:30 PM.
- **Confessions:** Monday, Wednesday through Friday from 7:00 to 8 :00 AM and Saturday from 4:00 to 4:45 PM.



- **Stations of the Cross:** in our Church Wednesdays at 6:30 PM. School Stations Mondays at 1:30 PM.

- **Franciscan University Courses:** Check our website for more details at: www.SHCPalmerton.org.
- **Bible in a Year App** with Fr. Mike Schmitz.
- **Catechism in a Year App** with Fr. Mike Schmitz.
- **Lenten Retreat Days** throughout the Diocese on Mondays from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. See flyer for details.
- Online Small Group Study visit the website at: eucharisticrevival.org/jesus-and-the-eucharist.

With Gratitude: Thank you to all who voted for me and my Chocolate Cream Pie in our CooksWithCollars.com online competition. We exceeded our goal! We will use the \$2,000 proceeds and a generous donation by the Knights of Columbus to help pay for a NEW DOOR & RAMP which is being ordered for our school so that those with disabilities can have easier and safer access to future parish activities in our gym.

Thanks also goes to an anonymous donor of the NEW HAND RAILINGS that were installed leading to the back parking lot. We will continue to seek to make our property safer and provide better access for all.

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC)

#307 "Who is the minister of this sacrament (of Penance)?"

Christ has entrusted the ministry of Reconciliation to his apostles, to the bishops who are their successors and to the priests who are the collaborators of the bishops, all of whom become thereby instruments of the mercy and justice of God. They exercise their power of forgiving sins *in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*"

#308 "To whom is the absolution of some sins reserved?"

The absolution of certain particularly grave sins (like those punished by excommunication) is reserved to the Apostolic See or to the local bishop or to priests who are authorized by them. Any priest, however, can absolve a person who is in danger of death from any sin and excommunication."

#309 "Is a confessor bound to secrecy?"

Given the delicacy and greatness of this ministry and the respect due to people every confessor, without any exception and under very severe penalties, is bound to maintain "the sacramental seal" which means absolute secrecy about the sins revealed to him in confession."

Saint of the Week: Polycarp



(2nd century AD) was a revered Christian leader who served as bishop of Smyrna during the first half of the 2nd century. He was a disciple of Saint John the Apostle and friend of Saint Ignatius of Antioch. The Churches of Asia Minor recognized Polycarp's leadership by choosing him as their representative to discuss with Pope Anicetus the date of the celebration of Easter in Rome, a major controversy in the early Church. Only one of the many letters written by Polycarp survives, the one he wrote to the Church of Philippi in Macedonia. At age 86, Polycarp was taken to the crowded Smyrna Stadium to be burned alive. The flames did not harm him and he was eventually killed by a dagger. The "Acts" of the martyrdom of Polycarp are the oldest preserved and completely reliable account of the death of a Christian martyr. He died in 155. Feast Day: February 23.

Saint Quote of the Week: *"Hear me declare with boldness, I am a Christian."* - St. Polycarp.

"Let us, therefore, foresake the vanity of the crowd and their false teachings, and turn back to the Word delivered to us from the beginning." - St. Polycarp.

Word of the Week: *Annual Confession* - the duty to receive the sacrament of penance at least once a year. First decreed by the Fourth Lateran Council of 1215, it has reconfirmed many times since, especially by Pope St. Pius X in 1910 and Pope Paul VI since the Second Vatican Council. It is binding by ecclesiastical law on "everyone of the faithful of both sexes, after he has reached the age of discretion," and therefore also children or those with only venial sins. It is also binding by divine law on those with mortal sins committed since their last worthy confession and sacramental absolution. Note: our parish offers Confessions in Church on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7:00 to 8 AM and Saturdays from 4:00 to 4:45 PM and by appointment.

Lenten Reminders:

- Fast (eat only 1 full meal on the Ember Days of Lent (2/21, 2/23 and 2/24) and Good Friday .
- Abstain from eating meat on Fridays of Lent.
- Stations of the Cross occur every week during Lent on Wednesday at 6:30 PM and School Stations of the Cross on Mondays at 1:30 PM.
- Confessions are on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays at 7:00 AM and Saturdays from 4:00-4:45 PM.
- Lenten Confessions with extra priests:
March 10: 3:00 PM Assumption BVM
March 11: 7:00 PM Sacred Heart
March 12: 7:00 PM St. Nick's
- The DMI Survey to help our parish plan for future activities is available on our website at: www.SHCPalmerton.org until March 27. Paper copies are also available in the Parish Center.



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an hour or for however long you are able.*

Ember Days: Bishop Schlert has asked the clergy and faithful of the Diocese to celebrate Ember Days as a sign of reparation and healing for the Church. Ember days for the season of Lent are: February 21, 23 and 24. Ember Days are marked through fasting and abstinence and through prayer in gratitude for the blessings of the season and human labor.

Diocesan Lent Retreat Series: Join us for a special Lenten retreat series held at different parishes throughout the Diocese of Allentown, occurring every Monday from February 19th to March 18th. Every week will feature adoration and confession from 6:30-7:30 PM, a speaker 7:30 PM, and refreshments at 8:00 PM. The event series on Mondays during Lent is as follows:

Feb 19: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Roseto,

Topic: **"Healing"** by Maggie Riggins.

Feb 26: St. Ambrose, Schuylkill Haven,

Topic **"Presence"** by Lillian Fallon.

March 4: St. Catharine of Siena, Reading,

Topic **"Sacrifice"** by Rob Johnson.

March 11: SS. Peter and Paul, Lehighton,

Topic **"Promise"** by Kristin Osenbach.

March 18: Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena,

Allentown, Topic **"Holy"** by Fr. Trigilio.

Visit the Diocesan Flocknote page to sign up at:
allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/signup152184.

Next Generation Diocese Initiative: Please help us plan for the next 10 years by participating in a 10-15 minute survey online. The survey, **Disciple Maker Index (DMI)** can be accessed on our website at: shcpalmerton.org until March 27. It will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on your parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole.

There will be computers available for those who don't have access to a computer. Please call the Rectory Office to schedule. Also, paper copies are available in the Parish Center. The deadline to submit paper copies is Friday, March 22. Results will be published this spring/summer at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish. The Diocese is asking all active parishioners to participate in the survey. Questions, please call the Rectory Office.



2/17-2/18: In Support of the Parish
Second Collection: Catholic Home Missions

2/24-2/25: In Support of the Parish

Attendance weekly goal: 450

Actual 2/3-2/4: 298

This weekend our Second Collection is to help support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal Your support funds religious education, seminary formation lay ministry training and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. More info can be found at: uscgb.org/home-missions.

Lenten Charity: Did you know the Annual Rice Bowl Collection originated in the Diocese of Allentown and was adopted and made a national Lenten program by Catholic Relief Services (CRS). This collection generates funds that are used by CSR to feed the poor across the globe. **There will be no weekly second collection for Rice Bowl.** Instead, use a rice bowl box available at the entrances to the church or place an envelope with your name in any collection during the Lenten Season or in the collection bowl that is placed in the center aisle towards the back of Church.

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

The 33rd Annual Easter Mass sponsored by the diocesan **"We Are Remembered" Ministry** will be celebrated by Father Stanley Moczydlowski Wednesday, April 3 at 7:00 PM at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church in Whitehall. Monday, March 20 is the deadline to have the names of loved ones enrolled in the Book of the Remembered and the enrollment list that will be printed in the AD Times. We Are Remembered requests a \$5 donation for each name enrolled to cover expenses. To register, send the following info and check to: We Are Remembered Ministry, St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, 618 Fullerton Ave., Whitehall, PA 18052; Sponsor(s) name, Donation amount, Address, Phone number, Email, and Name(s) of the deceased. For questions, contact Mary Spieker at: dirreled@sercc.org or by phone at: 610-266-0695.



Volunteer Opportunities: A Planning Meeting for this year's Flea Market is scheduled for Thursday, February 22 at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center. The

Flea Market is scheduled for Friday, June 21 through Sunday June 23, 2024. **Save your** unwanted Christmas gifts and gift cards that you received that you will not use, we will gladly take. If you have any questions, please contact Bernice Borowski at: 610-392-0625 between 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM.



Due to lack of interest, the Bus has been cancelled for the Sight and Sound Theater for Daniel on April 13. Tickets for the show are now \$85, you must provide your own transportation. If you would like to purchase tickets for the show only please respond by March 8. Call the Rectory Office at: 610-826-2335.



Consider giving your child the gift of a catholic education. SJNRS is accepting applications for Kindergarten registration. Children who will be age 5 by October 15, 2024, are eligible to register for Kindergarten. **Also accepting** new enrollments up to Grade 8 for the 2024-2025 school year. Please contact Dr. Heery, Principal at: office.sjnrschool@gmail.com or phone at: 610-826-2354 for a registration packet, schedule a tour or questions.



Calling all high school students ages 14-17. You are invited to

join us on Wednesday, February 21, at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center for our monthly meeting. If interested in participating, please call or text Tricia Matsko at: 484-633-6510.



High School Ministry will be selling Gertrude Hawk Candy Bars after Mass next weekend, 2/24-25. **Cost \$2.00 per bar.**



Join us Sunday, February 25 following 9:30 AM Mass for coffee and donuts in the Social Hall. Father Mullins will also be displaying our new bingo machine.



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IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

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