

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 25, 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 Kerckmar	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	
	Lisa Kistler	call: 1-800-276-1562.	


February 25– Second Sunday Of Lent

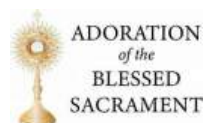
MASS Intentions

Saturday	(February 24):
5:00 PM	Gloria by Michael and Marian Carty
Sunday	(February 25):
9:30 AM	Manuel and Maria Dias and sons by Maria Dias and sons
Monday	(February 26):
8:30 AM	Parishioners of Sacred Heart
Wednesday	(February 28):
8:30 AM	John Nicholson by Marian and Michael Carty
Thursday	(February 29):
8:30 AM	Sharon Minnich by Joann and Joe Kercsmar
Friday	(March 1): FIRST FRIDAY
8:30 AM	Living and deceased members of the Slovak Catholic Sokols
Saturday	(March 2): FIRST SATURDAY
8:30 AM	Manuel R. Amorim by Joe and Teresa Amorim
5:00 PM	Peter Haja, Sr. by wife Helen and family
Sunday	(March 3):
9:30 AM	Frank Kravetz by wife Shirley and family

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 22: 1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Abraham passes God's test of him, and we witness a powerful sign of the obedience we should give God. Ready to kill Isaac as ordered, his obedience is rewarded; the sword withdrawn, and a glorious reward is promised.

Reading II: Romans 8: 31b-34

This section is a hymn to the love of God for us is made plain to see in the Father's willingness to hand over His Son to death for our redemption, now that same Son intercedes for us with the Father.

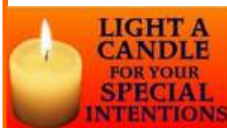
The Gospel: Mark 9: 2-10

In the first part of this story Jesus is established as the beloved Son for all the world to know. In the second part, Jesus' obedient sonship is placed in the context of Jewish hopes about the kingdom and resurrection.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday:	Dn 9:4b-10 Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20 Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20 Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 Mt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Lk 16:19-31
Friday:	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday:	Ex 20:1-17 or Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17 Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 1 Cor 1:22-25 Jn 2:13-25



LIGHT A
CANDLE
FOR YOUR
SPECIAL
INTENTIONS

Sanctuary Candle:

*Manny Amorim by
Homlak family*

St. Joseph Altar:

John Domant by Tom Muldoon.

Last weekend the 2 candles on St. Joseph's Altar were lit in memory of *Peter Kern* by a friend.



During the Transfiguration, Peter was ready to build three tents: one for Jesus, one for Moses and one for Elijah. He was giving equal import to each of them. However, through the cloud and the voice of God the Father, it is revealed that Jesus is the beloved Son, we are to listen to Him. Frequently, we compartmentalize our lives; we designate our time for work, time for play, time for sleep and our time for God. We compartmentalize our relationships; we focus on our parents, the children, our co-workers, ourselves, and God. We even cause divisions in our finances; this is money for rent, food, clothing, entertainment, savings and God. All too often, we put God on equal par with everything else, or worse, we give to the Lord only the scraps leftover. In the Transfiguration, the Father reveals the fullness of what, or actually who we have received: Jesus glorified and willing to suffer and die for us. May we repent of the times when we failed to recognize God in our midst, when we failed to keep Him at the focus of our lives, when we put other people and things before Him. I encourage you to come to the Lord in confession; recognize the fullness of mercy He is willing to give so that you too may experience His glory.

A refresher on Confession Procedures: Forgive me Father for I have sinned; it has been approximately (state the amount of time approximately since your last confession) since my last confession. These are my sins (state your sins and approximately how frequently you fell into each sin). The priest will give you a penance (a prayer or action to do to help prevent you from falling again). Then say an act of contrition (statement saying you are sorry for your sins, you'll do your best to try not to sin again, and you need God's help). The priest will then say the words of absolution to forgive you of your sins. Then go in peace and complete your penance, rejoicing in the Lord and His mercy. If you forget any part or prayers, just ask the priest and he is there to help you receive the Lord's mercy.



Foot Washing The liturgical rite of the washing of the feet on Holy Thursday takes its inspiration from the Last Supper, where Jesus first washed the feet of his apostles and commanded them to do likewise (see Jn 13:4-14). During Holy Thursday Mass on March 28, ***Father Mullins will wash the feet of 7 parishioners. If you would like to volunteer to share in this meaningful ritual, please call the Parish Office. Thank you.***

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC)

#310 "What are the effects of this sacrament (of Confession)?"

The effects of the sacrament of Penance are: reconciliation with God and therefore the forgiveness of sins; reconciliation with the Church; recovery, if it has been lost, of the state of grace; remission of the eternal punishment merited by mortal sins, and remission, at least in part, of the temporal punishment which is the consequence of sin; peace, serenity of conscience and spiritual consolation; and an increase of spiritual strength for the struggle of Christian living."

#311 "Can this sacrament be celebrated in some cases with a general confession and general absolution?"

In cases of serious necessity (as in imminent danger of death) recourse may be had to a communal celebration of Reconciliation with general confession and general absolution, as long as the norms of the Church are observed and there is the intention of individually confessing one's grave sins in due time."

#312 "What are indulgences?"

Indulgences are the remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven. The faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains the indulgence under prescribed conditions for either himself or the departed. Indulgences are granted through the ministry of the Church which, as the dispenser of the grace of redemption, distributes the treasury of the merits of Christ and the Saints."

Saint of the Week

Alexander of Alexandria (250-328AD) was born in Alexandria, Egypt. He became the bishop of Alexandria in 313, and fought the spreading heresy of Arianism fiercely. In 321, Alexander excommunicated Arius (starter of Arianism). Alexander is also credited with drawing up the acts of the First General Council of Nicea in 325. He was the mentor of Saint Athanasius. Feast Day: 26 February.

Saint Quote of the Week: *"For the Lord Incarnate was condemned, in order to bestow mercy on us; bound, in order to loose us; seized, in order to free us; He suffered, to heal our sufferings; He died, to restore life to us; He was buried, to raise us up again."* - St. Alexander of Alexandria.

Word of the Week: Annulment Process - an investigation by the court of the Catholic Church (Tribunal) to discern whether God sealed the bond of marriage or not. If everything necessary was present at the time of the exchange of vows, then God sealed the marriage bond and only death can do them part. However, if in the investigation there is proof that one or several critical components were missing, then God would not have united the couple and they would be permitted to marry someone else. There are two forms of annulment cases: formal and informal. Informal annulments are used for a Catholic who married only in a civil ceremony outside the Church without the Bishop's permission. Formal Annulment cases are used for any other situation. Any divorced person seeking to remarry should first speak with a priest to begin paperwork for an annulment.

Liturgy Notes: During Lent, the visual environment is simplified; no floral decorations, the *Gloria* and *Alleluia* are omitted and the *vestments are purple* to signify a time of penance. The purpose of the "*liturgical pruning*" is to remind us this is a time to seek out reconciliation with God.

Diocesan Lent Retreat Series: Join us for a special Lenten retreat series held at different parishes throughout the Diocese of Allentown, occurring every Monday until 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 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.

Lenten Reminders:

- Abstain from eating meat on Fridays of Lent.
- Fast, eat only 1 full meal on Good Friday.
- 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; Saturdays from 4:00-4:45 PM and First Friday of the month 6:00-7:00 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 until March 22.

Let your voice be heard!

Next Generation Diocese Initiative:

Please help us plan for the next 10 years by participating in a 10-15 minute survey. Deadline to complete the online DMI Survey is March 27. The deadline to submit paper copies is Friday, March 22. 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.

Computers are 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 and can be placed in the box in the Parish Center by 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.



Join us for the Stations of the Cross Wednesday evenings during Lent at 6:30 PM. The Stations are a beautiful expression of the core of our faith, that is, Jesus embraced the experience of human life, our triumphs and failures, our joys and our sorrows.

Jesus walks with us, trips with us when we stumble and helps us to our feet again. When we carry our Cross, Jesus is with us; so please arrange your Lenten schedule to share in this devotion.

Weekly Offering 2/24-2/25 and 3/2-3/3:



In Support of the Parish

Attendance weekly goal: 450

Actual 2/17-18: 286

Thank you for your generous support of \$935 for last weekend's collection for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. For additional info regarding the Catholic Home Missions, visit their website 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 special collection for Rice Bowl.** Instead, 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 or through online giving. Thank you for your support of this Lenten charity.



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 on 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. A \$5 donation for each name enrolled is requested 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.



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



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

SJNRS is currently selling Lottery Calendars based off the Pick 3 for the month of March for \$10. Contact the school office at: 610-826-2354 to purchase by 2/29/24.

Purchase your discounted Hershey Park Tickets from SJNRS 8th Grade Class by 3/27/24. Checks made payable to SJNRS. Tickets are valid during the 2024 season only and expire on January 1, 2025. Admission 3 & up: \$46. Contact the School Office at: 610-826-2354.



Due to lack of interest, the Bus trip to Sight and Sound Theater for Daniel on April 13 has been cancelled. However, tickets are still available for the show; you provide your own transportation. Please contact the Rectory Office (610-826-2335) if you would like to purchase tickets for the show by March 8. Cost: \$85/ticket.

Some Ways to Improve Your Lent:

- Pray by name for someone who has hurt you.
- When you see, hear or read about people experiencing hardships, pray for them for relief or offer your assistance.
- Attend a weekday Mass in addition to your Sunday obligatory Mass.
- Take 5 minutes a day in quiet to let the Lord speak to you.
- Fast from gossip.
- Pull the rosary out of your drawer at home and pray it for the intention of peace.



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



Join us after 9:30 AM Mass today Sunday, February 25 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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