

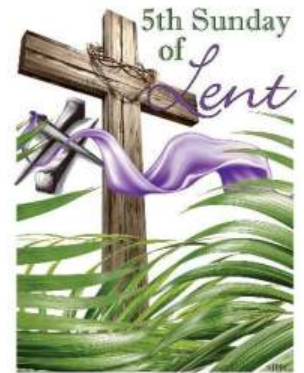
THE DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
SACRED HEART CHURCH

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

March 17, 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.	

March 17 – Fifth Sunday Of Lent



- Saturday 5:00 PM (March 16):**
Manuel Amorim by wife Amelia, son Jason and family
- Sunday 9:30 AM (March 17):**
Sharon Minnich by the Class of 1963 girls of Sacred Heart School
- Monday 8:30 AM (March 18):**
George and Jean Halmi by a friend
- Wednesday 8:30 AM (March 20):**
Parishioners of Sacred Heart
- Thursday 8:30 AM (March 21):**
John B. "Jack" DeSousa by Joann and Joe Kercsmar
- Friday 8:30 AM (March 22):**
Manuel Amorim by brother Candido and family
- Saturday 5:00 PM (March 23):**
Joaquim G. Dias by brother and family
- Sunday 9:30 AM (March 24):**
Stephen and Helen Milkowich by daughters 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.



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

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Reading I: Jeremiah 31:31-34

This short oracle has been called "one of the most profound and moving passages in the entire Bible." Note the use of the words "new Covenant." It is the only time they are used in the entire Old Testament.

Reading II: Hebrews 5:7-9

The author considers Jesus' ability to sympathize with sinners arises from the fact that He knew temptation. His obedience led to His priestly consecration.

The Gospel: John 12: 20-33

Some Greeks come to see Jesus. He tells Andrew and Philip that "when a grain of wheat dies it produces much fruit." This is a direct reference to His upcoming passion and death.



- Monday:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62 Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 Jn 8:1-11
- Tuesday:** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
- Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 Jn 8:31-42
- Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9 Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 Jn 8:51-59
- Friday:** Jer 20:10-13 Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 Jn 10:31-42
- Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28 Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 Jn 11:45-56
- Sunday:** Is 50:4-7 Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 Phil 2:6-11 Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 and Mk 14:1-15:47 or Mk 15:1-39



Sanctuary Candle:

Health of Terry O'Neil by wife
St. Joseph Altar (2):
Manuel Amorim by
 Maria Piedade Gomes

Cemetery Notice: All Christmas flowers and decorations need to be removed by this Sunday, **March 17**. Your cooperation is important and will enable us to prepare for the Spring. Thank you.



In old war movies, often times the guard on watch questioned anyone traveling in the area, "state your purpose!" It was to determine if the traveler was a

friend or foe. In the gospel, our Lord identifies His purpose: to be the grain of wheat that dies and produces much fruit. Even though he was troubled and anxious, our Lord wanted to give glory to the Father above all things.

We were created with the purpose to know, love and serve God in this world so as to live with Him forever in the next. Has our life corresponded to that purpose? Or have we lost track and wandered away? Our Lord desires to bring us back to Himself and to raise us up from the graves we dug for ourselves that we may live. Our Lord didn't let anything get in the way of His purpose. May we re-dedicate ourselves to carrying out our purpose, being with Him.

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC)

#319 "What are the effects of the Sacrament of the Sick?"

This sacrament confers a special grace which unites the sick person more intimately to the Passion of Christ for his good and for the good of all the Church. It gives comfort, peace, courage, and even the forgiveness of sins if the sick person is not able to make a confession. Sometimes, if it is the will of God, this sacrament even brings about the restoration of physical health. In any case this Anointing prepares the sick person for the journey to the Father's House."

#320 "What is Viaticum?"

Viaticum is the Holy Eucharist received by those who are about to leave this earthly life and are preparing for the journey to eternal life. Communion in the Body and Blood of Christ who died and rose from the dead, received at the moment of passing from this world to the Father, is the seed of eternal life and the power of the resurrection."

Word of the Week: Antiphon - short verses sung before and after a psalm or canticle to determine its musical mode or to provide the key to the liturgical or mystical meaning. Antiphons may be from the psalm that follows, or from the mystery or feast, or mixed from both. Each Mass has an Entrance Antiphon and Communion Antiphon, but these are generally replaced by hymns.



Saint of the Week: Marcelo Callo (1921-1945) was born in France as one of nine children. He was a happy child and a natural leader. After completing his primary studies, he became a printer's apprentice at age 13.

When Marcel was 20 years old he fell in love with Marguerite Derniaux. It took him about a year to declare his love for Marguerite and four more months before they kissed for the first time. After getting engaged, they imposed a strict rule of spiritual life that included saying the same prayers, going to Mass, and receiving the Eucharist as often as possible. On March 8, 1943, World War II had taken over his city of Rennes. Marcelo was recruited to serve in a factory during the war. He organized a group, the Young Christian Worker, who did activities together such as sports or cards and put on plays. He galvanized his friends even though he suffered from painful boils, headaches and infected teeth. For his French friends, he organized a Mass to be celebrated in his native language. Eventually, his religious activities attracted the unwanted attention of German officials and was arrested and imprisoned in 1944 for being "too Catholic." Marcelo received the Eucharist secretly while in prison and continued to pray and help his fellow prisoners. He was considered dangerous to the Germans and was transferred to a different prison in Mathausen. He suffered from various ailments such as bronchitis, malnutrition, dysentery, fever, swelling (due to malnutrition and dehydration) and general weakness. He never complained. Despite his suffering, he encouraged his companions by saying, "It is in prayer that we find our strength." Saint John Paul II beatified Marcel Callo in 1987 as a martyr murdered out of hatred for the faith. Feast Day: 19 March.

Saint Quote of the Week: *"If I have waited until 20 years old to go out with a young lady, it is because I knew that I wanted to find real love. One must master his heart before he can give it to the one that is chosen for him by Christ."* - St. Marcelo Callo.



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.***

5th Sunday in Lent

The last two weeks in the season of Lent are called Passiontide which begins on the Fifth Sunday of Lent. This is when the Church shifts her focus from Christ in the desert (the Gospel for the First Sunday of Lent) to Christ during His Passion. During this period of Passiontide, you may have noticed that the crucifix and other statues and images around the church have been veiled with a purple cloth. In the Roman Missal we find the instruction, "In the Dioceses of the United States, the practice of covering crosses and images throughout the church begins with the fifth Sunday of Lent. Crosses remain covered until the end of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil."

Catholics around the Diocese are invited to continue a traditional devotion, visiting parish churches on Holy Thursday evening to pray before the Blessed Sacrament. More than 75 churches in the five counties of the Diocese of Allentown will be open during special evening hours for visitation and Adoration. **Sacred Heart Adoration will begin immediately after the Mass of the Lords Supper in the Parish Center concluding with Night Prayer at 10:00 PM.** Listed below is a listing of neighboring Churches Adoration Schedule for Holy Thursday. To see complete schedule please check your AD Times or website at: www.ad-today.com.

Holy Thursday Adoration Schedule at neighboring Churches:

Assumption B.V.M., Slatington: 8:00-9:30 PM.
St. Nicholas, Walnutport: 8:15-11:00 PM, Night Prayer 10:45 PM.
SS. Peter and Paul, Lehighton: 7:45-11:00 PM, Night Prayer 11:00 PM.
Immaculate Conception, Jim Thorpe: 8:00-10:00 PM, Night Prayer 10:00 PM
St. Joseph, Summit Hill: 7:45-10:00 PM, Night Prayer 10:00 PM.

Help to reengage Catholics who have fallen away from the faith by simply extending an invitation to them to come with you to Mass, Stations, Adoration, Confession. This simple gesture may be all it takes to welcome back a person who has been away. Don't be surprised at the positive response you may receive.

Bishop Schlert invites all the faithful of the Diocese to join him on Wednesday, March 27 at 10:30 AM for the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown. The Priests throughout the Diocese will renew their Priestly promises before the Bishop and the Oils of Baptism, Confirmation and Anointing of the Sick will be blessed. Participation in this Mass is a beautiful experience and shows support for all our Priests by the laity. If you would like to attend and are in need of transportation, please call the Rectory Office. The Rectory Office will be closed so our Staff can share in this Liturgy.

Lenten Reminders:

- Abstain from eating meat on Fridays of Lent.
- Fast, eat only 1 full meal on Good Friday.
- Plan to attend Stations of the Cross during Lent on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM or School Stations of the Cross on Mondays at 1:30 PM.
- Confessions are on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 7:00-8:00 AM; Saturdays from 4:00-4:45 PM and First Friday of the month 6:00-7:00 PM.
- **Catholics are obliged** to fulfill what has been called their "**Easter Duty.**" They are required to receive Holy Communion during the Easter time. This obligation can be fulfilled from the First Sunday of Lent until Trinity Sunday. Those conscious of serious sin are reminded of the obligation to confess their sins at least once a year during this time.

Did you know . . . The purpose of the penance given in the Sacrament of Penance? We cannot fully do anything ourselves to restore our relationship with God when we have sinned. Only Jesus could and did something by dying on the Cross at Calvary for our sins. It is Jesus who going to the Cross perfectly offered a sacrifice that could take away our sins when He offered His body upon the Cross. Just before we are absolved of our sins in the Sacrament of Penance, the priest gives us a "penance" to be done to take that step forward towards the Lord of reconnecting with the Father and Blessed Trinity through the suggested prayers given by the priest.

Join us Monday, **March 18** at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown, for a Lenten retreat event. Topic "**Holy**" by Fr. Trigilio. Schedule: 6:30-7:30 PM: adoration and confession; 7:30 PM: presentation and 8:00 PM refreshments.

The Lenten Obligation, as determined for Catholics in the United States by our Bishops, requires that fasting be observed on Good Friday. The Law of Abstinence is to be observed on all Fridays of Lent.

Who must fast?

All Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.

Who must abstain?

All Catholics 14 years and older.

Fasting means taking only one full meal. Two lighter meals (not equal to another full meal) may be taken to maintain strength according to one's needs.

Abstinence forbids eating meat, including poultry by all Catholics 14 years and older.

Catholics are also encouraged to make Lent a time of more intense prayer and to practice almsgiving and other works of charity. Parishioners are encouraged to participate in **Operation Rice Bowl** each week of Lent by having a sacrificial meal (something less than usual) and then share your savings with the poor through Operation Rice Bowl. 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.

Weekly Offering

3/16-3/17: In Support of the Parish

Second Collection: Easter Flowers

3/24-3/25: In Support of the Parish

Attendance weekly goal: 450

Actual 3/9-3/10: 270



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.

FLEA MARKET *We will have our first drop off on April 1 at 5:00 PM* in the church parking lot.

We will **NOT BE ACCEPTING** the following: single mugs, stuffed animals, single glasses, men's suits, single dishes and electronics. **We will accept any** unwanted Christmas gifts and gift cards that you received that you will not use. If it is possible for you, please place your donated items in boxes. Flea Market is scheduled for Friday, June 21 through Sunday June 23, 2024. If you have any questions, please contact Bernice Borowski at: 610-392-0625 between 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM.



Deadline to complete the DMI survey is March 27. Please visit our website at: shcpalmerton.org or open your cell phone camera and focus on the **QR Code** (box above) and website link will

be revealed. Click the link and begin the survey.

If you prefer a paper copy, you may pick up your survey in the Parish Center. To submit the completed survey, please drop off in the box located in the Parish Center by Friday, March 22. Computers are also available for those who don't have access to a computer and would like to complete online. Please call the Rectory Office to schedule. The Diocese is asking all active parishioners to participate in the survey. Your input helps strengthen our parish. Results help leadership prepare for the future. Questions, please call the Rectory Office.

SJNRS announces New Pre-K Program for the Fall (2024-2025). This program is open to all children who will be 3-4 years of age on or before September 1, 2024. Students will have the option to attend full or half days. Enroll today call: 610-826-2354.

Consider giving your child the gift of a catholic education. SJNRS is accepting applications for Kindergarten. Children who will be age 5 on or before October 15, 2024 are eligible to register. **Also accepting** applications 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.

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.

Suggestions for a Meaningful Lent:

- Pray by name for someone who has hurt you.
- Pray for people you see, hear or read about experiencing hardships or offer your assistance.
- Take 5 minutes a day in quiet to let the Lord speak to you.
- Fast from gossip.
- Pray the rosary for the intention of peace.

We're selling Gertrude Hawk Chocolates

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High School Ministry will be selling Gertrude

Hawk Candy Bars after Mass this weekend. **Cost \$2.00 per bar.**



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IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

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