

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 24, 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
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 Maintenance Committee	Jim Matsko
Bereavement Sharers	Olivia Erickson	Sacred Heart Helping Hands	Rectory Office
Bible Study/Prayer Group/ Prayer Chain	Peg Duell	Vocation Promoter	Rectory Office
C.A.C.P.A.C. Cemetery	Sue Steigerwalt / Lori Nemeth Frank Hager	Catholic Charities:	Tom Miller 610-435-1541 ext. 374
Choir/Music Liaison	Joann Kercsmar	Protecting God's Children Safe Environment Coordinator	Pamela Russo 610-871-5200, ext. 2204
Disability Advocates	Marian Carty	Victim Assistance Coordinator	Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC800-791-9209
Financial Council	Joe Koma		
Funeral Luncheon Committee	Roseann Heydt/Peg Duell		
High School Ministry	Tricia Matsko		
Knights of Columbus	Joe Koma		
Men of Good News	Ed Sidleck		
Palmerton Festival	Dana Massey		
Pastoral Council	Jerome Scarpati Lisa Kistler		

Allegations of abuse against a Bishop, contact Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at:
www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or
call: 1-800-276-1562.

March 24 – Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord



- 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
- Monday 8:30 AM (March 25):** Parishioners of Sacred Heart
- No Daily Mass Wednesday, March 27th
Join Bishop Schlert at
Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown
Chrism Mass 10:30 AM*
- Wednesday (March 27) 6:30 PM** Stations of the Cross followed by Altar Server Rehearsal
- Thursday (March 28): Holy Thursday 7:00 PM** Deceased Pastors and Assistant Pastors of Sacred Heart Church
- Friday (March 29): Good Friday 3:00 PM** Passion Service
- Saturday (March 30): Easter Vigil 8:00 PM** All living and deceased parishioners
- Sunday (March 31): Easter Sunday 9:30 AM** All living and deceased parishioners

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 **Bruce Althouse and Gunter Thomas**. May they 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.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Reading I: Isaiah 50: 4-7

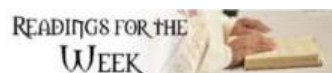
From the prophet's "Book of Comfort" section we find an obvious reference to Jesus, whose confidence remains even with His face covered in spittle.

Reading II: Philippians 2: 6-11

Paul quotes a beautiful hymn of his time which describes Christ's self-emptying and His exaltation. The hymn may have been in Aramaic.

The Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47 or 15: 1-39

Mark's gospel has been described as "A Passion narrative with a long introduction." He wrote to comfort his community sometime in the 60's AD before the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD.



- Monday:** Is 42:1-7 Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14
Jn 12:1-11
- Tuesday:** Is 49:1-6 Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17 Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
- Wednesday:** Is 50:4-9a Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 Mt 26:14-25
- Thursday Night:** Ex 12:1-8, 11-14 Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18. 1 Cor 11:23-26 Jn 13:1-15
- Friday:** Is 52:13-53:12 Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9
Jn 18:1-19:42
- Saturday:** Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ex 14:15-15:1; Is 54:5-14; Is 55:1-11; Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Rom 6:3-11; Mk 16:1-7
- Sunday:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Col 3:1-4 Jn 20:1-9



Sanctuary Candle:

Health of Terry O'Neil by wife
St. Joseph Altar (2):
John "Jack" DeSousa by Joann and Joe Kerckmar

NOTE: The Rectory Office will be closed on Wednesday, Good Friday, and Easter Monday. Will reopen Easter Tuesday for regular office hours of 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM.



All purebred donkeys are born with a cross on their back. A legend says it is the gift our Lord gave to the humble donkey that carried Him into Jerusalem. According to the legend, the little donkey so loved his Master that he followed Him to Calvary.

Grief-stricken at the sight, he turned away but remained at his station at the foot of the cross. The shadow of the Cross fell upon him and from that day all purebred donkeys wear the Master's Cross on their back.

As we enter Holy Week, may we too remain close to our Lord, so that His saving Cross may be marked upon our souls and we may persevere in hope on our journey with Him through good times and bad.

Holy Week Schedule:

Monday: 1:30 PM Stations of the Cross

Wednesday: 6:30 PM Stations of the Cross

Holy Thursday:

7:00 PM Mass with Washing of Feet

8:15 – 10 PM Adoration in Chapel

Good Friday:

3:00 PM Veneration of the Cross & Communion Service

Holy Saturday:

12 Noon Blessing of Easter Food Baskets

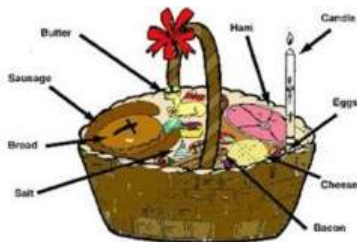
4:00-5:00 PM Confessions

8:00 PM Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday: 9:30 AM Easter Mass

Plan your schedule so you can participate in our Easter Triduum Liturgies. These 3 days are central to our faith life and rather than viewed as three unique events all three should be seen as a sharing in the suffering, death and Resurrection of Our Lord as one continuous remembrance.

Good Friday will be a day of Fast and Abstinence. For all those 14 years and older abstain totally from meat. For all between ages 18 to 59, there is a limit of one full meal on Good Friday.



We encourage all our families to participate in this tradition of bringing the food you will share with your family for Easter to

church at Noon on Holy Saturday for a special blessing. We discontinue our Lenten fasting and celebrate the joy of the Resurrection by sharing blessed foods with our loved ones.

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC)

#321 "What are the sacraments at the service of communion and mission?"

Two sacraments, Holy Orders and Matrimony, confer a special grace for a particular mission in the Church to serve and build up the People of God. These sacraments contribute in a special way to ecclesial communion and to the salvation of others."

#322 "What is the sacrament of Holy Orders?"

It is the sacrament through which the mission entrusted by Christ to his apostles continues to be exercised in the Church until the end of time."

#323 "Why is this sacrament called Holy Orders?"

Orders designates an ecclesial body into which one enters by means of a special consecration (ordination). Through a special gift of the Holy Spirit, this sacrament enables the ordained to exercise a *sacred power* in the name and with the authority of Christ for the service of the People of God."

#324 "What place does the sacrament of Holy Orders have in the divine plan of salvation?"

This sacrament was prefigured in the Old Covenant in the service of the Levites, in the priesthood of Aaron, and in the institution of the seventy "Elders" (*Numbers* 11:25). These prefigurations find their fulfillment in Christ Jesus who by the sacrifice of the cross is the "one mediator between God and man" (*1 Timothy* 2:5), the "High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek" (*Hebrews* 5:10). The one priesthood of Christ is made present in the ministerial priesthood.

"Only Christ is the true priest, the others being only his ministers." (Saint Thomas Aquinas)."

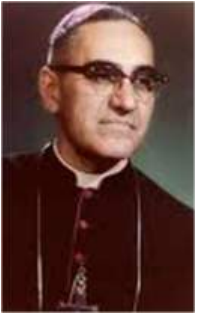
Word of the Week: Anti-Semitism - feeling of prejudice and hostility toward the Jews. On this subject the Second Vatican Council stated that the Catholic Church "deplores all hatreds, persecutions, displays of antisemitism leveled at any time or from any source against the Jews." The Jewish people are God's chosen people. They are our older brothers in the faith who have gifted us with a relationship with the one true God, our Father and safeguarded the Sacred Scriptures.



The Stations of the Cross:

Monday: 1:30 PM

Wednesday: 6:30 PM



Saint of the Week: Oscar Romero (1917-1980) was born in El Salvador. He entered the local seminary but then was ordained a priest in Rome in 1942 and the following year he returned to his country. In 1970 he was consecrated auxiliary bishop of El Salvador and appointed bishop of

Santiago de María in 1974. His work on behalf of the homeless never ceased. In 1975, faced with the continuous violations of human rights and murders of peasants by the army, he began his tenacious battle against the abuses of the State. In 1977 he was consecrated archbishop of El Salvador; From the pulpit he denounced the arbitrariness of the presidency of the republic and demanded clarification and an end to the murders and deportations of priests and lay people. The situation against the Church and society worsened every day. Bravely, in his homilies, he condemned the authorities. In 1978 he returned to Rome and obtained papal support for his crusade. Faced with government indifference, he did not hesitate to summon all the political, economic and social forces of the country and priests to achieve the reconstruction of the nation. On March 23, 1980, he delivered a brave homily in the cathedral addressed to the army and the police: ". . . nothing matters to me as much as human life. It is something so serious and so profound, more than the violation of any other human right," because it is the life of the children of God and because that blood does nothing but deny love, awaken new hatred, make reconciliation and peace impossible. What is most needed here today is a stop to repression! . . .," which led to him being murdered the next day while celebrating Mass. He was canonized in 2018. Feast Day: 24 March.

Saint Quote of the Week: *"There are many things that can only be seen through eyes that have cried."* - St. Oscar Romero.

"Each one of you has to be God's microphone. Each one of you has to be a messenger, a prophet. Let us not hide the talent that God gave us on the day of our baptism and let us truly live the beauty and responsibility of being a prophetic people." - St. Oscar Romero.

"Aspire not to have more, but to be more." - St. Oscar Romero.

Bishop Schlert invites all the faithful of the Diocese to join him this 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 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 on Wednesday.

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.

Catholics are 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 and then share your savings with the poor through Operation Rice Bowl. Place an envelope with your name in any collection 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.

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.

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.

Paschal Candle In memory of: DeSousa and Bohunicky families by Joann Kercksmar and John DeSousa

The Easter (or Paschal) Candle is located near the Baptismal Font, the exception being during the Easter season when it is placed next to the Ambo. Originating around the fourth century, this large Candle represents the Light of Christ and a new Paschal Candle is blessed and lit during each Easter Vigil. It is lit for every Baptism and the flame, the Light of Christ, is transferred to a candle given to the Baptized individual or to an adult family member when an infant is Baptized. The Candle is burned at every Mass during the Easter Season and will be lit at every Baptism and Funeral until next year's Easter Vigil.

FLEA MARKET We will be happy to accept your donations on Monday, April 1st 5:00 PM. Donations may be dropped off in the Church parking lot. As a reminder we will **NOT BE ACCEPTING** the following: single mugs, single glasses, single dishes, stuffed animals, men's suits, and electronics. We will be **accepting: books, puzzles, craft items, clothing, Christmas and kitchen items, jewelry, purses, CD's, DVD's and gift cards.** If 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.

Weekly Offering



3/23-3/24: In Support of the Parish

3/30-3/31: Easter

Second Collection: In Support of the Parish

Attendance weekly goal: 450

Actual 3/16-3/17: 301



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



Deadline to complete the online DMI survey is Wednesday, March 27.

Please take 10-15 minutes today to complete. 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. Computers are 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.

CYO Track and Field Registration. All registered students in our Parish in grades K-8 should contact Carolyn Gowin at: Carolyn.L.gowin@gmail.com to register for Track/Field immediately.

SJNRS announces New Pre-K Program for the Fall (2024-2025). All children who will be 3-4 years of age on or before September 1, 2024 are eligible to enroll. 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 2024-2025 school year for Grades K through 8th. Please contact Dr. Heery, Principal at: 610-826-2354 or email: office.sjnrschool@gmail.com for details.

SJNRS 8th Grade Class has **discounted Hershey Park Tickets** for the 2024 season. Ages 3 & up: \$46. Contact the School Office at: 610-826-2354 by 3/27.



High School Ministry will be selling Gertrude Hawk Candy Bars after Mass this weekend. **Cost \$2.00 per bar.**



Join us after 9:30 AM Mass today for coffee, donuts and fellowship in the Social Hall.



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IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

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