

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

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT
PEACE



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

December 8, 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
Steven Uhnak, Coordinator	
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

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	Sacred Heart Helping Hands	Rectory Office
Altar Servers	Father Mullins	Safety, Security and	
Bereavement Sharers	Olivia Erickson	Maintenance Committee	Jim Matsko
Bible Study/Prayer Group/ Prayer Chain	Peg Duell	Catholic Charities:	
C.A.C.P.A.C.	Sue Steigerwalt / Lori Nemeth	Tom Miller	610-435-1541 ext. 374
Cemetery	Frank Hager	Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator	
Choir/Music Liaison	Joann Keresmar	Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC:	800-791-9209
Disability Advocates	Marian Carty	Diocesan Office of Safe Environment Coordinator	
Financial Council	Joe Koma	Pamela Russo, M.S.W, M.S.	610-871-5200, ext. 2204
Funeral Luncheon Committee		Secretary Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services	
	Peg Duell	PO Box F, Allentown PA 18105-1538	
High School Ministry	Tricia Matsko	prusso@allentowndioocese.org	
Knights of Columbus	Joe Koma	Diocesan Youth Protection Programs	
Palmerton Festival	Dana Massey	www.allentowndioocese.org/the-diocese/youth-protection/	
	Jerome Scarpati	Allegations of abuse against a Bishop, contact Catholic	
Pastoral Council	Lisa Kistler	Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at:	
Pro Life Coordinator	Veronica Scarpati	www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or call: 1-800-276-1562.	

December 8– Second Sunday Of Advent



Saturday (December 7): First Saturday
8:30 AM Parishioners of Sacred Heart
5:00 PM Joseph and Barbara Mustacchio by Knights of Columbus

Sunday (December 8):
9:30 AM Marianne Berk by husband George

Monday (Dec. 9): Immaculate Conception
8:30 AM Parishioners of Sacred Heart
7:00 PM Helen Perich by Andress family

Wednesday (December 11):
8:30 AM George and Jean Halmi by a friend

Thursday (December 12):
8:30 AM Donald Hazzard, Sr. by daughter Mary
7:00 PM Mary Sander by Jaime Mendes

Friday (December 13):
8:30 AM Dick and Arlene Heiney by daughter Debbie

Saturday (December 14):
5:00 PM John "Jack" Porambo by wife and family

Sunday (December 15):
9:30 AM Andrew Homyak by Mary Ellen and Alice

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
By appointment, please call the Rectory Office.	



Please remember in your prayers our recently deceased, especially *Cecile Swolensky*. May she be welcomed into the company of the Saints and may our dear Lord comfort her family.

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, especially *Anne Silfies and Joe Koma*. 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: Baruch 5: 1-9

The setting here is the ceremony whereby Jerusalem mourns her lost children while in exile. The speaker offers hope and comfort because they are still the Lord's people. He will lead them in joy out of their captivity.

Reading II: Philippians 1: 4-6, 8-11

The community has a share in the joy of the gospel through their conversion, and their support of the Apostle. They have good standing with the Lord that comes through Christ.

The Gospel: Luke 3: 1-6

The story of the beginning of John the Baptist's ministry as prophet opens with a list of the major rulers at the time. St. Luke uses this to illustrate that John's announcement of the Messiah will have worldwide impact.



Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11 Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 Mt 18:12-14


Wednesday: Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Jud 13:18bcde, 19 Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Friday: Is 48:17-19 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 Phil 4:4-7 Lk 3:10-18



Sanctuary Candle:
Donald Hazzard by daughter Mary

Marian Altar:
Andrew and Irene Homyak by Mary Ellen and Alice.
Marianne Berk by husband George

December 8th is a Holy Day of Obligation, but because Sunday of Advent is a higher celebration, it is transferred to Monday. **Masses for the Holy Day on Monday, 9 December 2024 will be at 8:30 AM and 7:00 PM.**

12/14-15	Lector	EM	Altar Servers
5:00 PM	J. Kralik	Fr. Mullins/J. Uhnak	H. Werner
9:30 AM	K. Erickson	Fr. Mullins/D. Klitsch/T. Gades(choir)	A/C/D Gowin



John the Baptist prepared the way for our Lord by calling all to repentance. Repentance is more than

an expression of sincere regret or remorse about one's wrongdoing or sin. Repentance in the Bible requires one to turn from sin and dedicate oneself to the amendment of one's life. We are called to renounce the sin and anything that leads us into sin, and we are called to embrace God and His Will for us. It requires a 180 degree turn; turn away from sin and turn towards God. In so doing, one opens the doorway to God's grace and mercy. Christ gave to the Church a wondrous gift of mercy through the sacrament of Confession. By going to Confession, we enter in to humble ourselves and recognize our need. Confession separates us from our sins. We receive a prescription on how to avoid entering into the infirmity of sin again. In addition, we receive the assurance through the words of God's ambassador that our sins are forgiven.

To help all members of our parish enter into repentance, we will have three priests hearing Confessions on Monday, December 16th at 7:00 PM in the Church. A refresher on Confession Procedures: Forgive me Father for I have sinned, it has been approximately (state the amount of time 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 try not to sin again, and you need God's help); there are some acts of contrition written in the confessional room for you. 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.

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC)

#430 "Why does the Magisterium of the Church act in the field of morality?"

It is the duty of the Magisterium of the Church to preach the faith that is to be believed and put into practice in life. This duty extends even to the specific precepts of the natural law because their observance is necessary for salvation."

#431 "What purpose do the precepts of the Church have?" The five precepts of the Church are meant to guarantee for the faithful the indispensable minimum in the spirit of prayer, the sacramental life, moral commitment and growth in love of God and neighbor."

#432 "What are the precepts of the Church?" They are: 1) to attend Mass on Sundays and other holy days of obligation and to refrain from work and activities which could impede the sanctification of those days; 2) to confess one's sins, receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation at least once each year; 3) to receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season; 4) to abstain from eating meat and to observe the days of fasting established by the Church; and 5) to help to provide for the material needs of the Church, each according to his own ability."

#433 "Why is the Christian moral life indispensable for the proclamation of the Gospel?" Because their lives are conformed to the Lord Jesus, Christians draw others to faith in the true God, build up the Church, inform the world with the spirit of the Gospel, and hasten the coming of the Kingdom of God."

During Advent, Father will celebrate *an extra Mass on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM* in the Parish Center. Join him this Thursday, December 12.

Anyone who wants to learn more about our faith or desiring to grow deeper in our faith should join *Father Mullins in the Parish Center Tuesday, December 10, at 7:00 PM, for Catechesis for Adults.* All are welcome.

St. Joseph Missals are available in the Parish Center for \$5.

Oplatki (Christmas Wafers) are available in the Parish Center for \$3.00/pack (six wafers per pack).

The Bible Study/Prayer Group meets on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Parish Center. All are invited to attend. For info call Peg at: 610-826-8009.

Saint Quote of the Week: *"The cross is the true way to paradise; losing everything, but winning God."* - Blessed Arsenio of Trigolo.



Saint of the Week: Blessed Arsenio da Trigolo (1849-1909) Giuseppe Migliavacca was born in the Italian town of Trigolo. He entered the diocesan seminary in 1863 and was ordained a priest 11 years later. The

following year he joined the Society of Jesus, where he exercised his ministry until 1892, when a series of misunderstandings and his involvement in the dishonest actions of Josefina Fumagall - who wrongly directed the Sisters of Consolation - forced him to leave the Congregation. He continued his ministry in an itinerant manner as a preacher, confessor and catechist of lay people and nuns. He organized triduum, spiritual and Lenten exercises and retreats; he taught catechism and the sacraments. Despite everything, the Sisters of Consolation continued to respect him and asked him to act as their spiritual director. They also recognized him as Founder and accepted the charism given by Father Migliavacca: "To care for our neighbors, especially the orphans of phlegm, with spiritual and corporal works of mercy." Under his supervision, the Congregation expanded its number and coverage. The calumnies did not cease and, in 1902, he was asked to abandon all contact with the Sisters. Later, he joined the Capuchin Order, in Bergamo, where he took the name of Arsenio da Trigolo. In the face of adversity, Brother Arsenio exclaimed: "The cross is the true path to paradise" and "Lose everything, but gain God." He died of arteriosclerosis. He was beatified by Pope Francis in 2017. Feast day: 10 December.



Children, don't forget to put your extra shoe in the back Vestibule. The Feast of St. Nicholas was Friday, December 6

and we heard St. Nicholas will be visiting during Mass this weekend with a treat for children (up to age 12). Don't forget to pick up your shoe after Mass and see what treat you can take home.



At Mass next weekend, December 14-15, we will

celebrate "**Bambinelli Sunday**". Please place your Baby Jesus figure from your Manger on the Altar rail when you arrive. At the conclusion of Mass, Father Mullins will bless each Baby Jesus figure. Display your family Christmas Manger in a place where all can view it during the Christmas season.

Confession

Will be heard as follows:

Before daily Mass: 7:00 to 8:00 AM
 Thursdays: 6:00 to 6:45 PM
 Saturdays: 4:00 to 4:45 PM

Advent Confessions with multiple Priests	
Sunday, December 15 @ 3:00 PM Assumption BVM, Slatington 649 Washington Street	
Monday, December 16 @ 7:00 PM Sacred Heart Church	
Tuesday, December 17 @ 7:00 PM St. Nicholas, Walnutport 4412 Mountain View Drive	
<i>Mass Schedule</i>	
Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation):	
Feast Day 12/9:	8:30 AM and 7:00 PM
Christmas Eve 12/24:	4:00 and 7:00 PM
Christmas Day 12/25:	9:30 AM
Solemnity of Mary (Holy Day of Obligation):	
Eve 12/31/24:	5:00 PM
Day 1/1/2025	8:30 AM and 7:00 PM

Word of the Week: Basilica - an oblong building ending in a semicircular apse used in ancient Rome especially for a court of justice and place of public assembly. The design was later used in early Christian church building consisting of nave and aisles with clerestory and a large high transept from which an apse projects. In order for a church to be declared a basilica, it must be recommended to the Vatican, which then considers aspects of the church such as liturgy, sacraments, size, renown, beauty, mission and others in order to judge if the church is worthy of becoming a basilica. All basilicas have the privilege of being able to carry the ombrellino, the red and gold umbrella that historically was used to shade the pope, and the tintinnabulum, a bell on a pole, which would traditionally signify the approach of the pope. Today, these represent the earthly powers of the pope as well as the basilica's link to the pontiff. A basilica also has the right to add the crossed papal keys to its banners, furnishings, and seal. Along with these physical privileges, basilicas also have the responsibility of celebrating the feasts of the Chair of Peter (February 22), the Solemnity of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul (June 29), and the anniversary of the Pope's election or inauguration (April 19 or 24). The nearest one to us is the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

Weekly Collection

12/7-12/8: In Support of the Parish
Second Collection: Retirement for Religious
12/14-12/15: In Support of the Parish
Attendance weekly goal: 450
Actual 11/23-24: 307
Actual 11/30-12/1: 299

Our second collection helps support those who have given a lifetime. Women and men religious have dedicated their lives to service—praying, teaching and caring for those in need—usually for little to no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your donation provides for the essential care, medicine and daily needs of thousands of senior women and men religious. Thank you in advance for your support.



Did you know Sacred Heart provides **Online Giving**. To create your account, go to: www.shcpalmerton.org and click on the **online giving icon**.

Please Note: Parish financial records for 2024 tax reporting purposes will close December 31, 2024. 2024 Contribution Statements will include donations received by December 31. We ask those who have back envelopes to place them in an upcoming Collection to be included in your 2024 Statement. Your stewardship is important and appreciated.



Giving Tree Gifts are due next Sunday, December 15. Please return your gift(s) with the tag on the package and place it under the tree. Thank you to all who participated. These gifts bring light and hope to those in need.

Are you interested in a **Mother's Support Group** that will meet once a month? We can have various activities for the children, but also give young mothers an opportunity to gather, share and support one another and grow in the faith. Contact Father Mullins, if interested providing three preferences for the desired time and day to meet.



St. John Neumann Regional School
Come and See what we are all about
Accepting applications for enrollment
For information call: 610-826-2354

All are welcome to attend the Ecumenical Advent Service at the "Little White Church:" Sunday, 12/8 at 3:00 PM.



Last Chance get your \$5 RAFFLE ticket for the Indoor/Outdoor Nativity Set. The winning ticket will be drawn today, Sunday, December 8, 3:30 PM (following BINGO). **You need not be present to win.**



Looking for something special to give that hard to shop for person on your list. Why not enjoy a Sunday afternoon of fun and quality time with that person(s) by purchasing a BINGO gift certificate (\$25 value). Skip the crowded malls and give us a call at 610-826-2335 or stop by the Rectory Office today!



Today Sunday, December 8—Parish Social Hall. Doors and Kitchen open 12:00 Noon. Bingo starts 1:00 PM.
Cost: \$25. Proceeds benefit Sacred Heart Church.



Next Saturday, December 14, after the 5:00 PM Mass in the Parish Social Hall/Gym. We will be showing the movie "**The Star,**" an animated story of the Nativity as seen from the perspective of the animals who were there.

Please Note: Help is needed next Sunday, December 22 after the 9:30 AM Mass to help bring in the Christmas trees and decorations from the shed to prepare our Church for the coming of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Questions call Cass Chies at: 414-515-7319.

2025 Calendars are available at all Church exits. Please take a calendar as you leave Mass today. We express our gratitude to the Schisler family and Campton Funeral Home for generously sponsoring the calendars for our Parish each year.



CACPAC is sponsoring the annual Palmerton and Surrounding Area Toy Drive for new toys or gift cards.

No used toys or stuffed animals. Please leave your donation, in the box located at the entrance to the Parish Center, **by December 12.** Distribution of toys, to help local families make their Christmas brighter, is scheduled for December 14.

Did you find a missal approximately 4x6 with a zipper vinyl cover embroidered with the Sacred Heart? Owner would be grateful if you could return it to the Church. Missal was a gift and has sentimental value to her. Thank you.



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IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

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