

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 2, 2025

PASTORAL & SUPPORT STAFF

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Office 610-826-2335

Steven Uhnak, Coordinator

St. John Neumann Regional School

Dr. Christopher Heery, Principal 610-826-2354
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

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 Kercsmar	Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC:	800-791-9209
Disability Advocates	Marian Carty	Diocesan Office of Safe Environment Coordinator	
Funeral Luncheon Committee	Peg Duell	Pamela Russo, M.S.W, M.S.	610-871-5200, ext. 2204
High School Ministry	Tricia Matsko	Secretary Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services	
Knights of Columbus	Marty DeSousa	PO Box F, Allentown PA 18105-1538	
Palmerton Festival	Dana Massey	prusso@allentowndiocese.org	
Pro Life Coordinator	Jerome Scarpati	Diocesan Youth Protection Programs	
	Veronica Scarpati	www.allentowndiocese.org/the-diocese/youth-protection/	

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

March 2 – Eighth Sunday In Ordinary Time

MASS Intentions

Saturday 8:30 AM	(March 1) First Saturday Manuel R. Amorim by Isolina and Bladino Mendes
5:00 PM	Tony Massey by Carolyn Miskevish
Sunday 9:30 AM	(March 2) The Homyak and Wilk families by Mary Ellen and Alice
Monday 8:30 AM	(March 3) Joe Koma by Eileen and Ed Robinson
Wednesday 8:30 AM	(March 5) Ash Wednesday Mary Berk by son George
Noon:	Service
7:00 PM	Manuel R. Amorim by Dias family
Thursday 8:30 AM	(March 6) Tony Massey by Phill and Rosanne Samuels-Liszka
Friday 8:30 AM	(March 7) First Friday Living and deceased members of Slovak Catholic Sokols
Saturday 5:00 PM	(March 8) Peter Haja, Sr. by wife Helen and sons
Sunday 9:30 AM	(March 9) Parishioners of Sacred Heart

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 **Joe Kerckmar**. May he be welcomed into the company of the Saints and may our dear Lord comfort his 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 **Gail Sander Hamm**. 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: Sirach 27: 4-7

A person's reasoning and conversations will reflect his or her true values. Their quality will come through mostly when they experience tribulation.

Reading II: I Corinthians 15: 54-58

St. Paul calls upon us to glorify God through our bodies. Death will be robbed of both its sting and victory over us by our efforts to resist sin.

The Gospel: Luke 6: 39-45

It is foolish to correct others for their faults when we have the same or worse. Contrasting "splinter" with "beam" dramatizes the point. Our hearts are really the place where our moral decisions are made.



Monday:	Sir 17:20-24 Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday:	Sir 35:1-12 Ps 50:5-6, 7-8, 14, 23 Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Lk 5:27-32
Sunday:	Dt 26:4-10 Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 Rom 10:8-13 Lk 4:1-13



ADORATION
of the
BLESSED
SACRAMENT

First Friday of the Month,
March 7, 2025.
4:00 to 7:00 PM
Confessions 6:00 to 7:00 PM.



LIGHT A
CANDLE
FOR YOUR
SPECIAL
INTENTIONS

Sanctuary Candle:
Terry O'Neil by wife.

Marian Altar

Andrew and Irene Homyak by Mary Ellen and Alice

St. Anthony:

In thanksgiving to St. Anthony for his continued intercession by a soul.

ASH WEDNESDAY – March 5			
	Lector	EM/Ash Distributor	Altar Servers
8:30 AM	SJNRS	Fr. Mullins/G. Berk	SJNRS
Noon Service		Fr. Mullins/J. Kralik	
7:00 PM	K. Erickson	Fr. Mullins/L. Koons	L. Matsko/C. Sebelin
3/8-3/9	Lector	EM	Altar Servers
5:00 PM	J. Kralik	Fr. Mullins/M. Carty	M/N Cuyler
9:30 AM	K.. Erickson	Fr. Mullins/G. Berk/S. Miller (choir)	J/JScarpati



The Liturgical season of Lent is approaching. Repent and believe in the Gospel! These 40 days of Lent reflect the time our Lord spent 40 days fasting in the desert, preparing Himself for His ministry while

being tempted by Satan. During this time, we are called to enter deeper into prayer and sacrifice as we remember the sufferings of our Lord who died out of love for us. May we fortify ourselves with God's grace that we may resist temptations and win the victory with Christ.

**Ash Wednesday: 8:30 AM and 7:00 PM Masses
12:00 PM Ashes Service**

- Ash Wednesday is a day of abstinence. Do not eat meat or poultry this day.
- Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting. Eat only one full meal today; only if necessary you may also have two small snacks.
- Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence. Do not eat any meat or poultry.
- Stations of the Cross every Thursday at 6:30 PM.
- Confessions: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 7:00-8:00 AM; Saturdays 4:00-4:45 PM.
- Rice Bowl Meals - suggested simple meals to take each day and use money saved to help feed the poor.

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC)

#462 "Are family bonds an absolute good?"

Family ties are important but not absolute, because the first vocation of a Christian is to follow Jesus and love him: "He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." (*Matthew 10:37*). Parents must support with joy their children's choice to follow Jesus in whatever state of life, even in the consecrated life or the priestly ministry."

#463 "How should authority be exercised in the various spheres of civil society?" Authority should always be exercised as a service, respecting fundamental human rights, a just hierarchy of values, laws, distributive justice and the principle of subsidiarity. All those who exercise authority should seek the interests of the community before their own interest and allow their decisions to be inspired by the truth about God, about man and about the world."

#464 "What are the duties of citizens in regard to civil authorities?" Those subject to authority should regard those in authority as representatives of God and offer their loyal collaboration for the right functioning of public and social life. This collaboration includes love and service of one's homeland, the right and duty to vote, payment of taxes, the defense of one's country and the right to exercise constructive criticism."

#465 "When is a citizen forbidden to obey civil authorities?" A citizen is obliged in conscience not to obey the laws of civil authorities when they are contrary to the demands of the moral order: "We must obey God rather than men" (*Acts of the Apostles 5:29*)."

Word of the Week: Bible - The collection of books accepted by Christian churches as the authentic, inspired record of the revelations made to mankind by God about himself and his will for men. It is divided into the Old Testament and the New Testament to distinguish between the Jewish tradition and the Christian. In the New Testament, the Old is generally spoken of as "the Scriptures" or "the sacred writings" (*Matthew 21:42*). Gradually the word has been used in the singular and "Scripture" has become a synonym for the Bible (*Acts 8:32*). "Testament" has the meaning of "covenant" with reference to the two covenants God established with his people in each period of human history.



Saint of the Week: Katharine Drexel (1858-1955): Was born in Philadelphia into a wealthy family. Her father was an international banker but her mother also revealed the importance of charity, opening up her home to the poor three days each week. Katharine received an excellent education and they traveled widely. As a rich girl, Katharine also had a grand debut into society. But when she nursed her stepmother through a three-year terminal illness, she saw that all the Drexel money could not buy safety from pain or death, and her life took a profound turn. Katharine had always been interested in the plight of the Indians, having been appalled by what she read in Helen Hunt Jackson's *A Century of Dishonor*. While on a European tour, she met Pope Leo XIII and asked him to send more missionaries to Wyoming for her friend Bishop James O'Connor. The pope replied, "Why don't YOU become a missionary?" His answer shocked her into considering new possibilities. Back home, Katharine visited the Dakotas, met the Sioux leader Red Cloud and began her systematic aid to Indian missions. Katharine Drexel could easily have married, but after much discernment she decided to dedicate "the remainder of my life to the Indians and the Colored." Newspaper headlines screamed "Gives Up Seven Million!" After three and a half years of training, Mother Drexel and her first band of nuns—Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored—opened a boarding school in Santa Fe. A string of foundations followed. By 1942, she had a system of black Catholic schools in 13 states, plus 40 mission centers and 23 rural schools. Segregationists harassed her work, even burning a school in Pennsylvania. In all, she established 50 missions for Indians in 16 states. Her crowning achievement was the founding of Xavier University in New Orleans, the first Catholic university in the United States for African Americans. At 77, Mother Drexel suffered a heart attack and was forced to retire. But then came almost 20 years of quiet, intense prayer from a small room overlooking the sanctuary. Small notebooks and slips of paper record her various prayers, ceaseless aspirations, and meditations. She died at 96 and was canonized in 2000. Feast Day: 3 March.

If you want to learn more about our faith or desiring to grow deeper in our faith, plan to join **Father Mullins on Tuesday, March 4, at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center**. All are welcome.

Saint Quote of the Week: *"Christ wishes the Christian Community to be a body that is perfect because we work together towards a single end, and the higher the motive which actuates this collaboration the higher, no doubt, will be the union. Now the end in question is supremely exalted: the continuous sanctification of the Body for the glory of God and the Lamb that was slain [Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament]."* – St. Katharine Drexel

Safe Haven Sunday: Equipping the Family, Safeguarding Children. The family home is to be a safe haven. But the inappropriate use of technology in the home deprives it of this role, and is the greatest threat to the sanctity of marriages and families today. Pornography and other online threats are often one click away, and parents can feel overwhelmed with not knowing how to best protect their children in our fast-paced digital world. Next weekend, (March 8 and 9), we will take steps to help families by celebrating Safe Haven Sunday. This awareness day will provide access to practical resources that any caring adult can use to protect themselves and our young people from online risks. Please join us with your prayers and presence as we prepare for this unique event. To learn more, contact Father Mullins.

Mothers mark your calendar for next Saturday, March 8. The Mother's Support Group will meet in the Parish Center at 10:00 AM. Questions contact Father Mullins at 610-826-2335.

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.



Save the dates for our Third Annual Flea Market Fundraiser, **Friday, June 20 through Sunday June 22, 2025**. Also, save your unwanted gift cards that you received. We will gladly take them. Watch for upcoming info including drop-off dates for donations, volunteer opportunities, etc. in upcoming Bulletins. Contact Bernice Borowski at: 610-392-0625 between 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM with questions.

Retreat with Fr. John Frink. Take a pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes from June 7-16, 2026 under the spiritual direction of Fr. John Frink. Visit: <https://www.206tours.com/cms/frfrink/> to view detailed itinerary, pricing information, and to book.

Weekly Collection

3/1-3/2:	In Support of the Parish
3/8-3/9:	In Support of the Parish
Attendance weekly goal:	450
Actual 2/15-16 (snowed)	173
Actual 2/22-23:	311



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



Thank you to all who supported the 2024 Because We are Catholic Annual Appeal. We received a check for \$566 representing the 25% return on every dollar raised above the parish goal.. Parish goal: \$22,195. Amount collected: \$24,460. Again, thank you for your support and dedication to the needs of God's people.

"Where is God Calling You?" Vocations Retreat. April 12: 10:00 AM-3:00 PM at St. Mary's Church in Kutztown. Everyone needs a vocations retreat! Join us for a day of prayer, contemplation, and community. Whichever vocation you're discerning (priesthood, married life, consecrated life or single life), we're here to support you. This retreat will allow you to encounter speakers from all these callings and give you a space to listen to God's voice in exploring your vocation. Questions contact Zelenda Hodgskin: zhodgskin@allentowndiocese.org or register at: <https://allentowndiocese/flocknote.com/signup/195281>.

Come and See Weekend at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. Men ages 15+ are invited to a "Come and See" weekend at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Ambler, PA on Friday, March 14 to Sunday, March 16. If you are open to discerning the Lord's call to the holy priesthood, this is a great opportunity to see where future priests study, pray and live throughout their formation! The weekend will include Mass on Saturday and Sunday, prayer time and adoration of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. There is also ample time for recreation, visiting a local shrine, getting to know current seminarians and other young men considering the priesthood. For details or to register: <https://www.allentowndiocese.org/come-and-see-weekend>.

Calling all Men: Join us on Saturday, March 8 (or any other upcoming Saturday) to take part in Spiritual Combat! The program, **"Into the Breach"** discusses the confrontations facing us, how to recognize the enemy and fight back to protect our souls and our families. We meet at 8:00 AM in the Parish Center every Saturday until Palm Sunday.

SJNRS 2025-2026 School Year.

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To learn more call 610-826-2354.

SJNRS CYO Track and Field signups open to all students of SJNRS or active members of a Catholic Parish in Grades K through 8th. We enjoy introducing students to track and field events in a family friendly, faith encouraging setting. We practice at Palmerton High School facilities on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays starting in late March at 6:00 PM. We participate in CYO track and field meets at Notre Dame High School, Easton. Fee \$25 includes a shirt. Contact Carolyn Gowin by March 20 to sign-up at: 610-751-3744.



Next Sunday, March 9, 2025

Parish Social Hall. Cost: \$25. Doors and Kitchen open at 12:00 Noon. Bingo starts 1:00 PM.



Need a gift? \$25 BINGO gift certificates available at the Rectory Office. Call 610-826-2335

Join the Palmerton Area Historical Society Tuesday, March 4, at 6:30 PM at the Little White Church for **"A Wee Bit of Scottish Madness."** A bagpipe program.

Marian Blue and Gold Raffle: Win a 3 minute shopping spree at Boyer's in Tamaqua. Tickets \$10. Email: bgc@mariancatholic.org to purchase. Other prizes to be awarded Boyers Gift Cards: 2nd Prize: \$100, 3rd Prize: \$50 and 4th Prize: \$25. Drawing on April 5.



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PHILLY SPIN-IN

RIDE FOR LITTLE HEARTS

Saturday & Sunday
March 8-9, 2025

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Philly Spin-In Ambassador, Luca, 6, dreams of becoming a personal trainer - or flying like *Iron Man*.



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