

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

April 6, 2025

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
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

Altar Servers

Bereavement Sharers

Bible Study/Prayer Group/

Prayer Chain

C.A.C.P.A.C.

Cemetery

Choir/Music Liaison

Disability Advocates

Funeral Luncheon Committee

High School Ministry

Knights of Columbus

Palmerton Festival

Pro Life Coordinator

Cass Chies

Father Mullins

Olivia Erickson

Peg Duell

Sue Steigerwalt / Lori Nemeth

Frank Hager

Joann Kercsmar

Marian Carty

Peg Duell

Tricia Matsko

Marty DeSousa

Dana Massey

Jerome Scarpati

Veronica Scarpati

Sacred Heart Helping Hands

Safety, Security and

Maintenance Committee

Rectory Office

Jim Matsko

Catholic Charities:

Tom Miller

610-435-1541 ext. 374

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC: 800-791-9209

Diocesan Office of Safe Environment Coordinator

Pamela Russo, M.S.W., M.S. 610-871-5200, ext. 2204

Secretary Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services

PO Box F, Allentown PA 18105-1538

prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Diocesan Youth Protection Programs

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.

April 6 – Fifth Sunday Of Lent

MASS Intentions

Saturday	(April 5) First Saturday
8:30 AM	Jack Schrader – 1 year anniversary by Kathleen Liggitt and Lori Schrader
5:00 PM	Parishioners of Sacred Heart
Sunday	(April 6)
9:30 AM	Tina Nanovic by Mike and Liz Ozalas
Monday	(April 7)
8:30 AM	Joe Kerckmar by Amelia Amorim
Wednesday	(April 9)
8:30 AM	Parishioners of Sacred Heart
Thursday	(April 10)
8:30 AM	Deacon Bill and Irene Pitts by Father Hutta and family
Friday	(April 11)
8:30 AM	Ludevit and Helen Uhnak by daughter Helen Haja
Saturday	(April 12) Palm Sunday
5:00 PM	Anita Harry by family
Sunday	(April 13)
9:30 AM	Lourdes and Francisco by Maria Dias

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.

Multiple Confessors:

Sunday, April 6 @ 3:00 PM at Assumption BVM
 649 W. Washington Street, Slatington.



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.



Monday: 1:30 PM
 SJNRS students
Thursday: 6:30 PM

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Reading I: Isaiah 43: 16-21

The prophet foretells of a deliverance from the Babylonian exile which he poetically describes as a new exodus.

Reading II: Philippians 3: 8-14

Paul renounces his former life and tells his readers that he is now dedicated to living a new one in Christ. He "presses on," comparing the life of faith to a race.

The Gospel: John 8: 1-11

Jesus avoids the trap set by His usual opposition. By bending down to write on the ground. He teaches the woman's accusers and us also to "bend low" in humility to examine ourselves before we ever address the faults of someone else.



Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62
Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9 Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21
 Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 Jn 8:31-42
Thursday: Gen 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 Lk 22:14-23:56

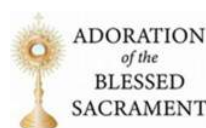
Candle Intentions:

Sanctuary Candle:

Gail Sander Hamm by Teresa and Joe Amorim.

Marian Altar:

Andrew and Irene Homyak by Mary Ellen and Alice.



ADORATION
 of the
 BLESSED
 SACRAMENT

First Friday of the month

4:00 to 7:00 PM
 Confessions 6:00 to 7:00 PM

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.

Ministry Schedule next weekend:			
4/12-4/13	Lector	EM	Altar Servers
5:00 PM	J. Kralik K. Erickson	Fr. Mullins/M. Carty	H. Werner/D. Erickson
9:30 AM	J. Dobias L. Koons	Fr. Mullins/D. Klitsch/S. Miller (choir)	B/S Goodbred/C. Davis



This Fifth Sunday of Lent marks the beginning of Passiontide, a deeper time of Lent. This is the final Sunday of Lent before the beginning of Holy Week. In the Dioceses of the United States, the practice of covering crosses and images throughout the church from this Sunday may be observed. Crosses remain covered until the end of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, but other images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil. It is an act of fasting, to remove distractions and focus our attention solely on Jesus. As part of the Easter celebrations, we remove the coverings as a way to show that the light of the risen Christ reveals the fullness and beauty within the church.

Operation Rice Bowl: Fifty years ago, Catholics in the Diocese of Allentown organized to bring help to families facing famine in Africa. That help came in the form of a small cardboard box, marking the beginning of "Operation Rice Bowl." This year, we celebrate CRS Rice Bowl's 50th anniversary, the program is a tradition for millions of Catholics in the United States who continue to answer the Gospel call, supporting families experiencing hunger around the world. Go to: <https://www.crsricebowl.org/> to learn more or donate; you can also donate via our cardboard boxes by the church doors and return them during Holy Week services.

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC)

#480 "What does the Lord ask of every person in regard to peace?"

The Lord proclaimed, "*Blessed* are the peacemakers" (*Matthew* 5:9). He called for peace of heart and denounced the immorality of anger which is a desire for revenge for some evil suffered. He also denounced hatred which leads one to wish evil on one's neighbor. These attitudes, if voluntary and consented to in matters of great importance, are mortal sins against charity."

#481 "What is peace in this world?"

Peace in this world, which is required for the respect and development of human life, is not simply the absence of war or a balance of power between adversaries. It is "the tranquility of order" (Saint Augustine), "the work of justice" (*Isaiah* 32:17) and the effect of charity. Earthly peace is the image and fruit of the peace of Christ."

#482 "What is required for earthly peace?"

Earthly peace requires the equal distribution and safeguarding of the goods of persons, free communication among human beings, respect for the dignity of persons and peoples, and the assiduous practice of justice and fraternity."



Saint of the Week: Julie Billiart

(1751-1816 AD) was born in France as the daughter of farmers. When she was 30 years old, she came down with a strange illness. Shortly after,

she witnessed an attempt on her father's life. The trauma from the incident resulted in complete paralysis which lasted for 22 years. For part of that time, she also experienced a great difficulty in speaking. Julie offered all her pain and suffering to God. From her bed, she taught catechism for twenty years. She gave spiritual advice to those who came to visit. She offered her home as a hiding place for priests during the French Revolution. During this time, she received a vision: she saw her crucified Lord surrounded by religious women dressed in a habit she had never seen before. An inner voice told her that these would be her daughters and that she would begin an institute for the Christian education of young girls. She became the co-founder of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in 1803. In 1804, she was miraculously cured of her illness and walked again for the first time in 22 years. Eventually, she became the Mother General of the Congregation and opened a variety of schools in France and Belgium serving the poor and the wealthy. Feast: 8 April.

Saint Quote of the Week: *"How good is our good God, who watches over us continually, and never permits anything to happen to us that is not for our greater good."* – St. Julie Billiart.

"Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, for all the people you can, while you can." – St. Julie Billiart.

Word of the Week: Blasphemy – a grave sin against charity towards God; it involves speaking against God in a contemptuous, scornful, or abusive manner. Included under blasphemy are offenses committed by thought, word, or action. Serious contemptuous ridicule of the saints, sacred objects, or of persons consecrated to God is also blasphemous because God is indirectly attacked. It becomes a mortal sin when one uses blasphemous expressions and realizes the contemptuous meaning of what he says or does.

Lenten Practices:

- Abstain from eating meat on Fridays of Lent.
- Fast (eat only 1 full meal) on Good Friday.
- Attend Stations of the Cross:
School Stations Mondays at 1:30 PM and/or Thursdays at 6:30 PM.
- Confessions: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays: 7:00 AM and Saturdays: 4:00-4:45 PM.
- Lenten Confessions with extra priests: April 6: 3:00 PM at Assumption BVM, Slatington.

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 or 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.

Adult Catechesis: If you want to learn more about our faith or desiring to grow deeper in our faith, plan to join **Father Mullins on Tuesday, April 8, at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center.** All are welcome.

Calling all Men: It's not too late to join us this Saturday, April 12 at 8:00 AM in the Parish Center for our last discussion 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.



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 April 17, 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.

Do you want to be better prepared for Sunday Mass? **Wednesday at 10 AM in the Parish Center** will provide you with in-depth information about Sunday readings. Just bring yourself.

Seder Supper: Tuesday, April 8 at 6:00 PM at Queen of Peace, Brodheadsville. All are invited to attend. For food preparation planning, please call to register at: 610-681-6137.

Save the date! Vince's Cheesesteak Food Truck will be in our Church parking lot on Wednesday, April 23 from 1:00 to 7:00 PM. Come and enjoy your favorite cheesesteak! Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus Council #2522 is hosting this event.

Photo Directory: There is a limited supply of Photo Directories available to anyone who would like to receive one. Please stop by the Rectory Office to get your copy today.



Do you attend Mass here – but haven't registered yet? Give Father Mullins a call at the Rectory at 610-826-2335 to register. It's very easy and a great way to get involved. New Parishioners are always welcome!

To be eligible to be a Sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation you must be an active, registered parishioner, minimum of 3 months, who is:

- Fully Initiated (received Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.)
- Minimally 16 years of age.
- Attends Mass regularly on Sundays and Holy Days.
- If living together, must be married through the Catholic Church.
- Supporting your Church to the best of your ability.

Weekly Collection

4/5-4/6: In Support of the Parish
4/12-4/13: In Support of the Parish

Attendance weekly goal: 450
Actual 3/29-3/30: 318



Have you considered **On-line Giving?** If interested go to: www.shcpalmerton.org and click on the online giving icon.



SJNRS – 2025-2026 School Year

Accepting applications for PreK through Grade 8. To learn more call: 610-826-2354.

SJNRS Upcoming Events:

SJNRS to host a Yard Sale & Eco Fest on April 12, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the school gym and parking lot. The event will feature secondhand shopping, eco-friendly vendors, and locally sourced food, with proceeds supporting the school. Don't miss this chance to shop, learn, and give back! For info to rent a yard sale space, contact Mrs. Wallace at: 484-225-8295 or ericaheery@yahoo.com.

Saturday, May 10: 11:00 AM–2:00 PM: Mother's Day Tea and Art Show. FMI call: 610-826-2354.

Podcast for Catholic Parents: The Allentown Diocese Office of Education has started the "Ready, Willing & Able" podcast for Catholic parents. The podcast offers content which will support and empower parents as primary educators of the faith for their children. Host Genevieve O'Connor has an MTS in Moral Theology from the University of Notre Dame, and she invites a series of guests to explore a wide range of topics, including: family prayer, modesty, and bringing the liturgy alive for kids. Listen to "Ready, Willing and Able" on its website at: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/2410685>, or look it up on your favorite podcast streaming platform.

Young Adults (18-35): Vocation 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. Date: Friday, April 12. Time: 10 AM – 3 PM. Location: St. Mary's Church in Kutztown. Email Zelenda at: Zhodgskin@AllentownDiocese.org.

Mothers save the date, Saturday, April 12 for the next Mother's Support Group get together in the Parish Center at 10:00 AM. Questions contact Father Mullins at 610-826-2335.

Young Adults: Iron Pigs Night. Join for the Iron Pigs vs Syracuse Mets on April 10th at 6:45 PM! We will be on the patio which includes a buffet: food, drinks and new friends! \$20 each, max 60 people, \$5 parking not included. Contact Zelenda via email at: Zhodgskin@AllentownDiocese.org.



NEW!! Vision Loss Support Group. Will start up after Easter. If you know anyone who might be interested please contact the Rectory Office at: 610-826-2335.



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. Contact Bernice Borowski at: 610-392-0625 between 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM with questions.

"His Mercy Endures: Harboring Hope for the Fallen-Away" is the theme of the second annual St. Monica Ministry weekend retreat held on Friday, April 25 through Sunday, April 27 at the Peace Retreat House, Weatherly, PA. Weekend will be filled with various speakers, an "Irish Music Night," Friday Holy Hour, Saturday and Sunday Masses, a wine and cheese social, outdoor rosary, a Pietra fitness class, and an Art 'n' Soul collaging session. The retreat fee of \$225 includes two nights' accommodations plus all meals and incidentals. A Saturday-only option, including lunch, is \$50.



Next Sunday, April 13

Parish Social Hall. Cost: \$25. Doors and Kitchen open at 12:00 Noon. Bingo starts 1:00 PM. Join us for an afternoon of fun! Hope to see you on April 13!



Parish children (Fourth Grade and under) are invited to join us after 9:30 AM Mass next Sunday for our Easter Egg Hunt. Children will meet in the Parish Center immediately after Mass. P.S. Bring a basket or bag to collect your eggs!



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