

THE DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
SACRED HEART CHURCH

243 LAFAYETTE AVENUE ~ PALMERTON PA 18071

Rectory Office: 610-826-2335 • Fax: 610-826-5360

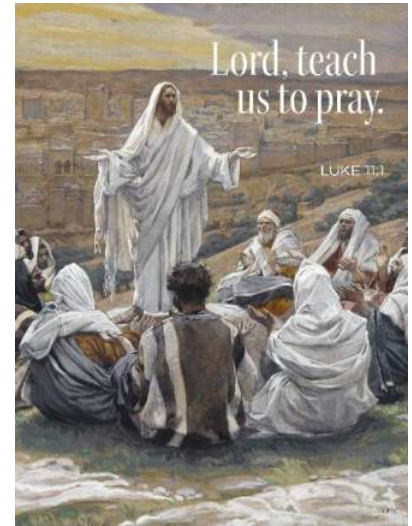
shpmtn@ptd.net • www.shcpalmerton.org

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."

Weekend Masses: **Saturday: 5:00 PM**
 Sunday: 9:30 AM



July 27, 2025

PASTORAL & SUPPORT STAFF

Reverend Michael Mullins	<i>Pastor</i>
Steven Uhnak	<i>Coordinator, Religious Education</i>
Owen Fitzgerald	<i>Summer Seminarian</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.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.

July 27 – Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time



Mass Intentions

Saturday	July 26
5:00 PM	Leo Puduah by daughter Dianne and Robert
Sunday	July 27
9:30 AM	Richard Frey by Phil and Sue Steigerwalt
Monday	July 28
8:30 AM	Joseph Kerckmar by Frank Hager and family
Wednesday	July 30
8:30 AM	Mary Santine by granddaughter Mary
Thursday	July 31
8:30 AM	Albert Gotz by Geri Citrone
Friday	August 1 First Friday
8:30 AM	Living and deceased members of Slovak Catholic Sokols
Saturday	August 2 First Saturday
8:30 AM	Murielle Andress by Carol
5:00 PM	Anthony Rezeli by wife Nancy
Sunday	August 3
9:30 AM	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 **Anna Theresa Hudanich**. 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 **Andy Krawchuk**. 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.

Adoration
of the
Blessed Sacrament



First Friday, August 1, 2025

4:00-7:00 PM

Confessions: 6:00-7:00 PM.



**Are you going to be traveling? Visit:
Masstimes.org for a Church near you!**

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Reading I: Genesis 18: 20-32

God is depicted in human like terms, as though He had to investigate Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham intercedes for Sodom by bargaining with the Lord.

Reading II: Colossians 2: 12-14

The Mosaic Law pronounced curses on sinners. But Jesus mounted the cross to bear these curses, so that the blessings of the New Covenant could flow to the world.

The Gospel: Luke 11: 1-13

The "Our Father" pattern Our Lord gives us has us first adoring God and only then petitioning Him. The word "us" throughout makes it a family prayer for the Church. A longer version of the prayer appears in Matthew 6: 9-13.



Monday:	Ex 32:15-24, 30-34 Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday:	Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28 Ps 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13 Jn 11:19-27
Wednesday:	Ex 34:29-35 Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9 Mt 13:44-46
Thursday:	Ex 40:16-21, 34-38 Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11 Mt 13:47-53
Friday:	Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37 Ps 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab Mt 13:54-58
Saturday:	Lv 25:1, 8-17 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 Mt 14:1-12
Sunday:	Ecc 1:2; 2:21-23 Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14



Sanctuary Candle:

Mary Santine by granddaughter Mary.



Pray for all Priests, Deacons and Seminarians. Ask God for new Vocations. Your continued prayers are needed and appreciated.

Good and gracious God, you have called us through Baptism to discipleship with your Son, Jesus Christ, and have sent us to bring the Good News of salvation to all peoples. We pray you to grant us more priests and religious to build up your Church within the Diocese of Allentown. Inspire our young men and women by the example of Saint Junipero Serra to give themselves totally to the work of Christ and His Church. We ask in the name of Jesus the Lord. AMEN.

8/2-8/3	Lector	EM	Altar Servers
5:00 PM	P. Duell/O. Fitzgerald	Fr. Mullins/M. Carty	H. Werner
9:30 AM	L. Koons/O. Fitzgerald	Fr. Mullins/C. Papay/T. Gades (choir)	Gowins



Auctioneers seek to drive up the price of an item so that the highest value can be received. A starting bid is presented, then competitive bids are offered with the highest bidder winning the item. In the first reading, a reverse effect occurs. Abraham seeks to discover at what price our Lord will save a city from destruction. He begins with a "starting bid" of 50 innocent people, but then decreases the amount each time. How about 5 less than 50? What about 40? Do I hear 30? What if only 20? If there are at least 10 innocent people? God reveals that He is willing to save a whole city for just one innocent person. How about 10? Each time, our Lord accepts the offer to save the city from destruction if He can find that many innocent people in the city. Ultimately, the angel of the Lord led the innocent Lot outside the city and the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed.

Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary are the only truly innocent people; the rest of us are afflicted at least with Original Sin. God the Father in His mercy is willing to spare us all for the sake of Christ Jesus. However, like Lot, our Lord desires to lead us from this sinful world to a place of safety, the heavenly kingdom. In our world today, where numerous nations are talking about using nuclear weapons, it reveals the need for us to pray as Abraham did, seeking mercy for all people in the world. It also reveals our need to turn away from sin and seek God's mercy through the sacrament of Confession that we may be led to safety.

Thanks to all who came to our Parish Potluck Picnic and shared your delicious recipes, fun games and wonderful conversation and friendship. All seemed to enjoy themselves.

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC)

#534 "What is prayer?"

Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God, or the petition of good things from him in accord with his will. It is always the gift of God who comes to encounter man. Christian prayer is the personal and living relationship of the children of God with their Father who is infinitely good, with his Son Jesus Christ, and with the Holy Spirit who dwells in their hearts."

#535 "Why is there a universal call to prayer?"

Because through creation God first calls every being from nothingness. Even after the Fall man continues to be capable of recognizing his Creator and retains a desire for the One who has called him into existence. All religions, and the whole history of salvation in particular, bear witness to this human desire for God. It is God first of all, however, who ceaselessly draws every person to the mysterious encounter known as prayer."

#536 "How is Abraham a model of prayer?"

Abraham is a model of prayer because he walked in the presence of God, heard and obeyed him. His prayer was a battle of faith because he continued to believe in the fidelity of God even in times of trial. Besides, after having received in his own tent the visit of the Lord who confided his plan to him, Abraham dared to intercede for sinners with bold confidence."

#537 "How did Moses pray?" The prayer of Moses was typical of contemplative prayer. God, who called to Moses from the burning bush, lingered in conversation with him often and at length, "face to face, like a man with his friend" (*Exodus 33:11*). In this intimacy with God, Moses attained the strength to intercede tenaciously for his people: his prayer thus prefigured the intercession of the one mediator, Christ Jesus."

Saint Quote of the Week: *"After you have made a decision that is pleasing to God, the Devil may try to make you have second thoughts. Intensify your prayer time, meditation and good deeds. For if Satan's temptations merely cause you to increase your efforts to grow in holiness, he'll have an incentive to leave you alone."* - Saint Ignatius of Loyola.

"Take, O Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and all my will, all that I have and possess. You have given all of these to me; to you I restore them. All are yours, dispose of them all according to your will. Give me your love and your grace; having but these I am rich enough and ask for nothing more." – St. Ignatius of Loyola.

Saint of the Week: Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556) was born into a noble family in the castle of Loyola, Spain. In his youth, he joined the military, where he led a dissipated life. In the heat of battle, he was seriously wounded in the leg, which led to a long convalescence. During his convalescence, he read the lives of saints, a fact that had a decisive influence on his life. Upon recovering his health, he changed his behavior and became convinced that he, too, could become a saint. He wrote his work, *Spiritual Exercises*, of great theological and evangelical value, to discern God's Will and help others do the same. With six companions, they took religious vows and consecrated themselves to God, adding a fourth vow: to always be at the command of the Pope and thus seek the "Greater Glory of God" (*Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam*, the motto of the Order). He was ordained a priest in Rome in 1538. In 1540, the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) received papal approval. The Constitutions stipulate that its members should follow an almost military discipline and devote themselves to study; the main objectives of the Institute were the defense and propagation of the faith. Ignatius and his spiritual brothers dedicated themselves to preaching, promoting the *Spiritual Exercises*, teaching at the most prestigious universities, and giving lectures on various religious topics to all kinds of audiences, founding colleges and universities in Spain, Rome, Germany, France, and the Netherlands. He died in Rome. He was canonized by Pope Gregory XV in 1622. In 1922, Pope Pius XI declared him patron saint of retreats and soldiers. Feast Day: 31 July.

Word of the Week: Caiaphas - Son-in-law of Annas and his successor as High Priest of Jerusalem (A.D. 18-37) (Luke 3:2). It was his ominous observation to the chief priests and Pharisees that presaged the death of Jesus. "You don't seem to have grasped the situation at all; you fail to see that it is better for one man to die for the people than for the whole nation to be destroyed" (John 11:49-50). Jesus, after Annas had questioned him, was brought to the palace of Caiaphas (John 18:24), who sent him to Pilate for official condemnation.

Movie Night: "Song of Bernadette" will take place today Saturday, July 26 at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center. Come, enjoy the beauty and history of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Gospel Reflection by Seminarian Owen:

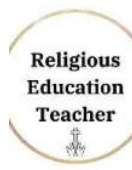
In today's Gospel, the disciples ask Jesus, "Lord, teach us to pray." His response is an invitation into a relationship. By calling God "Father," Jesus shows us that prayer begins with trust in our God who loves us like His own children. This is what many of the Saints describe when they write that we should strive in our own relationship with the Father to have a childlike faith. Our Lord encourages us to persist in prayer by challenging us to ask, seek and knock. Christ is asking us to be bold in prayer. If done in the light of humility and charity this shows God our trust in Him. This passage calls us also to simplicity in prayer. We are reminded that the center of prayer is spending our time with Our Father. Let us be reminded this week of his presence in our daily lives.



The Knights of Columbus have a Pilgrim Icon Program where a specific Catholic icon travels from council to council serving as a focal point for prayer services and devotion. This year's icon is the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a depiction painted by *Pompeo Batoni* in 1767. The image was blessed by Pope Francis last year. The Knights have this image for five weeks and have graciously allowed us to display the image in our church. Please consider taking some time with your family to pray before this image. We will have special prayer service on First Friday of August, a Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus each hour from 4:00 PM-7:00 PM.



Lector Training: Fully initiated Catholics (Confirmed and received First Holy Communion), age 18 and older, are eligible to be Lectors. Consider joining our Lector Ministry as we proclaim the Word of God. Training will be Saturday, August 2 at 6:00 PM in the Church. Call Rectory Office at 610-826-2354 with questions.



Looking for a fun and rewarding way to serve in the Church and strengthen your own faith? Teaching in the Religious Education program is for you! We are in need of a teacher for our 4/5th grade class in PREP. If you are interested, please contact Steve in the Religious Ed office at: shccre@ptd.net or 610-826-2335. Classes begin in September.

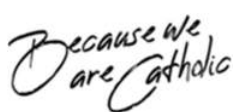
Weekly Collection

7/26-7/27: In Support of the Parish
Second Collection: Education Fund
8/2-8/3: In Support of the Parish
Second Collection: Improvements and Repairs
Attendance Goal: 450
Actual 7/19-7/20: 271



Have you considered **On-line Giving**?
 Visit: www.shcpalmerton.org and click on the online giving icon to sign-up.

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe last weekend. As a parish, we collected \$1,002 to restore the Church and build the future in more than 25 countries.



As of July 7, our Parish has contributed **\$23,105** towards our \$23,328 Parish Goal. Thank you to the 97 families who have pledged their support to the **2025 Because We are Catholic Annual Appeal**. We need the support of all our parish families to reach 100% participation. If you have not yet made a donation, please prayerfully consider making a donation. Donations can be made online at: BecauseWeAreCatholic.org or place your donation in the collection basket.

Ever wonder about the places in Scripture? Come to **Wednesday morning Bible Study at 10 AM** in the Parish Center and find out.



SJNRS – 2025-2026 School Year

Accepting applications for PreK through Grade 8. For info email: office.sjnrschool@gmail.com or call: 610-826-2354.

SJNRS Summer Office hours for the Palmerton Campus: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM. PLEASE NOTE: Hours may change due to staff schedules & vacations.



Register Your Child in our 2025-2026 PREP Classes. Weekly classes begin in September 2025. Open to children in grades 1 through 8, who have been Baptized Catholic, are registered parishioners attend either public school, a private non-Catholic school or homeschooled. Registration forms are available in the Parish Office. Parents contact CRE, Steve Uhnak in the Parish Office at 610-826-2335 or email: shccre@ptd.net.



Join us this Sunday after 9:30 AM Mass in our Parish Hall / Gym. We will be picking the winners of our Christmas in July Raffle.

CACPAC Palmerton Food Pantry is in need of the following items: **canned fruit, applesauce, pop tarts, granola bars, drink mixes (lemonade, Kool-Aid) condiments and cereal. Personal care items: toilet paper, bar soap, toothpaste, shampoo.** Items can be placed in the red plastic totes in the Main Vestibule. Any questions regarding CACPAC Food Pantry, call Sue Steigerwalt at: 610-349-9704. **Thank you for helping us to help our neighbors!**

The NEPA Knights of Columbus will be running a 10 day pilgrimage to Italy (Venice, Padua, Florence, Assisi, and Rome) from June 21-July 1, 2026. Visit: <https://prorometours.com/knightsofcolumbuspa/> for details and email your Tour Coordinator and NEBDD Chairman Emeritus with your questions at: jordancook53170@gmail.com.



Cash Bingo to benefit SJNRS. This Sunday (July 27th) in our Gym! Doors open at 12 PM. BINGO begins at 1:00 PM. \$25 for bingo packet of 15 regular games and 5 specials. All are welcome.



Are you new to the area? Interested in being a registered parishioner? Introduce yourself to Father Mullins after Mass or call the Parish Office to register at: 610-826-2335.

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.



Join us this Sunday, July 27 in Palmerton Park at 7:00 PM to enjoy music performed by **Steel Creek**, weather permitting. Bring your lawn chair, sit back and enjoy a Summer evening in the Park.

FRANCIS X. MULLANE INC.

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