

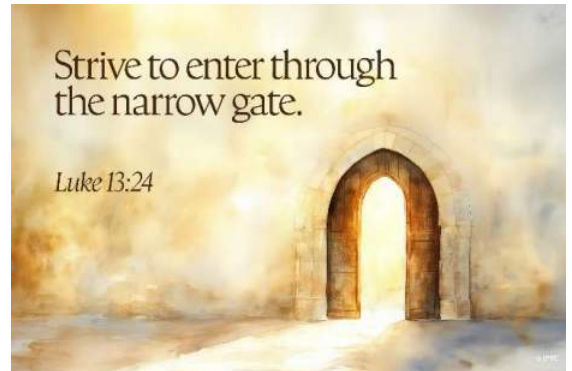
THE DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
SACRED HEART CHURCH

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

August 24, 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
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 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.

August 24 – Twenty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time



Mass Intentions

Saturday August 23
5:00 PM Parishioners of Sacred Heart
Sunday August 24
9:30 AM Alex and Anna Molnar by
James and Barbara Nemecek

No Daily Mass This Week

Monday, August 25 through Friday, August 29.

Saturday August 30
5:00 PM Anthony Rezeli by
daughter Rose Ann
Sunday August 31
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.



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.

The Sacred Heart Prayer Chain is available to everyone in need. Call Peg at 610-826-8009 to have your prayer request forwarded to several other prayer groups throughout the country.



Continue to pray for all Priests, Deacons and Seminarians. Ask God for new Vocations.

"God our Father, we pray that You will raise up from among us, and from among our children, numerous and holy vocations to the priesthood, who will, in their ministry, proclaim the truth of the Gospel, administer the sacraments, and offer faithful service to the Church." Amen.

Adoration
of the
Blessed Sacrament



September 5: 4:00-7:00 PM
Confessions: 6:00-7:00 PM.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Reading I: Isaiah 66: 18-21

The Lord will gather all the nations to Mount Zion, and He will reveal His glory to them. This glad event is expected to happen in stages.

Reading II: Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13

Without divine wisdom, one might mistake the trials of life for signs of God's anger. But, like an athletic coach, imagined by the author as encouraging his runners, He summons our energies and we easily head to the finish line.

The Gospel: Luke 13: 22-30

Our salvation depends first and foremost on God's grace. It then comes about by our cooperation and obedience. Christ invites His family from the four corners of the compass, both Jews and Gentiles, to celebrate with Him and the patriarchs of the Faith.



Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10 Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8 Ps 139:1-3, 4-6 Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13 Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13 Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17 Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8 Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 Mk 6:17-29
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11 Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 Mt 25:14-30
Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 Ps 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11 Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a Lk 14:1, 7-14



Sanctuary Candle:

Anna Theresa Hudanich by
Beverly Raub Diamond.

Guardian Angel

Dottie Lang by Dave

Be Aware of Scam emails. There are reports that emails are being sent claiming to be Father Mullins. Please note that Father Mullins would never ask anyone for money, gift cards, etc. by an email or text. This is a scam and should be ignored.

8/30-8/31	Lector	EM	Altar Servers
5:00 PM	T. Matsko	Fr. Mullins/M. Carty	L. Matsko
9:30 AM	A. Goodbred	Fr. Mullins/C. Papay/C. Wehr(choir)	J/J Goodbred



Soon, students will return to school and use their God-given gift of reason to grow in understanding, skills and relationships. May we express our gratitude to all our teachers, whether it be parents at home or faculty in a school, who dedicate their time to share their knowledge and impart wisdom to the children. May we all recognize our need for continual growth as disciples of the Lord.

Unfortunately, sometimes we use this gift of reason improperly, through rationalization. This is an attempt to explain or justify (our own or another person's behavior or attitude) with logical, plausible reasons, even if these are not true or appropriate. For example, the following are ways we may rationalize not going to Church: *"It's no big deal to miss Mass."* Wrong! The sacrifice of Jesus is a big deal; it's what brings us salvation. *"There are many people who don't go to Mass, why should I?"* Because Jesus warns us, "many will attempt to enter the narrow gate (of heaven) but will not be strong enough." *"My family or guests don't practice and I don't want to make them uncomfortable."* Christ was not worried about being uncomfortable on the Cross, He went out of love for you! *"I don't want to go alone."* You're not alone, you are a member of the Body of Christ; in Holy Communion, you are joined to Christ, the angels and saints, and to all the members of the Church. *"I'm too tired to go."* After the Last Supper, Christ spent the night in prayer and then was judged, persecuted, beaten, and scourged, yet He still continued to carry His cross up the hill of Calvary to fulfill the Father's Will. *"I was on vacation and the Church was too far away."* You traveled a distance for your own pleasure, but now you won't travel to be with your God for your salvation? *"I've got more important things to do."* Yet tomorrow, if you should die, it will be done by someone else; but if you die without Christ, there is no one else who can get you to heaven. *"I don't go because I'm angry with God for He allowed a loved one to die."* At the death of a loved one, we are angry and hurting, but staying distant from Christ will not bring healing; Christ is the prince of peace and healer of souls. Come back to Him. *"I don't go because of the priest scandal."* Imagine if the Eleven Apostles abandoned Jesus because of Judas Iscariot's betrayal; as horrendous as the scandal was, it shouldn't cause us to leave Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. *"I don't go because of fear of illness like COVID."* Perhaps this one is a reasonable excuse, especially if one is Immuno-Compromised; however, if that person goes out of the house for an hour to go shopping at the store or eating at a public restaurant, going to the hairdresser or playing Bingo, then they are risking their health to serve their own pleasure but are ignoring the service to the Lord. If someone is seriously ill, please have them call the rectory office, so I can anoint that person and bring Holy Communion to them. *"God understands if I don't go."* Yes, God understands your weakness, your sins, your rationalization and ultimately your choice not to be with Him.

If we have fallen into the sin of rationalization, may we turn back to the Lord through the sacrament of Confession to receive His mercy so that we may strive anew to enter through the narrow gate.

Word of the Week: **Calvary** - Golgotha, or the place where Jesus was crucified (Luke 23). It was so called because it resembled a head or skull. Mount Calvary was near Jerusalem and was the place where criminals were normally executed.

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC)

#548 "How did the first Christian community in Jerusalem pray? At the beginning of the *Acts of the Apostles* it is written that in the first community of Jerusalem, educated in the life of prayer by the Holy Spirit, the faithful "devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread, and to the prayers" (*Acts 2:42*)."

#549 "How does the Holy Spirit intervene in the Church's prayer? The Holy Spirit, the interior Master of Christian prayer, forms the Church in the life of prayer and allows her to enter ever more deeply into contemplation of and union with the unfathomable mystery of Christ. The forms of prayer expressed in the apostolic and canonical writings remain normative for Christian prayer."

#550 "What are the essential forms of Christian prayer? They are blessings and adoration, the prayer of petition and intercession, thanksgiving and praise. The Eucharist contains and expresses all the forms of prayer."

Saint of the Week: Joseph Calasanz (1557-1648 AD) was born in Rome, Italy. He became a priest with university training in canon law and theology, respected for his wisdom and administrative expertise. However, he was deeply concerned with the need for education of poor children. When he was unable to get other institutes to undertake this apostolate at Rome, Joseph and several companions personally provided a free school for deprived children. So overwhelming was the response that there was a constant need for larger facilities to house their effort. Soon, Pope Clement VIII gave support to the school, and this aid continued under Pope Paul V. Other schools were opened; other men were attracted to the work, and in 1621 the community—for so the teachers lived—was recognized as a religious community, the Clerks Regular of Religious Schools—Piarists. Not long after, Joseph was appointed their Superior for life. A combination of various prejudices and political ambition and maneuvering caused the institute much turmoil. Some did not favor educating the poor, for education would leave the poor dissatisfied with their lowly tasks for society! Others were shocked that some of the Piarists were sent for instruction to Galileo—a friend of Joseph—as superior, thus dividing the members into opposite camps. Repeatedly investigated by papal commissions, Joseph was demoted; when the struggle within the institute persisted, the Piarists were suppressed. Only after Joseph's death were they formally recognized again as a religious community. Feast Day: 25 August.

Saint Quote of the Week: *"Like the saplings of plants, the young are easily influenced, as long as someone works to teach their souls. But if they are allowed to grow hard, we know well that the possibility of one day bending them, diminishes a great deal and is sometimes utterly lost."* – St. Joseph Calasanz.

PREP **PREP begins Sunday, September 14 at 10:30 AM.** Registration Form for your child(ren), are due no later than August 31. PREP is 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.



SJNRS 2025-2026 School Year begins tomorrow, August 25. Currently accepting applications for PreK through Grade 8. For details email: office.sjnrschool@gmail.com or call: 610-826-2354.

We extend our prayers and best wishes to all the youth of our Parish who will be returning to school. May you continue to grow in wisdom and grace.

The Parish family of Sacred Heart extends a warm welcome to our newest parishioners: *Paulo Barros, Christina Wilson and daughter Lucia.*

Congratulations to newly baptized:
Thomas Augustus Fiallo.

Interested in being a registered parishioner? After Mass, introduce yourself to Father Mullins or call the Parish Office 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.



Game Night: Wednesday, 27 August at 6:30 PM in Parish Hall. Bring your favorite game, have some snacks, make new friends.



Movie Night: Saturday, 30 August at 6:30 PM in Parish Center. Come learn about the soon-to-be declared Saint: **Carlo Acutis**. He will be the first millennial-era saint. Acutis was 15 when he died in northern Italy in 2006, after a short bout with leukemia.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to National Basilica in Washington D.C. on Tuesday, October 7. Bus cost: \$40 per person. Bus will leave Sacred Heart, Palmerton at 6:30 AM and return back at around 10:00 PM. There are a few seats left. Please reserve your seat by filling out the sign-up sheet in the back of Church or by contacting the Rectory office.

Weekly Collection

8/23-8/24: In Support of the Parish

8/30-8/31: In Support of the Parish

Second Collection: CYO/Youth Ministry

Attendance Goal: 450

Actual 8/16-8/17: 309



Have you considered **On-line Giving**?

Visit: www.shcpalmerton.org and click on the online giving icon to sign-up.



The Parish gratefully acknowledges the following contributions to the Sacred Heart Memorial Fund in memory of: **Anna Theresa Hudanich** by: Judith Ann Kohler. In memory of **Dorothy McGinnis** by: Gerald and Sharon Villa, Anna and Christa Trimarelli and Hundt and Brady.



Sign Up Today
Palmerton Festival
September 5, 6 and 7

Sign-up sheets are available behind the last pew in church for various volunteer opportunities to work before, during or after the festival. Questions contact Veronica Scarpati at: 610-349 3691 or Dana Massey at: 484-725-8378.

August is National Make-A-Will Month, and the Diocese of Allentown is sharing a free will-writing tool to help steward your family, finances and faith. Estate planning is an act of faithfulness that empowers you to thoughtfully honor the blessings you've received from God. Consider creating a will that includes a legacy gift for our parish. Visit: FreeWill.com/allentowndiocese to make a will at no cost.

Diocesan Commission for Men invites all men age 14-114 years old to participate in the 14th Annual Diocesan Men's Conference on Saturday, 11 October 2025 at the Delta Marriot (7736 Adrienne Drive Breinigsville, Pennsylvania, 18031). This year's theme is Pilgrims Anchored in the Hope of Christ. Early Bird Registration Cost: \$25. High School & College Student admission cost: \$15. Check out www.MenAliveInChrist.org for more information.

Save the date:

BINGO: Sunday, September 14. Cost \$25. BINGO starts at 1:00 PM. Doors open at Noon.

Vision Support Group: Thursday, September 25 at 2:00 PM in the Parish Center. For info call Paula Ewing at 610-704-5052.



COOKS WITH COLLARS IS BACK.

www.cookswithcollars.com

The website will go live on Monday, September 1, 2025. You will have 30 days and nights to vote, via online donations. Go to www.cookswithcollars.com to see **Father Mullins** and other priests from around the Diocese creating delicious kitchen concoctions. Vote early and vote often, deadline is September 30. All voting proceeds benefit our parish. Share the website with all your family and friends. Thanks for making Father Mullins and Sacred Heart a winner!!

Help for Parents: The Allentown Diocese Office of Education offers the **"Ready, Willing, & Able"** podcast for Catholic parents. The newest episode explores how sports and faith relate to and benefit each other. The podcast provides content which will support and empower parents as primary educators of the faith for their children. You can Listen to Ready, Willing, and Able on its website: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/2410685>, or look it up on your favorite podcast streaming platform.

Jubilee Year Of Hope: Bishop Schlert will be celebrating Masses that offer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The Anointing of the Sick is given to anyone who is seriously ill, either physically or mentally, or to anyone advanced in age or facing a medical procedure. This great gift of grace offers holistic healing by praying for a cure, but, more importantly, for the gift of hope and peace that the sufferer would be united to Christ on the Cross.

Anointing of the Sick Mass Schedule:

Sept. 7-11:30 AM: St. Catharine of Siena, Reading.
November 23-11 AM: St. Joseph, Summit Hill.

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass

Married couples from across the Diocese are invited to renew their vows and thank God for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage during the Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass, to be celebrated Sunday, September 14, 2025 at 3:00 PM. Doors will open at 2:00 PM. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Alfred Schlert at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, 1825 West Turner St., Allentown, PA 18104. Those couples celebrating 1-5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50-plus years of marriage will receive special recognition. **The registration deadline is Thursday, September 4, 2025. For details and to register go to:** www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversary_mass.

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