

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 3, 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
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
Altar Servers	Father Mullins
Bereavement Sharers	Olivia Erickson
Bible Study/Prayer Group/ Prayer Chain	Peg Duell
C.A.C.P.A.C.	Sue Steigerwalt / Lori Nemeth
Cemetery	Frank Hager
Choir/Music Liaison	Joann Kercsmar
Disability Advocates	Marian Carty
Funeral Luncheon Committee	Peg Duell
High School Ministry	Tricia Matsko
Knights of Columbus	Marty DeSousa
Palmerton Festival	Dana Massey
Pro Life Coordinator	Jerome Scarpati Veronica Scarpati

Sacred Heart Helping Hands	Rectory Office
Safety, Security and Maintenance Committee	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.

August 3 – Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time



Mass Intentions

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

No Daily Mass this week.
Monday, August 4 – Friday, August 8

Saturday August 9
5:00 PM Wedding Anniversary of
Elzbieta and Jerome Palms
Sunday August 10
9:30 AM Antonio and Julia Dias by
Maris Dias and sons

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.



Sanctuary Candle:

Anna Theresa Hudanick by Beverly Raub Diamond.

Marian Altar:

Andrew and Irene Homyak by Mary Ellen and Alice.

Thank you to our Summer Seminarian - Owen Fitzgerald! He helped out with our School Camp programs, served as Lector at Masses, helped facilitate a few Spiritual Warfare classes, composed some placement tests for PREP students, brought Holy Communion to the sick and was overall good company in the short time he was here. His last day is today, August 3rd. Please pray for him as he enters into his first year of theology at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary and continues to discern his vocation to the priesthood. May the Lord bless him and our Lady guide him in all his endeavors.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Reading I: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23

"Vanity of vanities" means "the utmost vanity." It applies to all the things that make up our life and labor in this world. We only fool ourselves if we rate them higher than they deserve.

Reading II: Colossians 3: 1-5, 9-11

St. Paul acknowledges the faith of the community. He also prays that they live "worthy of the Lord." That means setting one's heart on what lasts forever.

The Gospel: Luke 12: 13-21

How is one to grow "rich" in God's sight is the question we must answer. Just when you decide on the answer, then to "eat, drink and be merry" God might call you home. Then what?



Monday: Nm 11:4b-15 Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 Mt 14:13-21
Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13 Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 2 Pt 1:16-19 Lk 9:28b-36
Thursday: Nm 20:1-13 Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 Mt 16:13-23
Friday: Dt 4:32-40 Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21 Mt 16:24-28
Saturday: Dt 6:4-13 Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51 Mt 17:14-20
Sunday: Wis 18:6-9 Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12 Lk 12:32-48 or Lk 12:35-40



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.

8/9-8/10	Lector	EM	Altar Servers
5:00 PM	J. Uhnak	Fr. Mullins/D/ O'Neil	M/N Cuyer
9:30 AM	T. Matsko	Fr. Mullins/D. Klitsch/C. Wehr (choir)	G. Buck/C. Sebelin



This Sunday's readings remind us to stop and think about what really matters. It is easy to focus on money, success and the things we own. But these do not last. The readings point us to something greater. Ecclesiastes tells us that working hard just to gain wealth is empty because we will have to leave it all behind upon our death. Psalm 90 teaches us to ask God to help us use our time well. We are reminded that each day is a gift. In the Gospel, Jesus tells a story about a man who saves up his riches. He is proud of all he owns. But God calls him a fool. His life ends that night. He is not ready. Jesus teaches us to be rich in what matters to God.

Among the treasures God offers us through His Church are indulgences. An indulgence is a work of mercy declared by the Pope (who has the Keys to the Kingdom, including the storehouse of God's Mercy) to offer in union with Christ for the souls in purgatory or for oneself. It reduces or eliminates the "temporal punishment" we accrue from our sins. To receive an indulgence, one is required to go to Confession within 8 days, receive Holy Communion, pray an Our Father and Hail Mary for the Pope's intentions, and to be free from any attachments to sin. An indulgence can be received once a day, so we can help send our deceased loved ones in purgatory into the arms of our Savior. One way to participate in an Indulgence is to go on pilgrimage to holy place designated by Pope or one's bishop. As America's Catholic Church, the Basilica of the National Shrine of Immaculate Conception is honored to be designated as a special place of pilgrimage during Jubilee Year 2025. Please consider joining us on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Washington D.C. on Tuesday, 7 October 2025.

Word of the Week: **Cain** - The elder son of Adam and Eve. He tilled the soil, while his brother, Abel, was a shepherd. When each offered the product of his work to Yahweh, Abel's offering was more favorably accepted. In his resentment, Cain slew his brother (Genesis 4). Condemned by Yahweh, he became "a fugitive and a wanderer over the earth" (Genesis 4:14). His wife bore him a son, Enoch, and when Cain later built a town, he named it after his son (Genesis 4:17).

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC)

#538 "In the Old Testament, what relationship do the king and the temple have to prayer?" The prayer of the People of God developed in the shadow of the dwelling place of God – the Ark of the Covenant, then the Temple – under the guidance of their shepherds. Among them there was David, the King "after God's own heart," the shepherd who prayed for his people. His prayer was a model for the prayer of the people because it involved clinging to the divine promise and a trust filled with love for the One who is the only King and Lord."

#539 "What is the role of prayer in the mission of the prophets?" The prophets drew from prayer the light and strength to exhort the people to faith and to conversion of heart. They entered into great intimacy with God and interceded for their brothers and sisters to whom they proclaimed what they had seen and heard from the Lord. Elijah was the father of the prophets, of those who sought the face of God. On Mount Carmel he achieved the return of the people to the faith, thanks to the intervention of God to whom he prayed: "Answer me, O Lord, answer me!" (*1 Kings 18:37*)."

#540 "What is the importance of the Psalms in prayer?" The Psalms are the summit of prayer in the Old Testament: the Word of God become the prayer of man. Inseparably both personal and communal, and inspired by the Holy Spirit, this prayer sings of God's marvelous deeds in creation and in the history of salvation. Christ prayed the Psalms and brought them to fulfillment. Thus, they remain an essential and permanent element of the prayer of the Church suited to people of every condition and time."

Saint Quote of the Week: *"A man who governs his passions is master of his world. We must either command them or be enslaved by them. It is better to be a hammer than an anvil."* -- St Dominic.

"I am not capable of doing big things, but I want to do everything, even the smallest things, for the greater glory of God." – St. Dominic.

"The Holy Rosary is the best artillery against demons and their followers. None who perseveres in devotion to the Holy Rosary will be condemned." – St. Dominic.



Saint of the Week: Dominic de Guzmán (1170-1221AD) was born in Calaruega, Spain. His parents were nobles who raised him in Christian values and especially with generosity toward the needy. From a young age, he avidly read religious books and enjoyed being charitable to the

poor. He decided to dedicate his life to God and was ordained a priest in 1195. He served as a parish priest in Franjeaux, France, where he stood out for his eloquence. Pope Innocent III sent him to preach against the Albigensian heresies (who believed that all matter is evil), whom he managed to banish. He converted many to the Catholic faith. Together with several priests, he founded the community of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans). Due to an apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary, he spread the devotion of the Holy Rosary. As a result of his preaching missions, he is said to have converted some 100,000 people. Canonized in 1234 by Gregory IX. Iconography: wearing a Dominican habit, holding a rosary, and at his feet a dog with a lit torch in its mouth, symbols of fidelity to Christ and the flame of truth. Patron saint of astronomers and of the Dominican Republic. Feast Day: 8 August.

Gospel Reflection by Seminarian Owen:

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells a parable about a man who stores up worldly possessions, planning for a comfortable future. But the man is mistaken not because he prepared for tomorrow, but because he placed his trust in wealth rather than in God. Jesus calls him a fool because, in the end, none of those things could save him or give his life true meaning. This parable challenges us to examine our own lives and to ask the question: What are we working for? What do we invest in that truly lasts? While it's easy to focus on material success, the Gospel reminds us that the real treasures are found in the love we show, the relationships we nurture, and the trust we build with one another and with God. Are we storing up treasures in heaven by investing in the people around us, the kindness we extend, and the faith we live out each day? These are the riches that do not fade that reflect the heart of God and shape our eternal future.

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



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.



First Friday of the month

4:00-7:00 PM

Confessions: 6:00-7:00 PM.

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



The Parish family of Sacred Heart extends a warm welcome to our newest parishioners: ***Paul and Tracy Sparling and Ramon and Carmen Fiallo and son Thomas.*** May you continue to be spiritually enriched and your membership in the Church be long, happy and fruitful. **If you are new to our Parish** and have not yet registered, **please call the Rectory Office at: 610-826-2335 to Register.** 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.

Help to reengage Catholics who have fallen away from the faith by extending an invitation to them to come with you to Mass, Adoration or Confession. This simple gesture may be all it takes to welcome back a person who has been away.

Weekly Collection

8/2-8/3: In Support of the Parish
Second Collection: Improvements and Repairs
8/9-8/10: In Support of the Parish
Attendance Goal: 450
Actual 7/26-7/27: 291



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



SJNRS – 2025-2026 School Year

Accepting applications for PreK through Grade 8. For info email: office.sjnrschool@gmail.com or call: 610-826-2354. **Summer Office hours for the Palmerton Campus:** Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM.



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.

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!**



Thank you to all who participated in our **Christmas in July Raffle**. Our net profit was \$4,650 and our winners are:
1st prize \$1,000: **Chade and Suzanne Andress**; 2nd prize \$500 **Tod Cook**; 3rd Prize \$150 **Marianne Ondrasik**; 4th Prize \$50: **Suzie Berger**; 5th Prize \$50: **Jordan Cook**. Thank you for your participation.



Next Sunday, August 10!
Parish Social Hall **Cost: \$25.**
Doors and Kitchen Open at Noon.
Bingo starts 1:00 PM.

Tell your friends, neighbors and co-workers.



Blessed with 90 years or more, we offer our prayers and best wishes to **Helen Haja**. May God be your guiding light and the angels from heaven above shower endless joy on you.

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:

August 24-12 PM: St. Thomas More, Allentown.
Sept. 7-11:30 AM: St. Catharine of Siena, Reading.
November 23-11 AM: St. Joseph, Summit Hill.

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.

August is National Make-A-Will Month

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.

Lector Training: Saturday August 2 at 6:00 PM in the Church. Fully initiated Catholics (Confirmed and received First Holy Communion), age 14 and older, are eligible to be Lectors. Consider joining our Lector Ministry as we proclaim the Word of God. Call Rectory Office at 610-826-2354 with questions.



Note time change. Join us this Sunday, August 3 at 6:30 PM in Palmerton Park to enjoy music performed by **The Hazleton Band**, weather permitting. Bring your lawn chair, sit back and enjoy a Summer evening in the Park.

FRANCIS X. MULLANE INC.

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