

THE DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN

SACRED HEART CHURCH

243 LAFAYETTE AVENUE ~ PALMERTON PA 18071

Rectory Office: 610-826-2335

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



September 21, 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.sjnschool.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 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.

September 21 – Twenty-Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time



Mass Intentions

Saturday	September 20
5:00 PM	Parishioners of Sacred Heart
Sunday	September 21
9:30 AM	Joe Koma by Ann and Frank Vitovitch
Monday	September 22
8:30 AM	Kathleen Rooney by Eugene Rooney
Wednesday	September 24
8:30 AM	Christopher Mullane by siblings
Thursday	September 25
8:30AM	John Domant by Thomas Muldoon, Jr.
Friday	September 26
8:30 AM	Manuel and Mercedes Lobo by Jose and Lourdes Amorim
Saturday	September 27
5:00 PM	Rocco and Katherine Lutz by Jeff and Debbie Lutz
Sunday	September 28
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. 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.

Adult Catechesis: Join Father Mullins on Thursdays at 6:30 PM in our Parish Center for those who desire to learn more about the Catholic faith or desire to prepare to receive the sacraments of 1st Holy Communion or Confirmation.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Reading I: Amos 8: 4-7

Amos condemns the greed, dishonesty, and hypocrisy of the wealthy merchants he knows. They defraud buyers and take advantage of the poor, while outwardly seeming to follow the Mosaic Law.

Reading II: 1 Timothy 2:1-8

Acting as Timothy's spiritual father, Paul tells him that he has become the second link in a chain that stretches from the Apostles. He is to pass on the priestly ministry and the apostolic faith as well.

The Gospel: Luke 16:1-13, or 10-13

The Lord's parable is all about both the urgency and the preparedness Christians need to prepare for the next world. Note that the master in the story commends his steward for his shrewdness, not his goodness. Jesus points out the folly of the Pharisees who only seek the comforts of this world.



Monday:	Ezr 1:1-6 Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday:	Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20 Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday:	Ezr 9:5-9 Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8 Lk 9:1-6
Thursday:	Hg 1:1-8 Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b Lk 9:7-9
Friday:	Hg 2:1-9 Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4 Lk 9:18-22
Saturday:	Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 Lk 9:43b-45
Sunday:	Am 6:1a, 4-7 Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 1 Tm 6:11-16 Lk 16:19-31



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.



Sanctuary Candle

Virginia Brand by Porambo family.
St. Joseph Altar (2)
Terry O'Neil by wife Debbie.

9/27-9/28	Lector	EM	Altar Servers
5:00 PM	J. Kralik	Fr. Mullins/J. Uhnak	M/N Cuyer
9:30 AM	A. Goodbred	Fr. Mullins/G. Berk/S. Miller (choir)	J/J Goodbred



Tired of seeing how your tax money is being mis-spent? Did you know there is a way to direct the government to use your tax money to provide tuition support for Catholic School students? Our school principal, Dr. Christopher Heery will give a brief talk next weekend regarding the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC). EITC is a program in Pennsylvania that allows eligible businesses and individuals to receive a significant state tax credit for donating to nonprofit organizations that support schools. Instead of paying taxes to the state, participants can redirect those funds to educational programs and scholarships.

A civil lawsuit was filed against the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) alleging that the PIAA discriminates against parochial school students by prohibiting them from participating in public school sports if they aren't available at their religious schools. As a result, the PIAA will change their rules effective October 2025. If parochial schools do not offer a particular interscholastic sport, parochial school students are eligible to participate in the sports program of a PIAA affiliated public school. An agreement also contains a similar clause for students looking to participate in co-curriculars or clubs.

These are both great news that provide excellent growth opportunities for our Catholic school students and make education affordable for families. Consider sending your child or grandchild to Saint John Neumann Regional School (Pre-K through 8th grade, with Extended Care available). Call the school office for a tour (610) 826-2354.

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC)

#559 "In the Church are there different ways of praying?"

In the Church there are various ways of praying that are tied to different historical, social and cultural contexts. The Magisterium of the Church has the task of discerning the fidelity of these ways of praying to the tradition of apostolic faith. It is for pastors and catechists to explain their meaning which is always related to Jesus Christ."

#560 "What is the way of our prayer?"

The way of our prayer is Christ because prayer is directed to God our Father but reaches him only if we pray – at least implicitly – in the name of Jesus. His humanity is in effect the only way by which the Holy Spirit teaches us to pray to our Father. Therefore, liturgical prayers conclude with the formula: "Through our Lord Jesus Christ."

#561 "What is the role of the Holy Spirit in prayer?"

Since the Holy Spirit is the interior Master of Christian prayer and "we do not know how to pray as we ought" (*Romans* 8:26), the Church exhorts us to invoke him and implore him on every occasion: "Come, Holy Spirit!"



Saint of the Week: Vincent de Paul

(1580-1660) was born into a humble family in Pouy, France. He entered the seminary and was ordained a priest in 1599. While traveling to Tunisia, he was captured and sold into slavery; his devotion led his master to convert to Christianity, and he returned to

Europe shortly afterward. In 1617, while serving as a chaplain, he became aware of the needs of the marginalized. In 1625, he created the Congregation of the Mission ("Lazarists") and other charitable works. In 1633, he founded the Congregation of the Daughters of Charity ("Vincentines"). Saint Vincent is recognized by Universal History as a man with the merit of transforming the concept of charity and almsgiving into that of social service. A priest of concrete and immediate actions, he said: "It is not lawful to lose oneself in theories while nearby there are children who need a glass of milk to survive. The poor will be our judges. We can only enter heaven on the shoulders of the poor"; he asserted: "What joy to serve the person of Jesus Christ in his poor members!" He wrote numerous letters and sermons. He died in Paris, France. Canonized in 1737 by Clement XII. Proclaimed "Patron of works of charity" in 1885 by Leo XIII. Iconography: in habit helping mothers, children and helpless men. Feast Day: 27 September.

Saint Quote of the Week: *"Humility and charity are the two master-chords: one, the lowest; the other, the highest; all the others are dependent on them. Therefore, it is necessary, above all, to maintain ourselves in these two virtues; for observe well that the preservation of the whole edifice depends on the foundation and the roof."* (Saint Vincent de Paul).

Word of the Week: Canon Law - a body of religious laws that govern the internal life, organization, and discipline of Christian churches, most notably the Roman Catholic Church. These laws are issued by ecclesiastical authorities to establish order, regulate the church's mission, and ensure justice for its members. The laws or canons, cover diverse aspects of church life, including sacraments, church property, the rights and duties of clergy and the laity, and the structure of the church hierarchy. The most recent comprehensive codification for the Roman Catholic Church is the 1983 Code of Canon Law, promulgated by Pope John Paul II.



If you are new to our Parish and would like to Register, please call the Rectory 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.



St. John Neumann Regional School is open for the 2025-2026 School Year. Consider a few of the benefits in providing your child (children) the gift of a Catholic School education: Safe caring environment that offers excellent faith based education, financial aid, small class and individual attention. Enroll today for PreK through 8th grade. For details, please call Dr. Chris Heery, Principal at: 610-826-2354.



PREP began last Sunday for all in Grades 1 through 8. Classes are held every Sunday beginning at 10:30 AM in the School. Children are expected to fulfill their Sunday and Holy Day Mass obligations. Contact CRE, Steve Uhnak in the Parish Office at 610-826-2335 or email: shccre@ptd.net if you have any questions regarding the PREP program.



Hey there, high schoolers! (all students in (grades 9 through 12). Are you looking to strengthen your relationship with God and have a blast doing it? Then come join us for High School Ministry! We're meeting in the parish center this Wednesday, September 24 at 6:30 PM for an awesome time of food, fun and games. Whether you're a regular attendee or new to HSM, we want you there! Contact Tricia Matsko at: 484-633-6510 (call or text) to RSVP and let us know you're coming.



COOKS WITH COLLARS

www.cookswithcollars.com

voting closes on September 30.

Thank you to all who have voted. The competition is heating up. With a little more than a week left to vote, Father has reached 35% of his goal. Check out Father Mullins' video for Lemon Freeze bars, learn how to make an amazing dessert and support Sacred Heart Parish, Palmerton. For those who want to support without using credit cards, you can submit your donation votes in a blank envelope with your name (or anonymous) and label it Cooks with Collars. You have until September 30 to vote online! Thank you for your generosity.

Sacred Heart's Bible Study Group will meet Wednesday, September 24 at 10:00 AM in the Parish Center. All are invited to attend.

Pilgrimage to National Basilica, Tuesday, October 7. A few seats are available. Payment of \$40/pp is due to hold your seat. Visit/call the Rectory Office or a sign-up sheet is located on the podium by the visitors Confessional.

Funeral Luncheon Committee Meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 23 at 4:00 PM in the Parish Center. All are invited to attend.

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

Weekly Collection

9/20-9/21: In Support of the Parish
Second Collection: Support of Gaza
9/27-9/28: In Support of the Parish
Second Collection: Latin America
Attendance Goal: 450
Actual 9/13-9/14: 324



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

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has asked our assistance in addressing the crisis in Gaza by donating to a special second collection this weekend. Funds collected are to support the continued work in Gaza and the surrounding areas. Thank you for your assistance in this urgent matter.

Please join us for the St. John Neumann Regional School Golf Event October 10, 2025 at the Whitetail Golf Course. Price is \$100 per golfer and includes 18 holes of golf, lunch and great prizes. Registration starts at 7:30 AM and the shotgun start is at 8:00 AM. For more information or to register call (610) 826-2354.

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.

Restore: Healing Retreat for Women Healing from Betrayal Trauma Thursday, November 13 to Sunday November 16, 2025 at St. Mary of Providence Center in Elverson, PA. This retreat is for women healing from sexual betrayal trauma due to an intimate partner's infidelity, pornography use or sex addiction. Email De with questions at: de@youaremadenew.com. For more information and to register, go to: <https://youaremadenew.com/restore-retreats-betrayal-trauma/>.

CACPAC Food PANTRY is in need of: **10.5 oz. soups, tomato sauce, any type canned beans and cereal.**
Donations can be placed in the Main Vestibule of the Church in the red totes.
Thank you for helping us help our neighbors!

Game Night: Wednesday, 24 September 2025 from 6:30 PM–8:00 PM in the Parish Hall (Gym). Play some games, make new friends and enjoy some snacks! All are welcome.

Movie Night: Saturday, 27 September 2025 from 6:30 PM-8:00 PM in the Parish Center. Come watch "**The Greatest Miracle**". All are invited to join us.

Ladies, get ready for a Spirit-Filled Evening for Women: **Advent by Candlelight** on Saturday, November 29, 2025 from 6:30-9:30 PM. This year's theme is "The Eve" and it's going to be an amazing time of The Word, music, prayer, and fellowship. We want to help you prepare your hearts for the Advent season before the holiday rush begins.

This event is for ladies-high school age or older, and it's open to members of the congregation, their female family members, friends, and neighbors. Non-parishioners are welcome too!

We're also looking for Table Hostesses to decorate and provide potluck-style food for up to 10 guests of your choice. If you're interested, please contact Tricia Matsko by email at: tricia@rohrmedia.com or call/text at: 484-633-6510. There's no charge for this event, and we want to see all the ladies there! Let's have an amazing evening together as we prepare for the Advent season.

NEW* Young Adult Book Club – Fall 2025

The Commission for Young Adults invites you to grow in faith, build community, and dive into a powerful Catholic read this fall. Come for the book, stay for the fellowship—lunch included! Meeting Dates: 9/27, 10/11, 10/25, 11/8, 11/22, 12/6. From: 10:00 AM–12:00 PM. at Parkland Community Library. First 10 to register receive a free book!

Retrouvaille: Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. Join us the weekend of October 3-5 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For details or to register, all inquiries are strictly confidential, **call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230 or** visit: www.HelpOurMarriage.org.



Join us next
Sunday, September 28, for
Coffee, Donuts and fellowship
after 9:30 AM Mass in the
Social Hall (Gym).

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