

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

October 12, 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.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 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.

October 12 – Twenty-Eighth Sunday In Ordinary Time



Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 PM	October 11 Joanne and Charles Nemeth by Lori and Jim
Sunday 9:30 AM	October 12 John (Jack) DeSousa by children
Monday 8:30 AM	October 13 Josephine Noll by Cook family
Wednesday 8:30 AM	October 15 Anna Gwiazdowski by Helene and Tom
Thursday 8:30AM	October 16 Gail Sander Hamm by Lina, Bryan and Ella Lobach
Friday 8:30 AM	October 17 Denise Homlak by Leonard Homlak, Jr.
Saturday 5:00 PM	October 18 Steve and Helen Havran by family
Sunday 9:30 AM	October 19 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.



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.

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.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Reading I: 2 Kings 5: 14-17

Washing in the dirty Jordan River drives home the message that it is Yahweh, and not the river water, that cures Naaman. The seven times demand alludes to the seven days of creation, meaning that when he emerges from the river, Naaman is a new creation.

Reading II: 2 Timothy 2: 8-13

Paul asserts to Timothy that Christ is the center of his preaching. The Word of God is never shackled. This section of the Letter ends with what seems to be an ancient Christian hymn.

The Gospel: Luke 17: 11-19

In those days, a leper became an outcast of society. To be cured meant much more than a medical fact. It was a return to a full life. The truth that out of ten cured souls, only one returned to thank Him, the compassionate Healer, and was indeed sad. Add in that the one man who did return was a Samaritan and the folly of cultural prejudice is exposed.



Monday:	Rom 1:1-7 Ps 98:1bcde, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday:	Rom 1:16-25 Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday:	Rom 2:1-11 Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 9 Lk 11:42-46
Thursday:	Rom 3:21-30 Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab Lk 11:47-54
Friday:	Rom 4:1-8 Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11 Lk 12:1-7
Saturday:	2 Tm 4:10-17b Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 Lk 10:1-9
Sunday:	Ex 17:8-13 Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 2 Tm 3:14-4:2 Lk 18:1-8



Sanctuary Candle

Margaret Swanger by daughter Mary.

St. Joseph Altar (2)

Terry O'Neil by wife Debbie.

Marian Altar (2)

Denise Homlak by children and grandchildren.

Guardian Angel

Dottie Lang by Dave.

Please join us one-half hour before all Masses during the month of October in praying the Rosary.

10/18-19	Lector	EM	Altar Servers
5:00 PM	C. Chies	Fr. Mullins/D. O'Neil	L. Matsko
9:30 AM	T. Matsko	Fr. Mullins/C. Papay/L. Koons (choir)	Gowin



If we do not recognize and appreciate the mercy and help shown to us we will be ungrateful and unkind towards others.

Ingratitude is forgetfulness or a poor return for kindness received. Ingratitude easily leads to lack of charity and intolerance towards others, as well as to other vices, such as complaining, grumbling, discontentment, pride, and presumption. How often have we been ungrateful to our parents, pastors, teachers, children and neighbors? May we continually express gratitude to God for his abundant help and mercy towards us and be gracious, kind, and merciful towards our neighbor in their time of need and support.

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC) **#566 "What places are conducive to prayer?"**

One can pray anywhere but the choice of an appropriate place is not a matter of indifference when it comes to prayer. The church is the proper place for liturgical prayer and Eucharistic adoration. Other places also help one to pray, such as a "prayer corner" at home, a monastery or a shrine."

#567 "What times are more suitable for prayer?"

Any time is suitable for prayer but the Church proposes to the faithful certain rhythms of praying intended to nourish continual prayer: morning and evening prayer, prayer before and after meals, the Liturgy of the Hours, Sunday Eucharist, the Rosary, and feasts of the liturgical year. *"We must remember God more often than we draw breath."* (Saint Gregory of Nazianzus)."

Word of the Week: Canonization - declaration by the Pope that a deceased person is raised to the full honors of the altar, i.e., a saint after previously having been beatified. Two miracles credited to the *beatus* (feminine: *beata*) are usually required before canonization to attest the heroic virtue of the saint. Beatification allows veneration of the blessed, canonization requires it. The canonization is celebrated at St. Peter's and is usually followed by a solemn triduum in another church in the city or elsewhere within a limited time.



Saint of the Week: Callistus (early 3rd century AD) began his career as a highly-placed domestic servant, eventually taking responsibility for his master's banking business.

When the bank failed, Callistus received the blame, and attempted to flee from his master. Being discovered, he was demoted to serve as a slave serving as manual laborer in the mines of Rome. He was freed along with several other slaves by Pope Saint Victor I. During the subsequent reign of Pope Zephyrinus, Callistus became a deacon and the caretaker of a major Roman Christian cemetery (which still bears his name as the "Cemetery of St. Callistus"), in addition to advising the Pope on theological controversies of the day. In 219, when Pope Zephyrinus died, Callistus was elected Pope to continue the succession of Saint Peter. Unfortunately, during those days, there were many prominent theologians who resented some teachings of Pope Callistus, namely that even the most serious sins could be absolved after sincere confession. Hippolytus was among Pope Callistus' detractors and actually appointed himself as an anti-pope figure. Callistus could not persuade Hippolytus' followers of his rightful authority as Pope during his own lifetime. The Catholic Church, however, has always acknowledged the orthodoxy and holiness of Pope St. Callistus I, particularly since the time of his martyrdom – traditionally ascribed to an anti-Christian mob - in 222. St. Callistus' own intercession after death may also have made possible the historic reconciliation between his opponent Hippolytus, and the later Pope Pontian. The Pope and former antipope were martyred together in 236, and both subsequently canonized. Feast Day: 14 October.

Saint Quote of the Week: *"If offenses abound, then, let mercy also abound; for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous, redemption. In the Lord's hand there is abundance of all things, because He is the Lord of powers, and the King of glory."* – Pope Saint Callistus I.

Adult Faith Formation: Thursdays at 6:30 PM in the 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.



First Friday of the month

4:00-7:00 PM.

Confession: 6:00-7:00 PM.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28).

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion Workshop: Friday, 17 October at 4:00 PM in the Church. Registered parishioners in good standing who are over the age of 18, have received the sacraments of initiation and have a reverence for the Holy Eucharist are encouraged to participate in this workshop.



Announced Masses for 2026 are now being scheduled. Please stop by the Rectory Office between the hours of 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM to schedule your Masses.

Anointing of the Sick Mass with Bishop Schlert:
St. Joseph – Summit Hill – **November 23, 2025**
at 11:00 AM Mass

Bishop Schlert will be celebrating Mass that offers the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The Sacrament of 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.

Sacred Heart's Bible Study Group will meet Wednesday, October 15 at 10:00 AM in the Parish Center. All are invited to attend.

Vision Support Group: Will meet Tuesday, October 14 at 2:00 PM in the Parish Center. For info call Paula Ewing at 610-704-5052.

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!



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.

Weekly Collection

10/11-10/12: In Support of the Parish

Second Collection: Utility/Energy

10/18-10/19: In Support of the Parish

Second Collection: Mission Sunday

Attendance Goal: 450

Actual 10/4-10/5: 313



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 contribution to the Sacred Heart Memorial Fund:

In memory of Richard Frey:

Barbara Frey

In memory of Andrew Krawchuk:

Amelia Amorim, Marianne Smelas

Safety / Security Measures: We are constantly evaluating ways to keep our church safe and secure. We have an AED machine, First Aid Kit and even a wheelchair available for health emergencies in the ushers room. We have nine Fire Extinguishers placed throughout the Church. Another safety measure we have implemented is to lock most of the doors when Mass starts; the only door that will be kept open and monitored will be the parking lot door at the back of church. If you are late to Mass, please enter through that parking lot door at the back of church. Any questions contact Father Mullins. Thank you for your attention to the safety of our parishioners.



Ladies, get ready for a Spirit-Filled Evening for Women:
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.



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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. Come and see what we are all about! Enroll today for PreK through 8th grade. For details, please call Dr. Chris Heery, Principal at: 610-826-2354.

Coming Events: Friday, October 24 our 2025 Walk-a-Thon. The Walk-a-Thon has been one of the largest fundraising events that SJNRS conducts each year. This event is truly a FUN time for our students, faculty, staff and families as we all get together to walk for our great school and all that it stands for!

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 details and to register, go to: <https://youaremadenew.com/restore-retreats-betrayal-trauma/>.



Congratulations to Father Mullins for being named to the 13 TOP PARTY CHEFS!!

Top Party Chefs are Cooks with Collars who engage parish communities in ways that go above and beyond fundraising totals. During the month of September, thousands of individuals across the U.S. contributed over \$210,000 to parishes in the Diocese of Allentown. Cooks with Collars videos, viewed more than 20,000 times, also inspired hundreds and hundreds of comments and notes. Thank you to everyone for making Cooks with Collars a remarkable success!

Diocesan Youth Rally: November 22, 10:00AM-5:00PM, at Bethlehem Catholic High School. A day of inspiring presentations, heartfelt prayer, uplifting music, and much more. Together with your peers you will celebrate the one true Light—Jesus Christ—and let His love "Reignite" you. Closing Mass at 4:00 PM celebrated by Bishop Schlert. Families invited. **Cost:** \$10, lunch included. To register contact: zhodgskin@allentowndiocese.org.

Healing and Deliverance Service: Join us for a Healing and Deliverance service on Tuesday, November 11 from 6:00-9:00 PM at St. Thomas More Church, 1040 Flexer Avenue, Allentown. There will be Mass and Healing Adoration led by Fr. Dominic Valanmanal, a world-renowned Catholic priest with the charisms of healing and deliverance. Admission is free. Contact: 610-433-7413 or 832-304-0677 with questions.

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: 10/25, 11/8, 11/22, 12/6. From: 10:00 AM–12:00 PM at Parkland Community Library.

Join the Palmerton Area Historical Society on Monday, October 13, at the Little White Church, 3rd Street at 6:30 PM for stories on artwork on tombstones and in cemeteries by speaker Samantha Hirneisen.



This Sunday, October 12!
 Doors open 12 Noon. Bingo starts 1:00 PM. Kitchen open. Cost: \$25.
 Sacred Heart Social Hall, 259 Lafayette Avenue. All proceeds benefit Sacred Heart Church.

FRANCIS X. MULLANE INC.

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