

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

December 14, 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
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 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.

December 14 – Third Sunday Of Advent

Mass Intentions

Saturday	December 13
5:00 PM	Dick and Arlene Heiney by daughter Debbie
Sunday	December 14
9:30 AM	Andrew Homyak by Mary Ellen and Alice
Monday	December 15
	Evelyn Plechavy by DeSousa family
Wednesday	December 17
8:30 AM	Stephen Nemecek by James and Barbara Nemecek
Thursday	December 18
8:30 AM	Manuel and Maria Dias by Maria Dias and sons
Friday	December 19
8:30 AM	George Duell by Fr. Hutta and family
Saturday	December 20
5:00 PM	Manuel R. Amorim by wife
Sunday	December 21
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.



Sanctuary Candle:

John "Jack" Porambo by wife and family.

Marian Altar:

George Chupa by wife and family.

Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us on Christmas as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.



SUNDAY'S READINGS

Reading I: Isaiah 35: 1-6a, 10

The prophet offers a message of encouragement meant to lift the spirits of the covenant people in exile.

Reading II: James 5: 7-10

An appeal for patient endurance in the midst of suffering. Encouragement comes from the example of farmers with their raising of their crops, as well as the life of prophets like Job.

The Gospel: Matthew 11: 2-11

Jesus performs the works and offers the credentials of the awaited Messiah. John the Baptist becomes His worthy forerunner.



Monday:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday:	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday:	Gen 49:2, 8-10 Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 Mt 1:1-17
Thursday:	Jer 23:5-8 Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 Mt 1:18-25
Friday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 Lk 1:5-25
Saturday:	Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 Lk 1:26-38
Sunday:	Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6. Rom 1:1-7 Mt 1:18-24

During Advent, Come Adore Him . . . Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held this Friday:
December 19 from 6:00-7:00 PM.



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.

12/20-12/21	Lector	EM	Altar Servers
5:00 PM	C. Chies	Fr. Mullins/S. Berger	TBD
9:30 AM	A. Goodbred	Fr. Mullins/C. Papay/T. Gades (choir)	B/S Goodbred



We are only two weeks away from Christmas! Many in the secular world are entering into a panic as they rush around to complete various tasks before the deadline. For us, however, it is a sacred time to rejoice. Gaudete Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent, named from the Latin word for "rejoice". We have passed the half-way point of this liturgical season. This Sunday marks a break in the penitential, purple-colored observance of Advent by calling for joy and gladness because the coming of Christ our King is near. This joyful theme is emphasized at Mass by lighting the rose-colored candle, singing the Gloria and priests have the option of wearing rose-colored vestments instead of violet. This season is not about stressing what we need to do, but to announce with joy what Christ has done and has promised to do for us. May we truly rejoice and sing His praises!

Confession

We too are called to be immaculate dwelling places for our Lord; unlike the Blessed Mother however, we need to confess our sins. A reminder, if you missed Mass for the Holy Day, The Feast of the Immaculate Conception December 8, please be sure to go to confession before receiving Holy Communion again.

Advent Confessions with Multiple Confessors:

St Nicholas Church (4412 Mountain View Drive, Walnutport) on Tuesday, December 16th @ 6:00pm.

Sacred Heart Church (243 Lafayette Ave, Palmerton) on Wednesday, December 17th @ 7:00pm.

Assumption BVM Church (649 W. Washington St, Slatington) on Saturday, December 20th @ 11am.



Christmas Eve 12/24:

4:00 and 6:30 PM

Christmas Day 12/25: 9:30 AM

Solemnity of Mary

Eve 12/31/25: 5:00 PM

Day 1/1/26: 9:30 AM

Learn and Live the Faith (Compendium of CCC)

#591 "Why pray "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven"?"

The will of the Father is that "all men be saved" (*1 Timothy* 2:4). For this Jesus came: to perfectly fulfill the saving will of his Father. We pray God our Father to unite our will to that of his Son after the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints. We ask that this loving plan be fully realized on earth as it is already in heaven. It is through prayer that we can discern "what is the will of God" (*Romans* 12:2) and have the "steadfastness to do it" (*Hebrews* 10:36)."

#592 "What is the sense of the petition "Give us this day our daily bread"?"

Asking God with the filial trust of children for the daily nourishment which is necessary for us all we recognize how good God is, beyond all goodness. We ask also for the grace to know how to act so that justice and solidarity may allow the abundance of some to remedy the needs of others."

#593 "What is the specifically Christian sense of this petition?"

Since "man does not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (*Matthew* 4:4), this petition equally applies to hunger for the *Word of God* and for the *Body of Christ* received in the Eucharist as well as hunger for the Holy Spirit. We ask this with complete confidence for *this day*—God's "today" — and this is given to us above all in the Eucharist which anticipates the banquet of the Kingdom to come."

Word of the Week: Cardiognosis (from the Greek, literally "knowledge of the heart") is a special charismatic gift (charism) attributed to some saints, allowing them to know the inner state, true intentions, and spiritual condition of another person's heart or soul, which God alone ordinarily knows. This ability is often described in the lives of saints, such as St. John Vianney and St. Padre Pio, who could perceive the hidden sins or true spiritual needs of those who came to them for confession or guidance.

Saint of the Week: John of the Cross (1542–1591) was born Juan de Yepes de Álvarez in Spain. Raised by his mother, he entered a Carmelite monastery in 1563 and was ordained a priest in 1567. Finding the Carmelites too lax, he joined Saint Teresa of Ávila in reforming the order. In 1568, he entered the first reformed house for men, taking the name John of the Cross. He encountered fierce opposition and was even imprisoned for nine months in a monastery cell, where he began writing poetry. "The Dark Night of the Soul" is his most famous work. Only after his death was John recognized as a co-founder of the Discalced Carmelites. He is the patron saint of mystics and poets and is considered a Doctor of the Church. Feast day: 14 December.

Saint Quote of the Week: *"Silence is God's first language."* – St. John of the Cross.

"In the inner stillness where meditation leads, the Spirit secretly anoints the soul and heals our deepest wounds." – St. John of the Cross.

"In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possessions and human success, but rather on how much we have loved." – St. John of the Cross.

"Never give up prayer, and should you find dryness and difficulty, persevere in it for this very reason. God often desires to see what love your soul has, and love is not tried by ease and satisfaction." – St. John of the Cross.

"Whenever anything disagreeable or displeasing happens to you, remember Christ crucified and be silent." – St. John of the Cross.



Parish Registration: New to our Parish? Please call the Rectory Office at: 610-826-2335 to register.

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.



Continue to pray for all Priests, Deacons and Seminarians. *"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.

Sacred Heart's Bible Study Group will meet Wednesday, December 17 at 10:00 AM in the Parish Center. All are invited to attend. Please note: We will not be meeting on December 24 and 31, 2025.

Oplatki (Christmas Wafers) are available in the Parish Center for \$3.00/pack (six wafers per pack).



This weekend we celebrate **"Bambinelli Sunday"**. Please place your Baby Jesus figure from your Manger on the Altar rail when you arrive. At the conclusion of Mass, Father Mullins will bless each Baby Jesus figure. Display your family Christmas Manger in a place where all can view it during the Christmas season.



Bingo Today!

Sunday, December 14!
Also, Christmas Raffle winners will be selected following BINGO.

- Doors and kitchen open 12 Noon.
- Bingo starts 1:00 PM. Cost: \$25.
- Sacred Heart Social Hall, 259 Lafayette Avenue.
- \$25 Gift Certificates are available to purchase.

Sacred Heart Christmas Raffle: \$10/ticket

1st prize: 20 piece Nativity Set
2nd prize: Rubbermaid Bakeware Set.
3rd and 4th prize: \$25 gift card – One Ten Tavern.
You need not be present to win. Good luck to all!
Tickets will be available at BINGO to purchase.

Weekly Collection

12/13-12/14: In Support of the Parish
Second Collection: Retirement for Religious
12/20-12/21: In Support of the Parish
Attendance Goal: 450
Actual 12/6-12/7: 309



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

Second Collection this weekend is for the Retired and Elderly Religious. They gave their lives in service—now they need your help. For decades, women and men religious have cared for others, teaching, praying and serving those in need. Many now face retirement without sufficient savings. Your support ensures they receive the care they deserve. Let us now offer them the dignity they have so selflessly granted to others. Your generosity today is not a donation—it's a way of thanking them for their lifelong service. Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious.



Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal. Many thanks to those who have supported this year's *Because We are Catholic Appeal*.

Parish Goal: \$23,328.00
 Pledges: \$24,871.96
 # of donors: 115

Your support will help make an impact on the lives of our friends, family and neighbors in need. For addition info visit: BecauseWeAreCatholic.org.

Please Support the Annual Fund for Retired and Informed Priests of the Diocese of Allentown.

Offer your support to the retired priests of our Diocese by helping provide for their care in retirement! Your donation will help serve those who have faithfully served us. You may return your gift in the mail or drop it in the collection basket at Mass. Visit www.weloveourpriests.org for details. Thank you in advance for your generous support!

SS Peter and Paul's "SVDP" is planning a LIVE NATIVITY at the Lehigh Amphitheater on Saturday, December 20, from 4 to 6 PM. They need young people to participate as shepherds, the Magi, the Holy Family, and an "angel" choir. Also needed are children volunteers, especially those who are able and comfortable singing. Please contact Esther Meier at: 570-657-6738.

Movie Night: Saturday, December 20 in the Parish Center at 6:30 PM. All are welcome to enjoy some snacks, make some friends and enjoy a classic movie, **"The Nativity Story"** (1 hour 20 minutes).



Sacred Heart Senior parishioners are invited: Next Sunday, December 21, following our 9:30 AM Mass in the school gym the Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring 15 games of BINGO for our senior parishioners of Sacred Heart, no cost to you.

Save the date: All are invited to attend the closing celebration for the Jubilee Year of Hope on Sunday, December 28 at the Cathedral Church of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown. 2:00 PM will be a choral presentation, The Sacrament of Penance will also be available from 2-3pm. The closing Mass will be at 3pm, celebrated by Bishop Schlert.

High School Ministry is currently selling Sacred Heart Logo Apparel. Place order form and check made payable to Sacred Heart in the collection basket or drop off at the Rectory Office. Items are on display in the front entrance to the Church.



SACRED HEART APPAREL ORDER FORM

Contact Tricia Matsko for order info:
 484-633-6510.

HOODIE SWEATSHIRTS \$35
 Colors: Camel or Charcoal Sizes: M – XL
 Color _____ Size _____
 Color _____ Size _____

YOUTH HOODIE SWEATSHIRTS \$35
 Color: Navy Blue Size: YXL only
 Quantity: _____

SHORT-SLEEVE POLO SHIRT \$20
 Color: Black only Sizes: M – XL
 Quantity: _____ Size _____

SHORT-SLEEVE T-SHIRTS \$15
 Colors: Blue or Gray Sizes: M – XL
 Color _____ Size _____
 Color _____ Size _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

AMOUNT DUE: _____

FRANCIS X. MULLANE INC.

Certified Public Accountants

430 Delaware Ave • Palmerton, PA

610-826-4262

2335 Rt. 115 • Brodheadsville

570-992-5291

Campton Funeral Home Inc.



Harold C. Schisler, Supervisor

525 Delaware Avenue
Palmerton, PA 18071-1910

(610) 826-2377



THE GETZ PERSONAL CARE HOME

Providing a loving, caring home for over 50 years!

(570) 629-1334

www.getzpersonalcare.com

1026 Scenic Drive, Kunkletown, PA

Welcome to Our Church!



STRUBINGER LAW P.C.

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

505 Delaware Avenue
Palmerton, PA 18071

(610) 826-7678

www.strubingerlawoffice.com

catholicmatch® Pennsylvania



CatholicMatch.com/datePA

Come Live with Us!



Schedule Your Tour

570-669-5500

Personal Care * Respite Care * Memory Care

NESQUEHONING, PA

www.mapleshademeadows.com

THE PALMERTON PERSONAL CARE HOME

Personal Care | Secure Memory Care | Respite Care

Schedule a Visit by Calling 610-824-7406 Ext. 101 or simply stop by!

71 Princeton Avenue, Palmerton, PA 18071

<https://inspiritseniorliving.com/contact-thepalmerton/>

INCREASE YOUR VISIBILITY IN THE COMMUNITY

Place Your Ad Here to Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Michele Barron

mbarron@jppc.net

484.300.2062



Have you found
FABER?

FREE DOWNLOAD!



GET IT ON Google Play Download on the App Store



DIAMOND 1ST REAL ESTATE

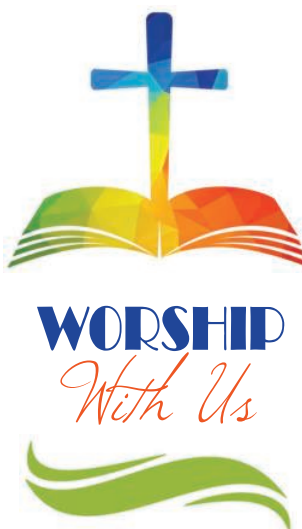
THE BEST MOVE YOU'LL EVER MAKE.

Proudly serving Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, and Monroe Communities!

Cass Chies Broker/Owner

236 Delaware Avenue, Palmerton, PA 18071

(610) 900-4300 | Cass@diamond1st.net



WORSHIP
With Us

RIDESHARING SAFETY TIPS

BEFORE YOU GET IN A RIDE SHARE

#WHATS MYNAME

S stop
A ask
M match
I inform

in remembrance of
Samantha Josephson

Sacred Heart Senior Living
by the creek SM

**Personal & Memory Care
Independent Living
Long and Short stays**

Northampton **610-262-4300** • Center Valley **610-814-2700**

www.sacredheartseniorliving.com

**Free No Obligation Consultations
No Buy-in Fees, Reasonable Rates
Rehabilitation & Respite**

“..... BECAUSE WE CARE”