



## St. Nicholas Catholic Church

1152 Oak Road  
Walnutport, PA 18088  
[www.stnicholaswalnutport.org](http://www.stnicholaswalnutport.org)

**Pastor:** Rev. Adam C. Sedar, M.A., M.Div.  
**Administrative Assistant:** Deacon Mike Kudla



**Parish Office and Religious Education:**  
610-767-3107  
E-mail: [stnick11@ptd.net](mailto:stnick11@ptd.net)

**Parish Office Hours:**  
Monday through Thursday 9 AM - 3 PM

**St. John Newman Regional School: (K-8)**  
610-826-2354

**PREP:**  
Grades K, 1, 2 Sun 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM  
Grades 3 - 8 Mon 6:30 PM - 7:45 PM

**BVMSN Credit Union:**  
484-272-2858

**Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator:**  
Pamela Russo, MSW, MA  
Secretary for Youth Protection  
610-871-5200, Ext. 2204  
[prusso@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:prusso@allentowndiocese.org)

**Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:**  
Wendy Krisak, M.A., NCC  
Direct Telephone 800-791-9209

## 12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.” - Mt 10:31

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

June 25, 2023

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — “Sing to the LORD, praise the LORD, for he has rescued the life of the poor from the power of the wicked!” (Jer 20:13)

**Psalm** — Lord, in your great love, answer me. (Ps 69)

**Second Reading** — But the gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many. (Rom 5:15)

**Gospel** — “What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light; what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.” (Mt 10:28)

## Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM  
Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30 AM  
Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday: 8:30 AM  
Tuesday: 6:30 PM (Latin Mass)

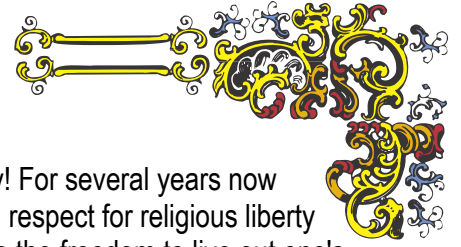
### Adoration of Most Blessed Sacrament:

Wednesday: 9 AM - 6:30 PM  
Benediction: 6:30 PM

### Confessions:

Saturday: 3:45 PM - 4:20 PM  
Tuesday: 5:45 PM - 6:15 PM  
(other times by appointment)

# *A Message from our Pastor:*



Dear Parishioners,

Soon we will celebrate the birth of our nation, July 4th, Independence Day! For several years now our bishops have asked us, in the days leading up to July 4, to pray for a renewed respect for religious liberty in our nation. Religious liberty is more than just the freedom to worship, it is also to the freedom to live out one's faith in God in public. Too often now, views and practices that are highly immoral and which were in the recent past considered extreme and harmful are now not only openly being practiced, but we are all being forced into some kind of co-operation with them. We must not forget how our own government tried to force the Little Sisters of the Poor, under Obamacare, to provide contraceptive and abortifacient drugs as "health-care." After a decade long legal battle, the Sisters won their case at the Supreme Court. Even though they won, the threat to religious liberty is still out there and sadly will not go away because of a few Supreme Court Victories. Please do not misunderstand, I am grateful for those victories. But we must be ever vigilant. Each day there are good Christian people who are being told they must support in some way some kind of immoral activity. The mandate of the Department of Health and Human Services still is being used to try to force religious institutions to facilitate or fund a product contrary to their own moral teaching, such as contraceptives and abortion inducing drugs. Further, the federal government tries to define which religious institutions are "religious enough" to merit protection of their religious liberty. Besides this, Catholic Adoption and Foster Care services are being shut down in many places because they refused to place children with same-sex couples or unmarried opposite-sex couples who cohabit. In another instance, New York City adopted a policy that barred the Bronx Household of Faith and other churches from renting public schools on weekends for worship services, even though non-religious groups could rent the same schools for other uses. And, one more example: After years of excellent performance by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Migration and Refugee Services (MRS) in administering contract services for victims of human trafficking, the federal government changed its grant specifications to require MRS to provide or refer for contraceptive and abortion services in violation of Catholic teaching.

The examples could go on and on. The point is, we cannot be naive to what is happening. We cannot be discouraged either. Our ultimate goal and hope is in a world beyond this one, the Heavenly Kingdom which will only be established fully when the Lord comes again. In the meantime, we pray in hope and work with joy to bring the light and truth of the Gospel to all who will accept Him. In these days leading up to July 4th, let's pray for our nation, for religious liberty to be respected and all of our people to come to the Lord and accept the Gospel.

Peace- Father Adam

## **A Prayer for Religious Liberty**

O God our Creator,  
from your provident hand we have received  
our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.  
You have called us as your people and given us  
the right and the duty to worship you, the only true God,  
and your Son, Jesus Christ.  
Through the power and working of your Holy Spirit,  
you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world,  
bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel  
to every corner of society.

We ask you to bless us  
in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty.  
Give us the strength of mind and heart  
to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened;  
give us courage in making our voices heard  
on behalf of the rights of your Church  
and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith.

Grant, we pray, O heavenly Father,  
a clear and united voice to all your sons and daughters  
gathered in your Church  
in this decisive hour in the history of our nation,  
so that, with every trial withstood  
and every danger overcome—  
for the sake of our children, our grandchildren,  
and all who come after us—  
this great land will always be "one nation, under God,  
indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



# Mass Intentions:

- Sat 6/24 4:30 PM Charles Lakovits (Daughters Charlene and Nancy)
- Sun 6/25 8:30 AM People of the Parish  
10:30 AM Thomas Papay Sr. (Joanne Kochmaruk)
- Mon 6/26 8:30 AM Father's day Intentions
- Tues 6/27 6:30 PM Elizabeth Browne (Cindy Saab)
- Wed 6/28 8:30 AM Bob Allesch (Carl & Kay Niedzwiecki)
- Thu 6/29 8:30 AM Mary Adams (Family)
- Fri 6/30 No Mass
- Sat 7/1 4:30 PM Gale Seiler (Keith & Iris Blose)
- Sun 7/2 8:30 AM People of the Parish  
10:30 AM Edward Tanczos (Mary and Family)

## Coming Events:

**Summer Bible Study** June 22, July 6, July 20— 6:30pm-7:45pm Rectory Downstairs Conference Room

**Lunch & Learn Catechesis** June 25th, July 9th, July 30th - 11:45-12:45 in the Parish Hall

**St. Nicholas Church Picnic Sunday, August 27,** 12 pm-6 pm at Walnutport Canal Pavilion.

## Parish Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

**Holy Rosary:** Saturday & Sunday: 30 minutes before Mass. Monday & Thursday: 9AM. Tuesday: 6PM. Wednesday & Fridays: 3PM (*immediately after the Chaplet of Divine Mercy*).

**Chaplet of Divine Mercy:** Every Wednesday & Friday at 3PM.

## Eucharist Adoration



Jesus still waits for us in the tabernacle. Please spend time with our Lord, in Eucharistic Adoration.

Eucharistic Adoration is every Wednesday between 8:30AM and 6:30PM.

Adoration is powerful! Thank you to everyone who reaffirmed their commitment to spend at least 30 minutes with the Lord per month! Indeed, we are still seeking new (30-minute) commitments to our monthly Adoration schedule on any given Wednesday of the month (*between the hours of 09:30 to 6:30PM*) by signing the clipboards on the table in the vestibule.

## Lector Ministry Schedule

|                     | July 1-2       | July 8-9        |
|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Sat 4:30 PM</b>  | Steve Bertalan | Paul Sparling   |
| <b>Sun 8:30 AM</b>  | Carl Litwin    | Barbara Schmidt |
| <b>Sun 10:30 AM</b> | Sue Hankee     | Brianna Pereira |

### Tabernacle Candle Intentions

To reserve one of the Lamps for a weekly intention, donation is \$10.



### Altar Wine and Bread

You are able to reserve in your name the Altar Wine and Bread used throughout the week for all the Masses. Donation is \$20.



### Blessed Mother or St. Joseph Flowers

Each arrangement is a donation of \$35. Stop by or call the parish office.



## Week of June 25 to July 1

*Tabernacle Candles will be lit in Memory of James Smith (Rolande Smith) St. Nicholas Memorial Society*

*Altar Hosts and Wine Offered in Memory of Wednesday Adorers*



## BVMSN FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Serving the parishioners and families of Assumption BVM and St. Nicholas Churches. We offer lower interest rate loans and financial counseling if you want to help clean up your credit. Your money is insured up to \$250,000. For more information, call the credit union at 484-272-2858 or stop by the St. Nicholas Rectory on Monday nights from 7pm-9pm. We are here for you.

## Caring Hands Knit-Crochet Group

We create comforting items to be donated to those in need within our area.

For example: prayer shawls, lap robes, cancer hats, preemie & newborn hats and blankets...etc.

Join us the second and fourth Friday of each month from 10am-12pm in the social hall. If you are interested or have any questions please contact: Krista Ambrosino @ 484.597.3685

Please call the parish center office at 610-767-3107 if you would like to suggest the name of someone who would benefit from one of our items.



## Prayer is Powerful!

Call Dolores 610-767-2013 or e-mail dkine224@gmail.com with your prayer requests or join our Prayer Chain; feel the power and grace of prayer.

We are pleased to announce that our prayer list is now connected with Sacred Heart Church in Palmerton and is on a **Universal Prayer Chain**. This is a HUGE step for us because those on our prayer list will be having prayers said for them all over the world...Praise God!

**If you know of someone in the hospital or homebound** Please call the parish office, 610-767-3107, so someone can visit them.

Please keep in your prayers our Parishioners who are sick, and those who are waiting for or recovering from surgery.

Also, please pray for our military Men and Women and their families; they give so much so we can enjoy our Freedom!



## Boy Scouts

**Boys Scouts** meet Thursdays at 7 PM in the social hall. For more information, please call Mike, 610-824-6556.

| JUNE      |        |   |
|-----------|--------|---|
| Date      | Time   | Cleaning Volunteers                             |
| Fri. 3/30 | 9:30am | Terry Rice, Carl Niedzwiecki, Tony Scarselletti |

## St. Nicholas Parish Directory News

With your help, St. Nicholas Church community will be taking individual and family photographs of our members for our Church Directory through Universal Church Directories.

### The dates for Photography are:

| DAY       | DATE    | TIME             |
|-----------|---------|------------------|
| Monday    | July 24 | 2-8:30 pm        |
| Tuesday   | July 25 | 2-8:30 pm        |
| Wednesday | July 26 | 2-8:30 pm        |
| Monday    | Oct 16  | 2-8:30 pm        |
| Tuesday   | Oct 17  | 2-8:30 pm        |
| Thursday  | Nov 9   | 2-8:30 pm        |
| Friday    | Nov 10  | 2-8:30 pm        |
| Saturday  | Nov 11  | 10:30 am to 5 pm |

Go to this link to schedule your date/time and register your contact information:

<https://ucdir.com/online-scheduling.php>

You can also find this link on the parish web site.

Use Church Code: PA1039

Use Church Password: photos

If you have any questions, email:

[publicrelations@stnicholaswalnutport.org](mailto:publicrelations@stnicholaswalnutport.org)

Or call Meg Schell c: 610-533-0673

## Caring Cardmaking ♥ ♥ ♥

Our card making team at St. Nicks (caring cards) is in full swing. If you know of someone who is having surgery, is ill, is homebound or in a nursing home or hospice please contact us with their names and addresses so that we can get a card off to them.

You can contact Pat Hunsicker at (610) 824-4017 or you can text or call cell phone (484) 474-7265. We don't want to miss anyone so please help if you can. Thank you.



**St Nick's has a new Instagram account.**

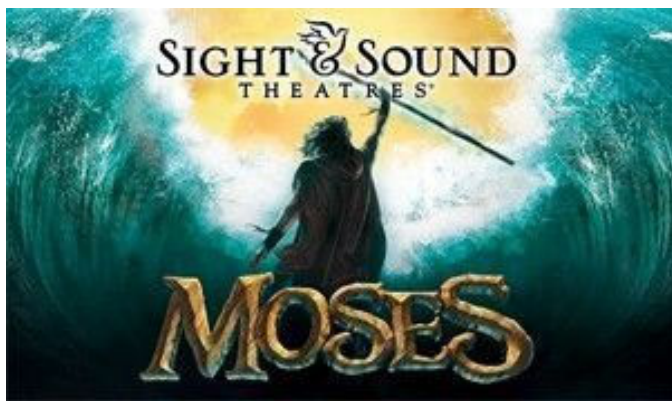
**Follow our name: stnicholaswalnutport**

## Planting Monthly Madness!

Enjoy live plants year-round? Join us for Monthly Madness! Purchase a Dan Schantz card for \$25.00 each (12 garden items redeemable monthly), allowing you to pick up a monthly special + Bonus Coupons from Dan Schantz Greenhouse on 29<sup>th</sup> Street in Allentown. The card is good for one year from the month you start. To order go to [www.stnicholaswalnutport.org](http://www.stnicholaswalnutport.org) 'events' or email: [fundraising@stnicholaswalnutport.org](mailto:fundraising@stnicholaswalnutport.org).



## Sight and Sound Theatre Trip



The St. Nicholas Community Core Team is pleased to announce a trip to **Sight and Sound Theatres** presentation of “**Moses**”

**Lancaster, PA**

**Friday, August 18, 2023 — 3:00 pm Show**  
**Deadline to Order Tickets — July 2, 2023**

### Tickets:

- ◆ **Just Show** (Self transportation)  
\$80 per adult; \$39 ages 3-12
- ◆ **Show and Bus** (Bus is not Handicap accessible)  
\$112 per adult; \$71 per child (3-12) #

### LUNCH 12 noon Lunch at **Shady Maple Smorgasbord**

- ◆ \$18.00 per person (11-59 yo)
- ◆ 10% off Sr. Discount (60-89) 50% off (90+)
- ◆ 50% off ages 4-10

You can choose not to eat at the Smorgasbord. There is a snack bar and gift shop in the basement of Shady Maple or pack your own lunch. Those who drive themselves may choose to join us for lunch. #

### For Questions Contact:

Donna DeCesaris Call/Text 610-533-4739  
email [community@stnicholaswalnutport.org](mailto:community@stnicholaswalnutport.org)

**Go to the Events Page of the St. Nicholas Website to order your tickets online.**

## Lunch & Learn Catechesis

**Dates:** June 25th, July 9th, July 30th

**Time:** 11:45am-12:45pm

**Location:** Parish Hall

Following the 10:30am Mass, Tyler will be giving catechetical talks with question and answer sessions. The first talk (June 25th) is on our baptismal gift of prophesy. All are welcome join! Please consider bringing something shareable for lunch. A sign up sheet will be posted in advance to help coordinate this pot luck.



**Wawa ‘Shorti’ hoagie coupons** are available through the Knights of Columbus

\$5.00 each, any Wawa, no expiration.

Build your hoagie at the kiosk. Before Finish Order, touch “Customize”; touch “Shorti”; finish your order. Present coupon at checkout.

See me after Mass in the hall (8:30 or 10:30, alternating weekends) or contact me directly to arrange a place and time for pickup.

Anthony (Tony) Scarselletti  
[ascarsel@ptd.net](mailto:ascarsel@ptd.net) or 610-393-4671



**We’re bringing back an Ole Fashioned St. Nicholas Church Picnic! Save the date.**

**Sunday, August 27, 2023**

12 pm — 6 pm

Walnutport Canal Pavilion

Hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, fun games, Duck race, cake walk, corn hole, and lots more! There will be a nominal charge for food-advance tickets will be sold. Kids under 18 are free.

**The picnic will be open to Assumption, Sacred Heart in Palmerton, and all St John Neumann families.**

Looking for Food donations for grill items and we need Volunteers to set up/break down + grill masters. Watch for more information.

Contact Bob Watkins cell: 484-515-5242 or email: [wattiesw@ptd.net](mailto:wattiesw@ptd.net)

## Summer Bible Study

**Dates:** June 22, July 6, July 20

**Time:** 6:30pm-7:45pm

**Location:** Rectory Downstairs Conference Room

Join our seminarian, Tyler as we dive into specific biblical topics of interest over the summer. In our first discussion, we will trace Marian themes through the Old and New Testaments. Please email Tyler ([tdavis@scs.edu](mailto:tdavis@scs.edu)) if you are not currently enrolled in St. Nicholas' Bible Studies. He will send you suggested readings and reflection questions to help guide the discussions. We look forward to seeing you there!

