



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

“Are you envious because I am generous?’ Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.” - Mt 20:15-16

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

September 24, 2023 ©LPI

# TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. (Is 55:8)

**Psalms** — The Lord is near to all who call upon him. (Ps 145)

**Second Reading** — Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me life is Christ, and death is gain. (Phil 1:20-21)

**Gospel** — “What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?” (Mt 20:14-15)

## 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

## 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

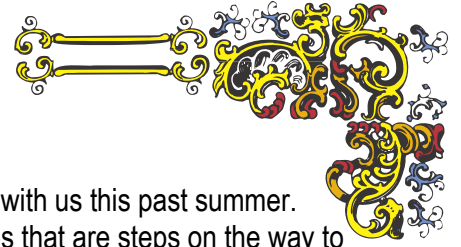
### Confessions:

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,

I had very good news to share from Tyler Davis, the seminarian who was with us this past summer. This past Saturday he received the office of Lector, one of the two formal ministries that are steps on the way to Ordination, the rites that confer the sacrament of Holy Orders. Our own bishop, Bishop Schlert, was invited to go to the St. Charles Seminary to confer this office on Tyler and his class. Please continue to pray for Tyler and his class as they continue to respond with open hearts to Our Lord's call to priesthood. I look forward to more good reports from Tyler to pass on to you.

It may be helpful to further understand these minor ministries or offices that are conferred on the way to Ordination. The following is excerpted from the writings of Father David Endres as published in the Catholic Telegraph:

As early as the third century, certain roles of service, including deacon, subdeacon, lector, and acolyte, were present in the church. These orders over time became linked to preparation for the priesthood and were divided between "minor orders" (porter, exorcist, lector, and acolyte) and "major orders" (subdeacon, deacon, and priest). Each order was received and its function performed for a suitable time before a man was ordained to the priesthood.

The roles were varied but served a legitimate purpose in the early church, usually related to the Mass. For instance, the porter was the doorkeeper, responsible for opening and closing the church and guarding the door during the celebration of Mass.

The acolyte, in its original role, was responsible for lighting the candles around the altar. He also accompanied the priest, bringing a candle near him so that he could read the proper prayers. The lector was set apart to read the sacred Scriptures during the liturgy. The subdeacon assisted the deacon and priest by helping set the altar, among other duties. Historically, as it signaled entry into major orders and proximate preparation for the priesthood, a seminarian made his promise of celibacy in receiving subdiaconate.

Together the orders constituted ministries of service that developed in the church according to need. Yet over time, many of them lost their function. The orders, especially porter and exorcist, became symbolic. The loss of these functions occasioned a revision of the orders after the Second Vatican Council.

In 1972 Pope Paul VI suppressed the four minor orders and replaced them with the two "special offices" or ministries: minister of the word (lector) and minister of the altar (acolyte). The role of the subdeacon was subsumed by the role of acolyte. The conferring of these ministries was no longer to be called "ordination" but instead "installation."

In reforming these offices, it seems that Pope Paul VI intended to open certain ministries to the laity, including the ministries of lector and acolyte. Such roles were no longer to be seen exclusively as markers along the pathway to the priesthood.

However, in practice, the custom of officially instituting lectors and acolytes retained its connection to preparation for priesthood and diaconate. The laity, in part because these ministries are limited to men, were rarely installed in these roles. However, at the same time, it was acknowledged that these functions could be performed by other persons, even if not officially installed in these roles, when the celebration of the liturgy required it. This opened up the practice of lay men and women serving as lectors, acolytes, and eventually Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. For the most part, the instituted ministers and those not instituted fulfill the same functions, but some privileges are extended only to instituted ministers (for instance, only instituted acolytes can assist with the purification of the vessels after Communion).

Today, each year seminarians are installed as lectors and acolytes and serve in these ministries as preparation for holy orders. However, at the same time, in parishes throughout the archdiocese, men and women perform these same roles, not necessarily as a preparation for additional roles of leadership and service in the church, but for the benefit of their parish communities and their worship of God.

## **Annual Blessing of Pets**

We invite you to bring your pets for our annual Pet Blessing on Sunday October 1st at 12:30 in the parking lot. Hope to see you and your special friends!



Peace- Father Adam



# Mass Intentions:

- Sat 9/23 4:30 PM Teague Sauerzoph (Richard & Nancy Sauerzoph)
- Sun 9/24 8:30 AM People of the Parish  
10:30 AM Fred Kochmaruk Jr. (Joanne Kochmaruk)
- Mon 9/25 8:30 AM Deb Kudla (Laura and Dcn. Mike Kudla)
- Tues 9/26 6:30 PM Kenneth McConegh (Friend)
- Wed 9/27 8:30 AM Lloyd Hopkins (Mr. & Mrs. Edward Erschen)
- Thu 9/28 8:30 AM Katherine Benecasa (Friend)
- Fri 9/29 No Mass
- Sat 9/30 4:30 PM Evan Hodulich (Lisa & Tom Pignataro)
- Sun 10/1 8:30 AM George Woytko (Mary Woytko)  
10:30 AM People of the Parish

## St. Nicholas Food Pantry Is Open

Collections are on the third weekend of the month. If you know of a family or person that can use a hand at this time, let Deacon Mike in the parish office know.

## 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

	Sept. 30-Oct. 1
Sat 4:30 PM	Paul Sparling
Sun 8:30 AM	Barbara Schmidt
Sun 10:30 AM	John McRoberts

## St. Joseph Flowers

September 24 through 30

Fred Kochmaruk Jr. (Joanne Kochmaruk)



### 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 September 24 to 30

*Tabernacle Candles will be lit in Memory of Joe and Felisha Dormans (Christina Dormans) Christine Paar (Parents)*

*Altar Hosts and Wine Offered in Memory of Fred Kochmaruk Jr. (Joanne Kochmaruk)*



## Introducing the Forty-Forty Challenge for Fun and Fitness

Are you ready to unlock a new level of personal growth, resilience and achievement? This happens by completing a 1-mile walk or run each day focusing on the Lord by yourself or with others and completing scripture readings. Commit 40 days to a transformative journey designed to empower you, take control of your life, and embrace positive change. **Starting September 25 until November 3<sup>rd</sup>**. All ages are invited to the organizational meeting on Monday September 25 at 6pm at Delps Park located on Delps Rd. in Danielsville, Lehigh Township. Register at [community@stnicholaswalnutport.org](mailto:community@stnicholaswalnutport.org)



Please join us...

## State of the FOUNDATION 2023 Meeting

**October 10** at 4:30 pm  
at Holy Family Senior Living,  
Bethlehem

Use QR Code  
to **RSVP** by  
**Oct. 5, 2023**



catholicfoundationep.org

## NORTH OF 50 Coffee & Cake Gathering



St Nicholas "North of 50" group will be hosting COFFEE & CAKE on September 26, 2023 @ 2PM at in the Social Hall.

Feel free to bring a baked item!

Please sign up if you will be able to join the fun. Sign-up sheets are in the church hall.

**Contact:** Ann Orsulak 610 392 1092  
Lisa Pignataro 610 737 4716

## PAINT & SIP



Wednesday, Sept 27, 2023, from 6-8 pm at Bossard's Corner, 234 Delaware Ave, Palmerton, PA. Cost \$40.00. The event is limited to the first 25 people. Cash/check in advance. Sign-up sheets will be in Church Portico. This event is open to Church members and families. Contact: Deb Fritz c: 610-463-6093/ e: [debfriz777@gmail.com](mailto:debfriz777@gmail.com)

## Boy Scouts

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



## St. Nicholas Basket Palooza

Fall is in the air, which means we are getting closer to our annual Basket Palooza (formerly Basket Social)! This year's event will be held on **Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>**, 9 am – 2 pm, with a special preview on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 5-6 pm. Please consider helping to make this event the best one yet. New items for baskets, gift cards, and monetary donations will help in assembling a variety of themed baskets. The kitchen and bake sale will be open with delicious food and sweet treats. More information and sign-up sheets for volunteers will be out shortly. Thank you to all parishioners who contribute to this major fundraising event in any way; we couldn't do it without you!



The Fundraising Committee is in special need of medium and large baskets. They can be left in the social hall.



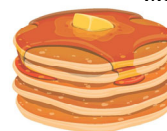
Knights of Columbus Council #16656

## All You Can Eat Breakfast

■ \$10 Age 11 and up ■ \$6 Age 6-10 ■

■ Under 6 Free ■

Pancakes  
Sausage  
Home Fries  
Coffee/Tea/Juice



Made to order Omelets  
Creamed Chip Beef  
Ham  
Toast

**Sunday September 24, 2023**  
**8am - 12:30pm**

In the St. Nicholas Social Hall

A portion of the proceeds will benefit:  
St. Nicholas Building Fund & Habitat for Humanity  
WAWA Shortie Hoagie Coupons will be for sale for \$5.00 each.

## Bible Study Thursdays

The Book of Revelation is full of images, numbers, colors, and creatures!

**Please join us because, *once you understand their rich symbolism, you will find the Revelation (Apocalypse, "pull back the veil") to be very relevant to your daily life.*** Everyone is welcome! Sessions are held every other Thursday at 6:30PM (10/05, 10/19, 11/09, 11/16, 11/30, 12/14, 01/04, 01/18, and 02/01/2024).



## Looking for Help Keeping Our Lord's House Clean



Do you have two hours a month to help clean the Lord's House? If you do please contact Lisa Pignataro @ [lisa541@verizon.net](mailto:lisa541@verizon.net), or 610-737-4716.

SEPTEMBER		
Date	Time	Cleaning Volunteers
Thurs. 9/28	9:30am	Maribeth Ward, Diane Turner, Lisa Pignataro

## PUBLIC ROSARY

Will be said on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 12 Noon in the Upper Parking Lot of Assumption BVM Parish by our new Blessed Mother Statue.

All are welcome – please bring a lawn chair. If we have inclement weather, we will recite the Rosary in Church.

## Pro-life Baby Bottle Collection

Please save your loose change for the coming **Pro-life Baby Bottle Collection**. The Knights of Columbus will be distributing baby bottles the last weeks of September. You can put your loose change, dollar bills, or checks into the bottles which will be picked up the last 2 weeks of October and distributed to Care Net of Lehighton and Cay Galgon Life Center in Bethlehem.



## Counting Our Blessings-Thank You

9/17	Sunday Collection	\$2,988.00
	School	\$60.00
	Redners	\$121.76
	Donations	\$330.00
	Latin America	\$126.00
	Assumption	\$15.00
	Restoration & Preservation	\$155.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,795.76</b>

## 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	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



### Order Your Tickets Now!

Sight and Sound presents "Miracle of Christmas"

Lancaster, PA

Friday, December 15

3:00 pm Show

### TICKETS

- ◆ **Show and Bus** (Bus is Handicap accessible)  
\$125 per adult; \$85 per child (3-12)
- ◆ **Just Show** (Self transportation)  
\$80 per adult ; \$40 ages 3-12#

For Questions Contact: Donna DeCesaris

Call/Text 610-533-4739 after 4 pm

email [community@stnicholaswalnutport.org](mailto:community@stnicholaswalnutport.org)

### DETAILS AND ONLINE REGISTRATION

[www.stnicholaswalnutport.org](http://www.stnicholaswalnutport.org) click 'Events'

A Sign-up sheet and double-sided flyers with registration forms on the back are on the table in the Church portico.