

St. Nicholas Catholic Church

1152 Oak Road
Walnutport, PA 18088
www.stnicholaswalnutport.org

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



THE HOLY FAMILY

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom;
and the favor of God was upon him. - Lk 2:40

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

December 31, 2023 ©LPI

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — "Your own issue shall be your heir." The Lord took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." (Gn 3:4-5)

Psalm — The Lord remembers his covenant for ever. (Ps 105)

Second Reading — By faith he received power to generate, even though he was past the normal age —and Sarah herself was sterile. (Heb 11:11)

Gospel — The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. (Lk 2:40)

Parish Office and Religious Education:

610-767-3107
E-mail: 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

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 Holy Day: 8:30 & 10:30 AM
Tuesday: 6:30 PM (Latin Mass)
Wednesday, & Thursday: 8:30 AM

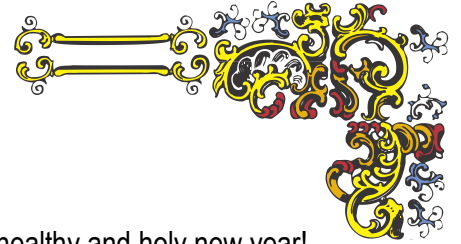
Adoration of Most Blessed Sacrament:

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

A Message from our Pastor:



Dear Parishioners,

I offer to you and your loved ones my prayers and blessings for a happy, healthy and holy new year! May the Lord grant us His mercy that we may continue to grow together in faith and in the love of the Lord, Who is present in our midst, especially in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. May our lives this coming year be ever more centered around our Eucharistic Lord.

I also want to thank you all for your personal kindness to me in the many cards and Christmas gifts. I feel very blessed and am so grateful for you and your generosity to me. I pray that the Lord returns your generosity a hundredfold.

As we celebrate New Years Day as a great feast of Mary, the Mother of God, we are also reminded that the beginning of new year is a time to pray for peace. Once again we place this petition in the hands of Our Mother, asking her to go the Lord and seek His mercy for us in the form of a new and greater conversion of minds and hearts to Him, Who alone is the source of real peace. Accepting Christ is the only real way to true peace. It is only in Him that past wrongs, evils, can be forgiven and that those afflicted by injustices can be healed. This is true in our own lives as well as on a international and global scale. Christ is always the answer to every wrong, every evil and every hardship that afflicts the human race. When we pray for conversion to Christ we are in fact also praying for peace.

Peace- Father Adam

A Prayer to Begin the New Year

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so
much seek to be consoled as to
console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

R/. Amen.

—Attributed to St. Francis of Assisi



Observances for the week of December 31, 2023

- Sunday: The Holy Family; New Year's Eve
Monday: Mary, The Holy Mother of God, New Year's Day, World Day of Peace
Tuesday: Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
Wednesday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Thursday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
Friday: St. John Neumann, Bishop
Saturday: St. André Bessette, Religious
Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

The Rosary Society of St. Nicholas Parish

All adult parishioners (*both women and men*) are welcomed to join our next meeting which will be held on **Wednesday January 03, 2023 at 6:30PM beginning with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.**






Mass Intentions:

- Sat 12/30 4:30 PM People of the Parish
- Sun 12/31 8:30 AM Joan Edwards
(Theresa Taddeo)
- 10:30 AM Thomas Papay Sr.
(Joanna Kochmaruk)
- Mon 1/1 8:30 AM People of the Parish
- 10:30 AM People of the Parish
- Tues 1/2 6:30 PM St Nicholas Memorial Society
- Wed 1/3 8:30 AM Penny Bernall (Ellen Knoblach)
- Thu 1/4 8:30 AM David Kuronya (Kuronya Family)
- Fri 1/5 No Mass
- Sat 1/6 4:30 PM James Devlin
(Stephaine & Edward Erschen)
- Sun 1/7 8:30 AM People of the Parish
- 10:30 AM Tommy Pignataro
(Lisa Pignataro)

| <i>Lector Ministry Schedule</i> | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| | January 6-7 | January 13-14 |
| Sat 4:30 PM | Kate Holland | Steven Bertalan |
| Sun 8:30 AM | Barbara Schmidt | Tony Fixl |
| Sun 10:30 AM | Sue Hankee | Carl Litwin |

**The Solemnity of Mary,
Mother of God
Holy Day Mass Times**

Monday, January 1
8:30 AM and 10:30 AM




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.



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 December 31 to January 6

*Tabernacle Candles will be lit in Memory of
Wednesday Adorers
St. Nicholas Memorial Society*

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

Knights of Columbus



St. Nicholas Council #16656 A Star Award Council has been recognized for their church and community service and outreach programs.

Men that are practicing Catholics and 18 years old are eligible to join.

Call the Parish Office for more information. **To make your registration** easier, you can join the K of C online at kofc.org/JoinUs.

K of C General Business Meeting 2nd Wed @ 6:30 PM,
Officers' Meeting 4th Wed @ 7:30PM.

We Need Your Help!

If you or you know a parishioner that is homebound or is in or going into in a nursing home or personal care facility, please let us know by calling the Parish Office.

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!

Winter Weather and Wednesday Adoration

In the case of winter storms, if Northampton School district is delayed, Adoration will begin at Noon, if school is canceled, Adoration will also be cancelled for the day. A Flock-note message will also be sent out.

Daily Mass will always be offered at the usual times regardless of weather.



Boy Scouts

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

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.

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.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. Membership is open to anyone who has the desire to do stop drinking.

AA Group meets 6:30 PM Sunday in the social hall.

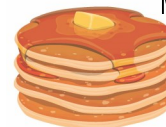


Knights of Columbus Council #16656

All You Can Eat Breakfast

**\$10 - Age 11 and up ■ \$6 Age 6-10 ■
5 and Under Free**

Pancakes
Sausage
Home Fries
Coffee/Tea/Juice



Made to order Omelets
Creamed Chip Beef
Ham
Toast

**January 21, 2024
8am - 12:30pm**

In the St. Nicholas Social Hall

| JANUARY | | |
|----------------|------|---|
| Date | Time | Cleaning Volunteers |
| Fri. 1/5 | TBD | Tony Scarselletti, Carl Niedzweicki, Maribeth Ward |
| Thurs. 1/11 | TBD | Bill Caserta, Tim Gregory, Carl Litwin |
| Thurs. 1/18 | TBD | Meg Schell, Jim Boyle, Marie Brunst |
| Thurs. 1/25 | TBD | Diane Turner, Terry Rice, Lisa Pignataro |

Counting Our Blessings

| | | |
|-------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 12/17 | Sunday Collection | \$3,073.00 |
| | Donation | \$278.00 |
| | Preservation & Restoration | \$200.00 |
| | Other | \$252.00 |
| | Total | \$3,803.00 |

Thank You!

Readings for the week of December 31, 2023

| | |
|------------|--|
| Sunday: | Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/ Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40 |
| Monday: | Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4- 7/Lk 2:16-21 |
| Tuesday: | 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28 |
| Wednesday: | 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34 |
| Thursday: | 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42 |
| Friday: | 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51 |
| Saturday: | 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38 |

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.

Website Notes

Did you notice our new website colors? Blue, in honor of St. Nicholas' great love for the Blessed Mother, is our new parish color. The website has been updated accordingly. We welcome you to check it out!

Visit our website at: www.stnicholaswalnutport.org

Bible Study Thursdays

The Bible begins with a wedding (Genesis 2:23-24) and ends with a wedding (Revelation 19:9; 21:9; 22:17). Just as the number '7' represents "complete perfection", the number '666' represents a "complete falling short of perfection". Our Bible Study of the Book of Revelation is entering its final chapters: (1) the 7 letters of warning have been delivered to the 7 churches; (2) the judgments to come have been revealed through the 7 seals, the 7 trumpets, and the 7 bowls; and (3) the great cosmic struggle between good and evil has been revealed. But how will this all play out? Please join us as Jesus Christ ushers in the three (3) pivotal events that occur in Chapter 19: **Thursdays at 6:30PM (01/04, 01/18, and 02/01/2024).**



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. We meet the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month at 10:30 in the social hall.

You can contact Pat Hunsicker at (610) 824-4017 or you can text or call cell phone (484) 464-7265. We don't want to miss anyone so please help if you can. Thank you.



We Wish You and Your Loved Ones Great Health and Happiness in the New Year.