

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God. - Jn 3:20-21

March 10, 2024

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. (2 Chr 36:15-16)

Psalm — Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you! (Ps 137)

Second Reading — God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ. (Eph 2:4-5)

Gospel — For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. (Jn 3:16)

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

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 - 8: 2nd Monday of the month 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, Wednesday, & Thursday: 8:30AM 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,

Among the good things Lent provides us is the opportunity to reflect on our priorities and especially to do so looking at all things in our life in their relation to God and His plan for us. Whose priorities do we place first- ours or His? Perhaps it might even be better to ask ourselves and honestly consider if any of our priorities in life are in conflict with God's. Of course to reflect this way in any truly useful fashion requires that we know what God's priorities are for us. First and foremost He wants us to be holy. We should understand that this will absolutely mean God does not want us to always be happy, at least not in this world! He does want us to be eternally happy with Him forever, thus he wants us to be holy! Holiness will definitely mean we will endure some, and sadly maybe much, unhappiness in this world. yet if our priorities are aligned with His, all the unhappiness in this world will seem very bearable and in the midst of it we can have a very real sense of peace, because we know our self denial and our embracing of the cross is making us holy. Below is a blog post about this very subject which I thought would be food for good Lenten reflection. It is from Our Sorrowful Mother's Ministry, founded by Father Chad Ripperger.

Are You Perfect?

Are you perfect is kind of a strange question. No one is perfect. We all have flaws, probably more than we care to admit. They say, they we tell more lies to ourselves than anyone else. So, we may rationalize some of less perfect qualities.

In Matthew, 5:48, the Gospel reads, "Be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect". Chapter 5 begins with the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus is giving us a blueprint for living our lives. These are not just words to read and dismiss. When Jesus speaks, He is just giving us some suggestions about how to get along better with others. He is giving us commands as to what we should be doing.

We are given many gifts, first of all our very lives, then our families, all those who love us, our homes, possessions and let's face it, many conveniences. We have more leisure time than any generation that lived before us. Many things we own are supposed to be saving us time. But what are we using our time for? More leisure activities?

If Jesus has commanded us to be holy, then He has provided the means and given us the ability to do so. He doesn't require us to do things He doesn't equip us to do. Then comes the hard part. We have to respond. So, how to become holy? We will according to God's Will. Where are we in our life? How can we love others? How can we help others? We are not asked to be Mother Teresa, moving to India to care for the poor. That was her calling. We are asked to love those who are in our immediate circle; our families, our friends, those people we work with or attend the same church.

We are to pray and give glory to God. Do we talk to him everyday, sharing our thoughts, our worries, our joys and blessings? Or is God tucked neatly into Sunday morning before we start our day, doing what we really want to do. Hopefully, God and going to Mass isn't a check list item.

Holiness isn't an option, it is our duty to work daily to pray, eliminate our faults, give to others, love our enemies and pray for them.

Peace- Father Adam

SEEKING 50th ANNIVERSARY VOLUNTEERS UPDATE

The 50th Anniversary Committee braved the weather and held a planning meeting on Feb. 17.



All families and children

of the parish are invited to this **business casual event** at Woodstone on November 17, 2024.

The committee is seeking more volunteers for there is much work to be done: decorating, centerpieces,

fundraising, sponsorships, silent auction, program book, Church history presentation/ slideshow, desserts.

The next planning meeting will be held on Saturday, March 16 at 9:30am in the social hall.

Anyone interested in volunteering, please come to the next meeting or sign up in the porticos or email:

community@stnicholaswalnutport.org



Sat 3/9	4:30 PM	People of the Parish
Sun 3/10		Helen Anthony (Carol Thomas) Edward and Margaret Kochie (Joanne Kilpatrick)
Mon 3/11	8:30 AM	Edwards Family (Theresa Taddeo)
Tues 3/12	6:30 PM	People of the Parish
Wed 3/13	8:30 AM	Lorraine Oriente (Theresa Taddeo)
Thu 3/14	8:30 AM	Jeffery Burnatowski (Dave & Ann Marie Orsulak)
Fri 3/15	No Mass	
Sat 3/16	4:30 PM	Al Fantozzi (Bob & Janice Bauer)
Sun 3/17		People of the Parish Confirmation Class and Parents (Joanne Klucsarits)

Lector Ministry Schedule

	March 16-17		
Sat 4:30 PM	Bill Caserta		
Sun 8:30 AM	Barbara Schmidt		
Sun 10:30 AM	John McRoberts		

St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour Every 3rd Wednesday of the Month 6-7PM

We come together to pray for those who have fallen away from the Faith!



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 <u>still seeking new (30-minute)</u> <u>commitments</u> 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 March 10 to 16

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

Altar Hosts and Wine Offered in Memory of **St. Nicholas Memorial Society**

Stations of the Cross:

Please join us for the praying of the Stations of the Cross during Lent:

Every Wednesday at 6:30PM (with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament).

Every Friday at 3PM (*immediately after the praying of the Holy Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy* when we pray for deceased members of St. Nicholas Parish).

Note that on March 20, **Stations will follow our monthly St. Monica Holy Hour** (6-7PM). On those two Wednesdays, Stations will be at 7PM.



It's official! The Disciple Maker Index Survey went live on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2024, and we need your help!

Please Read and Complete online!

Please help us participate by completing a 10-15 minute survey as soon as possible.

Go to https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/b386tb

Or just go to the St. Nicholas website Events page and click on the link provided.

There are also opportunities to complete the survey after daily and Sunday Mass and you can obtain a paper copy in the Parish Vestibule.

We will have laptop computers available after Masses the weekend of March 2 + 3, 2024.

The survey will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole.

We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will be invaluable to Father Adam Sedar and our various ministries as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be. We will receive the results this spring/summer at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

Thank you for helping with this important project! Father Adam Sedar

Boy Scouts

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

Lenten Catechism and Lunch

Catechism and Lunch is a covered dish social with presentations by Father Adam and discussion from 12-1PM on the following Sundays. Come and join your pastor and fellow parishioners for an interesting and fun discussion of some timely topics chosen by you!

 Sunday March 17- The Crucifixion of Our Lord: The Physical and the Mystical

The Cross of Christ stands at the center of history, we explore what happened to Our Lord physically and the mystical reality of His Cross.

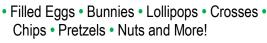
Counting Our Blessings-Thank You!

2/25	Collection	\$3,936.00
	Ash Wednesday	\$168.00
	Rice Bowl	\$109.00
	Home Mission	\$257.00
	Donations	\$345.00
	School	\$5.00
	Renovation & Preservation	\$335.00
	Total	\$5,155.00

St. Nicholas Church Homemade EASTER CANDY, BAKED GOODS, & CRAFTS Sale

March 23: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. & March 24: 9 a.m. - Noon

Our Kitchen Team is busy once again making their beautiful and delicious Easter Candy!



Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-orders are recommended! To electronically pre-order your candy, visit the St. Nicholas website Events page or pick up a paper order form in the portico.

All items listed on the order form are available as pre-orders. All pre-orders are due by March 17 and will be confirmed once received!

Additional items available on sale days in limited quantities are: white chocolate items, peanut rolled eggs, mint patties, chocolate covered cashews, rocky road bark, other molded chocolates, and various flavors of glass/hard candy. Also new this year are handmade craft items and baked goods.

We are looking forward to seeing you March 23 & 24!



Calling All Talents and Passions. Join Us in Sharing Your Gifts...

We believe our congregation is a treasure trove of diverse skills and passions waiting to be unveiled. Whether you're a seasoned musician, a budding artist, a culinary enthusiast, a skilled gardener, or someone with any other passion or hobby, we invite you to share it with others to create moments of joy, learning, and connection.

Let's ignite passions, inspire others, and make a difference through demonstrating your craft, leading a workshop, or sharing your expertise. To learn more sign up today in the porticos or email

<u>community@stnicholaswalnutport.org</u> to embark on this journey of sharing, learning, and growing together!

BOY SCOUT TROUP 62 HOAGIE SALE

We are selling Italian, Tuna and Veggie, and Ham Hoagies.



Orders are due by Wednesday 3/13/2024.

Orders can be picked up Wednesday **evening 3/20/2024 between 7:30 - 8:30 pm** at the Church Social Hall.

ITALIAN HOAGIE w/ Lettuce + Tomato - \$6.00 (9" rolls baked fresh from Vallos Bakery)

Here's what you get: Italian hoagies with Yellow Banana Peppers (medium to mild spice), Lettuce, tomatoes, and red shaved onions. Meats include Salami, Capicola (Hot Italian Ham), and Regular cooked ham. The cheese will be Provolone.

<u>Italian Hoagie Order Options</u>: with Onions + Peppers, Plain or without Onions + Peppers; with Onions only; with Peppers only.

- TUNA W/ CHEESE ON KAISER \$6.00
- HAM W/ CHEESE ON KAISER \$6.00
- VEGGIE HOAGIE W/ CHEESE NO MEAT, ONIONS
 + PEPPERS \$6.00 (Provolone and Cheddar Jack)

Included: Yellow Banana Peppers (medium to mild spice), Lettuce, tomatoes and red shaved onions.

TO PLACE YOUR ORDER via email to Andreas Hassold, Leader: e: andreas.hassold@web.de or andreas.hassold@boschrexroth-us.com or call Mobile +1 484 619-1053.

Please Note: Parish Office Closed

The Parish Office will be closed Thursday March 7 through March 11. We will reopen March 12.

∧3rd Annual Designer Purse Bingo



Our 3rd Annual Designer Purse Bingo will be held <u>Sunday,</u> <u>April 21st</u>. Doors open at 11:30 am; bingo begins at 1 pm.

This event will be held at Diamond Fire Hall 101 Main St. Walnutport, PA.

Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased by going to the Events page of the St. Nicholas website.

In support of this event, we are offering Sponsorship opportunities. You can advertise your Business Logo, In memory or donation. We have several sponsorship levels. For more information call or email the contact information below. We look forward to your support and attendance at this big fundraising event which benefits the St Nick's Parish.

The fundraising team needs your help in making the Purse Bingo a great success. Please consider helping for a few hours at the Diamond Fire hall, baking a delicious goody, or simple hanging a flyer around the town to spread the word about this great event. Sign up sheet are in the porticos or email us at fundraising@stnicholaswalnutport.org.

For questions, please contact Marianne at 610-703-4943 or e: fundraising@stnicholaswalnutport.org.

Extra Confessions for Lent

St. Nicholas

- Tuesday 12 March 7:15PM (3 Priests Available)
- Sunday 17 March with Adoration 9:30-10:30
- Tuesday 19 March 5:30PM
- Monday 25 March 6-7PM
- Tuesday 26 March 5:30-6:30PM

Confessions in our Neighboring Parishes (3 Priests Available)

- Sunday 10 March 3PM in Assumption BVM Slatington
- Monday 11 March 7PM in Sacred Heart Palmerton

Cemetery Clean-Up



Please remove old decorations from your plot by March 10. Any Christmas decorations and/or unsightly items will be removed after March 10

in preparation for the Easter Season.

BVMSN Credit Union Annual Meeting

The BVMSN Federal Credit Union annual meeting will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2024 after the 4:30 mass. Cake and coffee will be served. No reservations needed.