

**St. Nicholas**  
**50** Roman Catholic Church  
 Years as a Parish  
**1974 - 2024**



## 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



## 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit." - Jn 12:23-24

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

March 17, 2024 ©LPI

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the LORD, for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more. (Jer 31:34)

**Psalm** — Create a clean heart in me, O God. (Ps 51)

**Second Reading** — Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him. (Heb 5:8-9)

**Gospel** — "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit." (Jn 12:24)

### 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 - 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](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: 8:30AM  
 Tuesday: 6:30 PM (Latin Mass)

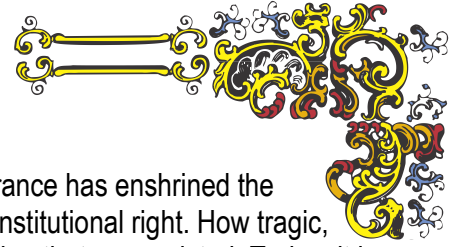
### Adoration of Most Blessed Sacrament:

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,

You may have seen that last week, the once great Catholic nation of France has enshrined the right to an abortion in its constitution, making it the first nation to call abortion a constitutional right. How tragic, how sad. The France of several centuries ago was arguably the most Catholic nation that ever existed. Today, it is already so far from that, and with this latest news, is farther still. As we mourn this move, and mourn we should, for blessed are the sorrowing, we had better also steel ourselves for the battle that is in our own midst with this same ideology. Now that Roe v Wade has been overturned, and the decision to outlaw or legalize the murder of life in the womb falls to each State, the liberal progressives in our nation will stop at nothing to see that abortion becomes a constitutional right. They will not be satisfied with this being a State by State decision, for that would certainly mean at least some States would remain a sanctuary where life in the womb is held as sacred. The tactics of the liberal progressives have not changed much, theirs is a well worn playbook. Anyone who is pro-life will be labeled a hater of women and an extremist. Probably somehow a racist too. But in their satanic frenzy to have abortion on demand for everyone, all the time, without limit or exception, they are now attacking the very foundation of our republic and labeling those who claim human rights come from God as "Christian Nationalist extremists". This tactic was rolled out a week or so ago on MSNBC, when a Politico "reporter" claimed that those who think rights come from God and not from a Congress or Supreme Court are "Christian Nationalists" and extremists. Her statement reveals a profound lack of understanding and knowledge of the founding of this nation. While there were many causal factors that led to our American Revolution, the one central and driving ideal was the truth that our basic human rights do not come from a king, an emperor, a parliament, a court, a congress or any other human authority. If they did come from any of these or any human authority they could not be inalienable, but could be taken away by the same human authority. The great American contribution to the history of nations is the wonderful and true proclamation that our basic human rights come from the Supreme Being, the Creator of all things, namely God. And further, that the role of government, regardless if it be a monarchy or republic, is to protect those rights for all its citizens and for all who live in that nation's borders. This ideal, so unique to the founding of our nation, is what protects us most from the threats of falling into totalitarianism and despotism. But for the sake of abortion, first and foremost, and for the sake of the other evils espoused by the liberal progressives, even that most foundational of all our American ideals, is not beyond attack. How can this be? We have to understand that our modern day liberal progressivism is neither really liberal nor progressive in the truest sense of those words. Our modern liberal progressivism is practically, if not outright, atheistic. A true belief in God as He really is, as He reveals Himself to be, and therefore also the law of God, stands in the way of their agenda which is rooted in the three temptations of Our Lord in the Gospel. It is an agenda of pleasure, power (including money) and vainglory. I believe that little segment on MSNBC actually reveals a great deal about what is to come and should serve as a warning to us all who hold fast to the truth, who remain faithful to Christ and His Gospel, of how we will be under attack to an extent we have not seen in our times. The tempest is coming, and it will not be pretty, but we have nothing to fear. Now is the time to prepare, especially by prayer. Pray fervently. Pray courageously. Pray constantly. And take heart, Christ is already victorious and we have only to keep our eyes and our hearts fixed on Him.

Peace- Father Adam

## **Extra Confessions for Lent**

### **St. Nicholas**

- 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



## **Observances for the week of March 17, 2024**

- Sunday: 5th Sunday of Lent  
Monday: St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
Tuesday: St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Saturday: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop  
Next Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Holy Week begins




# Mass Intentions:

- Sat 3/16 4:30 PM Al Fantozzi  
(Bob & Janice Bauer)
- Sun 3/17 8:30 AM People of the Parish  
10:30 AM Confirmation Class and  
Parents (Joanne Klucsarits)
- Mon 3/18 8:30 AM George LeClaire (Sue Hankee)
- Tues 3/19 6:30 PM Charlie Wagner  
(Wagner Family)
- Wed 3/20 8:30 AM Woody Mack (Katherine Mack)
- Thu 3/21 8:30 AM Susan Johnson (Kate Adams)
- Fri 3/22 No Mass
- Sat 3/23 4:30 PM Kathryn Kunsman  
(Wagner Family)
- Sun 3/24 8:30 AM People of the Parish  
10:30 AM Richard Ottman  
(Rosemary and Ottman Family)

**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 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.


<i>Lector Ministry Schedule</i>	
<b>March 16-17</b>	
<b>Sat 4:30 PM</b>	Bill Caserta
<b>Sun 8:30 AM</b>	Barbara Schmidt
<b>Sun 10:30 AM</b>	John McRoberts



**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 17 to 23**

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

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

## 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). 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.

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.

The survey will close March 31.

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

## Boy Scouts

**Boy 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!

3/3	Collection	\$3,883.00
	Easter Flowers	\$329.00
	Rice Bowl	\$78.00
	Holy Thursday	\$247.00
	Donations	\$263.00
	School	\$274.00
	Renovation & Preservation	\$942.00
	Other	\$79.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,821.00</b>

## 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!**



- Filled Eggs • Bunnies • Lollipops • Crosses • Chips • Pretzels • Nuts and More!

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 [community@stnicholaswalnutport.org](mailto:community@stnicholaswalnutport.org) to embark on this journey of sharing, learning, and growing together!

## Bible Study Thursdays

Thank you to everyone who participated in our recently concluded Bible Study! When we began, we knew the **"Book of Revelation"** would be full of symbolism. In our final session, we learned of the profound symbolism which takes place at every Mass: A "new Jerusalem" (*the new people of God, adorned as a bride, to meet her husband*). Surrounded by a high wall having twelve gates (*symbolizing the 12 tribes*) and built upon twelve foundations (*the 12 apostles of the Lamb*) which emphasize the continuity between the old and new people of God, *but now washed clean in the blood of the Lamb*. The Holy City (*the Church*) is figured as a "cube", *symbolizing perfection*, with its measurements being multiplications of 12 and its twelve gates being made from a single pearl (*hence, the "pearly gates"*). Importantly, there is no temple in Heaven, but rather God, *Himself*, as the sole focus *"in Communion with His People"* providing all necessary light. *Blessed, indeed, are those "who are invited to the supper of the Lamb!"*



## Page Turners to Begin New Book



Why not join the Page Turners as we set sail into the depths of existential exploration with our next read: "The Stranger in the Lifeboat" by Mitch Albom? In this gripping tale, Albom

masterfully weaves together elements of mystery, morality, and human connection. Set adrift in a lifeboat after a tragic shipwreck, a diverse group of strangers is faced with profound questions about life, fate, and the essence of humanity. What would we do if God or someone claiming to be God answered our call? Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 2 at 7:15pm. Contact [community@stnicholaswalnutport.org](mailto:community@stnicholaswalnutport.org) for more details.

## 3rd Annual Designer Purse Bingo



Our 3rd Annual Designer Purse Bingo will be held Sunday, April 21st. 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](mailto:fundraising@stnicholaswalnutport.org).

For questions, please contact Marianne at 610-703-4943 or e: [fundraising@stnicholaswalnutport.org](mailto:fundraising@stnicholaswalnutport.org).

## St. Nicholas Easter Egg Hunt

St. Nicholas will again be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt for children on Saturday, March 30, 2024, 12:30pm to 2:30pm. Children will be entered into the following age groups for the egg hunt: 1 year old and under; 2, 3, and 4 years old; 5, 6, and 7 years old; and 8 years old and older. Refreshments and prizes will be provided. Please use the sign-up sheets in the portico to register your child or email [community@stnicholaswalnutport.org](mailto:community@stnicholaswalnutport.org) so we can plan for



enough snacks and eggs. Anyone willing to provide snacks for this event or help out at the egg hunt should also contact the above email. Thank you in advance for your support and participation.



**Happy St. Patrick's Day!**

