

St. Nicholas
50 Years as a Parish
 1974 - 2024



St. Nicholas Catholic Church

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

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

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

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service
 1-800-276-1562 www.ReportBishopAbuse.org



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" - Mk 7:32-34

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

September 8, 2024 ©LPI

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing. (Is 35:5-6)

Psalm — Praise the Lord, my soul! (Ps 146)

Second Reading — Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him? (Jas 2:5)

Gospel — "He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak." (Mk 7:37)

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,

Because this is so important, I thought it worth running again, in case you missed it.

Today let's look at how we are to receive and prepare to receive Our Lord in Holy Communion. The first thing we should take note of is the manner by which we receive should be reflecting an interior disposition of reverence, love, awe, faith, and devotion. Currently, in the Ordinary Form of the Mass, the Church allows the faithful to receive the sacred host on either on the tongue or in their own hands. Either of these may be done while standing or kneeling. Yes, I know it is not seen, but one could kneel at the rail and still receive in the hand, again, this is when the Mass is celebrated in the Ordinary Form. (What is known as the Traditional Latin Mass is also called the Extraordinary Form) I'll stop here for a just a moment to once again encourage you, if you are able, to try receiving while kneeling. It is a most beautiful expression of devotion and faith and I think you may find it leads to the interior dispositions of love and devotion quite readily. Kneeling is well-established as an important expression of adoration of the Eucharist—and so the Church requires us to kneel (if we are able bodied) during the Eucharistic Prayer and for the "Behold the Lamb of God..." As St. Augustine, taught: "No one eats that flesh without first adoring it; we should sin were we not to adore it." Cardinal Robert Sarah (Prefect Emeritus of the Congregation for Divine Worship) reminds us of how Pope St. John Paul II gave us an amazing example of this, as he writes: "I simply ask you to recall that at the end of his life of service, a man in a body wracked with sickness, St. John Paul II could never sit in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. He forced his broken body to kneel. He needed the help of others to bend his knees, and again to stand. What more profound testimony could he give to the reverence due to the Blessed Sacrament than this, right up until his very last days."

If one is receiving standing, either on the tongue or in the hand, then before approaching the priest, deacon, or minister of Communion, one should bow the head, slightly from just below the chest, meaning a bow of the head and shoulders as well, or even from the waist, as a more profound bow would be most appropriate here. One could, if able, genuflect, though with that one needs to be aware of those around and be careful not to trip anyone up.

If receiving on the tongue, which is the normative practice in the Church for most of our history, after responding "Amen" to "The Body of Christ", one simply opens the mouth, while slightly tilting the head back, the tongue need not be extended outside and over the bottom lip, but rather makes a gentle cushion, just on top of the inner edge of our bottom lip, on which to welcome Our Eucharistic Lord.

If Communion is received in the hand, the hands should first of all be clean. If one is right handed the left hand should rest upon the right. The host will then be laid in the palm of the left hand and then taken by the right hand to the mouth. If one is left-handed this is reversed. This is done before moving along. There is no need to step to the side before placing the Sacred Host into your mouth. This should be done in front the priest, deacon or minister.

It is not appropriate to reach out with the fingers and take the host from the person distributing.

Never receive Holy Communion in the hand when your hands are impeded; e.g., carrying anything else in one or another hand or arm, for example a cane or some other walking-assistance device, carrying a child in your arms, carrying a purse, have a tissue or handkerchief in your hand, have a cast on your hand, etc. **Never** receive Holy Communion by extending only one hand. **Never** reach and grab the Host. If your hands are not clean, or impeded in any way, you need to receive on the tongue.

For those who choose to receive in one's own hands, you have a grave responsibility to ensure that no particle of the Sacred Host remains in your hands or on your fingers or falls to the floor. After distributing Holy Communion, the priest, deacon and ministers are to purify their fingers appropriately at the altar or credence table. Likewise those receiving the hand must take great care to ensure no particles remain unconsumed in the hands.

When Pope St. Paul VI gave permission for Communion to be received in their own hands by the faithful, this is what the Vatican said:

— *Above all it is necessary to have the introduction of the rite preceded by an effective catechesis, so that the people will clearly understand the meaning of receiving in the hand and will practice it with the reverence owed to the sacrament. This catechesis must succeed in excluding any suggestion that in the mind of the Church there is a lessening of faith in the eucharistic presence and in excluding as well any danger or hint of danger of profaning the Eucharist.*

The option offered to the faithful of receiving the Eucharistic bread in their hand and putting it into their own mouth must not turn out to be the occasion for regarding it as ordinary bread or as just another religious article. Instead this option must increase in them a consciousness of the dignity of the members of Christ's Mystical Body, into which they are incorporated by baptism and by the grace of the Eucharist. It must also increase their faith in the sublime reality of the Lord's body and blood, which they touch with their hand. Their attitude of reverence must measure up to what they are doing. Care must be taken not to allow particles of the eucharistic bread to fall or be scattered. Care must also be taken that the communicants have clean hands and that their comportment is becoming and in keeping with the practices of the different peoples. —

Please see *CONTINUED* in this bulletin



Mass Intentions:

Sat 9/7	4:30 PM	James Smith (Rolande Smith)
Sun 9/8	8:30 AM	Catherine Niedzwiecki (Joyful Chorale)
	10:30 AM	Margaret Bittner (Elaine Jenkins)
Mon 9/9	8:30 AM	Mary Tanzola (Janice & Bill Tanzola)
Tues 9/10	6:30 PM	People of the Parish
Wed 9/11	8:30 AM	Mary Wlodek (Peter Wlodek)
Thu 9/12	8:30 AM	Bob Downey—Health & Well Being (Ellen Knoblach)
Fri 9/13	No mass	
Sat 9/14	4:30 PM	Craig Roth (Janice & Bob Bauer)
Sun 9/15	8:30 AM	Helen Anthony (Elaine Jenkins)
	10:30 AM	Dennis Kuronya (Charlene Kuronya)

We still have dates available for Mass Intentions for September through December.

Counting Our Blessings-Thank You!

8/25	Collection Envelopes	\$3,391.00
	Weekly Budgeted Operational Expenses	\$7,352.00
	Assumption	\$70.00
	Latin America	\$20.00

Miraculous Medal Novena



The prayers of the Miraculous Medal Novena are prayed publicly in our parish every Wednesday after the evening Benediction at 6:30PM. We offer public praying of the Miraculous Medal Novena as a perpetual novena of prayer as a part of the spiritual life of our parish. Please come and join together each Wednesday as we pray this beautiful prayer as a weekly devotion.

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.



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 8 to 14

*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*

CONTINUED

If choosing to receive Communion in the hand, please consider for yourself if you are truly mindful of Who it is you are receiving and if your own attitude of reverence measures up what is taking place.

In terms of our interior and spiritual preparation for Holy Communion, it is helpful for one to pray attentively at the Holy Mass, listening to the Word of God, being aware that the Sacrifice of Calvary has been made present and placing one's own offerings spiritually on the altar to be offered to the Father by the priest with the Body and Blood of Jesus. It is also good to make an act of faith in Our Lord's real and true presence and to ask for the many graces and fruits that we can receive in Holy Communion.

It is also important to examine one's conscience to be sure one is morally in the state of grace, that means not being aware of having committed any sins of grave matter since one's last confession. Reception only after examining oneself is a prerequisite for worthy reception, otherwise Communion has the opposite from the desired effect of union with our Lord. This is why, out of respect for Christ and our own good, the Church obliges us to be in the state of grace when we receive. In 1 Cor. 11:27-29, St Paul says: *Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord. A person should examine himself, and so eat the bread and drink the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment on himself.*

Church Law states: 1. A member of the Christian faithful is obliged to confess in kind and in number all serious sins committed after baptism...of which one is conscious after diligent examination of conscience. 2. It is to be recommended to the Christian faithful that venial sins also be confessed.

Regular use of the Sacrament of Penance is the best way to prepare for the reception of the Lord in Holy Communion. Confession assists us with the graces proper to that sacrament in its own right. Meaning that sacrament, like each and every sacrament, imparts grace that is unique to it. Yet, the sacrament of Penance is also the sacrament that prepares us best for Holy Communion and also renews the graces we received in Baptism, Confirmation and the sacraments that are vocational, namely Holy Orders and Matrimony.

Peace- Father Adam

St. Nicholas



1974 - 2024

50th ANNIVERSARY UPDATE

50th Anniversary Mass Celebration

at St Nicholas Catholic Church

Sunday, November 17 at 10:30 am

Presider Bishop Alfred A. Schlert and Father Adam Sedar

Followed in the afternoon by the Gala Event

Time/Location: 1 pm Woodstone Country Club, 3777 Dogwood Rd, Danielsville PA.

Gala Cost: \$60 per Adult - \$30 for Children (5 - 12 years old) - Under 5 is free.

For ticket payments, event details, and Sponsorship/ Donation/Advertising in our program book opportunities:

<https://www.stnicholaswalnutport.org/Anniversary.htm>

Or email: event@stnicholaswalnutport.org

Gala Menu:

- ◆ Appetizer - Assorted Bruschetta
- ◆ Buffet Style Dinner includes Garden Salad, Bourbon Glazed Salmon, Tenderloin Tips Stroganoff, Rice Pilaf, Haricoverts (French Green Beans), Carrots
- ◆ Dessert Table by St. Nicholas Church, Coffee/decaf/ iced tea/lemonade
- ◆ Cash Bar

Opportunities to Help Make the Celebration a Success

The 50th Anniversary Gala Committee is seeking **photos of the Church/Congregation** and volunteers for **desserts for the event**.

For photos contact Robert Stettner at 610-554-4099

For desserts, please sign-up on the clipboards by the church doors or contact Lisa Pignataro at

610-737-4716 or email: event@stnicholaswalnutport.org

Gala Reservation Form for those not reserving your place on-line (Please Print)

Number of Adults: _____ Number of Children: _____

Names of Adults: _____

Names and ages of Children: _____

Please place me at the table with: _____

Payment Amount

Enclosed: _____

I am paying in installments: ☐

I paid extra to help someone who could not afford a ticket: ☐

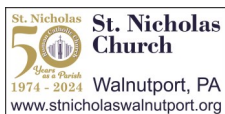
50th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE MERCHANDISE

ADULT-UNISEX SIZING—CHILDREN'S
SIZING

Sale ends November 1, 2024.

Merchandise: Polo Shirt, Zip Hoodie,
Pull Over Hoodie, T-Shirt, Bumper Magnet
and Christmas Ornament.

Order forms and item description/cost can be found
in the East and West Vestibules of St. Nicholas
Church Walnutport.



Or Visit the Anniversary
Page of the St. Nicholas
Website to order on-line.



PREP News

**St. Nicholas Parish Religious Education Program
begins promptly on Monday September 09, 2024 at
6:30-7:45PM** with a Monthly Presentation to Parents
followed by *"Family Time with the Children"*.

The Adult Presentations will continue every 2nd Monday
of each Month (*Monday September 9th through Monday
May 12, 2025*). **Importantly, these Presentations are
open to all parishioners who are interested to learn
more about the Catholic Faith and/or build
community.** Fr. Adam will be in attendance.

If you need to register a child for the
2024-2025 school year, registration forms
and calendars will be in the Social Hall
after Masses on three Sundays:

**August 25, September 01, and
September 08, 2024 at 9:30- 9:45AM
and 11:30-11:45AM.**



*Also, we are always in need of additional teachers and
aides, so if you are interested in helping, please also stop
by the Social Hall at one of these times.*

Fall Grape Vine Wreath Making Event

Get ready to embrace the beauty of fall by making your
very own handmade 18" grape vine wreath on
September 24 from 6:30-8pm in the Social Hall. The
cost is \$12.00 and includes all supplies. Bring a
snack to share, BYOB, beverage. Please sign up in
the portico. Any questions, please contact Deborah
Fritz at 610-463-6093 or Crystal Zambelli at 610-554-3845
or email community@stnicholaswalnutport.org



Coffee & Donuts Weekend

Join us for a little socialization while
enjoying Coffee and donuts,
cheese and wine the weekend of September 28 and 29.

Men's and Women's Malvern Retreats

A retreat. A period of refreshment, support, reassurance,
learning,
and concentration on the most
important gift in your life:

YOUR_LIFE, the gift from God. We
have experienced this at Malvern
Retreat House, 'St. Joseph in The
Hills', Malvern, PA. Our Lehigh Valley men's retreat
group, dedicated to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, would
like to invite men and women to experience the same
excitement and awe that we feel on our yearly weekend.
Learn, reflect, "dump your stuff", fortify yourself, increase
your personal communion with the Lord. Come join the
men's weekend, Sep 6, 7, and 8; or the women's
weekend, Sep 13, 14, and 15; Fri night to Sun morning.
Welcome!



Anthony Scarselletti, Our Lady of Perpetual Help group,
610-393-4671, OLPH.ascarselletti@gmail.com

Open Your Pages to Frankenstein

Page Turners is thrilled to announce our
next book club pick: Mary Shelley's
timeless classic, **"Frankenstein."** Whether
you're revisiting this iconic tale or reading it
for the first time, we promise an engaging
and thought-provoking discussion. The 1818 and 1831
versions will be discussed beginning September 17-
October 15.



Televised play on October 29. All meetings are at
7:15pm in the Parish Center. Please contact
community@stnicholaswalnutport.org for details.

Parish Directories Have Arrived!

If you and your family were photographed by Universal
Church Directories we have good news. The directories
have finally arrived! If you have not picked up your
directory, you can do so at the parish office.

Additional directories are now available for sale for \$15
each. See Meg Schell after masses this weekend in
the social hall to purchase a directory.

September		
Date	Time	Cleaning Volunteers
Thu. 9/12	9:30 AM	Terry Rice, Faith Andrejak, Lisa Pignataro
Fri. 9/20	9:30 AM	Tim Gregory, Carl Niedzweicki, Tony Scarselletti
Thur. 9/26	5:30 PM	Meg Schell, Jim Boyle, Marie Brunst