

**St. Nicholas**  
**50** 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.  
**Deacon** Mike Kudla  
**Administrative Assistant:** Gina Smith

**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

**Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service**  
 1-800-276-1562 [www.ReportBishopAbuse.org](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org)



## 31<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The scribe said to him, "Well said, teacher. You are right in saying, 'He is One and there is no other than he.'" And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." - Mk 12:32, 34ab

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

November 03, 2024 ©LPI

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — "Therefore, you shall love the LORD, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength." (Dt 6:5)

**Psalm** — I love you, Lord, my strength. (Ps 18)

**Second Reading** — But Jesus, because he remains forever, has a priesthood that does not pass away. (Heb 7:24)

**Gospel** — "The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than [this]." (Mk 12:31)

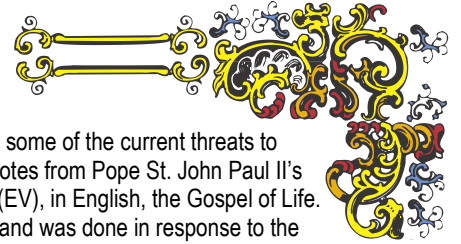
## Mass Schedule:

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,

The entire month of October we have reflected on various aspects of being pro-life as well as some of the current threats to life in our society today. As a final reflection I thought it would help to sum some things up with a few quotes from Pope St. John Paul II's landmark papal teaching on the sacredness of human life, his encyclical letter called *Evangelium Vitae* (EV), in English, the Gospel of Life. Promulgated in 1995, *Evangelium Vitae* was a monumental teaching document that took years to write and was done in response to the request of the Church's bishops and incorporated input from the bishops of the Church from around the world and also synthesized the consistent teaching of the Church through two millennia of Christianity. The encyclical is considered one of Pope St. John Paul II's greatest contributions to the Church's theology on the sacredness of human life.

He begins with these words: *"The Gospel of life is at the heart of Jesus' message. Lovingly received day after day by the Church, it is to be preached with dauntless fidelity as "good news" to the people of every age and culture. At the dawn of salvation, it is the Birth of a Child which is proclaimed as joyful news: "I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord" (Lk 2:10-11). The source of this "great joy" is the Birth of the Saviour; but Christmas also reveals the full meaning of every human birth, and the joy which accompanies the Birth of the Messiah is thus seen to be the foundation and fulfilment of joy at every child born into the world (cf. Jn 16:21)." (EV 1)*

He then explains the dignity and worth of every human life and how death entered the world as a result of sin and how the first death was a violent one, the murder of Able by Cain, through which the Scriptures teach us that the death of the innocent is a sin that cries to God for a remedy, a sin, a grave injustice that cries out to be made right. We also learn that we have a real, even if limited, responsibility to all our brothers and sisters.

*"Like the first fratricide, every murder is a violation of the "spiritual" kinship uniting mankind in one great family, in which all share the same fundamental good: equal personal dignity. Not infrequently the kinship "of flesh and blood" is also violated; for example when threats to life arise within the relationship between parents and children, such as happens in abortion or when, in the wider context of family or kinship, euthanasia is encouraged or practised." (EV 8)*

*"The voice of the blood shed by men continues to cry out, from generation to generation, in ever new and different ways. The Lord's question: "What have you done?", which Cain cannot escape, is addressed also to the people of today, to make them realize the extent and gravity of the attacks against life which continue to mark human history; to make them discover what causes these attacks and feeds them; and to make them ponder seriously the consequences which derive from these attacks for the existence of individuals and peoples." (EV 10)*

The Pope also explains the connection between abortion and contraception. Though they violate different commandments and attack different aspects of the dignity God has bestowed on humanity, they are intrinsically related. The rejection of the sacredness of the meaning and purpose of our human sexuality leads to a rejection of the life created by the conjugal act, which in God's plan is to be the fruit of love between a husband and wife.

*"Indeed, the pro-abortion culture is especially strong precisely where the Church's teaching on contraception is rejected. Certainly, from the moral point of view contraception and abortion are specifically different evils: the former contradicts the full truth of the sexual act as the proper expression of conjugal love, while the latter destroys the life of a human being; the former is opposed to the virtue of chastity in marriage, the latter is opposed to the virtue of justice and directly violates the divine commandment "You shall not kill". But despite their differences of nature and moral gravity, contraception and abortion are often closely connected, as fruits of the same tree." (EV 13)*

The Pope also explains in great detail that we must not be discouraged by current moral state of the world. Our ability to press on in proclaiming the Gospel of Life is rooted in the triumph of Our Lord over death and therefore in the certain victory of the Culture of Life over the current Culture of Death. He also then affirms in the most authoritative manner the intrinsic evil of direct abortion and the obligation of every Catholic and every person who seeks the truth to oppose its legality.

He declared: *"Human life is sacred and inviolable at every moment of existence, including the initial phase which precedes birth. All human beings, from their mothers' womb, belong to God who searches them and knows them, who forms them and knits them together with his own hands, who gazes on them when they are tiny shapeless embryos and already sees in them the adults of tomorrow whose days are numbered and whose vocation is even now written in the "book of life" (cf. Ps 139: 1, 13-16). There too, when they are still in their mothers' womb-as many passages of the Bible bear witness-they are the personal objects of God's loving and fatherly providence." (EV 61)*

And he further declared: *"Therefore, by the authority which Christ conferred upon Peter and his Successors, in communion with the Bishops who on various occasions have condemned abortion and who in the aforementioned consultation, albeit dispersed throughout the world, have shown unanimous agreement concerning this doctrine-I declare that direct abortion, that is, abortion willed as an end or as a means, always constitutes a grave moral disorder, since it is the deliberate killing of an innocent human being. This doctrine is based upon the natural law and upon the written Word of God, is transmitted by the Church's Tradition and taught by the ordinary and universal Magisterium." (EV 62)*

The Pope then went on to explain this condemnation of direct abortion also applied to the killing of human embryos, created for experimentation and other purposes. And he then spends some time explaining the equally grave evil of euthanasia or assisted suicide. Even when the motives may be genuine and good, euthanasia is a perversion of true mercy.

*"The choice of euthanasia becomes more serious when it takes the form of a murder committed by others on a person who has in no way requested it and who has never consented to it. The height of arbitrariness and injustice is reached when certain people, such as physicians or legislators, arrogate to themselves the power to decide who ought to live and who ought to die. Once again we find ourselves before the temptation of Eden: to become like God who "knows good and evil" (cf. Gen 3:5). God alone has the power over life and death: "It is I who bring both death and life" (Dt 32:39; cf. 2 Kg 5:7; 1 Sam 2:6). But he only exercises this power in accordance with a plan of wisdom and love." (EV 66)*

The Pope then explains the need for our civil laws to conform with the Divine Law. *"The doctrine on the necessary conformity of civil law with the moral law is in continuity with the whole tradition of the Church." (EV 72)*

*"Abortion and euthanasia are thus crimes which no human law can claim to legitimize. There is no obligation in conscience to obey such laws; instead there is a grave and clear obligation to oppose them by conscientious objection. From the very beginnings of the Church, the apostolic preaching reminded Christians of their duty to obey legitimately constituted public authorities (cf. Rom 13:1-7; 1 Pet 2:13-14), but at the same time it Please see **CONTINUED** later in this bulletin*





## Mass Intentions:

Sat 11/2	8:30 AM	All Souls Intentions
	4:30 PM	All Souls Intentions
Sun 11/3	8:30 AM	Michalene Schwenk (Faith Andrejack)
	10:30 AM	Catherine Niedzwiecki (Joyful Chorale)
Mon 11/4	8:30 AM	Sylvia Taddeo (Theresa Taddeo)
Tues 11/5	6:30 PM	All Souls Intentions
Wed 11/6	8:30 AM	People of the Parish
Thu 11/7	8:30 AM	Alfred Saab Jr. (Cindy Saab)
Fri 11/8	No mass	
Sat 11/9	4:30 PM	John Eisenreich (Mary Eisenreich)
Sun 11/10	8:30 AM	Barbara & Sterling Hendricks (Cindy Saab)
	10:30 AM	Mary Ellen Meinsell (JoAnne Kochmark)

## Counting Our Blessings-Thank You!

10/13	Collection Envelopes	\$6,400.00
	<b>Weekly Budgeted Operational Expenses</b>	<b>\$7,352.00</b>
	World Mission	\$486.00
	School	\$270.00

## Nov 2 All Souls Day

Mass at 8:30AM

### Special Remembrance for This Years Deceased Parishioners

at 4:30 PM Mass on Nov 2 (this Mass fulfills the Sunday obligation for Sunday Nov 3)



## 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.

## 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 November 3 to 9

*Tabernacle Candles will be lit in Memory of*  
**Joseph Gerhart (John Gerkovich)**  
**Barbara Schnibbe (John Gerkovich)**

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

# VOTE then let us COOK for you on ELECTION DAY 2024

St. Nicholas Church Kitchen will be  
open for take-out 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Breakfast Sandwiches | Halupki | Haluski  
Homemade Pierogi | Sausage & Peppers  
Pulled Pork Sandwiches | Steak Sandwiches  
And More!

## Annual 40 Hours Eucharistic Adoration and Retreat

November 18th, 19th & 20th with **Father Keaton Eidle**

### "The Eucharist, Our Path to Holiness"

Father Eidle will offer a meditation each evening at 6:30PM, the theme of his talks will focus on how the Lord leads us to holiness through the Sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist

- ✠ **Nov 18th:** Adoration will begin at 5:30PM with Confessions from 5:30-6:15PM. Prayers, Meditation, and Benediction at **6:30PM**
- ✠ **Nov 19th:** Adoration will begin at Morning Mass at 8:30AM and continue through the day. Prayers, Meditation, and Benediction at **6:30PM**
- ✠ **Nov 20th:** Adoration will begin at Morning Mass at 8:30AM and continue through the day. Prayers, Meditation, and Benediction at **6:30PM**

### CONTINUED

firmly warned that "we must obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29)...In the case of an intrinsically unjust law, such as a law permitting abortion or euthanasia, it is therefore never licit to obey it, or to "take part in a propaganda campaign in favour of such a law, or vote for it." (EV 73)

The Pope also explains that serving the pro-life cause is a service not only of justice but of charity. It is Christ Himself whom we serve when we defend the most innocent and the most defenseless, who constitute the poorest of the poor in our society today.

"By virtue of our sharing in Christ's royal mission, our support and promotion of human life must be accomplished through the service of charity, which finds expression in personal witness, various forms of volunteer work, social activity and political commitment. This is a particularly pressing need at the present time, when the "culture of death" so forcefully opposes the "culture of life" and often seems to have the upper hand. But even before that it is a need which springs from "faith working through love" (Gal 5:6). As the Letter of James admonishes us: "What does it profit, my brethren, if a man says he has faith but has not works? Can his faith save him? If a brother or sister is ill-clad and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warmed and filled', without giving them the things needed for the body, what does it profit? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead" (2:14-17)." (EV 87)

"The Gospel of life is for the whole of human society. To be actively pro-life is to contribute to the renewal of society through the promotion of the common good. It is impossible to further the common good without acknowledging and defending the right to life, upon which all the other inalienable rights of individuals are founded and from which they develop." (EV 101)

While it is not possible to capture the whole of this great teaching in one small reflection, I hope the above excerpts offer some of the important aspects and can serve as a final summary for our reflections for this month of respect life. I encourage you to read this encyclical in its entirety. Not just written to condemn immorality, this teaching expounds on the great gift of God to us and beauty of accepting the will of God. One final point is the Pope's beautiful appeal to those who have been involved with an abortion. An appeal to repent and know and trust in the powerful Mercy of Our Loving God, Who heals every ill and is able to forgive every sin.

"I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. Certainly what happened was and remains terribly wrong. But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. Try rather to understand what happened and face it honestly. If you have not already done so, give yourselves over with humility and trust to repentance. The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To the same Father and his mercy you can with sure hope entrust your child. With the friendly and expert help and advice of other people, and as a result of your own painful experience, you can be among the most eloquent defenders of everyone's right to life. Through your commitment to life, whether by accepting the birth of other children or by welcoming and caring for those most in need of someone to be close to them, you will become promoters of a new way of looking at human life." (EV 99)

Peace- Father Adam

## Women of Hope Retreat Malvern Retreat House March 14-16, 2025

### "The Eucharist - Food for the Journey"

Ladies, join us for an inspiring weekend and renew your faith and relationship with the Lord. The retreat will be led by four dynamic and faithful women! You will be led in prayer, hear great talks, attend Mass & Adoration and much more.

**Cost:** \$275 includes overnight accommodations and meals.\* \$75.00 deposit to secure your spot

\*Virtual Option Available if 5 people register for Zoom

Cost is \$75 per person

Register at: [malvernretreat.com](http://malvernretreat.com) or call 610-644-0400

## Scouting for Food

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>**

Food Pick up starts at 8am

### SUGGESTED ITEMS

- |                  |                             |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| ◆ Canned Foods   | ◆ Diapers                   |
| ◆ Hygiene Items  | ◆ Peanut Butter             |
| ◆ Paper Products | ◆ Juice Boxes               |
| ◆ Baby Formula   | ◆ Whole Grain Cereal        |
| ◆ Pasta          | <b>NO GLASS JARS PLEASE</b> |

For items that have not been picked up, please be so kind & deliver to your local food bank





## BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

I want to thank all those who have supported our Baby Bottle Campaign this past month. If you haven't had the chance to put anything in the baby bottles, this Sunday will be the final Sunday to do so. After Sunday,

you will have to drop off any final donations at the church office. Don't forget, checks are made out to "K of C 16656". All donations are split with Care Net of Lehighton and Cay Galgon of Bethlehem, both support centers for pregnant women.

Thank you,  
Carl J. Niedzwiecki  
Chancellor, St. Nicholas K of C 16656



## 50<sup>th</sup> 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.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Committee is seeking **photos of the Church/Congregation for the event.**

Please contact Robert Stettner at 610-554-4099.

**You can also email digital photos to**  
**event@stnicholaswalnutport.org**

**Anyone who volunteered to bake a dessert for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala,** please drop off your baked good on Friday, November 15 at 2pm in the Church Social Hall. Anyone who uses nuts in their dessert, please let Lisa know when dropping off the baked item.

If you are unable to drop off at that time, please call Lisa Pignataro at 610-737-4716 to make arrangements with her. Thank you.

For those individuals attending the 50th Anniversary Gala, we invite you to bid on items offered by our Silent Auction table. The value of offerings will range from \$100 to \$500 payable at the day of the event. Winners can pay for items by cash, check or credit card.

Any questions, please email:  
event@stnicholaswalnutport.org or call Cindy Miller at 610-751-5601. Thank you.

**SPECIAL NEED**



## Mass of Remembrance

Please join us for a special Mass of Remembrance at 4:30pm on November 2, 2024.

This sacred gathering will honor

and remember those parishioners we have lost this past year, allowing us to come together in prayer and reflection. There will be a General Reception with light refreshments following the Mass.

Please join us as we support one another in faith and remembrance.

Interested families please RSVP to  
community@stnicholaswalnutport.org or call the Parish office at 610-767-3107. We look forward to seeing you there.

## One Family for Thanksgiving

St. Nicholas parish is one family in the Church, and we celebrate Thanksgiving as family. There are some who may not have a Happy Thanksgiving because of financial concerns.

**As a Parish Family we would like to reach out to our parishioners in need of assistance.**

There are several ways you can help. We are asking for **canned or boxed food donations** that would be used for a Thanksgiving Dinner, such as cranberry sauce, vegetables, turkey gravy, instant potatoes, rice, applesauce, or cake mixes. All food items can be brought to the social hall before November 20th. Or **take an envelope from the table in the portico marked "Turkey" and make a monetary donation.** These envelopes can be placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the parish office by November 20th.

Finally, do you know of anyone in our parish or area that needs assistance? Fill out the form in the portico and place it in an envelope marked "TURKEY". Envelopes can be dropped in the collection basket or dropped off at the church office. All information will be kept confidential.

Pick up will be November 23rd and 24th in the social hall. The name of the family to receive the food package and the family size is needed ASAP, but no later than **November 17th**, so we can plan how much additional food needs to be purchased.



## Boy Scouts

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

