

S PAR CARACAS PAR CAS • THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD • BELOVED SON." January 12, 2025

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. (40:5)

Psalm — O bless the Lord, my soul. (Ps 104)

Second Reading — He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. (Ti 3:5)

Gospel — After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. (Lk 3:22)

St. Nicholas Catholic Church

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

Pastor: Rev. Adam C. Sedar, M.A., M.Div. 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

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.

I was asked an interesting question last week that is related to today's feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. At Our Lord's Baptism, the Holy Trinity is revealed for the first time as the Father's voice is heard speaking about His Son and the Holy Spirit is seen descending like a dove and coming to rest on Our Lord. In this revelation begins the greatest of all gifts, we mere human creatures being given a glimpse of the life of God. Now, the guestion I was asked pertains to the nature of God's life, specifically about the meaning and reason for the use of the word "begotten" in our creed, when we profess that the Son was begotten of the Father. It is an interesting guestion and an interesting word. We find the word begotten in the prologue of St. John's Gospel, in verse 14: "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as it were of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

We say the Son proceeds from the Father by way of generation which means the Son is begotten of the Father, not made or created by the Father. The word begotten implies a generation but does not have to mean a creation. A creation would mean there is a time, even if a split second or fraction of moment, when the Son was not. Begotten means a generation and allows for this generation to be eternal, without a beginning and without an end. While we may use the word begotten to speak about natural human fatherhood, it is a better choice for the life of the Trinity than any other word we have. In God's life, this generation is simply "always", an eternal present, with no past or future. God the Father is "Father" and therefore the First Person of the Trinity because He is the source of the Life that is God. But the Father does not create the Son or the Holy Spirit. The Son is begotten of the Father, eternally generated of the Father, and it is this that makes Him distinct from the Father and makes Him "Son" and the Second Person of the Trinity and equally possessing, equally being, the Life that is God. We also understand that the Son is generated from the Divine Intellect, this is why St. John refers to the Son as the Word that is God and why the Son is the perfect Image and Revelation of the Father. All God communicates, including Himself, He says through His Son, His Word.

When we speak about the Holy Spirit, we say the Holy Spirit "proceeds" from the Father and the Son by way of one "spiration". This means the Holy Spirit is distinct from the Father and the Son and the Third Person of the Holy Trinity, and also eternal and equally possessing the Nature of God, equally being God. What makes each Person of the Trinity distinct is their relation to each other. The Generation of the Spirit, from the Father and Son, is from the Divine Will, aflame with Divine Love. This is why God, Who is Love, does all things through the working of the Holy Spirit, for all that God does is an expression of self gift, of love.

Whenever we attempt to explain in human language something of the nature of God and His life, we have to first understand that our language and ability will be somewhat limited and not equal to the task. This does not mean we should not try to express what we know from what God has revealed about Himself. In fact, it is the most noble use of our human intellects and one that we can undertake because God, as we learn at Our Lord's Baptism, wants us to know Him.

And that may be the most important aspect of it all. God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, in the mystery of His The Son. The Jon eternal unity and communion, wants us to know Him. This knowing leads us to love Him. As it turns out, knowing and

loving are at the very heart of God's own life and why the highest powers of our human nature, our intellect and will, which make us like God, are made for the knowing and loving of God Himself. Only the knowing and loving of God make us truly happy, truly complete.

Peace- Father Adam

Mass Intentions:

Sat 1/11 4:30 PM Jeanetta Epser (Brad & Stef FeKula and Colton) Sun 1/12 8:30 AM George Woytko (Mary Woytko & Susanne Amici) 10:30 AM Hilda Steirer (Sue Hankee) Mon 1/13 8:30 AM Hilda Steirer (Phillip & Linda Balliet) Tues 1/14 6:30 PM Marian & Mary Aldeman (Cindy Saab) Wed 1/15 8:30 AM Catherine Niedzwiecki (Joe Hrobat) Thu 1/16 8:30 AM People of the Parish Fri 1/17 No Mass Sat 1/18 4:30 PM Hilda Steirer (Mary Louise Trexler) Sun 1/19 8:30 AM Peter Kilpatrick (JoAnne Kilpatrick) 10:30 AM Catherine Niedzwiecki (Henry & Nancy Niedzwiecki)

National March for Life, Washington, D.C.

Friday, Jan. 24 – St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Easton, Mass 6:30 a.m. before departure. Cost is \$20. Call 484-259-7740 or email andrewazan3rd@rcn.com

Why We March: https://marchforlife.org/theme2025

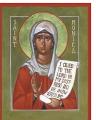


The prayers of the Miraculous Medal Novena are prayed publicly in our parish every Wednesday after the evening Benediction at 6:30PM. We offer public praying of the

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.

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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 January 12 to 18

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

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

Caring Hands Knit-Crochet Group

We create comforting items to be donated to those in need within our area, such as 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.

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!

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.



Boy Scouts

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

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.

Ink Cartridges & Redner's Tapes

Save us \$\$\$! Place your used cartridges in the box in the portico and drop Redners Tapes in the box in the portico or in the collection basket. We will turn them in for credit!

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 the parish office know.

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.

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 stop drinking.

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

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.

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 or call 610-644-0400

Observances the week of January 12, 2025

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord

Monday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the

Church

Friday: St. Anthony, Abbot

Saturday: January 18-25 is the Week of Prayer for

Christian Unity

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time





Knights of Columbus Council #16656

All You Can Eat Breakfast

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

Pancakes
Sausage
Home Fries
Coffee/Tea/Juice



Sunday, January 12, 2025 8am - 12:00pm

In the St. Nicholas Social Hall

A Portion of the Proceeds will benefit St Nicholas Parish Building Fund and Coats 4 Kids.



Winter Meetings for Page Turners

Page Turners will be meeting during the winter months, January through

March in the Social Hall. For more information, please contact: community@stnicholaswalnutport.org.

Readings the week of January 12, 2025

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-

28, 29-30 (1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16,

21-22

Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9/Mk

1:14-20

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk

1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Mk

1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11/Mk 1:40

-45

Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8/Mk

2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mk 2:13-17

Church Plaque

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names and had small American flags mounted on either side of it.

The six-year-old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the little boy and said quietly, "Good morning, Alex."

"Good morning, Pastor," he replied, still focused on the plaque. "Pastor, what is this?" The pastor replied, "Well, son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service."

Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque. Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked, "Which service, the 8:30 or the 10:30?"

Counting Our Blessings-Thank You!

 12/25
 Christmas Offerings
 \$22,693.00

 12/29
 Collection Envelopes
 \$3,267.00

Weekly Budgeted Operational

Expenses \$7,352.00
Christmas \$215.00
Preservation & Renovation \$75.00