



## **TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Thus says the LORD, who opens a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters. (Is 43:16)

**Psalm** — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy. (Ps 126)

**Second Reading** — Just one thing: forgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead, I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus. (Phil 3:14)

**Gospel** — Then Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She replied, "No one, sir." Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more." (Jn 8:10-11)

## 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,

With Spring comes another baseball season. I know baseball is not as popular as it once was, still it retains the venerable title "America's Pastime". I have to say major league sports have changed over the years. They have mostly been changed because of money, corporate sponsorships, gambling and even technology. Sports in general, especially youth sports, have been "elevated" in many ways to the status of a false god, where they are worshipped even on the Lord's Day in place of the one true God. When things good in and of themselves become so corrupted, the good, the beautiful and true that is in them becomes so diminished and sometimes completely lost, so that they lead us away from God.

Despite all this, there is still something great about sport and playing sports. Sport, good in and of itself, still has great potential to express what is good, what is beautiful and what is true. Sport can still be a school of virtue, teaching lessons for life and we can find in sports expressions of the best of the human spirit, a spirit that reflects the image of God Who created us. All that is good can only exist when sports are kept in their proper place, and not elevated to some false status and not corrupted by a sinful desire for power and money.

In his most recent column for Crisis Magazine, Eric Sammons, Catholic author and editor, writes about some of the qualities that make America's Pastime a very Catholic sport.

He points out first how baseball reminds us of the infinite:

"Why is baseball the most poetic of all sports? There's something of the infinite in baseball that speaks to our own final destination. Unlike most sports, baseball has no game clock (yes, baseball now has a pitch clock, but that simply moves the game along and does not determine when a game ends.) Even down by 10 runs in the bottom of the ninth, your team still has a chance, albeit small, of winning—the opposing team can't simply run out the clock."

In our fast paced society, the game of baseball, with no clock, reminds us to slow down, and enjoy the moment, and reminds us of life in eternity, a life without end.

Next he comments on the ideal dimensions of baseball field:

"Baseball also has, in a certain sense, an infinite field. Yes, ballfields have fences to designate home runs, but one of the great joys in baseball is watching a powerful hitter blast a ball far over that fence, seemingly into eternity. When and where will it land? The only limit is physics. Those seconds when we're waiting for the ball to land in the stands are a momentary blissful pause in the hectioness of life.

When I was young, most youth baseball fields did not have fences, which made the unlimited nature of a field more apparent. One year my older brother was playing right field in a game against Ken Griffey, Jr. The future hall-of-famer came up to bat and launched one far over my brother's head. Since there was no fence, he had to spin around and chase the ball down. By the time he finally picked up the ball and turned to throw it in, Griffey had already circled the bases and stood celebrating at home plate with his teammates. My brother was fully aware at that moment of the infinite nature of baseball fields."

And then there are the virtues which can be learned:

"As a parent, I found that playing baseball was a school of virtue for my children. One of the sport's most distinct features is the frequency of failure: even the best hitters in the world fail to record a hit almost 7 out of every 10 times at the plate. Especially in our era of helicopter parents and snowflake children, teaching kids how to fail is one of life's most important lessons. Whenever we fail, we must learn to get back up, whether that's after striking out with the bases loaded or after succumbing to a persistent sin. The failure rate of baseball teaches young people persistence and, most importantly, humility—two virtues essential for the spiritual life."

Here's hoping we can reclaim all that is good in sports and that at every level, from the youngest t-ball games to the majors, that baseball and all sports can be free from the negative influences and false worship that tarnish them.

When we place sports, in their proper place, they can become the means of expressing the good of human nature, of teaching powerful lessons of virtue, of building real solidarity and even be reminders of the life for which we are eternally destined. All of that is something worth reclaiming.

Peace- Father Adam



# Mass Intentions:

Sat 4/5	4:30 PM	Bruce Trexler (Family)
Sun 4/6	8:30 AM	People of the Parish
	10:30 AM	Catherine Niedzwiecki (Joe Hrobat)
Mon 4/7	8:30 AM	Arthur Runquist (The Semler Family)
Tues 4/8	6:30 PM	Mark Lizotte (The Semler Family)
Wed 4/9	8:30 AM	People of the Parish
Thu 4/10	8:30 AM	People of the Parish
Fri 4/11	No Mass	
Sat 4/12	4:30 PM	Joseph & Mary Kean (Mary Louise Trexler)
Sun 4/13	8:30 AM	John Eisenreich (Mary Eisenreich)
	10:30 AM	Hilda Steirer (Elaine Jenkins)

# Counting Our Blessings

3/9 Collection Envelopes \$4,298.00

Weekly Budgeted Operational

Expenses \$7,352.00 Ash Wednesday \$864.00

Preservation & Restoration \$536.00

Thank You!

#### 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!



#### Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will take place every Wednesday of Lent after 6:30 Benediction beginning March 12



## **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.

#### **Extra Confessions for Lent**

- Sunday April 6 at 3PM (at ASSUMPTION SLATINGTON)
- Wednesday April 9 at 5:30PM
- Tuesday April 15 at 5:30PM
- Wednesday April 16 at 7:30PM



#### **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 April 6 to 12

Tabernacle Candles will be lit in Memory of Joseph & Mary Kean (Mary L. Trexler) Joseph & Mary Kean (Mary L. Trexler)

Altar Hosts and Wine Offered in Memory of Wednesday Adorers

#### Free Lenten Movie Event

Join us for a special movie event featuring films for all ages on Sunday, April 13, 2025, at noon.

"The Passion of the Christ" directed by Mel Gibson (for adults) in the Social Hall

"VeggieTales" (for children) in the Parish Center

Please sign up in the portico or email community@stnicholaswalnutport.org

## **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!

## 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.

## **Fun Plant & Sip Event**

Join us for our Plant & Sip event, where you can unwind, have fun, and let your inner gardener shine on **Tuesday, May 13** 

from 6:00 to 7:30pm! Bring your container and choose between planting a flower or tomato plant. Flower cost is \$25. Tomato Plant is \$15. Sip & relax while you get your hands dirty and embrace your creativity. Meet in the Church parking lot. RSVP by signing 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

## **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.

# St Nicholas' Pilgrimage to the National Centre for Padre Pio and Exposition of Relics of Saints and Martyrs

A special Parish event at the National Centre for Padre Pio in Barto, PA, will be held Saturday, April 26, 2025. Father Adam will celebrate Mass in Our Lady of Grace Chapel, starting promptly at 11:30 AM. Immediately after mass the itinerary includes: Veneration of the Relic Glove of Padre Pio and Selfguided tour of the Exposition of Relics of Saints and Martyrs (starts at noon) and the Museum in the Cultural Center. The Exposition of Relics is only available from April 23 to May1. Pavillion is available for those who wish to bring a lunch. Own transportation. Centre closes at 4:30 PM. Please sign up in the portico or email: community@stnicholaswalnutport.org.

## "Noah" is coming to Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster

Join us and journey with Noah as he builds the ark and faces the great flood in this larger-than-life production that brings the Bible's beloved story to life. Get your tickets now and be part of this extraordinary experience. Two dates: Saturday, July 26 at 3pm (tickets only and drive yourself) or Friday, August 15 at 3pm bus trip (transportation and show). Limited number of tickets.

Show only Ticket for 7/26/25 - \$87.00 for adult, \$42.00 for child- Due by 6/8/25



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

April 12: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. & April 13: 9 a.m. - Noon 4412 W. Mountain View Dr., Walnutport



## **Calling ALL Preschoolers**

SJNRS in Slatington has begun a Preschool for ages 3-5. It's an extremely flexible program with 2-5 days/week, & 1/2 or full day programs. There is flex admission during the school year. The program focuses on gross/fine motor skill development, social skills, religion, and handson learning for academics. Call the school @ 610-767-2935 for more information.

## Fr. McElduff Scholarship

The Fr. McElduff Scholarship is available to all students entering grades Preschool through grade 9, attending a Catholic school. Download the form from the St. Nicholas website. Once the form is completed, return it to the Parish Office. The form must be completed and returned no later than May 15, 2025.

#### **Free Lenten Movie Event**

Join us for a special event featuring films for all ages on Sunday, April 13, 2025, at 12:30pm.

- "The Passion of the Christ" directed by Mel Gibson (for adults) in the Social Hall
- "Veggie Tales" (for children) in the Parish Center

Please sign up in the portico or email community@stnicholaswalnutport.org

## Sacred Heart of Jesus, Bath, Lenten Dinner

Our parish Women's Guild will be sponsoring a Lenten Dinner on Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:00 pm. Eat in or take out.

**Menu:** Eggplant Parmesan, Broiled Haddock, Broken Pierogi Casserole, Mixed Vegetables, Garlic Knots, Salad and Beverages. Adults \$14.00, children 6.00, under 6 free. Come for dinner and stay for Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm. Church Auditorium 117 Washington St., Bath

## Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother

Our Bible Study began February 27th and continues every other Thursday until June 5, 2025. This is an extraordinary pilgrimage that reveals Mary's unique role in God's kingdom and in our lives. Filmed on location in the Holy Land, this Bible Study places you in the

midst of the powerful drama of Mary's earthly life, taking you through her joys ... and her sorrows. You will learn how she works in our lives today, drawing us ever closer to her Son, Jesus. Seeing Mary in this way will change you forever. Mary will become a part of your daily life, and in your daily life, you will become more like Christ.

Join us for this 8-week video study program. We meet every other week from 6:30PM to 8:15PM for an engaging video presentation by Edward Sri, followed by a lively group discussion and fellowship. For more information or to register, call or text Gene Ballas at 610-533-1617 and/or geneballas@msn.com. We hope you will join us!

## **Rosary Leaders Wanted**

Would you prayerfully consider joining our ministry to lead the rosary 1x per month before Saturday 4:30 Mass or Sunday 8:30 or 10:30 Masses?

Call or text Michele at 484-695-8407

## St. Nicholas Easter Egg Hunt Saturday April 12, 2025

12:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.

#### Candy, Prizes and Activities

4 age Groups:

- 0 To under 2 years
- 2 years to Under 5 years
- 5 Years To under 9 years
- 9 Years and older

Sign up sheets are available in the Portico. Volunteers welcome! Please email:

