

• 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER • MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE. May 11, 2025

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Gentiles were delighted when they heard this and glorified the word of the Lord. All who were destined for eternal life came to believe, and the word of the Lord continued to spread through the whole region. (Acts 13:48-49)

Psalm — We are his people, the sheep of his flock. (Ps 100)

Second Reading — "For the Lamb who is in the center of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." (Rv 7:17)

Gospel — Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." (Jn 10:27)

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.

As I write this we await the beginning of the Conclave to elect our new pope. As you read this, we may or may not have a new pope. As we pray for the Cardinal Electors as well as our new pope, it is also a time to learn a little more about the papacy. It has a rich and fascinating history, one that is at times amazingly edifying by the holiness of so many of the popes and also sobering by the scandalous life of a few others of them. Maybe even more remarkable than the holiness of sainted popes is the fact that through this unbroken line of succession, the Lord both preserves and governs His Church in such a way that the mission He entrusted first to simple fishermen and a tax collector continues to be carried out, sometimes well, sometimes just struggling along, but always continuing on towards her eternal destiny.

Our new pope will the 267th pope or we may say the 266th successor of St. Peter. It is believed that St. Peter himself remains the longest serving pope at over 34 years. Second is Pope Blessed Pius IX, who served 31 years and 236 days. Next is Pope Saint John Paul II, who served 26 years and 168 days.

Some of us may remember the very short Pontificate of Pope John Paul I, who served only 33 days, but this was not the shortest papacy in history. Pope Urban VII, in 1590, served only 13 days. In fact, 9 other popes served less than 33 days.

31 popes have been martyred, and 82 have been canonized as saints. 10 popes are called Blessed, 1 Venerable, and 3 are Servants of God. (These are all steps on the way to being canonized as a saint.)

The oldest man elected to be pope was Pope Clement X, who was 79 years, 290 days old when elected in 1670. The youngest man elected was either Pope John XII who was a mere 18 years old when elected in the year 955 or Pope Benedict IX, who, elected in 1032 was either 18 or 20 years old, as records of his age vary. As one might expect this was a time when the Papacy was heavily entangled with politics and both Pope John XII and Pope Benedict IX were rather worldly and even scandalous figures. It is believed that at least Benedict IX repented before his death.

The tradition of a pope choosing a new name began with Pope John II in 533. He was a Roman and his given name was Mercurius, and rather than be identified with a pagan god, he chose to be called John when elected pope. Though he was the first pope to take a new name, the tradition did not continue immediately after him, but began with consistency in the 11th century. The most used or popular name for a pope is John, as there have been 23. Actually there have been only 21 Pope John's, as there was some confusion over the numbering and so to avoid being confused with those popes who thought they were 21 and 22, Pope John XXIII decided he would be the 23rd. That is still a few more than the 16 Gregorys and Benedicts who have been pope. In addition, so far, there have been 14 Clements, 13 Leos and 13 Innocents and 12 popes named Pius. So far, 44 popes have names taken only once and Pope John Paul I is the first to have taken a double name. Popes change their name, or take a "papal name", to identify that they are essentially beginning a new life and undertaking the responsibility of a new mission and ministry. Often the name they choose will harken to saints or past popes of that name whose qualities they wish to emulate in their own service as the Vicar of Christ on earth.

Before the new pope appears publicly for the first time, he will don the white cassock that now famously identifies him as the pope. That the popes wear white is most often attributed to beginning with Pope St. Pius V, who was a Dominican. The Dominican habit, or the garb, of that religious community is white. At some point after, all the popes began to wear the white cassock. The cassock he wears is the same style as that of a parish priest and of a bishop. But his is white instead of black, or instead of red as in the case of a bishop or cardinal. (Bishops wear a different shade of red than cardinals, more of a fuchsia or purplish color, and for different occasions their cassocks will be all red or black with red piping.) You will see priests and bishops in hot climates wear a white cassock too, but always with black trim for a priest and red for a bishop. Today, in the Catholic Church, only the pope wears an all white cassock. An even older custom for the pope than wearing the white cassock is to wear a red cloak and today, the white cassock and red cloak over it is the regular custom for papal attire, also with red shoes. The white has come to symbolize the purity and charity the office of St. Peter requires and the red the compassion of Christ, who shed His Blood for us all.

May we pray for our new pope, that he will have the courage and the wisdom, the purity and the compassion to guide the Church as a holy and faithful shepherd!

Peace- Father Adam

Mass Intentions:

Sat 5/10	4:30 PM	Joseph Dormans (Christina Dormans)
Sun 5/11	8:30 AM	Marie Werkheiser (Sue Hankee)
	10:30 AM	James Karmonick (Jennifer Karmonick)
Mon 5/12	8:30 AM	The Soul of Carrie Adelman (Cindy Saab)
Tues 5/13	6:30 PM	The 39 th Anniversary of Michele & Joseph Semler
Wed 5/14	8:30 AM	Rachael Boyer (Elaine Jenkins)
Thu 5/15	8:30 AM	People of the Parish
Fri 5/16	No Mass	
Sat 5/17	4:30 PM	James Smith (Rolande Smith)
Sun 5/18	8:30 AM	John Eisenreich (Mary Eisenreich)
	10:30 AM	All Deceased Knights of Columbus Members #16656 (Carl Niedzwiecki)

Paschal Candle

Pascal Candle was donated by Dave & Mary FeKula for the Good Health of The FeKula Family



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.

Blessed Mother Flowers

May 11 through 17 In Thanksgiving for the Love of All Mothers (The Semler Family)

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 May 11 to 17

Tabernacle Candles will be lit in Memory of

The Souls of Pergatory
The Souls of Pergatory

Altar Hosts and Wine Offered in Memory of

St. Nicholas Memorial Society

Summer Calendar of Events

May

- 13 Plant and Sip 6:00-7:30 pm Outside Parking Lot
- 17 Tyler Davis and Tyler Loch's Diaconate Ceremony - 10:30 am at Cathedral Church of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown
- 20 Election Day

June

7 and 8 Coffee and Donuts after Mass

- 7 Night Sky 8:00 pm at Delps Park
- North of 50 Winery at 1:00 pm Details to follow

20, 21, 22 Knights of Columbus Pocono Raceway Fundraiser

July

26 Sight and Sound Theater "Noah" (Drive Yourself)

August

- 3 Parish Picnic 12:00 to 5:00 pm at Walnutport Canal Pavilion
- 15 Sight and Sound Theater "Noah" and Shady Maple (Bus Trip)
- 22 IronPigs Baseball Game 7:15pm at Iron Pigs Stadium

Counting Our Blessings-Thank You!

4/27 Collection Envelopes \$3,585.00

Weekly Budgeted Operational

Expenses \$7,352.00 Easter \$660.00 Preservation & Restoration \$195.00

MEMORIAL GARDEN PHASE III PAVER SALE

Pavers can now be purchased for permanent placement in Garden, located in church cemetery. Cost: \$125.00 per custom engraved paver. (up to 3 lines,15 characters per line). Forms available on tables in Church Portico. Can be dropped in collection basket in envelope marked: Memorial Garden. Cash or check to: Kim McGonigle.

Please feel free to take & share forms with anyone who: served in military or knew Mike (Police,

Firefighters, DARE students/families, EMS, Lehigh Township citizens, Knights, Church friends, etc.). Garden is Open to the public.

Any Questions please contact Kim: 484-221-1434.

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.

Pocono NASCAR Race Weekend

June 20-22 (rain date Mon 23)

Volunteers Needed! Come join us!
We get \$100/person/day! Signup
sheet and information flyers are on the table in the
portico. Questions? Call the parish office,
610-767-3107 or Tony Scarselletti 610-393-4671;
ascarsel@ptd.net

Rosary Leaders Wanted

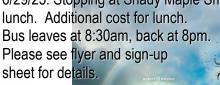
Would you prayerfully consider joining our ministry to lead the rosary 1x per month before Saturday 4:30 Mass or Sunday 8:30 or 10:30 Masses?

Call or text Michele at 484-695-8407

"Noah" Sight & Sound Theater 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) \$87.00 for adult, \$42.00 for child- Due by 6/8/25

or Friday, August 15 at 3pm bus trip (transportation and show). Limited number of tickets. Bus and Show Ticket for 8/15/25 - \$130.00 for adult, \$85.00 for child – Due by 6/29/25. Stopping at Shady Maple Smorgasbord for



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.

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 or stop by the parish office. Once the form is completed, return it to the Parish Office. The form must be completed and returned no later than May 25, 2025.

Call 610-767-3107 for any questions.

Please Apply!

Banns of Ordination

Mr. Tyler W. Loch, who was baptized in the parish, has been called to the Order of the Diaconate by His Excellency, Alfred A. Schlert, D. D. Bishop of Allentown. Mr. Loch will be ordained at the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena, Allentown, on Saturday, May 17, 2025.

Announcement from The Page Turners Book Club!

After reading "With God in Russia" and "He Leadeth Me", the Page Turners are announcing the rest of 2025 book selections! Get ready for a year filled with intriguing mysteries, timeless classics, and thought-provoking reads. Here's the list of books we'll be diving into:



- ◆ "The Thursday Murder Club" by Richard Osman
- "The Red Tent" by Anita Diamant
- A C.S. Lewis book (title to be chosen)
- "Unbroken" by Laura Hillenbrand
- "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" by Robert Louis Stevenson & Charles Raymond Macauley
- A Stephen King book (or something spooky for Halloween!)
- "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens

We invite you to join us for a year of great reads and lively discussions! For more information or if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us at community@stnicholaswalnutport.org.

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!

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

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!

