

## St. Nicholas Catholic Church

1152 Oak Road Walnutport, PA 18088  
[www.stnicholaswalnutport.org](http://www.stnicholaswalnutport.org)

### Parish Office and Religious Education:

610-767-3107 E-mail: [stnick11@ptd.net](mailto:stnick11@ptd.net)

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday: 12 PM – 3 PM  
 Tuesday through Thursday 9 AM – 3 PM

**Pastor:** Rev. Abraham Ha, M.Div.

**Administrative Assistant:** Gina Smith

### St. Nicholas Parish Mission Statement:

St. Nicholas is a Catholic Parish Church of the Diocese of Allentown that seeks to live the Catholic Faith in love together through our practice of the Sacramental Life, meditating on the Word of God and sharing the joy of the Gospel to our community.

**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:

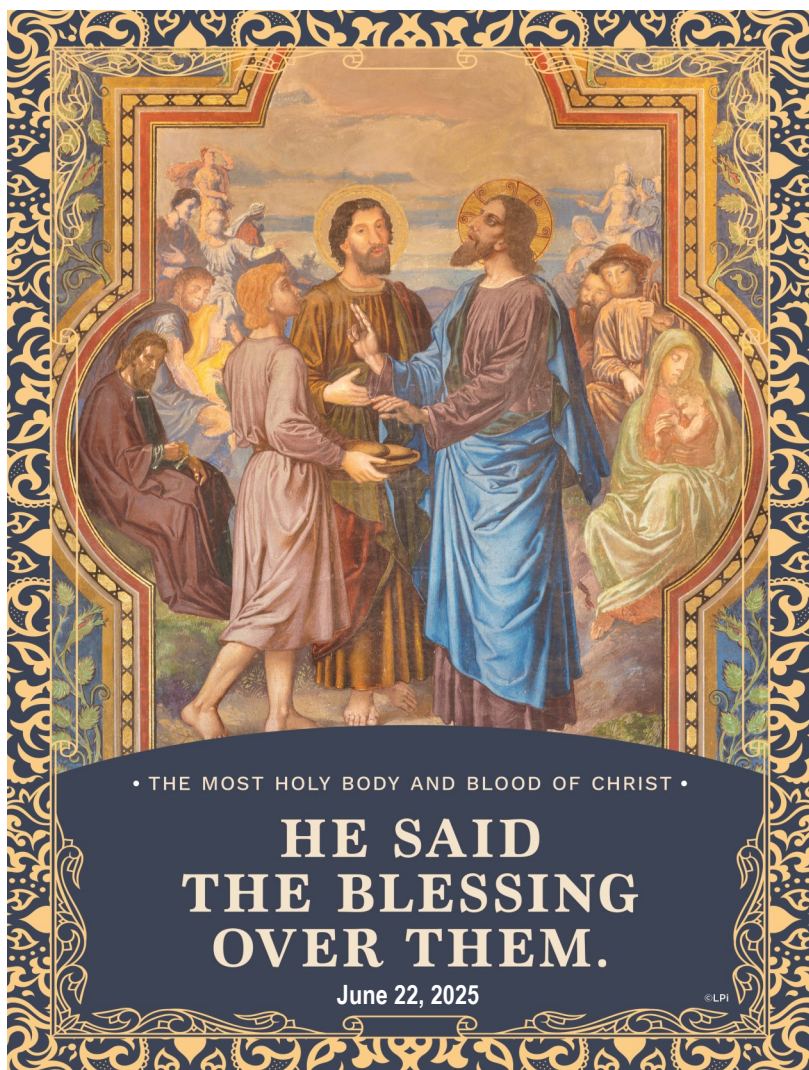
Pamela Russo, MSW, MA  
 Secretary for Youth Protection 610-871-5200,  
 Ext. 2204 [prusso@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:prusso@allentowndiocese.org)

### 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)



## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, the creator of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who delivered your foes into your hand." (Gn 14:19-20)

**Psalm** — You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.  
 (Ps 110)

**Second Reading** — For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.  
 (1 Cor 11:26)

**Gospel** — Jesus spoke to the crowds about the kingdom of God, and he healed those who needed to be cured. (Lk 9:11b)

## 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)

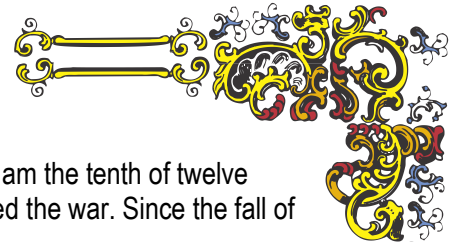
### Adoration of Most Blessed Sacrament:

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:*



## **Father Abraham Ha's Story**

I was born in Vietnam. I come from a family who have strong Catholic faith. I am the tenth of twelve children, (six boys, six girls). Miraculously, my parents, brothers and sisters all survived the war. Since the fall of Saigon my family had to overcome many difficult obstacles.

In 1954 along with my grandparents, aunts and uncles my parents immigrated from North Vietnam to South Vietnam due to the Communists take over. They sought freedom and a better life for themselves and future generation. During the year 1975 the Communists took over South Vietnam. I began to witness the cruel and inhuman treatment my grandparents and others fled from in 1954.

I grew up during the reign of the Communists. I lived in a communist society for 14 years. I was not forced to do anything because of my age. Recalling the daily life of my family and others, I find it is very hard to accept the cruel treatment that these people had to endure. Every day, members from the communist party would come to each families' home. They would check and make sure all family members were present in the home. If a family member was missing the parents were put in jail and integrated for several days. During my fourteen years in Vietnam, I was educated under the educational system of communist. Emphasis was placed on how to follow and obey "Uncle Ho" (the communist leader) and the communism.

For many years under the communist regime, my parents sought a way for our family to escape from Vietnam. Escaping was not a very easy task to accomplish. If a family was caught trying to escape, they were put in a concentration camp and stripped of all their earthly possessions. My parents tried to help each of us escape from Vietnam separately. There was a million of Vietnamese who died under the sea and a few thousands of Vietnamese women raped by pirates due to seeking for freedom. Adventurously, in 1986 my brother and I escaped from Vietnam and landed on the Philippines islands. I was 14 years old and my brother was 17 years old. The Philippines government placed me in a Refugee Camp. This was very much like a jail. There were thousands of refugees held in this small camp. I lived in the refugee camp for almost five years. During my stay I studied English, attended the vo-tech school, and sang in the choir.

I arrived in the United States on November 26, 1990, a day after Thanksgiving. This marked a great day for me. I had finally arrived in the land of freedom "Great America." I settled in Reading, Pennsylvania. I lived with my brother. He cared for me because my parents still lived in Vietnam. My parents remain in Vietnam because nine of my brothers and sisters are still living there. They were still having tough times under the communist regime. Everyday they were trying to live quietly in order to survive and find food for themselves.

Adjusting to life in the United States was very difficult. Each day I had to face different challenges. When I first came to the United States, I spoke very little English and could not understand when people spoke to me. Everyone spoke very fast and used different words than what I had learned. I also did not know or understand many things about American cultures. It took me a year to become accustomed to this culture. American culture is very unique because it embraces not only one culture, but, many different cultures from around the world. What I now have and I am doing because I made a right decision 35 years ago. What I now have and continue to have is because I knew freedom is much greater than death and communism.

I attended Reading High School and graduated on June 13, 1993. In August of 1993 I entered Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary. I had decided to follow my calling to become a priest because of my love for God and his people. I graduated from Saint Charles Seminary on May 18, 1997. I felt very happy and this was my first successful step in my life. In September 3rd, 1997, I was sent to Mary Immaculate Seminary at Northampton, Pa. for a year of spirituality.

I was sent by the Bishop of Allentown to study at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland and then to Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland. I was ordained by Bishop Edward Cullen on June 3rd, 2002 and have served as assistant pastor at Saint. Ignatius, Reading, St. Ambrose, Schuylkill Haven, Saint Anne's, Bethlehem, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Bethlehem and Saint. Anne's Emmaus. I also serve the Vietnamese Catholic Community in the Lehigh Valley Area.

Now, I am so happy accepting a new assignment from the Bishop of Allentown Diocese with an open heart as an administrator of Saint Nicholas parish. I am very joyful to be a part of Saint Nicholas parish. I pray and believe that our parish will always be united and flourished in one family as Christ Jesus calls us to be, "And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body" (Colossians 3:15). Let us pray and work together as one family always.





## Mass Intentions:

Sat 6/21	4:30 PM	Steve Nederostek (Sue & Gene Hankee)
Sun 6/22	8:30 AM	Bill Jenkins (Elaine Jenkins)
	10:30 AM	Thomas Papay Sr. (JoAnne Kochmaruk)
Mon 6/23	8:30 AM	Dennis Saab Family (Anonymous)
Tues 6/24	6:30 PM	Monica Klotz (Brian Keefe)
Wed 6/25	8:30 AM	Hilda Frisch (Sue Hankee)
Thu 6/26	8:30 AM	People of the Parish
Fri 6/27	No Mass	
Sat 6/28	4:30 PM	Konrad Goworowski (Libby Getz)
Sun 6/29	8:30 AM	John Eisenreich (Mary Eisenreich & Family)
	10:30 AM	Catherine Niedzwiecki (Henry & Nancy Niedzwiecki)

## Counting Our Blessings-Thank You!

6/8	Collection Envelopes	\$3,781.00
	<b>Weekly Budgeted Operational Expenses</b>	<b>\$7,352.00</b>
	Father's Day	\$626.00
	Ascension	\$242.00

## 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 June 22 to 28

*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**

## Summer Calendar of Events

### 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



### September

- 5, 6, 7 Palmerton Festival Fundraiser
- 5, 6, 7 Men's Retreat in Malvern, PA
- 12, 13, 14 Women's Retreat in Malvern, PA
- 27, 27 Coffee & Donuts

## Legacy Wall Tiles Orders Due by 6/30

Help support our preservation and restoration projects by purchasing a tile for yourself, in memory of family or other loved ones, or by asking a business to purchase one as a "friend of the parish" - but please no advertising slogans or phone numbers. Business tiles are in a separate section of the wall.

Small tiles (4x8, 84 characters) are \$100 and large tiles (8x8, 126 char.) are \$200. Forms are available in the porticos or by emailing the office. We need to order tiles in batches of at least 10, so please order and pay by June 30. We might not place another order until next year! If you have any questions, contact Jen Karmonick at 202-669-0836 or [jenkarmonick@gmail.com](mailto:jenkarmonick@gmail.com).

## 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](http://kofc.org/JoinUs).

**K of C** General Business Meeting 2nd Wed @ 6:30 PM.

## 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

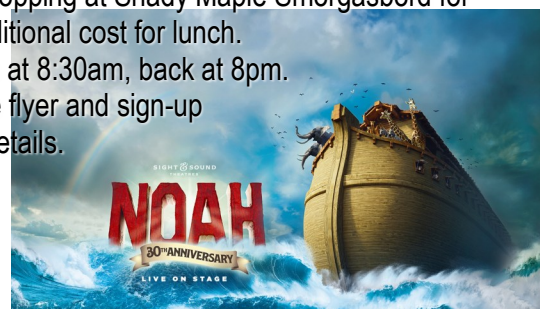
## "Noah" Sight & Sound Theater Lancaster

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 lunch. Additional cost for lunch.

Bus leaves at 8:30am, back at 8pm.

Please see flyer and sign-up sheet for details.



## St. Nicholas Food Pantry Is Open

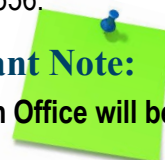
Collections are on the third weekend of the month. If you know of a family or person that can use a hand at this time, let the parish office know.

## Boy Scouts

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

## Important Note:

The **Parish Office** will be **CLOSED** on Tuesday, June 24.





## Volunteers Needed for Our Parish Picnic!

Our Annual Parish Picnic is Sunday, August 3, from noon to 5pm at the Walnutport Canal Pavilion, and we need your help to make it a fun and successful event for everyone!

The committee is looking for volunteers in the following areas:

- **Setup & Takedown** – Help us set up and cleanup tables, griddle, and pop-up tent.
- **Bingo Caller** – We need someone to lead the games!
- **Cake Bakers for the Cakewalk** – Bake and donate cakes for one of our favorite picnic traditions.
- **Prize & Supply Donations** – Accepting donations of small prizes and gift cards to support the activities.
- **Food Donations** – Share your favorite side dishes or snacks.

Please sign up in the porticos or contact Bob Watkins at 484-515-5242 or email: [community@stnicholaswalnutport.org](mailto:community@stnicholaswalnutport.org).

Cash or gift card donations marked Parish Picnic may be placed in the collection basket.

## Our Lady of Peace Women Retreat: Sept. 12-14, 2025

Come to Malvern Retreat House to renew and strengthen your relationship with our Lord. Take time to deepen your faith, in the company of other women who seek more from their faith lives. We will share thought provoking conferences to help explore more in our faith. The theme will be "Eucharist: Food for the Journey". We will have Father Mike Davis, rector of Malvern Retreat House, as retreat director. The conferences will be directed in an effort to assist us to grow closer to our Lord. Weekend check-in begins at 5:00 PM and ends after Mass on Sunday morning about 11:00 AM. Please consider the gift of this weekend retreat for yourself and other women in your lives. To register, call 610 644-0400 or go directly to Our Lady Of Peace - 2025 - Malvern Retreat House . Other retreats are available at the calendar tab on the home page: [www.malvernretreat.com](http://www.malvernretreat.com)

For more information, please contact Trina Marie Fixl 570.249.9198

## Iron Pigs Game

**Event Date:** August 22, 2025

**Event Time:** 7:05 game start

**Cost:** \$13 with \$2 ballpark credit for food or merchandise



Join your fellow parishioners for a fun and relaxing evening at the Iron Pigs Game. Stay and enjoy the Fireworks after the game. 30 seats have been reserved in section 105.

Sign-up sheets are available in the portico after masses. Last day to sign-up is July 20. Contact Carl Litwin at 610-767-2624 email [clitwin1@gmail.com](mailto:clitwin1@gmail.com)



## 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](mailto:community@stnicholaswalnutport.org).

## Caring Hands Knit-Crochet Group

We create comforting items to be donated to those in need within our area. For example: 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.