

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — No, it is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts; you have only to carry it out." (Dt 30:14)

Psalm — Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life. (Ps 19)

Second Reading — Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. (Col 1:15)

Gospel — You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself. (Lk 10:25)

St. Nicholas Catholic Church

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

Parish Office and Religious Education:

610-767-3107 E-mail: 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 Neumann 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

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:

In life, we often treat each other based on feelings, for example, if someone loves us, we love that person back, or we only love our relatives and friends. But if someone hates or harms us, we distance ourselves or seek revenge.

For Christians, it is different. God teaches us to love Him as a Father and to love others as siblings.

However, the question is: how far should our love for others go? The scholar of the law in today's Gospel asks Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" We see that Jesus does not directly answer his question, but tells the parable of the Good Samaritan to respond to him, and teaches us, as believers in God, that love must extend to everyone, regardless of race, skin color, language, even to those who hate us.

The parable in today's Gospel shows us three characters: first a priest, then a Levite, and finally a Samaritan. All three, one after the other, travel on the same road from "Jerusalem to Jericho." They all see the pitiful sight of a traveler "who fell into the hands of robbers, was stripped, beaten, and left half dead by the roadside, groaning." Although they see the traveler lying there "half alive, half dead," both the priest and the Levite "passed by on the other side of the road." The Samaritan, however, saw the scene and was moved with compassion. The compassion of the Samaritan did not stop at his eyes or in his heart, but was expressed through the concrete actions of his feet and hands.

At that time, the Jews and Samaritans had enmity towards each other. The Jews despised and regarded the Samaritans as enemies. But the Samaritan's attitude towards the Jew in distress, half alive and half dead, was completely different from the "passing by" attitude, indifferent and insensitive, of the priest and Levite towards someone of their own race and community.

Jesus asked the scholar of the law: "So who is the neighbor of the one who fell into the hands of the robbers?" The scholar of the law answered: "The one who showed mercy to him." Jesus said to him and taught us: "You go, and do likewise."

Love is not just about giving something or a little money, but also about acts of sacrifice, forgiveness, and selfless service to others. Jesus Himself set an example of sacrifice, renunciation, and dedication to humanity. In the Gospel of John, the Lord has made it known to us: "There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13). Thus, we Christians must love with generosity and the sacrifice of service to truly embody its meaning, value, and essence.

In summary, today's Gospel addresses three important points: the law, love, and eternal life. The most essential point is love because love can help us attain eternal happiness. If we love God with all our heart and soul, we will sincerely practice His words, and our faith will be alive, bearing much good fruit. Our love for God will be the motivation that helps us live charitably, generously, and sacrificially in joy to assist others. Conversely, if without sincere love for God, then the laws, God's words, and generosity become a burden on humanity.

We must also be aware that loving God and being kind to others are essential elements for our Christian life.

Therefore, a Christian must live a life of charity, practicing love through concrete actions, through generosity, sacrifice, and kindness towards everyone, even enemies, in order to find peace and happiness in this life and the next.

Counting Our Blessings-Thank You!

6/16 Collection Envelopes \$3,205.00

Weekly Budgeted Operational Expenses \$7,352.00
Father's Day \$183.00
Peter's Pence \$327.00

Observances for the week of July 13, 2025

Sunday: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Monday: St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin

Tuesday: St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the

Church

Wednesday: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Friday: St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest



Mass Intentions:

Sat 7/12	4:30 PM	Stephen & Catherine Halko (Mr. & Mrs. Edward Erschen)
Sun 7/13	8:30 AM	John Eisenreich (Mary Eisenreich & Family)
	10:30 AM	Margie Vallo (Carl J. Niedzwiecki)
Mon 7/14	8:30 AM	Bud, Peg and Tim Baker and Ben McCalmant (Susanne Baker)
Tues 7/15	6:30 PM	JoAnn Karmonick (Jennifer Karmonick)
Wed 7/16	8:30 AM	Jared – for physical & spiritual health (Cindy Saab)
Thu 7/17	8:30 AM	People of the Parish
Fri 7/18	No Mass	
Sat 7/19	4:30 PM	Eva Poliquin (Art & Louise Mazza)
Sun 7/20	8:30 AM	James & JoAnn Karmonick (Jennifer Karmonick)
	10:30 AM	Fred Kochmaruk Jr. and Martha Papay (JoAnn Kochmaruk)

Miraculous Medal Novena

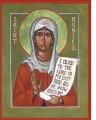
The prayers of the Miraculous Medal Novena are prayed publicly in our parish every Wednesday after the evening Benediction at 6:30PM. We offer public praying of the

Miraculous Medal Novena as a perpetual novena of prayer as a part of the spiritual life of our parish.

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.

St. Joseph Flowers

July 13 through 19 Susan & Byron Miller (in Honor of their 56th Wedding Anniversary)

Blessed Mother Flowers

July 13 through 19 Susan & Byron Miller (in Honor of their 56th Wedding Anniversary)

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 July 13 to 19

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

Altar Hosts and Wine Offered in Memory of Wednesday Adorers

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)

IronPigs Baseball Game –7:15pm at Iron PigsStadium



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, 28 Coffee & Donuts

Palmerton Festival

"All hands on deck for the Palmerton Festival"! This year we will be making potato pancakes again, halupki, and sausage sandwiches. Please consider donating a few hours to make this a big success again for a our parish.

Friday, September 5 5-11 Saturday Sept 6 12-9 Sunday September 7 12-9.

Sign ups will be shifts of 2-4 hours, sign up sheets will have all time slots needed.

See Marion Nihen 610 737 1181 or Lisa Pignataro 610 737 4716 for more info

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.

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

Important Notes!

Tuesday Daily Mass will be held at 8:30am effective August 3. Confessions will be moved to Wednesday evenings. Times to be determined.

Parish office will be Closed from 7/13 - 7/18 and will reopen on Monday, July 21, 2025

Seven Sisters Apostolate

There is a Women's Prayer Group starting at St. Nicholas Parish for Father Abraham Ha. Women from our parish will offer their prayers for our new priest in the form of a Holy Hour, using a simple structure established by the Seven Sisters Apostolate, an international ministry that is operating in all 50 states as well as many countries around the world!

Seven Sisters Apostolate's mission is to pray for individual priest in small groups of only seven women per parish. Each woman chooses a different day of the week to offer one Holy Hour. In this way, Father Abraham (and Father Adam) receives a Holy Hour every day of the week from the women of St. Nicholas Parish! It is a blessing for both the priest and the women of our parish! Learn more by contacting Cindy Saab at 484-894-7613 or clsaab53@gmail.com.

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 hands-on 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 completion date has been extended to August 29, 2025.

Call 610-767-3107 for any questions. Please Apply!



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.

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

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 <u>clitwin1@gmail.com</u>

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:

- July 1 "The Red Tent" by Anita Diamant
- ◆ July 15 "The Screwtape Letters" by C.S. Lewis
- ◆ Aug. 5 and 19 "Unbroken" by Laura Hillenbrand
- Sept 16 "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" by Robert Louis Stevenson and Charles Raymond Macauley
- Oct. 7 and 21 a Stephen King Book (or something else for Halloween!)
- Nov. 4 and 18 will be announced
- ◆ Dec. 2 "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens

We invite you to join us at the Parish Center from 7:15pm to 8:30pm 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**.

A Winning Weekend

THANK YOU to all who joined us at the track or made a donation for our race weekend fundraiser!



The results were:

Fri – 8 shifts covered; Sat – 6 shifts covered; Sun – 16 shifts covered; plus 11 full donations and a partial.

That's 32 shifts covered and 11+ donations, which is \$4320 raised that will be split between our Knights council and the church.

Your generosity of time and funds is greatly appreciated!