

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:

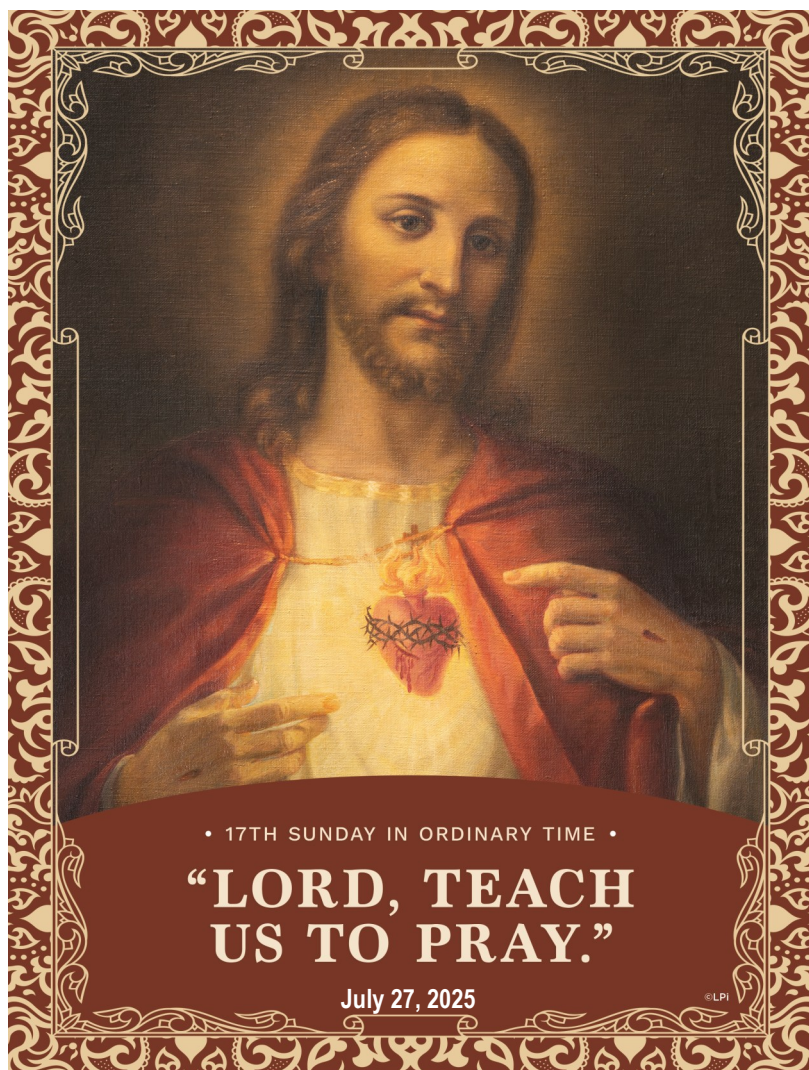
Pamela Russo, MSW, MA
 Secretary for Youth Protection 610-871-5200,
 Ext. 2204 prusso@allentowndiocese.org

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



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Far be it from you to do such a thing, to make the innocent die with the guilty so that the innocent and the guilty would be treated alike! Should not the judge of all the world act with justice?" (Gn 18:25)

Psalm — Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.
 (Ps 138)

Second Reading — You were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God.
 (Col 2:12)

Gospel — "And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." (Lk 11:9)

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM
 Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30 AM
 Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday: 8:30 AM
 Tuesday: 6:30 PM

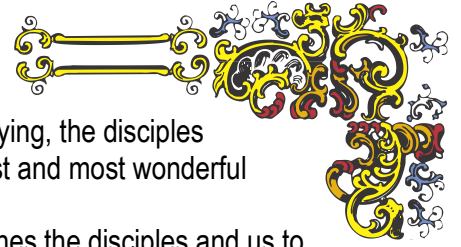
Adoration of Most Blessed Sacrament:

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:



Today's Gospel of Saint Luke describes how, upon seeing Jesus was praying, the disciples asked Him to teach them how to pray. He taught them the Our Father, the greatest and most wonderful prayer, because it reflects His deep love for God the Father.

In this prayer, what is extraordinary and truly surprising is that Jesus teaches the disciples and us to call God "Father." This address stirs the hearts of humanity before the vast love of God. The word "Father" is not only the source of origin but also a supportive embrace, a sheltering home, a motivating force, and an inviting ideal. The word "Father" evokes a whole world of love that is both intimate and profound and mysterious. By revealing God as Father, Jesus presents an image of God that is entirely different from the images of deities in other religions. Not only does He show us that God the Father loves us immensely, but He also desires us to enter into a very personal and intimate relationship with the Father. By calling God "Father," we believe that He understands all our cries as His children. By calling God "Father," we believe that He will never abandon us as His children.

In 1988 an earthquake devastated the northwestern section of Armenia, killing an estimated 20,000 persons. In one small town, directly after the earthquake, a father rushed to his son's school only to find that the school had been flattened and there was no sign of life.

Though the prospects appeared hopeless, he began removing rubble from where he believed his son's classroom had been.

With strength and endurance beyond himself, the faithful, loving father continued to dig... for 36 hours. Then in the 38th hour, as he heaved away a heavy piece of rubble, he heard voices. "Armand!" he screamed.

A child's voice responded: "Dad! It's me,... Armand!" Then, "I told the other kids not to worry. I told them that if you were alive, you would save me, and when you saved me, they would be saved. You promised you would always be there for me! You did it, Dad!"

Moments later, the dad was helping his son Armand and 13 other frightened, hungry, thirsty boys and girls climb out of the debris. Free at last! When the building collapsed, these children had been spared in a tent-like pocket. The father lovingly carried his son home to his mother, where he was given the care he needed.

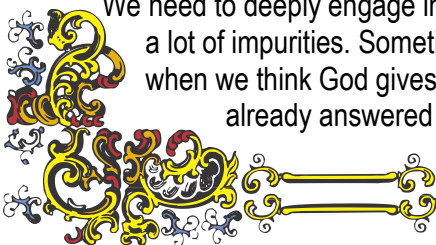
When the townspeople praised Armand's dad, his explanation was, "I promised my son, 'No matter what, I will be there for you!'"

After the Lord's Prayer, Jesus encourages us to ask, seek, and knock. He invites us to take positive action rather than passively waiting. However, sometimes due to pride, we do not ask and therefore do not receive; sometimes due to laziness, we do not seek and thus do not find; sometimes due to shyness, we do not knock and therefore the door is not opened for us.

Through the parable of the friend who is disturbed, Jesus also teaches us to be persistent in our requests, to increase our desires, and also to enhance the value of the grace God gives. If we do not receive what we ask for, it is not that God does not give, but perhaps that request may not be beneficial and could even harm our souls, or He may want to grant us a greater favor. In God's infinite wisdom as a loving Father, He knows what grace to give and how to give it to make our lives flourish.

Asking is not just to obtain what we desire, but also to achieve what God wishes for us. Asking primarily serves to establish a close relationship with God, who understands everything within us, who is weaving our lives and leading us into His plan of redemptive love. Understanding this helps us to step out of our narrow personal concerns and to see the greater needs of others and the Church. We should also not forget that the greatest gift the Father wants to give us is the Holy Spirit. With the Holy Spirit we will have joy, strength, light, and new life. This is the life of Christ being formed in each of us until we reach fullness in God.

We need to deeply engage in prayer to know what we should ask for, because the things we ask for often carry a lot of impurities. Sometimes we ask for things that are not good without realizing it. There are also times when we think God gives us what is not good. Only with the eyes of faith can we know that God has already answered our prayers, but in a way different from what we wanted. We must remember that with love, every event in life is a loving gift from God to us.





Mass Intentions:

Sat 7/26	4:30 PM	Nicholas & Helen Erschen (Mr. & Mrs. Edward Erschen)
Sun 7/27	8:30 AM	Alois Badura (Adelaide Badura)
	10:30 AM	Charles G. Trinkle (Bill & Krista Ambrosino)
Mon 7/28	8:30 AM	George Woytko (Mary Woytko & Susanne Amici)
Tues 7/29	6:30 PM	People of the Parish
Wed 7/30	8:30 AM	Jacqueline L. Williamson
Thu 7/31	8:30 AM	Monica Klotz (Sue Hankee)
Fri 8/1	No Mass	
Sat 8/2	4:30 PM	Constantine & Irene Gerkovich (Mr. & Mrs. Edward Erschen)
Sun 8/3	8:30 AM	Bruce Trexler (JoAnne Kilpatrick)
	10:30 AM	Catherine Niedzwiecki (Henry & Nancy Niedzwiecki)

Counting Our Blessings-Thank You!

6/29	Collection Envelopes	\$3,621.00
	Weekly Budgeted Operational Expenses	\$7,352.00
	School	\$35.00
	Insurance	\$30.00

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.

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 July 27 to August 2

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

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, 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 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

Important Notes!

Tuesday Daily Mass will be held at 8:30am effective August 3. Confession times will be held on Wednesday evenings before Benediction from 5:45 - 6:15. Also, please note there will no longer be a Latin Mass held at St. Nicholas.

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

Seven Sisters Apostolate

We still need a few more women to offer your prayers for Fr. Abraham Ha's Ministry at St. Nicholas parish. Each woman chooses a different day of the week to offer prayers for our parish priest. Your prayers are sure to bring forth blessings for both our priest and our parishioners! Please contact Cindy at 484-894-7613.

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. 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.

Pilgrim Virgin Statue Home Visitation Program

The Pilgrim Virgin Statue Home Visitation Program is still alive and doing well. If you would like to have the Statue in your home, there is a sign up sheet in the portico next to the hall door on the side of the main parking lot.



The Statue is ready for pick up in the Portico or Choir Room after the 10:30 Mass on Sunday. We ask that you return the Statue the following Sunday before the start of the 10:30 Mass for the next person to pick her up.

If help is needed, please call: Carl J. Niedzwiecki at: 610-767-6016 (ccniedz@gmail.com) or Thomas McCloskey at: 786-423-3206 (tmccloskey95@gmail.com). If you never had the Statue in your home, we are more than willing to bring her into your home and help you get started in this devotion to Mary and **it would be nice to have a group to say the Rosary together. We also ask that anyone having the Statue in their homes pray for Vocations to religious life.** Thank you and May God Bless You. Carl Niedzwiecki. Sponsored by St. Nicholas K of C.

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.



Saint Nicholas Church Picnic

August 3, 2025, 12 noon to 5 pm

- Parking is to the Right of the pavilion. Please leave the front row for the needy.
- Food tickets will be available from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm.
- If you are bringing a cold item there is refrigerated storage.
- If you are bringing Hot food, please provide a hot surface and an extension cord.
- Deliveries of food or other donations will be accepted at the Walnutport Canal Pavilion on the day of the picnic beginning at 10:30 am.
- Bingo will start at 1:30 The tentative schedule is for 10 regular bingo, 2 Specials and a grand prize coverall.
- The Cakewalk will begin at 3:45.
 - If you are donating a cake, please provide a brief description of the item.

Thank you to all who donated time and Goodies.

New Bible Study to Begin

The Letter of James: Practical Wisdom for Living a God-centered Life



Our next Bible Study will begin on September 11th and continue every other Thursday until January 29, 2026. This study will offer wisdom for ordinary Christians in everyday life. It speaks to all of us who feel torn between the competing demands of this world and our faith. For anyone who struggles to live a truly Christian life, **James** offers a wealth of practical solutions for handling everyday circumstances.

Please join us for this 11-week video study program. James (*together with Peter and Paul*) was one of three key leaders of the early Church. James (*often called the Lord's "brother"*) was a man who taught the wisdom of the kingdom of God in a style reminiscent of Jesus himself.

We will meet every other week from 6:30PM to 8:15PM for an engaging video presentation by Jeff Cavins, 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. Bible Studies at St. Nicholas have received excellent reviews. We hope you will join us!

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.



Summer Reading Series: *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis

Join the Page Turners and Father Abraham this summer as we dive into the thought-provoking and spiritually rich classic, *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis. Through a series of fictional letters from a senior demon to his nephew, Lewis offers profound insight into faith, temptation, and the human experience.

Reading Schedule:

- ♦ **July 15** – Letters 1 through 10
- ♦ **August 5** – Letters 11 through 20
- ♦ **August 19** – Letters 21 through 31 **and** *The Toast* at the end of the book

Whether you're reading it for the first time or revisiting this classic, we invite you to reflect, learn, and grow together in faith. Meeting held in the Parish Center from 7:15 to 8:30pm.

The rest of the books scheduled for the remainder of the year will be announced at a later date.

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. 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