

St. Nicholas
50
Roman Catholic Church
Years
as a Parish
1974 - 2024



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

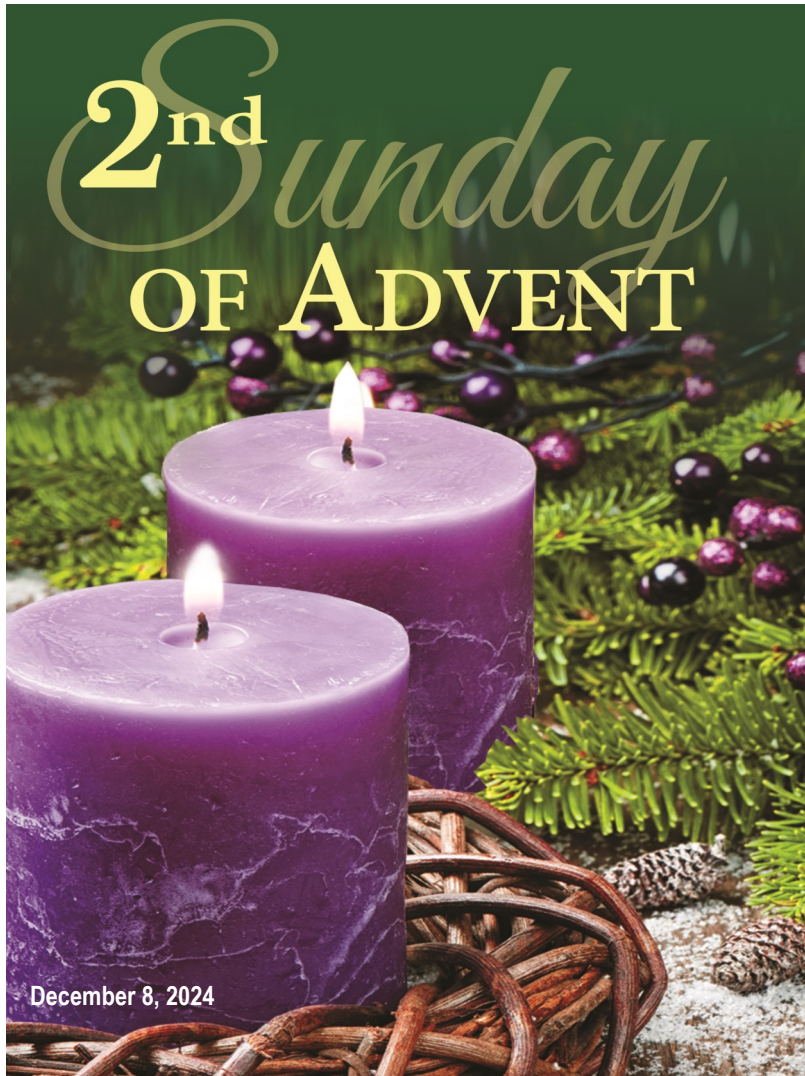
PREP:
Grades K - 8: 2nd Monday of the month
6:30 PM - 7:45 PM

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



December 8, 2024

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — "For God will show all the earth your splendor: you will be named by God forever the peace of justice, the glory of God's worship." (Bar 5:3-4)

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

Second Reading — So that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ. (Phil 1:10-11)

Gospel — "The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." (Lk 3:5-6)

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM
Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30 AM
Monday: 7:00 AM & 7:00 PM (PREP Students)
Tuesday: 6:30 PM (Latin Mass)
Wednesday, & Thursday: 8:30AM

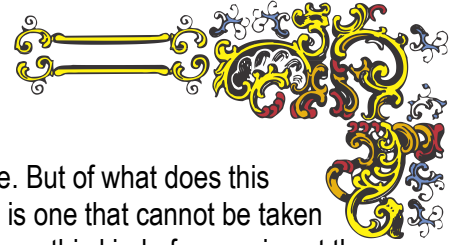
Adoration of Most Blessed Sacrament:

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:

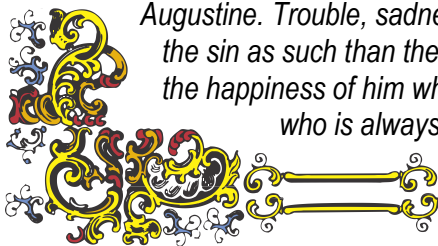


Dear Parishioners,

During Advent we hear often the promise that the Messiah will bring peace. But of what does this peace consist and how is it that Lord is Prince of Peace? We know that His peace is one that cannot be taken away even by all the turmoil that life and the world can throw at us. And we also know this kind of peace is not the absence of conflict or even outright persecution, both of which the Lord also promises to those who dare to follow Him. I found Father Jean D'Elbee, a French Priest who has written a wonderful book on the life and teaching of St. Therese of Liseux, offers a great insight into the peace the Lord brings to us. He describes it as an "equilibrium of soul". That is a great way to describe the peace of Christ. A peace that gives an unshakable harmony deep in our soul.

He writes further:

"Peaceful souls are neither pessimists nor neurotics. They are not smug optimists, but have a wise and legitimate optimism, based on the heart of Jesus, for they know that nothing happens but what God wills and that for the one who lives in faith, everything is grace, everything is love. Mild temper, forbearance, goodness, and serenity grow only in peace. Notice that it is not by keeping you away from temptations and struggles that our Lord will guard you. Saint Paul believed this when, after he had been transported to the third heaven, an angel of Satan buffeted him in order that he might not take pride in himself, so that he prayed three times for deliverance. But Jesus answered him, My grace is sufficient for you (2 Cor 12:9). Elsewhere Saint Paul cries, The good which I will, I do not; but the evil which I will not, that I do. Unhappy man that I am, who shall deliver me from this body of death? (Rom 7:19, 24). And he was not delivered from it. Remember that the grace of Jesus is sufficient for you, and that it will never be lacking. It is so important to find calmness right away again after each fall! With one look toward him, say to him, "Jesus, one tear from your eyes, one drop of your blood on my soul, and everything will be purified and my soul will be in peace." We know, says Saint Paul, that to those who love God all things work together for good (Rom 8:28). "Even their sins," adds Saint Augustine. Trouble, sadness, and bitterness after a sin often come from offended self love. We regret less the sin as such than the fact that it humiliates us. Peace does not necessarily mean sensible joy. But it is the happiness of him who knows he is where he ought to be and who asks for nothing but what he has, who is always joyous because Jesus, who is all his joy, is always with him."



Peace- Father Adam

Readings for week of December 8, 2024

- Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6
- Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
- Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30
- Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
- Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13



Knights of Columbus Breakfast

Thank you to all who attended our Nov 24 Knights of Columbus breakfast. We served 200 adults; 14 children 6 up; 8 children under 6. The proceeds earned enable us to help fund church projects and our many charities.

Our next scheduled breakfast will be mid-January. The exact date has not yet been approved, so please monitor the bulletin and the pre-Mass announcements for the date.

If you have previously attended, thank you! If not, please consider doing so in the future!

Coffee & Donuts Weekend



Join us for a little socialization while enjoying Coffee and donuts, cheese and wine this weekend of December 7 and 8.



Mass Intentions:

Sat 12/7	4:30 PM	Rosie Pauker (Susan & Byron Miller Sr.)
Sun 12/8	8:30 AM	Sven Muessigbrodt (Sue Hankee)
	10:30 AM	Catherine Niedzwiecki (Carl Niedzwiecki)
Mon 12/9	7:00 AM	People of the Parish
	7:00 PM	PREP Students
Tues 12/10	6:30 PM	Mathilde Stubits (The Semler Family)
Wed 12/11	8:30 AM	Catherine Niedzwiecki (Joyful Chorale)
Thu 12/12	8:30 AM	Sister Teresa Houlihan (Theresa Taddeo)
Fri 12/13	No Mass	
Sat 12/14	4:30 PM	Jeanetta Epser (Dave & Mary FeKula)
Sun 12/15	8:30 AM	Al Badura (Adelaide Badura)
	10:30 AM	Robert Binder (Valerie Kressler)

Counting Our Blessings-Thank You!

11/24	Collection Envelopes	\$3,967.00
	Weekly Budgeted Operational Expenses	\$7,352.00
	Utility	\$80.00
	School	\$200.00



Christmas Mass Schedule

- * Tuesday, **December 24th** Mass: 4:30pm, 6:30pm & 10:00pm
- * Wednesday, **December 25th** Mass: 9:30am

New Year's Mass Schedule

- * Tuesday, **December 31st** Mass: 4:30pm
- * Wednesday, **January 1st** Mass: 9:00am

No Mass will be held on
Thursday, January 2nd.

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 December 8 to 14

Tabernacle Candles Offered by
John Gerkovich
John Gerkovich

Altar Hosts and Wine Offered by
John Gerkovich

Caring Hands Knit-Crochet Group

We create comforting items to be donated to those in need within our area, such as 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.



We Need Your Help!

If you or you know a parishioner that is homebound or is in or going into in a nursing home or personal care facility, please let us know by calling the Parish Office.

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!

BVMSN Federal Credit Union

Serving the parishioners and families of Assumption BVM and St. Nicholas Churches. We offer lower interest rate loans and financial counseling if you want to help clean up your credit. Your money is insured up to \$250,000. For more information, call the credit union at 484-272-2858 or stop by the St. Nicholas Rectory on Monday nights from 7pm-9pm. We are here for you.



Boy Scouts

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

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, Officers' Meeting 4th Wed @ 7:30PM.

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!

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.

Caring Cardmaking ♥♥♥

Our card making team at St. Nicks (Caring Cards) is in full swing. If you know of someone who is having surgery, is ill, is homebound or in a nursing home or hospice please contact us with their names and addresses so that we can get a card off to them.

We meet the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month at 10:30 in the social hall.

You can contact Pat Hunsicker at (610) 824-4017 or you can text or call cell phone (484) 464-7265. We don't want to miss anyone so please help if you can. Thank you.



St Nicholas Merchandise Order Pick Up Information:

If you ordered St. Nicholas 50th Anniversary Merchandise such as polo shirts, t-shirts, hoodies, ornaments and magnets, they can be picked up on Saturday, Dec 7, 2024 from 4-6 pm and Sunday, December 8, 2024 from 8:30 am to Noon in the Church Social Hall. Thank you all for your support.

If you need to make other arrangements for your order pickup, please call or text 610-533-0673 or email: publicrelations@stnicholaswalnutport.org



Making Spirits Bright

In the Spirit of St. Nicholas, our parish would like to help make this Christmas a little bit brighter for some families. There are two families that are going through hard times. If you would like to purchase a gift for them, please take a tag from the tree in the portico and purchase the item. Bring in the gift with the tag and put it on the table marked "Gifts" in the social hall. We need these gifts by **December 15**.



Here is an opportunity to live out the hymn we've sung so many times, "Whatsoever you do to the least of my people, that you do unto me." If you have any questions, please call Peg Heiczinger at 610-393-1772.

Election Day Food Fundraiser.

We appreciate the generosity of donors, the assistance of volunteers on the day of the event, the efforts of those behind the scenes and the support of all who made purchases.

The total profit after expenses came to \$1436.34.

Perfect Pastries!

Thank you to all who baked for the 50th Anniversary Gala.

We had an awesome array of desserts, made with love by our parishioners! Thank you to all who donated their talents and delicious baked goods! - Lisa Pignataro



Bring a Touch of Winter Magic Into Your Home!

Join in the fun and creative DIY workshop where you will learn how to make your very own snow globe.

Whether you are crafting a keepsake or creating a holiday decoration, this is the perfect opportunity to unleash your imagination.

When: December 16 from 6:30-8:30 pm meet in the Church Community Hall.

Cost: \$15.00 and includes all supplies. Money will be collected the night of crafting.

Bring a snack/beverage to share.

Reserve your spot on the sign-up sheet in the Church portico. Space is limited to 12 people, so do not miss out!

Questions, please contact Deborah Fritz at 610-463-6093 or Crystal Zambelli at 610-554-3845 or email community@stnicholaswalnutport.org.

Catechism and Lunch

Catechism and lunch is back for Advent! Join us on **Sunday 15 December at Noon** for an exploration of Prayer - Lectio Divina and the Teresian Method of Meditation

Prayer is something we learn and grow in. Growth in prayer leads to growth in the grace and virtue. There are many methods of meditative prayer in the Catholic tradition, two of which are Lectio Divina and the method described by St. Teresa of Jesus, the Teresian Method of Meditation. Come and learn about these two great schools of prayer and learn how to use one or both as methods of prayer that can help one to grow in friendship with Lord.

Keeping the Lord's House Tidy

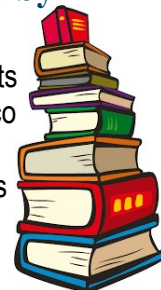
St. Nicholas cleaning team is looking for team members, usually Thursdays in the evening, but time and day are flexible. Come help us keep the Lord's house clean!

Contact Lisa Pignataro
610 7374716



Memoirs, history, or science: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot!

Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. A poor Southern tobacco farmer whose cells are taken without her knowledge. The first "immortal" human cells grown in culture. HeLa cells were vital for developing the polio vaccine; uncovered secrets of cancer, viruses, and the atom bomb's effects; helped lead to in vitro fertilization, cloning, and gene mapping. Join the Page Turners on Tuesday, January 21 at 7:15 pm in the Parish Center to deliberate this memoir. For more information, please contact: community@stnicholaswalnutport.org.



North of 50 Christmas Charcuterie

Please join us December 13, 2024, 1 o'clock

Bring a small board to share or individual items and we'll make the boards! What is charcuterie, you ask? Just a fancy word for cheese and meat tray. Can include various cheeses, meats (salami, etc.), olives or whatever strikes your fancy.

Sign up on the clipboards in the hall

Contact: Ann Orsulak 610 392 1092

Lisa Pignataro 610 737 4716

