

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

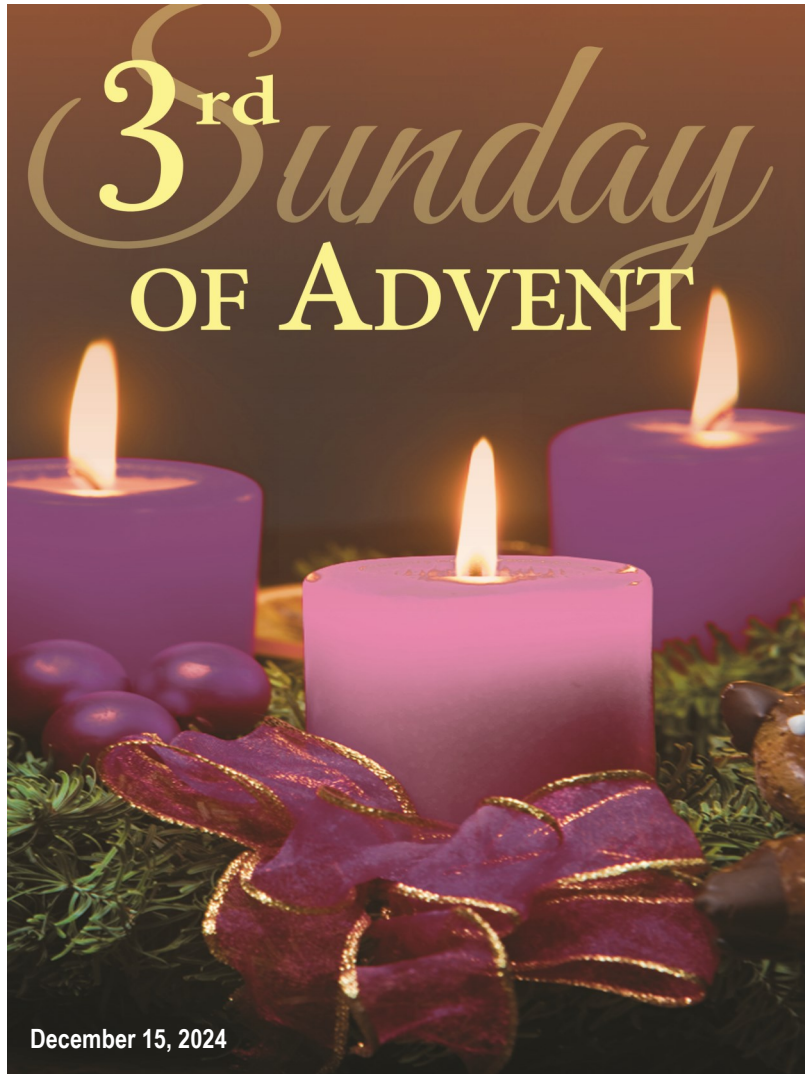
Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service
1-800-276-1562 www.ReportBishopAbuse.org

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)



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness. (Zep 3:17)

Psalm — Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel. (Is 12:6)

Second Reading — The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. (Phil 4:5-6)

Gospel — “The crowds asked John the Baptist, “What should we do?” (Lk 3:10)

A Message from Our Pastor:



Dear Parishioners,

In the early part of Advent we look forward to the Lord's return in glory, and pray for and prepare for this day to come. This prepares us to celebrate Our Lord's birth in human history, in time, in Bethlehem. The celebration of His birth, can then help us to receive Him anew, in the present moment, in our hearts, minds and souls. In looking forward to His return, many have and many will continue to speculate as to when this will happen, despite the Lord telling us we are not suppose to know this, but rather we are to be always ready. In teaching about this the St. Ephrem offers a very helpful and clear explanation. St. Ephrem, who lived in the 4th century, was a learned deacon, he is both a father and doctor of the Church and is venerated also by the Orthodox and Anglicans.

St. Ephrem writes:

"To prevent His disciples from asking the time of His coming, Christ said: About that hour no one knows, neither the angels nor the Son. It is not for you to know times or moments. He has kept those things hidden so that we may keep watch, each of us thinking that He will come in our own day. If He had revealed the time of His coming, His coming would have lost its savor: it would no longer be an object of yearning for the nations and the age in which it will be revealed. He promised that He would come but did not say when he would come, and so all generations and ages await him eagerly.

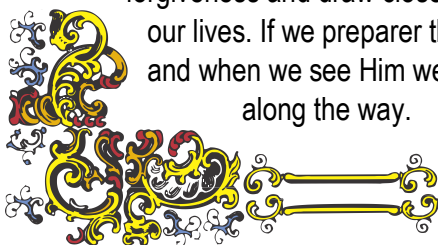
Though the Lord has established the signs of His coming, the time of their fulfillment has not been plainly revealed. These signs have come and gone with a multiplicity of change; more than that, they are still present. His final coming is like His first. As holy men and prophets waited for him, thinking that He would reveal Himself in their own day, so today each of the faithful longs to welcome Him in his own day, because Christ has not made plain the day of His coming.

He has not made it plain for this reason especially, that no one may think that He whose power and dominion rule all numbers and times is ruled by fate and time. He described the signs of His coming; how could what He has himself decided be hidden from Him? Therefore, He used these words to increase respect for the signs of His coming, so that from that day forward all generations and ages might think that He would come again in their own day.

Keep watch; when the body is asleep nature takes control of us, and what is done is not done by our will but by force, by the impulse of nature. When deep listlessness takes possession of the soul, for example, faint-heartedness or melancholy, the enemy overpowers it and makes it do what it does not will. The force of nature, the enemy of the soul, is in control.

When the Lord commanded us to be vigilant, He meant vigilance in both parts of man: in the body, against the tendency to sleep; in the soul, against lethargy and timidity. As Scripture says: Wake up, you just, and I have risen, and am still with you; and again, Do not lose heart. Therefore, having this ministry, we do not lose heart."

While we do not know when Our Lord will return, we know each day brings us that much closer. We also know how to prepare and how to be vigilant. To follow the Gospel completely and with confidence and trust, to seek His forgiveness and draw closer to Him in prayer, with the Sacraments of His Church as the sure foundation of our lives. If we preparer this way, remaining vigilant in body and soul, the day will not catch us off guard, and when we see Him we will recognize Him immediately, for we will have already been welcoming Him all along the way.



Peace- Father Adam



Mass Intentions:

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)
Mon 12/16	8:30 AM	Susan Thoroughman (Carl Niedzwiecki)
Tues 12/17	6:30 PM	People of the Parish
Wed 12/18	8:30 AM	Hilda Steirer (Sue Hankee)
Thu 12/19	8:30 AM	St. Nicholas Memorial Society
Fri 12/20	No Mass	
Sat 12/21	4:30 PM	Tommy Pignataro (Lisa & Tom Pignataro)
Sun 12/22	8:30 AM	Joseph & Helen Lacek (Theresa Speicher)
	10:30 AM	Dennis Kuronya (Charlene Kuronya)

Counting Our Blessings-Thank You!

12/1	Collection Envelopes	\$4,635.00
	Weekly Budgeted Operational Expenses	\$7,352.00
	Christmas	\$262.00
	Renovation & Restoration	\$506.00



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 15 to 21

*Tabernacle Candles will be lit in Memory of
The Poor Souls of Purgatory
(The Semler Family)*

St. Nicholas Memorial Society

*Altar Hosts and Wine Offered in Memory of
Wednesday Adorers*

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.



Readings for week of December 15, 2024

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18
Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17
Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25
Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25
Friday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38
Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

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.

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.

Office Hours for the Christmas Season

Please note that the Parish Office will be CLOSED from December 24th through January 2nd, 2025, and will reopen for normal business on that day.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. Membership is open to anyone who has the desire to do stop drinking.

AA Group meets 6:30 PM Sunday in the social hall.

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.

Winter Weather and Wednesday Adoration

In the case of winter storms, if Northampton School district is delayed, Adoration will begin at Noon, if school is canceled, Adoration will also be cancelled for the day. A Flock-note message will also be sent out.

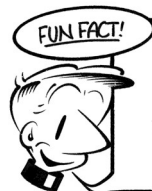
Daily Mass will always be offered at the usual times regardless of weather.



"How does a sheep say Merry Christmas?"



"Fleece Navidad!"



There are many ways to say "Merry Christmas," but each one is a wonderful blessing of the good news of Jesus come to earth as our savior.

GLP