

# 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

# TODAY'S READINGS

SHALL

CULTIVATE IT.

March 23, 2025

First Reading — "This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you." (Ex 3:14)

**Psalm** — The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

**Second Reading** — These things happened to them as an example, and they have been written down as a warning to us, upon whom the end of the ages has come. (1 Cor 10:11)

**Gospel** — "But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!" (Lk 13:5)

#### 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)

# A Message from Our Pastor:

Dear Parishioners,

During the season of Lent one devotion in particular that we turn our attention to is the praying of the Stations of the Cross. In our parish, during Lent, we pray these publicly on Wednesday evenings after Benediction and as part of the Friday Rosary and Divine Mercy prayer group at 3PM. As spring breaks we will also be continuing the construction of our outdoor Stations prayer garden. Besides being open for public prayer, we will, during clement weather, have some regular praying of the Stations there. More on that to be determined, so stay tuned!

This devotion is as old as the Church herself. Its origins are found in the life of Our Blessed Mother and some of the early disciples. After Our Lord's Ascension, Mary would daily walk from Calvary, the place of the Crucifixion, back along the route Our Lord was led on, all the way to Pilate's Praetorium, where Our Lord was condemned. Other disciples would join her and they would pray and recount the events that happened along the way. Christians would continue this practice after Our Blessed Mother's Assumption. With the peace of Constantine, in the year 313, actual "stations" would be marked along the way of the Lord's route to Calvary in Jerusalem and pilgrims would walk the way from Calvary to Pilate's Praetorium, stopping to pray at each marked spot along the way.

An English pilgrim, William Wey, is credited with coining the term "Stations of the Cross" in 1462. By this time the praying of the Stations also was being done in chronological order, that is, beginning at Pilate's Praetorium and going to Mount Calvary.

As time marched on, many began to desire to observe this devotion outside of Jerusalem and depictions of the way of the cross slowly began to appear in and outside of churches and monasteries. The desire to erect "Ways of the Cross" outside Jerusalem increased when the Holy Land was taken over by the Muslim Turks and became all but inaccessible to Christian pilgrims in 1517. By the middle of that century any public display of praying the stations was strictly forbidden in the Holy City.

Throughout the centuries the number of stations varied as did the actual events depicted in each station. During the 16th century the number 14 became more and more the norm as did the standard depiction of the 14 events that we commonly know today as the 14 Stations. Some of these are not recorded in the Gospels, such as, the number of times Our Lord fell on the way, the meeting with His Mother Mary, and the meeting with Veronica. These, though not in Scripture, were part of this devotion in some of its forms from the earliest days and were events no doubt known to the early disciples.

By the end of the 17th century it became more and more common and popular for churches to have stations of the cross. In 1731, Pope Clement XII formally affixed the number of Stations at 14 and subsequent Pontiffs have encouraged the faithful to pray the Stations, especially during Lent.

The faithful who pray the 14 Stations at places where they are officially erected, such as, in churches, shrines, chapels, etc., may gain a plenary indulgence. For those unable to go to such a place, the Church provides the same plenary indulgence for devoutly reading and meditating on the Passion and Death of Our Lord for one-half hour.

Through meditating on the Way of the Cross, we unite ourselves more closely to Our Lord in His Passion and so to His Holy and Sacred Heart.

Peace- Father Adam



#### **Extra Confessions for Lent**

- Tuesday April 1 7PM
- Thursday April 3 7PM (AT SACRED HEART PALMERTON)
- Sunday April 6 at 3PM (AT ASSUMPTION SLATINGTON)
- Wednesday April 9 at 5:30PM
- Tuesday April 15 at 5:30PM
- Wednesday April 16 at 7:30PM

#### Ash Wednesday 2025 Hoagie Sale Results

Total intake on sale: \$974.00

Expenses: Buns, eggs, tuna, mayo, celery, tomatoes, cheese. Total expenses \$415.37.

Total profit after expenses is as follows: \$558.63, Thank you to all who ordered, donated supplies and volunteered their time to make this event a success. Special thanks to Lisa Pignataro who donated several dozen eggs in

addition to her family and their efforts!



Sat 3/22 4:30 PM Janice King (Janice & Bill Tanzola) Sun 3/23 8:30 AM People of the Parish 10:30 AM Pete Kilpatrick (Elaine Jenkins) Mon 3/24 8:30 AM Geraldine Haines (JoAnn & Frank Klucsarits) Tue 3/25 6:30 PM Alberta Lizotte (The Semler Family) Wed 3/26 8:30 AM Butch [Living] (Cindy Saab) Thu 3/27 8:30 AM People of the Parish Fri 3/28 No Mass Sat 3/29 4:30 PM Bruce Trexler (Mary Louise Trexler) Sun 3/30 8:30 AM George Woytko (Mary Woytko & Susanne Amici) 10:30 AM Cliff Steinmetz (The Heiczinger Family)

# Counting Our Blessings

3/2 Collection Envelopes \$5,027.00
Weekly Budgeted Operational
Expenses \$7,352.00
Preservation & Restoration \$485.00

Thank You!

#### 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!



#### **Stations of the Cross**

Stations of the Cross will take place every Wednesday of Lent after 6:30 Benediction beginning March 12.

# **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 March 23 to 29

Tabernacle Candles will be lit in Memory of Christine Bell-Parr (Parents) Christine Bell-Parr (Parents)

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.

### **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.

# 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.

# **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 stop drinking.

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

#### St. Nicholas Church Homemade EASTER CANDY, BAKED GOODS, & CRAFTS Sale

April 12: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. & April 13: 9 a.m. - Noon

4412 W. Mountain View Dr., Walnutport

Filled Eggs • Bunnies • Lollipops • Crosses • Chips • Pretzels • Nuts and More!

Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-orders are recommended! Pre-order options:

- Pick up an order form available in the vestibules
- Go to https://form.jotform.com/230387489024158 to order on-line
- Or scan this QR code



#### **Spring Cemetery Clean-up**

All decorations in the cemetery are to be removed and disposed of by April 5. Also, please do not place any plastic in the cemetery burn pit.

# **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

# **Men's Morning Mini-Retreat**

Sat. March 22. St. Nicholas Church, 8:30A - 12:00P.

All the men of the parish are welcome. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 16656

- Light lunch to follow: drinks, pizza, vegetable tray
- Mass, 2x talks w/Q&A, confessions, adoration, short breaks

Since I need a count of attendees for lunch, please RSVP by text or email to: Anthony (Tony) Scarselletti, 610-393-4671, ascarsel@ptd.net



Our Bible Study began February 27th and continues every other Thursday until June 5, 2025. This is an extraordinary pilgrimage that reveals Mary's unique role in God's kingdom and in our lives. Filmed on location in the Holy Land, this Bible Study places you in the

midst of the powerful drama of Mary's earthly life, taking you through her joys ... and her sorrows. You will learn how she works in our lives today, drawing us ever closer to her Son, Jesus. Seeing Mary in this way will change you forever. Mary will become a part of your daily life, and in your daily life, you will become more like Christ.

Join us for this 8-week video study program. We meet every other week from 6:30PM to 8:15PM for an engaging video presentation by Edward Sri, 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. We hope you will join us!



# Sing Unto the Lord!

The music ministry of St. Nick's would like to invite those who would like to be a part of enhancing the gospel with song to join one of our various choirs.

Please speak to any of the musicians for information. "Those who sing pray twice" - St. Augustine

# Readings for the week of March 23, 2025

Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11 Sunday:

(8a)/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9

Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 5:1-2, Scrutiny:

5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30 Monday: Tuesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb

10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt

5:17-19

Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23

Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 Friday:

and 17/Mk 12:28-34

Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-Saturday:

14 Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38