

Around the Parish

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

2025



JUBILEE YEAR OF H O P E

Pope Francis has declared 2025 a Jubilee Year in the Universal Church. A prayerful celebration marked the beginning in the Diocese of Allentown with a special Mass Saturday, Dec. 28, at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown.

In opening Mass, the faithful of the Diocese joined in solidarity with Catholics around the world: Masses to inaugurate the Jubilee Year were celebrated on the same weekend in every Cathedral across the globe.

Mass began with a procession featuring the Diocese's most historic crucifix – which was positioned behind the Cathedral's Tabernacle until the most recent renovation. Recently refurbished, the stunning crucifix features reliefs of the Four Evangelists – Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John – and its gold color is set off by sections of magenta and accents of green.

For the procession, all parishes and schools were invited to select four representatives to carry a banner with their parish or school's name and a special emblem featuring the historic crucifix and the Papal coat of arms.

"We pray that this Jubilee Year of Hope will serve as a spiritual salve for the scars of division in our world," said Bishop Alfred Schlert, who will be the main celebrant of the opening Mass in Allentown. "May the People of God see a future of great promise and of great hope," he said.

The Catholic Church celebrates a Jubilee every 25 years (and occasionally more often, such as with the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy declared by the Pope for 2016). This Jubilee will mark the 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of Our Lord, when God became flesh in the person of Jesus Christ.

Pope Francis has said he selected hope as the theme because the world is suffering the ongoing effects of war, the lingering effects of Covid, and a climate crisis. Bishop Schlert commented recently on the themes of this and the previous Jubilee Years: "Hope and mercy, mercy and hope. Those two things go together," he said. "One begets the other."

In Rome, the Pope marked the great tradition of a Jubilee Year by opening the main doors of St. Peter's Basilica on Christmas Eve. "The time has come for a new Jubilee," Pope Francis said, "when once more the Holy Door will be flung open to invite everyone to an intense experience of the love of God that awakens in the hearts the sure hope of salvation in Christ."

The opening Mass was livestreamed to the Diocese of Allentown Facebook page.

By Paul Wirth

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD	WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
<p>AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM. MAY THE SOUL OF OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED</p> <p>Elizabeth Hoffman 12/1 2024 Michael Kostival 12/16/2024</p> <p>THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD REST IN PEACE</p>	<p>THEREFORE WELCOME ONE ANOTHER AS CHRIST HAS WELCOMED YOU, FOR THE GLORY OF GOD. Rom(15:7)</p> <p>Andrew Santoro Angelene Pierre and children: Phadanchove Theresias, Tyler Pierre and Kayla Pierre</p>

January 2025 LECTOR SCHEDULE

<i>Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God</i>	<i>The Epiphany</i>
<p>Dec. 31/1</p> <p>5:15 PM Tues. Regina Doyle 8:00 AM Wed. Beth Tharp 11:15 AM Margaret Hueske</p>	<p>Jan. 4/5</p> <p>5:00 PM Sandy Wrable 7:30 AM Vince Moffitt 9:30 AM Denise Mogel 11:15 AM Bill Wellock</p>
<i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>	<i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
<p>Jan. 11/12</p> <p>5:00 P.M. John Gleason 7:30 AM JoAnn Schmura 9:30 A.M. Mary Ann Kase 11:15 AM Mary Ann Kelly</p>	<p>Jan. 18/19</p> <p>5:00 PM Steve Bell 7:30 AM Dean Reber 9:30 AM Lori Anewalt 11:15 AM Patricia Ann Kos</p>
<i>3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	<i>Happy New Year</i>
<p>Jan. 25/26</p> <p>5:00 PM Karen Piraino 7:30 AM Mike Gallagher 9:30 AM Lou Sutherland 11:15 AM Joe Tharp</p>	

The Baptism of the Lord
TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Merry Christmas! Share that cheerful greeting with some folks today. Despite the skeptics, today is solidly within the Christmas season. In fact, in some strands of the Christian tradition it represents the clearest manifestation of the mystery of the Incarnation. On Christmas Day, for example, the Gospel reading is the Prologue of John’s Gospel, which reveals the glory of Christ shining through our humanity precisely in his Baptism.

At any rate, this is an ancient feast, celebrated first in Egypt sixteen centuries ago. More than most other ancient people, the Egyptians understood the life giving properties of water. On this day, they drew water from the Nile, so central in the history of their people, and reserved it in honor. Many other places copied the custom, so that St. John Chrysostom wrote of people in Antioch gathering at midnight to collect flowing water into vessels they brought from home since “today there is a blessing on the water.” At home for dinner tonight, decorate the table with beautiful bowls of water and white candles, toast one another with goblets of sparkling water, and light a Christmas candle in the window one last time. —James Field



ATTENTION :

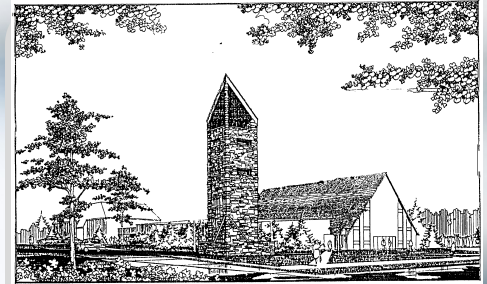
Prospective, Altar Servers

Your time to serve in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

We are seeking **ADDITIONAL** candidates to be Altar Servers here

at Sacred Heart Church. For weekend and Solemnity Masses. Sacred Heart School and Sacred Heart PREP students in 5th grade or older are welcome and encouraged. A 30-45 minute Orientation Training session will be arranged at a convenient time for interested candidates. Parents & Grandparents speak with your son, daughter or grandchild ask them if they have considered serving.

To Register : Please call the Rectory (610-372-4010)



Sacred Heart Church

UPCOMING EVENTS

~FIRST SATURDAY FELLOWSHIP~

Saturday, January 4th 8:30 A.M.
(following 8:00 Mass)

~CHILDREN'S CHOIR~

Sunday, Jan. 5th 12:15 PM
Enactment of the Epiphany
Sacred Heart Chapel
(all are welcome)

~BOOK CLUB~

The Screw Tape Letters
by C.S. Lewis
Wachter Room

Monday, January 6th, 7:00 p.m.

~Knights of Columbus~
Membership Meeting, 7:00 P.M.
I.H.M Room (school)

~Catholic Schools Week~
Opening 9:30 A.M. Mass
Sunday, Jan. 26th OPEN HOUSE
Jan. 27-31

~St. Vincent de Paul~
6:30 P.M. Deacon Chris May
(spiritual direction on Catholic
Social Justice)
Members Meeting, 7:00 P.M.
Wachter Room

January 25th/26th

Second Collection:

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Please show your support

Children's Christmas Choir

INVITE THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

"LIVE NATIVITY, VISIT OF THE MAGI"

Sunday, Jan. 5th immediately following the 11:15 Mass

Questions email activity@shrcparish.org

Private Mailing Card

AUTHORIZED BY ACT OF CONGRESS OF MAY 19, 1898.

("POSTAL CARD-CARTE POSTALE")
Help with the monthly mailing.

The Mailing Committee will meet.

Monday, January 27, Wachter room, 8:30 AM

THIS SIDE IS EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE ADDRESS

PLACE A
ONE CENT
STAMP
HERE.

COFFEE & DONUTS

Please join us on the 1st & 3rd Sunday:
September- May

January 5th and 19th in the Wachter Room for fellowship, coffee, juice, and donuts: following the 9:30 & 11:15 AM Masses.

2024 Tax Contribution Statements

An itemized statement of contributions for tax purposes will be issued to any parishioner requesting one. If you would like one, please fill out the form below and place it in the collection basket or drop it off at the rectory. You may also request a statement by emailing us at: holyrosarychurch01@comcast.net
To reduce mailing costs, we ask that you request your statement be emailed to you.

Thank you for your generous support of our parish!

PLEASE RETURN TO THE RECTORY OFFICES BEFORE WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31ST 2025.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

SACRED HEART PARISH WISH LIST

The parochial staff of Sacred Heart Church & School are grateful for the enormous amount of support we receive from the members of our parish. While our operations budget accounts for typical day-to-day expenses, there are some items that are not covered. We work hard to preserve our resources and often utilize them beyond their useful life span. Thank you for considering a monetary donation for one or more of the items listed.

• **Phase 1 of church lighting project** – upgrade light control panel in church to accommodate LED bulbs & purchase LED fixtures. Approximate cost: \$50,000-\$70,000

• **Wood/rubber mulch** needed in school tot lot Approximate cost: \$5,000

Other school wishes: new uniforms for those in need;

iPads for students in 6-8th grade;

donation for Student Council activities held through out the school year

• Additional donations needed for **church & school security**

Total estimated cost = \$17,765 Amount currently raised = \$3,000



Monetary donations to purchase items for parish use may be tax deductible. Please use this form to select the items you would like to be covered by your monetary contribution.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Item(s): _____

Please send donations to:

Sacred Heart Church

PO Box 6217

Reading, PA 19610

ATT: CHURCH PROJECTS

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

We are asking for you to share three of the greatest gifts anyone can receive:

Eucharist (Jesus Himself), love, and community

The faithful who are ill are deprived of their rightful and accustomed place in the Eucharistic community. Bringing communion to them the minister of communion represents Christ and manifests faith and charity on behalf of the whole community toward those who cannot be present at the Eucharist. For the sick the reception of communion is not only a privilege but also a sign of support and concern shown by our Christian community for its members who are ill.

Become a part of this holy ministry, serving others as Christ came to serve.

Call the rectory 610-372-4010



TO GET TICKETS

Enjoy hockey and support a great cause

Join NorthStar at the Reading Royals!

\$5 of every ticket sold at the link above will be donated to



Saturday, January 18th, 2025 Puck Drop at 7:00 P.M.



SACRED HEART'S KNITTERS & CROCHETERS

Meet **Thursday at 1:00 P.M.** In the Bornemann Room. All are welcome. Whether you're skilled or a beginner. There is a place for you at the table. Come with your supplies if you have them. If you would like to learn pull up a chair and join us for fun and friendship while we create lovely handmade items.



Come "unwind" with us.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND

PAYMENT BY ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER (EFT)

Electronic Funds Transfer automatically deducts your pledge from your Checking/Savings/Money Market account. Information must be completed to give electronically to the campaign.

I authorize Sacred Heart Parish to automatically withdraw my contributions from my: Checking Savings/Money Market. Please withdraw \$ _____ on the _____ of each month.

This authority will begin _____ (month/year) and will end _____ (month/year). I understand I can stop the electronic pledging by notifying my financial institution or Sacred Heart Parish.

Routing# _____ Checking Acct.# _____ Savings Acct.# _____
SIGNATURE for EFT Authorization _____ Date _____

PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD

Credit Card (one time monthly) VISA Mastercard Discover American Express
Donor's name as appears on Credit Card _____
Your Daytime Phone No. (required) _____
Credit Card # _____ Security Code ___ Exp. Date _____
Please charge my credit card monthly for \$ _____ beginning _____ (month/year) and ending _____ (month/year).
SIGNATURE for Credit Card Authorization _____ Date _____

Credit Card Billing Address (if different) _____

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PAYMENT BY CHECK

Make checks payable to **Sacred Heart Catholic Education Endowment Fund**.
Send to: **Sacred Heart Parish, PO Box 6217, Reading, PA 19610-0217**
Check Number: _____ Enclosed

