

# SAINTS PETER & PAUL PARISH

260 NORTH THIRD STREET • LEHIGHTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18235

**Rectory:** 610-377-3690    **Rectory Fax:** 610-377-0721    **Email:** [sspp@ptd.net](mailto:sspp@ptd.net)    **Website:** [www.peterandpaulchurch.com](http://www.peterandpaulchurch.com)  
**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/sspplehightonpa](http://www.facebook.com/sspplehightonpa)    **YouTube:** Search under "Saints Peter and Paul Parish Lehighton"

## Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 August 2026

**Rev. Philip J. Maas**----- *Parochial Administrator*  
[pmaas@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:pmaas@allentowndiocese.org)

**Deacon Joseph C. Wilhelm, Jr.**----- *Deacon*  
**Joseph T. Curnew**, 856-472-1293 ----- *Cemetery Supervisor*  
**James G. Logue, Jr.**, 570-413-3819----- *Communications*  
**Phil Liszka**, 610-217-4768 ----- *CYO President*  
**Norine Onichimowski**, 610-377-3690 ----- *Parish Secretary*

### Rectory Office Hours

Monday through Friday from-----9:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Bulletin Deadline ----- Monday, 11:00 am



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE of ALLENTOWN

CELEBRATING 65 YEARS

*The Catholic Presence in Lehighton since 1850 + Established as a Parish in 1885*

### WORSHIP

#### Holy Mass

Saturday Vigil-----4:00 pm

Sunday-----7:45 & 10:00 am

Daily Mass - M/T/Th/F -----8:00 am

Holy Days-----As announced

#### Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday -----12:00 Noon to 6:00 pm

First Friday-----6:00 - 9:00 pm

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confession

Thursday: 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Friday: 7:30 AM to 7:55 AM

Saturday: 3:15 PM to 3:55 PM

Sunday: 7:15 to 7:40 AM and 9:30 to 9:55 AM  
30 minutes before Sunday Masses

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** First Sundays. Call the rectory for registration and necessary preparations.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** Call the rectory at least six months in advance of proposed wedding date for registration and any necessary preparations.

**WILLS:** Please consider designating SS. Peter & Paul Parish in your last will and testament so the blessings the Lord has given you can continue to build His Kingdom.

**LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:** Will be issued to parishioners who are active & registered.

### CATHOLIC EDUCATION

SSPP Parish Religious Ed. Program

Preschool through Grade 8

Sundays from 8:45 to 9:50 am

Deacon Wilhelm, *Director*

610-377-3690

[jcwilhelm60@gmail.com](mailto:jcwilhelm60@gmail.com)

### ST. JEROME

#### REGIONAL SCHOOL

Mrs. Amy Hannis-Miskar, *Principal*

570-668-2757 / [sjrschool.com](http://sjrschool.com)

### ST. JOHN NEUMANN

#### REGIONAL SCHOOL

Dr. Christopher Heery, *Principal*

610-826-2354 / [sjnrschool.org](http://sjnrschool.org)

### MARIAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Fr. Robert T. Finlan, *Principal*

570-467-3335 / [mariancatholic.org](http://mariancatholic.org)

### VOCATION MINISTRY

Mr. John Meier / 570-657-6966

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

#### DAMIEN COUNCIL #598

Patrick Gallagher, *Grand Knight*

610-393-9470

### MUSIC MINISTRY

Mrs. Josephine Noll (+2025)

Mr. & Mrs. Carl J. Marzen

Mr. James Logue

### CHRISTIAN INITIATION

Please call rectory for information or registration.

### SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Mrs. Esther Meier, *President*

570-657-6738

### SEVEN SISTERS / FASTING

#### BROTHERS APOSTOLATE

Mary Marzen/ 610-984-2023

### DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE

#### COORDINATOR

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A.

### DIRECT TELEPHONE

800-791-9209

### DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT

#### COORDINATOR

Pamela Russo, MSW, MS

*Secretary for Youth Protection*

[prusso@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:prusso@allentowndiocese.org)

610-871-5200, Ext. 2204



Saints Peter and Paul Parish of Lehigh is a welcoming Roman Catholic community that seeks to grow in love of God and neighbor through personal prayer, liturgical celebration, doctrinal formation, and merciful living.

## Welcome

### Visitors

We are glad you're here! Please greet Father or Deacon after Mass.

### Littles Ones

We welcome little children and their families. There is a small cry room in the back of the church if you would like to make use of it.

### Restrooms

Leave the church by the side exit and enter the parish hall by the door closest to the parking lot. Changing tables available in both restrooms.

### Silence Phone

Please silence your devices out of respect for the Eucharist and Sacred Space. Restrict phone use to religious apps or emergencies.

### Wi-Fi Network & Password

SSPP PARISH - GUEST  
presenttense

### Low-Gluten Hosts

Please approach for Communion via the priest's line and inform him. For daily Mass, please inform Father or Deacon beforehand.

### Prayers at the End of Mass

After each Mass, we pray three Hail Marys and the Prayer to Saint Michael for peace and justice in the world and the Church. Please keep the church a place of prayer after Mass is over.

### House Blessings

Gladly conducted by appointment.

### Hospitalized or Homebound

Persons in need of pastoral care, please notify the rectory ASAP. (Holy Communion, Confession, or Anointing of the Sick)

## Prayer

### Treasury of Prayer

Please take a booklet from the pews. They are also available at the door of the rectory. Donations toward future printings are appreciated.

### Seven Sisters & Fasting Brothers

Women of our parish who offer one hour of prayer each week for a particular priest. Men fast in conjunction. Contact Mary Marzen, Anchoress. 610-984-2023

### Family Rosary

Families of the parish pray the Rosary every third Friday of the month at 6:30 PM. Contact the rectory for more information.. All are welcome!

## Giving

### ParishSoft Giving

One-time and recurring donations through checking accounts, credit cards, or other payment apps. Thanks for assisting with transaction fees!  
[tinyurl.com/SSPPgiving](http://tinyurl.com/SSPPgiving)

### Monetary Donations

May be placed in the collection basket or the box in the vestibule.

### Used Ink Cartridges

Deposit your used printer cartridges in the box in the vestibule or bring them to the rectory during the week.

### FreeWill

FreeWill is a free estate planning service: Create a legacy of giving: please remember our Diocese, parish, and schools in your will!  
[tinyurl.com/ADfreewill](http://tinyurl.com/ADfreewill)

## Resources

### Rachel's Vineyard

Pastoral care & retreats for anyone who has been affected by abortion.  
[www.HopeAfterAbortion.com](http://www.HopeAfterAbortion.com)  
866-3RACHEL

### Lumen Christi Commission

Resources for those struggling with pornography and their loved ones.  
[www.ADLumenChristi.org](http://www.ADLumenChristi.org)

### Natural Family Planning

Information on scientific, natural, and moral methods of fertility awareness.  
[www.allentowndiocese.org/fertility-awareness-and-nfp](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/fertility-awareness-and-nfp)

### Retrouvaille

Helps heal troubled marriages.  
[www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org)  
800-470-2230

### St. Vincent de Paul Society

Material assistance for the needy and suffering in the Lehigh area. Esther Meier, President. 570-657-6738

### Catholic Charities

Variety of assistance for the needy throughout our diocese.  
[www.CatholicCharitiesAD.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesAD.org)

If you are making any changes in residence or parish affiliation, please contact the rectory.

*Call or email the Rectory promptly with any information worth sharing. We'll do our best!*

## Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

### Saturday, August 1

Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doctor of the Church, *Memorial*

### 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM

**Kazimierz Banas**  
(The Family)

### Sunday, August 2

7:45 AM

*pro populo*

10:00 AM

**Msgr. Joseph R. Sobiesiak**  
(Bob & Margaret Nothstein)

### Monday, August 3

8:00 AM

**Damian Mele**  
(The Family)

### Tuesday, August 4

Saint John Vianney, Priest, *Memorial*

8:00 AM

**Josephine Noll**  
(Gloria DeSousa and Family)

### Wednesday, August 5

*The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major*

### Thursday, August 6

The Transfiguration of the Lord, *feast*

8:00 AM

**Lennon Galloway**  
(DiGilio Family)

### Friday, August 7

*Saint Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs;*

*Saint Cajetan, Priest*

8:00 AM

**Enrollees of the Memorial & Renovation Fund**

### Saturday, August 8

Saint Dominic, Priest, *Memorial*

### 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM

**Barton Fritzinger, Jr.**  
(Backyard Bash Committee)

### Sunday, August 9

7:45 AM

*pro populo*

10:00 AM

**Nancy Bachman**  
(Bob & Margaret Nothstein)

### Sanctuary Candle

**I/M of Hetmanczuk Family**

(R/B The Family)

### Flowers

None

*Donations toward the weekly Sanctuary Candle, \$10  
Flowers, \$50*

## Father Maas' Corner



There is a common saying, "God helps those who help themselves." If we were to be blunt, it's a dumb saying. Because it's not a true saying. Popularized in the English language by Benjamin Franklin, not the Son of God,

it is often used to inspire the inactive to action, typically accompanied by a healthy dose of disinterest in actually helping the needy person we are "encouraging" with our words. If anything, it's dismissive, and far from helpful. In reality, God helps those who *cannot* help themselves, viz., the human race. Were we able to help ourselves, we wouldn't have needed a Savior. But perhaps we can rewrite the pithy saying into something a little more Christlike given today's Gospel: "God multiplies what little we have to offer."

Before feeding the five-thousand, Christ told the disciples—concerned about the hungry mob—to feed the crowd themselves. It is then revealed to us that they had five loaves and two fish, surely not enough to satiate the hungry droves who came to see Jesus. Our Lord was certainly capable of feeding the masses without the help of the disciples. He could have created food *ex nihilo*, rather than multiplying a few measly loaves and fish. But then the disciples wouldn't have been cooperating in His mission, they would merely be spectators. Herein lies the invitation and challenge for us as believers: participate in the work of our salvation and the salvation of others by giving of ourselves to the mission of the Church.

I suspect the disciples weren't being stingy with their food, but rather realistic: so little could not feed so many. But in that assessment was a lack of faith. They were dealing with Jesus after all, who cures the sick and raises the dead. Rather, the Lord taught them, and teaches us, that when we offer all we have, even if we are convinced it "isn't enough" or "doesn't compare," He will multiply its effects beyond our imagination. Faith begins on God's initiative, not ours. But a life of faith requires participation. All we need to do is have faith that all we can offer is enough because Christ offered everything for us on the Cross.

In Christ,  
*Father Maas*

**Collection totals** for July 25-26: \$5,372.37, which includes \$512.02 from ParishSoft.

**Donations to the church may be made using ParishSoft Giving (PSG):.**

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/ssppleheighton>



We have established a PayPal account for donations; the QR code is to the left.

**Eucharistic Adoration** every Thursday from noon to 6:00 PM.

**News for the bulletin, website, and/or Facebook page** can be directed to the parish office at [sspp@ptd.net](mailto:sspp@ptd.net) or to Jim Logue [JGMLogue@gmail.com](mailto:JGMLogue@gmail.com).

**Church Cleaners** for the upcoming weekend of August 8: Bernadette. To volunteer for a week either by yourself or with an established crew, call Raegan at 484-464-7131.

**Women's Bible Study** is held every **Friday** beginning at 10:30 am in the parish hall. They are studying the Gospel of Matthew. Come for one session or all, bring a Bible or borrow one of ours. Come and join us in the church hall or classroom. For info call Nancy at 609-575-0599 or Charlotte at 570-413-3777.

**Seven Sisters Apostolate:** Their mission is a call to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop. It is a group of seven women who pray one Holy Hour for one priest, each week, forming one heart of prayer. The commitment is for one year but this can remain open-ended as each individual discerns her call to continue. For information, contact Mary Marzen at 610-984-2023.

**PREP** Parents of public school students, please register your child(ren) for the 2026-27 year of PREP. See Deacon Joe for more details or call the Rectory (610-377-3690).

“Charity enters heaven when humility opens the door.” *St. María Natividad Venegas de la Torre*

**Land of Peace Mission**

The Land of Peace Mission will be selling religious articles in the Parish Hall this weekend (August 1 & 2). The items are made by people who live in the Holy Lands. Crucifixes, rosaries, key chains, Nativity sets, and more.



**Safe and Sacred Space the Second (SSSS)** is our campaign to raise money toward the replacement of the church HVAC, the Coal Street sidewalk, and the cemetery road. Donate through the QR code. The church HVAC for \$65,000, the Coal Street sidewalk for \$40,000, and the parish cemetery road, \$75,000\*\*, come to a total of \$175,000. **We are most grateful for recent substantial donations that are helping things along.**

**The Cemetery Road.** Rough travel has necessitated the full replacement of the road around our lovely cemetery grounds. **Rising prices resulted in a modest increase in the estimate (from \$70 to \$75K), to which we have agreed.** Livengood Excavators has put us on their busy schedule, with a start date to be determined. We are tapping the fund we had established with the Catholic Foundation of Eastern Pennsylvania (CFEP), while remaining open to your contributions to build it back up. Visit this site to donate:

<https://www.catholicfoundationep.org/donations/st-peter-and-paul-parish-lehighton-cemetery-fund/>

The parish needs **Lectors** (especially the 4 PM Sat Anticipated Mass), **Altar Servers** (all Masses), and **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** (for Mass and/or to the homebound and hospitalized). Please call the Rectory. Training will be available.

Please let Deacon Joe know if you want to participate in the Parish **Safety and Security Committee**.

**Diocesan Vocations Ministry.** Bishop Alfred Schlert has asked parents, catechists, etc. to recommend names of parishioners who might be suitable candidates for ordained or consecrated life. Mention their names to Father, John Meier, or Jennifer Griffin. While only the older candidates



may be invited to diocesan vocation events, a child is never too young to think about God's plan for his or her life.



**SSPP CYO** welcomes any boys or girls from public, Catholic, charter, or home schools to take part in activities. We welcome volunteers and suggestions for events! **For event information or registration, contact District 5 CYO Commissioner Phil Liszka (610-217-4768; [phill@ptd.net](mailto:phill@ptd.net)) or SSPP CYO Moderator Bill Keer (484-560-4338; [bkeer@ptd.net](mailto:bkeer@ptd.net)).**

**Catholic Education:** Several of our parishioners attend — and several work for — our local Catholic schools ([mariancatholichs.org](http://mariancatholichs.org), [sjrschool.com](http://sjrschool.com), and [sjnrschool.org](http://sjnrschool.org)). **Financial Help is available, especially for new transfers; you may be surprised at who qualifies. Consider donating such funds for a tax break (call the respective school FMI).**



The Diocesan *Lumen Christi* Commission offers **hope and help for everyone affected by the scourge of pornography**. The LCC promotes *Covenant Eyes* ([covenanteyes.com](http://covenanteyes.com)), a monitoring and accountability software; *Strive* ([strive21.com](http://strive21.com)), a recovery app for men; *Arise* ([ariseforwomen.com](http://ariseforwomen.com)), a recovery app for women; and *Restored Vows*, a guide for recovering couples.

Diocesan Men's Commission "**Monthly Rosary for Families**": YouTube, 3rd Weds, 7PM  
[www.menaliveinchrist.org/mens-rosary](http://www.menaliveinchrist.org/mens-rosary)

**Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Allentown offers:**

- Individual, marriage, and family counseling
- Pregnancy and parenting support (counseling, material assistance such as diapers, wipes, baby items)

- **Supportive services (case management, material assistance, emergency rental assistance, referrals)**

For info, contact **Jeremy Leidich at 610-435-1541 x5310. *\*Services do not regard religious affiliation.***  
**School of Healing Retreat**

St. Francis de Sales, Robesonia is hosting Encounter Ministries School of Healing— a powerful two-day Catholic event designed to equip and activate ordinary Catholics to participate in the healing ministry of Jesus. Begins Friday, August 28 at 6 p.m. and concludes Saturday, August 29 at 10 p.m.

This weekend will include teaching on the Theology of Healing, the role of faith and prayer, words of knowledge, the power of testimony, Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and more. The weekend concludes with a Healing Service that is open to the public.

Information:

<https://encounterministries.regfox.com/school-of-healing-robersonia-pa-2026>

### **Family Holy Hour: "Love Jesus Back"**

All are invited to a "Love Jesus Back" Family Holy Hour on Tuesday, September 8 at 6:00 pm at St. Theresa Church, 1408 Easton Rd., Hellertown.

Presiding will be Fr. Brendon Laroche, pastor at St. Ursula Parish, Fountain Hill.

Spend time with Our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament, thank Him for His great love, and pray for those who do not yet love Him in return.

A potluck dinner will precede the Holy Hour, offering a chance for fellowship with other families.

This Holy Hour is sponsored by the St. Monica Ministry of the Diocese of Allentown. For more information, email [StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com](mailto:StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com).

### **Red White and Blue Mass**

Join the Diocese of Allentown for a special Red, White & Blue Mass honoring those who serve our communities and our nation.

On Friday, September 11, Bishop Alfred Schlert will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at 8:46 AM at the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena, 1825 Turner Street, Allentown.

Police, firefighters, first responders, health care workers, members of the military, legal professionals, elected officials, and their families are warmly invited to attend. Those who serve are encouraged to wear their uniforms.

Following Mass, join us for a light reception and remarks from Sr. Deirdre (Dede) Byrne, M.D., U.S. Army Colonel, renowned surgeon, and consecrated religious.

RSVP to [stewardship@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:stewardship@allentowndiocese.org)

**Diocesan Employment Opportunities website:**

[www.allentowndiocese.org/about/employment](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/about/employment).

**Weekly email of events sponsored by the Diocese:**

<https://allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/DiocesanEvents>

**Bereavement Support Group**

“Blessed are they who mourn, they shall be comforted” Matt. 5:4

Announcing our Fall “Bereavement Support Group” of Immaculate Conception Parish, Jim Thorpe. If you have lost a loved one through death and feel you need some support on your grief journey, please call to register. While participation in all five sessions is highly recommended to fully benefit from the program’s continuity, we understand individual circumstances may vary. Trained Grief Ministers are available. Registration is Required. No Charge.

The dates are: Mondays, September 14, 21, 28, October 5 & 12

We will meet from 6:30 – 8 pm in the Brogan Room at St. Joseph Rectory, 526 North St., Jim Thorpe. Light Refreshments will be served. SPACE IS LIMITED. Please register by Sept. 9th! To register, please call Catholic Churches of Jim Thorpe at 570-325-2791.

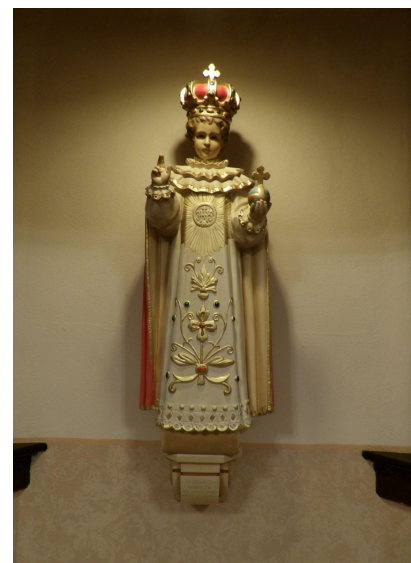


The **Knights of Columbus Damien Council #598** (1<sup>st</sup>—3<sup>rd</sup> degrees) and Msgr. Angelini Assembly #971 (4<sup>th</sup> degree) meet every first Tuesday in SSPP parish hall at 7:00 PM and 7:30 PM respectively. **The next meeting is August 4, 2026.**

The **Damien Council 598 of the Knights of Columbus** is turning 125 this year. To celebrate they will be having a banquet in the evening on **August 22nd** at the Franklin Fire Company. There will be dinner, music featuring Robbie Lawrence and the Steelworkers, dancing, as well as a fireworks display. For tickets please send payment of \$50/person to them at PO Box 535 Jim Thorpe PA 18229. Checks should be made payable to **Damien Council 598 K of C.**

*KofC Damien Council #598 & Msgr. Angelini 4th Degree Assembly #971 meet in our hall on each first Tuesday at 7 PM.*

**Knight of Columbus 14464** of Sacred Heart Church, Bath is sponsoring a **Bus trip to the Yankees game** on **Aug. 13, 2026**. This is an afternoon game, leaving the Church parking lot at 9:00 a.m. Cost is \$146.00 per person. Seats are under cover. Includes bus, ticket and non-alcoholic refreshments. Contact Brother Bud Schuster at [bud328@msn.com](mailto:bud328@msn.com) or 610-390-8429



# < KID'S > KORNER

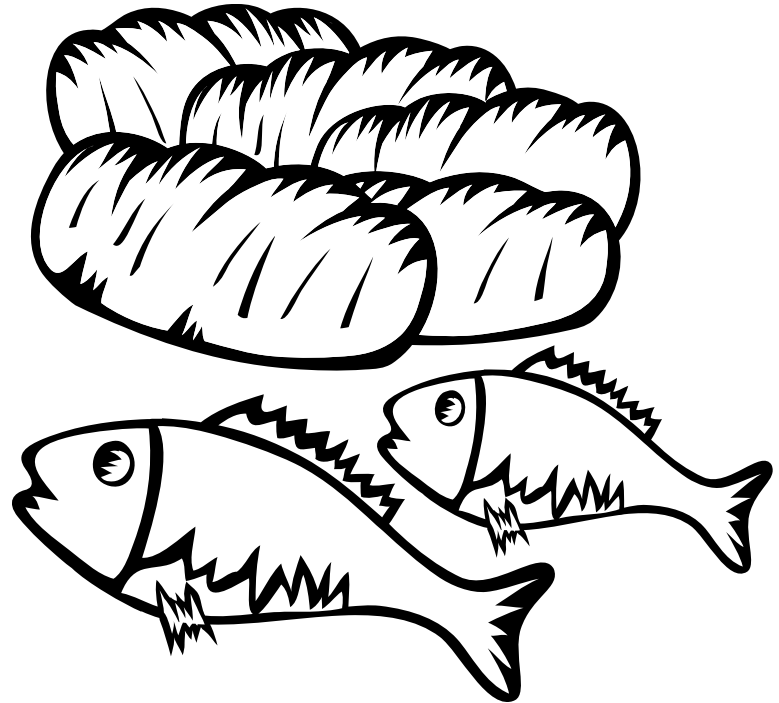
Gospel Today | 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mt 14:13-21

Jesus said of the five loaves and two fish, "Bring them here to me". Looking up to heaven, He gave THANKS, and broke the loaves.

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Feeding over five thousand people with five loaves of bread and two fish was a great miracle Jesus performed. He did it out of love for the many people.

We too can help others by sharing, and giving to the poor. We never need to look far to find someone in need.



Jesus showed us how important it is to give thanks. We thank God every day for all we have. Color and cut this Grace before meals picture, and hang it near your table.

BLESS US, O LORD, AND  
THESE THY GIFTS WHICH  
WE ARE ABOUT TO RECEIVE  
FROM THY BOUNTY THROUGH  
CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN



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Thanks for giving a hoot! *Woody*

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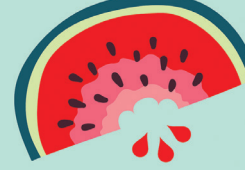
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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th, 2026**

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Pat Gallagher.....(610) 393-9470  
Paul Schlecht.....(610) 393-4581

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