

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH



PARISH INFORMATION

Rev. Msgr. Thomas P. Koons, Administrator
Mrs. Karen Glose, Director of Music
Mrs. Mary LaBianca, Adult Choir Director
Mr. John-Paul Crescenzo, M.Ed., Principal of Good Shepherd Catholic School
Mrs. Linda Santucci, Coordinator of Religious Education
Ms. Joanne Manning, Parish Secretary
Mrs. Deborah Heckenberger, Youth Activities

Rectory Address: 2174 Lincoln Avenue, Northampton, PA 18067-1257
Rectory Phone: 610-262-2559 **Rectory Fax:** 610-262-1613
Rectory E-Mail: bvm1922@rcn.com **Website:** www.bvm-northampton.com
Religious Education: 610-262-7343 **Youth Activities:** 610-760-9491
Religious Ed. E-Mail: bvmspirit777@rcn.com
Good Shepherd Catholic School: 610-262-9171
Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator: Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC
 Direct Telephone: 1-800-791-9209
Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator: Sister Meg Cole, S.S.J., M.S., LMFT
 Telephone: 610-332-0442 Ext. 2019
Courage: 610-334-9147
Diocesan Website: www.allentowndiocese.org

Masses

Saturday 4:00 p.m.
 Sunday 8:00, 10:30 a.m.
 Weekdays 8:00 a.m.
 Holy Days 7:00 p.m. [Vigil]
 8:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. or by appointment

Baptism

Every Weekend after Mass on request. Baptismal preparation classes are the first Saturday of every month at 10:00 a.m. in the classrooms above the church. Please call the rectory in advance to schedule class attendance and Baptism.

Sponsors

Parishioners need to meet with Msgr. Koons to determine whether they are eligible to serve as a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation. Please call the rectory.

Marriage

Please call the rectory at least one year in advance to schedule a wedding. Attendance at diocesan Marriage Preparation Classes is required six months prior to the wedding date, as well as three or four sessions with the priest. Current Baptism and Confirmation certificates are needed for the Catholic parties. In the case of previously existing marriages, a death certificate or declaration of nullity is necessary before another marriage can be considered.

Parish Registration

New parishioners living in the parish boundaries are asked to register at the rectory. Please notify the rectory if you change your address or phone number or move out of the parish.

Communion to the Sick

Communion is taken to the sick after the Sunday Masses and on First Fridays. The Anointing of the Sick is celebrated with individual homebound parishioners on First Fridays several times a year. Please call the rectory to request being included on the homebound Communion list.

Please call the rectory when parishioners are admitted to a local hospital.

Parish Activities/Contacts

Adult Education	Msgr. Koons.....	610-262-2559	Lectors	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559
Adult Prayer Group	Vincent Santucci.....	610-262-8428	Ministry to the Sick	Msgr. Koons.....	610-262-2559
Altar Servers	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Music Ministry/Choir	Karen Glose.....	610-691-0525
Baptismal Prep Classes	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Nthmp Area Food Bank	Bella Skweir.....	610-262-2673
Blood Drive	Deborah Heckenberger...	610-760-9491	Parish Family Picnic	Msgr. Koons.....	610-262-2559
Chi-Rho Volunteers	Jane Spengler.....	610-262-8138	Persons w/Disabilities Rep.	Sue Parker.....	610-502-1280
Church Cleaning Teams	Barbara Pengitore.....	610-262-3193	Prayer Chain	Priscilla Koch.....	610-428-9053
CYO	Tim Gribb	610-762-9072	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Mary LaBianca.....	610-502-0160
Eucharistic Ministers	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Pro-Life Activities	Msgr. Koons.....	610-262-2559
Finance Committee	Drew Maron.....	610-261-4705	Religious Education	Linda Santucci.....	610-262-7343
Fund Raising	Barbara Pengitore.....	610-262-3193	RENEW Group	Charlie Walsh.....	610-837-0376
Grocery Certificates	GSCS Office.....	610-262-9171	RCIA	Msgr. Koons.....	610-262-2559
Greeters	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Ushers	Michael Sommer.....	610-262-7904
Grief Support	Rosemarie Pengitore.....	484-226-0188	Young at Heart	Anna Hudock.....	610-262-3478
Hospitality Committee	Jane Spengler.....	610-262-8138	Youth Activities	Deborah Heckenberger...	610-760-9491
Knights of Columbus Council #4050.....		484-540-5090			

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 10, 2017

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Dec. 11, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Louis Pengitore, Sr.	Daughter, Barbara
Dec. 12, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Margaret E. Niderostek	Daughter, Betty, and Family
Dec. 13, Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	†Sons and Daughters of Mary and John Wanisko	John and Elizabeth Kuchera
Dec. 14, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Helen Paulino	Pauline Marth
Dec. 15, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Catherine Frey	Sisters Clare and Clarice Vresk
Dec. 16, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†John Marhefka, Sr.	Children and Families
Dec. 17, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	
	10:30 a.m.	†Colette Semler	Ida and Mark Simon

Next Week's Schedule:

Dec. 16, Sat.	4:00 p.m.
Dec. 17, Sun.	8:00 a.m.
	10:30 a.m.

Lector:

C. Fisher
C. Kroll
F. Kostecky

Euch. Min.:

C. Marth
N. Birozik
R. Shearman

Altar Servers:

J. Warren/M. Warren
E. Confer/C. Cuchran
A. Miletics/G. Miletics

Greeters:

C. Kovacs/J. Kovacs
B. Cwitkowitz/M.A. Weaver
B. Skweir/M. Skweir

SANCTUARY LIGHTS are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of Connie Marth requested by Husband, Conrad.

PLEASE PRAY for God's blessing and gift of good health for all the sick of our parish. Also remember in your prayers Barbara Bilder who died recently.

dear Padre:

Especially before Christmas, I appreciate times of silence at Mass but seldom find them. Priests ask the congregation to open their missalettes after Communion to recite the daily antiphon, which seems more trouble to locate and say than to simply remain silent. Please advise.

Before Mass, it's commendable that silence be observed in the church, sacristy, vesting room, and adjacent areas so that all may "carry out the sacred celebration in a devout and fitting manner" (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 45).

During Mass, "Let us pray" is an invitation to observe a moment of silence for the congregation to "place themselves in God's presence and make their personal petitions" (*Introduction to the Order of Mass*, 35). Communal silence is also observed within the penitential act for people to recollect themselves, at the end of a reading or the homily for all to meditate briefly on what they've heard, then after Communion to praise and pray to God in their hearts (*GIRM* 45). In other words, there's a silence that reflects shame before God for our sins, a silence that reflects our need to ponder his word, and a deep silence before God that reflects awe and incapacity for words after receiving the Body of Christ!

If there's no singing after Communion, the antiphon "may be recited either by the faithful, or by some of them, or by a reader; otherwise, it is recited by the priest himself after he has received Communion and before he distributes Communion to the faithful" (*GIRM* 87).

Without liturgical silence, "the celebration can become perfunctory in its haste or burdensome in its unrelieved sound and song" (*Introduction* 48).

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

Calendar:

Monday - December 11

Advent Weekday

Is 35:1-10

Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday - December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zec 2:14-17

Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday - December 13

St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

Is 40:25-31

Mt 11:28-30

Thursday - December 14

St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Is 41:13-20

Mt 11:11-15

Friday - December 15

Advent Weekday

Is 48:17-19

Mt 11:16-19

Saturday - December 16

Advent Weekday

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11

Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday - December 17

Third Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11

1 Thes 5:16-24

Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

- PREP CLASSES** : Sundays, 9:00 a.m.-10:05 a.m.
- CHOIR REHEARSAL** : Wednesdays, **7:30 p.m.**
- DONUT/GIVING SUNDAY** : Sunday, December 10
- BAPTISMAL PREP** : Sat., January 6, 10:00 a.m.
- PRAYER SHAWL MEETING**: **Tues., January 16, 10 a.m.**
- BREAKFAST** : **Sunday, January 28, 2018**
- CONFIRMATION** : Thursday, March 8, 2018
- BASKET SOCIAL** : Sat./Sun., May 19/20
- BVM NIGHT – IRON PIGS** : Thursday, August 16, 2018
- PICNIC 2018** : Sunday, September 9, 2018

CHRISTMAS EVE: On Christmas Eve starting at 8:30 p.m. the Choir will sing Christmas Carols. Come and enjoy the caroling followed by our Eucharistic Celebration at 9:00 p.m. Merry Christmas!



Lighting of the Advent Wreath [Week Two] – [Before the evening meal, the family gathers at table.] Leader: Father, to you belong the seasons and the ages.

All: *You are the beginning and the end of all things.* **Leader:** O Flower of Jesse's stem, you are the sign of salvation. *℟ - Come and deliver us; do not delay.* **Leader:** O Key of David, you open and close by your power. *℟ - Come and deliver us; do not delay.* **Leader:** O Daystar, you are the eternal light, the sun of justice. *℟ - Come and deliver us; do not delay.* **Leader:** Stir our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through Christ our Lord. **AMEN. [Two purple candles are lighted and left burning during the meal.]**

ADVENT CONFESSIONS: **Wednesdays,** December 13 & 20 following the 7:00 p.m. Mass until 8:30 p.m.; **Fridays,** December 15 & 22 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.; **Saturdays,** December 16 & 23 from 2:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.; **Monday,** December 18 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.; **Tuesday,** December 19 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.; **Thursday,** December 21 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

CHILDREN'S 2018 ENVELOPES are located in the Church Social Hall. Please look for yours and take them home. Religious Education Student envelopes (grades 2-7) were placed in the Religious Education Classrooms; Good Shepherd Student envelopes (grades 2-8) were taken to the School.



"DONUT/GIVING SUNDAY": Today, Sunday, December 10, our Hospitality Committee will be hosting "Donut/Giving Sunday". Join us after the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Masses for coffee, donuts and

fellowship in our social hall. Parishioners are encouraged to bring cans of potatoes, boxes of Jell-O or pudding. Your gifts will be brought to the altar during the preparation of the gifts. **This month's donuts are being donated by Juliet Manning.**



STOCKING STUFFER: Need a stocking stuffer?

Or just a little something to add to a gift for that special person? The Parish Fund Raising Committee is sponsoring a monthly lottery calendar for January 2018. The calendars are \$5 each and the winners are based on the **evening daily** Pennsylvania Lottery number. Calendars will be on sale before Mass the weekends of **December 9/10, 16/17 and 30/31.** Calendars must be purchased prior to January 1, 2018.

OPLATKY (CHRISTMAS WAFERS) are available (free will offering) in the church social hall all weekends during Advent. The 2018 Calendars, which are free, are now available in the church social hall, compliments of Schisler Funeral Home.



VOLUNTEER GIFTS: Gifts for the following volunteers will be located in the Church Social Hall **this weekend, December 9/10:** Altar Servers, Baptismal Prep Leaders, Breakfast Workers, Chi-Rho Members, Church Cleaning Crew Members, Eucharistic Ministers, Finance Committee Members, Funeral Team Members, Greeters, Hospitality Committee Members, Lectors, Picnic Committee Members and Ushers. P.R.E.P. teachers gifts will be located in the classrooms. Choir gifts will be located in the choir loft.

SLOVAK KOLACH SALE: Order pick up date is **this weekend, Saturday, December 9, and Sunday, December 10.**



REMEMBER THE NEEDY: Please place your unwrapped gifts under the tree by **today, Sunday, December 10** and we will take them to the Catholic Charities office.

CHURCH DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS:

Anyone who would like to help with the Christmas decorating is asked to come to the Church **next Sunday, December 17, at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided.**

THANK YOU to everyone who took the time to make baby blankets for the NICU at Lehigh Valley Hospital. They were overwhelmed with the number of folks who answered their call, have let us know that they have enough to last for quite a while, and are asking that we not send any more at this time. If you have any more made you can still drop them off – we have other places to donate them, such as Mary's Shelter in Bethlehem.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA: Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 4456 Main St., Whitehall will present their free annual Christmas Cantata on **Sunday, December 17 at 4:00 p.m.** featuring their Adult, Hand Bell and Children choirs. Everyone is welcome to come and experience the joy and splendor of the Advent and Christmas Seasons!

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS: We invite and encourage you to participate in the offertory procession at Mass. This is especially appropriate if you have requested the Mass, or if the Mass is being offered for a family member or friend. If you would like to present the gifts, please see one of the greeters at least fifteen minutes before Mass begins.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

Northampton Memorial Company
Memorialize A Life

Ben Porobenski, Proprietor
342 Main Street, Northampton 610-262-5568

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BREAKFAST



Sunday, January 28, 2018

TICKETS WILL BE SOLD
AT THE DOOR ONLY

ADULTS \$7.00

CHILDREN \$3.00

MENU

French Toast

Pancakes

Scrambled Eggs & Hash Brown

Choice of: Sausage, Bacon or Ham

Omelet your way & Hash Brown

Cheese Steak Omelet & Hash Brown

Includes: Juice, Toast, Coffee or Tea