

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.
 Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8:00 a.m.
 Wednesday 7:00 p.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			

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Mar. 19, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Mary T. Sipics	Frank and Elaine Serensits and Family
Mar. 20, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Bernard Shara	Son, Mark
Mar. 21, Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	†Joan Skrapits	Sonia and Mike Oleschak
Mar. 22, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Joseph Simoson	Wife, Cindy
Mar. 23, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Minnie Preisler	Daughter, Mary Ann Holmes, and Family
Mar. 24, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†Jonathan Keller	Family
Mar. 25, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	
	10:30 a.m.	†Laura and Fransisco Iamalteo	Rossini Family

Next Week's Schedule:	Lector/Voice:	Euch. Min.:	Altar Servers:	Greeters:
Mar. 24, Sat. 4:00 p.m.	J. Saylor/C. Fisher	B. Fritz	J. Warren/M. Warren	M. Bitenc/I. Gollatz
Mar. 25, Sun. 8:00 a.m.	S. Parker/D. Hozza	T. Melosky	C. Cuchran/W. Cuchran	J. Haldeman/M. Rossini
10:30 a.m.	K. Stayt/E. Hozza	B. Chambers	B. DelVecchio/G. Heidecker	J. DelVecchio/R. Marakovits

SANCTUARY LIGHTS are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of Mary Bankos by Daughter, Ann.

PLEASE PRAY for God's blessing and gift of good health for all the sick of our parish.

dear Padre:

**I feel self-conscious striking my breast at Mass.
Isn't this gesture rather exaggerated?**

The Roman Missal proscribes that the assembly strike their breasts at “through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault” during the Confiteor. It doesn't specify striking three times. Later in Eucharistic Prayer I, the priest strikes his breast with his right hand, saying, “To us, also, your servants, who, though sinners....”

Clasping our hands in front of our breast is a recognized gesture of prayer; striking the heart or breast is an ancient penitential expression. It calls to mind Jesus' parable of two men who prayed in the Temple, a prideful Pharisee and a humble tax collector who “beat his breast and prayed, ‘O God, be merciful to me a sinner’” (Luke 18:13).

“Gestures, language, and actions are the physical, visible, and public expressions by which human beings understand and manifest their inner life” (Built of Living Stones, NCCB/USCC, 2000). The liturgy has a rich tradition of movements that can foster or distract from prayer. “When the gestures are done in common, they contribute to the unity of the worshipping assembly. Gestures which are broad and full in both a visual and tactile sense support the entire symbolic ritual” (Environment and Art in Catholic Worship, 56).

Thus, at Mass we bow our heads, bend our knees, and beat our breasts out of humility and reverence for God, “for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted” (Luke 18:14).

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

Calendar:

- Monday – March 19**
St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
2 Sm 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16
Rom 4:13, 16–18, 22
Mt 1:16, 18–21, 24a
- Tuesday – March 20**
Lenten Weekday
Nm 21:4–9 / Jn 8:21–30
- Wednesday – March 21**
Lenten Weekday
Dn 3:14–20, 91–92, 95
Jn 8:31–42
- Thursday – March 22**
Lenten Weekday
Gn 17:3–9
Jn 8:51–59
- Friday – March 23**
Lenten Weekday
Jer 20:10–13 / Jn 10:31–42
- Saturday – March 24**
Lenten Weekday
Ez 37:21–28
Jn 11:45–56
- Sunday – March 25**
Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
Mk 11:1–10
Is 50:4–7
Phil 2:6–11
Mk 14:1–15:47


PREP CLASSES : Sundays, 9:00 a.m.-10:05 a.m.
CHOIR REHEARSAL : Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
STATIONS OF THE CROSS : Wednesdays, after 7 p.m. Mass
CONFESSIONS : Wednesdays, after Stations
LENTEN ADULT GATHERING : Thursdays after 8 a.m. Mass
BREAKFAST : Sunday, March 18
PRAYER SHAWL MEETING : Tues., March 20, 10 a.m.
BAPTISMAL PREP : Sat., April 7, 2018
DONUT/GIVING SUNDAY : Sunday, April 8, 2018
BVM NIGHT – IRON PIGS : Thursday, August 16, 2018
PICNIC 2018 : Sunday, September 9, 2018

LENTEN ACTIVITIES: Mass: Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.; Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 8:00 a.m.
Stations of the Cross: Wednesdays after the 7:00 p.m. Mass. **Confessions:** Wednesday evenings after Stations of the Cross; Saturdays from 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.


HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE: Please see the enclosed insert for our Holy Week Masses and Services.

HOLY LAND COLLECTION: On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual collection for the Holy Land. We ask you to be generous. Your financial contribution will support the works of the Catholic Community in the Middle East and to protect the Holy Places and Christian shrines. There is an envelope in your packet for this special collection.


SLOVAK KOLACH SALE: Your Easter Season Slovak Kolach orders will be ready for pickup **next weekend, Saturday, March 24 and Sunday, March 25** in the church social hall.

 **DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR EASTER:** We will begin decorating the church for Easter Sunday on Good Friday, March 30, after the 3:00 p.m. services. Any anyone wishing to help, your assistance would be appreciated.

OPERATION RICE BOWL: This week's menu: Yankee Bean Soup, Saltines, Fresh Orange OR Cheese Ravioli with Tomato Sauce, Peach Slices.

 **EASTER BASKET STUFFER:** Need just a little something to add to an Easter card/basket for that special person? The Parish Fund Raising Committee is sponsoring a monthly lottery calendar for April 2018. The calendars are \$5 each and the winners are based on the **evening daily** Pennsylvania Lottery number. **LAST CHANCE:** Calendars will be on sale before Mass next weekend, March 24/25. Calendars must be purchased prior Easter Sunday, April 1.

HAMS NEEDED: The Northampton Area Food Bank is looking for donations of Hams to distribute to needy families for Easter. Anyone interested in donating is asked to please call the church rectory between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at 610-262-2559.

 **SUNDAY BREAKFAST:** Breakfast will be served after both Sunday Masses **today, Sunday, March 18.** Please support this fundraising effort of the parish and enjoy a hearty, homemade breakfast with your friends. Menu includes: French toast, pancakes, scrambled eggs, omelet or cheese steak omelet, ham, sausage or bacon, hash browns, toast, juice, coffee, tea. Cost \$7.00 adults/\$3.00 children. **Tickets on sale at the door.**

NIGHT AT THE BALL GAME: Come and enjoy an Iron Pigs baseball game on **Thursday, August 16** on the Party Porch, 1st base line, at Coca-Cola Park, 1050 Ironpigs Way, Allentown hosted by B.V.M. Choir. Food will be available from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Game starts at 7:05 p.m. Cost is \$37 per person and is due at time of reservation. **Deadline for reservations is Sunday, July 1.** For more information call Jane Spengler at 610-262-8138. You can place your payment in the church collection basket to hold your tickets (reservations).



YOUNG-AT-HEART NEWS: The next meeting of the Young-at-Heart will be **this Tuesday, March 20** in the church social hall.

GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS: Are you looking for a challenging academic core curriculum which also maintains subjects like art, music, physical education, foreign language, and technology? Register now for the 2018-2019 school year at Good Shepherd Catholic School. We have teachers and staff who lead us in the rich traditions of hard work, responsibility, virtues, and faith in God. Our school's philosophy is **"Shepherding in Faith, Inspiring in Education, and Learning for Life."** There are over 250 students in Preschool through 8th grade! The success rate of a quality Catholic school education is amazing in the Diocese of Allentown...97% of students in our Catholic high schools go on to attend college. **Please call Victoria Frystack, Advancement Director at 610-262-9171 to schedule your tour now!**



SAVE ALUMINUM PULLTABS – Save the pull tabs from cans of soda and bring them to the church. Place them in the receptacle in the lobby of the church. Tabs will be taken to the Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia. The tabs are recycled and generate income to defray the cost of running the Ronald McDonald House, where parents of chronically ill children stay while their children are being treated in nearby hospitals.

Assumption B.V.M. Church Annual Parish Picnic
Sunday, September 9, 2018
EGYPT MEMORIAL PARK
begins with a Mass at 11:00 a.m.,
continues with music, games and food until 7:00 p.m.
Featuring the music of "The Large Flowerheads"
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

HAVE YOU NOTICED the **CareNotes** display in the back of the church? CareNotes offer helpful ideas and inspiration on dealing with some of life's most difficult moments. Please help yourself.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK
 Schisler Funeral Home, Inc.
 Our Family Serving Your Parish For Over 84 Years
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 2119 Washington Avenue, Northampton, PA 18067
Please patronize our bulletin advertisers

Holy Week 2018
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish
Northampton, PA

Palm Sunday

Masses with the Blessing of Palm: Saturday, March 24, 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 25, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Mass - Monday, March 26 **8:00 a.m.**
Confessions – Monday, March 26 **6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**
Mass - Tuesday, March 27 **8:00 a.m.**
Confessions – Wednesday, March 28 **6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.**
Mass - Wednesday, March 28 **7:00 p.m.**
Stations of the Cross - Wednesday, March 28 **following the 7:00 p.m. Mass**

Holy Thursday
March 29, 2018

Mass of the Lord's Supper **7:00 p.m.**
Adoration **8:00 – 10:45 p.m.**
Night Prayer **10:45 p.m.**

Good Friday
March 30, 2018

Service of the Passion with Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion **3:00 p.m.**

Holy Saturday
March 31, 2018

Blessing of Food **12:00 Noon**
Solemn Vigil of Easter **8:00 p.m. (no 4:00 p.m. Mass)**

Solemnity of the Resurrection Easter Sunday
April 1, 2018

Masses **8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.**





BREAKFAST



Sunday, March 18, 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