

# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH



## PARISH INFORMATION

**REV. FRANCIS P. STRAKA**, Pastor  
**Mrs. Karen Glose**, Director of Music  
**Mrs. Mary LaBianca**, Adult Choir Director  
**Ms. Irene M. Quigley**, Principal of Good Shepherd Catholic School

**Mrs. Linda Santucci**, Coordinator of Religious Education  
**Mrs. Deborah Heckenberger**, Youth Activities  
**Ms. Joanne Manning**, Parish Secretary

**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. 19

**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., 7:00 p.m.

### Confessions

Saturday 2:45 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 Fr. Straka 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	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559	Hospitality Committee	Jane Spengler.....	610-262-8138
Adult Prayer Group	Vincent Santucci.....	610-262-8428	Lectors	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559
Altar Servers	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Ministry to the Sick	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559
Baptismal Prep Classes	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Music Ministry/Choir	Karen Glose.....	610-691-0525
Bible Study	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559	Nthmp Area Food Bank	Bella Skweir.....	610-262-2673
Blood Drive	Deborah Heckenberger...	610-760-9491	Parish Family Picnic	Fr. Straka.....	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 Grubb .....	610-762-9072	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Mary LaBianca.....	610-502-0160
Ecumenical Rep.	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559	Pro-Life Activities	Fr. Straka .....	610-262-2559
Eucharistic Ministers	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Religious Education	Linda Santucci.....	610-262-7343
Finance Committee	Drew Maron.....	610-261-4705	RENEW Group	Charlie Walsh.....	610-837-0376
First Friday Adoration	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559	RCIA	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559
Fund Raising	Barbara Pengitore.....	610-262-3193	Ushers	Michael Sommer.....	610-262-7904
Grocery Certificates	GSCS Office.....	610-262-9171	Young at Heart	Anna Hudock.....	610-262-3478
Greeters	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Young at Heart Bus Trips	Anna Hudock.....	610-262-3478
Grief Support	Rosemarie Pengitore.....	610-262-9012	Youth Activities	Deborah Heckenberger...	610-760-9491

# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

**MARCH 20, 2016**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Mar. 21, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Annette Yurish	Carol and Dave Dennis
Mar. 22, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Lisa Gardner	Parents, Edward and Carol
Mar. 23, Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	†Rachel Maine	Friends of Grandparents
Mar. 24, Thursday	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>HOLY THURSDAY - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER</b>	
Mar. 25, Friday	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY - CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION</b>	
Mar. 26, Saturday	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>	<b>HOLY SATURDAY - SOLEMN VIGIL OF EASTER - †Michael Kuchera</b>	M/M Richard Kuchera
Mar. 27, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	<b>EASTER SUNDAY MASS – Living and deceased parishioners</b>	
	10:30 a.m.	<b>EASTER SUNDAY MASS - †Susan Hartman</b>	Caroline Plucinsky

## Next Week's Schedule: Lector:

		<b>Euch. Min.:</b>	<b>Altar Servers:</b>	<b>Greeters:</b>	
Mar. 24, Thu.	7:00 p.m.	L. Nemeth	B. Fritz/D. Maron/L. Kosciolok	E. Meister/S. Heidecker/J. Warren/M. Warren	L. Stefaniak/M. Bitenc
Mar. 25, Fri.	7:00 p.m.	S. Parker	P. Kovach	B. Paul/A. Paul	M. Mraz/H. Stempo
Mar. 26, Sat.	8:00 p.m.	M. Schwartz	C. Marth/C. Walsh/L. Santucci	M. Hudock/D. Bassert/A. Weber/E. Zwolenik	M. Bitenc/I. Gollatz
		<b>Readers:</b> E. Hozza/P. Madea			<b>Candles:</b> L. Stefaniak/M. Mraz
Mar. 27, Sun.	8:00 a.m.	J. Santee	F. Cerino/T. Melosky/N. Birozik	E. Confer/C. Confer/J. Confer	J. Haldeman/M. Rossini
	10:30 a.m.	C. Kroll	M. Sommer/J. Alba/D. Maron	B. DelVecchio/A. Miletics/G. Miletics	J. DelVecchio/C. Marano

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

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

# dear Padre:

## Did Jesus have to die in such a terrible manner?

*Why did Jesus have to die such a horrible death? Wasn't there an easier way to redeem us?*

**Every Good Friday** we are brought face to face with the crucifixion. Many of us have seen violent and bloody depictions of Christ's death and found them difficult to watch. Since we serve an all-good, all-loving God, how could he allow this to happen to his Son? Couldn't God have forgiven us without the sacrifice?

God is indeed a God of mercy, but we often forget that he is also a God of justice. He can certainly forgive all our sins, but in the process he cannot (will not) deny the righteousness of justice. We all yearn for justice. We want to see good rewarded and evil punished. So God is very good, and the fact is, our sins are also very bad. We deserve punishment, even death, for denying God and for hurting others. If God were to condemn me, it would not be unfair. I would be getting exactly what my sins deserve. I am happy to say that is not where the story ends! Jesus came to take our just punishment so that we could receive mercy and justice in their fullness. Jesus reveals to us a God who is just, merciful, and ready to suffer because he loved sinners. Praise his name forever!

FR. MATTHEW BONK, CSsR  
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

## Calendar:

### Monday – March 21

*Holy Week*  
Is 42:1–7 / Jn 12:1–11

### Tuesday – March 22

*Holy Week*  
Is 49:1–6 / Jn 13:21–33, 36–38

### Wednesday – March 23

*Holy Week*  
Is 50:4–9a / Mt 26:14–25

### Thursday – March 24

*Holy Thursday*  
Ex 12:1–8, 11–14  
1 Cor 11:23–26  
Jn 13:1–15

### Friday – March 25

*Good Friday*  
Is 52:13–53:12  
Heb 4:14–16; 5:7–9  
Jn 18:1–19:42

### Saturday – March 26

*Holy Saturday*  
Gn 1:1–2:2 / Gn 22:1–18  
Ex 14:15–15:1  
Is 54:5–14 / Is 55:1–11  
Bar 3:9–15, 32–4:4  
Ez 36:16–17a, 18–28  
Rom 6:3–11 / Lk 24:1–12

### Sunday – March 27

*Easter*  
Acts 10:34a, 37–43  
Col 3:1–4  
Jn 20:1–9

**PREP CLASSES** : Sundays, 9:00 a.m.-10:05 a.m.  
**PRAYER SHAWL MEETING:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. of month @ 10 a.m.  
**CHOIR REHEARSAL** : Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.  
**7<sup>th</sup> GRADE PREP** : Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.  
**DONUT/GIVING SUNDAY** : Sunday, April 10  
**BREAKFAST** : Sunday, April 24, 2016  
**BAPTISMAL PREP** : Sat., May 7, 10:00 a.m.  
**PICNIC PIEROGIE MAKING:** Fri., Aug. 5 & Sat., Aug. 6  
**ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC:** Sunday, September 11, 2016

*This week is the holiest week of the year for all of Christianity. In our celebration of the Triduum—Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday—we celebrate the most solemn liturgies of the year. We celebrate our Lord's journey from the Last Supper to The Cross to The Grave to His Glorious Resurrection. Please make every effort to participate in the Liturgies of Holy Week! It is an opportunity to grow closer to our Lord in our journey of faith.*

**PLEASE NOTE:** The rectory office will be closed Holy Thursday, March 24, thru Easter Tuesday, March 29, for Holy Week and Easter. The rectory office will reopen Wednesday, March 30.

**LENTEN REGULATIONS:** You are reminded that **Good Friday is a day of Fast and Abstinence.** All Catholics 18-59 are bound to limit themselves to one full meatless meal and avoid food between meals.



Grapes.

**OPERATION RICE BOWL:** This week's menu: Sliced Apple with Chunky Peanut Butter, Vanilla Pudding OR Egg Salad on Rye Bread, Purple



**DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR EASTER:**

We will begin decorating the church for Easter Sunday on Good Friday, March 25, after services and continue on Holy Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. Anyone wishing to help, your assistance would be appreciated.

**SLOVAK KOLACH SALE:** Your Easter Season Slovak Kolach orders are ready for pickup **this weekend, Saturday, March 19 and Sunday, March 20** in the church social hall.

**HOLY LAND COLLECTION:** Each year on Good Friday in every Catholic Church around the world, a collection is taken up, the proceeds of which sustains Christianity in the Holy Land. This year, the political, religious and military challenges in the Holy Land are more complex than ever. In this Year of Mercy, please be generous. There is an envelope in your packet for this special collection.



**SUNDAY BREAKFAST:** Breakfast will be served after both Sunday Masses on **Sunday, April 24.** Please support this fund raising effort of the parish and enjoy a hearty, homemade breakfast with your friends. Menu includes: French toast, pancakes, scrambled eggs or omelet, ham, sausage or bacon, hash browns, toast, juice, coffee, tea. Cost \$7.00 adults/\$3.00 children. **Tickets on sale at the door.**



**YOUNG-AT-HEART NEWS:** The next meeting of the Young-at-Heart will be on Tuesday, March 29, 2016 in the church social hall.

**APOLOGETICS FORUM: The Catholic Faith Explained — The Chair of Peter: Papal Infallibility** — Are you unsure of how to explain the Faith to someone who disagrees? This forum will change that... FOR FREE! In the Fr. Lyons Room of St. John Baptist de la Salle Parish in Shillington, on Thursday, April 7 beginning at 7:00 PM, Fr. Bill Davis, OSFS of DeSales University will help you understand the Church's teaching on papal infallibility and show you how to defend it. No registration is required, just show up and bring a friend! Any inquiries can be directed to 610-289-8900 ext. 21 or [adultformation@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:adultformation@allentowndiocese.org).

**Now Enrolling!** Good Shepherd Catholic School is currently enrolling new students for the 2016-2017 school year. We offer full day Kindergarten through Grade 8, as well as, preschool and Pre-K programs for 3 year old and 4 year old children. If interested please call 610-262-9171 or email [mrs poccia@ptd.net](mailto:mrs poccia@ptd.net) to schedule a school tour or shadow day!

**GSCS 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GOLF OUTING** will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at Willow Brook Golf Course in Catasauqua to benefit Good Shepherd Catholic School Technology Program. For more information and to register, please go to the Golf Outing Website [www.tjplegan.wix.com/GSCS-golf-tournament#!contact-us/ccbt](http://www.tjplegan.wix.com/GSCS-golf-tournament#!contact-us/ccbt).

**SECOND ANNUAL ALUMNI SOCIAL** will be held on Sunday, April 17, 2016. The celebration will begin with 9:30 Mass at Queenship of Mary Church. Light refreshments served in the school gym and school tours available. Legacy School alumni please RSVP by emailing [eventsrvpgscs@gmail.com](mailto:eventsrvpgscs@gmail.com).

**INSTITUTE FOR CATECHESIS** and Formation Course Offering — ICF 103 — New Testament. This course picks up the story of God's plan of salvation with an introduction to the Gospels, Apostolic preaching and the origins of the Church, concluding with the conversion, preaching and travels of St. Paul. Wednesdays, April 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2016; 7—9pm at Bethlehem Catholic HS with Jenn Shankweiler. Cost: \$30. To register visit [www.allentowndiocese.org/icf](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/icf). \*ICF Courses are meant for any adult Catholic looking to grow deeper and learn more about the Faith. There are no prerequisites for these courses.\*

**Assumption B.V.M. Church Annual Parish Picnic**  
**Sunday, September 11, 2016**  
**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 Pennsylvania Villagers"**  
**3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK**

**Joseph Habig II, M.D.**  
**Jaclyn Sperrazz, D.O.**

798 Hausman Road, Suite 250 Phone: 610-973-3868

The practice is currently accepting new patients.

**Please patronize our bulletin advertisers**

*Holy Week 2016*  
*Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish*  
*Northampton, PA*

**Penance Service** - Saturday, March 19, 10:00 a.m. [additional priests available]

**Palm Sunday**

Masses with the Blessing of Palm: Saturday, March 19, 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday, March 20, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Mass - Monday, March 21 **8:00 a.m.**

Mass - Tuesday, March 22 **8:00 a.m.**

Mass - Wednesday, March 23 **7:00 p.m.**

Stations of the Cross - Wednesday, March 23 **following the 7:00 p.m. Mass**

**Holy Thursday**  
**March 24, 2016**

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 25, 2016**

Service of the Passion with Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion **7:00 p.m.**

**Holy Saturday**  
**March 26, 2016**

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**  
**March 27, 2016**

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





## BREAKFAST



Sunday, April 24, 2016

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