

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH



PARISH INFORMATION

REV. FRANCIS P. STRAKA, Pastor
Mr. Eugene M. Flanley, Deacon
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. 19
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 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	Knights of Columbus Council #4050.....	484-540-5090	
Altar Servers	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Lectors	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559
Baptismal Prep Classes	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Ministry to the Sick	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559
Bible Study	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559	Music Ministry/Choir	Karen Glose.....	610-691-0525
Blood Drive	Deborah Heckenberger...	610-760-9491	Nthmp Area Food Bank	Bella Skweir.....	610-262-2673
Chi-Rho Volunteers	Jane Spengler.....	610-262-8138	Parish Family Picnic	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559
Church Cleaning Teams	Barbara Pengitore.....	610-262-3193	Persons w/Disabilities Rep.	Sue Parker.....	610-502-1280
CYO	Tim Gribb	610-762-9072	Prayer Chain	Priscilla Koch.....	610-428-9053
Ecumenical Rep.	Fr. Straka	610-262-2559	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Mary LaBianca.....	610-502-0160
Eucharistic Ministers	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Pro-Life Activities	Fr. Straka	610-262-2559
Finance Committee	Drew Maron.....	610-261-4705	Religious Education	Linda Santucci.....	610-262-7343
First Friday Adoration	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559	RENEW Group	Charlie Walsh.....	610-837-0376
Fund Raising	Barbara Pengitore.....	610-262-3193	RCIA	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559
Grocery Certificates	GSCS Office.....	610-262-9171	Ushers	Michael Sommer.....	610-262-7904
Greeters	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Young at Heart	Anna Hudock.....	610-262-3478
Grief Support	Rosemarie Pengitore.....	610-262-9012	Youth Activities	Deborah Heckenberger...	610-760-9491

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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 27, 2016

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Nov. 28, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Anthony Del Prete	Wife, Elizabeth, and Family
Nov. 29, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Wasył Boruch	Wife, Ann
Nov. 30, Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	†Rita Roman	Carol and Gerald Miletics
Dec. 01, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Frank Marth	Berdell Haines
Dec. 02, Friday	8:00 a.m.	Health and Blessing – Our Lady of Perpetual Help	Retreat Group Members Jack Harhart and John Bobinta
Dec. 03, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†Helen Sipics	Children and Families
Dec. 04, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	†Kathryn and Joseph Makovsky	Family
	10:30 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	

Next Week's Schedule: Lector:

Dec. 03, Sat.	4:00 p.m.	S. Parker
Dec. 04, Sun.	8:00 a.m.	M. Heist
	10:30 a.m.	D. Heckenberger

Euch. Min.:

R. Shearman
K. Bennett
B. Fritz

Altar Servers:

S. Haldeman/M. Warren/J. Warren
S. Kroll/M. Hudock
B. DelVecchio/M. Cuchran/C. Cuchran

Greeters:

M. Bitenc/I. Gollatz
J. Haldeman/M. Rossini
J. DelVecchio/C. Marano

SANCTUARY LIGHTS are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of Stephen Kotoris requested by sister, Nikki.

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

dear Padre:

I want my son to be confirmed this year, but he won't go to confirmation classes or select a sponsor. What should I do?

When your son was baptized, you promised to raise him in the faith. Going to Mass and making faith part of your home life has been part of his upbringing, but forcing him to be confirmed can result in resentment and drive him further from you and his Catholic faith. Try these three things:

First, have a heartfelt and personal discussion (or several) with him, sharing what your Catholic faith means to you.

Second, speak with the confirmation teacher or DRE. He or she has dealt with this before and can work with you both to understand his refusal.

Third, engage him in discovering God at work in his life through the people and movements he's attracted to. Young people are often idealistic and can become disenchanted with the Church and other authority figures. The sooner they know you're willing to let them examine and understand what being Catholic means, the less inclined they will be to reject the Church.

What he needs is the steady, meaningful message that he is loved and important to you, God, and the Church. Trust that God's will comes to fruition. Confirmation should occur when a person manifests a true desire and has undergone necessary preparation. These suggestions aren't easy but reflect the faith you want to pass on.

From Liguorian, July-August 2011
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

Advent Weekday

Is 4:2-6 / Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday – November 29

Advent Weekday

Is 11:1-10

Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday – November 30

St. Andrew, Apostle

Rom 10:9-18

Mt 4:18-22

Thursday – December 1

Advent Weekday

Is 26:1-6

Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday – December 2

Advent Weekday

Is 29:17-24

Mt 9:27-31

Saturday – December 3

St. Francis Xavier, Priest

Is 30:19-21, 23-26

Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday – December 4

Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10

Rom 15:4-9

Mt 3:1-12

Calendar:

Monday – November 28

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PREP CLASSES : Sundays, 9:00 a.m.-10:05 a.m.
CHOIR REHEARSAL : Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
PRAYER SHAWL MEETING: 3rd Tues. of month @ 10 a.m.
BAPTISMAL PREP : Sat., December 3, 10:00 a.m.
KOLACH ORDER PICKUP : Sunday, December 10/11
PENANCE SERVICE : Sat., Dec. 10, 10:00 a.m.
DONUT/GIVING SUNDAY : Sun., December 11
BREAKFAST : Sunday, January 22, 2017
CONFIRMATION : Wed., March 8, 2017 4:30 p.m.



Lighting of the Advent Wreath [Week One] – *[Before the evening meal, the family gathers at table.]* **Leader:** A flower shall blossom from the root of Jesse; the glory of God will fill the earth. **All:** All creation will

be filled with the saving power of God. **Leader:** O Emmanuel, Savior of Israel, you are God's Son among us. ✠ - Come and save us, O Lord our God. **Leader:** O Wisdom of the Most High God, you rule with gentle might. ✠ - Come and save us, O Lord our God. **Leader:** O Lord of Israel, you gave us the Law on Sinai. ✠ - Come and save us, O Lord our God. **Leader:** Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN. [One purple candle is lit and left burning during the meal.]**

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: Thursday, December 8, is a Holy Day of obligation, the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Masses will be celebrated on Wednesday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. and Thursday, December 8 at 8:00 a.m.

BAPTISM: We are happy to welcome Luke Michael Wiswesser, child of Michael and Kennia Wiswesser, who began to share in the life of Jesus this past Sunday in the Sacrament of Baptism. We will continue to pray for Luke Michael as he continues to grow in our faith.



"DONUT/GIVING SUNDAY": Sunday, December 11, 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.**



SLOVAK KOLACH SALE: Order pick up date is **Saturday, December 10, and Sunday, December 11.**

THE ANNUAL DIOCESAN COLLECTION for the National Appeal of Retired Religious takes place **the weekend of December 10/11.** Envelopes are contained in your packet for this special collection.



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 2017. 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 November 26/27, December 3/4, 10/11, and 17/18. Calendars must be purchased prior to January 1, 2017.

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P.R.E.P. NEWS: Please, remember to pray for our First Reconciliation Class! On Monday, December 5 the children will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time! They have been doing an excellent job of preparation and are excited!

COMMUNITY ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE: On Saturday, December 10 there will be a Community Penance Service at 10:00 a.m. here at Assumption B.V.M. Church. Additional priests will be here to assist with confessions.

CHILDREN'S 2016 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.

OPLATKY (CHRISTMAS WAFERS) is available (free will offering) in the church social hall all weekends during Advent. The 2017 Calendars, which are free, are now available in the church social hall, compliments of Schisler Funeral Home.

TURKEYS NEEDED: The Northampton Area Food Bank is looking for donations of Turkeys or Hams to distribute to needy families for Christmas. 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.



REMEMBER THE NEEDY: Please take a tag from the "Giving Tree" which are located in the Church vestibule. The tags list items needed by the Catholic Charities Office to care for the needs of babies and their families. **Please place your unwrapped gifts under the tree by December 11** and we will take them to the Catholic Charities office.



ANNUAL PRO LIFE ROSE CAMPAIGN: Knights of Columbus Council 4050 will conduct their annual **Pro Life Rose Campaign** at the church entrances next weekend, December 3 and 4, at all Masses. Your generosity supports Knights Pro Life activities throughout the local council!



WINTER WEATHER: With the return to colder temperatures and the possibility of snow and ice, we ask everyone to exercise caution when using the front church steps. A recommended alternative would be to enter thru the side entrance and use the interior Steps/Elevator.

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