

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:

Feb. 19, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Elizabeth Strongowski	Stella Nederostek and Bob
Feb. 20, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Rosalia Galluzzo	Aunt Rachel Galluzzo and Family
Feb. 21, Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	†Sally Pavlick	Rita and John Pavlick
Feb. 22, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Catherine Holena	Jean Marhefka
Feb. 23, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Rita Roman	Connie and Jim Kovacs
Feb. 24, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†Anna Payonk	Husband, John, and Family
Feb. 25, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	
	10:30 a.m.	†Maria and Mariano Rossini	Rossini Family

Next Week's Schedule: Lector:

Feb. 24, Sat.	4:00 p.m.	C. Fisher
Feb. 25, Sun.	8:00 a.m.	P. Madea
	10:30 a.m.	D. Heckenberger

Euch. Min.:

F. Cerino
K. Bennett
M. Sommer

Altar Servers:

J. Warren/M. Warren
J. Confer/C. Confer
B. DelVecchio/G. Heidecker

Greeters:

M. Bitenc/I. Gollatz
J. Haldeman/M. Rossini
J. DelVecchio/R. Marakovits

SANCTUARY LIGHTS are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of Elizabeth Strongowski requested by daughter, Rita, and Family.

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

dear Padre:

Why won't the priest hear my confession right before Mass?

Theoretically, any time is a good time for penitents to reconcile and renew their relationship with the Lord! In practice, the priest's refusal to hear your confession immediately before presiding at Mass may be as much for your benefit as his. In his preoccupation with last-minute details of leading the assembly, he may think: "How can I be more attentive to this individual and to a worthy celebration of the sacrament of penance without delaying Mass?" He might also be reacting to a penitent's mechanical understanding of the sacrament that fosters a scrupulous practice of devotional confessions—that is, confessing only minor sins in preparation for Communion.

Anyone who is conscious of serious sin is not to "receive the body of the Lord without previous sacramental confession unless there is a grave reason and there is no opportunity to confess" (*Code of Canon Law*, 916). In this case, the person makes a sincere act of contrition, including a resolution to confess as soon as possible. "The Eucharist is not ordered to the forgiveness of mortal sins—that is proper to the sacrament of Reconciliation" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1395). Nevertheless, "the Eucharist strengthens our charity...and this living charity wipes away venial sins [and] the Eucharist preserves us from future mortal sins" (*CCC* 1394–95).

Catholics in a state of grace show respect for the dignity of the Eucharist, but trying to confess grave sins to a priest right before Mass may lessen the dignity given to one sacrament over another if the celebration of the sacrament of penance is rushed or the celebration of Mass begins late. —Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

Calendar:

Monday - February 19

Lenten Weekday

Lv 19:1–2, 11–18

Mt 25:31–46

Tuesday - February 20

Lenten Weekday

Is 55:10–11

Mt 6:7–15

Wednesday - February 21

Lenten Weekday

Jon 3:1–10

Lk 11:29–32

Thursday - February 22

Chair of St. Peter, Apostle

1 Pt 5:1–4

Mt 16:13–19

Friday - February 23

Lenten Weekday

Ez 18:21–28

Mt 5:20–26

Saturday - February 24

Lenten Weekday

Dt 26:16–19

Mt 5:43–48

Sunday - February 25

Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18

Rom 8:31b–34

Mk 9:2–10

PREP CLASSES : Sundays, 9:00 a.m.-10:05 a.m.
CHOIR REHEARSAL : Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
PRAYER SHAWL MEETING: Tues., February 20, 10 a.m.
STATIONS OF THE CROSS : Wed., Feb. 21 after 7 p.m. Mass
BREAKFAST : **Sunday, February 25**
BAPTISMAL PREP : Sat., March 3, 2018
CONFIRMATION : Thursday, March 8, 2018
DONUT/GIVING SUNDAY : Sunday, March 11, 2018
BASKET SOCIAL : **To be rescheduled**
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 beginning on February 21 after the 7:00 p.m. Mass. **Confessions:** Wednesday evenings beginning February 21 after Stations of the Cross; Saturdays from 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

OPERATION RICE BOWL is a wonderful way to bring the spirit of Lenten sacrifice home. Operation Rice Bowl allows millions of our starving brothers and sisters to benefit and it doesn't cost us a cent! To participate, choose one night a week to eat a sacrificial meal. We will publish suggested meals in the bulletin each week. The meal is designed to imitate the quantity of food eaten by the poor. Take the cost of the meal, subtract it from what you normally would have spent for dinner that day, and give the difference to Operation Rice Bowl. **This week's menu: French Toast with Syrup, Cinnamon Apple Sauce OR Cottage Cheese on Peach Halves, Oatmeal Raisin Cookies.**



GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALES: At our next Breakfast which will be held next Sunday, February 25, Natalia Morawski from Girl Scout Troop #811 will be selling Girl Scout Cookies in the church social hall. Cookies are \$4.00 per box.



SUNDAY BREAKFAST: Breakfast will be served after both Sunday Masses on **Sunday, February 25.** 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, omelet or cheese steak omelet, ham, sausage or bacon, hash browns, toast, juice, coffee, tea. Cost \$7.00 adults/\$3.00 children. **This month's special is Creamed Chipped Beef on Toast.** Tickets on sale at the door.

LENTEN FISH DINNERS: The Knights of Columbus of Sacred Heart Church in Bath are holding 3 Lenten Friday Fish Dinners: February 23 and March 2 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Church Auditorium, 117 Washington St., Bath. The menu will feature Soups, Battered Fish, Macaroni & Cheese, Vegetable, Green Salad, Tater Tots, Cole Slaw and a Weekly Specialty. Cost is \$10.00 for Adults, \$5.00 for Children; under Age 6 is Free.

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP: To prepare our cemetery (and mausoleum) for spring and the Easter holiday you are asked to please remove your Christmas plants and decorations **by Saturday, March 10.** Any Christmas decorations left on the graves or at the mausoleum after this date will be discarded. If you know of any non-parishioners having graves or crypts on our cemetery please pass along this information.

BAPTISM: We are happy to welcome Sara Marie Lucho, child of Paul and Lisa Marie Lupcho, who began to share in the life of Jesus this past Sunday in the Sacrament of Baptism. We will continue to pray for Sara Marie as she continues to grow in our faith.

BLESSED PALM: Old blessed palm may be brought to the church anytime during Lent. The palm will be burned for ashes to be used next year on Ash Wednesday.



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. Calendars will be on sale before Mass the weekends of: February 24/25; March 3/4; March 10/11; March 17/18; March 24/25. Calendars must be purchased prior Easter Sunday, April 1.

LENTEN ADULT GATHERING: LENT is approaching and it is time for us to strengthen our FAITH by walking with JESUS during these days before Easter! Prayer, meditation, sacrificing, and performing extra good deeds are just some ways to accomplish what JESUS asks of us! During LENT starting on Thursday, February 22, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass, an Adult Informal Gathering of Renewing, Learning, and Sharing of our Faith will begin for 5 weeks. Please join us in the Religious Education Center, 5th grade classroom!

LENTEN FISH DINNER: St. John Fisher Church will be hosting a Fish Dinner on Friday, February 23 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The platter includes: breaded haddock, choice of parsley potatoes or halusky, cream cabbage, corn, applesauce, dessert and beverage. Cost is **Adults: \$10.00 (\$12.00 at the door), Children (ages 5 to 10): \$5.00.** For advance tickets please call Joanne at B.V.M. Rectory 610-262-2559 or Annette Englert at 610-264-4758. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.

SACRED MUSIC: Join us for a catechesis presentation on Sacred Music in the Catholic Church tomorrow, Monday, February 19, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall, 1046 W. Cedar Street, Allentown. Sacred Music is held in high esteem in the Catholic Church. It fosters unity and lifts our hearts and minds in pray to God. Please attend and learn what Sacred Music is, why we sing at Mass, and so much more

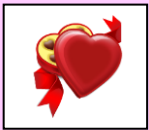
HAVE YOU NOTICED the **CareNotes** display in the back of the church? CareNotes offer helpful ideas and inspiration on dealing with some of life's most difficult moments. Please help yourself.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

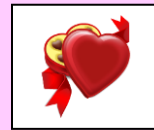
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BREAKFAST



Sunday, February 25, 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

SPECIAL: Creamed Chipped Beef on toast

Includes: Juice, Toast, Coffee or Tea