

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. 26, Monday	8:00 a.m.	Special Intention	
Feb. 27, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Virginia Plata	Sisters
Feb. 28, Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	†Clare Bennett	Son, Joseph, and Family
Mar. 01, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Antoinette Giordano	M/M John Marshall
Mar. 02, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Frank Serensits	Mary Arduini
Mar. 03, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†Colette Semler	John and Sylvia Marth
Mar. 04, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	
	10:30 a.m.	†Parker Lessel	George and Mary Neupauer

Next Week's Schedule: Lector:

Mar. 03, Sat. 4:00 p.m.	S. Parker
Mar. 04, Sun. 8:00 a.m.	J. Santee
10:30 a.m.	D. Hozza

Euch. Min.:

B. Kosman
L. Kosciolek
D. Maron

Altar Servers:

N. Bischof/M. Hartman
N. Millan/W. Cuchran
S. Kroll/M. Thierer

Greeters:

S. Bankos/L. Stefaniak
A. Fry/V. Hall
P. Madea/L. Shaak

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

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

dear Padre:

Our guitar group plays music five minutes before the opening song at Mass. By the time the interminable Gloria is sung, I already have a headache! Why so much music?

At Mass, the faithful “form one body, whether in hearing the Word of God, or in taking part in the prayers and in the singing, or above all by the common offering of the Sacrifice and by participating together at the Lord’s table” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 96). Thus, liturgical music can be a form of prayer, uniting the assembly in praise to God. Ideally, it’s “a particularly apt way to express a joyful heart, accentuating the solemnity of the celebration and fostering the sense of a common faith and a shared love” (On Keeping the Lord’s Day Holy [*Dies Domini*], 50) by Pope John Paul II.

However, this ideal isn’t always reality. To address your question, let us divide humanity into two groups: people who like to sing and people who don’t; those who sing in full voice in the shower and those who prefer monastic silence. Every congregation includes both groups. While not everyone is naturally inclined to make a joyful noise, most people appreciate music’s power to give voice to what’s deep in the human heart. Some may even feel there’s not *enough* music at Mass instead of too much.

Nevertheless, happy the liturgical ministers who know when the sum of the individual Mass parts—sung or otherwise—can become too tedious. And blessed are the music makers who know the power of silence, an instrumental, or an optional recessional song, even for solemn occasions.

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

From *Liguorian* magazine, October 2017

Calendar:

Monday - February 26

Lenten Weekday

Dn 9:4b–10

Lk 6:36–38

Tuesday - February 27

Lenten Weekday

Is 1:10, 16–20

Mt 23:1–12

Wednesday - February 28

Lenten Weekday

Jer 18:18–20

Mt 20:17–28

Thursday - March 1

Lenten Weekday

Jer 17:5–10

Lk 16:19–31

Friday - March 2

Lenten Weekday

Gn 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a

Mt 21:33–43, 45–46

Saturday - March 3

Lenten Weekday

Mi 7:14–15, 18–20

Lk 15:1–3, 11–32

Sunday - March 4

Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 20:1–17

1 Cor 1:22–25

Jn 2:13–25

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, February 25
BAPTISMAL PREP : Sat., March 3, 2018
CONFIRMATION : Thursday, March 8, 2018
DONUT/GIVING SUNDAY : Sunday, March 11, 2018
PRAYER SHAWL MEETING : Tues., March 20, 10 a.m.
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 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.

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: Baked Macaroni and Cheese, Stewed Tomatoes, Fruit Cocktail OR Tuna Salad on Pita, Jell-O with Banana Slices.**



SUNDAY BREAKFAST: Breakfast will be served after both Sunday Masses **today, 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 a Lenten Friday Fish Dinner on 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 Bradli Rose Polony, child of Philip and Jami Polony, who began to share in the life of Jesus this past Sunday in the Sacrament of Baptism. We will continue to pray for Bradli Rose as she continues to grow in our faith.

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



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 here 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 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Thursdays, an Adult Informal Gathering of Renewing, Learning, and Sharing of our Faith will held from February 22 thru March 22. Please join us in the Religious Education Center, 5th grade classroom!

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? Well 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!**

BINGO: Designer Handbag Bingo is back! Designer Handbag Bingo will be held on Sunday, March 11, at St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall, 1046 W. Cedar Street, Allentown. Doors and Kitchen open at Noon. Games begin at 1:00 p.m. Tickets are available at St. Francis of Assisi Parish Office for only \$20. Contact Stephanie at 610-433-6102.

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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 Lehigh Northampton Family Practice
 3691 Crescent Court East, Whitehall 610-434-9561
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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