

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 3, 2016

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Apr. 04, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Anna and Peter Rodick	Daughter, Rita Pavlick, and Family
Apr. 05, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Rev. Andrew Fekety	Rev. Francis P. Straka
Apr. 06, Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	†Helen Crocus	John and Kathleen Pavlovcak
Apr. 07, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Andrew and Margaret Nederostek	Son, Stephen, Christine and Family
Apr. 08, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Mike Plata, Sr.	Son and Daughters
Apr. 09, Saturday	11:00 a.m.	FIRST COMMUNION	
	4:00 p.m.	†Edward Kovalchick	Wife, Nancy
Apr. 10, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	
	10:30 a.m.	†Elizabeth Stearns	Assumption B.V.M. Choir

Next Week's Schedule: Lector:

Apr. 09, Sat.	4:00 p.m.	A. Molchany
Apr. 10, Sun.	8:00 a.m.	T. Kovalchik
	10:30 a.m.	K. Stayt

Euch. Min.:

C. Marth
T. Melosky
J. Alba

Altar Servers:

J. Warren/M. Warren/E. Zwolenik
J. Millan/N. Millan/B. Gallagher
S. Heidecker/M. Cuchran/C. Cuchran

Greeters:

C. Kovacs/J. Kovacs
B. Cwitkowitz/M.A. Weaver
B. Skweir/M. Skweir

SANCTUARY LIGHTS are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of Frank Walakovitz requested by Daughter, Ruth Marakovits.

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

dear Padre:

Why Blessings Are Given

Why won't my priest bless my Bible? Don't Catholics bless objects all the time?

"Through all the words of sacred Scripture, God speaks only one single Word, his one Utterance in whom he expresses himself completely...For this reason, the Church has always venerated the Scriptures as she venerates the Lord's Body" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 102-103).

The Bible as the inspired word of God is living and holy. Technically, it does not need a ritual blessing; it is inherently a "sacramental" and set aside for God's purposes. Perhaps it is this unique, sacred nature of the Bible that caused your priest to deny your request. Moreover, some view the Bible as the source of all blessings, since blessings derive meaning and effectiveness from the word of God.

That said, "every baptized person is called to be a 'blessing,' and to bless... Among sacramental blessings (of persons, meals, objects, and places) come first. Every blessing praises God and prays for his gifts" (*CCC* 1669, 1671). To that end, ordained ministers who wish to give praise and bestow benefit to adults and children preparing for the sacraments—their catechists, or liturgical ministers, for example—may choose to bless such persons, giving thanks for the gift of God's word and its work in their lives. Blessings, after all, "are invoked always with a view to the people who use the objects to be blessed" (*Book of Blessings*, General Introduction, 12).

FR. BYRON MILLER, CSsR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

Calendar:

Monday - April 4

Annunciation of the Lord
Is 7:10-14; 8:10
Heb 10:4-10
Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday - April 5

Easter Weekday
Acts 4:32-37
Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday - April 6

Easter Weekday
Acts 5:17-26
Jn 3:16-21

Thursday - April 7

St. John Baptist de la Salle, Priest
Acts 5:27-33
Jn 3:31-36

Friday - April 8

Easter Weekday
Acts 5:34-42 / Jn 6:1-15

Saturday - April 9

Easter Weekday
Acts 6:1-7 / Jn 6:16-21

Sunday - April 10

Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41
Rv 5:11-14
Jn 21:1-19

- PREP CLASSES** : Sundays, 9:00 a.m.-10:05 a.m.
- PRAYER SHAWL MEETING**: 3rd Tues. of month @ 10 a.m.
- CHOIR REHEARSAL** : Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
- 7th GRADE PREP** : Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.
- FIRST COMMUNION** : Saturday, April 9, 11:00 a.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

MEMORIAL FUND: Gratefully the parish acknowledges the following memorial contributions **in memory of Leroy Campion:** \$25.00 Rev. Francis P. Straka. **In memory of Katherine Johnson:** \$25 Rev. Francis P. Straka. **In memory of John J. Krivak:** \$20.00 Jane and Ronald Spengler.



"DONUT/GIVING SUNDAY": Next Sunday, April 10, 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, jars of peanut butter, boxes of Jell-O or pudding.** Your gifts will be brought to the altar during the preparation of the gifts. This month's coffee and donuts are being donated by Joy and Sal Nicosia.



PIEROGIE MAKING FOR CHURCH PICNIC: MARK YOUR CALENDARS. We will be making pierogies for the church picnic on **Friday, August 5 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass and Saturday, August 6 starting at 7:00 a.m.** Friday we will be peeling and cooking potatoes. Saturday we will be making, cooking and packing the pierogies. Please come and help. The more help we have, the faster we get done. We need both Men and Women. Please come and join us. We do have fun.



YOUNG-AT-HEART NEWS: The next meeting of the Young-at-Heart will be on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 in the church social hall.



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.**



ANNUAL CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS POPPY DRIVE: Members of the Catholic War Veterans (CWV) Post 454, Northampton, will conduct their Annual Poppy Drive at all Masses the weekend of April 16/17. Your donations benefit hospitalized veterans at six Medical Centers/Assisted Living Facilities in PA, along with local CWV sponsored community functions. These include poster contests, a spelling bee, and tuition assistance for elementary school children attending Diocesan Catholic School. We thank you in advance for your generosity! Catholic Veterans (men and women) interested in joining CWV Post 454 may request a membership application from any of our members during the Poppy Drive, or call our Post Commander – Joan Glover at 610-349-7791 for more information.

"ANNIE, JR.": Good Shepherd Catholic School Drama Club proudly presents **"Annie, Jr."** on **Friday, April 8 and Saturday, April 9 at 7:00 p.m. and on Sunday, April 10 at 2:00 p.m. in the school gym.** Tickets are \$5.00 person. For more information, please call the school office at 610-262-9171.

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 mrsoccia@ptd.net to schedule a school tour or shadow day!

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 eventsvpgscs@gmail.com.

LET'S PLAY GOLF: The 5th Annual Good Shepherd Catholic School Golf Outing will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at the Willow Brook Golf Course, 1364 Howertown Road, Catasauqua, PA. 8:00 a.m. Shot Gun start - Scramble format. Golfers must be at least 12 years of age. Cost per golfer includes: Cart and green fees, Continental Breakfast, refreshments on the course, luncheon, and awards. **Reservations will only be held when payment is received. If the course limit is reached, we will return your form and entrance fee.** For information, contact the school at 610-262-9171. Your check must be received by April 22nd. **Forms for the golf outing may be found in the church vestibule.**

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.



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.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

Loikits Industrial Services

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 3241 Levans Road, Coplay, PA 18037
610-769-1200

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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