

# 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.....	484-226-0188	Youth Activities	Deborah Heckenberger...	610-760-9491

## ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

JANUARY 1, 2017

### MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Jan. 02, Monday		NO MASS	
Jan. 03, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Rudolph and Susan Bauer	Daughter, Carol, and Gary Houck
Jan. 04, Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	†Edward Bankos	Joe Bukovits
Jan. 05, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Mary Poandl	M/M Frank Steirer
Jan. 06, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Rose Zastko	Joe Maikits and mom, Mildred
Jan. 07, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†Richard Brinker	John Hudicka
Jan. 08, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	
	10:30 a.m.	†Irene Kovalcik	Assumption B.V.M. Choir

### Next Week's Schedule:

	<u>Lector:</u>	<u>Euch. Min.:</u>	<u>Altar Servers:</u>	<u>Greeters:</u>
Jan. 07, Sat. 4:00 p.m.	S. Parker	R. Shearman	D. Bassert/E. Ossiander	S. Bankos/L. Stefaniak
Jan. 08, Sun. 8:00 a.m.	M. Heist	N. Birosik	W. Cuchran/M. Hudock	A. Fry/M. Kovalcik
10:30 a.m.	D. Heckenberger	J. Nicosia	A. Nemeth/M. Thierer/M. Hartman	E. Lessel/L. Shaak

**SANCTUARY LIGHTS** are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of Thomas and Catherine Hughes requested by granddaughter, Joanne.

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

## dear Padre:

### *Does calling Mary “the Mother of God” mean that she came before God?*

No; it simply expresses our belief that Mary is truly the Mother of Jesus, who from the moment of his conception was both human and divine. Catholics believe that God is a Trinity of persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—in one divine nature. We believe that God existed from all eternity and is the source of all created things. We also believe that, to save us from sin, the second person of the Trinity, the Son, took on a human nature. God became one of us in the mystery of the Incarnation.

Luke's Infancy narrative (1:26–38) tells us that God sent Gabriel to Mary to announce that she would have a child, the Son of God, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Mary consented, and Jesus Christ was conceived in her womb. Later, Mary is greeted by Elizabeth as “the mother of my Lord” (1:43). This greeting expresses the reality that the Lord, the God of the Hebrew Scriptures, is present in Mary's womb. Other passages testify to the same fact. Mary is the Mother of Jesus. Jesus is God (John 20:28). Therefore, Mary is the Mother of God.

When we honor Mary as “the Mother of God,” we are professing our belief that Jesus is truly God. We are not saying that Mary came before God but rather that the Son, who existed from all eternity, “became flesh and lived among us” (John 1:14).

*Source: Dear Padre: Questions People Ask, Liguori, 2003  
sundaybulletin@liguori.org*

### Monday – January 2

Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

1 Jn 2:22–28

Jn 1:19–28

### Tuesday – January 3

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 2:29–3:6

Jn 1:29–34

### Wednesday – January 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

1 Jn 3:7–10 / Jn 1:35–42

### Thursday – January 5

St. John Neumann, Bishop

1 Jn 3:11–21

Jn 1:43–51

### Friday – January 6

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:5–13

Mk 1:7–11

### Saturday – January 7

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:14–21

Jn 2:1–11

### Sunday – January 8

The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1–6

Eph 3:2–3a, 5–6

Mt 2:1–12

## Calendar:

© 2016 LIGUORI PUBLICATIONS, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Printed in U.S.A. Imprimatur: “In accordance with c. 827, permission to publish has been granted on January 29, 2016, by the Most Reverend Edward M. Rice, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing contrary to Church teaching is contained in this work. It does not imply any endorsement of the opinions expressed in the publication; nor is any liability assumed by this permission.” No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the New American Bible, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. To order Liguori Sunday Bulletins, call 800-325-9521.

**PREP CLASSES** : Sundays, 9:00 a.m.-10:05 a.m.  
**CHOIR REHEARSAL** : Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.  
**BAPTISMAL PREP** : Sat., January 7, 10:00 a.m.  
**DONUT/GIVING SUNDAY** : Sun., January 8, 2017  
**PRAYER SHAWL MEETING**: Tue., January 17, 10:00 a.m.  
**BREAKFAST** : Sunday, January 22, 2017  
**CONFIRMATION** : Wed., March 8, 2017 4:30 p.m.

**RECTORY OFFICE** will be closed Friday, December 30 thru Monday, January 2 for New Year's.

**OUR MONTHLY BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SESSION** will be held on Saturday, January 7, at 10:00 a.m. in a classroom above the Church. All parents who are expecting to celebrate baptism with their child are asked to attend one of these sessions, even before the child is born. Please call the rectory in advance to register.

**"DONUT/GIVING SUNDAY"**: Next Sunday, January 8, 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.

**SUNDAY BREAKFAST:** Breakfast will be served after both Sunday Masses on **Sunday, January 22.** 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 brown, 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.**



**YOUNG-AT-HEART NEWS:** The next meeting of the Young-at-Heart will be on Tuesday, January 31, 2017 in the church social hall.

**BAPTISM:** We are happy to welcome Nathaniel LaCava child of Aleksandra and Guillermo LaCava who began to share in the life of Jesus this past week in the Sacrament of Baptism. We will continue to pray for Nathaniel as he continues to grow in our faith.

**PRAYER SHAWL MEETING:** The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will take place on **Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 10:00 am** in the Parish Religious Education classroom.

**LOTTERY CALENDARS:** 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 Masses New Year's weekend, December 31/January 1. This will be the last chance to purchase the calendars.

**Assumption B.V.M. Church Annual Parish Picnic**  
**Sunday, September 10, 2017**  
**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.**

**HELP NEEDED:** We will be taking down the Christmas Decorations after the 10:30 a.m. Mass **next Sunday, January 8.** All help is welcomed and greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your help.

**NORTHAMPTON AREA FOOD BANK** will hold a Designer Bag Bingo on **Sunday, February 5, 2017** in the Good Shepherd Catholic School Gym, 1300 Newport Avenue, Northampton. There will be 20 games for \$20 and five specials for \$5. Chinese Auction - 50/50 - Door prizes - Mystery Envelope Game - Cash Drawing - Food. Doors open at 12:00 p.m. and Bingo will begin at 2:00 p.m. All paper bingo. Additional boards are available for purchase. To purchase tickets or for more information contact: Pam Kametz at 610-439-4814. "Snow Date: Sunday, February 12."

**ASSUMPTION B.V.M. 2016 OFFERING STATEMENTS**

will be mailed the week of January 9 to those who contributed \$1000 or more during 2016. If you desire a statement of your 2016 contributions and your contributions are under \$1000 please complete this form and drop it in the collection basket or place it in your church envelope any Sunday during the month of January.

ENVELOPE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

**VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR**

The Diocese of Allentown provides assistance to anyone who, as a minor, was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, or employee/volunteer of the Diocese/Parish. Parents, guardians, children, and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the Diocese of Allentown for more information about this program. The fullness of compassion should be extended to these victims by the Church.

Victim Assistance Coordinator  
 DIRECT TELEPHONE NUMBER  
 1-800-791-9209

Email: [victimsassistance@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:victimsassistance@allentowndiocese.org)

To learn more about the Diocese of Allentown's Youth Protection Programs, Sexual Abuse Policy, and Code of Conduct, please visit [www.allentowndiocese.org](http://www.allentowndiocese.org) and click on "Youth Protection" in the upper right-hand corner of the page.

**ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK**

**CZONSTKA PLUMBING & HEATING CO.**

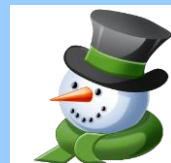
REPAIRS \* REMODELING \* NEW

**610-262-6592** Registered Licensed Plumbers Tony & Brett  
 Serving all areas of Eastern PA - Since 1983  
 3571 Howertown Road, Northampton, PA 18067

**Please patronize our bulletin advertisers**



**BREAKFAST**  
Sunday, January 22, 2017



**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**

**Creamed Chipped Beef & Hash Brown**

**Includes: Juice, Toast, Coffee or Tea**