

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH



PARISH INFORMATION

Rev. Msgr. Thomas Koons, Pastor
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. Susan Parker, Director 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 E-Mail: bvm1922@rcn.com
Religious Education: 610-262-7343
Religious Ed. E-Mail: bvmspirit777@rcn.com
Good Shepherd Catholic School: 610-262-9171

Rectory Fax: 610-262-1613
Website: www.bvm-northampton.com
Youth Activities: 610-760-9491

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
 610-334-9147

Courage:
Diocesan Website: www.allentowndioocese.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 3:30 p.m.
 or by request

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.	Susan Parker.....	610-262-7343
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.....	610-393-9126	Religious Education	Susan Parker.....	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			

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MARCH 3, 2019

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Mar. 04, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†George Meyers	Linda and Vinnie Santucci & Family
Mar. 05, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Colette Semler	Jean Marhefka and Family
Mar. 06, Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	†Theresa Hutnick	Nancy Birosik
	7:00 p.m.	†Frances Pengitore	Daughter, Barbara
Mar. 07, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Connie Marth	Peter Skrapits
Mar. 08, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Helen Farkas	Coplay Senior Citizens
Mar. 09, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†Nunzia Mancino	Daughter, Luisa Assante and Family
Mar. 10, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	†Emil and Julia Makovsky	M/M Gerald Makovsky
	10:30 a.m.	Living and deceased members of our parish	

Next Week's Schedule: Lector:

Mar. 06, Wed. 8:00 a.m. M. Heist

7:00 p.m. D. Heckenberger

Mar. 09, Sat. 4:00 p.m. S. Parker

Mar. 10, Sun. 8:00 a.m. A. Molchany

10:30 a.m. L. Nemeth

Euch. Min.: Ashes:

F. Cerino

J. Nicosia

B. Fritz

N. Birosik

M. Sommer

C. Marth/B. Kosman

C. Walsh/L. Santucci

Altar Servers:

M. Warren

A. Colandrea

W. Cuchran

G. Miletics

Greeters:

M. Bitenc/L. Stefaniak

B. Skweir/M. Skweir

C. Kovacs/M. Bitenc

B. Cwitkowitz/M. A. Weaver

B. Skweir/M. Skweir

SANCTUARY LIGHTS are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of Kenneth Crouthamel requested by Crouthamel Family.

PLEASE PRAY for God's blessing and gift of good health for all the sick of our parish. Also remember in your prayers Josephine Serfass, sister of Helen Kerbacher and Bernard Cesanek, who died recently.

Good News!

March 3, 2019

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Sir 27:4–7; 1 Cor 15:54–58; Lk 6:39–45

A fresco by Paris Nogari outside the pope's residence reminds us of an important virtue that is often absent in modern times: the capacity to be silent. "Be still and know that I am God!" (Psalm 46:11).

The figure in the fresco, titled *Silence*, holds a finger over his mouth, indicating that silence starts with us. Speak less! Then we should muffle the background noise, represented by a stork with a stone in its bill to stifle its squawk.

How often do we have times of silence in our lives—and not just moments when there doesn't happen to be a radio or TV on? I mean purposeful, intentional periods of quiet to be alone with God and ourselves.

Regular times of quiet offer many benefits. They help us reflect, order our thoughts, and contemplate what's happening inside our hearts and minds. Silence is regenerative and gives us new energy, clarity, and serenity. If we add to this quietude an internal dialogue with ourselves and our Lord, it can take our inner sanctuary to a new level. One will not only find strength but also purpose and focus. Silence is the natural habitat of a flourishing soul, yet we often lock out our inner self in the mayhem of the external world, never allowing it to take in what gives it life—silence.

How about taking an hour without phones, radios, TVs, and computers to dedicate yourself to some meditative work or recreation? Or better yet, take a moment and go to a local perpetual adoration chapel to quietly sit with our Lord.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Calendar:

Monday - March 4

Weekday

Sir 17:20–24 / Mk 10:17–27

Tuesday - March 5

Weekday

Sir 35:1–12

Mk 10:28–31

Wednesday - March 6

Ash Wednesday

Jl 2:12–18

2 Cor 5:20–6:2

Mt 6:1–6, 16–18

Thursday - March 7

Thursday after Ash Wednesday

Dt 30:15–20

Lk 9:22–25

Friday - March 8

Friday after Ash Wednesday

Is 58:1–9a / Mt 9:14–15

Saturday - March 9

Saturday after Ash Wednesday

Is 58:9b–14 / Lk 5:27–32

Sunday - March 10

First Sunday of Lent

Dt 26:4–10

Rom 10:8–13

Lk 4:1–13

Rel. Ed. Classes : Sundays, 9:00 - 10:05 a.m.
Prayer Shawl Meeting : 3rd Tues. of month @ 10 a.m.
7th & 8th Grade Rel. Ed. : Wednesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal : Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Healing Our Church : Tues., March 5, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Baptismal Preparation Class: Wed., March 6, 5:30 p.m.
Healing Our Church : Thu., March 7, 8:30-10:00 a.m.
Donut/Giving Sunday : Sunday, March 10
Confirmation : Tuesday, March 12 at 4:30 p.m.
Breakfast : Sunday, March 24
BVM Night – Iron Pigs : Thursday, August 22, 2019

ASH WEDNESDAY: This **Wednesday, March 6**, is Ash Wednesday. Ashes will be distributed during the 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Masses. The Lenten obligation, as determined for Catholics in the United States by our bishops, requires that **fasting be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday**. The law of **abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent**.

OUR LENTEN OBLIGATION: Church law considers every Friday and the season of Lent as penitential days and times. The practice of penance is a part of our faith and Christian life. When we do penance, we imitate Jesus, who Himself recommended it as necessary to His followers, and gave them the example of His prayer and fasting. The Lenten obligation, as determined for Catholics in the United States by our bishops, requires that fasting be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The law of abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.

Who must fast - all Catholics who are between the ages of 18 and 59. The obligation ceases when one begins his/her 60th year on his/her 59th birthday.

Who must abstain - all Catholics who are 14 years and older.

What does fasting mean? The observance of fasting means that those obliged may take only one full meal on the day of fast. Two light meals (not equal to another full meal) may be taken to maintain strength according to one's needs.

What does abstinence mean? The law of abstinence forbids the eating of meat, including poultry. Voluntary abstinence refers to refraining from lawful pleasures in a spirit of penance.

Can anyone be dispensed or excused from fast and/or abstinence? Individuals for a just cause may be dispensed by their pastor or by a priest with the faculty to do so. In our Diocese all priests may dispense individuals who are committed to their pastoral care. Those who are ill or have a similar serious reason are excused from the observance of fast and abstinence. Catholics are reminded that they should not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation.

Are there other obligations which we should fulfill? Catholics are obliged to fulfill what has been called their "Easter Duty." They are required to receive Holy Communion during the Easter time. In the United States this obligation can be fulfilled from the First Sunday of Lent until Trinity Sunday (March 10 until June 16, 2019). Those conscious of serious sin are reminded of the obligation to confess their sins once a year. Catholics also are encouraged to make Lent a time of more intense prayer and to practice almsgiving and other works of charity. Parishes are encouraged to continue participation in Operation Rice Bowl.



"DONUT/GIVING SUNDAY": Next Sunday, March 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, 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 in memory of Frances Peters by her husband, Bill.**

GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS: Come see why so many families choose Good Shepherd. Value based education, a solid curriculum enhanced by responsibility and classroom structure, emphasis on writing skills and a caring and nurturing atmosphere. Please call Victoria Frystack, Advancement Director at 610-262-9171 to schedule your tour now! Early Education Open House, Pre-School, Pre-K and K will be held on Saturday, March 30, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

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 Sunday, 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.

NIGHT AT THE BALL GAME: Come and enjoy an Iron Pigs baseball game on **Thursday, August 22** on the Party Porch, 1st base line, at Coca-Cola Park, 1050 Ironpigs Way, Allentown hosted by B.V.M. Choir. Food will be available from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Game starts at 7:05 p.m. Cost is \$37 per person and is due at time of reservation. **Deadline for reservations is Sunday, July 1**. For more information call Jane Spengler at 610-262-8138. You can place your payment in the church collection basket to hold your tickets (reservations). Please make checks payable to the church.

LENTEN FISH DINNER: St. John Fisher Church will be hosting a Fish Dinner **this Friday, March 8 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 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.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS: We invite and encourage you to participate in the offertory procession at Mass. This is especially appropriate if you have requested the Mass, or if the Mass is being offered for a family member or friend. If you would like to present the gifts, please see one of the greeters at least fifteen minutes before Mass begins.

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BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 24, 2019

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