

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 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.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

Every parishioner living in the parish boundaries is 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 Parish
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - April 14, 2019

Daily Masses for Holy Week

April 15, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Fred Hurban	Tina Hafner
April 16, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Andrea Dias	Linda and Vinnie Santucci and Family
April 17, Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	†Connie Marth	Brother Boniface

Easter Triduum

April 18, Holy Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Mass of the Lord's Supper – Intentions of Monsignor Koons	
April 19, Good Friday	3:00 p.m.	Celebration of the Lord's Passion	
April 20, Holy Saturday	8:00 p.m.	†Robin Hall	Deb and John Heckenberger

Easter Sunday

April 21, Easter Sunday	8:00 a.m.	†Living and deceased parishioners
	10:30 a.m.	Intentions of Monsignor Koons

Next Week's Schedule:

	Lector:	Euch. Min.:	Altar Servers:	Greeters:
April 18, Thu.	7:00 p.m. L. Nemeth	B. Kosman/L. Kosciolk/T. Melosky	J. Warren/N. Bischof/A. Nederostek/N. Millan	M. Bitenc/L. Stefaniak
April 19, Fri.	3:00 p.m. M. Heist	C. Walsh	S. Kroll/M. Hartman	M. Bitenc/M.A. Weaver
April 20, Sat.	8:00 p.m. S. Parker	C. Marth	J. & M. Warren/A. Nederostek/N. Millan	M. Bitenc/I. Gollatz
	Readers: E. Hozza/D. Hozza			Candles: B. & M. Skweir
April 21, Sun.	8:00 a.m. A. Molchany	K. Bennett/N. Birozik/F. Cerino	S. Kroll/W. Cuchran/K. Cuchran	J. Haldeman/M. Rossini
	10:30 a.m. J. Santee	L. Assante/D. Maron/M. Sommer	A. & G. Miletics/G. Heidecker/A. Colandrea	J. DelVecchio/R. Marakovits

Sanctuary Lights are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of William Kotoris requested by daughter, Nikki.

Please pray for God's blessings and the gift of good health for the sick people of our parish.

Dear Parishioners,

This week begins Holy Week, the most sacred time in the Church's liturgical calendar. In our culture today, the celebration of the Lord's Nativity, that is, Christmas, is very much emphasized. We often hear regrets expressed about how the sacred character of Christmas is diminished by a consumerist and materialist culture in which "getting things" is so emphasized that the 'mystery' of the Incarnation is almost overlooked. I think that Holy Week, and especially the Sacred Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, is something of an antidote to these cultural influences which accidentally or even purposely usurp the holiness of our Catholic liturgical seasons: candy and dyed eggs can go only so far in sustaining consumer interests!

In fact, Holy Week, beginning with this Palm Sunday, and the subsequent Easter season, are the holiest times of the year for all Christians, and the Church provides special liturgies during Holy Week to emphasize the roots of our faith grounded in the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Wednesday of Holy Week, all the priests of the diocese gather at the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena in Allentown to celebrate the "Chrism Mass" at which the Holy Oils, used to anoint those being baptized (Oil of the Catechumens) and those who are ill (Oil of the Sick) and the Sacred Chrism - used to anoint those being confirmed, ordained to Holy Orders, or the anointing of a church altar - are blessed at Mass by Bishop Schlert. The Chrism Mass is open to ALL people of the diocese, it begins at 10:30AM, and you are WELCOME and ENCOURAGED to attend and experience this special Mass of Holy Week.

On Holy Thursday evening, the Mass of the Lord's Supper is celebrated, concluding with a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to a special place of repose for adoration. The tabernacle is emptied, signifying the absence of the Lord which began with his arrest on the night of the Jewish Passover. The Mass of the Lord's Supper primarily celebrates the institution of the Holy Eucharist as well as the Ordination of the Apostles who were commissioned to sacramentally perpetuate the events which were to follow that night and the days when our Lord was crucified, died and was buried.

Good Friday, on which day the Church celebrates the "Passion of the Lord," sees the church celebrate a liturgy which looks somewhat like Mass, but it is not a Mass. In olden days, it used to be called the "Mass of the Pre-sanctified" meaning that the Holy Eucharist which is received on that day is NOT consecrated on Good Friday, but the evening before. The service of Good Friday recalls the death of the Lord, and it begins with the somewhat dramatic prostration of the priest on the floor of the Church, symbolizing sorrow for the sins for which our Lord was crucified. The sacraments of the Church, from ancient days, are not celebrated on Good Friday and Holy Saturday, except in the case of the dying, and the necessity of hearing confessions prior to Easter.

The Holy Saturday Easter Vigil also begins dramatically with the lighting of a blessed fire from which the Easter (or Paschal) Candle is lit in the darkness of night. This symbolizes the light of Christ enlightening the darkness of our world, and in giving His Eternal Light, he gives His humanity as the perfect sacrifice which takes away our sins.

All the Holy Week liturgies lead up to the joy of Easter Sunday. We may rejoice that this remains principally a Sacred Solemnity, a day to experience anew the joy of having been redeemed by the death AND resurrection of Jesus Christ.

I encourage you to join in celebrating these sacred liturgies here in our Church, a home away from home (whether home is the house where we live, or our eternal home in heaven) with the family that is Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish. I encourage the parents of our children, especially those preparing to receive First Holy Communion, to bring your children to Church these sacred days; it is their heritage and their 'inheritance' as children of God. Please do not deprive them of the 'mysteries of faith', which, although not fully comprehensible to our minds, will always be comprehensible to our hearts, through the grace and power of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

Monsignor Koons

- 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.
- Stations of the Cross** : Wednesday after Mass
- Choir Rehearsal** : Wednesday after Stations
- Breakfast** : Sunday, April 28
- Baptismal Preparation Class**: Wed., May 1, 5:30 p.m.
- PICNIC PIEROGIE MAKING** : Fri., Aug. 2 & Sat., Aug. 3
- BVM Night – Iron Pigs** : Thursday, August 22, 2019

Stations of the Cross: Wednesday, April 17 after the 7:00 p.m. Mass.

Blessing of Food: Baskets containing **Easter foods** may be brought to church to be blessed on Holy Saturday, April 20 at 12:00 noon. All are welcome.

Please Note: The rectory office will be closed Holy Thursday, April 18, thru Easter Tuesday, April 23, for Holy Week and Easter. The rectory office will reopen Wednesday, April 24.

Lenten Regulations: You are reminded that **Good Friday is a day of Fast and Abstinence.** All Catholics 18-59 are bound to limit themselves to one full meatless meal and avoid food between meals.

Operation Rice Bowl: This week's menu: Sliced Apple with Chunky Peanut Butter, Vanilla Pudding OR Egg Salad on Rye Bread, Purple Grapes.

Holy Land Collection: On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual collection for the Holy Land. We ask you to be generous. Your financial contribution will support the works of the Catholic Community in the Middle East and to protect the Holy Places and Christian shrines. There is an envelope in your packet for this special collection.



Decorating the Church for Easter: We will begin decorating the church for Easter Sunday on Good Friday, April 19, after the 3:00 p.m. services. Anyone wishing to help, your assistance would be appreciated.

Holy Week Confession Schedule

Monday, April 15	7:00 a.m. – 7:45 a.m.
Tuesday, April 16	7:00 a.m. – 7:45 a.m.
Wednesday, April 17	6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.
(following stations)	7:45 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Good Friday, April 19	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Holy Saturday, April 20	12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.



Pierogie Making for the Church Picnic: MARK YOUR CALENDARS. We will be making pierogies for the church picnic on **Friday, August 2 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass and Saturday, August 3 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.**

Slovak Kolach Sale: Your Easter Season Slovak Kolach orders will be ready for pickup **this weekend, Saturday, April 13 and Sunday, April 14** in the church social hall.



Sunday Breakfast: Breakfast will be served after both Sunday Masses **on Sunday, April 28.** 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.



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.



Young-at-Heart News: The next meeting of the Young-at-Heart will be Tuesday, April 30, in the church social hall. Bus Trip: Dover Casino on April 24/25 overnight. You do not have to be a member to come along. For tickets please call Louise at 610-262-6308 or Bella at 610-262-2673.

Assumption B.V.M. Church Annual Parish Picnic
Sunday, September 8, 2019
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 Large Flowerheads"
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Easter Flower Sale: Boy Scout Troop 79 St John RC Church, Ruch and Chestnut St., Whitehall (Stiles) will hold their annual Easter Flower Sale beginning Wednesday, April 17, 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Thursday, April 18, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Friday, April 19, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Saturday, April 20, 8:00 a.m. to ? Please Support this Catholic Scout Troop.



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

Reichel Funeral Home

Northampton, PA 18067 Phone: 610-261-0440

Kevin S. Reichel, Owner/Director

www.reichelfuneralhome.com

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BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 28, 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