

# 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  
**Mrs. Susan Parker, 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

**Rectory Fax:** 610-262-1613  
**Website:** www.bvm-northampton.com  
**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.  
Weekdays 8:00 a.m.

Holy Days 7:00 p.m. [Vigil]  
6:45 a.m.; 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 are always welcome and are asked to register at the rectory. Please notify the rectory if you change your address, phone number, or move out of the parish.

## Communion to the Sick

Communion is taken to the sick after the Sunday Masses and during the month. The Anointing of the Sick is celebrated with individual homebound parishioners several times a year or at your request. 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.**

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish  
First Sunday of Advent – December 1, 2019**

**Daily Masses**

Dec. 02, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Zoj Gegvata	M/M Lek Gegvata
Dec. 03, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†William Procanyn	Rose Hurban and Family
Dec. 04, Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	†Patricia Reynolds	Barbara Pengitore
Dec. 05, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Members of Our Memorial Fund	
Dec. 06, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Louis Pengitore, Sr.	Daughter, Barbara
Dec. 07, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†Michael Hillpot	Louis Tepes, Jr. Family
Dec. 08, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	†Anna Plata	Daughters
	10:30 a.m.	Living & deceased members of our Parish	

**Next Week's Schedule: Lector:**

Dec. 07, Sat.	4:00 p.m.	A. Molchany
Dec. 08, Sun.	8:00 a.m.	T. Kovalchik
	10:30 a.m.	D. Heckenberger

**Euch. Min.:**

L. Assante
C. Marth
J. Nicosia

**Altar Servers:**

A. Colandrea/M. Warren
N. Millan
G. Heidecker

**Greeters:**

S. Bankos/L. Stefaniak
G. Farkas/L. Gehringer
A. Fry/L. Shaak

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

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

# Good News!

December 1, 2019  
First Sunday of Advent (A)  
Is 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

Be prepared! But for what? Since we're entering the season of Advent, we might think that we're called to prepare for the birth of Jesus. Advent is certainly the time to prepare for Christmas, but it's much more than that, for God comes into our lives in many different ways, even today. We see evidence of that when, working together, we rebuild not only cities, as Isaiah describes in the first reading, but relationships in families, parishes, and countries.

Remarkable changes take place in our lives when, as Paul bids us, we "throw off the works of darkness," works of rivalry and jealousy (Romans 13:12). God comes to us every day with the power we need to improve ourselves and our world. God often comes quietly in ways so ordinary we might miss them. That is the point of Jesus' insistence to "stay awake" and "be prepared" (Matthew 24:42, 44).

God certainly came long ago as a human being. That was a one-time-only event. We believe that God will come again at the end. That, too, will happen only once. But God comes more often than this. God comes every day to help us be our better selves. This is what the Advent readings tell us.

What can we do? How are we to prepare for God's coming? Today's readings tell us. We must work for the peace that Isaiah describes; we must throw off the works of darkness, as Paul instructs; and we must do as Jesus tells us: stay awake and be prepared.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

## Calendar:

**Monday – December 2**

Advent Weekday  
Is 4:2-6  
Mt 8:5-11

**Tuesday – December 3**

St. Francis Xavier, Priest  
Is 11:1-10  
Lk 10:21-24

**Wednesday – December 4**

Advent Weekday  
Is 25:6-10a  
Mt 15:29-37

**Thursday – December 5**

Advent Weekday  
Is 26:1-6  
Mt 7:21, 24-27

**Friday – December 6**

Advent Weekday  
Is 29:17-24  
Mt 9:27-31

**Saturday – December 7**

St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
Is 30:19-21, 23-26  
Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

**Sunday – December 8**

Second Sunday of Advent  
Is 11:1-10  
Rom 15:4-9  
Mt 3:1-12

<b>Rel. Ed. Classes</b>	: Sundays, 9:00 - 10:05 a.m.
<b>7<sup>th</sup> &amp; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Rel. Ed.</b>	: Wednesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>	: Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
<b>First Friday Adoration</b>	: Friday, December 6
<b>Donut/Giving Sunday</b>	: Sunday, December 8
<b>Children's Mass</b>	: Sunday, Dec. 22, 10:30 a.m.
<b>Prayer Shawl Meeting</b>	: Tuesday, January 21, 10 a.m.
<b>Breakfast</b>	: Sunday, January 26, 2020
<b>Confirmation</b>	: Thursday, March 5, 4:30 p.m.
<b>Church Picnic</b>	: Sunday, September 13, 2020



**Lighting of the Advent Wreath [Week One] – [Before the evening meal, the family gathers at table.]**

**Leader:** A flower shall blossom from the root of Jesse; the glory of God will fill the earth. **All:** All creation will

be filled with the saving power of God. **Leader:** O Emmanuel, Savior of Israel, you are God's Son among us. **R** - Come and save us, O Lord our God. **Leader:** O Wisdom of the Most High God, you rule with gentle might. **R** - Come and save us, O Lord our God. **Leader:** O Lord of Israel, you gave us the Law on Sinai. **R** - Come and save us, O Lord our God.

**Leader:** Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN.** [One purple candle is lighted and left burning during the meal.]

**First Friday Adoration:** The First Friday of December, December 6, our parish will offer a holy hour of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The 8 o'clock Mass will conclude with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and will last one hour concluding with Benediction at 9:15 a.m.

**Attention Eucharistic Ministers:** The 2020 "Visiting the Sick and Homebound" books are here. They are located in the church vestibule. Your name is on your book.

**Attention Lectors:** The 2020 Lector Workbooks which begin on December 1, the First Sunday of Advent, are here. They are located in the church vestibule. Your name is on your book.

**Children's 2020 Envelopes** will be located in the Church Social Hall this weekend, November 30/December 1. Please look for yours and take them home. Religious Education Student envelopes (grades 2-7) will be placed in the Religious Education Classrooms; Good Shepherd Student envelopes (grades 2-8) will be taken to the School.

**Winter Weather:** With the return to colder temperatures and the possibility of snow and ice, we ask everyone to exercise caution when using the front church steps. A recommended alternative would be to enter thru the side entrance and use the interior Steps/Elevator.



**Stocking Stuffer:** Need a stocking stuffer? Or just a little something to add to a gift for that special person? The Parish Fund Raising Committee is sponsoring a monthly lottery calendar for January

2020. 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 November 30/December 1, December 7/8, 21/22 and 28/29. Also, on Sunday, December 15. Calendars must be purchased prior to January 1, 2020.

**Memorial Fund:** Gratefully the parish acknowledges the following memorial contribution **in memory of Janet Pavlick:** \$25 Martha Jandrisevits.

**Baptism:** We are happy to welcome Chase Henry Stevens, child of Darrin and Jourdan Stevens, who began to share in the life of Jesus last Saturday in the Sacrament of Baptism. We will continue to pray for Chase Henry as he continues to grow in our faith.



**Slovak Kolach Sale:** Order pick up date is **next weekend, Saturday, December 7, and Sunday, December 8.**

**Oplatky (Christmas Wafers)** will be available (free will offering) in the church social hall all weekends during Advent. The 2020 Calendars, which are free, are now available in the church social hall, compliments of Schisler Funeral Home.

**The Annual Diocesan Collection** for the National Appeal of Retired Religious takes place **next weekend, December 7/8.** Envelopes are contained in your packet for this special collection.



**Remember the Needy:** Please take a tag from the "Giving Tree" which is located in the Church vestibule. The tags list items needed by the Catholic Charities Office to care for the needs of babies and their families. **Please place your unwrapped gifts under the tree by December 10** and we will take them to the Catholic Charities office.

**Hams/Turkeys Needed:** The Northampton Area Food Bank is looking for donations of Turkeys or Hams to distribute to needy families for Christmas. Anyone interested in donating is asked to please call the church rectory between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at 610-262-2559.

**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.

**Homeschool Families** of the Diocese of Allentown are invited to a First Friday gathering on Thursday, December 5 at St. Anne Church, 450 E. Washington Avenue, Bethlehem. Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 p.m. by Father Kevin Bobbin, Chaplain to the Homeschool Community. Mass will be followed by a period of Adoration and Confessions until 7:00 and then an informal social. Please join us for this opportunity to meet each other as we come together for prayer and fellowship. Any question please contact Father Kevin Bobbin at 610-866-0791 x332 or email: [kbobbin@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:kbobbin@allentowndiocese.org).

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## BREAKFAST

Sunday, January 26, 2020

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