

# 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  
Second Sunday of Advent – December 8, 2019**

**Daily Masses**

Dec. 09, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Joseph Sentiwany, Sr.	Kathy & Joel Pattishall
Dec. 10, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Andrea Dias	Lynda Janis
Dec. 11, Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	L/D members of the Sosnowski & Cherski Families	Bernadette Chambers & Family
Dec. 12, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Margaret E. Nederostek	Daughter, Betty, & Family
Dec. 13, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Sons and Daughters of John & Mary Wanisko	John & Elizabeth Kuchera
Dec. 14, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†Lucille Mikulcik	Husband, Paul, & Family
Dec. 15, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	†Helen Marhefka	Mrs. Joseph Szoke
	10:30 a.m.	Living & deceased members of our Parish	

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

Dec. 14, Sat. 4:00 p.m. C. Fisher  
Dec. 15, Sun. 8:00 a.m. J. Santee  
10:30 a.m. E. Hozza

**Euch. Min.:**

B. Fritz  
N. Birosik  
M. Sommer

**Altar Servers:**

A. Nederostek/M. Hartman/L. Hartman  
S. Kroll/A. Kraus  
A. Miletics/B. Woolslayer

**Greeters:**

C. Kovacs/P. Madea  
B. Cwitkowitz  
B. Skweir/M. Skweir

**Sanctuary Lights** are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of John Filipovits requested by Wife, Ann.

**Please pray** for God's blessings and the gift of good health for the sick people of our parish. Also remember in your prayers Carol A. Strohe, daughter of Carl and Hilda Wunderler, who died recently.

# Good News!

December 8, 2019  
Second Sunday of Advent (A)  
Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

At times, God's presence among us is so unspectacular that we need someone else to point it out, someone with a loud voice. That seems to have been the role of John the Baptist. His lifestyle and his message certainly caught everyone's attention. But when he caught their attention, he directed it away from himself to the kingdom of heaven.

He called it a kingdom because that was the government those of his time knew. (Jesus, too, often spoke of his kingdom.) However, the kingdom John referred to is not one of military power and privilege but a "peaceable kingdom," where animals that are normally feared as predators live with each other in peace. A beautiful picture, but is it a possibility or just fantasy? The people believed that some day one would be born who would rule this way, thus enabling them to become a genuine peaceable kingdom. This kingdom would not be made of animals, but of women and men of different races, cultures, and beliefs; women and men who would recognize each other's God-given uniqueness and would create genuine unity from this diversity.

John the Baptist declared that this kingdom "is at hand." Is it? Do we strive to live peacefully with the great diversity of people of our world? Or are we smug as we proclaim: "We have Abraham as our father" (Matthew 3:9), so we are right and you are wrong. The people of John's time should have known better. We should, too. John cries out to them—and to us: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" (Matthew 3:2).

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

## Calendar:

**Monday – December 9**

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Gn 3:9–15, 20  
Eph 1:3–6, 11–12  
Lk 1:26–38

**Tuesday – December 10**

Advent Weekday  
Is 40:1–11 / Mt 18:12–14

**Wednesday – December 11**

Advent Weekday  
Is 40:25–31  
Mt 11:28–30

**Thursday – December 12**

Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Zec 2:14–17  
Lk 1:26–38

**Friday – December 13**

St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr  
Is 48:17–19 / Mt 11:16–19

**Saturday – December 14**

St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church  
Sir 48:1–4, 9–11  
Mt 17:9a, 10–13

**Sunday – December 15**

Third Sunday of Advent  
Is 35:1–6a, 10  
Jas 5:7–10 Mt 11:2–11

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



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

**Leader:** Father, to you belong the seasons and the ages. **All:** *You are the beginning and the end of all things.*

**Leader:** O Flower of Jesse's stem, you are the sign of salvation. **R - Come and deliver us; do not delay.** **Leader:** O Key of David, you open and close by your power. **R - Come and deliver us; do not delay.** **Leader:** O Daystar, you are the eternal light, the sun of justice. **R - Come and deliver us; do not delay.**

**Leader:** Stir our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

**[Two purple candles are lighted and left burning during the meal.]**

**Christmas Eve:** On Christmas Eve starting at 8:30 p.m. the Choir will sing Christmas Carols. Come and enjoy the caroling followed by our Eucharistic Celebration at 9:00 p.m. Merry Christmas!

**Children's 2020 Envelopes** are located in the Church vestibule. Please look for yours and take them home. Religious Education Student envelopes (grades 2-7) were placed in the Religious Education Classrooms; Good Shepherd Student envelopes (grades 2-8) were 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 December 7/8, 21/22 and 28/29. Also, on Sunday, December 15. Calendars must be purchased prior to January 1, 2020.

**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 **this weekend, December 7/8.** Envelopes are contained in your packet for this special collection.



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

**"Greeter" Needed** to greet people as they come into church and also hand out bulletins after the 8:00 a.m. mass on Sundays. If you are interested in helping the parish through this act of service, please call the rectory at 610-262-2559.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

Christmas Eve	4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.
Christmas Day	8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

**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.



**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.

**Church Decorating For Christmas:** Anyone who would like to help with the Christmas decorating is asked to come to the Church on **Saturday, December 21, at 8:00 a.m.**

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Check One:**

New Registration  Change of Address

Moving out of Parish  Request Envelopes

**Request envelopes (returned home from college)**

Please drop in the collection basket or mail to the Rectory

**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, 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