

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
Third Sunday of Lent – March 14/15, 2020**

Daily Masses

Mar. 16, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Debbie Nothstein	Louis Tepes, Jr. Family
Mar. 17, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Mary Bankos	Daughter, Ann
Mar. 18, Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	†Michael James Janis	Niece, Dahlia Janis
Mar. 19, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Robin Hall	Nancy Birosik
Mar. 20, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Theresa Liggio	John Liggio and Family
Mar. 21, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†Jonathan Keller	Family
Mar. 22, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Living & deceased members of our Parish	
	10:30 a.m.	†Andrew and Margaret Nederostek	Son, Stephen, Christine and Family

Next Week's Schedule:

Mar. 21, Sat. 4:00 p.m.
Mar. 22, Sun. 8:00 a.m.
 10:30 a.m.

Lector:

D. Hozza
A. Molchany
S. Parker

Euch. Min.:

C. Marth
F. Cerino
D. Maron

Altar Servers:

A. Nederostek/J. Warren
N. Millan
G. Heidecker

Greeters:

M. Bitenc/I. Gollatz
J. Haldeman/M. Rossini
T. Kush/R. Marakovits

Sanctuary Lights are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of Mary Bankos requested by daughter, Ann.

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

Good News!

March 15, 2020

Third Sunday of Lent (A)

Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Water flows through this Sunday's readings. In the passage from Exodus, the Hebrews cry out for the water so necessary for life. In the Gospel, Jesus speaks of living water that provides eternal life.

The exchange between the Hebrews and Moses is straightforward and startling. Physical thirst led them to question the divine care that miraculously delivered them from the hands of Egyptian oppressors. We shouldn't be too quick to shake our fingers at them. How many times have we looked past blessings we take for granted, only to focus on lesser immediate needs? These desert people are our ancestors in more ways than one.

The Gospel of John is most interesting. Jesus is in Samaria, a land hated by the Jews. There he initiates a conversation with an inhabitant of the town of Sychar, someone who is an outcast in three major ways. She is a woman—no self-respecting man would be alone with a woman he didn't know. She is a Samaritan—Jews considered Samaritans unclean. And she is promiscuous—his own honor might be at risk. The woman's questionable social status does not prevent Jesus from engaging her, first in social etiquette ("Give me a drink" [4:7]), then in a theological exchange ("Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst" [4:14]).

The Hebrews experienced God's saving action in their exodus, but they lacked trust. The woman, hated by the Jews, was an outcast of her own people, yet she believed. How do we respond to the water?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Calendar:

Monday – March 16

Lenten Weekday
2 Kgs 5:1-15b
Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday – March 17

Lenten Weekday
Dn 3:25, 34-43
Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday – March 18

Lenten Weekday
Dt 4:1, 5-9
Mt 5:17-19

Thursday – March 19

St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16
Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

Friday – March 20

Lenten Weekday
Hos 14:2-10 / Mk 12:28-34

Saturday – March 21

Lenten Weekday
Hos 6:1-6
Lk 18:9-14

Sunday – March 22

Fourth Sunday of Lent
1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a
Eph 5:8-14
Jn 9:1-41

Rel. Ed. Classes..... **Canceled this weekend**
Prayer Shawl Meeting..... 3rd Tues. of month @ 10 a.m.
7th & 8th Grade Rel. Ed..... **Canceled this week**
Stations of the Cross..... Wednesdays, after Mass
Choir Rehearsal..... Wednesdays, after Stations
Adoration..... First Fridays 8:15 – 9:15 a.m.
Kolach Orders Due..... Monday, March 16
Children’s Mass..... Sunday, March 22, 10:30 a.m.
Kolach Pick-Up Weekend.. Saturday/Sunday, April 4/5
First Holy Communion..... Saturday, May 2, 9:00 a.m.
May Procession..... Sunday, May 3, 2020
BVM Night – Iron Pigs..... Thursday, August 13, 2020
Church Picnic..... Sunday, September 13, 2020

Lenten Activities: Mass: Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.; Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 8:00 a.m. **Stations of the Cross:** Wednesdays beginning on March 4 after the 7:00 p.m. Mass. **Confessions:** Saturdays from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

A Mass of Remembrance will be offered on Wednesday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m. to remember loved ones who have passed away. Please call the rectory if you are interested in attending, with the name of the person you would like remembered, and the number of family members attending the Mass. Immediately after the Mass of Remembrance you all are invited to a reception in the church social hall.

Operation Rice Bowl is a wonderful way to bring the spirit of Lenten sacrifice home. Operation Rice Bowl allows millions of our starving brothers and sisters to benefit and it doesn't cost us a cent! To participate, choose one night a week to eat a sacrificial meal. We will publish suggested meals in the bulletin each week. The meal is designed to imitate the quantity of food eaten by the poor. Take the cost of the meal, subtract it from what you normally would have spent for dinner that day, and give the difference to Operation Rice Bowl. **This week's menu: Corn Chowder, Rye Crisps, Fresh Apple OR Baked Cheddar Cheese Stuffed Potato, Pineapple Chunks.**

In Proactive Response to Virus, Pennsylvania

Bishops Lift Obligation to Attend Mass: Effective immediately, and until further notice, Bishop Alfred Schlert, in union with the Bishops of Pennsylvania, has dispensed the faithful of the Diocese of Allentown from the obligation to attend Saturday Vigil/Sunday Masses. Despite the suspension of the obligation to attend, Masses will remain open to the public for those who wish to attend. "The clergy and religious of the Diocese of Allentown continue to stand ready to provide steadfast support and prayers during this difficult time," said Bishop Schlert. "Just as St. Joseph protected the Holy Family, we turn to St. Joseph to protect us at this time of uncertainty and pandemic."

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

Slovak Kolach Sale: Your Easter Slovak Kolach **orders are due by Monday, March 16.** Please complete the pink colored form and return it with your payment. The cost is \$16.00 each. Order pick up is scheduled for Saturday, April 4 and Sunday, April 5.



Sunday Breakfast: Breakfast will be served after both Sunday Masses **Sunday, March 22**. Please support this fundraising effort of the parish and enjoy a homemade breakfast with your friends. Menu includes: Fresh toast, pancakes, scrambled eggs or omelette, sausage or bacon, hash browns, toast, juice and coffee/tea. Cost \$7.00 adults/\$3.00 children. **Tickets on sale at the door.** Thank you all for supporting this parish fundraiser.

Canceled

Good Shepherd Catholic School News

Stations of the Cross and Benediction will be held for the Good Shepherd Catholic School students and parishioners every Wednesday during Lent beginning on March 11 at 1:30 in Queenship of Mary Church. Good Shepherd Catholic 8th grade students will present Living Stations on **Wednesday, April 8, at 1:00** in Queenship of Mary Church. All are welcome to attend Stations and/or Living Stations.

Registrations: Good Shepherd Catholic School is now accepting registrations for the 2020-2021 school year for grades Kindergarten through 8, Preschool 3, and Pre-K 4. For more information, or to schedule a tour please contact our Advancement Director Mrs. Lauri Tripaldi at 610-262-9171 or email her at mrstripaldigscs@gmail.com.



Annual Catholic War Veterans Poppy

Drive: The Catholic War Veterans of Post 454, Northampton, will conduct their **Annual Poppy Drive at all Masses the weekend of March 28/29.** Your donations benefit hospitalized veterans at the VA Medical Centers in Wilkes Barre and other local CWV sponsored community functions. These include poster contests, a spelling bee, and tuition assistance for elementary school children attending Diocesan Catholic School. We thank you in advance for your generosity! Catholic Veterans (men and women) interested in joining CWV Post 454 may request a membership application from any of our members during the Poppy Drive, or call the Post at 610-261-2055 for more information.



Young-at-Heart News: The next meeting of the Young-at-Heart on Tuesday, March 24 in the church social hall **has been canceled.**

Slovak Kolach Sale: Your Easter Slovak Kolach **orders are due by Monday, March 16.** Please complete the pink colored form and return it with your payment. The cost is \$16.00 each. Additional order forms are available in the church vestibule. Order pick up is scheduled for Saturday, April 4 and Sunday, April 5.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

MacArthur Family Medicine

Joseph F. Cieccko, D.O.

A practice of Lehigh Valley Physician Group
 3691 Crescent Court East, Whitehall 610-434-9561

Please patronize our bulletin advertisers