

# 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

**Rectory Fax:** 610-262-1613  
**Website:** www.bvm-northampton.com

**Religious Education:** 610-262-7343  
**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**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent – March 21/22, 2020**

**Msgr. Koons will offer Mass for**

|                    |                               |                                  |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mar. 23, Monday    | †Lisa Gardner                 | Parents, Ed and Carol Gardner    |
| Mar. 24, Tuesday   | †Judy Eberhart                | Assumption B.V.M. Young-at-Heart |
| Mar. 25, Wednesday | †Frank Serensits              | Joseph and Catherine Gabryluk    |
| Mar. 26, Thursday  | †Robert Rybitski              | Connie Kovacs                    |
| Mar. 27, Friday    | †Vincent Rodick               | Sister, Rita Pavlick, and Family |
| Mar. 28, Saturday  | †James Kovacs                 | Rita Pavlick                     |
| Mar. 29, Sunday    | †Lawra and Fransisco Iamalteo | Rossini Family                   |

**Sanctuary Lights** are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of the sons and daughters of John and Mary Wanisko requested by John and Elizabeth Kuchera.

**Please pray** for God's blessings and the gift of good health for the sick people of our parish. Also remember in your prayers Stephen Paukovits, Sr., father of Stephen and James Paukovits, and Louise Procany who died recently.

# Good News!

March 22, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)

1 Sm 16:1b, 6–7, 10–13a; Eph 5:8–14; Jn 9:1–41

**D**o we? Do we really see? Do we understand? There is so much that is simply misunderstood or unnoticed. Little about life is uncomplicated, and even that which is uncomplicated so often slips right by us. This is true about a life lived alone or with others. It is also true about our life with God.

The first reading is an example of this. God will choose one of the sons of Jesse to be king. Will it be the eldest, the rightful heir? If not him, perhaps it will be the brightest one or the most pious. All of these highly valued characteristics would certainly be necessary for one to be an effective king. However, Jesse and his sons did not see in the same way as God. Their youngest brother, the one tending the sheep, would be God's choice. He was the one God wanted, and so David was anointed in the presence of his family.

The Gospel tells another story about seeing. In it, Jesus restores a man's sight. What began as a story about physical blindness and sight then becomes a lesson about seeing and understanding the mystery of God's power as opposed to refusing to see and understand it. No one in the story could claim that the man had not really been blind. Then why did they refuse to acknowledge that God's power had done something marvelous in their presence? But they did refuse. We can, indeed, choose to be blind.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

## Calendar:

### Monday – March 23

Lenten Weekday

Is 65:17–21

Jn 4:43–54

### Tuesday – March 24

Lenten Weekday

Ez 47:1–9, 12

Jn 5:1–16

### Wednesday – March 25

The Annunciation of the Lord

Is 7:10–14; 8:10

Heb 10:4–10

Lk 1:26–38

### Thursday – March 26

Lenten Weekday

Ex 32:7–14

Jn 5:31–47

### Friday – March 27

Lenten Weekday

Wis 2:1a, 12–22

Jn 7:1–2, 10, 25–30

### Saturday – March 28

Lenten Weekday

Jer 11:18–20

Jn 7:40–53

### Sunday – March 29

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ez 37:12–14

Rom 8:8–11

Jn 11:1–45

|  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| Rel. Ed. Classes.....                                | CANCELLED                  |
| Prayer Shawl Meeting.....                            | CANCELLED                  |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Rel. Ed..... | CANCELLED                  |
| Choir Rehearsal.....                                 | CANCELLED                  |
| Adoration.....                                       | First Friday ???           |
| 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        |
| Giving Sunday.....                                   | Sunday, May 10, 2020       |
| BVM Night – Iron Pigs.....                           | Thursday, August 13, 2020  |
| Church Picnic.....                                   | Sunday, September 13, 2020 |

**PARISH WEBSITE-**

**Our parish website is being re-vamped and updated.**

Online giving is now available: you may make a one-time contribution, or a recurring one... and select the category for giving. Go to [Click on the link for online giving.](https://bvm-northampton.com/) <https://bvm-northampton.com/>

**PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE**

Connect to the parish at

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/Assumption.BVM.Northampton.PA>

**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: Broccoli Cheese Soup, Captain's Wafers, Citrus Sections OR Grilled Cheese and Tomato Sandwich on Whole Wheat Bread, Banana and Orange Sections.**

**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: French toast, pancakes, scrambled eggs or omelet, ham, sausage or bacon, hash browns, toast, juice, coffee, tea. Cost \$7.00 adults/\$3.00 children. **Tickets on sale at the door.** Thank you all for supporting this parish fundraiser.

**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.



**Cancelled**

**Good Shepherd Catholic School News**

**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](mailto:mrstripaldigscs@gmail.com).

**Slovak Kolach Sale:** Order pick up is scheduled for Saturday, April 4 and Sunday, April 5.

**Assumption B.V.M. Church Annual Parish Picnic  
Sunday, September 13, 2020**

**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  
"Flirtin' With The Mob"  
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC**

O Mary, you always brighten our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining steadfast in faith. O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee. Intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician, for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable, and for those who have died. Intercede also for those charged with protecting the health and safety of others and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure. Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, so as to lead us, through the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen. Under thy protection we seek refuge, O Holy Mother of God. In our needs, despise not our petitions, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

*Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis*  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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