

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: Ms. Pamela Russo, MSW, MS
Secretary for Youth Protection
Telephone: 610-871-5200 Ext. 2204
Email: prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Courage: 610-334-9147

Diocesan Website: www.allentowndiocese.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 5/6, 2020

Daily Masses

Dec. 07, Monday	8:00 a.m. †Rosemarie Meiley	Rich and Rita Spanitz
Dec. 08, Tuesday	8:00 a.m. †Anna Plata	Daughters
	7:00 p.m. Living and deceased parishioners	
Dec. 09, Wednesday	8:00 a.m. †Patricia Reynolds	Barbara Pengitore
Dec. 10, Thursday	8:00 a.m. †Sons and Daughters of John and Mary Wanisko	John and Elizabeth Kuchera
Dec. 11, Friday	8:00 a.m. †Richard Shaak	Pete Novelli
Dec. 12, Saturday	4:00 p.m. †Lucille Mikulcik	Husband, Paul, and Family
Dec. 13, Sunday	8:00 a.m. †Margaret E. Nederostek	Daughter, Betty, and Family
	10:30 a.m. Living and deceased parishioners	

Sanctuary Lights are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of Stephen Kerbacher, Sr. requested by wife, Helen, and family.

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

Good News!

December 6, 2020

Second Sunday of Advent (B)

Is 40:1–5, 9–11; 2 Pt 3:8–14; Mk 1:1–8

The admonition in the title of this reflection is found in the reading from Isaiah and in the Gospel passage. Isaiah describes a long line of exiles returning to Jerusalem after many hard years in Babylon. God leads them back home. In preparation for God's and the people's entry, the way is made clear: "Every valley shall be lifted up...The rugged land shall be a plain" (Isaiah 40:4). The road is repaired, just as we might do if someone important were coming to town. The Gospel writer reinterprets this passage. Instead of repairing an actual roadway, the words of John the Baptist prepare for the entrance of Jesus into his public ministry. Despite their differences, both passages speak of the "way of the Lord," which is the way of salvation.

The people are told they will get a new start. In the first reading it will be after exile; in the Gospel it is the new ministry of Jesus. Even St. Peter refers to this newness. He calls it "new heavens and a new earth" (2 Peter 3:13). He goes on to explain what this means. It will be existence "in which righteousness dwells." Saint Peter further states that this will come to pass on "the day of the Lord," the day when God's promises will be fulfilled and "all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9–10).

The events described in all three readings unfold because of God's merciful love of all. It is for such a day that we are called to prepare. Are we willing to exert the effort? Are we willing to listen to God's words?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Calendar:

Monday – December 7

St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Is 35:1–10

Lk 5:17–26

Tuesday – December 8

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gn 3:9–15, 20

Eph 1:3–6, 11–12

Lk 1:26–38

Wednesday – December 9

Advent Weekday

Is 40:25–31

Mt 11:28–30

Thursday – December 10

Advent Weekday

Is 41:13–20

Mt 11:11–15

Friday – December 11

Advent Weekday

Is 48:17–19

Mt 11:16–19

Saturday – December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zec 2:14–17

Lk 1:26–38

Sunday – December 13

Third Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1–2a, 10–11

1 Thes 5:16–24

Jn 1:6–8, 19–28

Rel. Ed. Classes..... Sundays, 9:00 – 10:05 a.m.
Bible Study..... **Tuesdays, starting Dec 1st**
7th & 8th Grade Rel. Ed... Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Eucharistic Adoration.... **Wednesdays after Mass**
First Friday Adoration.... **after Mass**
Donut/Giving Sunday.... Sunday, December 13
Confirmation..... Thursday, February 4
Church Picnic..... Sun., **September 12, 2021**



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.]**

Memorial Fund: Gratefully the parish acknowledges the following memorial contributions **in memory of Martha Hozza:** \$300 Kathleen and Jeffrey Warren and Family; \$25 Mary Jandrasits and Family.

Immaculate Conception: This Tuesday, December 8, is the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Attention Eucharistic Ministers: The **2021 "Visiting the Sick and Homebound"** books are here. They are located in the church social hall this weekend. Your name is on your book.

Attention Lectors: The 2021 Lector Workbooks are here. They are located in the church social hall this weekend. Your name is on your book.

Oplatky (Christmas Wafers) will be available (free will offering) in the church social hall all weekends during Advent. The 2021 Calendars, which are free, will also be available in the church social hall during Advent, compliments of Schisler Funeral Home.

The Annual Diocesan Collection for the National Appeal of Retired Religious takes place next weekend, December 12/13. Envelopes are contained in your packet for this special collection.

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 2021. 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 12/13, 19/20 and 26/27. Calendars must be purchased prior to January 1, 2021.



Volunteer Gifts: Gifts for the following volunteers will be located in the Church Social Hall **next weekend, December 12/13:** Altar Servers, Breakfast Workers, Church Cleaning Crew Members, Eucharistic Ministers, Finance Committee Members, Funeral Team Members, Greeters, Hospitality Committee Members, Lectors, Choir Members, Picnic Committee Members and Ushers. P.R.E.P. teachers gifts will be located in the classrooms.

"Donut/Giving Sunday": Next Sunday, December 13, our Hospitality Committee will be hosting "Donut/Giving Sunday". Join us after the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Masses for coffee, donuts and fellowship in our social hall. Parishioners are encouraged to bring cans of potatoes, boxes of Jell-O or pudding. Your gifts will be brought to the altar during the preparation of the gifts. As a special treat this month's donuts are being purchased from Krispy Kreme and are being donated by Juliet Manning.

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.

Good Shepherd Catholic School is now accepting registrations for the 2021-2022 school year. We offer full day Preschool and Pre-K programs as well as Kindergarten through grade 8. 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.

Good Shepherd Catholic School is hiring! If you are interested in teaching, and have the proper credentials, call the school office at 610-262-9171 or email Mrs. Parker at mrsparkergscs@gmail.com for more information.

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