

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: 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
Epiphany of the Lord – January 2/3, 2021

Daily Masses

Jan. 04, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Andrew and Maria Majirsky	Family
Jan. 05, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Phyllis Palisi-Reynolds	Barbara Pengitore
Jan. 06, Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	†Susan and Rudolph Bauer	Carol and Gary Houck
Jan. 07, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Rev. Francis Straka	Bon Venture Services
Jan. 08, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†John Pavlick	Martha Jandrisovits
Jan. 09, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†Mary Jane Kovach	Kathleen and Robert Wiswesser
Jan. 10, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	
	10:30 a.m.	†Anna Hartzell	Matthew Krempasky

Sanctuary Lights are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of Rev. Francis P. Straka requested by Joanne and Juliet.

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

Good News!

January 3, 2021

The Epiphany of the Lord (B)

Is 60:1–6; Eph 3:2–3a, 5–6; Mt 2:1–12

Today's Gospel answers this question quite definitively: No! Not everyone saw the guiding star in the sky. Not even those who, presumably, knew the prophecy found in the reading from Isaiah.

That ancient prophet announced to the people of Jerusalem: "Your light has come" (Isaiah 60:1). In fact, he promised them they would be so embraced by that light, they themselves would shine brightly with its radiance. But when the time came, not everyone saw it. Or, having seen it, they did not recognize it.

The people of Jesus' time were not ignorant of these prophecies. They knew what they meant and to whom they referred. Consequently, when the stargazers who saw the light inquired about it, those to whom they inquired knew where to send them. So what was the problem? Why were those men in Jerusalem not excited about the star? Very simply, a new king meant a rival king, and those who had power weren't eager to relinquish it.

We know that not everyone in Israel rejected Jesus. Shepherds had already thrilled at this birth. Someone in Bethlehem had opened his home to this child and his parents. Now we add to them the stargazers from another country. It seems the invitation to come to him is extended to all: political and religious leaders, the unsophisticated and marginalized, the established homeowner, the foreigners in their midst. They are all asked: "Did you see what I saw? What do you think of him?"

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Calendar:

Monday – January 4

*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,
Religious*

1 Jn 3:22–4:6

Mt 4:12–17, 23–25

Tuesday – January 5

*St. John Neumann,
Bishop*

1 Jn 4:7–10

Mk 6:34–44

Wednesday – January 6

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:11–18

Mk 6:45–52

Thursday – January 7

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:19–5:4

Lk 4:14–22a

Friday – January 8

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:5–13

Lk 5:12–16

Saturday – January 9

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:14–21

Jn 3:22–30

Sunday – January 10

Baptism of the Lord

Is 55:1–11

1 Jn 5:1–9

Mk 1:7–11

Rel. Ed. Classes..... Sundays, 9:00 – 10:05 a.m.
 Bible Study..... Tuesdays, after Mass
 7th & 8th Grade Rel. Ed... Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
 First Friday Adoration.... after Mass
 Confirmation..... Thursday, February 4
 Church Picnic..... Sun., **September 12, 2021**



**COOKS WITH COLLARS starting January 15!
 Monsignor Koons needs your help!**

Monsignor Koons will represent Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in COOKS WITH COLLARS, an online cooking competition to raise funds for parishes and Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Allentown. Visit www.cookswithcollars.com (starting on January 15) to see your favorite priests from around the Diocese creating delicious kitchen concoctions. Vote early and vote often (deadline February 15) for our Diocesan top chef! Each vote is just \$10.00. All voting proceeds benefit our parish. Thanks for making Monsignor Koons and Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish a winner!

Rectory Office will be closed on Monday, January 4 for New Year's.

Blessing of a Home on the Epiphany (January 3): The leader begins: ✠ *In the name of the Father.... Peace be with this house and with all who live here.* **All respond:** And also with you. **The leader introduces the blessing:** *During these days of the Christmas season, we keep this feast of Epiphany, celebrating the manifestation of Christ to the Magi, to John in the River Jordan, and to the disciples at the wedding at Cana. Today Christ is manifest to us! Today this home is a holy place. Listen to the words of the holy Gospel according to John: "In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, And without him nothing came to be. And the Word became flesh And he made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. This is the Gospel of the Lord."* **All respond:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. **After a short silence, the leader continues:** *O God, by your heavenly star, you guided those who were wise to your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. May your blessing come to rest on our home and all of us. Make our lives wise with your wisdom, true to your teaching, and enlivened by your love. May your Word made flesh make his home among us. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. AMEN. Everyone then processes from one room to another. In each room, God's blessing is asked on all that takes place in that room. Holy Water is sprinkled. The front and rear door frames are marked: 20 + C + M + B + 21.* [The traditional names of the 3 Kings are: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar.]

Memorial Fund: Gratefully the parish acknowledges the following memorial contributions in memory of **Dorothy Geosits:** \$25 Mike and Sue Spengler; \$25 Linda Stefaniak; \$25 Martha Jandrisevits; \$25 Kathy Fiore; \$50 Diane Stubits; \$50 Jean and Tony Lopsonzski; \$65 Employees at Precision Medical; \$50 Clara and Bruce Burger; \$100 Jerry and Carol Miletics; \$50 Marie Miletics; \$25 Gail and Bruce Brauchle; \$20 Jack and Iona Harhart; \$40 Patricia and David Bollinger; \$25 Lou and Donna Jany; \$50 John and Patti Paukovits.

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 mrsparkegscs@gmail.com for more information.

ASSUMPTION B.V.M. 2020 OFFERING STATEMENTS will be mailed the week of January 11 to those who contributed \$1000 or more during 2020. If you desire a statement of your 2020 contributions and your contributions are under \$1000 please complete this form and drop it in the collection basket any Sunday during the month of January.

ENVELOPE NUMBER: _____
 NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____



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.

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