

# 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**  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent – March 20/21, 2021**

**Daily Masses**

Mar. 22, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Joseph Gasper	Family
Mar. 23, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Mary Alice Roarty	Cindy Simoson
Mar. 24, Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	†Lisa Gardner	Parents, Ed and Carol
	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	†Connie Marth	Thomas and Linda Arnold
Mar. 25, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Robert Weaver	Assumption B.V.M. Young-at-Heart
Mar. 26, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Vincent Rodick	Sister, Rita Pavlick, and family
Mar. 27, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†Ryan Zawada	Parents, Joe & Diane, brother, Joe and sister, Jenny
Mar. 28, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	
	10:30 a.m.	†Richard Shaak	Debra Kay and Joe Bennett

**Sanctuary Lights** are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention 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 Elaine Molchany, Jim Schaeffer, father of Brett Schaeffer, and John Mickley, Jr., father of Jack Mickley, who died recently.

**From the Pastor**

March 21, 2021

*Fifth Sunday of Lent (B)*

Jer 31:31–34; Heb 5:7–9; Jn 12:20–33

Today's Gospel begins with an unusual encounter. We hear that "some Greeks" came to St Philip and told him that they would like to see Jesus. In the Gospels, the word "Greek" could be used to mean people from the land of Greece, but to the Jews, a "Greek" person was a foreigner, an outsider, and wholly incapable of being a Jew, let alone to participate in the greatest Jewish feast of Passover. If they wanted to see what Jewish culture was about, they would travel to Jerusalem at the time of this greatest of Jewish feasts. Being outsiders, however, they wouldn't have been able to go into the Temple itself.

Up until this point in the Gospel, Jesus was often heard to say, "my hour has not yet come." But now he says that it has. He says: "I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? 'Father, save me from this hour?' But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Jesus knew his purpose was to draw all people to himself, to unite them as one family in the house of God. *Jesus said: "I am the Good Shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd."* But the Greeks could not yet come to the feast in Jerusalem. It would only be after Christ is sacrificed on the cross and raised from the dead that the instruction would be given: "go forth and baptize all nations." The "Greeks" would be gathered into the household of God through the one, final sacrifice of Judaism: the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross, the perfect "lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world."

This episode in Saint John's gospel marks a dramatic turning point in the life of Jesus. The outsiders coming to him marks the beginning of the fulfillment of his mission. He knows that his Father's will must be fulfilled, drawing all nations unto himself. But Jesus loved his human life, the Gospels clearly show this. He enjoyed wedding feasts and banquets and dinners; he had close friends and wept when they died. He says he is troubled now, knowing the prospect of his own death was looming close on the horizon, in a place he very much loved and called his "Father's house," the Temple in Jerusalem.

Jesus knows well that we too love life. But each of us must choose either to love one's life in this world above everything else, or to love one's life in God. To define one's ultimate meaning in relation to any reality but God is to live in a state of anxiety and fear because the reality of our lives, however precious, may pass away at any moment. To define one's meaning in relation to life in God brings peace beyond understanding. Even though, like Christ, we may experience the deepest emotions at the death of a loved one or be troubled at the prospect of our own death, the final word is peace. "I have told you this so that you might have peace in me. In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have overcome the world."

Msgr. Koons

**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.  
**Adoration.....** Wednesdays after Mass  
**First Friday Adoration....** after Mass  
**Church Picnic.....** Sun., **September 12, 2021**

### Lenten Activities:

**Mass:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 8:00 a.m.

**Adoration:** Following the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Wednesdays until 9:15 a.m.

**Additional Mass Wednesdays** at 6:30 p.m. followed by **Stations of the Cross** at 7:00 p.m.

**Confessions:** Saturdays from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**Operation Rice Bowl:** This week's menu: Yankee Bean Soup, Saltines, Fresh Orange OR Cheese Ravioli with Tomato Sauce, Peach Slices.



**Slovak Kolach Sale:** Your Easter Slovak Kolach order will be ready for pickup this Friday, March 26 in the church social hall from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. or after the Masses next weekend, March 27/28.



**Night at the Ball Game:** Come and enjoy an Iron Pigs baseball game on Friday, June 25 on the Party Porch, 1<sup>st</sup> base line, at Coca-Cola Park, 1050 Ironpigs Way, Allentown hosted by

B.V.M. Choir. Food will be available from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Game starts at 7:05 p.m. For ticket reservations call Jane Spengler at 610-262-8138. Cost is \$40 per person. Tickets are limited to 40 people per Coca Cola Park Covid requirements. Because of these social distance requirements tickets are limited to 2 per person, first come, first serve.

**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.

**First Eucharist: Pick a First Eucharist Prayer Partner.** Bookmarks are on display in the church vestibule for each child preparing to receive the Holy Eucharist for the first time. On the back of the bookmarks are the dates when the children will receive for their First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

**Good Shepherd Catholic School News:** Registrations are now being accepted for grades K through 8 for the 2021-2022 school year. We are also offering a full day 3 year old and 4 year old Preschool program for next year. Classes are filling up quickly for next year, so if you are interested please call the school at 610-262-9171 to set up a private tour or email our Advancement Director Mrs. Tripaldi at [mrstripaldigscs@gmail.com](mailto:mrstripaldigscs@gmail.com).

**Flower Sale:** Boy Scout Troop #79 of St. John the Baptist Church will have their Easter Flower Sale at the social hall, 3120 Chestnut St., Whitehall, during Holy Week. Wednesday, March 31, 10 am to 6 pm; Thursday, April 1, 9 am to 6 pm; Friday, April 2, 8 am to 6 pm; Saturday, April 3, 8 am to ???

## Calendar:

### **Monday - March 22**

*Lenten Weekday*

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62

Jn 8:1-11

### **Tuesday - March 23**

*Lenten Weekday*

Nm 21:4-9

Jn 8:21-30

### **Wednesday - March 24**

*Lenten Weekday*

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95

Jn 8:31-42

### **Thursday - March 25**

*The Annunciation of the Lord*

Is 7:10-14, 8:10

Heb 10:4-10

Lk 1:26-38

### **Friday - March 26**

*Lenten Weekday*

Jer 20:10-13

Jn 10:31-42

### **Saturday - March 27**

*Lenten Weekday*

Ez 37:21-28

Jn 11:45-56

### **Sunday - March 28**

*Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*

Mk 11:1-10

Is 50:4-7

Phil 2:6-11

Mk 14:1-15:47

### **ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK**

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# Holy Week 2021

## Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

### Northampton, PA

#### Palm Sunday

<b>SAT, March 27 –</b>	<b>Confessions</b> <b>Mass/Blessing of Palms</b> <b>Confessions</b>	<b>3:00 pm – 3:30 pm</b> <b>4:00 pm</b> <b>4:45 pm – end of line</b>
<b>SUN, March 28 –</b>	<b>Mass/Blessing of Palms</b>	<b>8:00 am &amp; 10:30 am</b>

#### Monday - Wednesday of Holy Week

<b>MON, March 29 –</b>	<b>Mass</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>
<b>TUE, March 30 –</b>	<b>Confessions</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>7:00 am – 7:45 am</b> <b>8:00 am</b>
<b>WED, March 31 –</b>	<b>Mass, Exposition and Benediction</b> <b>Confessions</b> <b>Mass</b> <b>Stations of the Cross</b> <b>Confessions</b>	<b>8:00 am</b> <b>8:30 am – 9:00 am</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> <b>7:30 pm – 8:00 pm</b>

#### Holy Thursday

April 1, 2021

<b>Mass of the Lord's Supper</b> <b>Adoration</b> <b>Night Prayer</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b> <b>8:00 pm – 11:00 pm</b> <b>10:45 pm</b>
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#### Good Friday

April 2, 2021

<b>Confessions</b> <b>Service of the Passion</b> <b>with Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion</b>	<b>1:30 pm – 2:30 pm</b> <b>3:00 pm</b>
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#### Holy Saturday

April 3, 2021

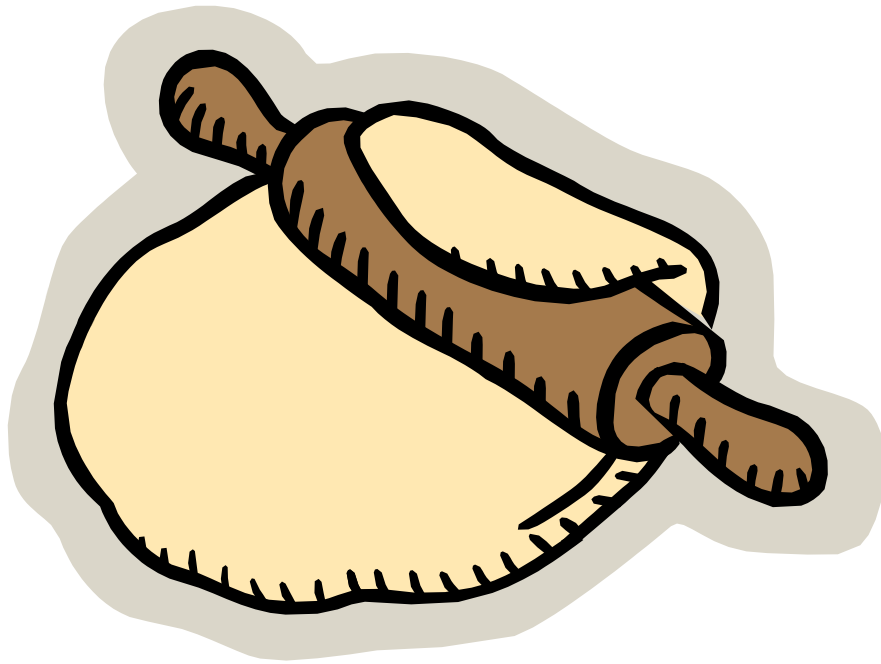
<b>Confessions</b> <b>Blessing of Food</b> <b>Solemn Vigil of Easter</b>	<b>11:00 am – 12:00 Noon</b> <b>12:00 Noon</b> <b>8:00 pm (no 4:00 pm Mass)</b>
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#### Solemnity of the Resurrection - Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021

<b>Masses</b>	<b>8:00 am &amp; 10:30 am</b>
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## **SLOVAK KOLACH SALE**

Your Easter Season  
Slovak Kolach orders  
will be ready for pickup:

**Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**and**  
**Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**

in the church social hall.