

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
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord – March 27/28, 2021

Daily Masses

Mar. 29, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Paul Kovach, Jr.	Robert and Kathleen Wiswesser
Mar. 30, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Mary Laky	Cindy Simoson
Mar. 31, Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	†Helen Swankoski	Rick and Ann Donaldson
	6:30 p.m.	†Sandra Kinney	Steven and Ann Marie Kinney

Easter Triduum

Apr. 01, Holy Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Apr. 02, Good Friday	3:00 p.m.	Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Apr. 03, Holy Saturday	8:00 p.m.	Intentions of Monsignor Koons

Easter Sunday

Apr. 04, Easter Sunday	8:00 a.m.	†Mary Lizak	Dave Bucha
	10:30 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	

Sanctuary Lights are burning this weekend in honor of and for the safety of the young men and women of our military.

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

From the Pastor

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion – March 28, 2021

Mk 11:1–10; Is 50:4–7; Phil 2:6–11; Mk 14:1–15:47

Why the veiling of statues and images?

Until 1970, what we now know as the “**5th Sunday of Lent**” (last Sunday, March 21) was formerly known as “**Passion Sunday**.” Thus began two weeks of what was once called “**Passiontide**.” What we know today as “**Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**” was known until 1970 as the “**Second Sunday in Passion Time or Palm Sunday**.” The Gospel for Passion Sunday (last week, the 5th Sunday of Lent) was always taken from the Gospel of John 8:46-59, which concludes with the words: “*they took up stones to cast at Him, but Jesus hid himself, and went out from the temple...*”

Hence, taking up the theme of *Jesus hiding Himself*, the Church for more than a thousand years had the tradition of *veiling statues and images and crucifixes*. This veiling tradition continues today, even though the Liturgical Calendar changed in 1970, and eliminated proclaiming the Gospel of John 8:46-59 on any Sunday of the year, relegating its proclamation only on the Thursday of the 5th Week of Lent. Yet the tradition of veiling continues, although it is now, since 1970, merely an option in the United States. Oddly enough, however, the Preface for the 5th Week of Lent (this past week) is proper to that week and it is known as “Preface I of the Passion.” Even though “passiontide” was eliminated! I did some further investigating about the traditions leading up to Palm Sunday and Holy Week and Easter, and I found a commentary from a famous liturgist and monk who lived from 1805 to 1875, and is known all over the world. Dom Guéranger was a French priest and Benedictine monk, who served for nearly 40 years as the Abbot of the monastery of Solesmes in the 1800's. Through the Abbey of Solesmes he became the founder of the re-established Benedictine monastic life in France after it had been wiped out by the French Revolution. Father Guéranger was the author of The Liturgical Year, a popular commentary which covered every day of the Catholic Church's Liturgical cycles in 15 volumes. He was well regarded by Pope Pius IX, and was a proponent of the dogmas of the Immaculate Conception and of papal infallibility. **[SEE BULLETIN INSERT FOR THE FULL ARTICLE]**

Calendar:

Monday - March 29

Monday of Holy Week
Is 42:1–7 / Jn 12:1–11

Tuesday - March 30

Tuesday of Holy Week
Is 49:1–6 / Jn 13:21–33, 36–38

Wednesday - March 31

Wednesday of Holy Week
Is 50:4–9a / Mt 26:14–25

Thursday - April 1

Holy Thursday
Ex 12:1–8, 11–14
1 Cor 11:23–26
Jn 13:1–15

Friday - April 2

Good Friday
Is 52:13–53:12
Heb 4:14–16, 5:7–9
Jn 18:1–19:42

Saturday - April 3

Holy Saturday
Gn 1:1–2:2
Gn 22:1–18
Ex 14:15–15:1
Is 54:5–14
Is 55:1–11
Bar 3:9–15, 32–4:4
Ez 36:16–17a, 18–28
Rom 6:3–11
Mk 16:1–7

Sunday - APRIL 4

Easter
Acts 10:34a, 37–43
Col 3:1–4
Jn 20:1–9

From the Pastor

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion – March 28, 2021

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This following is an excerpt from his book “The Liturgical Year:”

“...The Church says; *To-day, if you hear the voice of the Lord, harden not your hearts!* The voice of your suffering Jesus now speaks to you, poor sinners! Be not your own enemies by indifference and hardness of heart. The Son of God is about to give you the last and greatest proof of the love that brought Him down from heaven; His death is close at hand: men are preparing the wood for the immolation of the new Isaac: enter into yourselves, and let not your hearts, after being touched with grace, return to their former stubbornness; for nothing could be more dangerous. The great anniversaries we are to celebrate have a restoring power for those souls that faithfully correspond with the grace which is offered them; but they increase hardness in those who let them pass without working their conversion. *To-day, therefore, if you hear the voice of the Lord, harden not your hearts!*”

“During the preceding four weeks, we have noticed how the malice of Jesus' enemies has been gradually increasing. His very presence irritates them; and it is evident that any little circumstance will suffice to bring the deep and long-nurtured hatred to a head. The kind and gentle manners of Jesus are drawing to Him all hearts that are simple and upright; at the same time, the humble life He leads, and the stern purity of His doctrines, are perpetual sources of annoyance and anger, both to the proud Jew who looks forward to the Messiah being a mighty conqueror, and to the Pharisee, who corrupts the Law of God... Still, Jesus goes on working miracles; His addresses are more than ever energetic; His

prophecies foretell the fall of Jerusalem, and such a destruction of its famous temple, that not a stone is to be left on a stone. The Doctors of the Law should, at least, reflect upon what they hear; they should examine these wonderful works, which render such strong testimony in favor of the Son of David; and they should consult these divine prophecies which, up to the present time, have been so literally fulfilled in His person. Alas! They themselves are about to carry them out to the very last iota. There is not a single outrage or suffering foretold by David and Isaiah, as having to be put upon the Messiah, which these blind men are not scheming to verify.”

“In them, therefore, was fulfilled that terrible saying: ‘He that shall speak against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, nor in the world to come.’ [Matthew 12:32] ,.... Such lamentable conduct is but too often witnessed nowadays in those sinners, who, by habitual resistance to the light, end by finding their happiness in sin. Neither should it surprise us, that we find in people of our own generation a resemblance to the murderers of our Jesus: the history of His Passion will reveal to us many sad secrets of the human heart and its perverse inclinations; for what happened in Jerusalem, happens also in every sinner’s heart. His heart, according to the saying of St. Paul, is a Calvary, where Jesus is crucified. There is the same ingratitude, the same blindness, the same wild madness, with this difference: that the sinner who is enlightened by faith, knows Him whom he crucifies; whereas the Jews, as the same apostle tells us, knew not the Lord of glory [1 Cor 2:8]. Whereas, therefore, we listen to the Gospel, which relates the history of the Passion, let us turn the indignation which we feel for His persecutors against ourselves and our own sins; let us weep over the sufferings of our Victim, for our sins caused Him to suffer and die.”

“Everything around us urges us to mourn. **The images of the saints, the very crucifix on our altar, are veiled from our sight.** The Church is oppressed with grief. During the first four weeks of Lent, she sympathized with her Jesus fasting in the desert; His coming sufferings and crucifixion and death are what now fill her with anguish. We read in today’s Gospel, that the Jews threatened to stone the Son of God as a blasphemer: **but His hour is not yet come.** (Passion Sunday Gospel.) ***He is obliged to flee and hide Himself. It is to express this deep humiliation, that the Church veils the cross. A God hiding Himself, that He may evade the anger of men - what a mystery! Is it weakness? Is it, that He fears death? No; we shall soon see Him going out to meet His enemies: but at present He hides Himself from them, because all that had been prophesied regarding Him has not been fulfilled. Besides, His death is not to be by stoning: He is to die upon a cross,*** the tree of malediction, which, from that time forward, is to be the tree of life. Let us humble ourselves, as we see the Creator of heaven and earth thus obliged to hide Himself from men, who are bent on His destruction! Let us go back, in thought, to the sad day of the first sin, when Adam and Eve hid themselves because a guilty conscience told them they were naked. Jesus has come to assure us of our being pardoned, and lo! He hides Himself, not because He is naked - He that is to the saints the garb of holiness and immortality - but because He made Himself weak, that He might make us strong. Our first parents sought to hide themselves from the sight of God; Jesus hides Himself from the eye of men. But it will not be thus forever. The day will come when sinners, from whose anger He now flees, will pray to the mountains to fall on them and shield them from His gaze; but their prayer will not be granted, and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven, with much power and majesty [Matthew 24: 30].”

Msgr. Koons

Holy Week 2021

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

Northampton, PA

Palm Sunday

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

Monday - Wednesday of Holy Week

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

Holy Thursday

April 1, 2021

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

April 2, 2021

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

April 3, 2021

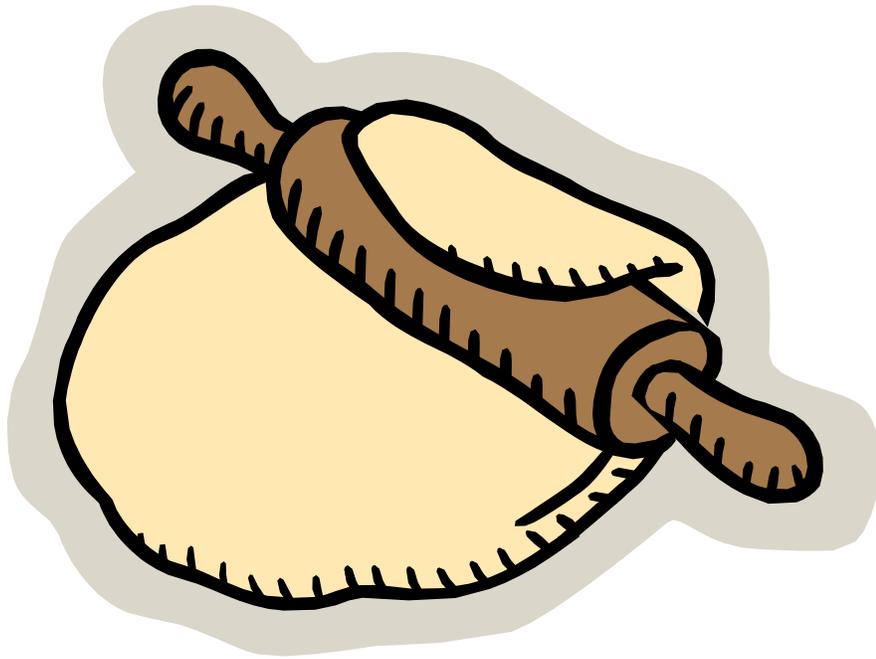
Confessions Blessing of Food Solemn Vigil of Easter	11:00 am – 12:00 Noon 12:00 Noon 8:00 pm (no 4:00 pm Mass)
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Solemnity of the Resurrection - Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021

Masses	8:00 am & 10:30 am
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SLOVAK KOLACH SALE

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

Saturday, March 27th
and
Sunday, March 28th

in the church social hall.



Knights of Columbus Council 4050

Chicken Dinner \$12.00

Saturday, May 8, 2021

Pick Up Times -3PM to 6PM

Holy Trinity Church 4102 S. Church Street, Whitehall

½ Roast Chicken, Baked Potato, Cole Slaw, Roll & Bread

Prepared by Lorah's Farm Market – Take Away Only

Orders and Payment must be received by Sunday, May 2, 2021

On site purchases will not be available

Questions KofC4050@gmail.com or 814-694-4050

All funds raised support the council's charitable giving. The Knights appreciate your support.

Name _____ Qty _____ Pick up time _____



Return This Order Form by May 2, 2021

Pick up time: ___ 3:00-3:30 ___ 3:30-4:00 ___ 4:00-4:30 ___ 4:30-5:00 ___ 5:00-5:30 ___ 5:30-6:00

Name _____

Email _____

Quantity _____ x \$12.00 each = Total Cost _____

Place form and payment, cash or check in a sealed envelope labeled "Knights of Columbus Chicken Dinner," in collection basket by May 2nd
Or mail form and payment to "Knights of Columbus Council 4050,
Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 4102 S. Church Street, Whitehall, PA 18052
Make Checks Payable to: Knights of Columbus Council 4050

Orders and Payments must be received by Sunday, May 2, 2021