

# 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**  
**Easter Sunday - April 4, 2021**

**Daily Masses**

Apr. 05,	Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Mark Heckenberger	Parents, John and Deb and Brother, Luke
Apr. 06,	Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Frank Walakovitz	Daughter, Ruth Marakovits
Apr. 07,	Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	†Rheta Botteon	Nancy Jane Birozik
Apr. 08,	Thursday	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	†Carolyn Wuchter	Joanne and Larry Hiestand
Apr. 09,	Friday	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	†Mike Plata, Sr.	Daughters
Apr. 10,	Saturday	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	†Carmine Rizzo	Tina and Jun Ilao
Apr. 11,	Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	
		10:30 a.m.	†Helen Bonser	Deb and John Heckenberger and Family

**Sanctuary Lights** are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of Frank Walakovitz requested by daughter, Ruth Marakovits.

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

**From the Pastor**

**Christus Resurrexit, Alleluia!**  
**Christ is risen, alleluia!**

This is my fifth Easter I have celebrated here at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, and looking back, it occurred to me that it has been three years since I have had a "normal" Easter....

Last year, of course, because the Covid pandemic was just new, most people stayed home, "locked down," leaving the churches across our country and the world quiet and relatively silent.

Two years ago, I was in the midst of a medical crisis that began on the Eve of Palm Sunday and continued for another six weeks, only to be followed by yet another medical issue.

This year, things seem to be going back to "normal" as more and more people feel safer to worship at church in person. Let me say, as your parish priest, it is a real joy to see you, the parishioners of BVM, reappearing in our pews. I can tell you that the experience of "pastoring" was unlike anything I would have ever expected as a priest in a country that counts as one of its fundamental liberties, the right to the free exercise of religion. Our parish church has been open throughout this past year, and I can't recall a day in that year that I was not joined by at least one other person for the celebration of Mass, except perhaps the day after our 30 inch snowfall! I hope things will improve more rapidly as time marches onward.

On the other hand, I ask myself, what is "normal" when it comes to our faith? What is "normal" about a man, Jesus Christ, who lived two thousand years ago and rose from the dead? Really, there is nothing "normal" about it, if we consider that "normal" could be synonymous with the "ordinary." There is nothing ordinary about Jesus Christ rising from the dead.

I believe that the COVID pandemic will affect our lives for years to come. It goes without saying that the negative effects on peoples lives have been all too apparent: illness and death, isolation and loneliness, disruption of social events, neighborliness, business, you name it. But can there be positive effects? What do I mean?

Has COVID attacked more than just our bodies and immune systems? That answer too should be obvious. The increasing rates of loneliness, suicide, depression and despair clearly indicate that what we all have been experiencing is a spiritual battle as well as a physical one. Who has researched and produced a vaccine for our spiritual ills?

Certainly not businesses or pharmaceutical companies. My belief is that Jesus Christ has accomplished it already, two thousand years ago. God, Father and Son and Holy Spirit have been "researching" the ills of humanity ever since the first human beings fell from original grace. Gently, patiently and wisely, with love beyond all telling, the Holy Trinity has been at work "testing" various formulations of salvation through the agencies of prophets and judges, psalmist and kings, laws and liturgies, right up until the appearance of Jesus, Emmanuel, "God-is-with-us."

The Son of God became for us our "spiritual vaccine" to put it into terms that relate to what we are going through today. His very life, his grace, his forgiveness, his mercy, his love "inoculates" us in body, mind and soul in order that we may no longer fear death. While the Son of God had no power of his own to die, we gave that power to him in our fallen human nature. And while we had no power to live, He gave that power to us in His risen, divine nature.

If there is one thing I would not want to happen in my own spiritual life, it would be to go back to "normal." Rather, I would like my faith to deepen, to broaden, to grow ever more in union with the angels and saints in heaven. I pray that you have the same desire! Happy Easter!

Monsignor 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**

**Please Note:** The rectory office will be closed Monday, April 5.

**New Crucifix:** A special thank you to Edward Hozza, Sr. and his children, Edward Jr, David, Martin and Kathleen for their donation of a double sided Crucifix for our church altar in memory of his wife, Martha Marie Hozza.

**Thank You:** This year's Pascal Candle is in memory of James Nicosia. It was donated by his parents, Joy and Sal Nicosia. It is being used for the first time during our Easter Celebrations.

**Memorial Fund:** Gratefully the parish acknowledges the following memorial contributions **in memory of Lucille Mikulcik:** \$25 husband, Paul. **In memory of Dennis Wehr, Sr.:** \$25 Kathleen Wehr. **In memory of Richard Klink:** \$25 John and Alice Klink. **In memory of Elaine Molchany:** \$30 Margaret Krempasky; \$10 Leona Keppel; \$25 Joe and Liane Sinkovits **In memory of Ann Weber:** \$100 Andrews Family – Art, Chris and Eileen. **In memory of Thomas Kush:** \$20 Steve Marsch. **In memory of Betty Bonshak:** \$10 Steve Marsch.

**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. **Reminder: Payment must be received by Sunday, April 25.**

**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).

### PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Check One:**

New Registration                       Change of Address  
 Moving out of Parish                       Request Envelopes

**Request envelopes (returned home from college)**

Please drop in the collection basket or mail to the Rectory

## Calendar:

### Monday - April 5

*Octave of Easter*  
 Acts 2:14, 22-33  
 Mt 28:8-15

### Tuesday - April 6

*Octave of Easter*  
 Acts 2:36-41  
 Jn 20:11-18

### Wednesday - April 7

*Octave of Easter*  
 Acts 3:1-10  
 Lk 24:13-35

### Thursday - April 8

*Octave of Easter*  
 Acts 3:11-26  
 Lk 24:35-48

### Friday - April 9

*Octave of Easter*  
 Acts 4:1-12  
 Jn 21:1-14

### Saturday - April 10

*Octave of Easter*  
 Acts 4:13-21  
 Mk 16:9-15

### Sunday - April 11

*Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)*  
 Acts 4:32-35  
 1 Jn 5:1-6  
 Jn 20:19-31

**Redner's Save-A-Tape Program:** Please keep saving your Redner's Save-A-Tape Receipts by using your Save-A-Tape Card. If you don't have one, just ask the cashier during your next shopping trip. Our church receives 1% for items you purchase, just by turning in your receipts. **From July 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021 we have received \$2,419.03. Just think, that's over \$2,400.00** received from pieces of paper you would normally throw in the garbage. Please place your **full receipts** in the containers located in the church vestibule. **We need the WHOLE receipt**, not just the bottom portion of the receipt. **See the letter from Redner's Markets, Inc. posted on the bulletin boards for more information.** Thank You!

### ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

#### MacArthur Family Medicine

Joseph F. Ciecko, D.O.

*A practice of Lehigh Valley Physician Group*

3691 Crescent Court East, Whitehall 610-434-9561

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# Holy Week 2021

## Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

### Northampton, PA

#### Palm Sunday

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

#### Monday - Wednesday of Holy Week

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

#### Holy Thursday April 1, 2021

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

#### Good Friday April 2, 2021

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

#### Holy Saturday April 3, 2021

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

#### Solemnity of the Resurrection - Easter Sunday April 4, 2021

Masses	8:00 am & 10:30 am
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# 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](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup>  
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