

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
Sixth Sunday of Easter – May 8/9, 2021**

Daily Masses				
May 10,	Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Josephine Margaret Centenaro	Cindy Simoson
May 11,	Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Members of our Memorial Fund	
May 12,	Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	†Alfred Pappano	Family
May 13,	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	
		7:00 p.m.	†John Kachmar	M/M Andrew Melosky
May 14,	Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Shirley Woolever	Daughter, Debra Kay, and Family
May 15,	Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†Aloysius Makovsky	Wife, Jean
May 16,	Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	
		10:30 a.m.	†Carolyn Wuchter	Sr. Annette Seubert S.P.

Sanctuary Lights are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of Stephen Kotoris requested by sister, Nikki.

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

From the Pastor Sixth Sunday of Easter

In this week's Gospel, Jesus continues the idea of remaining "attached" to Him by saying "remain in my love." Recall that in last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus said: "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing."

It is a simple image: it is on the branches that the clusters of flowers blossom into grapes and mature, ripen and bear the fruit. The vine itself gives life to the structure of the branches. Cut the branch off the vine, and the branch withers and dies. And if the branch becomes unwieldy, and bears too many blossoms, some of those excesses have to be pruned in order for the fruit to ripen properly, be sweet enough to be crushed and made into wine. Doing too much, or more than we care reasonable handle is as much a problem as doing too little or nothing at all. In both extremes, little or nothing, or too much, the branch is cut off completely or it is pruned. The virtue, as they say, is the mean between two extremes.

It has been a long-standing Catholic tradition to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in the month of May. Many Catholic parishes and schools, as we do today, hold a "May Crowning," presenting Mary with a crown made of blossoms or other hand-crafted materials to signify her queenship as the mother of Christ, the King.

There is a beautiful hymn written in the mid-twentieth century that has become part of the official liturgy of the Church: it is in the Liturgy of the Hours, the breviary, which clerics and religious and even lay people pray every day. The hymn is called "Mary the Dawn." The words are:

Mary the dawn, Christ the Perfect Day; Mary the gate, Christ the Heavenly Way!
 Mary the root, Christ the Mystic Vine; Mary the grape, Christ the Sacred Wine!
 Mary the wheat, Christ the Living Bread; Mary the stem, Christ the Rose blood-red!
 Mary the font, Christ the Cleansing Flood; Mary the cup, Christ the Saving Blood!
 Mary the temple, Christ the temple's Lord; Mary the shrine, Christ the God adored!
 Mary the beacon, Christ the Haven's Rest; Mary the mirror, Christ the Vision Blest!
 Mary the mother, Christ the mother's Son; By all things blest while endless ages run.

Do you hear the intimate connection between the Lord and the Blessed Virgin Mary? Mary the root: she is the Mother of God; Christ the mystic vine: he is the vine and we the branches. Mary the grape: she is the perfection of the Lord's disciples; Christ the Sacred Wine- the Lord's body, taken from Mary is crushed for our offenses and he offers his blood as wine. All through this hymn, we can hear just how connected to the vine is Mary, who is both mother of the divine person of the Son, and thus the root, and mother of all humanity in Christ, thus the branch and the fruit.

Why do we honor Mary?

Mary is Jesus' mother. She is the instrument of the Incarnation and her yes, or fiat, made it possible for our Lord to become the God-Man who was Crucified for our salvation.

She is the first and most perfect disciple. Mary was the first to hear the Good News, and the first to follow Christ. Her entire life was devoted to him and assisting him, in whatever way she could, to carry on his mission. Unaffected by Original Sin, she was able to perfectly open herself to God's will.

She is our mother. She is our mother because we are all members of the Body of Christ. Since she gave birth to that Body, then she is our mother, too. From the moment she gave her "yes to God", she became our mother in the order of grace. She may not have given birth to us physically, but she certainly has given birth to us spiritually.

She loves us more than we can ever imagine. If she didn't, would she have endured the horror of seeing her Son tortured, scourged, crowned with thorns, carry the Cross to Calvary, and die a gruesome death on it? She did it for all of us, because she understood that Jesus' Passion and Crucifixion was the only way to our salvation. She loves us like no human mother ever could.

Mary is advocate, helper, benefactress and mediatrix. Her job, so to speak, began at the moment she conceived Jesus in her womb and continues until this day. What is more, it will continue for all eternity. As the first and most perfect disciple, she is devoted to accompanying Jesus and continuing her saving office by interceding for us so that we may receive the gifts of eternal salvation. She is at work 24/7/365/forever, for whatever we need, whenever we need it.

For all these reasons and more, Mary deserves honor, not only during the month of May, but every day of our lives.

Adoration..... Wednesdays after Mass
First Friday Adoration.... after Mass

Memorial Fund: Gratefully the parish acknowledges the following memorial contributions **in memory of John Kachmar:** \$20 Nancy Pavlovic; \$25 Jane Drake; \$25 Francis and Mary Cerino; \$25 Martha Jandrisevits.

Thank You: My family and I would like to sincerely thank all parishioners who sent condolences, cards, prayers, monetary donations and Mass cards in my husband's name, John Kachmar. In times like this, it gives us great comfort knowing our "church" family was right beside us.

*Sincerely, Mary Kachmar
Skrapits family
Glassic family*



Memorial Flowers: The flowers by the altar this week are in memory of Connie Marth. They were donated by her husband, Conrad, and family.

Thank You: Joy and Sal Nicosia wish to thank all the parishioners of Assumption B.V.M. who extended their best wishes to them on the occasion of their 65th Wedding Anniversary.

Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal (BWAC): Many thanks to those who made a pledge to the BWAC appeal. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how small. Please visit the appeal website to hear from supporters of the appeal why contributing to the Appeal is important to stewardship and their walk with Christ. You will also learn from the ministries the Appeal supports and how your contributions assist those ministries. BecauseWeAreCatholic.org.

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.

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 – May 10

Easter Weekday
Acts 16:11–15
Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tuesday – May 11

Easter Weekday
Acts 16:22–34
Jn 16:5–11

Wednesday – May 12

Easter Weekday
Acts 17:15, 22—18:1
Jn 16:12–15

Thursday – May 13

Ascension of the Lord
Acts 1:1–11
Eph 1:17–23
Mk 16:15–20

Friday – May 14

St. Matthias, Apostle
Acts 1:15–17, 20–26
Jn 15:9–17

Saturday – May 15

Easter Weekday
Acts 18:23–28
Jn 16:23b–28

Sunday – May 16

Seventh Sunday of Easter
Acts 1:15–17, 20a, 20c-26
1 Jn 4:11–16
Jn 17:11b–19



Ink Cartridge and Toner Recycling:

Recycle your empty ink and toner cartridges and Assumption B.V.M. Church will get \$2 back in Staples Rewards® for each one. So not only will we save on future purchases, but we can also feel good about reducing waste in our landfills. Please deposit them in the box located in the vestibule.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

Reichel Funeral Home

Northampton, PA 18067 Phone: 610-261-0440
Kevin S. Reichel, Owner/Director
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