

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
Mr. John-Paul Crescenzo, 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 Fax:** 610-262-1613
Rectory E-Mail: bvm1922@rcn.com **Website:** www.bvm-northampton.com

Religious Education: 610-262-7343 **Youth Activities:** 610-760-9491
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: Sister Meg Cole, S.S.J., M.S., LMFT
 Telephone: 610-332-0442 Ext. 2019
 610-334-9147

Courage:
Diocesan Website: www.allentowndiocese.org

Masses

Saturday 4:00 p.m.
 Sunday 8:00, 10:30 a.m.
 Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8:00 a.m.
 Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Holy Days 7:00 p.m. [Vigil]
 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 living in the parish boundaries are asked to register at the rectory. Please notify the rectory if you change your address or phone number or move out of the parish.

Communion to the Sick

Communion is taken to the sick after the Sunday Masses and on First Fridays. The Anointing of the Sick is celebrated with individual homebound parishioners on First Fridays several times a year. 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.

Parish Activities/Contacts

Adult Education	Msgr. Koons.....	610-262-2559	Lectors	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559
Adult Prayer Group	Vincent Santucci.....	610-262-8428	Ministry to the Sick	Msgr. Koons.....	610-262-2559
Altar Servers	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Music Ministry/Choir	Karen Glose.....	610-691-0525
Baptismal Prep Classes	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Nthmp Area Food Bank	Bella Skweir.....	610-262-2673
Blood Drive	Deborah Heckenberger...	610-760-9491	Parish Family Picnic	Msgr. Koons.....	610-262-2559
Chi-Rho Volunteers	Jane Spengler.....	610-262-8138	Persons w/Disabilities Rep.	Susan Parker.....	610-262-7343
Church Cleaning Teams	Barbara Pengitore.....	610-262-3193	Prayer Chain	Priscilla Koch.....	610-428-9053
CYO	Tim Gribb	610-762-9072	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Mary LaBianca.....	610-502-0160
Eucharistic Ministers	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Pro-Life Activities	Msgr. Koons.....	610-262-2559
Finance Committee	Drew Maron.....	610-393-9126	Religious Education	Susan Parker.....	610-262-7343
Fund Raising	Barbara Pengitore.....	610-262-3193	RENEW Group	Charlie Walsh.....	610-837-0376
Grocery Certificates	GSCS Office.....	610-262-9171	RCIA	Msgr. Koons.....	610-262-2559
Greeters	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Ushers	Michael Sommer.....	610-262-7904
Grief Support	Rosemarie Pengitore.....	484-226-0188	Young at Heart	Anna Hudock.....	610-262-3478
Hospitality Committee	Jane Spengler.....	610-262-8138	Youth Activities	Deborah Heckenberger...	610-760-9491
Knights of Columbus Council #4050.....		484-540-5090			

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Dec. 10, Monday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased members of the Sosnowski and Cherski Families	
			Bernadette Chambers and Family
Dec. 11, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†Louis Pengitore, Sr.	Daughter, Barbara
Dec. 12, Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	†Margaret E. Nederostek	Daughter, Betty, and Family
Dec. 13, Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Sons and Daughters of John and Mary Wanisko	John and Elizabeth Kuchera
Dec. 14, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Colette Semler	Dennis and Cheryl Sommer
Dec. 15, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†John Marhefka, Sr.	Children and Families
Dec. 16, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased members of our parish	
	10:30 a.m.	†Catherine Frey	Sisters, Clare and Clarice Vresk

<u>Next Week's Schedule:</u>	<u>Lector:</u>	<u>Euch. Min.:</u>	<u>Altar Servers:</u>	<u>Greeters:</u>
Dec. 15, Sat. 4:00 p.m.	S. Parker	B. Fritz	M. Hartman/A. Colandrea	C. Kovacs/M. Bitenc
Dec. 16, Sun. 8:00 a.m.	C. Kroll	C. Walsh	K. Cuchran	B. Cwitkowitz/M.A. Weaver
	10:30 a.m. K. Stayt	T. Melosky	Gerald Miletics	B. Skweir/M. Skweir

SANCTUARY LIGHTS are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of John Filipovits requested by Wife, Ann.

PLEASE PRAY for God's blessing and gift of good health for all the sick of our parish.

Good News!

December 9, 2018

Second Sunday of Advent (C)

Bar 5:1–9; Phil 1:4–6, 8–11; Lk 3:1–6

Saint Luke loves to be precise in his Gospel, so he documents the exact time and place of the appearance of John the Baptist, the precursor to Jesus. Tiberius was the second emperor of Rome, and the fifteenth year of his reign corresponds to ad 27. Pontius Pilate was prefect from the years 26 to 36. Herod Antipas, son of Herod the Great, ruled in Galilee until his death in the year 39 and is the Herod who had John the Baptist beheaded. On the Jewish side, Caiaphas was high priest, and his influential father-in-law Annas was considered a leader of Jewish religious life.

These historical dates align with Luke's explanation, as well as other events described in his Gospel. Ours is a faith based on real people and events. No doubt there is a great appreciation for the supernatural in our faith, but it is never *against* nature, just *beyond* it.

Jesus praised John the Baptist (see Matthew 11:2–9) for his strong will and dedication. Humility, austerity, courage, and a spirit of prayer are also a large part of the testimony John left us. So dedicated and heroic was he in his fulfillment of the mission entrusted to him, Jesus acclaimed "among those born of women there has been none greater" (Matthew 11:11). "He was a burning and shining lamp" (John 5:35) to illuminate the path toward the true light who was coming into the world. Once that divine light arrived, John the Baptist receded into the shadows.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Calendar:

Monday - December 10

Advent Weekday

Is 35:1–10

Lk 5:17–26

Tuesday - December 11

Advent Weekday

Is 40:1–11

Mt 18:12–14

Wednesday - December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zec 2:14–17

Lk 1:26–38

Thursday - December 13

St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

Is 41:13–20

Mt 11:11–15

Friday - December 14

St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Is 48:17–19

Mt 11:16–19

Saturday - December 15

Advent Weekday

Sir 48:1–4, 9–11

Mt 17:9a, 10–13

Sunday - December 16

Third Sunday of Advent

Zep 3:14–18a

Phil 4:4–7

Lk 3:10–18

Rel. Ed. Classes : Sundays, 9:00 - 10:05 a.m.
Prayer Shawl Meeting : 3rd Tues. of month @ 10 a.m.
7th & 8th Grade Rel. Ed. : Wednesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal : Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Donut/Giving Sunday : Sunday, December 9
Baptismal Preparation Class: Wed., Jan. 9, 5:30 p.m.
Breakfast : Sunday, January 27
Confirmation : Tuesday, March 12 at 4:30 p.m.
BVM Night – Iron Pigs : Thursday, August 22, 2019

CHRISTMAS EVE: On Christmas Eve starting at 8:30 p.m. the Choir will sing Christmas Carols. Come and enjoy the caroling followed by our Eucharistic Celebration at 9:00 p.m. Merry Christmas!



Lighting of the Advent Wreath [Week Two] – [Before the evening meal, the family gathers at table.] **Leader:** Father, to you belong the seasons and the ages. **All:** You are the beginning and the end of all things. **Leader:** O Flower of Jesse's stem,

you are the sign of salvation. **R - Come and deliver us; do not delay.** **Leader:** O Key of David, you open and close by your power. **R - Come and deliver us; do not delay.** **Leader:** O Daystar, you are the eternal light, the sun of justice. **R - Come and deliver us; do not delay.** **Leader:** Stir our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through Christ our Lord. **AMEN.** [Two purple candles are lighted and left burning during the meal.]

ADVENT CONFESSIONS: **Wednesdays,** December 12 & 19 following the 7:00 p.m. Mass; **Fridays,** December 14 & 21 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.; **Saturdays,** December 8, 15 & 22 from 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.; **Monday,** December 17 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.; **Tuesday,** December 18 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.; **Thursday,** December 20 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

OPLATKY (CHRISTMAS WAFERS) is available (free will offering) in the church social hall all weekends during Advent. The 2019 Calendars, which are free, are now available in the church social hall, compliments of Schisler Funeral Home.



STOCKING STUFFER: Need a stocking stuffer? Or just a little something to add to a gift for that special person? The Parish Fund Raising Committee is sponsoring a monthly lottery calendar for January 2019. The calendars are \$5 each and the winners are based on the **evening daily** Pennsylvania Lottery number. Calendars will be on sale before Mass the weekends of December 15/16, 22/23 and 29/30. Calendars must be purchased prior to January 1, 2019.



VOLUNTEER GIFTS: Gifts for the following volunteers will be located in the Church Social Hall **this weekend, December 8/9:** Altar Servers, Baptismal Prep Leaders, Breakfast Workers, Chi-Rho Members, Church Cleaning Crew Members, Eucharistic Ministers, Finance Committee Members, Funeral Team Members, Greeters, Hospitality Committee Members, Lectors, Picnic Committee Members and Ushers. P.R.E.P. teachers gifts will be located in the classrooms. Choir gifts will be located in the choir loft.

BAPTISM: We are happy to welcome Meredith Grace Bachman, child of Jesse and Valarie Bachman, who began to share in the life of Jesus recently in the Sacrament of Baptism. We will continue to pray for Meredith Grace as she continues to grow in our faith.

CHURCH DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS: Anyone who would like to help with the Christmas decorating is asked to come to the Church **next Sunday, December 16, at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided.**



REMEMBER THE NEEDY: Please take a tag from the "Giving Tree" which is located in the Church vestibule. The tags list items needed by the Catholic Charities Office to care for the needs of babies and their families. **Please place your unwrapped gifts under the tree by December 15** and we will take them to the Catholic Charities office.

THANK YOU: A very special thank you to a parishioner- who wishes to remain anonymous- for making a donation for our outdoor Christmas tree and LED Christmas lights erected at the front entrance of our Church. Thank you for your generosity!

Also, a special thank you is extended to parishioner Mike Costello and men of his company, **Triple Crown Lawn Care Services**, for delivering our 16 foot Christmas tree, and for setting it up (without killing your pastor or crushing his hands!) I am grateful to both parishioners for their generosity of time, talent, and treasure!

MEMORIAL FUND: Gratefully the parish acknowledges the following memorial contribution **in memory of Robert Strohl:** \$25 Anita Kotoris and Hope Stempo.

HAMS/TURKEYS NEEDED: The Northampton Area Food Bank is looking for donations of Turkeys or Hams (by December 18) to distribute to needy families for Christmas. Anyone interested in donating is asked to please call the church rectory between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at 610-262-2559.



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.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK
Northampton Memorial Company
Memorialize A Life
 Ben Porobenski, Proprietor
 342 Main Street, Northampton 610-262-5568
Please patronize our bulletin advertisers



BREAKFAST

Sunday, January 27, 2019

TICKETS WILL BE SOLD
AT THE DOOR ONLY

ADULTS \$7.00

CHILDREN \$3.00

MENU

French Toast

Pancakes

Scrambled Eggs & Hash Brown

Choice of: Sausage, Bacon or Ham

Omelet your way & Hash Brown

Cheese Steak Omelet & Hash Brown

Includes: Juice, Toast, Coffee or Tea