

# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH



## PARISH INFORMATION

**Rev. Msgr. Thomas P. Koons**, Administrator  
**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. Linda Santucci**, Coordinator 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  
**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]  
 8:00 a.m.

### Confessions

Saturday 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. or by appointment

### 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. | Sue Parker.....         | 610-502-1280 |
| 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.....          | 610-261-4705 | Religious Education         | Linda Santucci.....     | 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 |                             |                         |              |

# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 17, 2017

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

|                    |            |  |  |
|--------------------|------------|--|--|
| Dec. 18, Monday    | 8:00 a.m.  | †John Filipovits   | Wife, Ann  |
| Dec. 19, Tuesday   | 8:00 a.m.  | †Connie Marth  | Robert and Dolores Snyder                                  |
| Dec. 20, Wednesday | 7:00 p.m.  | †Michael Janis   | Parents, Lynda and Mike, Brother, Chris, and Niece, Dahlia |
| Dec. 21, Thursday  | 8:00 a.m.  | †Elizabeth and Stephen Balog                                 | Granddaughter, Betty, and Family                           |
| Dec. 22, Friday    | 8:00 a.m.  | †Catherine Arnst   | Granddaughter, Debra Kay, and Family                       |
| Dec. 23, Saturday  | 4:00 p.m.  | †Anna Demchyk  | Children   |
| Dec. 24, Sunday    | 8:00 a.m.  | †Helen Marhefka  | M/M John Marth   |
|                    | 10:30 a.m. | Living and deceased parishioners                             |  |
|                    | 4:00 p.m.  | <b>CHRISTMAS EVE MASS</b> – †Hannah Bankos                   | Missimer Family  |
|                    | 9:00 p.m.  | <b>CHRISTMAS EVE MASS</b> – †Frank Sipics                    | M/M Kerry Marsch   |
| Dec. 25, Monday    | 8:00 a.m.  | <b>CHRISTMAS EVE MASS</b> – †Helen Siekonic                  | Perry, Heidi and Ron Koch, Jr.                             |
|                    | 10:30 a.m. | <b>CHRISTMAS EVE MASS</b> - Living and deceased parishioners |  |

## Next Week's Schedule:

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| Dec. 23, Sat. | 4:00 p.m.  |
| Dec. 24, Sun. | 8:00 a.m.  |
|               | 10:30 a.m. |

## Lector:

|               |
|---------------|
| P. Madea      |
| T. Kovalchik  |
| D. Hozza      |
| M.E. Schwartz |
| L. Nemeth     |
| A. Molchany   |
| J. Santee     |

## Euch. Min.:

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| B. Fritz                          |
| J. Ciecko                         |
| B. Chambers                       |
| C. Wuchter/T. Melosky/L. Kosciolk |
| M. Sommer/C. Walsh/L. Santucci    |
| F. Cerino                         |
| D. Maron                          |

## Altar Servers:

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| N. Bischof/M. Hartman           |
| K. Cuchran/M. Cuchran           |
| G. Heidecker/S. Kroll           |
| J. Warren/M. Warren/M. Hartman  |
| N. Millan/D. Bassert/N. Bischof |
| J. Confer/C. Confer/E. Confer   |
| A. Miletics/G. Miletics         |

## Greeters:

|                        |
|------------------------|
| L. Bet/P. Schuler      |
| N. Birozik/D. Cesanek  |
| H. Stempo/B. Yezzo     |
| M. Bitenc/L. Stefaniak |
| H. Stempo/V. Hall      |
| M. Weaver/J. Haldeman  |
| M. Skweir/B. 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.

# dear Padre:

***Once again I feel overwhelmed by the commercial hype of Christmas. Any suggestions for keeping a Christ-centered Christmas amid the shopping and gift expectations?***

It's our Advent task to make Christ, Emmanuel, present in our lives. We do this by centering on the love and peace that is within us and offering that to others. By staying centered and at peace, we'll find the Christ Child even in the midst of the mania!

**Take time to pray.** In Advent, church decorations accent the sense of longing during this season. Make it a part of your schedule to stop in daily for quiet time and prayer.

**Spend less money.** Buy fewer gifts, ones that you really enjoy buying. Let your family know that you intend to spend less money and want to enjoy your purchasing experience. Ask them to help you select gifts that have meaning.

**Be inspiring.** Give gifts that focus more on Christ and Christmas. They could be inspirational books, a Christian music CD, or tickets to a Christmas play or concert.

**Start a tradition.** Make it a point to find a new Christmas tradition from a different culture and adopt that tradition for this season.

**Volunteer.** Give someone a gift of unexpected kindness, compassion, and unconditional love. Visit the sick, help in a soup kitchen, buy and wrap presents that will be given to the poor.

Source: Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask, © 2003 Liguori Publications

# Calendar:

## Monday - December 18

*Advent Weekday*

Jer 23:5-8

Mt 1:18-25

## Tuesday - December 19

*Advent Weekday*

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a

Luke 1:5-25

## Wednesday - December 20

*Advent Weekday*

Is 7:10-14 / Lk 1:26-38

## Thursday - December 21

*Advent Weekday*

Sg 2:8-14 / Lk 1:39-45

## Friday - December 22

*Advent Weekday*

1 Sm 1:24-28

1 Lk 1:46-56

## Saturday - December 23

*Advent Weekday*

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24

Lk 1:57-66

## Sunday - December 24

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Rom 16:25-27

Lk 1:26-38

**PREP CLASSES** : Sundays, 9:00 a.m.-10:05 a.m.  
**CHOIR REHEARSAL** : Wednesdays, **7:30 p.m.**  
**BAPTISMAL PREP** : Sat., January 6, 10:00 a.m.  
**DONUT/GIVING SUNDAY** : Sunday, January 14  
**PRAYER SHAWL MEETING**: **Tues., January 16, 10 a.m.**  
**BREAKFAST** : **Sunday, January 28, 2018**  
**CONFIRMATION** : Thursday, March 8, 2018  
**BASKET SOCIAL** : Sat./Sun., May 19/20  
**BVM NIGHT – IRON PIGS** : Thursday, August 16, 2018  
**PICNIC 2018** : Sunday, September 9, 2018

**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 Three] – [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 Desired One of the nations, may we always be awake and alert to your coming. *R - Come and make us one.*

**Leader:** O Judge of the living and the dead, reward us according to our deeds. *R - Come and make us one.* **Leader:**

O Bringer of Salvation, fill us with joyful longing for your coming. *R - Come and make us one.* **Leader:** Lord, hear our prayers and come to us, bringing light into the darkness of our hearts; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN. [Two purple candles and the one rose candle are lighted and left burning during the meal.]**

**ADVENT CONFESSIONS:** **Monday,** December 18 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.; **Tuesday,** December 19 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.; **Wednesday,** December 20 following the 7:00 p.m. Mass until 8:30 p.m.; **Thursday,** December 21 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.; **Friday,** December 22 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.; **Saturday,** December 23 from 2:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

**CHILDREN'S 2018 ENVELOPES** are located in the Church Social Hall. Please look for yours and take them home. Religious Education Student envelopes (grades 2-7) were placed in the Religious Education Classrooms; Good Shepherd Student envelopes (grades 2-8) were taken to the School.

**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 2018. 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 16/17 and 30/31.** Calendars must be purchased prior to January 1, 2018.



**VOLUNTEER GIFTS:** Gifts for the following volunteers are located in the Church Social Hall **this weekend:** 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.



**MEMORIAL FUND:** Gratefully the parish acknowledges the following memorial contributions **in memory of Marco N. Rossini:** \$100 Ann Spina; \$25 Pasquale and Christina Crisci and Family; \$50 Joe and Marcia Mowad; \$50 Sallyann Madden; \$15 James Sciascia; \$50 Josie Gardner and Family; \$100 Marietta Lipps; \$100 Joe Marano; \$25 Aunt Louise; \$25 Judy Haldeman. **In memory of Thomas Balent:** \$50 Wife, Edna, and Family. **In memory of John Zima:** \$10 Steve Marsch. **In memory of Albert Fixl:** \$10 Steve Marsch. **In memory of Marvin Wright:** \$25 George and Linda Baltz; \$25 M/M Samuel Wright; \$50 Ronald and Priscilla Koch; \$25 Robert Dougherty; \$30 John and Linda Legath; \$20 Rachael Suranofsky; \$25 Robert and Jean Strohl; \$20 Stephen Flytuta; \$20 Joseph and Stephanie Olesak; \$20 James and Pat Olesak; \$40 Jack and Iona Harhart; \$20.17 John Yurish; \$25 Frank and MaryAnn Marakovits; \$25 Jonathan Wolfel; \$25 Richard and Linda Heberling. **In memory of Hilda Bendekovits:** \$15 Dale and Jane Fuller; \$25 Joan Molnar; \$25 Martha Jandrisevits and Marth Langkamer; \$20 John and Mary Herman; \$40 Edward and Cathy Hawk. **In memory of Barbara Bilder:** \$20 Steve Marsch.

**CHURCH DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS:** Anyone who would like to help with the Christmas decorating is asked to come to the Church **today, Sunday, December 17, at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided.**

**CHRISTMAS CANTATA:** Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 4456 Main St., Whitehall will present their free annual Christmas Cantata on **Sunday, December 17 at 4:00 p.m.** featuring their Adult, Hand Bell and Children choirs. Everyone is welcome to come and experience the joy and splendor of the Advent and Christmas Seasons!

**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. **Did you know?** In 2011, Staples U.S. customers recycled more than 67 million ink and toner cartridges. Their goal is to recycle 100 million each year, globally, by 2020.

**PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS:** We invite and encourage you to participate in the offertory procession at Mass. This is especially appropriate if you have requested the Mass, or if the Mass is being offered for a family member or friend. If you would like to present the gifts, please see one of the greeters at least fifteen minutes before Mass begins.

**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 28, 2018

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