

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH



PARISH INFORMATION

REV. FRANCIS P. STRAKA, Pastor
Mrs. Karen Glose, Director of Music
Mrs. Mary LaBianca, Adult Choir Director
Mr. John Paul Crescenzo, Principal of Good Shepherd Catholic School

Mrs. Linda Santucci, Coordinator of Religious Education
Mrs. Deborah Heckenberger, Youth Activities
Ms. Joanne Manning, Parish Secretary
 Good Shepherd Catholic School

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. 19

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 2:45 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 Fr. Straka 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	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559	Hospitality Committee	Jane Spengler.....	610-262-8138
Adult Prayer Group	Vincent Santucci.....	610-262-8428	Knights of Columbus Council #4050.....	484-540-5090	
Altar Servers	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Lectors	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559
Baptismal Prep Classes	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Ministry to the Sick	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559
Bible Study	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559	Music Ministry/Choir	Karen Glose.....	610-691-0525
Blood Drive	Deborah Heckenberger...	610-760-9491	Nthmp Area Food Bank	Bella Skweir.....	610-262-2673
Chi-Rho Volunteers	Jane Spengler.....	610-262-8138	Parish Family Picnic	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559
Church Cleaning Teams	Barbara Pengitore.....	610-262-3193	Persons w/Disabilities Rep.	Sue Parker.....	610-502-1280
CYO	Tim Gribb	610-762-9072	Prayer Chain	Priscilla Koch.....	610-428-9053
Ecumenical Rep.	Fr. Straka	610-262-2559	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Mary LaBianca.....	610-502-0160
Eucharistic Ministers	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Pro-Life Activities	Fr. Straka	610-262-2559
Finance Committee	Drew Maron.....	610-261-4705	Religious Education	Linda Santucci.....	610-262-7343
First Friday Adoration	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559	RENEW Group	Charlie Walsh.....	610-837-0376
Fund Raising	Barbara Pengitore.....	610-262-3193	RCIA	Fr. Straka.....	610-262-2559
Grocery Certificates	GSCS Office.....	610-262-9171	Ushers	Michael Sommer.....	610-262-7904
Greeters	Joanne Manning.....	610-262-2559	Young at Heart	Anna Hudock.....	610-262-3478
Grief Support	Rosemarie Pengitore.....	610-262-9012	Youth Activities	Deborah Heckenberger...	610-760-9491

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 21, 2016

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Aug. 22, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†William Ifkovits, Jr.	M/M Herbert Garrison
Aug. 23, Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	†M/M Michael Kuchera	Fred and Rose Hurban
Aug. 24, Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	†Hannah Bankos	Pete, Carole and Nicole Fetchko
Aug. 25 Thursday	8:00 a.m.	†Elizabeth Nederostek	Walter and Becky Strongowski
Aug. 26, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Irene Kovalcik	John and Rita Bendekovits
Aug. 27, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	†Lauren Geosits	Grandma, Dorothy Geosits, and Family
Aug. 28, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Living and deceased parishioners	
	10:30 a.m.	Health and Blessing – Frances and Eugene Grabarits	
			on the occasion of their 50 th Wedding Anniversary

Next Week’s Schedule:

Aug. 27, Sat. 4:00 p.m.	Lector: A. Molchany	Euch. Min.: B. Fritz	Altar Servers: E. Meister/E. Ossiander	Greeters: C. & J. Kovacs
Aug. 28, Sun. 8:00 a.m.	P. Madea	F. Cerino	C., J. & E. Confer	B. Cwitkowitz/M.A. Weaver
10:30 a.m.	K. Stayt	J. Nicosia	M. Cuchran/C. Cuchran	B. & M. Skweir

SANCTUARY LIGHTS are burning this week in loving memory and for the pious intention of Thomas Marakovits requested by Wife, Ruth.

PLEASE PRAY for God’s blessing and gift of good health for all the sick of our parish. Also remember in your prayers Aloysius Emerick, brother of Cecilia Emerick, who died recently.

dear Padre:

Why did Jesus make his points with parables?

Why did Jesus always speak in parables? Why didn’t he give us more clear-cut answers?

Parables are short, relatable stories. Their simple images or comparisons convey a moral or religious lesson and put us in touch with the mystery of God and ourselves. Thus, parables confront the hearer or reader with a radical choice to enter God’s kingdom: “One must enter the kingdom, that is, become a disciple of Christ, in order to ‘know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven.’ For those who stay ‘outside,’ everything remains enigmatic” (CCC 546).

About a third of Jesus’ recorded teachings are in parable form. After the Pharisees rejected Jesus (Matthew 12:14), he immediately changed his straightforward preaching to parables. This fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet: “I will open my mouth in parables, I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation [of the world]” (Matthew 13:35; see Psalm 78:2).

For example, the three parables of mercy in Luke 15—the lost sheep, lost coin, and lost son—reveal as much about God as they do about us. As John Shea writes in *Stories of God*: “God not only loves to hear our stories, God loves to tell stories. And, quite simply, we are the story God tells.” In the telling, we ourselves are told. The timeless, universal stories of Jesus speak to us at different stages of life and provide multiple levels of meaning to the openhearted.

FR. BYRON MILLER, CSsR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Thes 1:1–5, 11–12

Mt 23:13–22

Tuesday - August 23

Weekday

2 Thes 2:1–3a, 14–17

Mt 23:23–26

Wednesday - August 24

St. Bartholomew, Apostle

Rv 21:9b–14 / Jn 1:45–51

Thursday - August 25

Weekday

1 Cor 1:1–9 / Mt 24:42–51

Friday - August 26

Weekday

1 Cor 1:17–25 / Mt 25:1–13

Saturday - August 27

St. Monica

1 Cor 1:26–31

Mt 25:14–30

Sunday - August 28

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 3:17–18, 20, 28–29

Heb 12:18–19, 22–24a

Lk 14:1, 7–14

Calendar:

Monday - August 22

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BAPTISMAL PREP : Sat., September 3, 10:00 a.m. **PICNIC COOKING** : Thursday, Sept. 8, 7:00 a.m.

Friday, Sept. 9, 7:00 a.m.

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC : Sunday, September 11, 2016

GIVING SUNDAY : Sunday, September 11

PREP CLASSES RESUME : Sunday, September 18

BREAKFAST : Sunday, October 30, 2016

CONFIRMATION : Wed., March 8, 2017

RECTORY SUMMER HOURS are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or call for an appointment. **Rectory office is closed on Wednesdays.**



MEMORIAL FLOWERS: The flowers by the altar this week are in memory of John and Rosalie Cimino. They were donated by daughter, Joy Nicosia, and family.

MEMORIAL FUND: Gratefully the parish acknowledges the following memorial contributions **in memory of Helen Swankoski:** \$25 Steve Marsch. **In memory of Helen Gavalla:** \$50 Fred and Rose Hurban; \$10 Michael Sommer.

OUR MONTHLY BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SESSION will be held on Saturday, September 3, at 10:00 a.m. in a classroom above the Church. All parents who are expecting to celebrate baptism with their child are asked to attend one of these sessions, even before the child is born. Please call the rectory in advance to register.



BAKED GOODS NEEDED: Anyone interested in donating baked goods for the church picnic is asked to please bring your baked goods to Egypt Memorial Park on **Sunday, September 11 anytime after 9:00 a.m.**



PICNIC COOKING: We will be cooking for our annual church picnic on **Thursday, September 8 and Friday, September 9 starting at 7:00 a.m.** To make this another successful picnic we need help in preparation of the food. All help is welcomed and greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your help.



MONEY BASKET: From now thru September 4 there will be a box in the church vestibule for donations towards our **"Assumption B.V.M. Parishioners' Money Basket"**, which will be raffled off at our annual picnic on Sunday, September 11. All donations are greatly appreciated.

NOW ENROLLING: Good Shepherd Catholic School is enrolling students for the 2016-2017 School Year. Full day Kindergarten through Grade 8 with limited openings in the Pre-K programs. Please call the school office at 610-262-9171 for a personalized tour with information about an exceptional academic and faith based education!



YOUNG-AT-HEART NEWS: The next meeting of the Young-at-Heart will be on Tuesday, August 30 Northampton Borough Park.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH, 3024 South Ruch Street in Whitehall (Stiles) will have their annual picnic on **Sunday, September 4, from noon to 9:00 p.m.** on the parish grounds. Music provided by the Joe Weber Band and Common Bond. Delicious Foods, Children's Games, Raffles, Refreshments, Bake Sale and more. All are invited!

DIOCESAN YEAR OF MERCY PILGRIMAGE will be held on **Thursday, October 20, 2016** at the National Shrine of

the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. Our parish, along with Holy Trinity and Queenship of Mary, are chartering a bus for the pilgrimage. Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the pilgrimage. **Call Holy Trinity Rectory at 610-262-9315 to reserve your seat. Cost \$30/person.**

P.R.E.P. CLASSES BEGINNING Sunday, September 18.

Attention: Parents of parish children in Grades K – 7. If you have not registered your child for P.R.E.P. classes, the registration form is available in the back of the church. Please, complete and return this form immediately with your tuition payment. Kindergarten is not mandatory, but all are welcome to attend. Grades 1-7 are mandatory by the Allentown Diocese. The Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist are in 3rd grade and Confirmation is in 8th grade. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Santucci at 610-262-7343.

OUR MONTHLY BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SESSION

will be held on Saturday, September 1, at 10:00 a.m. in a classroom above the Church. All parents who are expecting to celebrate baptism with their child are asked to attend one of these sessions, even before the child is born. Please call the rectory in advance to register.

PARISH PICNIC NEWS

"BIG BUCKS": We are counting on you to either purchase or sell the four "Big Bucks" tickets which were mailed to you in June. Also, please consider selling additional tickets, which are available at the rectory.

"WINE, LIQUOR": In the past one of our most successful items at the Parish Picnic has been the WINE/LIQUOR stand. We have been fortunate in receiving all of these bottles as donations from parishioners. If you can donate bottles for this stand, it would be greatly appreciated! Kindly drop the bottles off at the rectory.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! Letters were mailed in June asking for your help for our picnic. We need workers, donations of wine/liquor, baked goods, and/or monetary contributions. Please respond to our volunteer and donation form as soon as possible. Youth (Grades 8-12) are you looking for community/church service hours? Come and help out at our parish picnic!

ADVANCE PICNIC TICKET SALES before and after all Masses the weekends of: **August 22/23** and **August 29/30.** Pay **\$10.00** and receive **\$12.00** worth of tickets.

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ASSUMPTION B.

