

# 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](http://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](mailto:prusso@allentowndiocese.org)

**Courage:**

610-334-9147

**Diocesan Website:**

[www.allentowndiocese.org](http://www.allentowndiocese.org)

## Masses

Saturday	4:00 p.m.
Sunday	8:00, 10:30 a.m.
Monday & Friday	8:00 a.m.
Tue., Wed. & Thu.	7:00 a.m.

Holy Days	7:00 p.m. [Vigil] 8:00 a.m.
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## Confessions

Saturday	3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. or by request
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## 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 Fourth Sunday of Advent – December 17/18, 2022

## Daily Masses

Dec. 19, Monday	8:00 a.m.	†Matthew Vasquez	Grandmother, Tonya Weiner
Dec. 20, Tuesday	7:00 a.m.	†Hope Stempo	Connie Kovacs
Dec. 21, Wednesday	7:00 a.m.	†Stephen Kerbacher, Sr.	Wife, Helen, Daughter, Stephanie, Son, Stephen and Family
Dec. 22, Thursday	7:00 a.m.	†Catherine Arnst	Granddaughter, Debra Kay, and Family
Dec. 23, Friday	8:00 a.m.	†Elizabeth and Stephen Balog	Granddaughter, Betty, and Family
Dec. 24, Saturday	4:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve - †Josephine Miller	Friend
	9:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve - Special Intention	Monsignor Koons
Dec. 25, Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Christmas Day - †Elizabeth Strongowski	Catherine Macsisak
	10:30 a.m.	Christmas Day - Living & deceased parishioners	

### Next Week's Schedule:

Dec. 24, Sat. 4:00 p.m.  
9:00 p.m.  
Dec. 25, Sun. 8:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m.

### Lector:

Charles Fisher  
Denise Hozza  
Anthony Molchany  
Larry Nemeth

### Euch. Min.:

Leonard Kosciolek  
Conrad Marth  
Frank Cerino  
Drew Maron

### Altar Servers:

Lean Hartman/Maren Hartman  
Mikayla Warren/Hope Warren  
Gavin Fritz/Aiden Fritz  
Aidan Kraus

**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 blessings and the gift of good health for the sick people of our parish.

## Good News

December 18, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Advent (A)

Isaiah 7:10–14 / Romans 1:1–7 / Matthew 1:18–24

Instincts come in various shapes and sizes. They may simply be gut feelings, or dreams that seem to speak more than a nighttime fantasy trip. Sometimes they appear in the form of daydreaming that takes us to another place, or they can be the silent voice of God. Whatever they may be, there are those times when they demand our attention.

In Saint Joan, a play by George Bernard Shaw, Joan of Arc has a conversation with Robert about her conviction regarding what God is calling her to do. Joan says to him, “I hear voices. They come from God.” Robert disagrees, “They come from your imagination.” “Of course,” says Joan, “that is how messages of God come to us.”

Saint Joseph, the husband of Mary, placed a heavy credence on his dream, believing that the dream to keep pregnant Mary as his wife was the voice of God, and so Joseph does just that. Much later he again listens to a dream and takes his young family to the safety of Egypt and then back home to Nazareth. Those nighttime dreams could have easily become daytime nightmares. Yet for Joseph there was something that kept him from simply dismissing them.

Sometimes our inclinations and inner voices may not seem practical, and yet, even as we find ourselves second-guessing them, we think they need to be listened to. When the inclination is one toward goodness, that may very well be the voice of God.

Fr. Joseph Juknialis

## Calendar

### **Monday - December 19**

Advent Weekday  
Jgs 13:2–7, 24–25a  
Lk 1:5–25

### **Tuesday - December 20**

Advent Weekday  
Is 7:10–14 / Lk 1:26–38

### **Wednesday - December 21**

Advent Weekday  
Sg 2:8–14  
Lk 1:39–45

### **Thursday - December 22**

Advent Weekday  
1 Sm 1:24–28  
Lk 1:46–56

### **Friday - December 23**

Advent Weekday  
Mal 3:1–4, 23–24  
Lk 1:57–66

### **Saturday - December 24**

Advent Weekday  
2 Sm 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16  
Lk 1:67–79

### **Sunday - December 25**

Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)  
Is 52:7–10  
Heb 1:1–6  
Jn 1:1–18

**First Friday Adoration....** after 8:00 a.m. Mass  
**Choir Rehearsal.....** Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.  
**An Advent Celebration....** Sunday, Dec. 18, 4:00 p.m.  
**Prayer Shawl Meeting....** Tuesday, Dec. 20, 10 a.m.  
**Bible Study.....** Thursday, Dec. 22, 10 am.  
**Donut/Giving Sunday....** Sunday, January 8, 2023  
**Church Breakfast.....** Sunday, January 22, 2023  
**Blood Drive.....** Sunday, February 19, 2023  
**"Shroud Encounter".....** Sat./Sun., March 4-5, 2023  
**Church Mission.....** October 8 & 9, 2023



**Lighting of the Advent Wreath [Week Four] – [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:** Prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth with joy. **R-** *Lord, hear our prayer.* **Leader:** Inspire in us sincere conversion and repentance. **R -** *Christ, hear our prayer.* **Leader:** Help the poor, afflicted, and oppressed this Christmas season. **R -** *Lord, hear our prayer.* **Leader:** Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the hindrance of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN.** [Three purple candles and the one rose candle are lighted and left burning during the meal.]

**Advent Confessions**

Sunday, December 18, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 22, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Friday, December 23, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 24, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

**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 2023. 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 17/18. Calendars must be purchased prior to January 1.

**Good Shepherd Catholic School** is accepting enrollment for the 2023-24 school year for students entering grades K-8, Preschool (3 years old) and Pre-K (4 years old). For more information regarding enrollment, or to set up a tour please call Mrs. Lauri Tripaldi, Advancement Director at 610-262-9171 or email her at [mrstripaldigscs@gmail.com](mailto:mrstripaldigscs@gmail.com). We will also host a Catholic Schools Week Open House on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – noon. All are welcome to come, tour the school, and register for next school year!

**Oplatky (Christmas Wafers)** are available (free will offering) in the church social hall all weekends during Advent. The 2023 Calendars, which are free, will also be available in the church social hall during Advent, compliments of Schisler Funeral Home.



**An Advent Celebration:** Our Journey To Bethlehem in Word and Song" will be held **today, Sunday, December 18th at 4 pm** in the church and concludes with a Candlelight Carol Sing.

**Memorial Fund:** Gratefully the parish acknowledges the following people who gave memorial contributions **in memory of Anna Edelman:** Carol and Edward Cesanek; Ronald and Barbara Matuczinski.

**Christmas thru New Year's - Mass Schedule**

**Christmas Eve – Sat., Dec. 24** 4:00 p.m.  
 9:00 p.m.

**Christmas Day – Sun., Dec. 25** 8:00 a.m.  
 10:30 a.m.

**Monday, December 26** 9:00 a.m.  
**Tuesday, December 27** 8:00 a.m.  
**Wednesday, December 28** 8:00 a.m.  
**Thursday, December 29** 8:00 a.m.  
**Friday, December 30** 8:00 a.m.

**New Year's Eve – Sat., Dec. 31** 4:00 p.m.

**New Year's Day – Sun., Jan. 1** 8:00 a.m.  
 10:30 a.m.

**Bethlehem Catholic Theatre Department** Invites you to join us for a night of mystery and intrigue as they present Agatha Christie's : "And Then There Were None." Performances are Jan 6 & 7 at 7pm and Jan 8 at 3pm in the Becahi Auditorium. Tickets are available at the door or through Tickets to the City. We hope to see you there!

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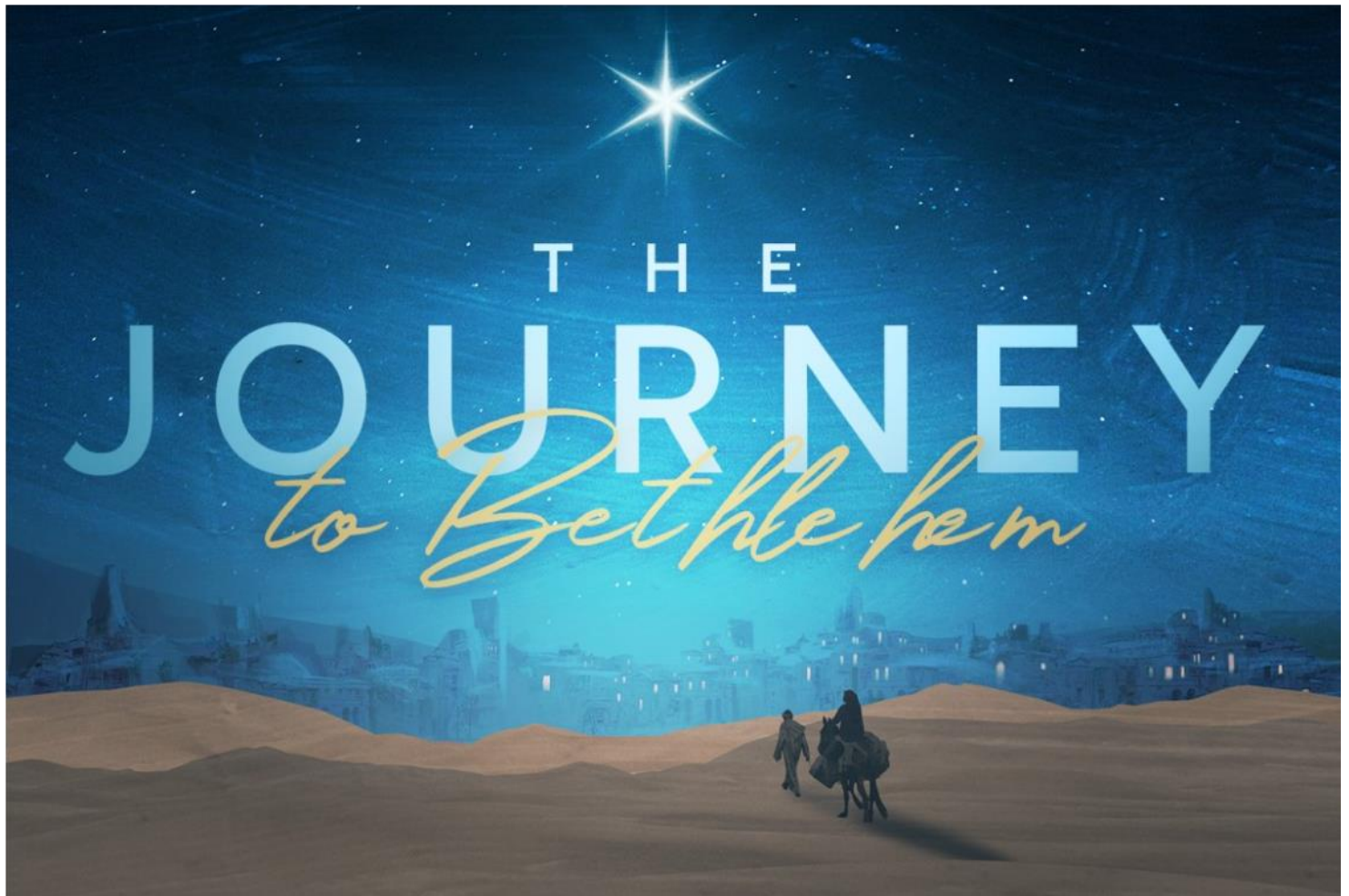
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"Our Journey To Bethlehem in Word and Song"

Advent Celebration will be held on  
Sunday, December 18th at 4 pm  
at Assumption B.V.M. Church  
22<sup>nd</sup> and Washington Avenue, Northampton  
The celebration will conclude with a  
Candlelight Carol Sing.

# STOCKING STUFFER



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January 1, 2023.**

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