



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary RC Church

20 Chestnut Street, Centereach, NY 11720 • 631-585-8760 • abvmcentereach.com

*Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish is a welcoming community,
sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through faith, prayer and the sacraments.*

March 17, 2019

We celebrate EUCHARIST

Saturdays: 8:30 AM and 5:30 PM

Sundays: 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 AM

Weekdays: 7:30 and 9:00 AM

We celebrate PENANCE

Saturdays: 4:00 – 5:00 PM and by appointment.

We celebrate BAPTISM

Usually the first and third Sundays each month. Meeting with Deacon Mike and attendance at class is required. Please contact the rectory during regular office hours to register.

We celebrate MARRIAGE

Make arrangements with the priest at least six months prior to the wedding. All are required by our Bishop to attend the Pre-Cana Conferences as part of the preparation.

Catholic Daughters of the America's (Court St. Gerard)

First Thursday of the month: Sept - June at 7:30 PM in the Parish Library. Contact Maria Calestini at flo815@optonline.net.

Catholic War Veterans

Second Saturday of the month: Sept - June at 10 AM in the Parish Library. Contact Richard Gallagher at popparich38@aol.com.

Communion for the Sick or Shut-ins

Contact the rectory during regular office hours.

Eucharistic Adoration

- First Friday of the month: 1:00 - 2:00 PM. - Nocturnal Adoration
- Third Friday of the month: 7:30-8:30 PM. - ADOREMUS

Holy Name Society

Usually the second Monday of the month: Sept - May at 7:30 PM in the parish center. Contact Sal Stingo at rtbhuntington@yahoo.com or Anita Wolf at hwolf96@aol.com.

Miraculous Medal Novena

Saturdays following the 8:30 AM Mass.

Music Ministry

Our parish's Music Ministry seeks to lead and support our parish family in full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy. Practices are on Wednesday, 6 – 7:30 PM, and Thursday, 6:30 – 8:00 PM. For further information call Rob at 516-523-1668.

Parish Social Ministry (Outreach)

Open Tuesday and Friday, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Food pantry available. Will also try to help with referrals and advocacy. Call Outreach Office for appointment, 631-585-8760 x101.

RCIA

Provides for those who have never been baptized an adult process to experience the joy of our Catholic community; also prepares those who have been baptized but have not celebrated Eucharist and/or Confirmation to do so within an adult context. Anyone 18 and over is welcome. Contact the rectory office at 631-585-8760.

Religious Formation Office

Works with parents to share faith with our youngest members, grades 1-8. Contact Lisette Robustelli for details at 631-588-6408. Office hours during school sessions: Mon. & Tues., 9 AM - 8 PM; Wed. 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM; Saturday 9:00 AM - Noon. Office is closed Thursday, Friday. Opened Sunday, 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM during class sessions. Check bulletin for summer hours.

Rosary Altar Society

A service-based women's organization that cares for the Church and promotes the spiritual life of its members. Contact the rectory for meeting dates and times.

Scouting (Cub Scout, Boy Scouts)

Contact Chantal Mears at Chantalmears@yahoo.com or 631-438-2468 or visit www.bsa356.com for more details.

Youth Ministry

- High School Ministry (AYM), Wednesdays: 7:30 - 9:00 PM in parish center. All teens, grades 9 - 12, are invited.
- Middle School Ministry (MSM), Thursdays, 7:00 - 8:45 PM in parish center. All 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are invited.

For further information, contact Renata 631-585-8760 or email rptak@abvmcentereach.com.

Rev. Chris Aridas, Pastor

Msgr. Joseph K. Curley, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Joseph Alenchery

Deacon Michael Montelione

Rectory: M - F 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Phone: 631-585-8760; Fax: 631-585-3601

Religious Education: 631-588-6408

Youth Ministry (AYM): 631-588-7434

From the Pastor's Desk

Catholic Ministries Appeal

I want to thank everyone who helped make last year's 2018 Catholic Ministries Appeal a success. The diocese collected over ten million dollars, which was used to support many services for the people on Long Island.

Your generosity enabled our parish to reach our assigned goal of \$57,400, thus bringing back to the parish \$14,322 in monies that have been redirected to parish activities.

This year our parish 2019 goal remains \$57,400.

Your generosity provides us with an opportunity to

reach out to those in need by supporting the many programs run by our diocese. In particular, the CMA enables our Catholic community on Long Island to support the work of Catholic Charities, our Catholic Regional Schools, programs for ongoing formation and training of lay leaders as well as our deacons; our seminary which trains men for the priesthood as well as various pastoral offices which provide excellent resources throughout the diocese are also funded by the Appeal. This is but a short listing of a large number of worthwhile programs which your generous contributions support. In addition, parishes who make their goal receive a rebate from the diocese, amounting to 20% of the actual goal.

To date we have received \$39,000 in pledges—almost 70% of our goal. Please ask the Lord how you might participate. Your pledge is payable over a ten-month period of time. Remember also, that one does not have to donate a large amount; joining everyone's sacrificial gift adds up to a great resource for those in need.

Join AYM's Famine Challenge

This year AYM's lock-in theme will be "Fight against Global Hunger." We will do this by carrying out a 30-hour famine, joining forces with the "30-Hour Famine" global youth movement to end hunger.


We will challenge ourselves to fast for 30 hours, starting March 29th and ending on March 30th. The goal will be to go without food for 30 hours, trusting that the Lord will bless this sacrifice by feeding our souls: spiritually, by bringing us closer to God as we focus our thoughts on prayer, and the Lord's heart for the poor; physically, by helping us experience something of what families go through every day, thereby leading us to greater empathy and understanding; relationally, by pulling our AYM community closer together as we experience hunger and hope as one.

We know very well that the global hunger won't disappear in 30 hours, but if we take the first step nothing will slow us down. ***We invite our entire parish family, therefore, to join us in this fast, and then gather with us at our parish's 5:30 p.m. mass on March 30th to end our fast by being nourished with the Bread of Life.***

Most importantly, please pray for us, especially on March 29th and 30th, when we will be fasting. **You also can support our efforts by putting a donation, even if it's only a dollar, in the jars we will have available after all the masses on the weekend of March 16th/17th.** That dollar can feed a child for a day! You can be a prayer buddy by praying for a specific person from our ministry on March 29th and 30th (call Renata, ext. 121, for details), or you can fast in your own setting during the same time we are fasting.

Will you join us?

Catholic Ministries Appeal



Your gift enables the Diocese of Rockville Centre to embody the biblical tradition of our faith—loving service to those in need.

Amount	10 Payments
\$5,000	\$500
2,500	250
1,500	150
1,000	100
500	50
300	30
200	20
Other	_____

Please clip out and mail to rectory or place with Sunday offering.

Name _____ Address _____

Town _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Amount I Wish to Pledge _____

Mass Intentions for the Week



Sunday, March 17th

- 8:00 a.m. — William & Sarah Ross (Mary Ross)
- 9:30 a.m. — Michael Russo (Linda & John)
- 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

Monday, March 18th

- 7:30 a.m. — Peter & Marjorie Gochan (Family)
- 9:00 a.m. — Rosa Ferguson (Family)

Tuesday, March 19th

- 7:30 a.m. —
- 9:00 a.m. — Louis Tilleli (Merola Family)

Wednesday, March 20th

- 7:30 a.m. —
- 9:00 a.m. —

Thursday, March 21st

- 7:30 a.m. —
- 9:00 a.m. — Bennie Quirce (Family)

Friday, March 22nd

- 7:30 a.m. —
- 9:00 a.m. —

Saturday, March 23rd

- 8:30 a.m. — Joao Fernandes (Dias Family)
- 5:30 p.m. — Donald Yablonski (Family)

Sunday, March 24th

- 8:00 a.m. — Amelia & Inacio DeSousa (Family)
- 9:30 a.m. — Frederick C. Lingen (Family)
- 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

Rest in Peace

Norberto Lovell

Outreach Needs

Fruit juice, sugar, tea, ketchup, jello, pudding, cereal, hot cocoa.

Time, Talent & Treasure
Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life



Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary
 (Regular Sunday Offering)

Last Week's Collection \$8,373
 (includes *Faith Direct*)

Last Year's Collection \$8,275

Thank You!

Youth Ministry

Middle School Ministry (MSM) —

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Come and discover all that God wants to offer through our MSM community's faith-building programs.



Assumption Youth

Ministry (AYM)

AYM welcomes all high school teens grades 9-12 to "Come & See" — Wednesday nights, 7:30-9 p.m. in the parish center.



Faith Formation Office Hours

From mid-October through mid-May the office is opened Monday & Tuesday from 9:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m. (when there are classes); Wednesday 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.; and Saturdays, 9:00 a.m.— noon.

Open Retreat/Mission

A Time of Grace — Presented by Michael Sullivan, O.S.A. at St. Margaret of Scotland, Selden. March 25 - 27, 2019, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Father Sullivan offers dynamic and engaging reflections that will renew your heart this Lent. Confessions will be available on Monday evening of the retreat. Wednesday evening includes Benediction. A free will offering will be taken on the final night.

- Sunday: To Be Born Again -- The grace of Baptism in our day-to-day lives.
- Monday: The Healing Love of Jesus -- God's power at work, guiding us to experience the gift of reconciliation.
- Tuesday: The Call to Be Church -- The Church survives and thrives because the Lord Jesus is in us all, saint and sinner alike.
- Wednesday: Our Response to the Call -- How to take God's gifts and express them in our lives.

New parishioner? Moving out of the parish? Kindly fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the rectory.

Name _____

Address _____

Town/Zip _____

Telephone _____

New Parishioner _____ Moving _____

Holy Name Easter Bunny Project

The Easter Bunny Project, developed over 50 years ago, is seeking additional members. The society brings bags of candy and treats to the disabled in special schools as well as a nursing home visit for about two weeks during the Easter Season. As our members have aged, we need interested parishioners who would join us in this endeavor by wearing a costume for the visits which take place on weekdays during the day, and last for a few hours. Please think about it; we could really use your help. You can contact either Sal Stingo at rtchuntington@yahoo.com or Anita Wolf at hwolf96@aol.com. Looking forward to hearing from you!

We've Launched a New Website

We've redone our website.

Our parish website was one of the best in the diocese — easy to navigate and filled with lots of helpful information. Now it's even better than ever, filled with helpful information, e.g., sacramental preparation, funeral readings, wedding readings, parish registration forms, schedules, parish calendar, etc. In addition, we list parish hours, email addresses, RE information, AYM permission forms, important links to other sites and up-to-date information regarding various parish activities. Check it out at www.abvmcentereach.com.

When you use the website, if you find something that doesn't work, e.g., a link that goes nowhere, please contact the office so we can fix it. There was a great deal of cross referencing that went into the project. It would be unlikely that we actually crossed all the t's or dotted all the i's without missing something, so help us out by telling us if something didn't work when you viewed the site.

Lenten Fasting and Abstinence

In keeping with the spirit of penance, all Catholics who have reached their fourteenth year are bound to abstain entirely from meat/poultry on all the Fridays of Lent.

All Catholics between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine inclusive are also bound to observe the law of fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day. Those whose work or health would be impaired are excused from fast and abstinence. Individual conscience should decide proper cause for excuse. A more serious reason is required to excuse oneself from Good Friday fast and abstinence.



Our parish now subscribes to a revolutionary online platform which provides the best in Catholic audio talks, movies, ebooks, and

video-based studies from trusted providers like the Augustine Institute, Scott Hahn, Edward Sri, Fr. Michael Gaitley, etc. This allows you, **free of charge**, to access online resources in bible study, apologetics, Christian entertainment, family catechesis, etc. at your convenience. It's available 24/7 thus allowing you to put time aside when it's best for you.

Check it out by signing up for the website. Simply type in abvmcentereach.formed.org on your browser. You will be asked to fill out a registration form and create a password for your email address. **There is no charge.** Once you have registered you'll have access to all the material on FORMED.

You also can install FORMED through an app. Learn more at app.formed.org. Our parish code is P8DGQ8.

50th Wedding Anniversary

This spring, couples that have been married fifty years or more will be honored at a Mass on Sunday, May 5, 2019 at the Church of St. Rose of Lima in Massapequa. Mass will begin at 2:30 p.m. Registration forms and complete instructions can be obtained at the parish office during regular office hours. Registration must be received by the Office of Faith Formation by April 15, 2019. If you have any questions you may call 516-678-5800, extension 506.

Phone Scam

This past week one of our parishioners received a text message from 631-485-7422 which said it was from Fr. Chris telling them there was an emergency and he needed help. The text asked them to buy gift cards to help a cancer patient. The text was specific about meeting them with the promise that they would be reimbursed for the cards. Do not respond to such texts. The parish does not solicit any funds or gift cards via text or email.

Parish "Media Ministry" Forming

Come join our newly formed media ministry. **Job description:** operate the computer during mass so we can project the songs, prayers, and readings on the screen. The response to using the screen has been very positive. What we need now is a group of "media people" who will help to lead the people in prayer and song through this innovative ministry. It's not difficult to do; see Fr. Joseph for details.