



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary RC Church

20 Chestnut Street, Centereach, NY 11720 · 631-585-8760 · www.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.

August 11, 2019

We celebrate EUCHARIST

Saturdays: 5:30 PM

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

Weekdays: 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

Wednesdays following the 9:00 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 the office 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
- Middle School Ministry (MSM), Thursdays, 7:00 - 8:45 PM

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

Rev. Joseph Alenchery, Pastor
Rev. Chris Aridas, Retired Pastor
Deacon Michael Montelione

Rectory Office: M - F 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
Phone: 631-585-8760; Fax: 1-866-214-3365
Faith Formation: 631-588-6408

Good News Reflection**How to receive all God that offers**

We're told in this Sunday's Gospel reading that God is "pleased" to give us his kingdom, which includes eternal life in heaven as well as all the benefits of his love and goodness here on earth.

God does not withhold anything good from us. But do we avail ourselves of all he offers?

Jesus explains: If you value earthly treasures more than you treasure opportunities to share God's love and blessings with others, your hands are full of nothing that will last. If your "money bags" are filled with worldly goals that push God out, or selfish plans that push others out, or ungodly relationships that push holiness out from your life, there isn't much room for the wondrous and eternal gifts of God. "For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be."

Anything not of God is detrimental to us and, in the end, pointless, because it does not unite us to God and we cannot take it to heaven. We need to trade it in for the inexhaustible treasures that come from God.

Jesus isn't saying that we have to literally sell all of our worldly possessions in order to make room for divine treasures. What matters is our motive for having these things. Are they used for serving the kingdom of God or are they serving only earthly, temporary, selfish purposes?

Whatever enhances our union with God -- and only this -- is a treasure that we'll enjoy for all of eternity.

Jesus warns us not to waste time being lazy about purging our lives of earthly treasures. We don't know when the Master will come to take us away to the heavenly banquet of eternal union with God. Will we be ready? Not if we're more interested in feeding our worldly desires.

This is why God, in his great mercy, provides Purgatory. Separation from earthly treasures (the purging) is painful when we prefer them over heavenly goods; Jesus describes this as the "beatings" that the Master's servants get.

Why wait for that? Now is the time to prefer only the kingdom of God and build up our cache of gifts that no thief can reach nor moth destroy.

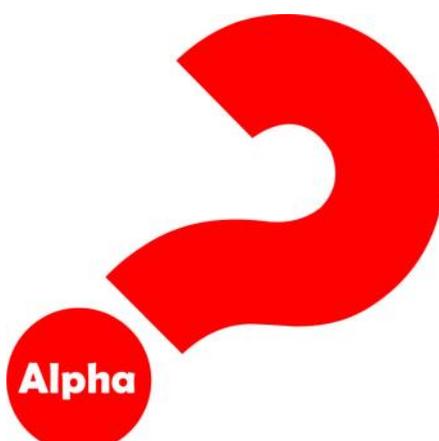
Questions for Personal Reflection:

If you knew you were going to die tomorrow, what would you do today to prepare? What attitudes, what goals, and what plans do you have that don't assist the kingdom of God? What habits or addictions? Unloving behaviors? Unforgiveness and unresolved conflicts? Take these worthless treasures to the Sacrament of Reconciliation to clean them out of your life, with Christ's help, so that you can make room for more heavenly treasures.

Questions for Family & Community Faith Sharing:

Describe an earthly attachment you used to have and explain how God helped you let go of it. What divine treasure did you gain?

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**is coming
on Saturday
September 7**

Mass Intentions for the Week



Sunday, August 11th

- 8:00 a.m. — Eileen Pacula (Daughter)
- 9:30 a.m. — Amelia & Inacio DeSousa (Family)
- 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

Monday, August 12th

- 9:00 a.m. — Joseph Manitta (Hilda)

Tuesday, August 13th

- 9:00 a.m. — Tita & Tony Valisno, Sr. (Aida, Tony Pet & Arnold)

Wednesday, August 14th

- 9:00 a.m. — Rodrigue Morency (Children)

Thursday, August 15th

- 7:30 a.m. — Intention of Corinne & Bill Addiss (Angelo & Franciney Recca)
- Noon — People of the Parish
- 7:00 p.m. — Bronislaw Tutka (Renata & Family)

Friday, August 16th

- 9:00 a.m. — Intention of President Donald Trump (Legion of Mary)

Saturday, August 17th

- 5:30 p.m. — Mary Gambino (M/M VanSchaick)

Sunday, August 18th

- 8:00 a.m. — Abelardo Angeles (Family)
- 9:30 a.m. — Sistina Sperduti (Family)
- 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass Schedule for Thursday, August 15

7:30 AM, NOON, 7:00PM

Notice that there is a 7:30AM Mass



Youth Ministry Summer Schedule

Middle School Ministry (MSM)
 August 8th @ 5pm, Hobbs Farm;
 August 22nd at 8:00 p.m Family
 Movie Night in parking lot.



Assumption

Youth Ministry (AYM)

August 8th at 5:00 p.m. at Hobbs-Farm;
 August 22nd at 8:00 p.m.,
 Family Movie Night in parking lot.



All Middle School and High School students are welcome.

Faith Formation

Summer Office Hours

The office is opened Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Registration for Religious Ed

Registration for our upcoming Religious Program has begun. It's important that you register as soon as possible so we can arrange the classrooms in a timely fashion. Registration forms have been mailed to all current participants. The form is also located on our webpage — www.abvmcentereach.com.

Please consider helping out with our program as a catechist, office worker, security person. The sharing of faith is the responsibility of all the adults in the parish; you're help is essential.

Faith Direct

Our parish's many ministries are examples of how many of you answer that call. Our ministries require not only gifts of time and talent, but also of financial help. Please prayerfully consider supporting Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. Signing up is easy! Visit faith.direct/NY563 or text the word **ENROLL** to (Text-to-Give Phone Number). Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

Time, Talent & Treasure

Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life



Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary (Regular Sunday Offering)

Last Week's Collection \$7,834
 (includes *Faith Direct*)

Last Year's Collection \$9,065

Thank You!

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 _____

Parking Lot Repair

We are now near the final part of the project where portions of the parking lot will be closed as we churn up the asphalt and repave the surface. This will alter the traffic pattern for a brief period of time. Your patience is appreciated.

Coffee in the Courtyard

Assumption Youth Ministries invite everyone to “Coffee in the Courtyard”, on Sundays after the 9:30 AM Mass. Have a cup of coffee and a snack and have great conversations. It is a great opportunity to meet people who we worship with, make new friends, and build a stronger community, in which we then become a stronger parish family. All are welcome!



Girl Scout Mass

Catholic Committee for Girl Scouting of the Diocese of Rockville Centre is holding their Annual Mass and Mingle on Sunday August 25, 2019, 3:00 PM at Saint James Church, 429 Main Street, Setauket. Open to All Girl Scouts in DRVC. For more information contact the Catholic Scouting Office 516 678-5800, ext. 245 scouting@drvc.org

Parish Outreach Program

Our Outreach Program consists of trained volunteers who meet with anyone living within parish boundaries who is struggling financially or emotionally and needs support and direction. We take a brief history and refer those needing assistance to any program appropriate to their needs. Working closely with Catholic Charities, Long Island Cares, and other community organizations, our food pantry is available for individuals and families who are struggling to stretch their food budget. The Outreach office is open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Appointments can be made by calling 585-8760, x101.



Outreach Needs

Baked beans, Pancake mix, Syrup, Cooking oil, Toilet paper, Paper Towels, Pet food, Coffee



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.

Gennesaret Retreat

Gennesaret Retreat, held at Montfort Spiritual Center, Bay Shore, New York (**September 20 –22, 2019**) offers the unique opportunity for persons who face serious illness to come away for a weekend retreat of spiritual renewal and refreshment. Come and celebrate life and the love of the Lord Jesus in a beautiful and comfortable place among caring and generous people.

The retreat weekend schedule is designed to celebrate the love of the Lord Jesus Christ through prayer times, talks by our priest directors, through quiet time and ample periods of rest. The retreat focuses on God's love, His forgiveness, and His faithfulness. It begins on Friday afternoon at 1:30 P.M and ends early Sunday afternoon.

There is time for sharing, celebrating, prayer together and alone.

There is no cost to you for this retreat. Expenses are paid through the generosity of individuals, parishes and church communities who value retreat experiences.

We will be happy to talk to you about your needs and help plan for your retreat. To register or receive more information about this weekend, please call: **Colette Fanelli (631) 665-7052**



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

August 11, 2019
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Our Church continues to suffer as a result of past sins of sexual abuse of minors. Victim survivors of abuse and their families also continue to carry the terrible effects of that abuse. We pray that the fire of the Holy Spirit may descend upon the Church to purify and sanctify her. It is also important that we are all aware of recent developments that will cause uncertainty and present serious challenges for us in the months and perhaps years ahead.

Governor Andrew Cuomo signed the Child Victims Act (CVA) into law last February. The CVA suspends for one year any statute of limitations associated with alleged sexual abuse of a minor. This law will allow currently time-barred lawsuits to be brought against individuals as well as public and private institutions, regardless of how many years or even decades ago the abuse may have taken place.

When the one-year window to file lawsuits opens on August 14, 2019, hundreds, if not thousands of lawsuits are expected to be filed across New York State against dioceses, parishes, municipalities, public schools, hospitals and a broad range of not-for-profit charitable organizations, both religious and non-religious. The financial impact of this law may be far reaching.

However, if we are people of the Paschal Mystery, we enter the unknown with what we do know – that the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ will sustain and strengthen us in the days ahead. The power of the Resurrection overcomes despair.

No doubt, we will hear about many past failures. We will again hear the heart wrenching stories of victim survivors. I have personally met with survivors of abuse, their families, friends and loved ones. I have listened at a deep level to their stories of tragedy, betrayal, trauma and their heroic efforts to engage in the process of healing. Their lifelong wounds of trauma run so deep, that only the warmth of the Holy Spirit can begin to touch, relieve and heal them. Together, we pray that the fire of the Holy Spirit brings the light of true repentance and reform, moving the Church to continue listening and responding with the humility and compassion of Jesus Christ.

It is also important that we be aware of what is already happening and has been happening for many years in our Diocese as to the extraordinary work that goes into child protection. First, the Diocesan Office for the Protection of Children and Young People was established in 2003. Many years of hard work have made this office one which puts the safety and well-being of children first, and seeks to reach out to and support victim survivors of abuse. It works to ensure the screening and training of every person who works in or volunteers for the Church. If you are an employee or a volunteer in your parish, you know about background checks, VIRTUS training and the call for every member of the Church to be vigilant in protecting children.

For years, we have worked closely with law enforcement whenever an allegation of abuse is made against a member of the clergy, an employee or volunteer in the Diocese of Rockville Centre. Our confidential hotline (516-594-9063) is closely monitored, and calls made to it are returned within 24 hours by a licensed mental health professional. Allegations of abuse are promptly reported to the appropriate district attorney's office and are thoroughly investigated. In addition, pastoral care and mental health support is offered to any abuse survivor who needs assistance.

These are just a few of the reforms, efforts and safeguards that have been in place since 2002 in our Diocese, and have made the Church on Long Island a truly safe environment. And we do not rest there. We continually work to discern the best ways to adjust and enhance our child protection practices, to raise consciousness in the Church and society about vigilance and to support survivors of abuse.

In 2017, we initiated our Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program (IRCP) to provide a confidential mechanism for survivors to receive compensation and some measure of healing and justice. We intend to continue this program for the foreseeable future, even after the CVA takes effect, so survivors can, if they wish, be heard in a fair, respectful, confidential and timely way. To date, 370 people have filed claims with our IRCP. The vast majority of claimants – 277 to be exact – have accepted compensation totaling just over \$50 million, with 75-80 claims still being processed.

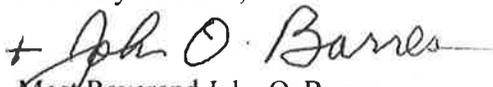
We have worked diligently with our financial and legal advisors to assess our financial position and maximize the availability of insurance coverage to meet the demands that will likely be imposed by anticipated CVA litigation. Please also know that parish collections and financial donations made through the Catholic Ministries Appeal will continue to be used, consistent with our commitment to our parishioners, to support the Diocese, and its ministries and pursue the goals of the Catholic Ministry Appeal. The parish offertory and Catholic Ministry Appeal funds have not and will not be used to resolve claims for clergy sexual abuse.

The work of the Church – of administering the Sacraments, of teaching, healing, advocating, serving, and ministering to the poor and vulnerable – can and must continue, despite the sins of the past. I speak in greater detail about all of this, and about the Diocese's robust safe environment practices and commitment to them, in a Catholic Faith Network (CFN) special video which you can view on CFN television, the Diocesan website (www.drvc.org) and on Diocese of Rockville Centre social media platforms.

The coming months will require perseverance and prayer if we are to emerge even more dedicated to Christ's saving mission. As the opening of the CVA window takes place near the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, we are reminded to turn to Mary our Mother and draw courage from the one who did not look away from her suffering Son. She waited patiently, suffered with Him, and shared in His victory over sin and death.

This is the same Mary who, as Mother of the Church, gathered with the Apostles in the locked room, waiting for the power of the Holy Spirit to descend at Pentecost. As we enter a time of Paschal Mystery suffering, may Mary guide us, so that together we may continue to carry out the mission of her Son: the building up of the Kingdom of God throughout Long Island and the world.

Sincerely in Christ,


Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre