



ASSUMPTION of the Blessed Virgin Mary

A welcoming community sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through faith, prayer and the sacraments.



May 17, 2020

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.

Eucharistic Adoration

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

Miraculous Medal Novena

Wednesdays following the 9:00 AM Mass.

Communion for the Sick or Shut-ins

Contact the rectory during regular office hours.

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 or those who have been baptized but have not celebrated Eucharist and/or Confirmation to experience the joy of our Catholic community, within an adult context. Anyone 18 and over is welcome. Contact the rectory office at 631-585-8760.

Faith Formation

Works with parents to share faith with our youngest members, grades 1-8. Contact the office for details at 631-588-6408.

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

Music Ministry

Our parish's Music Ministry seeks to lead and support our parish family in full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy. For further information call Rob at 516-523-1668.

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



Sunday, May 17th

8:00 a.m. — Vincent Palma, Sr. (Ann Joan Palma)
 9:30 a.m. — Abelardo Angeles (Family)
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

Monday, May 18th

9:00 a.m. — Robert Scibelli (Sister)

Tuesday, May 19th

9:00 a.m. — Frank Lisi

Wednesday, May 20th

9:00 a.m. — William Tait, Sr.

Thursday, May 21st

Noon — People of the Parish
 7:00 p.m. — William Ross (Mary Ross)

Friday, May 22nd

9:00 a.m. — James Powers (Family)

Saturday, May 23rd

5:30 p.m. — Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell (Ester Eby)

Sunday, May 24th

8:00 a.m. — Maria & Inacio DeSousa (Family)
 9:30 a.m. — Frank Stile (Family)
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish



Deceased Brothers and Sisters of our Parish Families



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

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary
 (Regular Sunday Offering)

Last Week's Collection \$13,610
 (includes *Faith Direct*)

Last Year's Collection \$8,219
Thank You!

Faith Formation

The ministry of the Word is a fundamental element of evangelization through all its stages, because it involves the proclamation of Jesus Christ, the eternal Word of God

Faith Formation Office Hours

Regular Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 3:00—8:00 p.m.); Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.—7:30; Thursday & Friday - Closed; Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to 11; Sunday - 10:30 a.m. to Noon.

Middle School Ministry (MSM)

Middle School Ministry is on Thursday nights from 7:00 PM to 8:45 PM. All Middle Schoolers (6th thru 8th) are welcome.



Assumption Youth Ministry (AYM)

Assumption Youth Ministry welcomes all high Schoolers (9th thru 12th) on Wednesday nights from 7:30-9:00 PM. We gather in the Parish Center Hall. Bring your friends with you.



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.

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.

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..

Good News Reflection**Jesus is giving you the best partner ever**

In this Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus tells us that the Holy Spirit is our "Advocate". Some scholars translate the word to "Counselor". In the original Greek, it means "called alongside". It's closely related to the verb "parakaleo" ("to call" or "summon") from which we get "Paraclete" as a name for the Holy Spirit. It referred to a legal assistant, a courtroom advocate. Jesus is telling us that the Holy Spirit is our legal assistant when we're falsely accused, misjudged, or wrongly condemned.

Notice that Jesus refers to our Advocate as the "Spirit of Truth". No matter what other people think about us, no matter what wrong things they say about us, no matter what opinions they have of us, God always knows the truth. And the truth that sets us free from their bad attitudes is this: It's only God's opinion that really matters. And his opinion of us is better than we think it is!



We judge ourselves more harshly than we should, and this is why we worry so much about how others are judging us. If we honestly examine our consciences, seek reconciliation with God for our sins during the Penance Rite at Mass or in the Sacrament of Confession, and strive to improve, then Jesus says to us what he said to other sinners: "I do not condemn you; go and sin no more."

Don't you sometimes wish that Jesus would come physically to your rescue when you're misjudged? He said that he will not leave us orphans -- his Holy Spirit will always be with us when we need to be defended, telling us the truth about our goodness.

Even when we sin, the Spirit of Truth defends us to our heavenly Judge: "Look, this precious child really does want to be holy." To us, the Spirit says, "Let me teach you how to grow in holiness and avoid this sin." And to others, the Spirit says: "If you love me, love this good friend of mine."

Questions for Personal Reflection:

How have you been unjustly accused and unfairly judged? Imagine what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Father about that. And to those who condemned you. What is he saying to you about you?

Questions for Group Faith Sharing:

Describe a time when God defended you. How did the Advocate manifest his help? Who learned more from it: you or your accusers?

Sunday, May 17, 2020

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Hope is nourishing

Especially in these trying times, we may be tempted to dismiss hope as something akin to wishful thinking. Yet hope is a theological virtue, along with faith and love. These three put us into position for personal union with God. Hope, in particular, orients us perpetually in a Godward direction no matter where life takes us. As Cistercian monk Aelred of Rivaux declared: "What is hope but food for the journey to support us in the miseries of this life?" Cultivate hope by weeding out habits of negativity and cynicism.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21 (55). "Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope."

Monday, May 18, 2020

MEMORIAL OF JOHN I, POPE, MARTYR

Lean on the Lord

Pope John I was frail when he was elected to the papacy in 523, and he did not survive imprisonment by a heretical king. From permanent disabilities to occasional illness, from aging to chronic fatigue to widespread viral infection, we all experience physical weakness at some point and know that it can feel like a prison. When we hit the limits of our bodies, our inner strength can wane too. At that time—and at any time—lean on the Lord to carry you through.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 16:11-15; John 15:26—16:4a (291). "The Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, he will testify to me."

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

EASTER WEEKDAY

Always at our side and on our side

When Jesus promised his disciples the Holy Spirit, he used an interesting word. He called their holy helper a "paraclete," the Greek word for *advocate*—literally "called to one's side." It was used in courts of law to describe an intercessor or counselor. From the Book of Job, we also know paraclete can mean "comforter." What a rich, meaningful name to give that Spirit who guides us still—by our side even when we're as clueless as can be.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 16:22-34; John 16:5-11 (292). "If I do not go, the Advocate will not come."

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

MEMORIAL OF BERNARDINE OF SIENA, PRIEST

The best witness is a joyful heart

Do you know of someone whose energy and joy attracts followers of all kinds? Franciscan priest and theologian Saint Bernadine of Siena (1380-1444), whose feast we celebrate today, was one of those people. He was a human dynamo whose preaching drew thousands of fans throughout Italy even as he challenged them to practice voluntary poverty and denounced the sins of the day. His joyful eloquence defined his ministry and was impossible to ignore. Can you bring others to God through a joyful spirit?

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; John 16:12-15 (293). "They were to seek God, yes . . . though he is not really far from any one of us."

Thursday, May 21, 2020

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

This isn't goodbye

After listening to the nightly news, a friend recently (and understandably) gasped: "We need Jesus!" Most believers would agree. Which is perhaps why the Ascension doesn't feel like an event we're much inclined to celebrate. Jesus *departs*; this sounds like a terrible idea from every standpoint except the truth—because Jesus promises to send us his Spirit as an indwelling presence. If we still feel like orphans, remember Jesus' words: "I am with you always." See Jesus all around: in word and sacrament, in the assembly of faith, in the disadvantaged sister and brother.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20 (58). "And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

Friday, May 22, 2020

EASTER WEEKDAY

Identify escape routes

During stressful times and increased family togetherness, such as global "stay-at-home" orders, domestic abuse increases. Special hotlines and secret havens are set up to assist victims, and abusers are encouraged to seek help as well. Saint Rita of Cascia, whose feast we celebrate today, was mentally and physically abused by her husband for years. In the Middle Ages, she had little recourse. She chose to respond with kindness, patience, and humility. Her virtues did little to change her husband's behavior, but she did her best to escape her situation, at least spiritually. With the many resources available today, be aware of the signs of abuse and encourage loved ones to seek both physical and spiritual refuge.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 18:9-18; John 16:20-23 (295). "No one will take your joy away from you."

Saturday, May 23, 2020

EASTER WEEKDAY

Here's to life

As we adjust to new ways of living, the Easter season offers much-needed hope. Resurrection changes everything, not only in salvation history but also here and now. Life coming out of death. That is the mystery of our faith, and the mystery of the world we live in. For every story of greed and ineptitude, there are many more stories of generosity and competence. Celebrate those victories. That is the life that comes out of death.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 18:23-28; John 16:23b-28 (296). "For the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have come to believe that I came from God."

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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Catholic Ministries Appeal

I want to thank everyone who helped make last year’s 2019 Catholic Ministries Appeal a success. This year our parish goal is \$56,200. Your generosity provides us with an excellent opportunity to reach out to those in need. 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 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. 75% of our goal is pledged so far.

Please ask the Lord how you might participate. Your pledge is payable over a ten-month period of time. Remember also, one does not have to donate a large amount; joining everyone’s sacrificial gift adds up to a great resource for those in need.

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2020 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL
 PO Box 4000 • Rockville Centre, New York 11571-4000 • DRVC.org/CMA/

To provide funds I/we agree to make a gift of:

Pledge \$ _____ Initial Payment \$ _____ Balance \$ _____

Parish: **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Centereach**

Email: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Please send me information about Wills and Bequests

Thank you for your support!

A Guide to Giving
Every Gift Counts!

Pledge	10 Payments
\$150	\$15.00
\$250	\$25.00
\$500	\$50.00
\$1,000	\$100.00
Other \$ _____	

Please make checks payable to:
Catholic Ministries Appeal

APP-PC-0120

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. 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.



Pantry Needs: Mayonnaise, Shampoo, Conditioner, Liquid hand soap, Paper towels, Pet food, Box milk, Toothbrushes



Please prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. You are helping our church be more efficient, and have a steady, predictable cash flow to support the works that are important to you, throughout the year. Signing up is easy! Visit faith.direct/NY563 or download the **Faith Direct app** and search for the parish with the parish code (NY563). Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK



SHADE: THE SERIES

Franciscan Friars of the Renewal

This new acoustic series offers simple and uncut prayers from the heart to experience the Lord's accompanying presence and refreshment in the midst of your day-to-day journey.

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