



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

July 27, 2025

Our Mission

Love God.

Serve Others. Grow Disciples.

You Matter! + You Belong!

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

Rev. Joseph Alenchery, 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



Mass Intentions for the week

Sunday, July 27

9:30 a.m.— Peter & Marjorie Gochan (Gochan Family)

Harold Halpin (Marie Renahan)

11:30 a.m.— Catherine Holbrook Scheer (Elizabeth Paroly)

Joseph Pacula (Eileen Dorrian & Timothy Meyers)

Monday, July 28

9:00 a.m.— People of the Parish

Vincent Boretta (Anthony Galletta)

Tuesday, July 29

9:00 a.m.— Nino Arcabascio (Anthony Galletta)

Wednesday, July 30

9:00 a.m.— Paul Galletta (Anthony Galletta)

Thursday, July 31

9:00 a.m.— Jennie Quirk (Barbara Staab)

Saturday, August 2

5:30 p.m.—

Sunday, August 3

9:30 a.m.— Allison Ward (Colleen Track-Navarra)

Lucy Quirk (Patti & Ron Palmer)

11:30 a.m.— Catherine Holbrook Scheer (Margaret Petho)

We celebrate **EUCHARIST**

Saturdays: 5:30 PM

Sundays: 9:30, 11:30 AM

Weekdays: Mon—Thurs 9:00 AM

We celebrate **PENANCE**

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

Faith Formation Office Hours

Regular Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday 9:00

a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 7:30 pm; Wednesday

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday

9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Sacraments

For more information on Baptism, Marriage and Anointing of the Sick, please visit our parish website www.abvmcentereach.com or call the office at 631-585-8760 during regular office hours.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas (Court St. Gerard)

First Thursday of the month: Sept - June at 7:30 PM in the Parish Library. Contact Alexandria McMahon at 631-585-3938.

Catholic War Veterans

Second Saturday of the each month at 10 AM in the Parish Library. Contact Vincent Zecca, papazecca@aol.com, or phone 631 588 3423.

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. Meetings are held on every first Tuesday of the month from September thru June.

Rest
in
Peace



Concetta Pesile

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths."

Proverbs 3:5-6

STEWARDSHIP

GIVING to our parish as an act of worship

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary

Last Week's Collection: \$9,850

(includes *Faith Direct*)

Last Year's Collection: \$10,388

Thank You!



July 27, 2025

 Written by
 THE
 FAITHFUL
 DISCIPLE

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gn 18:20-32 | Col 2:12-14 | Lk 11:1-13

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

"Ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Sounds lovely, doesn't it? I remember understanding this verse as though God is like a genie in a bottle and prayer is like a delivery service. But when I encountered true hardship, this interpretation was tested. I was seeking, but I couldn't find what I wanted. My request seemed to go unanswered. I was asking, but my hands were empty. I couldn't reconcile this. Did this mean God wasn't telling me the truth? Trusting that couldn't be the case, I pressed in a little harder. In time, and through the grace of God, I realized I'd been reading this verse through selfish eyes. I was understanding this passage to say, "ask for whatever you feel like in the moment, and I'll drop it on your doorstep." But what does Jesus *actually* say? He says that if we ask, he will always give us *the Holy Spirit*. This understanding can change how we pray. The Lord doesn't promise to instantly cure our maladies, or to remove every ounce of pain on this side of the veil. But he does promise to send his Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to be with us through it all. And that is far better than any type of delivery service.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's psalm echoes the Gospel message that the Lord never abandons us. In our response, we unite our voices with the universal Church as we say, "Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me." We encounter hardship on a daily basis. From the tiny irritations that tempt our tempers to flare to the heavy crosses we carry, we are reminded of how much we need God's help. And yet, how often is our response to turn inward and grow weary, discouraged, or angry? Next time we come eye to eye with a challenge, let's try to respond like the psalmist, and cry out to the Advocate. He is very near. *Come Holy Spirit.*

REFLECT

We are reminded in today's readings that the Lord is always near, that he hears us, and that he responds generously. Thank God this is true even when it doesn't seem like it. As we face our daily hardships, let's not forget to ask Jesus for help. Don't forget that he never rations the Spirit, and though he will never force himself on you, he's waiting eagerly to pour his love into your heart. Ask! Seek! Knock! He knows your voice, and he is ready to respond.



ASSUMPTION ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2025 11:30AM - 3:30 PM

- A large tent, tables and chairs will be provided for guests.
- Families to enjoy a petting zoo, face painting, games, bingo, raffle ticket and prizes are all included in your ticket price.

On **Saturday, August 23, 2025**, our parish family will celebrate its 70th Anniversary. The rain date will be Sunday, August 24, 2025. We hope you'll be able to join in the festivities. A great day of celebration has been planned, beginning with the celebration of the Eucharist at 10:00 a.m., followed by food and beverages, entertainment, games and fellowship on our church property. The celebration will be from 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Please note that no alcoholic beverages will be permitted.

The cost of the event will be \$15/person not to exceed \$40/household. A household includes two adults and two children (ages 3-12yrs old) living with them. Additional "guests" will be charged \$15/guest. To keep the price accessible to all, we've been seeking business and family sponsors to subsidize the event. We hope you'll be able to join us.

Since we must pre-order food/beverages, we must sell tickets in advance and will not be able to take "walk ins" on the day of the event. Therefore, if you wish to join in the fun, make sure you place **your reservation before July 25th** by filling out the form and sending it with your check, payable to Assumption Church. Please see the Ticket reservation form below

70th Anniversary Celebration Ticket Reservation Form

Household/Family Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Town/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Number of adults attending _____

Number of children attending (ages 3 to 12) _____

Number of children under three are free _____

You may mail, drop it in the collection basket at Weekend Masses or bring it to the parish office during regular business hours. Please **mark "Registration Committee" on the envelope.**



Faith Tuesdays

Summer Ministry

July 8th, 15th, 29th, Aug 12th, 19th - 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Bible Buddy Tuesdays (2nd grade and younger) adopt a pet and learn stories in our Gardens of Grace series.

Bible Lego Tuesdays (3rd grade and older) enhance the Gardens of Grace series stories thru use of Legos.

Come learn about God's love and grace with our Gardens of Grace series. Each week we will walk through one of five special gardens written about in Scripture, each telling a part of God's wonderful message—from creation to redemption to eternity.



Bereavement Support

St Joseph's Church

45 Church St., Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

Starting on September 9th and
will end on November 4th

The group is for the recently bereaved or those who are still
struggling with an unresolved loss.

We will begin a nine-week-day program in

Carew Hall (lower level of the Church)

Space is limited, so if you are interested in joining,

please call Michele Nappi, at 631-588-8456 or

email michele@stjorok.org as soon as possible.

There is a one time registration fee of \$25.00



*It's time to do something different ...
Do something life changing...
Live your best life in love!*

Attend an upcoming WWME experience!

Sept. 19-21, 2025

Friday evening—Sunday afternoon

**The Seminary of the Immaculate Conception
Huntington, NY**

APPLY by
Aug. 29, 2025

Scan QR to apply
Additional info or help with
application??
Call: 646-642-7463
Visit: www.wwme.org
Email: jimmy.bernice.acevedo@wwme.org



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

The Worldwide Marriage Encounter experience
is a heart haven that helps you listen, share, and connect more deeply.
There's no group discussion.

It's just about the two of you learning to be the best, most loving and thriving couple you can be.

Living your best life in love



Parish Social Ministry

The Outreach Food Pantry is available for individuals and families that are struggling to stretch their food budget. If you or someone you know can use our services, please call us at 631 585-8760 x2 or by email to outreach@abvmcentereach.com. The Outreach Office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 10AM to 1PM.

PANTRY NEEDS: Kleenex, Conditioner, Liquid Hand Soap, Jell-O Mix, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Fruit Juice, Shelf Stable Milk, Oatmeal, Pancake Mix, Instant Potatoes, Snacks, Baked Beans, Canned Tomatoes, Canned Chili, Canned Carrots, Canned Peas.



Small Groups

Small Groups are about life change, and small groups promote life change at a fundamental level. Small groups are for everybody. Whether new to the faith or skeptical about whether you really need religious faith in your life, or if you're having that feeling something is missing, and you need more, don't worry. Let this be your call to action to join a small group, and just watch how

much Jesus can change your life for the better. Small groups are where we grow. If you're interested in life change, new life for you and those you love, join one of our small groups. Talk to someone at the Welcome Desk; email us at rectory@abvmcentereach.com or call 631-585-8760 and leave a message for Nick Gigante or Dan Callahan or Andres & Sandra (Spanish).

Testimony: "Joining a small group has been one of the most remarkable positive differences in my life"

Assumption Prayer Team

We pray for every request in the prayer Petition Books, from Adoremus and on our prayer wall on our website and those given to us in person. Prayer Petition Books are in the back of the church. When others pray for you, it can be very powerful and effective.

"Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:16



PRAYER TEAM



Prayer Wall

On our parish website, you will find a button labeled "Prayer Wall." This is a space where you can submit your prayer intentions publicly or anonymously, and our Prayer Team will pray for them. As a parish family, we support each other through prayer. By sharing your prayer intentions, you allow many people to join in prayer for you. We invite you to fill out the information on the webpage along with your pray-

er request, so we can pray together as a parish family.



Please prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. Signing up is easy! Visit faithdirect.net/NY563 or scan the QR Code on your right. Please use **the parish code (NY563)**. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!



Sunday, Jul 27, 2025

Celebrate our perfect parent

In 1994 President Clinton signed a congressional resolution setting aside the fourth Sunday of July as Parents' Day for "recognizing, uplifting, and supporting the role of parents in the rearing of children." Embracing this day is easy for those of us who have or had loving parents, but for those of us who didn't experience great parenting, we may find it hard to feel uplifted. Surely, however, we can all celebrate the fact that we have a perfect divine parent who has loved us unconditionally and cared for us unceasingly since before we were born.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Genesis 18:20-32; Colossians 2:12-14; Luke 11:1-13 (111). *"If you . . . know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"*

Monday, Jul 28, 2025

How does your garden grow?

Jesus uses the parable of the mustard seed to illustrate that when the reign of God takes root even from the smallest seed, it will grow to great size. But is that what most of us want? Do we really hope to see the establishment of God's reign—where the lowly are lifted up and the mighty are brought to their knees? Scripture scholar John Dominic Crossan points out that in Mediterranean areas the mustard bushes that sprout from tiny mustard seeds are considered weeds—a nuisance to any garden. Hmm . . . how many of us find God's ways an irritant to our best-laid plans? God's reign is messy when judged by worldly standards. Weeds are welcome.

Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34; Matthew 13:31-35 (401). *"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed . . . It becomes a large bush."*

Tuesday, Jul 29, 2025

Martha has her moment

Martha, Mary, and their brother Lazarus were close friends of Jesus. Martha has come down to us as the original "Type A" personality, the busy one in Luke's gospel who has trouble sitting still when Jesus visits. But she also was a woman of great courage and faith. Even in the face of her profound grief at having lost her brother, she was unshaken in her faith that Jesus was the "resurrection and the life." When a loss of a loved one leaves us feeling devastated, Martha's witness can bring strength and hope that death does not have the last word.

MEMORIAL OF MARTHA, MARY, AND LAZARUS

Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; John 11:19-27 or Luke 10:38-42 (402/607). *"I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God."*

Wednesday, Jul 30, 2025

We are more precious than we know

Jesus' metaphor that the kingdom of God is a "pearl of great price," so precious that a person would sell all their possessions to have it, may seem extreme. However, Jesus is not giving out financial advice. He is putting a fine point on a truth he has utter confidence in: that God and God's reign of love is all that matters.

Often, it's only when we are pushed to the brink and confronted with losing it all that we realize the "pearl" in our midst. Think about it. Jesus laid down his life for us. We are pearls of great price to him. Breathtaking, isn't it?

Exodus 34:29-35; Matthew 13:44-46 (403). *"The Kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls."*

Thursday, Jul 31, 2025

Get in the spirit of giving

The spirit of giving doesn't come naturally to all of us. Saint Ignatius, the founder of the Jesuits, had a prayer for that, as he did for most things: "Eternal Word, only begotten Son of God, teach me true generosity. Teach me to serve you as you deserve, to give without counting the cost, to fight heedless of wounds, to labor without seeking rest, to sacrifice myself without thought of any reward, save the knowledge that I have done your will." When the giving gets tough, the tough get on their knees and pray for wider hearts.

MEMORIAL OF IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, PRIEST

Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38; Matthew 13:47-53 (404). *"Whenever the cloud rose from the Dwelling, the children of Israel would set out on their journey."*

Friday, Aug 01, 2025

Anything not divine must go

Skeptics abound. Those who retain their faith are tempted toward the fringes: a severe expression of religion that either lacks mercy or embraces a laxity that makes everything seem relative and even irrelevant. Does that sound like a description of our generation? Actually, it's how many described the 18th century that saw the rise of the Enlightenment but also severe economic inequalities and class divisions. In that divided age, Saint Alphonsus Liguori became the champion of a simple focus. "The heart of man will never find true peace, if it does not empty itself of all that is not God." In our own divisive age, that remains good advice.

MEMORIAL OF ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, BISHOP,
DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Matthew 13:54-58 (405). *"On each of the seven days you shall offer an oblation to the LORD."*

Saturday, Aug 02, 2025

Fight against fear

When word came to King Herod about Jesus and his ministry, Herod mistook him for John the Baptist come back from the dead. Perhaps Herod's error grew out of a fear that John had returned to haunt him or seek revenge of some kind for his murder at Herod's command. Fear can lead people to many kinds of misjudgments: avoiding problems, damaging relationships, not speaking out, holding back from taking steps to go forward in life. Muster the courage to fight your fear. This simple prayer to Jesus from 20th-century Trappist monk Thomas Merton may provide some strength: "I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone."

Leviticus 25:1, 8-17; Matthew 14:1-12 (406). *"Mighty powers are at work in him."*

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



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