



# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**September 21, 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](http://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, September 21

9:30 a.m.—Peter & Marjorie Gochan (Gochan Family)  
 Maria & Inacio DeSousa (Alves Family)  
 11:30 a.m. —Fernandes & Dias Families (Family)  
 People of the Parish

### Monday, September 22

9:00 a.m.—Ralph Helmig (Family)  
 Marilynn Huether (Elizabeth Leverock)

### Tuesday, September 23

9:00 a.m.—Lucy Quirk (Gochan Family)

### Wednesday, September 24

9:00 a.m.—Patrick Conefry

### Thursday, September 25

9:00 a.m.—Elizabeth Vocolka  
 Intentions of Mark Ballew

### Saturday, September 27

5:30 p.m.—John G. Joseph (Family)  
 Hilda Velazquez (Daisy Garcia)

### Sunday, September 28

9:30 a.m.—James Hawkins (Peggy & Rich Torres)  
 Vincent Mammola (wife & children)  
 11:30 a.m. —John G. Joseph (Family)  
 Lucy Quirk (Joseph & Arlene Angland)

### 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](http://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](mailto:papazecca@aol.com), or phone 631 588 3423.



### **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.



"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: \$11,145  
 (includes *Faith Direct*)

Last Year's Collection: \$10,828

**Thank You!**

Rest  
 in  
 Peace



Arlene Vinicombe

September 21, 2025

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Am 8:4-7 | 1 Tim 2:1-8 | Lk 16:1-13

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

As Catholics we understand that none of our actions are truly isolated. Every virtue we practice or sin we commit affects others because we are all members of the body of Christ. Today's readings from the Old and New Testaments highlight our interconnectedness and offer guidance for how to order the life of the community according to God's will. The key to tranquil communal life is to consider the needs of others as important as our own. In the first reading, the prophet Amos decries those who exploit the poor for personal gain, putting profit over the common good. In the second reading, St. Paul begs the community to pray not only for themselves and for their close relatives, but to offer prayer and supplication for *everyone*. It's tempting to buy into the perspective that we need only focus on *our own* life. But the Lord invites us into authentic community where we intercede, sacrifice for and build up the kingdom *together*.

### GO EVANGELIZE

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I like to think of myself as a trustworthy person, and I'd expect most of us would consider ourselves the same. But as the Lord convicts my heart with today's Gospel reading about those who are trustworthy or untrustworthy in big and small matters, I hear the Holy Spirit inviting me to ponder deeper questions: Perhaps I don't intentionally deceive people and I aim to keep my word, but when someone's name or reputation comes up in conversation, can I be trusted to build them up? Do I fall prey to petty gossip, or simply sit idly by as others fall? I am true to scheduled commitments I make, but am I trustworthy with how I spend all my time? Do I use the gift of time for God's greater glory, or do I squander it with excessive scrolling or mindless TV shows? The Spirit doesn't want us to be scrupulous, and everything must be understood through God's merciful gaze. But the Lord does intend to purify us so that we can live more fully in communion with him.

### REFLECT

Today, consider how you are invited to live in community and contribute to the building of a Christ-like culture. How are you called to more trustworthy stewardship of the gifts and time God has given you so that you can use them for building up the body of Christ?



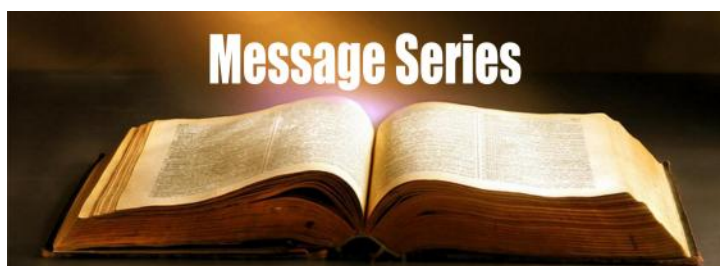


### Week 2- Luke 16:1-13 - Unrealistic Expectations

Jesus is practical: "You cannot serve both God and money." When we live with unrealistic expectations, ones rooted in cultural pressure or personal perfectionism, we set ourselves up for disappointment. This week helps uncover those impossible standards so we can release them to God.

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What in our culture creates or stirs up unrealistic expectations in you? What is your family's culture that makes or stirs up unrealistic expectations in you?
2. How does overcoming unrealistic expectations or setting realistic expectations to help us become more loving people?
3. Is there someone you are frustrated with right now because you have never communicated or agreed upon an expectation they had for you? What step can you take to heal that situation?
4. Do you sense someone is frustrated with you because they have some unmet expectations? What can you do to heal that relationship?



At Assumption, we preach in message series. Over several weeks, we will examine a topic in depth. We select a topic based on the weekend's scripture readings.

God speaks to us at every moment, especially in a community setting, when His people come together on Sundays and listen to the Word of God as we cele-

brate, pray, praise, and thank God. Then the discussion continues in the Small Groups and goes deeper. Our message series usually runs from September to July. Our mission continues to Love God, Serve Others, and Grow Disciples.

**Daily Practice** is a daily devotional that is sent in an email weekly. It is a Scripture passage, and a reflection, for each day of the week. If you would like to subscribe to it, please sign up with an email. Please leave your name and email at the Welcome Desk or contact the Office at [rectory@abvmcentereach.com](mailto:rectory@abvmcentereach.com)



### ***New Director of Ministries and Operations***

I am pleased to share that Al Materazo has joined our Parish staff as the Director of Ministries and Operations! Al will be collaborating closely with me to enhance our ministries and initiatives while seeking out new opportunities for growth. You can connect with Al directly on any matters going forward. He has already begun engaging with our ministry leaders, and I'm confident that his contributions will greatly benefit our parish's progress. Let's all welcome

Al with open arms as we embark on this exciting journey together!



With one accord they continued to gather together. Acts 2:46

Register at the Welcome Desk  
or online at [www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com)

Assumption Small Groups is where our large church gets small. Groups are 6-12 people who meet to discuss faith, go deeper in the weekly message, and support one another in their relationship with Christ. We learn in rows, but we grow in circles. Small Groups provide our members the opportunity to meet in a smaller group and grow in their faith. This is the place to care for others and be cared for; a place to impact our community and the world. Talk to someone about small groups? Call Nick Gigante or Dan Callahan or Andres & Sandra (Spanish). Leave a message at **631-585-8760**



Children's Ministry for ages  
**FOUR to FIFTH Grade** on  
Sundays during 9:30 AM Mass



**Friday, October 10th, 1:00PM in the Church**

Sponsored by the Rosary Altar Society,

We will pray the entire rosary,  
led by the parishioners to protect the sanctity of life,  
from conception to natural death. Please join us.



**Rosary  
Altar  
Society**

### **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**



We're excited to share that our OCIA program (we call it **Called to the table**) will kick off on October 6 and run through May 18, 2026! Join us for engaging weekly meetings on Monday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30.

OCIA, which stands for the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, invites all adults aged 17 and older who are eager to prepare for the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confir-

mation.

Throughout the sessions, we'll explore captivating topics, including the richness of Catholicism, the history of the Church, and key biblical themes from Creation to Revelation.

This program is open to everyone interested in deepening their understanding of Church history and Holy Scripture, so we warmly welcome you to join us. If you're interested in this wonderful opportunity, don't hesitate to reach out to the Parish office! 631-585-8760, email: [rectory@abvmcentereach.com](mailto:rectory@abvmcentereach.com)

## 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](mailto:outreach@abvmcentereach.com). The Outreach Office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 10AM to 1PM.

**PANTRY NEEDS:** Shampoo, Conditioner, Kleenex, Toilet Paper, Dishwashing Liquid, Household Cleaner, Cooking Oil, Mayonnaise, Salad Dressing, Cake Mix & Frosting, Coffee, Shelf Stable Milk, Fruit Juice, Hot Chocolate, Oatmeal, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Baked Beans, Canned Chili, Canned Tomatoes, Canned Chicken, Jelly, Noodles.



**After  
9:30 AM  
&  
11:30 AM  
Masses**

**in the Parish Center Hall**

**“For the vision is a witness for the appointed time, a testimony to the end; it will not disappoint. If it delays, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not be late.” (Habakkuk 2:3 NAB)**

This verse encourages us to patiently wait for God's vision. It emphasizes that God's promises will be fulfilled, even if their timing seems slow. We are reminded to live by faith, as God's plans have a specific appointed time for fulfillment. If it seems to be taking a long time, we are instructed to wait patiently; it will surely come and will not be delayed.

## Assumption Parish Center Hall

**October 25, 12 to 2:00 PM**

**Indoors, Rain or Shine**

**Family friendly Costumes only**

**Family Fun**



**If anyone is interested in hosting a table or helping out in any way please contact the parish office**

**Sunday, Sep 21, 2025****Set an intention**

Most of us know intuitively what prayer is, but how do we pray at all times and “in every place,” as scripture says? One way is to set an intention for each task before us. For example, we might pray: “May this report I am writing be a sign of gratitude for my job.” Or: “May these dishes I am washing be a sign of my love for my family.” Or: “May this cover letter and résumé be a sign of my hope for the future.” By setting an intention for each part of our day, we become more fully aware of our relationship to God. Our actions become steeped with meaning and therefore more loving, peaceful, and compassionate. And isn’t that what prayer is for?

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Amos 8:4-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13 or Luke 16:10-13 (135). *“I ask that supplications, prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings be offered for everyone.”*

**Monday, Sep 22, 2025****Shine your quantum light**

In her *Revelations of Divine Love*, 14th-century mystic Julian of Norwich describes how she came to understand that God is light, “our endless Day.” Seven centuries later, physicist Bernard Haisch came to the same understanding: “The solid, stable world of matter appears to be sustained at every instant by an underlying sea of quantum light,” which Haisch concludes gives “Let there be light” profound meaning and a clue to the nature of God and the mysteries of the universe. The light that shines within you is God. Let others see that light in everything you do.

Ezra 1:1-6; Luke 8:16-18 (449). *“No one who lights a lamp conceals it with a vessel or sets it under a bed; rather, he places it on a lampstand.”*

**Tuesday, Sep 23, 2025****Suffering through the eyes of love**

Pope John Paul II canonized Padre Pio of Pietrelcina on June 16, 2002. More than 300,000 people braved excessive heat to fill St. Peter’s Square and nearby streets for the ceremony. They heard the Holy Father praise the new saint for his prayer and charity and for Padre Pio’s witness to the power of suffering. If accepted with love, the pope stressed, such suffering can lead to “a privileged path of sanctity.” There is meaning in the suffering in your own life. Search for it with a loving gaze.

MEMORIAL OF PIUS OF PIETRELcina, PRIEST

Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Luke 8:19-21 (450). *“My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and act on it.”*

**Wednesday, Sep 24, 2025****Help freedom reign**

The church has not always been on the right side of history when it comes to slavery. In fact, for centuries the “right side” meant justifying slavery because it was an accepted social institution. The ancient Israelites were enslaved people, and the early Christians—and lots of Christians afterwards—took it for granted. Judaism, however, believed the law of God protected enslaved people from mistreatment, and early Christianity thought the differences between enslavers and the enslaved evaporated in the kingdom of God. While just about all people of faith today reject slavery outright, it is still very much alive in forms like human trafficking. A number of Catholic women’s religious communities are involved in the fight

against trafficking. Learn more about what you can do to bring freedom and justice to enslaved people.

Ezra 9:5-9; Luke 9:1-6 (451). *“For slaves we are, but in our servitude our God has not abandoned us.”*

**Thursday, Sep 25, 2025****Gains and losses redefined**

The people of Israel, it seems, had more important things to do than rebuild the temple of the Lord—there was wealth to be made, food and drink and fine clothes to enjoy, and comfortable homes to build. Recent economic history echoes this pattern: Vast fortunes have been amassed, often at the expense of basic moral and ethical principles. In both prosperity and hardship, the divine call to justice, mercy, and love remains unchanged. If you seek lasting joy, disregard the shifting trends of society, and follow the eternal values God sets before us. As Saint Theresa of Ávila reminds us: “Our greatest gain is to lose the wealth that is of such brief duration and, by comparison with eternal things, of such little worth.”

Haggai 1:1-8; Luke 9:7-9 (452). *“You have sown much, but have brought in little.”*

**Friday, Sep 26, 2025****Treasure the word**

Considering the enormous flow of words we can encounter with nothing more than the movement of a finger on a computer screen, it is difficult to imagine the ordeal required for a library in the Middle Ages to acquire even a single new book. Monks would often spend their entire careers traveling between monasteries and at each stop transcribing by hand whatever text their home library was in want of. The English monk Saint Ceolfrith (642-716) was renowned in his time for his tortuous travels and prolific transcribing efforts. His protégé, the famous Saint Bede, writes that Ceolfrith alone doubled the holdings of their monastery’s library, which was already considered sizeable. Draw on the wisdom of ancient monks as you contemplate how can you expand the treasury of God’s word today.

Haggai 2:1-9; Luke 9:18-22 (453). *“Take courage, all you people of the land, says the LORD, and work! For I am with you.”*

**Saturday, Sep 27, 2025****Improve your attention span**

The early 20th-century French philosopher and mystic Simone Weil had much to say about the value of attention. “Attention is the highest and purest form of generosity,” she said. “Prayer is made of attention.” “There is never a case when an effort of attention is lost. It will always be spiritually effective.” Learning to pay attention—to focus and concentrate on what is at hand—is and has been a neglected practice. No doubt multitudes who lived at the time of Jesus rushed right by him as he preached in the synagogues and healed in the streets, too caught up in the day’s affairs to see the savior right in front of them. How about you? If Jesus were to come again today, would you be too “crazy-busy” to pay attention?

Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a; Luke 9:43b-45 (454). *“Pay attention to what I am telling you.”*

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



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