



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

November 30, 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, November 30

9:30 a.m.— John & Nilda Zecca (Zecca Family)
 Father Chris Aridas (Ron & Marty Homa)
 11:30 a.m. — Julia & Felix Bravo (Cecelia Cortes)
 People of the Parish

Monday, December 1

9:00 a.m.— Eugene O'Connor Jr. (Rosary Altar Society)

Tuesday, December 2

9:00 a.m.— Living & Deceased Members of Rosary Altar Society

Wednesday, December 3

9:00 a.m.— Eugene O'Connor Jr. (Family)

Thursday, December 4

9:00 a.m.— Charles Salvietti (Family)

Saturday, December 6

5:30 p.m.— Fortunata Musacchia (Josephine Scala & Anna Hetzel)
 Joanne Gehrke (Michael & Suni Dipalma)

Sunday, December 7

9:30 a.m.— Peter Marjorie Gochan (Gochan Family)
 Alicia Cuervo & Peter Avalos (Family)
 11:30 a.m. — Elizabeth Kobe (Ed Uy & Family)
 Giuseppa Carollo (Donna Legall)

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.



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.



Whoever is begotten by God

conquers the world,

and the victory that conquers the world

is our faith. 1John 5:4

STEWARDSHIP
 GIVING to our parish as an act of worship

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary

Last Week's Collection: \$9,487
 (includes Faith Direct)

Last Year's Collection: \$9,308

Thank You!

Rest
 in
 Peace



Doris Freidah

November 30, 2025

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

First Sunday of Advent

Is 2:1-5 | Rom 13:11-14 | Mt 24:37-44

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

For many in the upper latitudes of the northern hemisphere, this is the darkest time of the year, the time when the duration of daylight is at its lowest. It's providential, then, that our first reading calls us to "walk in the light of the Lord!" Paul tells us that we do this by "throw[ing] off the works of darkness" and "put[ting] on the armor of light." While we might not struggle with the vices listed in Paul's Letter to the Romans, each of us has our own struggles against sin. As we begin this Advent season, let us take time to do a thorough examination of conscience to discern areas of weakness and sin – those "works of darkness" Paul talks about – in our own lives. Then, consider taking up practices that help you to foster the opposing virtues to arm yourself against these temptations. As you grow in these virtues, you'll certainly be on your way up the mountain of the Lord and walking in his light!

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's Gospel calls us to vigilance. Jesus tells us, "Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." While he is speaking about our need to be ready to meet the Lord when he comes at the end of our lives, it's also an invitation for us to always be ready to share our faith with others whenever the opportunity presents itself. As Scripture says, we should "always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you a reason for your hope." (1 Pet 3:15) We never know the moment when someone will come to us in need of prayer, a word of encouragement, or with questions related to their own spiritual hunger. We must always be ready to meet them where they are and offer a word of hope.

PRAY

Take a moment to pray this week for those "divine appointments" – those individuals who might come your way – seeking encouragement or insight into the spiritual questions in their lives. Ask for the grace to be "awake" so that you're ready to meet them when they come. We can't always predict when these encounters will happen, but we can prepare ourselves to receive these persons as Christ and offer them our full attention and love.





WEEK ONE – The Path to Peace Scripture: Isaiah 2:2

In this message we will introduce our desire for peace, especially during the Christmas season. God offers us the gift of peace at Christmas and throughout the year. Despite this offer, we are often missing peace in our lives. We will describe how the gift of God's peace is different from the world's peace. It is a peace that surpasses all understanding, transcends our circumstances, is available to everyone and is meant to be our normal state. We will look at the passage from Isaiah as God's desire for us to have peace with him, in our hearts and with others.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. On a scale of 1-5, how much peace do you have in your life? Why do you answer as you do?
2. What disrupts your peace or gets in the way of having peace? How do you react when you experience those disruptions?
3. How important is peace to you? How much do you value it?
4. Where do you go to find peace?
5. Read Isaiah 2:2. How have you learned God's ways? What can you do to continue to learn his ways?
6. We lose peace when we forget about God's presence. What are your thoughts on that statement? What do you do to remind yourself of God's Presence?



Pushpay®

In today's digital age, it's essential to embrace technology that supports our mission of Christ while



enhancing our operations, engagement, and offertory. We are excited to introduce Pushpay as our new platform for online donations and financial transactions. This transition is a significant step forward and will help us save resources as well!

We encourage you to prayerfully consider supporting our parish through electronic donations via Pushpay. Signing up is easy and takes only a couple of minutes. If you are transitioning from Faith Direct, you should have already received emails from Pushpay. Please make this transition as soon as possible. If you need assistance, feel free to contact Doreen at the office 631-585-8760 ext 105. Thank you for your support!



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

Register at the Welcome Desk
or online at www.abvmcentereach.com

'We learn in rows, but grow in circles.'

Good News Ahead

Signs of Christmas

Christmas Musical

by Faith Formation Students

Sunday, December 7th
 4:00 PM Christmas musical
 5:00 PM Tree Lighting
 Followed by Music, Food & Celebration
 in the Parish center
 Refreshments provided by
 The Catholic Daughters of the Americas
 Court 1920

All are invited

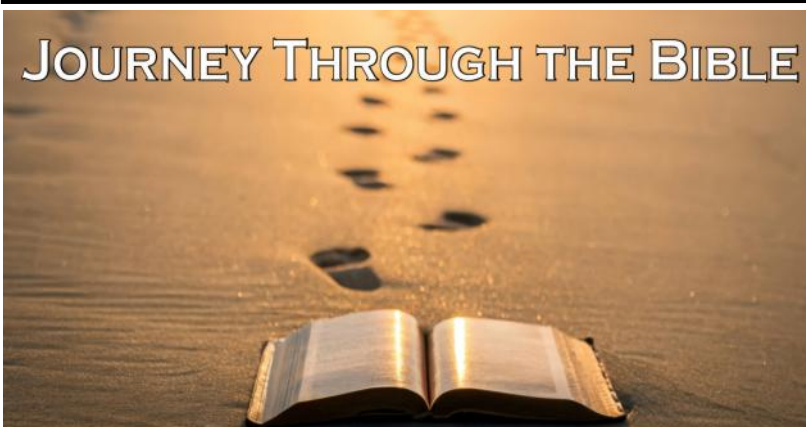
Assumption Prayer Team

We pray for every request in the prayer Petition Books, from Adoremus 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



Join us every Thursday morning for Journey through the Holy Bible, where we will explore selected books from Genesis to Revelation. Our sessions will begin on Thursday, December 4, 2025, and will be held in the Parish Center Library at 10:00 AM. The presenter will be Al Materazo. Each session will last approximately one hour. This is a wonderful opportunity to deepen our understanding of the Bible and strengthen our faith. Everyone is welcome!

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: Toothpaste, Razors, Liquid Hand Soap, Deodorant, Dish-washing Liquid, Ketchup, Salad Dressing, Jell-O Mix, Coffee, Fruit Juice, Instant Potatoes, Snacks, Canned Fruit, Canned Chili, Canned Potatoes, Canned Chicken. Thank You!



Thank you to everyone who donated to our Thanksgiving Food Drive for the Assumption Parish Social Ministry. Thanks to your generous donations, we will be providing over 60 families with a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner. Thank you again for making this a happy Thanksgiving for our neighbors in need!



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

Retirement

After five years, John Huether has decided to retire from his position in facilities maintenance. As a long-time parishioner, John consistently went above and beyond the job's requirements. Thank you very much John for your love and dedication to the parish. We wish John and his wife, Dawn, many blessings from God as they embark on this new phase of their lives.



Welcome

We are also pleased to announce that Rich Thienel will be joining our parish staff as the new Facilities Maintenance Manager. Rich is also a parishioner at ABVM. Please join us in welcoming Rich to our team!



“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.

Sunday, Nov 30, 2025**Expect the unexpected**

It may seem strange to talk about Christ's Second Coming when we're just starting to prepare for the celebration of his first. But that's exactly what the scripture readings for the first two Sundays of Advent do; it's not until the third and fourth Sundays that we get to the Incarnation part. "You . . . must be prepared," we hear, "for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." What gives? Why speak of the End at the Beginning? Because in both cases Jesus becomes present to the world. Our task is to be ready to receive that presence, at the beginning and the end and all the time in between.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44 (1). *"Our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed."*

Monday, Dec 01, 2025**An inspiration for the centuries**

To become a Roman centurion, a soldier had to be literate, come highly recommended, be at least 30 years of age, and have already served some time in the Roman army. This was no cushy job. Centurions suffered heavy casualties in battle because they led their "century" of troops from the front. However, their brave example inspired courage in the soldiers who followed behind them. One well-known centurion also became an inspiration of faith for centuries of Christians when he asks that Jesus "only say the word" to heal his ailing servant. Do you have such faith in Jesus' healing power in your own life?

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Isaiah 4:2-6; Matthew 8:5-11 (175). *"Amen, I say to you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith."*

Tuesday, Dec 02, 2025**Living Christmas**

'Tis the season when scenes of peace and serenity start arriving in our mailboxes daily. Every Christmas card is a bid for a more hopeful world. A star shines against the darkness of a fearful nation. A child is born into a culture sadly given over to ways of death and destruction. Wild animals learn to live together as people never do. Even Saint Nick brings gifts through a spirit of generosity as wide as his belly. This year let's bring those Christmas scenes to life, so that, in the words of Saint Teresa of Calcutta, "When Christ comes to you in Christmas, He may find in you a warm home, warm love like that of a heartfelt of love."

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24 (176). *"Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid."*

Wednesday, Dec 03, 2025**How to build a fire**

One of the founding members of the Jesuits, Saint Francis Xavier (1506-52) is considered to have been one of the greatest missionaries since the apostles. Appointed to re-evangelize portions of the Far East, Francis placed himself with the lowest castes, preaching to the sick and dying at hospitals and orphans and slaves in the street. He understood that if the fire of Christianity were to spread through the East, the kindling must begin at the base of society. Rather than arriving like a royal ambassador, Francis clothed himself with rags and made his home in the lowliest shelters. Francis' humble appearance proved to be the greatest tool for bringing the message of Christ to others. "It is not the actual

physical exertion that counts towards one's progress," Francis explains, "nor the nature of the task, but by the spirit of faith with which it is undertaken." Gather a spirit of faith as you set out on your own daily missions.

MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST

Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37 (177). *"My heart is moved with pity for the crowd."*

Thursday, Dec 04, 2025**Spoken through the prophets**

Historically speaking, the various deities revered by tribes and cultures around the world usually did little more than reinforce the position of those in power. From the Egyptians to the Aztecs, civilizations usually were led by a religious elite who controlled the resources, made the decisions, and "spoke for the gods." That is what makes the testimony of the Jewish prophets so remarkable. They regularly took the rich and powerful to task while advocating for the poor and marginalized. Anyone who doubts the authenticity of biblical literature should pause to consider the striking originality of the prophetic testimony. Surely that testimony would not have survived the censorship of the Jewish elites unless a Higher Power was calling the shots! Take time to read the divinely inspired scriptures that are foundational to our faith.

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27 (178). *"The LORD is an eternal Rock. He humbles those in high places."*

Friday, Dec 05, 2025**Do you understand?**

At First Sight is a movie that tells the true story of a blind man who, at the urging of a friend, undergoes experimental surgery to restore his sight. The operation is successful; his retina works and he can see. Or at least his eyes function. But he finds he must still finger objects to "know" what they are. He can "see" a cheese grater, for example, but he doesn't know what it is until he has felt it with his hands. Seeing is a function of light striking the retina, but it takes the mind to interpret what we are looking at. Sight is one thing; understanding what we see is another. Take time today to consider the meaning behind the glory of God's creation.

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31 (179). *"Out of gloom and darkness, the eyes of the blind shall see."*

Saturday, Dec 06, 2025**The cure for what ails us**

As Jesus sent out the 12 apostles after empowering them to proclaim God's kingdom and heal the sick, he admonished them not to charge for their services: "You received without payment; give without payment." As the nation struggles with difficult questions of effective, affordable, and universal healthcare, it is good to take a step back from the heat of the debate and look at larger principles. The U.S. Bishops recently stated in a letter to Congress: "We firmly believe that all people have the right to those necessities needed to live, found a family, and flourish. It is in this reality that we recognize that the right to healthcare is a fundamental necessity for the preservation of life and human flourishing." And for Jesus such care was a way of proclaiming the kingdom of God. Lend a healing hand to others and help build up God's kingdom.

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8 (180). *"The LORD binds up the wounds of his people."*

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



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