



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

December 7, 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, 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)

Monday, December 8

9:00 a.m.—Abelardo & Norma Angeles (Gochan Family)
Ulahannan & Anna Uralil (Family)

Tuesday, December 9

9:00 a.m.— Francisco Renato Ella (Ed Uy & Family)
People of the Parish

Wednesday, December 10

9:00 a.m.— Thomas Donnelly Jr. (Family)
Joseph Alberigo (Ferrara Family)

Thursday, December 11

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

Saturday, December 13

5:30 p.m.— Alonzo Werner Sr. (Family)
Jean & Philip Cavallo (John Cavallo)

Sunday, December 14

9:30 a.m.— Maria & Inacio DeSousa (Alves Family)
Oscar Lopez (Anna Lopez)
11:30 a.m. — Halina & Marian Wos (Terese & Bogdan)
People of the Parish

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: \$8,871
(includes Faith Direct)

Last Year's Collection: \$9,722

Thank You!

Rest
in
Peace



Lorraine Quigley

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10 | Rom 15:4-9 | Mt 3:1-12

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

Today's Gospel is a challenging one, inviting us to consider how much spiritual fruit we are bearing in our lives. St. John the Baptist tells us, "Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance," reminding us that the depth of our conversion will be measured by our fruit. Speaking to the Pharisees and Sadducees, John says it is not enough to say that "We have Abraham as our father." If he were speaking today, John might put it this way: it's not enough to say "I'm Catholic!" or "I belong to X Parish." Our lives must show outward evidence of the inward conversion we have undergone. The good news for us today is that we can pause and take stock of how well we are bearing spiritual fruit. Pay attention to what areas might need pruning or fertilizing to ensure that when we come to the Lord's threshing floor at the end of our lives, there is a bountiful harvest he can gather into his barn.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Our first reading gives us a glimpse of God's kingdom: The Son of David will rule with wisdom, understanding, counsel, and knowledge, judging "the poor with justice" and striking "the ruthless with the rod of his mouth." In his kingdom "the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb" and yet "there shall be no harm or ruin." What a poetic way of describing the harmony and wholeness that God longs for in society! As disciples, this is our mission. We're called to work so that God's kingdom vision can become reality. As we work for peace and justice, we're doing our part in the Church's work of evangelization. As the U.S. bishops reminded us in their letter *Communities of Salt and Light*, "social justice is an integral part of evangelization, a constitutive dimension of preaching the Gospel, and an essential part of the Church's mission."

REFLECT

In the Gospel, John the Baptist says of Jesus, "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire." Our ability to bear spiritual fruit comes from the power of the Holy Spirit within us. Take a moment to reflect on where you see the gifts (see the first reading from Isaiah!) and fruits of the Holy Spirit in your life. How might the Spirit of God be working to increase your spiritual fruitfulness this Advent?

[JESUS] WILL
BAPTIZE YOU WITH
THE HOLY SPIRIT
AND FIRE.

(MT 3:11)



WEEK TWO – How do I Find Peace? Scripture: Romans 15:4-9

The holidays can be an occasion for conflict or they can be an opportunity to build peace and connection with family members. In his letter to the Romans, Paul challenges us to think in harmony with others and to welcome one another. In this message we will look at how we can apply both these instructions so we can be “peace makers” as Jesus taught us to do.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you think of yourself as a peacemaker? Why or Why Not?
2. Who is someone that has accepted you and helped you grow?
3. Who is someone who is a model of hospitality and welcoming?
4. Who are the people who disrupt your peace? Who is God calling you to love and accept?
5. What actions come naturally to you when greeting and welcoming someone?
6. Are you more likely to get in a fight over control, being right, or winning limited resources?



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.'

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

**COME JOIN US TO EMBRACE THE
HISPANIC
COMMUNITY**

Come enjoy free food and connect with others
 December 14th, After 11:30am Mass
 Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic
 Church
 33 Crown Acres Rd, Centereach, NY 11720

**VEN CON NOSOTROS Y
ABRAZEMOS A NUESTRA
COMUNIDAD
HISPANA**

¡Disfruta comida gratis mientras compartimos juntos!
 Diciembre 14th, despues de la Misa de 11:30am
 Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic
 Church
 33 Crown Acres Rd, Centereach, NY 11720

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday, December 8

Masses: 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

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, Dishwashing Liquid, Ketchup, Salad Dressing, Jell-O Mix, Coffee, Fruit Juice, Instant Potatoes, Snacks, Canned Fruit, Canned Chili, Canned Potatoes, Canned Chicken. Thank You!



With Christmas just around the corner, the Assumption Parish Social Ministry is getting ready to prepare Christmas baskets for our neighbors in need. Gift cards in the amount of \$25 to local stores such as Walmart and Target are very helpful in providing those in need with the ability to purchase gifts for their children. We are also happy to accept non-perishable food items as well as supermarket gift cards. You can place gift cards in the collection basket at Mass or drop them off at the Parish Office. Food items can be placed in the collection bin by the main entrance to Church or they can be dropped off at the Parish Office. Thank you for making this a happy Christmas for families in need!

SPROUTS
Children's Liturgy of the Word

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

VISION
CAFE 
COFFEE CONVERSATION COMMUNITY

in the Parish Center Hall

After
9:30 AM
&
11:30 AM
Masses

“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, Dec 07, 2025**Put aside your to-do list**

Advent can seem like a wintery Lent—purple decor, sober worship, scripture about the end times. While it is about focusing on our inner life, it's not from the perspective of repentance but a passionate desire for God. Unfortunately, a quiet time like Advent is easily shouted down by the madness of a jump-started Christmas. Advent is not a to-do list; it's a gift tied in purple velvet ribbon. Unwrap it—it's "just what you always wanted!" Confront your use and abuse of time. Create and jealously guard little pockets of quiet. Go for a walk in the crisp air. Sit with your address book; picture, pray for, and bless each person you cherish. Turn off the TV, listen to the first part of Handel's *Messiah* and bask in its beauty. Be still. Know God.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12 (4). *"The earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD."*

Monday, Dec 08, 2025**Have a grace-full day**

What is grace? One way to think of it is anything that comes from God. We can think of it in terms of what we give to God: prayer and worship, service to others, doing God's will. Or what God sends to us: the gift of creation, love, inspiration, consolation, help, and much more. Mary had grace in abundance—both what she gave and received. Make today a day of prayer to her to intercede for us and inspire us to give and receive God's grace. Here is a simple prayer from Saint Teresa of Calcutta to get you started: "Mary, give me your Heart: so beautiful, so pure, so immaculate; your Heart so full of love and humility that I may be able to receive Jesus in the Bread of Life and love Him as you love Him and serve Him in the distressing guise of the poor."

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38 (689). *"The angel Gabriel was sent ... And coming to her, he said, 'Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.'"*

Tuesday, Dec 09, 2025**Patron of new beginnings**

When Juan Diego (1474-1548) was canonized in 2002, he became the first indigenous saint from the Americas. The farmer and mat weaver was in his 40s when Hernán Cortés led the conquest of Spain in 1521, and within three years the first wave of Franciscan monks arrived near Juan's village. Juan and his wife were among the first of the indigenous residents to accept Baptism. Despite their age, the couple opened their hearts to a new beginning and readily uprooted themselves to move closer to the missionaries in Mexico City. Pray to Juan Diego, patron of immigrants and indigenous people, to inspire each of us to redouble our efforts to stand with those seeking a better life in a new land.

MEMORIAL OF JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATZIN

Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14 (182). *"Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God."*

Wednesday, Dec 10, 2025**A song to lift your heart**

Asked what liturgical song most fostered and nourished their spiritual life, the majority of respondents in any given online poll will cite "On Eagle's Wings" by Father Michael Joncas. The song, inspired by Isaiah's prophecy and Psalm 91, contains the beautifully crafted refrain: "And He will raise you up on eagle's

wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of His Hand." Remember those words of solace whenever your burden feels too great.

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30 (183). *"They that hope in the LORD will ... soar as with eagles' wings."*

Thursday, Dec 11, 2025**Found in translation**

The pontificate of Damasus (366-384) occurred during a tumultuous period in the Early Church, with schisms and heresies on all sides. Perhaps Damasus' greatest contribution was his insight that a standardized version of the Bible was desperately needed. In 382 he commissioned a highly respected scholar named Jerome to revise the Bible into a more accurate and updated Latin version, working directly from the original Greek (New Testament) and Hebrew (Old Testament) versions. Saint Jerome's monumental effort came to be known as the Vulgate, meaning "translated into a native language." Even though Latin long ago stopped being a language of everyday use, the Vulgate still holds an honored position in the church. Take time for a little scripture reading today.

MEMORIAL OF DAMASUS I, POPE

Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15 (184). *"I, the LORD, will answer them; ... That all may see and know."*

Friday, Dec 12, 2025**A labor of love**

Artist J. Michael Walker produced his Virgin of Guadalupe series of paintings and sketches from 1995-2020. One of the most memorable portraits in the series is *Ironing, Thinking*, where we see Mary with a slightly careworn expression on her face as she irons her famous cloak of stars while balancing her crown on her head with simple dignity. In trying to capture the spirit of Mexico on canvas, Walker said, "It is only natural that I should have fallen under the spell—along with millions of other devotees—of the Virgin of Guadalupe, whom I portray as a real Mexican woman of Indian descent, going about the myriad tasks by which women hold the world together." Let the Virgin of Guadalupe inspire us to support the dignity of all who labor.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Luke 1:26-38 (690A). *"A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars."*

Saturday, Dec 13, 2025**Adjust your vision of Christmas**

One quality that many saints share is the capacity to look beyond the sometimes horrific circumstances of their lives and see the presence of God. They see with their hearts. Saint Lucy is certainly among those saints with this ability. Tradition tells us that she was raped then tortured and murdered for being a Christian, but she remained steadfast in her faith until the end. Her feast day comes at a good time. Now, midway through Advent, we might be feeling the pressure to conjure up the "perfect Christmas." Today take a moment to pause, adjust your spiritual lenses, and focus on the love that came into the world and continues to sustain us all through the darkest moments into the light.

MEMORIAL OF LUCY, MARTYR

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13 (186). *"Blessed is he who shall have seen you."*

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



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