



ASSUMPTION

OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

May 17, 2026

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: Mon - Fri 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM



Phone: 631-585-8760
Fax: 1-866-214-3365
Faith Formation Office: 631- 585-6408



Mass Intentions for the week



Sunday, May 17

9:30 a.m.— Silvestre Ruivo (Family)
 Abelardo & Norma Angeles (Gochan Family)
 11:30 a.m.— Francisco Usis Sr. (Ed Uy & Family)
 Eduardo Deato (Ed Uy & and Family)

Monday, May 18

9:00 a.m. — Patricia Campanelli (Rosary Altar Society)
 Marie Casilli (Rosary Altar Society)

Tuesday, May 19

9:00 a.m. — Diane Marie Pozzi (Ed Pozzi)
 Robert Scibelli (Family)

Wednesday, May 20

9:00 a.m. — Otto Wolz
 Kathrine Aridas

Thursday, May 21

9:00 a.m. — Tillie Plansker (Tom & Chris)
 Patricia Campanelli (Frank Campanelli)

Saturday, May 23

5:30 p.m — Joseph Ferrara (Holy Name Society)
 Andrew Varecha (Paquette Family)

Sunday, May 24

9:30 a.m. — Peter & Marjorie Gochan (Gochan Family)
 Noreen Wickwire (Reilly Family)
 11:30 a.m. — Micheal Anthony Aliffi (Danny Terry Capuano
 Intentions of Ed & Naomi Uy (Tita & Ed Uy)

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)

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



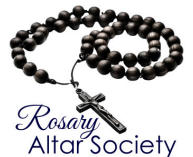
Catholic War Veterans

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.



*The LORD is my life's refuge;
 of whom should I be afraid? Psalm 27:1*

STEWARDSHIP
 GIVING to our parish as an act of worship

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary

Last week's Collection \$ 10,094
 (includes *Pushpay*)

Last Year's Collection \$ 9,586

Thank You!

*Rest
 in
 Peace*



Gladstone Harrison

May 17, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11 | Eph 1:17-23 | Mt 28:16-20

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

This year, I cannot help but notice how kingdom-centric the readings for the Solemnity of the Ascension are. In our first reading, Jesus appears to his disciples for forty days after his resurrection and speaks to them about the kingdom of God. Our psalm beckons us to rejoice that God is mounting his throne - another kingdom image! Our second reading tells us that God has given Christ authority over “every principality, power, and dominion” - a clear sign that he is the one reigning over all. These references seem to be telling us that today’s feast is Jesus’ “coronation day” - the day he takes his rightful place at the right hand of the Father. From the moment Jesus ascends to heaven, he is reigning. What a consoling thought for us, who may at times find ourselves discouraged by our lives or the state of affairs around us. We have hope because we know that despite appearances to the contrary, Jesus reigns, and it is only a matter of time until the Father puts all things beneath Christ’s feet.

GO EVANGELIZE

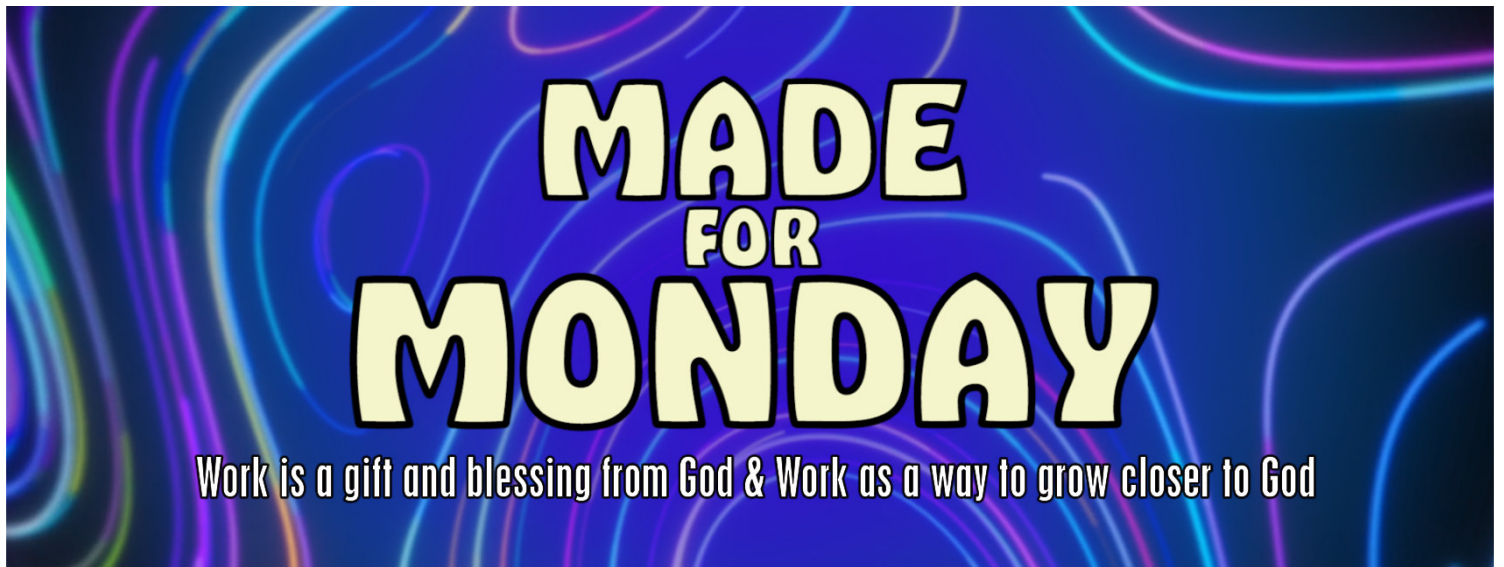
PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In today’s Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples - and us - to “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations.” It’s a tall order - bringing every nation under the reign of Christ. But we needn’t be intimidated. The Ascension offers us hope, for - as the *Catechism* reminds us - “Jesus Christ, having entered the sanctuary of heaven once and for all, intercedes constantly for us as the mediator who assures us of the permanent outpouring of the Holy Spirit.” (667) Jesus ascended into heaven and now is constantly interceding for us before the Father, constantly pouring out his Spirit on us! In all our efforts to evangelize, we have that constant support and grace being sent our way to equip us for this work.

REFLECT

Oftentimes, we think of the Ascension as Jesus leaving us after the end of his earthly ministry. But Jesus promises that he does not leave us, but rather, that he is always with us, “until the end of the age.” Spend some time this week reflecting on the ways that, having taken his seat at the right hand of the Father, Jesus is now ever-more present, pouring out his grace and his Spirit upon us at every moment.



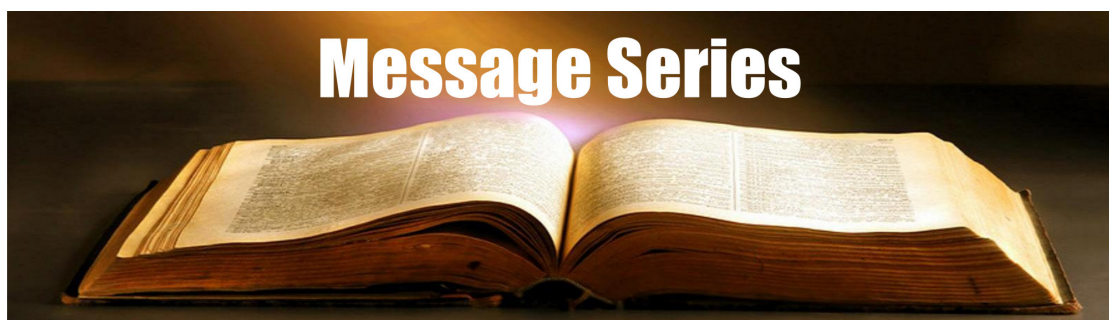


WEEK TWO - Mission Field

Rooted in the Great Commission, it challenges us to see our everyday work as a mission field where we are sent to influence others for Christ, not necessarily through bold or risky actions, but through faithful presence, excellence in our work, acts of service, visible signs of faith, and a willingness to share our story and pray for others. Ultimately, it encourages us to move beyond fear and recognize that God is already at work in our workplace, inviting us to join him with confidence, wisdom, and trust that we are never alone.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Sharing our faith takes discernment. What is the general attitude toward faith in your workplace? Is it open to faith? Hostile to faith or somewhere in between?
2. On a scale of 1-5, how motivated are you to share your faith in the workplace? Why do you answer as you do? What would make you more motivated?
3. In the message, the idea of putting out a sign was given to note yourself as a Christ follower. What signs could you put in your office or on an email signature that would let your co-workers know you follow Jesus?
4. How would you answer if someone asked you why you go to Church or follow Jesus?
5. What are the opportunities for good deeds in your workplace?



At Assumption, we follow a message series format. Over several weeks, we explore a specific topic in depth, selected based on the weekend's scripture readings. God speaks to us at all times, especially in a community setting. When

His people come together on Sundays to listen to the Word of God, we celebrate, pray, praise, and give thanks. The discussion then continues in Small Groups, allowing us to dive even deeper into the topic. Our message series typically runs from September to June, and our mission remains focused on Loving God, Serving Others, and Growing Disciples.

**Assumption
Small groups**

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

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

Register at the Welcome Desk
or online at www.abvmcentereach.com
or Scan the QR Code.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026



July 20 - 24
9:00 am to 12:30 pm
Campers Welcome
K - 6th Grade

Get ready for an unforgettable adventure where kids will climb higher, grow stronger, and discover that with God, anything is possible! Come join us and discover the strength God gives to face every challenge!

Register today! \$50/camper \$100/max per family



SUMMER FAITH TUESDAYS

Keep Jesus in your heart all summer long with fun, faith-filled activities



Bible Buddies - For 2nd grade and younger

Adopt a stuffed pet and learn Bible stories together

Bible Lego - For 3rd grade and older

(Bring Bible stories to life using Legos and creativity)

July 14, 28, Aug 4, 11, 18 - 6:30 to 7:30 PM

Parish Social Ministry

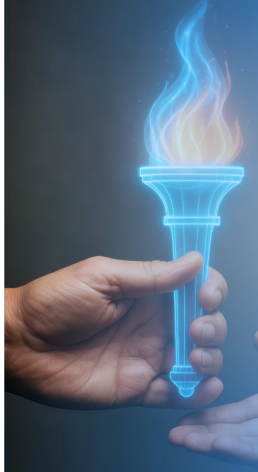
The Outreach Food Pantry is available for individuals and families that are struggling to stretch their food budget. If you or someone you know can use our services, please call us at 631 585-8760 x2 or by email to outreach@abvmcentereach.com. The Outreach Office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday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



PANTRY NEEDS: Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Deodorant, Dishwashing Liquid, Household Cleaner, Ketchup, Salad Dressing, Shelf Stable Milk, Fruit Juice, Flavored Rice, Canned Pasta, Canned Peas, Canned Corn, Canned Potatoes and Peanut Butter. Thank You!

Giftgiving to Our Parish

A presentation on how to MAGNIFY your gift to our parish while preserving assets for your heirs. This presentation is suitable for adult parishioners at all stages of life.



LEAVE A LEGACY!

Saturday May 16th, 2026 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Tuesday May 19th, 2026, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Assumption Parish Center Library

Please Register: Call 631-585-8760, or scan the QR Code to register online.



Junior Greeters



This is a fantastic opportunity for enthusiastic youth in grades 6 to 12 to use your positive energy to help create a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere in our parish! Please fill out the form below and submit it at the Welcome Desk, or you can scan the QR code to sign up.

Name _____ Grade in School _____

Parent Name _____

Parent P.M. Phone _____ Parent Email _____



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



Pushpay

We invite everyone to prayerfully consider supporting our parish through electronic donations via Pushpay. Signing up is easy and only takes two minutes. You can use Pushpay to make one-time and

recurring contributions. If you need any assistance, feel free to contact Doreen at the office at 631-585-8760, ext. 105. Thank you for your support!



Sunday, May 17, 2026**Witness your own way**

Howard Thurman, the theologian, activist, and mentor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once observed: “Don’t ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs are people who have come alive.” That may sound “selfish”: When you’re discerning the best way to serve, shouldn’t you start with any of the world’s many great needs rather than your own? The world, however, has enough problems to go around. Your response will be most effective when it grows out of what animates you in a deep way. As the Easter Season draws to a close, there can be no better witness to the risen Jesus than to follow *his* way in *your* way.

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 1:12-14; 1 Peter 4:13-16; John 17:1-11a (59). *“The words you gave to me I have given to them.”*

Monday, May 18, 2026**The value of courage**

Courage is not something only for superheroes or daredevils. All of us have need to call on courage in our normal lives. Having a difficult conversation that needs to happen; doing the right thing by a family member, friend, or coworker; facing a situation that makes us feel vulnerable or awkward. Fortitude is defined as the strength that enables someone to face danger or pain or adversity with courage. It is also a gift of the Holy Spirit. When you need fortitude to deal with a challenging situation, call upon the Spirit of Jesus, whose fortitude enabled him to remain true to his mission even as he faced death on a cross.

EASTER WEEKDAY

Acts 19:1-8; John 16:29-33 (297). *“In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world.”*

Tuesday, May 19, 2026**The long road to glory**

Under normal circumstances, glory describes success with high honors, such as an athletic or artistic achievement or a brilliant business deal. Glory is even reaped by those who perform heroic acts that earn public esteem. But for Christians glory means something else entirely. The Book of Glory, the name for chapters 13-20 in John’s gospel, tells the story from the Last Supper through Easter Sunday, where Jesus heads for glory in the direction of the cross. On the far side of suffering and death is the ultimate victory. Follow that road so that you may share in God’s eternal glory.

EASTER WEEKDAY

Acts 20:17-27; John 17:1-11a (298). *“Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you.”*

Wednesday, May 20, 2026**Modern missionaries**

Austrian-born Dr. Anna Dengel was working in northern India when she realized many women, because of their Muslim customs, were not receiving the care they needed from male physicians. Convinced that a group of women health professionals who dedicated their lives to God could make a difference, Dengel founded the Medical Mission Sisters in 1925. Her vision launched a new approach to missionary work and pioneered new roles for women religious. Mission work is still about bringing the presence

of Christ to the whole world, but more often now the preaching is done through caring practice. Catch the missionary spirit in your own life.

EASTER WEEKDAY

Acts 20:28-38; John 17:11b-19 (299). *“As you sent me into the world, so I sent them into the world.”*

Thursday, May 21, 2026**See how they smile**

“I am he as you are he as you are me and we are all together.” So goes the opening line of the Beatles hit “I Am the Walrus” and the long-debated question of “Who is the walrus?” and “Is that a good thing or bad?” The verse bears an uncanny resemblance to the Lord’s words in the gospel: “I in them and you in me, that they may be . . .” together! Togetherness is a noble goal; it is the joy of relationships, family, and community. It is the unity of the Holy Spirit poured out at Pentecost. Pray for the love of God that we may be one. And perhaps you’ll discover just who is the walrus.

EASTER WEEKDAY

Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; John 17:20-26 (300). *“And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”*

Friday, May 22, 2026**An offer you shouldn’t refuse**

The story of Saint Peter is one of the most fascinating in the New Testament. He veered between misunderstanding and understanding and denial and faith, but he always came through in the end. He got second chances and took advantage of them. Having breakfast with the risen Jesus and the other disciples, he had the opportunity to reverse his earlier three denials of knowing Christ when Jesus asked him—three times—if Peter loved him. To each of Peter’s professions of love, Jesus responded with “feed my sheep, tend my lambs”: Jesus the good shepherd was telling Peter to be the same for the community. Despite life’s failures, God always holds out the offer of return. Be like Peter and accept it.

EASTER WEEKDAY

Acts 25:13b-21; John 21:15-19 (301). *“He said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love me?’”*

Saturday, May 23, 2026**Limited options**

We only have one choice as disciples: Follow Jesus. We can whine and rail and question and doubt, but in the end our task remains the same: Follow Jesus. What does it mean to follow Jesus? To be willing to give our lives for the sake of others. It sounds extreme, but most of us do this every day as we care for our families, serve in our communities, and provide dedicated work on the job. Giving of yourself doesn’t require anything in return. Thus, nothing can stop the process. No waiting around for gratitude or favors or comparing who got what. Just follow Jesus.

EASTER WEEKDAY

Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; John 21:20-25 (302). *“Jesus said to him, ‘What if I want him to remain until I come? What concern is it of yours? You follow me.’”*

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

