



# ASSUMPTION

## of the Blessed Virgin Mary

A welcoming community sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through faith, prayer and the sacraments.



December 20, 2020

### **We celebrate EUCHARIST**

Saturdays: 5:30 PM  
Sundays: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM  
Weekdays: 9:00 AM

### **We celebrate PENANCE**

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

### **We celebrate BAPTISM**

Usually the first and third Sundays each month. Meeting with Deacon Mike and attendance at class is required. Please contact the rectory during regular office hours to register.

### **We celebrate MARRIAGE**

Make arrangements with the priest at least six months prior to the wedding. All are required by our Bishop to attend the Pre-Cana Conferences as part of the preparation.

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

First Friday of the month: 1:00-2:00 PM - Nocturnal  
Third Friday of the month: 7:30-8:30 PM - ADOREMUS

### **Miraculous Medal Novena**

Wednesdays following the 9:00 AM Mass.

### **Communion for the Sick or Shut-ins**

Contact the rectory during regular office hours.

### **Parish Social Ministry (Outreach)**

Office hours, Monday to Friday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.  
Food pantry available. Will also try to help with referrals and advocacy. Call for appointment, 631-585-8760 x101.

### **RCIA**

Provides for those who have never been baptized or those who have been baptized but have not celebrated Eucharist and/or Confirmation to experience the joy of our Catholic community, within an adult context. Anyone 18 and over is welcome. Contact the rectory office at 631-585-8760.

### **Faith Formation**

Works with parents to share faith with our youngest members, grades 1-8. Contact the office for details at 631-588-6408.

### **Youth Ministry**

- High School Ministry (AYM), Wednesdays: 7:30 - 9:00 PM
- Middle School Ministry (MSM), Thursdays, 7:00 - 8:45 PM

For further information, contact Renata 631-585-8760

### **Music Ministry**

Our parish's Music Ministry seeks to lead and support our parish family in full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy. For further information call Rob at 516-523-1668.

20 Chestnut Street, Centereach, NY 11720 631-585-8760 [www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com)

Rev. Joseph Alenchery, Pastor  
Rev. Chris Aridas, Retired 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



**Sunday, December 20th**

7:30 a.m. — Maria & Inacio DeSousa (Family)  
 9:30 a.m. — Stanley Mosior (Family)  
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

**Monday, December 21st**

9:00 a.m. — Otto Wolz

**Tuesday, December 22nd**

9:00 a.m. — John Paeper (Tiri & Children)

**Wednesday, December 23rd**

9:00 a.m. — Frank Lisi (Sperduti Family)

**Thursday, December 24th**

9:00 a.m. — Kristie Cleary (M/M J. Zabbara)

**Christmas Eve Masses**

3:30, 5:30, Midnight

**Friday, December 25th**

**Christmas Day Masses**

9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

**Saturday, December 26th**

5:30 p.m. — Joanne Ruf (Sokolowsk Family)

**Sunday, December 27th**

7:30 a.m. — Helena & Christopher Adamczyk (Family)  
 9:30 a.m. — Stanley Mosior (Family)  
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish



Rest in Peace		Veronica Renne James Patrick Kelly Antoine Jean-Baptiste
---------------------	---	--



**Time, Talent & Treasure**  
**Fostering Stewardship  
 as a Way of Life**

**Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary**  
 (Regular Sunday Offering)

**Last Week's Collection \$9,535**  
 (includes *Faith Direct*)

**Last Year's Collection \$10,533**  
**Thank You!**

**Faith Formation**

The ministry of the Word is a fundamental element of evangelization through all its stages, because it involves the proclamation of Jesus Christ, the eternal Word of God

**Faith Formation Office Hours**

Regular Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m; Friday - Closed; Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to 11 a.m.

**Middle School Ministry (MSM)**

Middle School Ministry is on Thursday nights from 7:00 PM to 8:45 PM. All Middle Schoolers (6<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup>) are welcome.



**Assumption Youth Ministry (AYM)**

Assumption Youth Ministry welcomes all high Schoolers (9th thru 12th) on Wednesday nights from 7:30-9:00 PM. We gather in the Parish Center Hall. Bring your friends with you.



**Catholic Daughters of the America's (Court St. Gerard)**

First Thursday of the month: Sept - June at 7:30 PM in the Parish Library. Contact Alexandria McMahon at tacjs43@aol.com.

**Catholic War Veterans**

Second Saturday of the month: Sept - June 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. Contact the rectory for meeting dates and times.

**Scouting (Cub Scout, Boy Scouts)**

Contact Chantal Mears at Chantalmears@yahoo.com or 631-438-2468 or visit www.bsa356.com for more details..

**Good News Reflection****Our personal connection to Mary**

This Sunday's Gospel shows us how the mission of Christ affected the Virgin Mary even before Jesus was conceived in her womb.

Three decades later, Jesus would become the Savior of the world. However, that is not when his salvation plan began. Jesus is God; he has always existed. He is the uncreated Divine Son, the Person of the Holy Trinity who, as we proclaim in the Nicene Creed, was "born of the Father before all ages, God from God...."

His salvation plan could -- and did -- impact Mary since the moment of her own conception.



In order for God to come into our world in the flesh, his Spirit totally bathed Mary in his pure, holy presence. Therefore, even though she could not understand how the promised Messiah could be conceived within her, since she'd had no sexual relations, by the grace of God's Spirit she could know that God was the one who was asking for it and God was the one who was doing it.

That's all she needed.

All of us are called by God to carry the presence of Christ and birth him more fully into the world. What are you doing about it? How much are you fulfilling your divine destiny? Remember, he always empowers us to accomplish whatever he asks us to do. God knows what he's doing when he calls us to continue what Mary began, and he is always trustworthy and dependable. There is nothing to fear, no reason to hold back from fulfilling our true destiny.

With this in mind, when he asks us to do something for his kingdom, of course our answer is yes, right? Why wouldn't it be? Of course we want to cooperate with his plan, and we say yes to his plan even when we don't understand it nor see how God could possibly do what he says he'll do.

Often, we feel inadequate, because we know we are weak, sinful, and unqualified. Don't trust your feelings about it; trust God. Don't trust your feelings about it; trust God.

**Questions for Personal Reflection:**

When was the last time you said to God, "But how can this be? You want me to do WHAT? I don't understand why!" What were you afraid of? How strong was your trust in God?

**Questions for Community Faith Sharing:**

When God chooses you for a task or responsibility, what helps you move from uncertainty or confusion or reluctance into saying "yes"? When the plans of God don't make sense or they seem unpleasant, how do you overcome your reluctance?

## ***Outreach Needs for Christmas***

Thank you to all who gave to our Christmas Drive. Because of your donations, we were able to give Christmas baskets to 50 families in need that are living in our Parish. This included gift cards so they were able to buy presents for their children. The generosity of our Parishioners is inspiring!

Thank You  
FOR  
**GIVING**  
...  
GENEROUSLY



# **Christmas Masses**



**Reservation is REQUIRED to attend Christmas Masses.**

**Please make your reservations at**

**[www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com)**

**CHRISTMAS EVE: 3:30 pm (Church and Parish Center) 5:30 pm (Church) Midnight (Church)**

**CHRISTMAS DAY: 9:30 am (Church) 11:30 am (Church and Parish Center)**

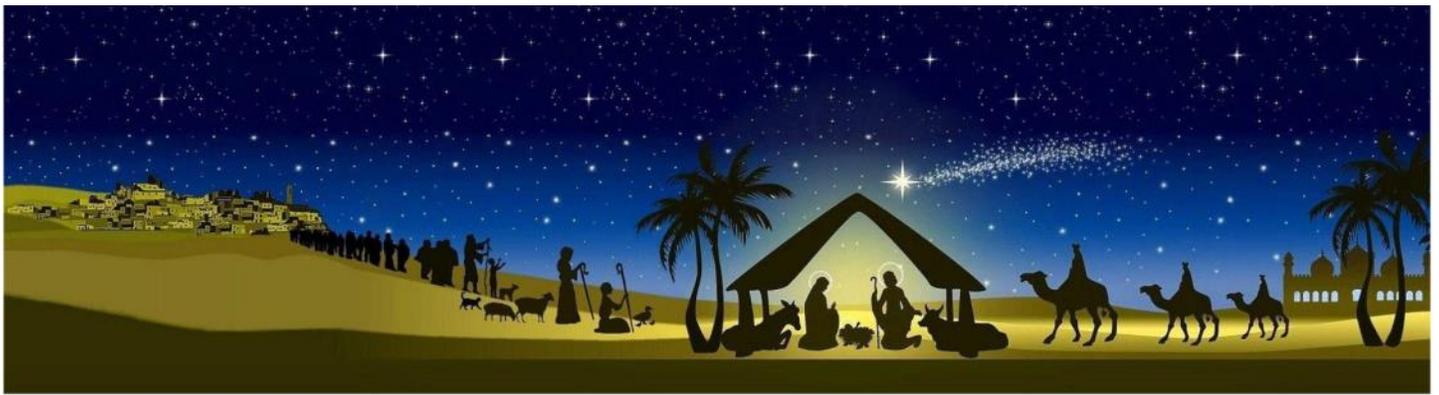
Christmas is coming, and the celebration is going to be different than any other year. Still, we are preparing ourselves to do it safely and healthily, taking into account the state and county mandates. Because we are allowed only about 50% of our capacity, all the Masses in the Church building will have a Reservation System online and by telephone. I ask everyone's cooperation in this matter for a safe and healthy celebration of the birth of Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as a parish family.

**Christmas Masses are LIVE-STREAMED and REBROADCASTED on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day at the following times.**

**CHRISTMAS EVE: 3:30 PM (LIVE), 5:30 PM, 7:30 PM, 9:30 PM & MIDNIGHT.**

**CHRISTMAS DAY: 9:30 AM (LIVE), 11:30 AM, 1:30 PM**





# Merry Christmas

Christmas is here, and it is a feast of HOPE. It is not for a day or a week. The Lord, who came into this world to be with us, is sustaining us and guiding us our whole life. Emmanuel is the word; that means God is with us. Our God is with us in our struggles and trials. This Christmas season is not a typical one. As we struggle through the pandemic and its pain, we focus on Jesus, our hope, born in a manger, seemed to the whole world as insignificant and hopeless. But He triumphed the world, through His resurrection and restored hope. Let us keep that hope alive in our hearts and our lives. May the Hope of Christ our Lord guide us and keep us safe during this Christmas and the coming new year. Have a blessed Christmas a happy new year.

Fr. Joe



Our ultimate hope and desire, the deepest longing for our hearts is for Jesus. We thirst for him, we long for him. In this week, we will focus on Jesus and how he fulfills all our hopes and desires. We will look at Christmas and the coming of Jesus as our true fulfillment.

Jesus is our true hope and he is with us.

### Parish Social Ministry (Outreach) Program

The Outreach Food Pantry is available for individuals and families that are struggling to stretch their food budget. We can also refer those needing assistance to any program appropriate to their needs. Appointments can be made by calling 631 585-8760 x2. The Outreach Office is open Monday through Friday from 10 AM to 12 PM.

**Pantry Needs: Ketchup, Mustard Mayonnaise, Dishwashing Detergent, Laundry Detergent, Household Cleaner, Deodorant, Liquid Hand Soap, Kleenex and Paper Towels.**



Please prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. You are helping our church be more efficient, and have a steady, predictable cash flow to support the works that are important to you, throughout the year. Signing up is easy! Visit [faith.direct/NY563](http://faith.direct/NY563) or download the **Faith Direct app** and search for the parish with the parish code (NY563). Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!



#### A BIG thank you

The **Assumption Faith Formation** and the Lake House Shelter would like to thank all who donated beautiful gifts and generous gift cards. Your thoughtful giving has ensured that all the children will have gifts to open for Christmas.

Your exceptional kindness has guaranteed that these families will have a joyful Christmas.

Thank you for your generosity and love.

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

December 20, 2020

WATCH

#### CHRISTMAS IN ROME: A CELEBRATION OF THE NATIVITY

Nowhere celebrates the birth of the Savior like Rome. This Christmas, marvel at the Holy City's festive celebration of the coming of the child Jesus in Bethlehem.



Our parish subscribes to a revolutionary online platform which provides the best in Catholic audio talks, movies, e-books, and video-based studies. It is, **free of charge**. Simply type in [abvmcentereach.formed.org](http://abvmcentereach.formed.org) on your browser. Once you have registered you'll have access to all the material on FORMED, again **free of charge**.

You also can install FORMED through an app. Learn more at [app.formed.org](http://app.formed.org). Our parish code is P8DGQ8.