

ASSUMPTION of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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



January 10, 2021

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

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, January 10th

7:30 a.m. — Steven Calestini (Mike Montelione)
9:30 a.m. — Felicja Bedarska
11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

Monday, January 11th

9:00 a.m. — Katherine Aridas (Colleen Navarra)

Tuesday, January 12th

9:00 a.m. — Gonzalo Villaverde (Maryann Morse)

Wednesday, January 13th

9:00 a.m. — Intention of President D. Trump (Legion of Mary)

Thursday, January 14th

9:00 a.m. — Anna Joseph Alenchery (E. Leverock)

Friday, January 15th

9:00 a.m. — Living and Deceased Members of Romeo & Wolz Families

Saturday, January 16th

5:30 p.m. — Joanne Ruf

Sunday, January 17th

7:30 a.m. — Richard Wagenhofer (Mary Pellegrino)

9:30 a.m. — Katherine Aridas (M/M A. Johnson)

11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

^^^^



Jim Reilly

Ronald Fregara

Peace

Time, Talent & Treasure Fostering Stewardship

as a Way of Life

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary (Regular Sunday Offering)

> Last Week's Collection \$9,310 (includes *Faith Direct*)

Last Year's Collection \$10,366 *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 (6th thru 8th) 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

Celebrating Baptism

Why was Jesus baptized? He wasn't in need of repentance. Why, for that matter, did Jesus do anything at all? Not just to save us from our sins by dying on the cross! There is so much more to Jesus than that.

Jesus united himself to sinners. First he humbled himself to become one of us, a human living with the same needs we have every day. Then he surrendered himself to the baptismal water so that when we are baptized, he is there in the water with us, raising us up to a new life, the holy life, everlasting life.

Everything that Jesus did shows us by example who we are: what the Father created us to be like and how we are to live as children of God. When Jesus was baptized and the Holy Spirit descended upon him and the Father said, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased," he showed us by example what happens at every person's baptism.

The Holy Spirit descended upon YOU and the Father said about YOU: "You are my beloved child; with you I am well pleased!"

Baptismal water is the womb of God from which we are reborn into his family and his ministry. When we bless ourselves with drops from holy water fonts, making the sign of the cross, we renew our baptisms.

In the Jordan River, Jesus was reborn from ordinary life to a life of ministry. Baptism does that for us, too. Is there some repentance you need to do so that you can be reborn more fully into what the Father created you to do - your divine purpose, the ministry he has called you to do?

Let us begin the Church Season of Ordinary Time with a renewal of our baptismal purification and commitment, so that we may be renewed as followers of Christ in holiness and in ministry:

Do you reject Satan? And all his works? And all his empty promises?

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

Next, use the following prayer (or one of your own):

"Dear God, I am a sinner. I sometimes fail to put You first in my life. Forgive me. Change me. Renew me. To demonstrate that I mean it, that I truly want You to be Lord of my life completely, I will do a special act, just as Jesus put his life fully into the Father's hands by surrendering to John's baptism and allowing his own rebirth. The act that I choose to do is ______. Amen!"

And God the Father says of you:

"This is my beloved son/daughter; with him/her I am well pleased!"

Questions for Personal Reflection:

What do you know about your baptism? When was it? Where? Who was there? Was there a party? Think beyond the obvious: Who of the saints and angels were there? What kind of party did they celebrate over your baptism - and why?

Questions for Community Faith Sharing:

Share with your group what you know about the people and place and celebration of your baptism. How did this Sacrament affect your life as the years went by? Why does this mean that the Father is pleased with you?© 2020 Terry Modica, Catholic Digital Resources, Printed by permission.





BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUPS

Good Shepherd Hospice Bereavement Services are opened to anyone in the community who has experienced a loss through death at no charge. Upcoming Virtual Bereavement Support Groups, led by a Bereavement Specialist, include:

Loss Due to COVID-19 Bereavement Support Group 1/7/ 21 - 2/11/21 - 1:00pm-2:30pm

Registration Required - Please email/call: Jennifer Herzog, LMSW

(631) 828-7636 / Jennifer.Herzog@CHSLI.org

Spousal/Partner Bereavement Support Group 1/12/21 - 2/16/21- 12:00pm-1:30pm

Registration Required - Please email/call: Carolyn Lisi- Haas, LCSW-R

(631) 828-7629 / Carolyn.Lisi-Haas@CHSLI.org

Adult Loss of Parent or Sibling Bereavement Support Group1/12/21 - 2/16/21- 5:00pm-6:30pmRegistration Required - Please email/call: Carolyn Lisi- Haas, LCSW-R

(631) 828-7629 / Carolyn.Lisi-Haas@CHSLI.org



Page Five

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: Pancake Mix, Syrup, Mayonnaise, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Razors, Household Cleaner, Dishwashing Liquid, Laundry Detergent.



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 **faithdirect.net/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!

Drug Crisis Assistance

Are you or someone you know having family or interpersonal problems due to drinking ALCOHOL and/or using DRUGS? CATHOLIC CHARITIES / Talbot House, a Chemical Dependence Crisis Center, located in Bohemia provides withdrawal and stabilization services on a voluntary basis to males and females over the age of 18, who are seeking to stop and/or withdraw from alcohol and/or other drug use. The medical and clinical staff at Talbot House will assess the kind of care the person needs, to begin his/ her journey in recovery. For more information, please call:



631-589-4144. Talbot House staff is available 24/7. Each call is confidential. Sliding scale fees, Medicaid, Medicare, and other third-party insurance accepted

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

January 10, 2021

WATCH

REBORN - EPISODE 1: A NEW CREATION

This week, as we contemplate Jesus' Baptism, dive into the mystery of the Sacrament of Baptism! Through our Reborn series, you will come to understand the deeper meaning behind your Baptism!



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 <u>abvmcentereach.formed.org</u> 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 <u>app.formed.org</u>. Our parish code is P8DGQ8.

Page Six

Baptism of the Lord

Sunday, Jan 10, 2021

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD **Do justice**

We sometimes imagine it's about collecting sacraments. Or stockpiling mountains of prayers. Writing fat checks to charities. Or being nice to people we don't like. But the prophets relentlessly insist that what God desires from us is a just world. Where there's a privileged class, abominable wage gaps, racist systems, and deeply disproportionate outcomes for a nation's citizens, the peaceable reign of God can't gain a foothold. Contemplate categories of injustice—education, health care, employment opportunities, criminal justice—to name a few. Make one your special cause, learn all you can, and educate others about it.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 55:1-11 or Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; 1 John 5:1-9 or Acts 10:34-38; Mark 1:7-11 (21). "A smoldering wick he shall not quench, until he establishes justice on the earth."

Monday, Jan 11, 2021 FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Nothing ordinary about the reign of God

Today is the first weekday of Ordinary Time—that period in the church's liturgical year after the close of the Christmas season that stretches until Ash Wednesday (and then picks up after Pentecost until Advent begins again). This time after the holidays can indeed seem "ordinary," when all the commotion dies down and all the decorations are put away. Some people, especially those who live with long, cold winters, might even feel a little blue. But while sacred seasons are important, getting down to business is too. After all, there's a reign of God to help build. Think about everything Jesus did between the bookends of his life that we celebrate—and roll up your sleeves for some extraordinary work.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 1:1-6; Mark 1:14-20 (305). "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Tuesday, Jan 12, 2021

The power of a name

The Holy Name of Jesus is a devotion that was championed by Saint Bernardino of Siena in the 1400s—with the Holy Name Society dating to the 1200s. As a feast day, it's been celebrated during the first week of January by various Christian denominations and by Catholic religious orders, most notably the Jesuits, who use a monogram of the name (IHS) as their emblem. For Catholics, the entire month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus. Pray the Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus today, recalling how even the unclean spirits of Jesus' day recognized his name.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 2:5-12; Mark 1:21-28 (306). "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?"

Wednesday, Jan 13, 2021

OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF HILARY, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH Be gracious in your disagreements

Catholics of the 21st century profess the belief that Jesus is both human and divine every time we recite the Nicene Creed at Mass. However, that profession of faith was challenged mightily in the fourth century when followers of Arius argued that Jesus was a great man—but not God. The conflict involved bishops and emperors on both sides and it went on for years. Hilary of Poitiers converted to Christianity at the age of 35 and was elected a bishop three years later. Hilary was a friendly and courteous man who persistently championed belief in Jesus' divinity. Even exile did not silence his voice. In our own times of conflict and division, Saint Hilary, guide us to God's grace.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 2:14-18; Mark 1:29-39 (307). "For this purpose have I come."

Thursday, Jan 14, 2021

Reach out and touch an outcast

Jesus heals a leper in today's gospel. Leprosy is relatively rare now in most regions of the world, so it's hard to understand the fear and revulsion that people with this disease triggered at one time. Even someone as close to God as Saint Francis struggled to be comfortable with touching a leper. Every age has its outcasts, and the Christian challenge has always been to learn to accept those others find unacceptable, love those others find unlovable. Prisoners, poor people, those with dark skin or foreign accents, the homeless—the list of modern lepers is long. Who do you avoid? Acknowledging your aversion is a step toward acceptance.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 3:7-14; Mark 1:40-45 (308). "He... touched the leper, and said to him, 'I do will it. Be made clean.'"

Friday, Jan 15, 2021 Color blind no more

Today in Guatemala, a major religious procession honors an image of Christ on the cross carved from dark wood and renowned throughout the region as the "Black Christ of Esquipulas." The statue was commissioned by Spanish colonial leaders looking to convert the indigenous people who worshipped a dark-skinned deity. Today the image affirms the fact that in Latin America there has been a certain "fluidity between races through inter-marriage and more blending of cultures and religions when compared to the experience of Native Americans and African Americans," as El Paso Bishop Mark J. Seitz wrote in a remarkable pastoral letter on the history of racism, *Night Will Be No More.* Today would be a good day to dip into this document for insights into the history and persistence of racism,

regionwide. May the Black Christ be a symbol of hope! TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 4:1-5, 11; Mark 2:1-12 (309). "They were all astounded and glorified God, saying, 'We have never seen anything like this.' "

Saturday, Jan 16, 2021

OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Be present to the Presence

The great paradox of God's kingdom is often expressed in the teachings of Jesus: The blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear, the last are first, the dead live. The first and most profound paradox is that the Virgin conceives. Our Blessed Mother experienced the coming Kingdom in her own body. She shares that experience with us in our communion with the Lord. We carry the Real Presence of the Savior in our own bodies. The ongoing paradox is that the Lord calls us, who are sinners, to be the vessels of his presence in the world. Express that presence today by lifting up the lowly.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 2:13-17 (310). "I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."



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

©2021 TrueQuest Communications. TakeFiveForFaith.com; mail@takefiveforfaith.com. All rights reserved. Noncommercial reprints permitted with the following credit: Reprinted with permission from TakeFiveForFaith.com. Scripture citations from the New American Bible Revised Edition. For more information about TAKE FIVE and our regular contributors, go to PrepareTheWord.com. Free daily email and app available online at TakeFiveForFaith.com/subscribe.