



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

November 28, 2021

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
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



Mass Intentions for the week

Sunday, November 28th

- 7:30 a.m. — Obdulio DeLeon (Vincent Palma)
 9:30 a.m. — Joseph Nugent (Ed & Diane Pozzi & Family)
 Intention of Thomas Schnell (Paola Schnell)
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

Monday, November 29th

- 9:00 a.m. — Deacon Kenneth J. Maher
 Dawn Hearne (Joanne & Rick Arroyo)

Tuesday, November 30th

- 9:00 a.m. — Fr. Gerard Smith
 Dawn Hearne (Mary Ross)

Wednesday, December 1st

- 9:00 a.m. — Danielle Colon (Frank & Julie Leland)
 Living & Deceased Member of the Rosary Altar Society

Thursday, December 2nd

- 9:00 a.m. — Dawn Hearne
 Eileen McHale (Merola Family)

Friday, December 3rd

- 9:00 a.m. — David & Kathleen Worrell (Family)
 Loretta Roberts (Merola Family)

Saturday, December 4th

- 5:30 p.m. — Aurea Ella (Harry & Luz Gaviola)
 Gail Spena (DellaCorce Family)

Sunday, December 5th

- 7:30 a.m. — Marianna Tutka (Annette Wolz)
 9:30 a.m. — Salvatore Rosato (Julie Mercado)
 Rosemary Bliss (Schnelk Family)
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

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.

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.

ASSUMPTION YOUTH MINISTRY

Every Thursday 7:00PM - 8:30PM
 in the Parish Center

All 6th - 8th & 9th - 12th graders are Welcome

P.S. Mask required for everyone inside the building

For more information please contact Renata Tutka-Ptak at 631-585-8760 ext. 105 or rptak@abvmcentereach.com

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 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..

Rest
 in
 Peace



Deceased Brothers and Sisters of our Parish Family



Time, Talent & Treasure

Fostering Stewardship
 as a Way of Life

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary
 (Regular Sunday Offering)

Last Week's Collection \$8,194
 (includes Faith Direct)

Last Year's Collection \$8,231
 Thank You!

Good News Reflection**Faith that gives hope and victory**

Today's world needs Christians who truly understand that faith gives us hope and victory in the midst of any and all difficulties.

Taking this even further, today's world needs Catholics who truly understand that going to Mass means having faith in miracles -- especially the miraculous transformation of bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ. Are you changed by the presence of Christ in the Eucharist? If so, then after you exit the church, others see evidence of this faith -- right?

There's a difference between "knowing" the truths of our faith and authentically living these truths.

What prayer requests have you made in which you're still waiting for God to provide his help? When you offer them to Jesus during the prayers of Mass, do you feel the hopefulness that comes from faith?



During the consecration of the Eucharist, if we do not have faith in God's ability to change bread and wine into Christ -- an ability that does not rely on the how holy the priest is -- we won't have faith to recognize that Jesus is ministering to us in the Eucharist.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus speaks of his Second Coming, but we can also relate it to our daily lives today. We all have new tribulations looming in the future, unknown and unpredictable. That's life on earth! And Jesus wants to help us through them. Faith in this gives us hope and victory.

However, when our focus is on our troubles instead of on Christ, we are not living in faith. Jesus warned us about our hearts becoming spiritually drowsy. This is when we lose faith. We forget to remain centered in Christ. We neglect to listen for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. But when we ask Jesus to restore us to a life of faith, we become vigilant, expectant, and aware that we can rely on God to help us in whatever comes our way.

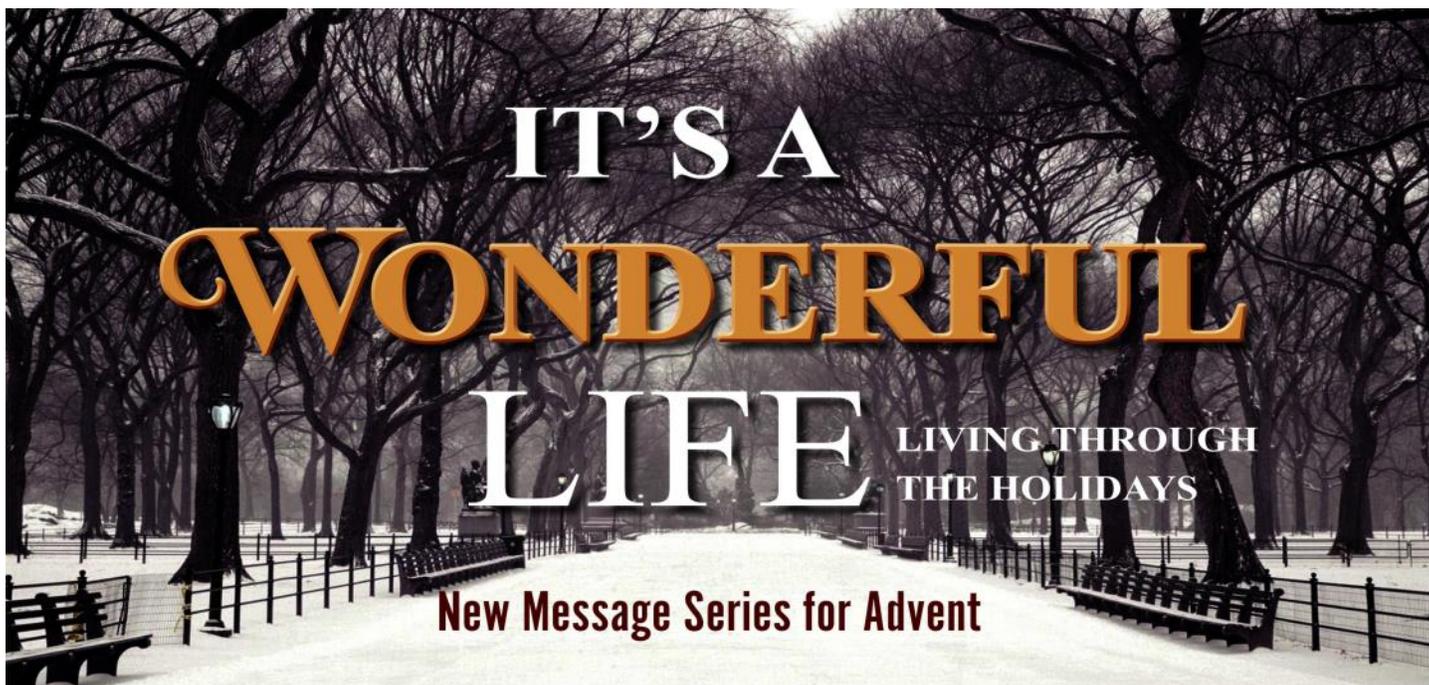
Our tribulations make us fearful. Faith gives us reasons to hope in Jesus and to live in joy instead of fear. It's not easy! It takes conscious effort. But spiritual drowsiness is a miserable way to live.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

What are you waiting for from Jesus? How will you use the Season of Advent to grow in faith by noticing the loving, generous, merciful activities of God?

Questions for Faith Sharing:

What are your favorite ways to prepare for Christmas? How do you make Advent a season of hope and a time of growing in faith? Share your ideas with the other community members and listen for new ideas that you can adopt.



In the Gospel, Jesus warns of tribulations that are coming. Every day we experience troubles and tribulations – they are coming. Jesus tells us not to get sucked into them or allow the anxieties of life to overwhelm us. Instead he says to pray. Prayer of gratitude and thanksgiving helps us to slow down and get a larger view of our lives. Trials and tribulations are coming but if we have an attitude of gratitude we will be better prepared to face them

Life brings trials and tribulations on a daily basis but prayer of gratitude slows us down to face those trials with peace rather than anxiety. As part of prayer, thank God every day for three things you are grateful for over the last twenty four hours.

Be confident that gratitude and thankfulness will help you face the anxieties of life.



Thank you very much for your commitment to our parish as we journey together rebuilding our parish by Loving God, Serving Others and Growing Disciples. This is just a gentle reminder to Plan, Pray, Commit and return your commitment card to the office by mail or by depositing it in the collection basket on Sunday with your worship offering.



Please prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. 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!



Scan. Pay. Go.

Parish Social Ministry (Food Pantry) for Christmas

Thanksgiving Donations: Thank you to all who gave to our Thanksgiving Drive. Because of your donations, we were able to give Thanksgiving baskets to 62 families in need that are living in our Parish. The generosity of our Parishioners is inspiring!

Gift Cards for Christmas: With Christmas just around the corner, we're getting ready to prepare Christmas baskets for our Parish Social Ministry clients. Gift cards 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. Since we also provide food for our clients Christmas meal, we are also happy to accept food donations as well as supermarket gift cards. If you choose to donate gift cards, either place them in the collection basket or to the Parish Office or at the Welcome Desk.



Parish Social Ministry

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. 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. We are happy to assist people of all faiths. The Outreach Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 AM to 1 PM. **Pantry Needs: Deodorant, Dishwashing Liquid, Laundry Detergent, Liquid Hand Soap, Coffee, Hot Cocoa, Cooking Oil, Noodles**



Did you know a 401k can help our Parish do God's work?

You worked hard for your 401k, IRA or other retirement plan. If you leave it to anyone besides a spouse, a good portion of that savings may go to taxes. But if you leave it to our Parish, the entire value will be put to good use because we are a tax-exempt organization. Simply fill out a *change of beneficiary form* and name our parish as a full or partial beneficiary. To learn more contact Barbara Kilarjian at 516-678-5800 ext. 257 or bkilarjian@drvc.org.

Thank you for considering this meaningful parish gift!



Nocturnal Adoration

Come and be in the presence of the Lord who is present in the Holy Eucharist. Silent Adoration, readings and benediction.

**First Friday of the month at
1:00—2:00 PM in the church.
Friday, Dec. 3**



**Coffee
in the
Courtyard**

You are invited to "Coffee in the Courtyard", on every **Sunday after the 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Masses in the Parish Center Hall**. Hang out with our fellow worshippers, spend a few minutes conversing with others, make new friends, and build a stronger community, in which we then become a stronger parish family. **All are welcome!** Join us after Mass in the Parish Center Hall for fellowship, wonderful conversations and of course coffee.

Sunday, Nov 28, 2021

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Light up the night

In an unusual conjoining of celebrations, we begin the season of Advent today as our Jewish friends begin the eight-day festival of lights known as Chanukah tonight. It's intriguing to reflect on how Advent too is an extended celebration of moving from the darkness of history into the light of Christ's coming. Light remains a symbol of spiritual illumination, abandoning the gloom of ignorance for knowledge and the shadow of foolishness for wisdom. As we string holiday lights and decorate with sparkling ornaments, let's consciously choose against error's dark deceptions and ally ourselves with the light of truth.

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 33:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2; Luke 21:25-28, 34-36 (3). *"Be vigilant at all times . . . to stand before the Son of Man."*

Monday, Nov 29, 2021

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Have yourself an evergreen Advent

The origins of the Advent wreath are unclear. Like many holiday traditions, they may be pre-Christian, and like many of today's Christmas traditions, Advent wreaths were popularized by Germans, who brought them to the United States. No matter where they came from or how they differ, Advent wreaths are rich in symbolism. The candles are lit as a sign of hope to dispel the darkness. The evergreen, wrapped in a circle, signifies continuous life. The prickly leaves of holly are like the crown of thorns. Pinecones symbolize resurrection. If you don't already have one, consider making one as a craft project this Advent, and add elements that have symbolic meaning for you.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 8:5-11 (175). *"Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof; only say the word and my servant will be healed."*

Tuesday, Nov 30, 2021

FEAST OF ANDREW, APOSTLE

Can you follow directions?

Sometimes what we appreciate about saints comes from other saints. Such is the case with Saint Andrew and his brother, Simon Peter, of whom Saint Gregory the Great said: "At a single command" from Jesus, they "leaving their nets followed the Redeemer. Up to that time, they had not seen him perform any miracles. They had heard nothing from him concerning a reward of eternal joy." All Jesus had to do was ask them to follow. This Advent, listen for what Jesus may be asking of you; pray for the trust that Andrew had, to simply follow.

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22 (684). *"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."*

Wednesday, Dec 01, 2021

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Guess who is on the way?

On this Wednesday of the First Week of Advent, we look forward to the second coming of Christ. *Advent* comes from the Latin word for *arriving*. We have all experienced brokenness and hopelessness in our lives. You may know and cross paths with someone yearning for Jesus' healing power and awareness of his presence in their life. Has your mind, heart, body, and spirit been hungry for spiritual nourishment? Have you been healed by

Jesus? Do you want to share that same healing experience with others? Consider simple ways that you can share with a hurting friend the Good News that Jesus is on the way!

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37 (177). *"I do not want to send them away hungry."*

Thursday, Dec 02, 2021

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Seek to unite, not divide

It's human nature to see the good in our own habits, ways, and traditions, but at the same time, Pope Francis has encouraged Christians to acknowledge the validity of other spiritual paths to God. The Holy Father's focus on what unites humanity spiritually is an important lesson for a world community that depends more than ever on cooperation. As you begin Advent, look for ways that you are united spiritually with people who are part of your life, no matter what their faith tradition is.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27 (178). *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the Kingdom of heaven."*

Friday, Dec 03, 2021

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Creation celebrates diversity

"If you embrace diversity, but ignore disability, you're doing it wrong." This popular phrase on social media reflects the venerable tradition of Catholic social teaching. On this Day of Persons with Disabilities, remember that in following Jesus, we are committed to promoting and protecting the dignity of all humans. At times, we as church have led the way in this, and other times we have fallen short. Nevertheless, it is fundamental to our faith. Why? Because we believe that each person is made in the image of God. Imagine that: In you—with all your strengths, weaknesses, challenges, and unique traits—we see an image of God. What does that do within you?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31 (179). *"And their eyes were opened."*

Saturday, Dec 04, 2021

MEMORIAL OF JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

The embodiment of faith

John Damascene, priest, monk, and poet, was an early defender of the use of religious icons—images of the sacred—at a time in the early Middle Ages when a movement to strip religious life and worship of all images—called *iconoclasm*—had a following. Thanks to John's vision—perhaps rooted in his sense of the power of the poetic to move people—religious icons are cherished, especially in the Eastern church but also throughout the Catholic world. Our faith is an embodied faith, an incarnated faith. Wear it proudly!

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8 (180). *"Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give."*

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



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