



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

January 2, 2022

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

**Sunday, January 2nd**

7:30 a.m. — People of the Parish
 9:30 a.m. — Marian & Halina Vos (Family)
 Ronald Fregara (Lorraine & Family)
 11:30 a.m. — Catherine Collins (Attracta)
 Intentions of Theresa O'Sullivan (Attracta)

Monday, January 3rd

9:00 a.m. — John Walsh (M/M Jerry Randall)
 James Michael Schultz (Family)

Tuesday, January 4th

9:00 a.m. — Joseph Angland, Jr.
 Rosemary O'Connor (Joe & Arlene Angland)

Wednesday, January 5th

9:00 a.m. — Karl Kloiber (Flynn Family)

Thursday, January 6th

9:00 a.m. — Rosemary O'Connor (Lucy Quirk)

Friday, January 7th

9:00 a.m. — Dawn Hearne
 Laura Jeane Mauro

Saturday, January 8th

5:30 p.m. — Ron DellaCroce (Pat Rivers)
 Jennie Burckhardt (Lucy Quirk)

Sunday, January 9th

7:30 a.m. — People of the Parish
 9:30 a.m. — Peter & Marjorie Gochan (Family)
 Arlene Murtha (Christine Vella & Maureen Reilly)
 11:30 a.m. — Rosemary O'Connor
 Jennie Burchardt (Scott Ward)

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..

**Time, Talent & Treasure**

**Fostering Stewardship
 as a Way of Life**

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

Christmas Collection \$22,841

Last year's Christmas Collection \$16,404

**Last Week's Collection \$7,085
 (includes Faith Direct)**

Last Year's Collection \$7,866

*Rest
 in
 Peace*



Deceased Brothers
 and Sisters of our
 Parish Family

Good News Reflection***Celebrating the epiphany of discovery***

The Season of Christmas includes the celebration of the arrival of the magi from the East.

The Greek word "magi" meant oriental scientists. Despite sometimes being translated as "astrologers", their appearance at the manger does not validate astrology. Matthew included the magi in his Gospel account to show that Jesus was born to bring salvation to all: Gentiles as well as Jews.

The Church celebrates Epiphany to tell the world that no one who humbles himself before Jesus, paying homage to his divine-and-human presence, is excluded from the kingdom of God. Christ is the way, the truth and the life. No one can have eternal life without him, but all are welcome.

Contrary to popular legends, the magi were not kings, even though post-biblical writings often referred to them as kings because of the royal gifts they brought. It's not their kingship that the gifts represent; it's the Messianic kingship of Jesus. The magi prophetically testified with these gifts that Jesus was a divine king who would die.

Gold honored Jesus as king, incense honored his divinity, and myrrh, which was used in preparing the dead for burial, honored his death. Eventually, the gifts also came to symbolize our Christian response: gold represents our righteousness, incense our prayers, and myrrh our sufferings for Christ.



The word "epiphany" means a moment of discovery, a revelation that changes our lives. Did the magi recognize the baby Jesus as the world's savior? It was a common belief at the time that all kings were divine -- they were gods living among us until they died. Did the magi have an epiphany about the permanent kingship of Jesus?

Surely after this pilgrimage they never forgot about him and they kept their ears open for news from Jerusalem about him. Surely they learned about the King of the Jews who was crucified. We know this, because at some point, they became very saintly Christians; their relics still exist and have been venerated since very early times.

Without a doubt, the magi worshiped Jesus, even if they didn't fully understand why until later.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

In what ways do you pay homage to Jesus? Reflect on how this assures you of your salvation.

Questions for Faith Sharing:

Describe an epiphany you had during a time of suffering. How did it increase your righteousness? How did it affect your prayer life? These are your royal gifts for Jesus!



THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE

New Message Series

God's story is epic. In Scripture we find his story and the story of the men and women who entered his larger story. Each person was involved in God's big story. The Magi entered into God's larger story and made an impact on the world. Meanwhile, Herod focused on himself and lived a much smaller, less meaningful life. We choose whether to be part of God's larger story or our small story. In this first week we will look at the Scriptures as a story and what the Magi tell us about entering God's story. We make a choice whether to live a smaller story by living for ourselves or living in God's larger story. Commit to the series and to living in God's larger story. Please see the reflection questions on our website and spend some time with it.

STEWARDSHIP — SUNDAY —

GIVING to our parish is an act of worship

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.



FAITH DIRECT®
inspiring secure giving®

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!

 **PayPal**



Scan. Pay. Go.



For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11

Parish Social Ministry (Food Pantry) for Christmas

Thank you to all who gave to our Christmas Drive. Because of your donations, we were able to give Christmas baskets to 64 families in need that are living in our Parish. The generosity of our Parishioners is inspiring!



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: Shampoo, Conditioner, Dishwashing Liquid, Laundry Detergent, Household Cleaner, Toothbrushes and Toothpaste.**



Remember Our Parish in Your Will

we often do not realize how helpful it is to the parish that serves our spiritual needs when a person decides to share his/her resources as a way of saying "thank you" for all that has been provided. Most assuredly, a gift to the parish in your will or trust affirms your continued commitment to the parish's life and works.

Making this gift is easy. You can instruct your attorney to use this wording: "I hereby give, devise and bequeath to Assumption of the BVM parish, with offices at 20 Chestnut St., Centereach, NY 11720, the sum of \$___ to be used for its most urgent needs." As an alternative, you can make a gift of what remains in your estate or living trust after all other bequests and expenses have been paid: "I hereby give, devise and bequeath to Assumption of the BVM parish, with offices at 20 Chestnut St., Centereach, NY 11720, all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate (trust) to be used for its most urgent needs." For more information about remembering the parish in your will or living trust, contact Fr. Joseph at 631-585-8760 or jalenchery@abvmcentereach.com or Barbara Kilarjian at 516-678-5800 x 257.



activities on parish grounds until Jan. 15, 2022.

Out of Christian charity, we ask that all comply with the NY State requirement to **WEAR MASKS** when participating in any ac-



*Coffee
in the
Courtyard*

COFFEE IN THE COURTYARD will be CLOSED until the mask requirement is lifted. become a stronger parish family. **All are welcome!**

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

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. Please see below some pictures of our Christmas Pageant. Thank you for your generosity and love.

