



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

March 6, 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
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, March 6th

9:30 a.m. — Audrey Riggs (Maureen & Sheila)
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish
 Fr. Chris Aridas (Catholic War Veterans)

Monday, March 7th

9:00 a.m. — Maria & Inacio de Sousa (Family)

Tuesday, March 8th

9:00 a.m. — Fr. Chris Aridas (Dentrone Family)

Wednesday, March 9th

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

Thursday, March 10th

9:00 a.m. — Gloria Mulieri (Dan Manolt)

Friday, March 11th

9:00 a.m. — Pat McKenna (Norma Karcher)

Saturday, March 12th

5:30 p.m. — Thomas Sottosanti (M/M J. Zabbara)

Sunday, March 13th

9:30 a.m. — Fr. Chris Aridas (Sheila & Maureen)
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

We celebrate EUCHARIST

Saturdays: 5:30 PM
 Sundays: 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 Denise Materazo at dmfl121@yahoo.com
 for more details..



Time, Talent & Treasure

**Fostering Stewardship
 as a Way of Life**

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

**Last Week's Collection \$9,508
 (includes Faith Direct)**

**Last Year's Collection \$8,553
 Thank You!**

*Rest
 in
 Peace*



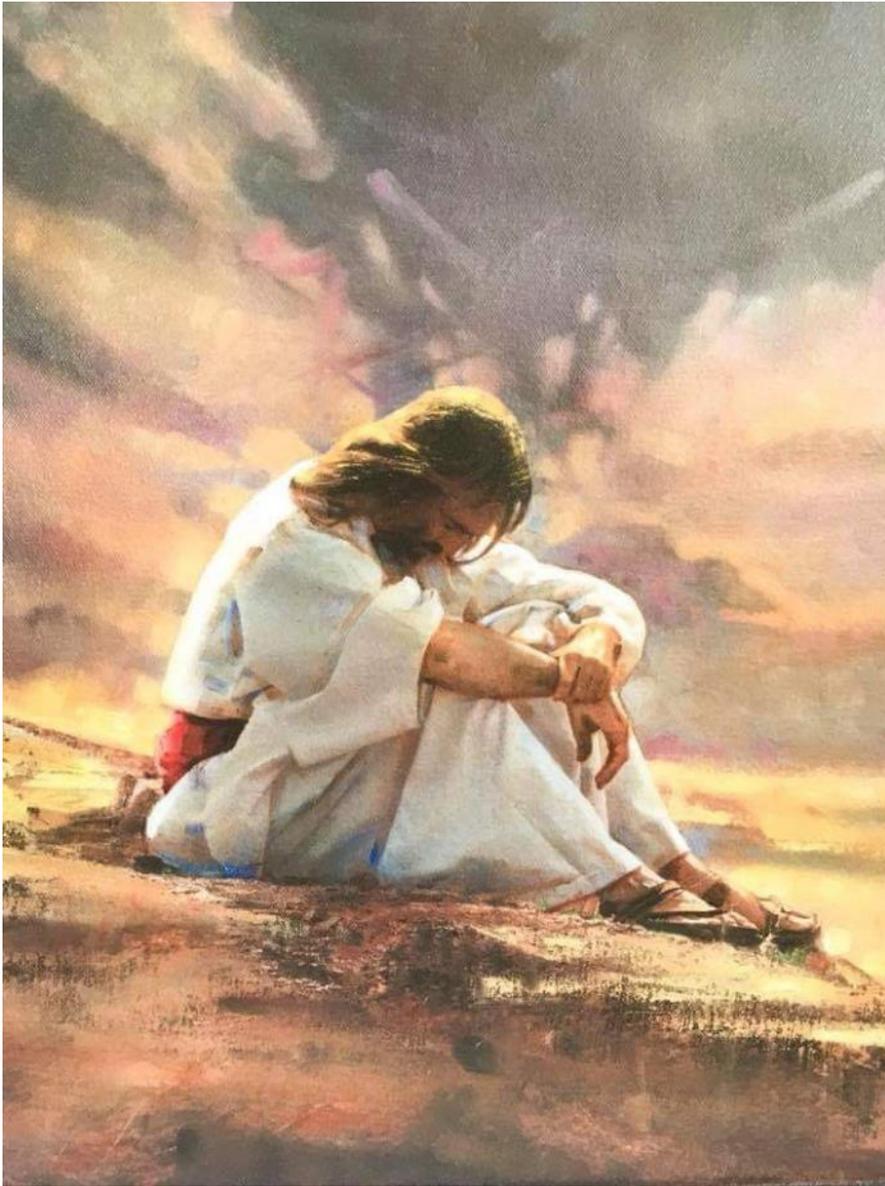
Leroy Lovell

Good News Reflection

Union with Christ

Jesus' life is our life if we're sincere about our faith. We unite ourselves to him by receiving his body and blood in the Eucharist. We meet him in the scriptures and walk with him on the path to heaven.

During Lent, the readings that the Church provides for Sunday and daily Mass will help us with this journey if we listen with an ear that recognizes our personal connections to Christ.



In this Sunday's Gospel passage, we journey with Jesus into the desert. Consider your own struggles with temptation; reflect on how sin makes your life feel barren and dry like a desert.

When we walk with Jesus, we unite ourselves to his struggle with the devil and to his victory over the devil. Our temptations become his temptations, and in our efforts to remain united to him, we reject Satan and choose the life of holiness. The Church helps us do this by giving us ways during Lent to improve our self-discipline and conquer the self-centeredness that makes us vulnerable to sin: fasting and abstinence, almsgiving, reconciliation services, faith formation events, reading materials, and more.

Every meal and meat that we give up for Lent, every sin that we confess in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, every sacrifice of time that we make to add more prayer and spiritual reading to our daily life, and every other Lenten activity is a practice of self-denial that unites us to Jesus in the desert.

Jesus fasted from food and other physical comforts during his battle with the devil, and this strategy strengthened him and prepared him for the ministry that came afterward. This is what Lent should be for us, too.

Satan is not someone to fear. Jesus already defeated all demons on our behalf, first in the desert and then on the cross. Our battle is really only against temptation and our personal weaknesses that make us vulnerable to succumbing to sin.

We don't always want to follow Jesus. This is what we must surrender to God during Lent.

Then Easter will be far more meaningful, because we will emerge from Lent much stronger in our faith.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

What are the temptations that are most pressing in your life? Be honest with yourself! How are you succumbing to the devil, even though he really has no power over you? Don't be ashamed. Guilt is not what Jesus wants from you. What he does want is your desire to receive his help in overcoming temptation. He's waiting for you in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Questions for Family & Community Faith Sharing:

How do you know that the Sacrament of Reconciliation really works? How is it more than just a confession of your sins? How has it helped you grow stronger in following Jesus?

SERIOUSLY, NO?

Week Two – Seriously, No?

Scripture: Luke 4:1-13

For many people, God is the God of no. If it is fun, then it is off-limits. No one can deny there are No's in scripture that seem laughable to people who are not Christians. In this message, we will look at how God's No's are intended to keep us free from the slavery of sin. When we say no to certain things, we say yes to live in freedom as God's sons and daughters.

God's No's are intended for our freedom. We are challenged to reframe God's Nos as an opportunity to grow in faith. Continue the conversation in a small group over the week.

Identify your number one temptation.

A graphic for a coffee event. It features a stylized coffee cup with steam rising from it on the left. The background is a warm, golden-brown color with a soft glow. The text "Coffee in the Courtyard" is written in a large, elegant, cursive font. Below this, the text "Coming back on March 13" and "in the Parish Center" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a slight shadow effect.

Coffee
in the
Courtyard

Coming back on March 13
in the Parish Center

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 for fellowship, wonderful conversations and of course coffee.

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: Laundry Detergent, Paper Towels, Kleenex, Toilet Paper, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Canned Chili, Snacks, Jello Mix.**



The Church in Need – Ukraine

On March 6, 2022 a collection will be taken for “The Church in Need.” The monies collected this year will be directed to assist the people of Ukraine during this time of suffering and war.

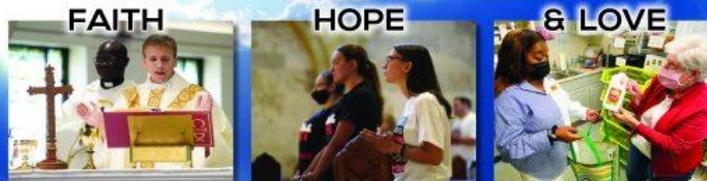


20 Catholic Ministries Appeal

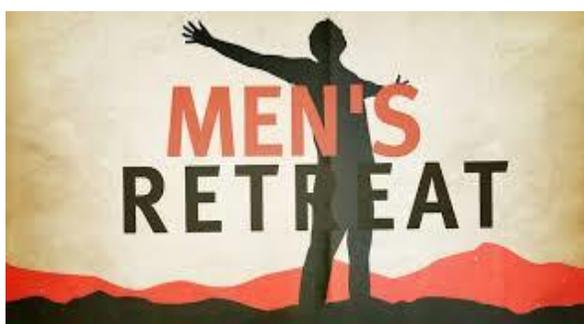
22 DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

“God’s love calls us to move beyond fear. We ask God for the courage to put on faith, hope and love as we go out into the world and become the Word in body as well as spirit.”
 – Pope Francis

One Family in Mission – Building a Community of



Every year through the support and commitment of individuals and organizations, we are able to serve more than 600,000 people in our Long Island community. The Catholic Ministries Appeal enables our Church to continue to form our youth and adults in the faith, promote the dignity of life, provide quality education to our young people, feed the hungry, and foster vocations to the priesthood. Our Parish goal this year is \$56,400. We have surpassed our goal last year (54,200) and got back more than \$13,000 as rebate to use it in our parish. Your generosity helps to make all of this, and so much more, possible! **Thank you for your support.**



Coming to Our Senses through Honesty, Humility and Hope.

By Fr Larry Lewis Mary Knoll
 (Popular speaker and Retreat Director)

March 11-13, 2022 at Immaculate conception Seminary,
 440 W Neck Rd, Lloyd Harbor, NY 11743

\$245.00 two overnights/\$50.00 day commuters.

Mail check to Stanley E Blyskal, 19 Tern Court, East Islip, NY 11739 prior to 3/1/22
 Questions: sblyskalmd@gmail.com/ 631-786-7855



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.

Sunday, Mar 06, 2022

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT; RITE OF ELECTION

Dig a little deeper this Lent

If practicing our religion is easy, we're not practicing our religion. This is one valuable lesson we glean from the time Jesus spends in the desert. Challenges to spiritual discipline are many: the desire for creature comforts, the hunger to be admired, the quest for control. Engaging this 40-day exercise each year strengthens the will and purifies the heart. It enables us to prepare for the real temptations that life offers. Is my prayer vital? Have I grown self-indulgent? Is my hand open to others? Our Lenten practice should be a response to those probing questions.

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13 (24). "[Jesus] was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil."

Monday, Mar 07, 2022

MEMORIAL OF PERPETUA AND FELICITY, MARTYRS

My peace I leave you

Saints Perpetua and Felicity shared an intense intimate bond. These two North African women were young new mothers imprisoned together by the Roman Empire for being Christians. Perpetua was a noblewoman and Felicity was her enslaved servant—but their unequal relationship was upended by their new faith, in which Saint Paul said there is "neither slave nor free." The two held each other in the moments before their grisly public executions in an amphitheater and gave each other the kiss of peace before dying. In the face of any horror—from slavery to persecution to execution, all of which still exist in our modern times—love has power over hate.

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46 (224). "When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?"

Tuesday, Mar 08, 2022

MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF GOD, RELIGIOUS

Give your life in noble pursuit

The Order of Brothers Hospitallers honors the work of Saint John of God, who was born and died on this day. John's tumultuous path—as orphan, then soldier, then suffering from mental illness—eventually led to a humble spiritual life of tending the sick and dying poor. John died as he lived, in noble pursuit: He succumbed to pneumonia after rescuing a drowning man. Founded on the *Rule of Saint Augustine*, the order consoles the world's sick and poor but also, officially, oversees medical care of the pope. Pray Augustine's "[Watch, O Lord](#)" prayer to remember the sick and dying today—and all who comfort them.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15 (225). "So shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me void, but shall do my will."

Wednesday, Mar 09, 2022

MEMORIAL OF FRANCES OF ROME, RELIGIOUS

Let your legacy be one for the ages

On this second day of National Catholic Sisters Week, we celebrate the feast of Saint Frances of Rome. Her renown as a servant of the poor was so great that centuries after her death, she became an inspiration for the first community of black nuns in America: Baltimore's Oblate Sisters of Providence, founded in 1829 by Servant of God Mary Lange (one of the church's six venerated African Americans). Dedicated to teaching black

children during slavery, the Oblates named their flagship school in the Italian noblewoman's honor, and St. Frances Academy is today the oldest continually operating black Catholic school in the nation. Like those holy sisters, let's model the charism of Saint Frances this day and always.

TODAY'S READINGS: Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32 (226). "My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit; a heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn."

Thursday, Mar 10, 2022

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Let faith lead you to freedom

Today is the death date of abolitionist Harriet Tubman (1820-1913), whose life embodied Christian liberation. A deeply religious woman, Tubman risked her life repeatedly to lead enslaved men and women to freedom, relying on a deep bond with God for strength during these dangerous missions. Today, many people suffer injustice and lack of freedom. Whether it be a phone call to a legislator or an act of solidarity with an exploited group, take one step today that honors the tradition of Harriet Tubman.

TODAY'S READINGS: Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Matthew 7:7-12 (227). "For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."

Friday, Mar 11, 2022

LENTEN WEEKDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

Second chances are a first principle

The good news of God's forgiveness is the most confounding of Christian teachings. For those who rarely turn away from God in sin, it seems unjust that God's mercy is indiscriminate, and for those who have turned away time and again and finally come to terms with their sinfulness, it seems impossible that God's mercy is at hand. As Benedictine Sister Joan Chittister, O.S.B. says, "Perhaps forgiveness is the last thing mentioned in the Creed because it is the last thing learned in life." Lent is our annual crash course in the practice of forgiving—ourselves and others.

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26 (228). "If the wicked man turns away from all the sins he committed, . . . none of the crimes he committed shall be remembered against him."

Saturday, Mar 12, 2022

LENTEN WEEKDAY

To those to whom much is given . . .

Jewish diarist Anne Frank, whose death is observed today, once wrote: "Why can't people who have more than they need for themselves give that surplus to their fellow citizens?" In most societies, alas, gaining wealth seems more the point than giving it away. But during Lent, Catholics customarily practice almsgiving, the tradition of sharing our wealth with those in need. Remembering that "charity covers a multitude of sins" (1 Pet. 4:8), what better time than Lent to send some of our money to our diocesan [Catholic Charities](#) or [Catholic Relief Services](#)?

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48 (229). "Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!"

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



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