



# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**November 27, 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](http://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, November 27

9:30 a.m. — Peter & Marjorie Gochan (Family)

Diane Pozzi (Annette Wolz)

11:30 a.m.— Michael Kennedy (Kennedy Family)

People of the Parish

### Monday, November 28

9:00 a.m. — George Leverock (Rose Picariello)

Marilyn Huether (Rose Picariello)

### Tuesday, November 29

9:00 a.m. — Pasquale Scala (Josephine Scala)

Intentions of Fr. Douglas Arcoleo  
(Franciney)

### Wednesday, November 30

9:00 a.m.— Fr. Gerard Smith

Iris Hernandez (Sisters & Cousins)

### Thursday, December 1

9:00 a.m. — David & Kathleen Worrell

Diane Pozzi (Nugent Family)

### Saturday, December 3

5:30 p.m.— Diane Pozzi (Joe & Louise Ferrara)

Marilyn Huether (Joe & Louise Ferrara)

### Sunday, December 4

9:30 a.m.— Leroy Lovell (Bea Hallinan)

Marilyn Huether (Colleen Navarra)

11:30 a.m.— Giuseppa Carollo (Family)

People of the Parish

### We celebrate EUCHARIST

Saturdays: 5:30 PM

Sundays: 9:30, 11:30 AM

Weekdays: Mon—Thurs 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 Hall

All 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders are Welcome

For more information please contact Renata Tutka-Ptak at 631-585-8760 ext. 105 or [rptak@abvmcentereach.com](mailto:rptak@abvmcentereach.com)

### Sacraments

For more information on Baptism, Marriage and Anointing of the Sick, please visit our parish website [www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com) or call the office at 631-585-8760 during regular office hours.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:rtbhuntington@yahoo.com) or Anita Wolf at [hwolf96@aol.com](mailto: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. Meetings are held on every first Tuesday of the month from September thru June.

Show us Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.

Psalm 86:8

**STEWARDSHIP**  
GIVING to our parish as an act of worship

**Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary**  
Last Week's Collection \$9,963

(includes Faith Direct)

Last Year's Collection \$8,210

**Thank You!**

Rest  
in  
Peace



Marian Capuano  
Susan B. Fitzgerad

## ***Good News Reflection***

### ***The hope that comes from heaven***

Hope is the theme of the First Sunday of Advent. In the readings for Mass, Isaiah describes a future in which all is well because (1) God is recognized as the highest authority and (2) obeying him is the people's highest priority.

This vision gave great hope to the oppressed Israelites. Today if we look at this as a description of heaven, it gives great hope to us, too. When we die, "terms" will be "imposed" upon us because we did not stay entirely on the paths of God (a good reason for purgatory), but we will be living in the light of the Lord after death and there will be no more wars to battle.

Knowing that this is our future, we can look at our present trials as preparations for heaven. The weapons that we use now to defeat and overcome the powers of darkness can be used as plowshares for enriching our soil (our earthly life), bringing us into new growth and producing a harvest in ministry. Sufferings that are turned into ministries to help others make hardships very valuable.



Although Isaiah was speaking of the coming of the world's Messiah through the Jews, these verses remind us that when we respect God's authority and make imitating Christ our highest priority, all is well for us. Our battles against evil aren't over yet, but Jesus has already won the victory for us. Our hope is not based on a wish for peace; our hope comes from the reality of what Jesus has already done and what he will do. So, "let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord!" (Psalm 122).

The Gospel reading tells us that our hope is realized only if we stay awake and alert to the activities of Christ. What are you despairing about? Despair and worry are merely distractions that make us forget that Christ has already won the battle. If we stay alert to the presence of Christ, recognizing his authority and following his ways, we live in hope -- not wishful thinking, but a hope that's based firmly on reality.

#### **Questions for Personal Reflection:**

What are you despairing about? What would it take for you to feel hopeful? In what way do you need Jesus to come to you now? What can you do to become more aware of his presence at your side?

#### **Questions for Community Faith Sharing:**

How do you find hope in difficulties? Describe a time when you nearly lost all hope. How did Jesus rescue you from this?



**Everybody needs the light** Scripture: Isaiah 2:5

In this message we will look at the value of light, especially that it shows us where we should go and the paths we should take. We will look at the reading from Isaiah. God wants us to walk in his light so that we can make our way through this world that often seems so dark and difficult to navigate. God wants to light our way but we have to choose to walk in his light.



### ***Nocturnal Adoration***

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

**Next Adoration is on Friday, December 2**

**In the church 1:00—2:00 PM**



You are invited to “Coffee in the Courtyard”, on every **Sunday after the 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Masses at the Plaza between church and the Parish Center**. 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 (Food Pantry) Needs for the Holidays**

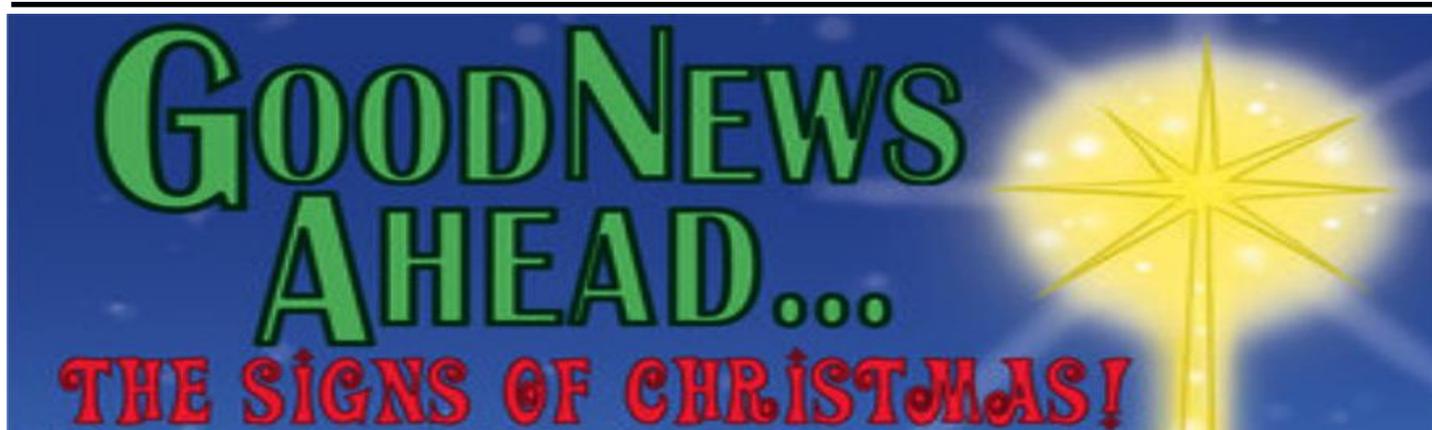


Thank you to all who made our Thanksgiving Drive a huge success! Because of your donations, we were able to give Thanksgiving baskets to 45 families in need that are living in our Parish.

**Gift Cards for Christmas:** With Christmas just around the corner, we're getting ready to prepare Christmas baskets for families who are in need. Gift cards for \$25 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. We are also happy to accept \$25 gift cards from local supermarkets to help provide a great Christmas dinner for our them, allowing

them the dignity to choose their favorite holiday foods. If you choose to donate gift cards, either drop them off at the Welcome Desk or deliver them to the Parish Office.

**Pantry Needs:** Kleenex, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Liquid Hand Soap, Canned Pasta, Syrup, Pancake Mix, Canned Chili, Deodorant, Toothbrushes, Mustard, Cooking Oil, Noodles.



### **SAVE THE DATE**

## **Christmas Musical by our Faith Formation Students**

### **On December 11, 2022 at 3:30 PM**

### **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. For more information, please call: 631-589-4144. Talbot House staff is available 24/7. Each call is confidential. Sliding scale fees, Medicaid, Medi-



Please prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. Signing up is easy! Visit [faithdirect.net/NY563](https://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!



**Sunday, Nov 27, 2022****The most wonderful time, indeed**

"It's the most wonderful time of the year" as some popular lyrics go, and a lot of us agree. Andy Williams made the tune famous, but composers Eddie Pola and George Wyle wrote it. Ironically, Pola and Wyle were Jewish. Yet they assisted Williams in earning the title "Mr. Christmas" with their composition. The song celebrates holiday parties, caroling, mistletoe, good cheer, and loved ones near. But for believers, the season beginning today is really about anticipation and Incarnation, light illuminating the darkness, and God coming near. We know what time it is. Make this Advent a genuine celebration of hope.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44 (1). *"You know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep."*

**Monday, Nov 28, 2022****Time to get ready!**

With the Thanksgiving holiday weekend wrapped up, Catholics yesterday began the Advent journey to Christmas. The word *advent* comes from Latin for "to come." All the days from now until the celebration of the birth of Jesus are preparation for his coming. Preparation in this case means remembering to be ready with a spirit of both penance and joy. Did you set out an Advent wreath on your dinner table yesterday? For many, it's the first of many Christmas decorations to come out—with festooned trees not far behind. The wreath is more than just a pretty adornment but also a daily reminder to pray as you count down each week with a [new candle. Start the season out right by blessing your wreath with a prayer.](#)

ADVENT WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 4:2-6; Matthew 8:5-11 (175). *"Amen, I say to you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith."*

**Tuesday, Nov 29, 2022****Listen with the ear of a child**

"Advent is not a time to declare, but to listen, to listen to whatever God may want to tell us through the singing of the stars, the quickening of a baby, the gallantry of a dying man," wrote Christian writer Madeleine L'Engle, born this day in 1918. L'Engle is especially known for her children's books, including *A Wrinkle in Time*, which won the 1963 Newberry Medal. This Advent, consider what it might be like to imitate the Christ Child instead of the adult Jesus. As *A Wrinkle in Time* tells us: "To love is to be vulnerable; and it is only in vulnerability and risk—not safety and security—that we overcome darkness."

ADVENT WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24 (176). *"Although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike."*

**Wednesday, Nov 30, 2022****Be first to follow the Lord**

It's no coincidence that Saint Andrew the Apostle is linked to Advent (which traditionally begins on the Sunday closest to his feast day). In Eastern Christianity he is known as *protokletos*, "first called," because it was Andrew, who had been a disciple of John the Baptist, who persuaded his brother Simon (whom we know as Peter) to follow Jesus with his words, "We have found the

Messiah!" Andrew also has a devotion linked to Advent, known as the Saint Andrew Novena. Try it out and see if it supports and deepens your living out your own call.

FEAST OF ANDREW, APOSTLE

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22 (684). *"At once they left their nets and followed him."*

**Thursday, Dec 01, 2022****Build on higher ground**

Anyone who has followed the news over the past year has seen more images than ever of people coping with floods. Families waiting on rooftops, people stuffed in boats, neighbors wading through murky water. Jesus constantly used images to make his point, including the image of discipleship as a solid house that stands firm during storms and floods. "Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies," Saint Teresa of Calcutta once said. Are you building a strong, flood-proof house in the small things you do each day?

ADVENT WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27 (178).

*"Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock."*

**Friday, Dec 02, 2022****Walk with each other**

Today, the church remembers martyrs Jean Donovan, Maura Clarke, Dorothy Kazel, and Ita Ford, brutally murdered for standing with the poor in war-torn El Salvador in 1980. Their witness still speaks profoundly to us today as we encounter our own wars, violence, and suffering, especially among the most vulnerable. And still, we struggle to know what to do. Let us take courage as we ponder the questions posed by Ita Ford in 1977: "Am I willing to suffer with the people here, the suffering of the powerless? Can I say to my neighbors, 'I have no solution to this situation. I don't know the answers, but I will walk with you, search with you, be with you?'"

ADVENT WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31 (179). *"Let it be done for you according to your faith."*

**Saturday, Dec 03, 2022****Missionizing begins at home**

Many of the practices of the great "missionizing projects" of centuries past are seen as problematic in our age, with its greater sensibility of the rights of indigenous peoples to worship freely as they wish. So, while the legacy of one of the patrons of foreign missions, Saint Francis Xavier, is a mixed one, it is significant to note that he always provided for ongoing pastoral care of the communities he missionized and also advocated for an educated native clergy (rather than foreign-born leadership). None of us acts with perfect justice, but each of us finds ourself living in a unique historical moment, called upon to help church and society live up to the best and most noble qualities of our tradition.

MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS XAVIER, JESUIT PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8 (180). *"At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd."*

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



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