



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

January 29, 2023

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



Sunday, January 29

9:30 a.m. — Marilyn Huether (Catherine & Family)
 Antonio Valisno Sr. (Aida, Tonypet & Arnold)
 11:30 a.m.— People of the Parish

Monday, January 30

9:00 a.m. — Maria Eck (Darrin Kolyer)
 Frank Furnari (Ellen Burdjak)

Tuesday, January 31

9:00 a.m. — Hoke Karriker
 William Heffern (Family)

Wednesday, February 1

9:00 a.m.— Living & Deceased Members of Rosary
 Altar Society
 Frank Furnari (Sharon Holliday)

Thursday, February 2

9:00 a.m. — Fr. Chris Aridas
 Frank Campanelli Sr.

Saturday, February 4

5:30 p.m.— Iris Hernandez (sisters & cousins)
 Loretta Bengtson (Joe & Louise Ferrara)

Sunday, February 5

9:30 a.m.— Diane Pozzi (Lorraine Amato)
 Leo Gustavo Cortes (Olivier Family)
 11:30 a.m.—People of the Parish

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.
 Psalm 107:1

STEWARDSHIP
GIVING to our parish as an act of worship

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary
Last Week's Collection \$9,256
 (includes *Faith Direct*)
Last Year's Collection \$8,419
Thank You!

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

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

Sacraments

For more information on Baptism, Marriage and Anointing of the Sick, please visit our parish website 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.

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. Meetings are held on every first Tuesday of the month from September thru June.

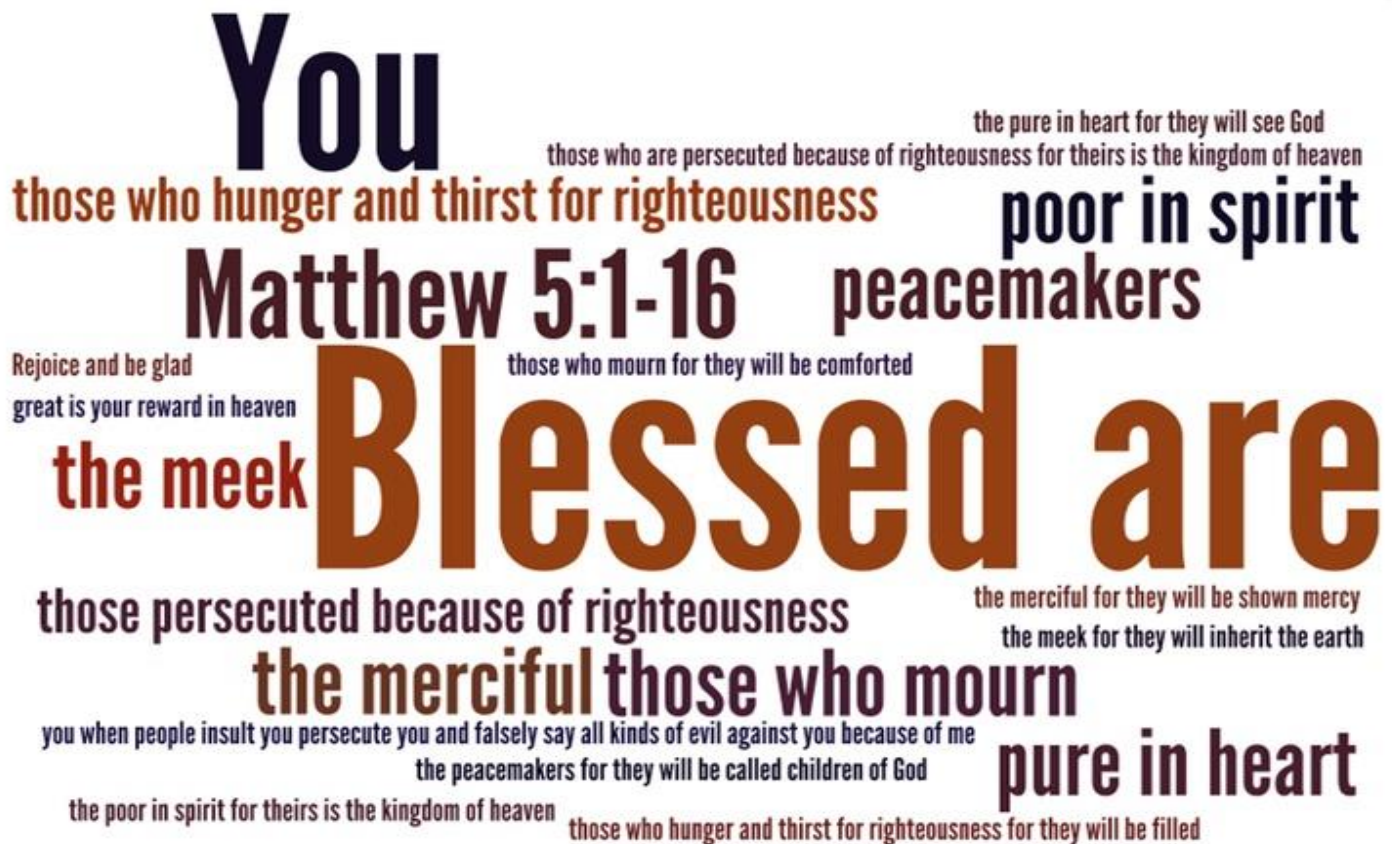
Rest
 in
 Peace

Cecilia Davila

Good News Reflection**Finding our sainthood in the Beatitudes**

In this Sunday's Gospel reading, we get a glimpse of our own sainthood. The eight Beatitudes in Matthew 5:1-12 describe the holiness of those who imitate Jesus. The first four deal with our relationship with God; the last four deal with our relationships with others.

How can we call ourselves saints? Remember that you are a saint, as imperfect as you are at this time on your journey, because God has sanctified you through your baptism, thanks to what Jesus did for you on the cross. This means that he has blessed you. And blessed are you because you love as Jesus loves.



Everything that God blesses is made holy! Therefore, any person who lives the lifestyle of the Beatitudes (which is the lifestyle of Jesus) is blessed by God and can rightfully be called a saint: the poor in spirit who recognize that they need God's love, those who mourn and turn to the Holy Spirit for comfort, those who meekly (i.e., without arrogance) stand up for what is right because they love God, and so on down the list of Beatitudes. Meditate on each blessing and notice your sainthood and the challenge to become more saintly by improving how well you imitate Jesus.

The Church canonizes Saints (which we signify with a capital "S") so that we have role models. Even though we've not reached their level of holiness, we belong to the same communion of saints. A saint is anyone who is following Christ toward heaven, with or without a lay-over in purgatory. As we strive to improve, we can ask the Saints for help and receive their spiritual guidance.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

Looking over the list of the Beatitudes, which do you implement best? Which do you need to improve? Which one do you find least desirable? Why? Discuss this with a Christian friend, priest, counselor or spiritual director to figure out how this weakness is really based on a misunderstanding of God's love for you. Then you will be set free to grow in this area of holiness!

Questions for Community Faith Sharing:

How do you avail yourself of help from the Saints? How does this help you grow in holiness? Give an example.



While we have more means of communication and more ways to connect to the rest of the world in human history, polls and research show that many in our culture struggle with loneliness. We feel alienated from each other, alienated from ourselves, and alienated from our Maker. While loneliness looks different in our modern times, the problem is as old as human history. In this series we will look at the cause of our loneliness and what we can do to combat it.



For the last few months, our parish offering envelopes have been delayed. A week ago, the company that we work with sent me an email stating that they cannot send the envelopes for January and February due to the supply chain, and the inability to add employees at the rate necessary has created a slow draw on production and shipping. The company assured me that offering envelopes will resume and be delivered by the first Sunday in March. In the meantime, Parish Office has mailed a few envelopes to use until we get on our regular ones from the envelope company. In case you haven't gotten a set please contact the office or pick up some temporary envelopes at the door. Thank you very much for your love, generosity

and commitment to our Assumption parish family as we live our Mission, Love God, Serve Others and Grow Disciples.

Thank you very much for your patience. Fr. Joseph

Small Group is where our large church gets small. Groups are 6-10 people who meet to discuss faith, go deeper in the weekly message, and support one another in their relationship with Christ. This is the place to care for others and be cared for; a place to impact our community and the world. Assumption small groups are open to accept more people anytime during the year to help your faith journey. If you like to join a small group, stop by at the Welcome Desk in the church lobby on Sunday or email rptak@abvmcentereach.com to sign up.



Sprouts is a children's ministry for ages three and up on Sundays after 9:30 am Mass during Coffee in the Courtyard. We are ready to hear and be part of the stories our youngest disciples of our parish are living and

to invite them to the most incredible adventure of their lives, reminding them week after week, year after year, that our Father is madly after their hearts.

Food Pantry Volunteers Needed

Our Parish Mission Statement includes the words “Love God. Serve Others.” If you are looking to start the new year by putting those words into action, please consider joining the Parish Social Ministry. Our Ministry serves those in need in our community by providing a fully stocked food pantry as well as offering limited financial assistance in some cases. We are looking for volunteers who are compassionate, understanding and are committed to the mission of the Parish. The ability to converse in Spanish or familiarity with Microsoft Office software is helpful but not necessary. The following hours are available: Tues, Wed or Fri 10AM – 1 PM

If you are interested in joining our Ministry or have any questions please contact us.

Phone: 631 585-8760 x2, Email: outreach@abvmcentereach.com. You can also sign up or get information at the Welcome Desk following the 9:30 Mass.

Pantry Needs: Household Cleaner, Laundry Detergent, Liquid Hand Soap, Cooking Oil, Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Cake Frosting, Canned Pasta, Canned Tomatoes, Canned Chicken, Fruit Juice, Cereal, Hot Chocolate and Razors.



Men's Retreat

March 10 – 12, 2023 / Huntington

Presenter: Larry Lewis, M.M.
(popular preacher & retreat director)

Register by 2/14/23 or as soon as possible, rooms are limited
sblyskalmd@gmail.com / 631-786-7855

Stanley Blyskal, 19 Tern Court, East Islip, NY

Carpooling from Assumption : Marty Muratore 516-650-1632





Coffee
in the
Courtyard

in the plaza between the church and the parish center

Coffee
Conversations
Community

After
9:30 AM
& 11:30 AM
Masses

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.



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!



Sunday, Jan 29, 2023**Blessed are the children—meek and otherwise**

Children come in all sizes, shapes, and colors. They possess abilities, talents, and interests, many of which may lie hidden for years to come. Not all young ones, to be sure, are properly described as meek. But it's certain that, one day, the children will inherit the land. Preparing them for this vital task is the job of every grownup in their lives. This week we celebrate Catholic schools, dedicated to assisting families in the education and formation of their children. Book learning is available at any school. Faith and character aren't always on the curriculum. Support our schools!

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 5:1-12a (70). *"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land."*

Monday, Jan 30, 2023**The only way they'll know you are a Christian**

Mohandas Gandhi, who led India's campaign for independence from British rule and whose birthday is today, once said, "If it weren't for Christians, I'd be a Christian." Followers of all religions, including Gandhi's Hinduism, at times do reprehensible things that run completely counter to what those religions teach. As a member of a colonized people, Gandhi certainly saw the worst of what Christians are capable of. But his statement isn't entirely a rebuke—Christ spoke to his heart. Jesus told us that we will be recognized as his disciples by our love for one another. Ask yourself how well you represent your faith.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 11:32-40; Mark 5:1-20 (323). *"Go home to your family and announce to them all that the Lord in his pity has done for you."*

Tuesday, Jan 31, 2023**A love that works**

At the height of the Industrial Revolution, impoverished Italian boys were drawn to the city of Turin in search of factory work. But, for many reasons, they fell on hard times and were often jailed. Saint John Bosco helped them with lodging, education, vocational training, and just plain patience and loving care. He also protected young workers from unscrupulous employers by crafting signed apprenticeship agreements—the first real employment contracts used in Europe. He revolutionized the work of educators, too, writing: "Without confidence and love, there can be no true education. If you want to be loved ... you must love yourselves, and make your children feel that you love them."

MEMORIAL OF JOHN BOSCO, PRIEST, RELIGIOUS FOUNDER
TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 12:1-4; Mark 5:21-43 (324). *"Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners, in order that you may not grow weary and lose heart."*

Wednesday, Feb 01, 2023**May the force be with you**

Faith gives us strength. It allows us to perform mighty deeds. But to be clear, as Brazilian writer Paulo Coelho explains, "Faith is not desire. Faith is will. Desires are things that need to be satisfied. Will is a force that changes everything around us." In God's realm,

where our faith resides, we are each whole and complete and nothing is impossible. Address today's challenges through the lens of faith.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15; Mark 6:1-6 (325). *"He was not able to perform any mighty deed there . . . He was amazed at their lack of faith."*

Thursday, Feb 02, 2023**Make a perfect offering of your life**

Today's feast marks an ancient Jewish tradition in which the firstborn child was "consecrated to the Lord" by way of two sacrificial turtledoves or young pigeons offered at the Temple 40 days after birth. The mother, considered ritually unclean after giving birth, was also purified on this same day. But the visit of Mary and Joseph to present the infant Jesus is unique, marked by an outpouring of prophecy. Simon and Anna testify that a light has come into the world and that salvation is at hand. We honor the link to ancient tradition as we celebrate the Presentation today, but we also appreciate how Jesus not only fulfills but surpasses all the traditions of his time and place. Here at last is the perfect offering.

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

TODAY'S READINGS: Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40 (524). *"The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him."*

Friday, Feb 03, 2023**Be a healing light**

The historical details of Saint Blaise's fourth-century life in what is now modern-day Turkey are lost in the shroud of the centuries, but the tradition of his healing powers endures. The healing of throat diseases is what is most ascribed to him. When Blaise was imprisoned during a persecution of Christians, he apparently healed a choking boy with the aid of candles that lit his dark cell. On another level, the enduring tradition speaks to the ongoing need for healing that we all share. Whether it be a physical ailment or a wounded soul that needs tending, say a prayer today to Saint Blaise, the keeper of the flame.

MEMORIAL OF BLAISE, BISHOP, MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 13:1-8; Mark 6:14-29 (327). *"The Lord is my light and my salvation. Your presence, O LORD, I seek."*

Saturday, Feb 04, 2023**Lift your voice in freedom's song**

Today is the birthday of Rosa Parks, on the fourth day of Black History Month. Parks wrote: "I felt the Lord would give me the strength to endure whatever I had to face." When she refused to surrender her bus seat in 1955, she said her Christian faith told her "it was time for someone to stand up—or, in my case, sit down." Parks grew up in a devout family. Her own sweet dreams of freedom began with her mother singing old African-American spirituals that drew on biblical stories and psalms filled with cries of lament and hope for salvation. Tap into the strength of song as you play your part in the fight for justice. Choose a spiritual to pray with today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 13:15-17, 20-21; Mark 6:30-34 (328). *"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have."*

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



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