



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

February 26, 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



Mass Intentions for the week

Sunday, February 26

9:30 a.m. — Bill & Jake Scott (Campbell Family)
Scott Pinto (Campbell Family)

11:30 a.m.— People of the Parish

Monday, February 27

9:00 a.m. — George Leverock (Leverock Family)
Kevin Rivers (Nancy Dentrone)

Tuesday, February 28

9:00 a.m. — Harold & Thomas Russell (Mom & family)
Lisa Staubitzer (Daughter & Family)

Wednesday, March 1

9:00 a.m.—Living & Deceased Members of Rosary
Altar Society
Josephine Uy (The Uy Family)

Thursday, March 2

9:00 a.m. — Josephine Uy (Rosary Altar Society)
Kevin Rivers (CDA Ct. St. Gerard #1920)

Friday, March 3

9:00 a.m. —Intentions of Daniel Hetzel (Josephine
Scala)
Fr. Joseph Alenchery (Annette Wolz)

Saturday, March 4

5:30 p.m.— Iris Hernandez (Sisters & Cousins)
Domenica Bellavia (CDA Ct. St. Gerard
#1920)

Sunday, March 5

9:30 a.m.— Diane Pozzi (Lorraine Amato)
Joseph Alberigo (The Baier Family)
11:30 a.m.—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 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 web-
site 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.

STEWARDSHIP

GIVING to our parish as an act of worship

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary

Last Week's Collection \$7,694

(includes Faith Direct)

Last Year's Collection \$8,855

Thank You!

Rest
in
Peace



Ignatius (Natt)
Surinaga

Good News Reflection

What victory do you need this Lent?

How do you deal with temptation? That's the personal challenge given to us by the Word of God on the first Sunday of Lent. And so we begin our journey with Jesus, traveling to the holiest place we can reach at this point in our lives.

This Lent is like no other Lent. Last year, you had different needs, different areas of growth, different levels of insight and understanding. Much has happened since then, and all of it is a preparation for what the Lord is going to do in your life right now.

What victory do you need this year? What needs to be resurrected? To get there, Jesus will lead you through the cross of penance and self-denial, into his tomb, and out into God's light where his love provides healing and new life.



During Lent -- and every time we make sacrifices and connect our sufferings to the Passion of Christ -- we follow Jesus to the cross and to resurrection. This involves seeing our own crosses in a new light, for the Calvary Road is the only way to reach the victories that we yearn to experience.

If we want Easter to be more than just a holiday of colored eggs, chocolate bunnies and big dinners, we have to make Lent more than just 40 days of enduring an annoying, obligatory sacrifice, eating meatless pizza on Fridays, and going to an occasional extra event at church.

If we want to experience the power of resurrection, we have to experience the power of mourning and repenting from our sins. In other words, we have to experience the powerlessness of death -- the death of our selfishness, the death of our worldliness, the death of our behaviors that are not like Christ's.

For more on this watch this video, "What's the value of sacrifices?" at wordbytes.org/lent/value-of-sacrifices/

Questions for Personal Reflection:

What can you do this week to die to self? For example, think of a good deed you can do that's the opposite of what your selfishness wants you to do. How will this spiritual exercise make it easier to resist sin?

Questions for Community Faith Sharing:

1. In the story from Genesis, what did Adam and Eve need to die to (let go of, put aside, or reject) in order to resist the Original Sin? Why didn't they?
2. In the reading from Romans, we hear about the abundant grace and the gift of justification that Jesus provided to each of us when he died on the cross. How does this grace and justification give us life? In other words, how does God help us to resist sin?
3. Looking at the Gospel passage, what did Jesus have to die to in the desert so that he could say no to temptation?



The original sin in the Garden of Eden brought the original wound. Immediately after eating the forbidden fruit our first parents experienced a wounding in their relationship with God, with one another and in their own skin. It is a wound that has been passed down through the generations. In this first message we will introduce that wounds are part of the human condition. No one escapes the need for healing. We will explore why we tend to deny our wounds and share the good news that Jesus came to heal us. This is his core mission. Whenever we experience Jesus, we are meeting a healer.

We have all been wounded and there is no shame in that. Jesus came to heal everyone. Learn to acknowledge them and to invite Jesus to heal them.

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.



Nocturnal Adoration

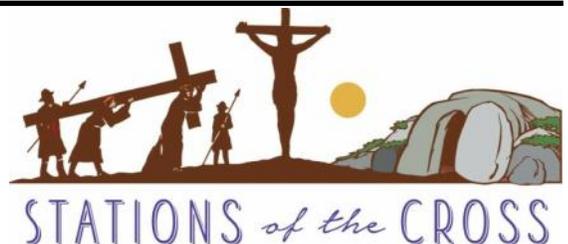
Come and be in the presence of the Lord who is present in the Holy Eucharist. Silent Adoration, readings and benediction.

Next Adoration is on Friday, March 3

In the church 1:00—2:00 PM

Fridays of Lent

Season of Lent is here this week. It is a wonderful time of prayer, reflection, fasting, almsgiving and Stations of the Cross. We are having **Masses on Fridays at 9:00 AM followed by Stations of the Cross during Lent** (Feb 24th to Mar 31st.)



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: Frosting, Tea, Coffee, Boxed Milk, Salad Dressing, Laundry Detergent, Canned Chicken, Egg Noodles, Jelly, Household Cleaner, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Jell-O, Pudding Mix, Dog Food & Hot Chocolate.**



SAVE THE DATE



Vacation
Bible School 2023
July 31st to Aug 4th




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.



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



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, Feb 26, 2023**God's messengers**

Have you thought much about your guardian angel since you prayed at bedtime when you were a kid? If not, maybe it's time to catch up with the one that's been assigned to help you. The word *angelos* means "messenger" in Greek, and since angels "always behold the face" of God in heaven (Matthew 18:10), they're well-positioned to intercede for you. Appreciate the watchful care that surrounds you and protects you from spiritual and perhaps physical dangers. Their constant attention indicates how precious you are to God and how active God wishes to be in your life.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11 (22). *"He will command his angels concerning you and with their hands they will support you."*

Monday, Feb 27, 2023**A book for your nightstand, next to your Bible**

Grigor Narekatsi, born near the turn of the first millennium, was an Armenian mystical and lyrical poet, monk, and theologian. He has the distinction of being venerated as a saint in the Armenian Apostolic and Catholic Churches and was declared a doctor of the church by Pope Francis in 2015. The prayer book of Gregory of Narek is a fixture in religious Armenian homes, second only to the Bible, and is considered a masterpiece of Christian spiritual literature. It has been translated into 30 languages, including English. Given the rave reviews, consider this writer-saint for your next read!

MEMORIAL OF GREGORY OF NAREK, ABBOT, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46 (224). *"Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."*

Tuesday, Feb 28, 2023**United in prayer**

[Pope Benedict XVI, may he rest in peace, wrote beautifully on prayer and the Our Father: "In praying our heart is opened. Not only do we enter into communion with God but actually with all the children of God, because we are one body. When we address the Father in our inner room in silence and in recollection we are never alone. Those who speak to God are not alone. We are within the great prayer of the Church, we are part of a great symphony that the Christian community in all the parts of the earth and in all epochs, raises to God."](#) Pray the Our Father slowly and consciously today, with everyone.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15 (225). *"This is how you are to pray: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name."*

Wednesday, Mar 01, 2023**Get on board for justice**

Today marks the 98th death anniversary of Homer Plessy, the man who attempted to end segregation with his legendary ride on a whites-only streetcar in New Orleans in 1892. His efforts were unsuccessful, and the following seven decades of U.S. jurisprudence included segregation as a bedrock feature. Plessy, however, is much less heralded for the fact that he was a man of faith, a black Catholic whose famous ride was organized by an interracial activist group known as the Comité des Citoyens (Citizens' Committee). Their holy disobedience was one of the first Catholic-led efforts against the

developing hierarchy of racism in the formerly French and Spanish regions of the Deep South. May the courage of Plessy and his allies be of use to us today as we continue the march toward justice.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32 (226). *"Man and beast shall be covered with sackcloth and call loudly to God; every man shall turn from his evil way and from the violence he has in hand."*

Thursday, Mar 02, 2023**Read it and reap**

Welcome to Read Across America Day, established in 1998 by the National Education Association to encourage this most central, enjoyable, and enriching of activities. Popular among teachers, students, and librarians, today can also be a day for Catholics to [explore and support organizations such as the Catholic Media Association, whose members inform, inspire, and educate readers](#), keeping them connected to their faith, and telling the story of the church. Check a [list of Catholic newspapers and magazines](#) to find one you can support with a subscription. You in turn will be supported in your faith.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

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

Friday, Mar 03, 2023**Store up treasure in heaven**

Saint Katharine Drexel was born in Philadelphia in 1858 to a wealthy family. The Drexels had a reputation for generosity, reportedly opening their home several days a week to feed and care for people in need. They also made time every day to pray together. During a trip to Europe as a young woman, Katharine was able to have an audience with Pope Leo XIII. She asked the Holy Father to send missionaries to Wyoming. He answered, "Why don't you go?" Not long after, Katharine stunned society by leaving behind her privileged life to dedicate herself to religious life. She worked to improve living conditions and educational opportunities for African Americans and Native Americans. She left a legacy far greater than her family fortune.

MEMORIAL OF KATHARINE DREXEL, RELIGIOUS FOUNDER

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26 (228). *"Go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift."*

Saturday, Mar 04, 2023**Short but sweet sainthood**

Lenten inspiration can come from anywhere—from scripture to Instagram, from saints to young people. While not a Bible figure or social media influencer, 15th-century Casimir of Poland happens to fit the categories of both saint and young person. Saint Casimir was a prince who was under intense pressure from his family and country to take a leading role in government and politics. But Casimir felt called to focus on prayer, study, and care for people in need. Although he had to contend with some very disappointed people, he stood firm in his decision to follow his calling. Disease cut short his life at the tender age of 25, but his example can inspire us to live out our calling and thus help fulfill his.

MEMORIAL OF CASIMIR, PRINCE

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48 (229). *"This day the LORD, your God, commands you to observe these statutes and decrees. . . with all your heart and with all your soul."*

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



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