



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

May 14, 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
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



Mass Intentions for the week



Sunday, May 14

9:30 a.m. — Mother's Day

11:30 a.m.— Mother's Day

Monday, May 15

9:00 a.m. — Mother's Day

Tuesday, May 16

9:00 a.m. — Mother's Day

Wednesday, May 17

9:00 a.m.— Mother's Day

Thursday, May 18

9:00 a.m.. — Ascension of the Lord

7:00 p.m.—Ascension of the Lord

Saturday, May 20

5:30 p.m.— James Lang

Robert Scibelli (Family)

Sunday, May 21

9:30 a.m.— William Ross (Mary Ross)

Dominick Bonavise (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 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 631-585-3938.

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.

Shout joyfully to God, all the earth, sing praise to the glory of his name; proclaim his glorious praise. Psalms 66:2

STEWARDSHIP GIVING to our parish as an act of worship

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary
Last Week's Collection \$8,948

(includes Faith Direct)

Last Year's Collection \$9,389

Thank You!

Rest

in

Peace



Irena Nowosiadlo

Good News Reflection**Jesus is giving you the best partner ever**

In this Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus tells us that the Holy Spirit is our "Advocate". Some scholars translate the word to "Counselor". In the original Greek, it means "called alongside". It's closely related to the verb "parakaleo" ("to call" or "summon") from which we get "Paraclete" as a name for the Holy Spirit. It referred to a legal assistant, a courtroom advocate. Jesus is telling us that the Holy Spirit is our legal assistant when we're falsely accused, misjudged, or wrongly condemned.



Notice that Jesus refers to our Advocate as the "Spirit of Truth". No matter what other people think about us, no matter what wrong things they say about us, no matter what opinions they have of us, God always knows the truth. And the truth that sets us free from their bad attitudes is this: It's only God's opinion that really matters. And his opinion of us is better than we think it is!

We judge ourselves more harshly than we should, and this is why we worry so much about how others are

judging us. If we honestly examine our consciences, seek reconciliation with God for our sins during the Penance Rite at Mass or in the Sacrament of Confession, and strive to improve, then Jesus says to us what he said to other sinners: "I do not condemn you; go and sin no more."

Don't you sometimes wish that Jesus would come physically to your rescue when you're misjudged? He said that he will not leave us orphans -- his Holy Spirit will always be with us when we need to be defended, telling us the truth about our goodness.

Even when we sin, the Spirit of Truth defends us to our heavenly Judge: "Look, this precious child really does want to be holy." To us, the Spirit says, "Let me teach you how to grow in holiness and avoid this sin." And to others, the Spirit says: "If you love me, love this good friend of mine."

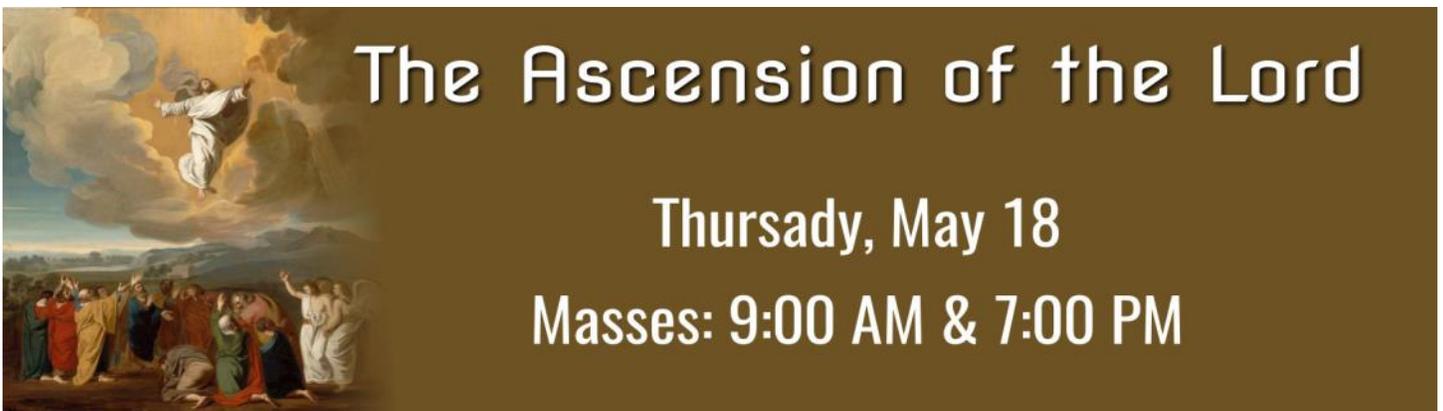
Questions for Personal Reflection:

How have you been unjustly accused and unfairly judged? Imagine what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Father about that. And to those who condemned you. What is he saying to you about you?

Questions for Community Faith Sharing:

Describe a time when God defended you. How did the Advocate manifest his help? Who learned more from it: you or your accusers?

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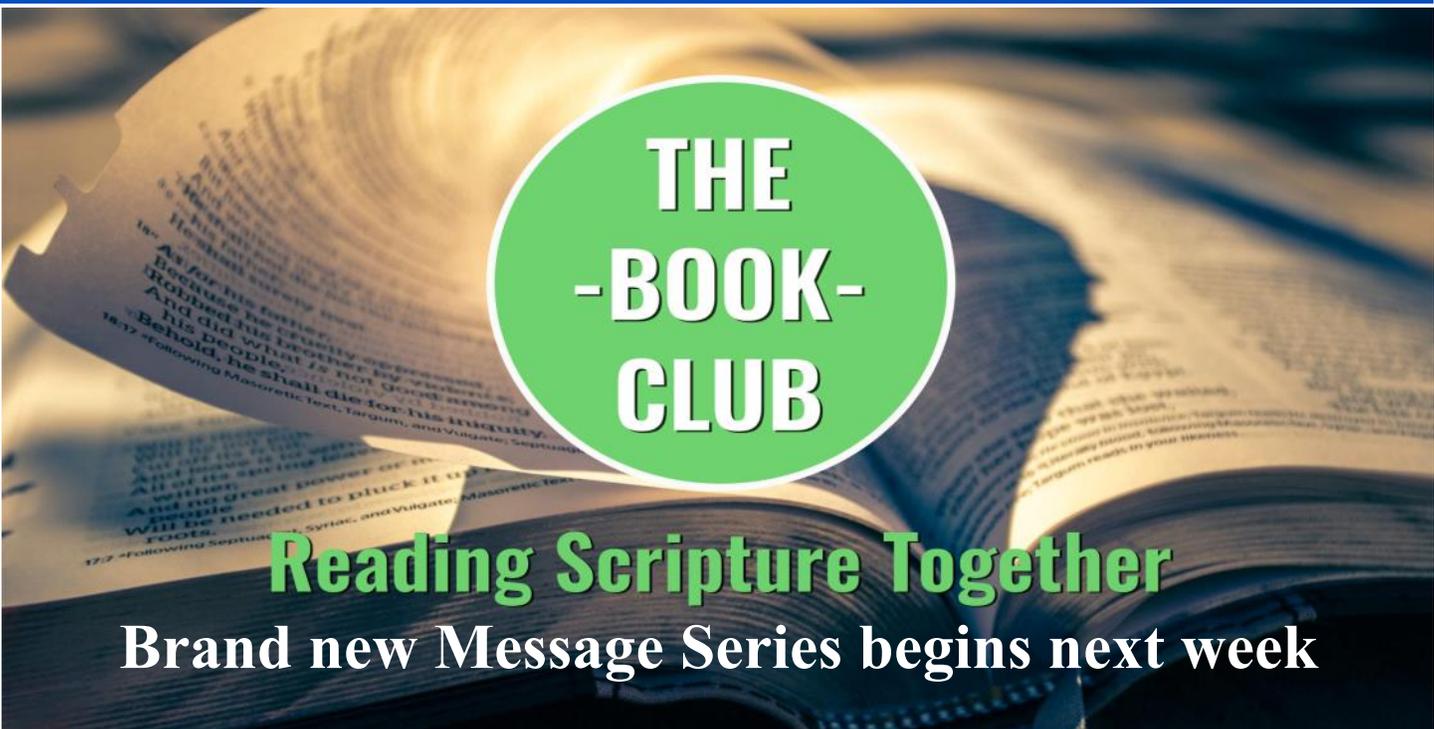
**The Ascension of the Lord**

Thursady, May 18

Masses: 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

Message Series:

At Assumption, we preach in message series where we dive into a topic over several weeks.



In this first week we will look at how the Scriptures come from the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit inspired human authors to write God’s word. When we read the Scriptures, we are reading the very words of God. We will lay out the challenge to increase engagement in the Scriptures for the series and the different ways to engage them. The challenge for this week will be to read it.

The Holy Spirit is the author of the Scriptures. God speaks to us through the Scriptures because they are his very words. Read the bible. Encourage reading the New Testament as a goal for the series. Bring out a bible and showing how small a section it is.

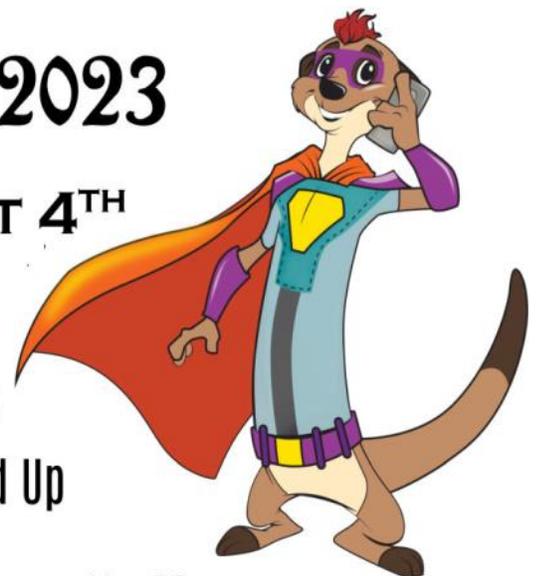
Vacation Bible School 2023

JULY 31ST - AUGUST 4TH

9AM - 12:30 PM

For Children K to 6th Grade

Junior Counselors Grade 7 and Up



Registration open online at www.abvmcentereach.com on May 22

Parish Social Ministry

The Outreach Food Pantry is available for individuals and families that are struggling to stretch their food budget. 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. The Outreach Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 AM to 1 PM. **Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Laundry Detergent, Dishwashing Liquid, Cooking Oil, Fruit Juice, Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Tea, Macaroni & Cheese, Rice, Snacks, Peanut Butter & Jelly.**



New Altar Server Training

All children are invited to be altar servers. This is a very special call to assist the priest to celebrate the Holy Mass on Sunday and other holydays. To become an altar-server you must have received First Communion, and to participate in the training that will be offered in the Church **from 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 P.M.** **You are required to participate in all the training days.**



Following are the training dates: **Tuesday, May 23, Thursday, May 25, Tuesday, May 30, Thursday, June 1.** **For more info and to register, Please call Melissa at 631-585-8760 ext 100 or email: rectory@abvmcentereach.com**



Travel Ministry—Pilgrimage to Rome

The Assumption Travel Ministry is organizing a trip to Rome this coming September. Discover your faith as you walk through the steps of Saint Philip Neri, in small intimate and private groups of no more than 12 people, all in search of a deeper understanding of Christ and the Church. For more information please contact Carlo at 631-680-9719 or pick up a brochure at the Welcome Desk in the church on Sunday.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Gerard #1920

COUNTRY LINE DANCING FUNDRAISER

“No experience necessary”

Saturday, June 3rd, 2023, 7:00 PM
in the Parish Center Hall



Cost \$25.00, Children under 10 \$12.00

Country BBQ & Desserts | For more info: Contact Jennifer 516-909-9589 - RSVP by May 20, 2023



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, May 14, 2023**What keeps us faithful**

Catholics tend to be leery of words like "testimony" and "witness" when it comes to the business of sharing our faith with others. We may prefer to keep our profession of faith in a more formal key: say, with a group recitation of the Apostles' or Nicene Creed. Many of us may feel ill-equipped to give a defense of the faith in the debate style known as apologetics. Yet each of us should be prepared to give the reason for our hope to anyone who asks. What keeps us faithful? And how does what we believe influence who we're becoming?

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21 (55). *"Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope."*

Monday, May 15, 2023**A patron of plentitude**

Isidore, the patron saint of farmers, was a peasant farm worker in Spain around the year 1100. There's a theme of abundance surrounding the stories of his miracles. It's said that at times, an angel was seen doing his work while he prayed, and other times, two angels worked beside him, increasing his output. He made water burst from dry earth to quench the thirsty, and there was always enough in his wife's pot of stew to feed however many hungry people he brought home. When he fed starving animals from his bag of wheat, the same bag produced double the expected amount of flour. When you work, and when you give from the fruits of your work, do so with a prayerful, plentiful heart and think, there's always more where that came from!

MEMORIAL OF ISIDORE, FARMER

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 16:11-15; John 15:26—16:4a (291). *"And you also testify, because you have been with me from the beginning."*

Tuesday, May 16, 2023**Love triumphs**

Joan of Arc was canonized on this day in 1920—making her the only person in history ever to be both condemned and canonized by the Catholic Church. Her triumph: leading the French army to victory over the British. Her tragedy: being burned at the stake, the power of her faith mistaken for witchcraft. Joan's resolve caused Mark Twain to insist, "She is easily and by far the most extraordinary person the human race has ever produced." The centennial of her canonization caused Pope Benedict XVI to insist the "name of Jesus invoked by this saint in the last instants of her earthly life was like the continual breath of her soul." She "understood that Love embraces all things." Love like Joan today.

EASTER WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 16:22-34; John 16:5-11 (292). *"Jesus said to his disciples: 'Now I am going to the one who sent me.'"*

Wednesday, May 17, 2023**Stop the traffic**

Saint Josephine Bakhita, the first black female saint of the modern era, was beatified on this day in 1992, part of a push within the Catholic Church to honor both black Catholics and to signify the horrors of human trafficking. This practice, also known as modern slavery, accounts for the bondage of an estimated 50 million people today, spread over every continent and present in every country. Bakhita herself was kidnapped as a child in Sudan and

later held against her will in Italy before essentially suing for freedom in 1889 and becoming a nun. Her legacy is now global, as she is the patron of all human trafficking survivors. May she inspire us to recognize the silent suffering of so many and work for the freedom of all God's children.

EASTER WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; John 16:12-15 (293). *"'In him we live and move and have our being,' as even some of your poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.'"*

Thursday, May 18, 2023**A family reunion**

Although Americans tend to not do much beyond Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Ascension, in some parts of Europe (Germany, most notably), the day involves special festivities. Because the day celebrates Jesus returning to his Father, it is the German Father's Day, usually celebrated with picnics or outings. Take a moment today to return in prayer to your heavenly Creator.

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20 (58) or Acts 18:1-8; John 16:16-20 (294). *"This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven."*

Friday, May 19, 2023**Lessons in hope**

Christians are a hopeful people—an Easter people, if you will. In encouraging young people to hold on to hope, Pope Francis advises: "Dream of a world still not seen, but will certainly come one day. Think of those who sailed oceans, scaled mountains, conquered slavery, or made life better for people on earth." Hope allows us to trust in Christ's promises that his Holy Spirit lives within us, that our lives have purpose, and that we can make a difference. Start small. As Saint Augustine advises: "You aspire to great things? Begin with little ones."

EASTER WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 18:9-18; John 16:20-23 (295). *"I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice."*

Saturday, May 20, 2023**Preaching to the heart**

Bernardine of Siena (1380-1444), a Franciscan priest, lived at a time in Italy when most preachers proclaimed their sermons from the pulpit during the liturgy and to cloistered clerics. Bernardine was among the first to preach to the public. He was so effective a preacher that cynical civil authorities would invite him to their towns because of the money to be made from the large crowds that gathered to hear him. No matter, Bernardine touched hearts and minds in a priceless way. Seek out preaching that feeds your soul.

MEMORIAL OF BERNARDINE OF SIENA, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 18:23-28; John 16:23b-28 (296). *"Amen, amen, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you."*

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



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