



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

August 27, 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: Summer Hours M - Th 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, August 27

9:30 a.m. — Angela Giustipiazza (Tina & Sonny Acevedo)
 Timothy Carpenter (Donna Magnussen-Kaires)
 11:30 a.m.— People of the Parish

Monday, August 28

9:00 a.m. — Anlyn Daproza (Cara Dey Evora)

Tuesday, August 29

9:00 a.m. — Dawn Hearne (Rose Picariello)

Wednesday, August 30

9:00 a.m.— Anlyn Daproza (Harry & Luz Gaviola)

Thursday, August 31

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

Saturday, September 2

5:30 p.m.— Alex H. Slanover (Mr & Mrs. James Ross)
 Beverley O’Keefe (Ginny & Barbara– CDA)

Sunday, September 3

9:30 a.m.— Angela Giustipiazza (Jackie & Andrew Acevedo)
 John Anthony Correa (Bamonte 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.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS
Monday to Thursday
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Friday: CLOSED

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.

So whoever is in Christ is a new creation:
 the old things have passed away;
 behold, new things have come. 2Corinthians 5:17

STEWARDSHIP
 GIVING to our parish as an act of worship

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary
Last Week’s Collection: \$9,670
 (includes *Faith Direct*)
Last Year’s Collection: \$6,800
Thank You!

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.

Rest
in
Peace

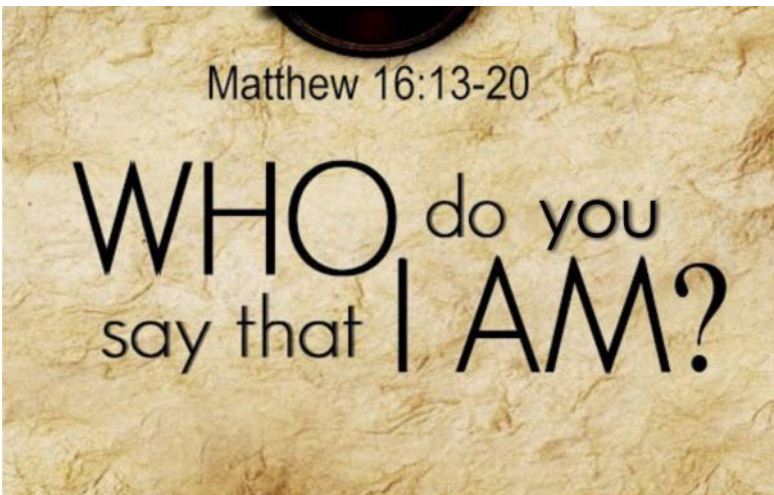
Deceased Brothers & Sisters of our Parish

Good News Reflection**Breaking through demonic strongholds**

When Jesus ordained Peter to become the rock upon which he would build his Church, he made a promise. The gates of hell, he said, speaking of the netherworld that belongs to the principalities and powers of darkness (see Ephesians 6), "shall never prevail against it."

Jesus did not say that hell would never win battles against the Church. He said that the gates of hell would not win. Of course they won't: Gates don't attack! Gates protect. Gates hold inside their boundaries whatever has been enclosed by a fence or wall. Do you know anyone who's been imprisoned by their sins? Or by hellish circumstances?

Christians are not called to take a defensive posture against attacks and encroachments from evil-doers. Christians are called to take the offensive – we are called to attack the very gates of hell, knock them down, and conquer the devils that are trying to drag people into their kingdom of misery and eternal death.



What Jesus did 2000 years ago to free people from evil he still does today through you and me.

For the sinners who want to escape from evil before it's too late, Jesus gave gate keys to Peter when he ordained him as the first shepherd (priest and pope) of Christianity. These keys have been passed from generation to generation through the unbroken line of Catholic priests.

What are the keys? The gates of hell are unlocked by Sacraments; they open the way to eternal life. When a

priest "looses" (releases) the grace and forgiveness of God upon a repentant sinner during the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or when a priest "binds" a man and woman together in the Sacrament of Marriage, it's Jesus who's doing it through him.

The supernatural power of the Sacraments conquers evil every time we take them seriously and rely on the graces they provide.

Questions for Personal Reflection: Where is there a locked gate in your life, which needs to get blown open so that Jesus can rescue you from some sort of darkness? What will you do this week to utilize the Sacraments more deeply, more profoundly?

Questions for Community Faith Sharing: Who do you say Jesus really is, and how do you encounter this Jesus in the Sacraments? Which Sacrament (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Marriage, Ordination, or the Anointing of the Sick) is most powerful for you personally? Why?

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CORNERSTONE

Brand new Message Series begins on September 10th

As we launch our new season we will look at some of the cornerstones or foundational beliefs we have as a parish and how they help form the strategy of our Church. The purpose of this series is to remind us of what our church is about as we move into the new church year. Vision leaks and this is a great chance to remind ourselves about our vision, mission and core strategies.

Message Series



At Assumption, we preach in message series. Over several weeks, we will look at a topic and go deeper into it. We select a topic based on the weekend's scripture readings and dive deeper. These are the three questions we ask as we prepare each message series. What do we want the people to feel? What do we want the people to know? What do we want the people to do? This way, the message you hear in the church is not some head knowledge or something that flies over your head but touches the hearts and has practical applications for our daily lives. That's why I always mention "homework" in my messages. God speaks to us at every moment, especially in a community setting, when His people come together on Sundays and listen to the Word of God as we celebrate, pray, praise, and thank God. Then the discussion continues in the Small Groups and goes deeper. Our message series usually runs from September to July. Our mission continues to Love God, Serve Others, and Grow Disciples.

Our next brand new message series begins on the weekend of September 9-10, as we welcome back everyone after the summer. Enjoy the rest of the summer.

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.

**SMALL
GROUPS**



Nocturnal Adoration

Come and be in the presence of the Lord in the Holy Eucharist. Silent Adoration, Readings and Benediction.

Next Adoration is on Friday, September 1st

In the church 1:00—2:00 PM

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 in the Summer on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 AM to 1 PM. **Food Pantry Needs: Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Razors, Dishwashing Liquid, Cake Mix, Cake Frosting, Hot Chocolate, Coffee, Fruit Juice, Instant Potatoes, Rice-A-Roni, Canned Tomatoes, Canned Carrots, Canned Chicken, Canned Dog Food.**



WELCOME BACK

Sunday

Weekend of September 9 & 10

Assumption Faith Formation

K to 8th Grade Registration 2023-24

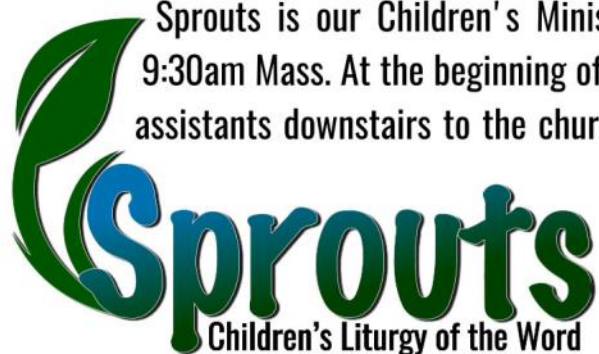
Begins on July 22nd and ends on September 11th

Register Online at abvmcentereach.com



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!





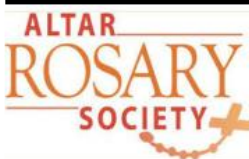
Sprouts is our Children's Ministry for ages four to second grade on Sundays during 9:30am Mass. At the beginning of the Mass, children will be dismissed with catechists and assistants downstairs to the church basement to reflect and share the scriptures read at

the Mass. A presentation is given, and then the children share in their small groups. This is an excellent opportunity for our youngest to get engaged during the mass in their own level. We are ready to

hear and be part of the stories of our parish's youngest disciples and 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. If God puts in your heart to help at the Sprouts please leave your name and phone number at the Welcome Desk or contact the Office.

MEMORIAL OF THE UNBORN

Prayer service on National Day of Prayer for the unborn is on Saturday, September 9th, 10:00 a.m., at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery Route 112 Entrance Coram. It is sponsored by the Long Island Coalition For Life. Questions and information contact Tom (631) 588-4590



Open Invitation

The Altar Rosary Society would like to extend and open invitation to attend a meeting any first Tuesday of each month from September to June. Come join us to share our ministry in adoration and experience how God's house is maintained through worship and prayer.

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.. For more information, please call: 631-589-4144. Talbot House staff is available 24/7. Each call is confidential. Sliding scale fees, Medicaid, Medicare, and other third-party insurance accepted.



Our parish subscribes to a revolutionary online platform which provides the best in Catholic audio talks, movies, ebooks, and video-based studies from trusted providers. This allows you, *free of charge*, to access online resources in bible study, apologetics, Christian entertainment, family catechesis, etc. at your convenience. It's available 24/7 thus allowing you to put time aside when it's best for you. To access please visit abvmcentereach.formed.org. Our parish code is P8DGQ8

Joining Our Catholic Community

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) might be what you are seeking if:

- You were never baptized or
- You were baptized in another religious tradition, or
- You were baptized Catholic but have not celebrated Confirmation or Eucharist.



Our parish desires to share our faith with all who wish to discover the beauty and power of a shared life in Christ the Lord. If you are interested, therefore, contact the office by email, rectory@abvmcentereach.com, or phone at 631-585-8760 at the office to get additional details.

Sunday, Aug 27, 2023**The value in variety**

A founder of the NAACP, W.E.B. Du Bois knew the cure for racism wasn't simply telling the truth. It was inducing people to act on it. The first African American to receive a Ph.D. from Harvard in 1895, Du Bois dreamed broadly of a world of "valuable variety ... in height and weight, color and skin, hair and nose and lip.... Each effort to stop this freedom of being," he argued, "is a blow at democracy—that real democracy which is reservoir and opportunity.... There can be no perfect democracy curtailed by color, race, or poverty." Let us act on this truth.

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 22:19-23; Romans 11:33-36; Matthew 16:13-20 (121). "I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven."

Monday, Aug 28, 2023**The great romance**

Saint Augustine is known as a great thinker—arguably the most significant Christian theologian after Saint Paul. But his writing is as much heart as head. He is also known for leaving behind a life of hedonism. But he remained a passionate man—only, after his conversion, passion for God alone. "Late have I loved you, O Beauty, ever ancient, ever new, late have I loved you!" he lamented. It's never too late to be swept away by what Augustine has to say: "To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek him the greatest adventure; to find him, the greatest human achievement."

MEMORIAL OF AUGUSTINE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8b-10; Matthew 23:13-22 (425). "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites. You lock the Kingdom of heaven before men."

Tuesday, Aug 29, 2023**Prepare the way**

Painting after painting shows John the Baptist pointing to Jesus. John knows it's not about him: "He who is coming after me is mightier than I" (Matthew 3:11) and "I am not the Christ, but I have been sent ahead of Him.... He must increase, but I must decrease" (John 2:28-30). Christian tradition also calls him John the Precursor and John the Forerunner, prepping us for the Messiah by being something of a prototype. Like Jesus, he's conceived miraculously. Both preach repentance, have disciples, and suffer in death. But as Saint Peter Julian Eymard knew, "The true secret of love consists in this—we must forget self like Saint John the Baptist and exalt and glorify the Lord."

MEMORIAL OF THE PASSION OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 (426); Mark 6:17-29 (634). "We drew courage through our God to speak to you the Gospel of God."

Wednesday, Aug 30, 2023**Make a better choice**

A mother of 11 foster children always had a gaggle of kids buzzing around her. They were happy and well cared for. When there was even a hint of one crossing the line from lively to obnoxious, she simply said, "Make a better choice." Amazingly, they did. Those are powerful words. How can you make a better choice today?

What will help you walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into his Kingdom and glory? This advice from Saint Francis de Sales might prove useful: "Never miss an opportunity to do good."

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13, Matthew 23:27-32 (427). "We treated each one of you as a father treats his children, exhorting and encouraging you and insisting that you walk in a manner worthy of ... God."

Thursday, Aug 31, 2023**Education for the whole person**

As a school year begins anew, it's worth taking a moment to appreciate the proud tradition of Catholic education. In the United States, Catholic religious orders have built an extensive network of primary, secondary, and college-level institutions whose shared mission has been education of the whole person: spiritual, intellectual, and human development. Millions have been positively impacted by these schools, including many poor people who have improved their quality of life. Offer a prayer of thanks for the educators and others who pour their energies into this holy and wholistic education.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13; Matthew 24:42-51 (428). "Stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come."

Friday, Sep 01, 2023**Celebrate the season of creation**

In Catholic culture we use the phrase "care of creation" in our work to protect the Earth and develop sustainable ways to live. This phrase is deliberate because it underscores the inherent connection between God and all that is. Pope Francis writes in *Laudato Si'*, "The ultimate destiny of the universe is in the fullness of God, which has already been attained by the risen Christ." On this World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, let us renew our commitment to care for one another, land and sea, all creatures great and small, as together we move into the fullness of God to which all are called.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Matthew 25:1-13 (429). "Therefore, whoever disregards this, disregards not a human being but God, who also gives the Holy Spirit to you."

Saturday, Sep 02, 2023**Talent contest**

The parable of the Talents is about much more than money. It speaks of the gifts that God has given to each of us and how we choose to "invest" those gifts in the community. Are we seeking only the most limited return, for ourselves? Or are we sharing our gifts, doing our part to help build up the community? The questions are more than hypothetical, for one day, at an unexpected hour, we will be called to account. Invest wisely for a generous return!

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11; Matthew 25:14-30 (430). "Should you not then have put my money in the bank so that I could have got it back with interest on my return?"

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



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