



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

September 17, 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**

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.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS
Monday to Friday
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

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

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.

Sunday, September 17

9:30 a.m. — Diane Pozzi (Family)
Maria & Inacio de Sousa (Family)

11:30 a.m.— People of the Parish

Monday, September 18

9:00 a.m. — Elizabeth Langewisch (Pat Rivers)
Augustine Alenchery (Annette Wolz)

Tuesday, September 19

9:00 a.m. — Diane Pozzi (Nugent Family)
Hilda Manitta (Gochan Family)

Wednesday, September 20

9:00 a.m.— James Ross (Mary Ross)
Augustine Alenchery (Corinne Addiss)

Thursday, September 21

9:00 a.m.. — Living & Deceased Members of Romeo & Wolz Families
Ralph Helmig (Family)

Saturday, September 23

5:30 p.m.— Beverley O’Keefe (Louise & Joe Ferrara)
Edwin Scottaline (Sue & Alan Holtz)

Sunday, September 24

9:30 a.m.— Abelardo & Norma Angeles (Family)
Theresa Heissenbuttel (Virgilio Family)
11:30 a.m.— People of the Parish

**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: \$8,674
(includes Faith Direct)
Last Year’s Collection: \$8,944
Thank You!

<p>Rest in Peace</p> 	<p>Anthony Sabia Joseph DelaRosa Nicholas Peragine</p>
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Good News Reflection**The freedom of forgiveness**

Jesus' message in this Sunday's Gospel reading explains a line from the "Our Father" prayer he had taught earlier (Matthew 6:12): "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

The strongest word here is "AS" – the same as, just like, in equal measure.

If there is anyone we have not forgiven, if there is anyone we cannot pray for with love, we'd better keep our mouths shut during this part of the prayer to our Father, who is the Father of all.



Sometimes, it's difficult to forgive because we think "forgiving" means "forgetting". Jesus never said that we must forget what the debtor owes. Forgiveness means remembering – and learning from the memory – without demanding repayment or retribution. Unforgiveness is a form of punishment: it's payback time. For example, if we remain angry, we hope that our anger or coldness will somehow punish the sinner into repentance. Well, guess what. That never works.

Here's something else we do that never works: holding a grudge to protect ourselves

from getting hurt again. Grudges do not free us from the pain of bad memories. It chains us to them.

When we free others from the debts they owe us for hurting us (whether they seek it or not, whether they're still alive or not), we free ourselves and our healing begins – *OUR* healing!

It's the most loving gift that we can give to ourselves, *as* it's a gift of love to others. Even when they don't recognize our gift, God does.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

Who angers you because they don't deserve your forgiveness? What are you gaining from unforgiveness and resentment? What will you lose if you forgive?

Questions for Community Faith Sharing:

What is the most difficult part of forgiveness? What steps do you take for pushing yourself into truly letting go of unforgiveness so you can find healing? Sharing this with others will spread good ideas that could change someone's life!

CORNERSTONE

Brand new Message Series begins on September 10th

In this week we will look at the parable of the unforgiving servant. A foundation of our church is that we are all in need of God's mercy. We get to heaven because God paid my debt. We have all received his mercy and love and can do nothing to earn it. We are to extend that that to others. A cornerstone of our faith is that we can all have access to God through the person of Jesus Christ and that no one is too far from him.

We want to be a grace filled church with the feeling of gratitude that Jesus has forgiven my debt.

We forgive others because we have been forgiven by God through Jesus' work on the cross. Receive Forgiveness so we can forgive others. Mindfulness about the grace we have received.

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.

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

FAITH DIRECT
inspiring secure giving®

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!

 PayPal



Scan. Pay. Go.

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 on Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 10AM to 1PM. **PANTRY NEEDS: Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Household Cleaner, Dishwashing Liquid, Laundry Detergent, Mayonnaise, Cake Mix, Cake Frosting, Fruit Juice, Coffee, Cereal, Syrup, Canned Tomatoes, Chili, Baked Beans, Canned Potatoes.**



LONG ISLAND COALITION for LIFE, Inc.

P. O. BOX 243 RONKONKOMA, N.Y. 11779 • (631) 243-1435
 P. O. BOX 247 OLD BETHPAGE, N.Y. 11804 • www.ProLifeLI.org

Stand Up For Life: Respect Life Sunday Oct. 1st

Stand Up For Life 10/1/2023 this RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY - 2:00 to 3:30 PM. Join us in Huntington at State Routes 110 & 25 (near the Walt Whitman Mall) or in Manorville south of the Long Island Expressway, LIE at exit 70-S on County Road 111, rain or shine.

Come as you are to this Family-Friendly event, and you can bring a friend or the whole family. For information contact (631) 243-1435 or email Info@ProLifeLI.org

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, send the form below to the rectory (20 Chestnut Street, Centereach, NY 11720) or contact the office by email, rectory@abvmcentereach.com, or phone Maria at 631-585-8760 at the office to get additional details.

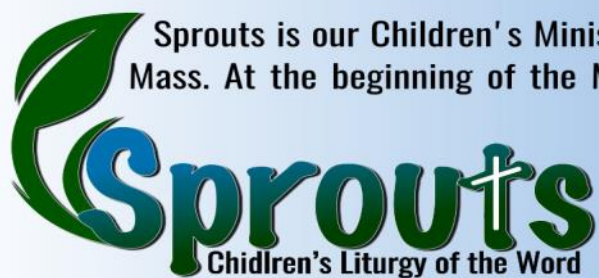


Our parish subscribes to a revolutionary online platform which provides the best in Catholic audio talks, movies, ebooks, and video-based studies from trusted providers. This allows you, **free of charge**, to access online resources in bible study, apologetics, Christian entertainment, family catechesis, 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



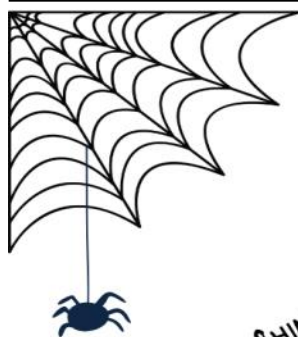
Please prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. Signing up is easy! Visit faithdirect.net/NY563 or download the **Faith Direct app** and search for **the parish with the parish code (NY563)**. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!





Sprouts is our Children's Ministry for ages three and up 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.



JOIN US FOR SOME FAMILY-FRIENDLY FUN!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

12 NOON TO 2 PM

ASSUMPTION CHURCH PARKING LOT

RAIN OR SHINE!
INCLEMENT WEATHER
WILL MOVE
EVENT INDOORS!

NON-SCARY
COSTUMES
ONLY!



DEADLINE
TO SECURE A
TRUNK SPOT/TABLE
IS
OCTOBER 8!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP MAKE THIS
A GREAT EVENT FOR THE CHILDREN!!

LOOKING FOR PARISHIONERS & MINISTRY MEMBERS TO HOST A TRUNK OR TABLE!

ALL TRUNK THEMES WILL BE BIBLE-BASED AND MUST BE APPROVED.

PLEASE CONTACT MELISSA AT ABVM OFFICE - 631-585-8768 / MFERRARA@ABVMCENTEREACH.COM
TO SECURE YOUR SPOT AND FOR THEME APPROVAL.



in the plaza between the church and the parish center

Coffee
Conversations
Community

After
9:30 AM
& 11:30 AM
Masses

Sunday, Sep 17, 2023**Each one, teach one**

Teachers, preachers, and professors have their place. But most of us learn life lessons more broadly. The first school is our home environment. Groups we affiliate with and wider media influences also communicate their values. In 1935, the Vatican called for special acknowledgment of how our parish catechists pass on the faith. While it's right to honor our DRE or religion teachers on this Catechetical Sunday, let's recall too the role of parents and indeed all parishioners in modeling a life rich in love, generosity, compassion, and forgiveness. Catechists literally "echo" the example of Jesus. Deliver your echo boldly!

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 27:30—28:7; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35 (130). *"Peter approached Jesus and asked him, 'Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive?'"*

Monday, Sep 18, 2023**Make of your life a mission of peace**

In an address to the World Council of Churches in Evanston, Illinois in 1954, Dag Hammarskjöld, the second United Nations secretary-general (1953-61), referred to churches as the "guardians of ... the deepest beliefs and the loftiest dreams ..." of humanity. He died in a plane crash on this date while on a peace mission in the Congo and is the only person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize posthumously. Pope Francis praised him in 2015 for giving his life for "reconciliation among peoples." May the example and inspiration of Hammarskjöld, and the many who work to end conflict in the world, unite the people of God in their pursuit.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 7:1-10 (443). *"I did not consider myself worthy to come to you; but say the word and let my servant be healed."*

Tuesday, Sep 19, 2023**The real magic of relics**

The significance of saintly relics is best understood in light of basic Catholic teaching: Relics aren't talismans born of superstition, nor are they magical souvenirs from worship-worthy saints. Moreover, relics deserve the same basic respect as other human remains. This is key because, historically, relics have been the subject of misunderstanding and abuse, everything from pilgrims who would steal bits of saintly bodies to Martin Luther's objection when relics were sold and hoarded like baubles. God alone works miracles and is worthy of worship. Saints merely agree to be the conduit—in obedience to Divine Love—sometimes paying the price with their martyrs' blood. Consider: The real [miracle of Januarius' blood](#) might be that he was willing to sacrifice it.

MEMORIAL OF JANUARIUS, BISHOP, MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Luke 7:11-17 (444). *"A great prophet has arisen in our midst and God has visited his people."*

Wednesday, Sep 20, 2023**Be inspired to broaden your concern**

On this day in 1918, at the age of 58, Mary Theresa Dudzik entered into eternal life. She accomplished a lot of good in her time on Earth. After immigrating to Chicago from Poland at 21, she would invite poor elderly women and girls to her home. "I felt the misery and suffering of others, and it seemed to me that I could not love Jesus, or even expect Heaven if I were concerned only about myself," she wrote. Dudzik started the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago in 1893, the first order of religious women founded in

Chicago. The community devoted itself to aiding the elderly and those in need. She received the honorary title of "Mother" in 1948 and is now a candidate for sainthood. Learn more about Venerable Mary Theresa Dudzik and her heroic virtue.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Timothy 3:14-16; Luke 7:31-35 (445). *"To what shall I compare the people of this generation?"*

Thursday, Sep 21, 2023**Witness value**

When the name Saint Matthew comes up, many people recall him as the tax collector apostle who wrote the Gospel of Matthew. Modern scholarship has challenged the belief that Matthew the apostle wrote the gospel with his name on it, and other details of Saint Matthew's death by martyrdom cannot be definitively proven. Maybe having precision about all aspects of Matthew's life is not the most important factor in this feast, however. The church celebrates Matthew for being a faithful apostle and evangelist, things to which every Christian can aspire. Does your life evangelize, that is, bear witness to your belief?

FEAST OF MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

TODAY'S READINGS: Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:9-13 (643). *"Live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience."*

Friday, Sep 22, 2023**Delve into fresh spiritual classics**

The Spirit dwells in each of us and is expressed in myriad ways. The church treasures this rich diversity as "refractions of the one pure light of the Holy Spirit," as the Catechism of the Catholic Church puts it. Too often erased historically, the experiences of women haven't always been allowed to shine as brightly, however. And so we lift up writers such as Monica Coleman, Gloria Anzaldúa, Mary Oliver, Jung Eun Sophia Park, and Phyllis Tickle, renowned spirituality author who died on this date in 2015. Read one of these or another author whose particular "refraction" resonates with your own.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Timothy 6:2c-12; Luke 8:1-3 (447). *"Pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness."*

Saturday, Sep 23, 2023**The essentials of sainthood**

Controversy shadowed the life of the mystical Padre Pio, as Pius of Pietrelcina was known. He was said to bear the stigmata, or wounds of Christ, though detractors claimed he manufactured the wounds with carbolic acid. However one views such claims and counter claims, the undeniable fact is that he was a compassionate counselor to the thousands who came to see him during his lifetime, a tireless servant who lived a simple life. At Padre Pio's canonization Mass in 2002, Saint John Paul II said: "The life and mission of Padre Pio testify that difficulties and sorrows, if accepted with love, transform themselves into a privileged journey of holiness, which opens the person toward a greater good, known only to the Lord." You don't have to be a mystic or stigmatist to mirror the ministry of Christ in your own life—all you need is a kind heart and generous spirit.

MEMORIAL OF PIUS OF PIETRELCINA, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Timothy 6:13-16; Luke 8:4-15 (448). *"And some seed fell on good soil, and when it grew, it produced fruit a hundredfold."*

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



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