



# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**October 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](http://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



**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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:rtbhuntington@yahoo.com) or Anita Wolf at [hwolf96@aol.com](mailto: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, October 29**

9:30 a.m. — Susan DeLuca (Tudisco Family)  
Michelle Bergenfeld (McGuinness Family)  
11:30 a.m.— People of the Parish  
Loret Bengtson (Family)

**Monday, October 30**

9:00 a.m. — Augustine Alenchery (Dan & Patty)  
Alex Alarcon (Lidia Santamaria)

**Tuesday, October 31**

9:00 a.m. — John Byrnes (Pat Rivers)  
Bob Graves (Patti & Nick Campanelli)

**Wednesday, November 1**

9:00 a.m.— Leonie Seneus & Marcelot Estriplet (Marcelle Estriplet)  
Anna Costa (Theresa Demidow)  
7:00 p.m.— People of the Parish

**Thursday, November 2**

9:00 a.m.. — All Soul's Day

**Saturday, November 4**

5:30 p.m.— All Soul's Day

**Sunday, November 5**

9:30 a.m.— All Soul's Day  
11:30 a.m.— People of the Parish

The LORD is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth.  
Psalm 145:18

**STEWARDSHIP**  
**GIVING to our parish as an act of worship**

**Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary**  
**Last Week's Collection: \$9,086**  
*(includes Faith Direct)*

**Last Year's Collection: \$8,195**  
**Thank You!**

*Rest  
in  
Peace*



Sebastiano Vultaggio  
Charles James

**Good News Reflection****Whole-hearted love**

This Sunday's Gospel reading reminds us that we cannot love God without loving ourselves and others, but God must always come first. And this is only possible if we fully open our hearts and our lives to receive the unconditional, amazing love that God has for us.

When we have difficulty loving God with all our heart, mind and soul all the time, every day, every moment, no matter what's going on, it's usually because we're spending too much time focused on other people and/or on our own plans and wishes! And it's because we don't truly understand that God is loving us with all of his heart, mind, and soul.



Yes, we must focus on others in order to love them. And yes we must focus on our own needs so that we can love others as much as we love ourselves. Our own needs are important and we are responsible for seeing that our needs get met; otherwise we don't have enough to share with others - enough energy, enough enthusiasm, enough kindness, enough patience, etc. Likewise, we can't focus so much on ourselves that we neglect the needs of others.

So the question then becomes: What are the priorities? In other words: How much time should we spend alone with God? How much time should we spend nurturing ourselves? How much of our time and needs and wants should be sacrificed for the sake of others?

Interestingly, we find the right balance only after we put God first and make our relationship with him our highest priority. This divine friendship is what heals us in our unmet needs. It's what empowers us to love others even when they are difficult to love. And we don't have to be alone with God all day to have intimacy with him.

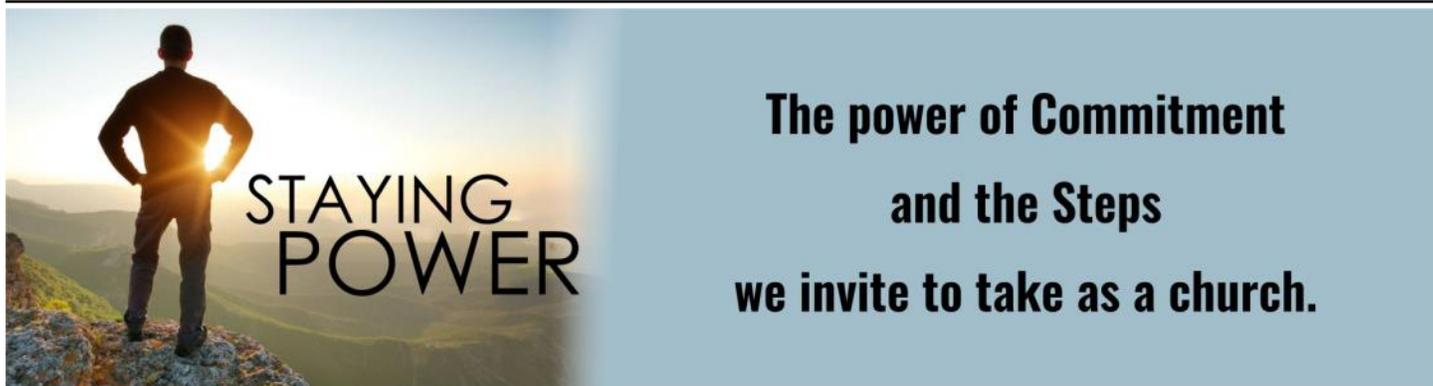
We love him first and foremost simply by relying on him for success in loving others and ourselves. As long as we keep turning to him for guidance, healing and strength, we are loving him with all our heart, mind and soul all the time, every day, every moment, no matter what's going on.

**Questions for Personal Reflection:**

How good are you at setting priorities and keeping God at the top? What puts your priorities out of order? What can you do to increase God's role in your everyday life?

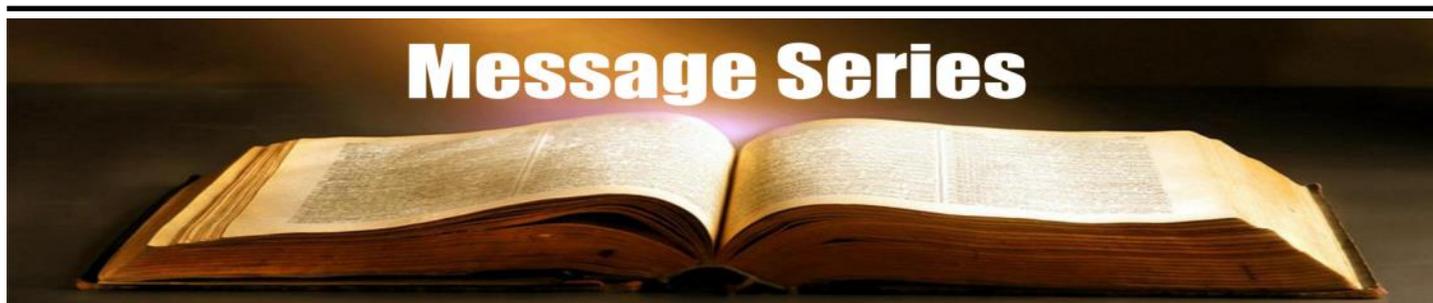
**Questions for Community Faith Sharing:**

Describe some of the techniques you've used to increase God's priority in your everyday life. How has focusing on your relationship with God helped you to be more loving to yourself and kinder toward others?

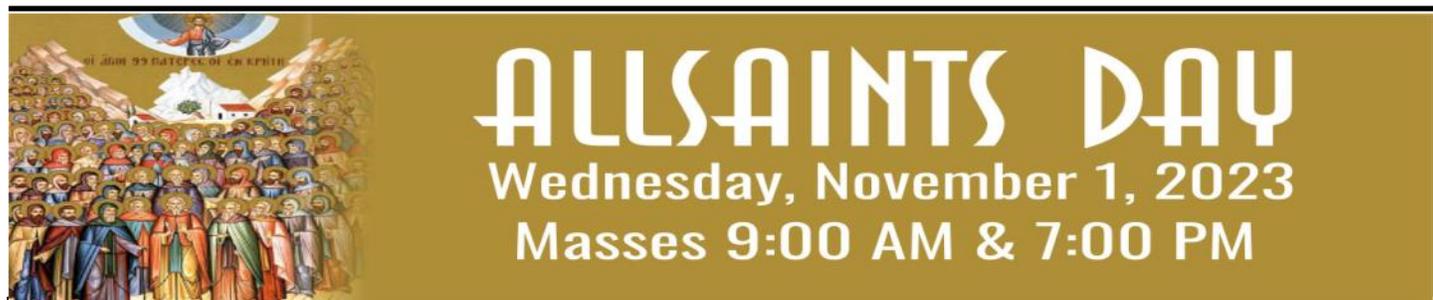


As followers of Christ, we are to bring people unconnected to God into a relationship with their Savior. This can only happen if we are good role models for the people around us. At work, at school and in everything we do, God wants us to serve as an example for others of how to live. Paul writes to the Thessalonians that their faith has become a model for other believers. We grow when we commit to live a kind of life that can be a role model for others. When we realize people are watching us, it changes our behavior.

God wants us to be role models for others of what a Christian looks like in the various roles we play. Commit to being a role model for one person in your work place or school or other environment.



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.



Please prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. Signing up is easy! Visit [faithdirect.net/NY563](http://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!



## 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: Kleenex, Toothbrushes, Laundry Detergent, Household Cleaner, Liquid Hand Soap, Conditioner, Jell-O Mix, Pudding Mix, Fruit Juice, Box Milk, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Muffin Mix, Ketchup, Instant Potatoes, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Canned Chicken, Canned Tomatoes, Canned Peas, Jelly, Canned Dog Food.**



## Parish Social Ministry (Food Pantry) Needs for Thanksgiving

**Gift Cards:** With the Holidays just around the corner, we're getting ready to prepare Thanksgiving baskets for our clients. In addition to the food items listed below, please consider donating gift cards to local supermarkets. These are very helpful in providing those in need with a great Thanksgiving dinner, allowing them the dignity to choose their favorite holiday foods. Please drop off gift cards at the Parish Office or in the collection basket.

GIVING THANKS GIVING BACK

*Thanksgiving*  
DRIVE

**Pantry Needs:** Boxed Milk, Cranberry Sauce, Canned Yams, Canned Vegetables, Stuffing Mix, Instant Potatoes and any other non-perishable food items. Please place these donations in our bin in the Church.



## 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, November 3**

In the church 1:00—2:00 PM

*Come, let us bow down in worship,*

*let us kneel before the Lord our Maker. Psalm 95:6*

**Assumption Prayer Team** is praying for you.

We pray for every request in the prayer Petition Books, from Adoremus and those given to us in person.

What are your prayer needs? Prayer Petition Books are in the back of the church.

*Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16*



**PRAYER TEAM**



Please prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. Signing up is easy! Visit [faithdirect.net/NY563](http://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.

# SPROUTS

Children's Ministry for ages  
**FOUR to SECOND** Grade on  
 Sundays during 9:30 AM 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 engage during the Mass at 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 weekly, 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.



**TRUNK OR TREAT:** We planned it as a Trunk or Treat outside in our spacious parking lot on October 7th. But mother nature had other plans. Everyone who signed up to have a trunk decorated came downstairs to our Parish Center Hall with their decorations, sweets and placed them on a table. It was awesome! A wonderful family fun event with over 130 children in costumes and their families coming together. Lots of candies, great music, dance, and safe fun. All tables were Christian themed.

We want to say a big thank you to Melissa who organized this fun event as well as those who have prepared the tables with a lot of goodies for children. 'Rant n Rave Entertainment' provided us with DJ service, which took the event to the next level. Thank you, Brendan, for your generosity and love of our parish. We also want to thank our Centereach Fire Department as well as Suffolk County Police Department for their gracious participation at this event. All the ministries worked together to make this event for us to Grow Wider.



*Coffee*  
in the  
*Courtyard*

**in the Parish Center Hall**

*Coffee*  
Conversations  
Community

**After**  
**9:30 AM**  
**& 11:30 AM**  
**Masses**

**Sunday, Oct 29, 2023****Look beyond our differences**

Healing serious division is challenging. The deeper the breach, the tougher the reconciliation. Since 1567, mainline Protestant denominations have celebrated Reformation Day on this Sunday. Yet in 2016, Pope Francis also acknowledged this observance, reaching out to the head of the Lutheran Church to state: "With gratitude we acknowledge that the Reformation helped give a greater centrality to sacred Scripture in the Church's life." Catholic-Lutheran dialogue continues to express the gifts of the Reformation and to seek forgiveness for division perpetuated by Christians from both traditions. Our witness is stronger together. Collaborate across the aisle.

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 22:20-26; 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10; Matthew 22:34-40 (148). *"For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth.... in every place your faith in God has gone forth."*

**Monday, Oct 30, 2023****Healing on tap**

When you read the gospels, you can't help but be amazed by how much of Jesus' public ministry was devoted to healing the sick, whether in body, mind, or soul. The church continues Christ's healing ministry as central to its works in myriad ways. Pope Benedict XVI said, "Healing is an essential dimension of the apostolic mission and of Christian faith in general." In fact, he said, Christianity is a "religion of healing." What troubles your body and spirit? Bring it to Jesus to be restored to health and wholeness.

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 8:12-17; Luke 13:10-17 (479). *"He laid his hands on her, and she at once stood up straight and glorified God."*

**Tuesday, Oct 31, 2023****Death be not proud**

From the Irish we get ancient Celtic elements of Samhain, the idea of a veil separating the living from the dead becoming so thin that it's permeable. From Mexico, we get Día de los Muertos: visiting loved ones' graves, awaiting a festive reunion as the separation between life and death momentarily dissolves. For Halloween, treat-seeking kids dress as devils, vampires, and zombies—traversing yards bedecked with tombstones and skeletons. Or, if we've attended Catholic schools, the focus is more heavenly, with costumes of saints and angels. However we observe this Eve of All Saints, our Catholic belief about the "last things" comes with an assurance that we are meant to return to the one who loved us into existence. "At the evening of life," says Saint John of the Cross, "we shall be judged on our love."

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 8:18-25; Luke 13:18-21 (480). *"I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us."*

**Wednesday, Nov 01, 2023****See the saints in living color**

Today as the church celebrates All Saints, parishes and websites around the globe will feature an image of 15th-century Dominican Friar Fra Angelico's *The Forerunners of Christ with Saints and Martyrs*. This much-loved painting was originally part of an altarpiece in the Church of San Domenico near Florence. Most of the hallowed figures in the painting look toward Christ. They appear in long rows and represent important male and female

biblical figures, martyrs, and saints, including Saint John the Baptist in the top row, wearing a camel-hair tunic and holding a wooden cross. He looks directly at the viewer and points the way to Christ—exactly his role in salvation history. Christian art is a great tool for learning about the saints, Christian symbolism, and Catholic theology, and the paintings and frescoes of Fra Angelico are a good place to start.

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

TODAY'S READINGS: Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12a (667). *"Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God."*

**Thursday, Nov 02, 2023****A work in progress**

The notion of "purgatory" is really quite simple and true to human experience. All of life is a process, and our best efforts can lead to progress but never perfection in this lifetime. What makes today special is that we can all participate in that process with our dearly departed, by our prayers, our good and generous deeds, and at Mass. Lend a helping hand today to those who are further along in the process. And may we all meet again one day, and, in the meantime we pray, "May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace."

COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS' DAY)

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 3:1-9; Romans 5:5-11 or Romans 6:3-9; John 6:37-40 (668). *"And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it on the last day."*

**Friday, Nov 03, 2023****The struggle continues**

On September 30, 1962 riots broke out at the University of Mississippi as James Meredith, accompanied by U.S. marshals, walked to campus to register for classes. Many fought to keep him out, but justice prevailed. Meredith would become the first black student at Ole Miss. Today, the nearby church of St. John the Evangelist honors this memory with a stained-glass window of Martin de Porres facing the street where Meredith began his walk to the university. De Porres, too, had experienced racism and was barred from becoming a priest in 17th-century Peru because of the color of his skin. Saint Martin de Porres, pray for us on the long march of equality.

MEMORIAL OF MARTIN DE PORRES, RELIGIOUS

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 9:1-5; Luke 14:1-6 (483). *"My conscience joins with the Holy Spirit in bearing me witness."*

**Saturday, Nov 04, 2023****Be an instrument of change**

During his first homily as pope in 2013, Pope Francis quoted Léon Bloy, a 20th-century French novelist who was known for his passionate defense of the faith. In 1904 he became friends with Raïssa Maritain, a poet, philosopher, and Hasidic Jew. She was so influenced by Bloy that she, along with her well-known husband Jacques, and her sister Vera, converted to Catholicism, with Bloy as sponsor. The "three Maritains" as they were known, took their place at the center of a circle of French Catholic intellectuals. Raïssa died on this day in 1960. What kind of influence might you have on those searching for a faith to believe in?

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Luke 14:1, 7-11 (484). *"The one who humbles himself will be exalted."*

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



©2023 TrueQuest Communications. [TakeFiveForFaith.com](http://TakeFiveForFaith.com); [mail@takefiveforfaith.com](mailto:mail@takefiveforfaith.com). All rights reserved. Noncommercial reprints permitted with the following credit: Reprinted with permission from [TakeFiveForFaith.com](http://TakeFiveForFaith.com). Scripture citations from the New American Bible Revised Edition. For more information about TAKE FIVE and our regular contributors, go to [PrepareTheWord.com](http://PrepareTheWord.com). Free daily email and app available online at [TakeFiveForFaith.com/subscribe](http://TakeFiveForFaith.com/subscribe).