



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

February 4, 2024

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 4

9:30 a.m. — Sebastiano Vultaggio (Desiree & Scott Hay)
 Intentions of Daniel Hetzel (Josephine Scala)
 11:30 a.m.—People of the Parish

Monday, February 5

9:00 a.m.— Joan Hall (Joanne Reynolds)
 Eleanor Trezza (Whitey & Linda Rohde)

Tuesday, February 6

9:00 a.m. — Living & Deceased Members of the Rosary
 Altar Society
 Thomas Russell (Family)

Wednesday, February 7

9:00 a.m.— Verius Paul (Children)

Thursday, February 8

9:00 a.m.. — Marilyn Huether (John & Dawn)

Saturday, February 10

5:30 p.m.— Jane Giacomini (Sharon Holliday)
 Giuseppa Carollo (Family)

Sunday, February 11

9:30 a.m.— Julia Diaz Feldman (Roman Family)
 Ron & Steven Fregara (Lorraine Fregara &
 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.

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 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.

**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: \$9,434
 (includes *Faith Direct*)
Last Year’s Collection: \$9,599
Thank You!

Rest in Peace		Eleanor Trezza
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Good News Reflection**Having compassion in the midst of struggle**

If Job's words resonate with you, it may be because he captures the essence of the universal struggle of human existence. Our lives can sometimes seem like they are marked by toil with only fleeting moments of hope. It's a poignant reminder that, at times, we may find ourselves weighed down by the burdens of life, yearning for relief and happiness.

We are then shown a different view of life's duties. The Apostle Paul talks about his responsibility to share the Gospel. He willingly becomes like a servant to everyone, adapting to connect with different people to share the message of salvation. This calls to mind our own responsibilities — are they forced on us like Job's troubles, or do we take them on willingly, like Paul?

In the Gospel, Jesus emerges as the epitome of compassionate service. His healing touch and selfless acts of curing the sick and driving out demons depict a profound commitment to alleviating the suffering of others. The passage of Simon's mother-in-law being restored to health and immediately attending to the needs of those around her echoes the transformative power of compassion.

There is another important message that we should take to heart. Jesus takes time for solitude and prayer, even when things are busy. This emphasizes how important it is to connect with God for strength and nourishment, especially when life gets tough. In the midst of life's chaos, it's all too easy to lose sight of the need to turn to God, even when (or possibly especially when) His guidance is most crucial.

Take some time to reflect on the different experiences portrayed in these readings and the lessons God is trying to teach you through them. As you navigate your life's complexities, do you make an effort to fulfill your responsibilities with purpose and to show compassion to those around you?

Questions for Personal Reflection: How do you handle tough times and moments of hope? What responsibilities do you have, and do you take them on willingly?

Questions for Community Faith Sharing: How can your life be a source of healing and compassion for others, like how Jesus served others selflessly?

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BRAND NEW MESSAGE SERIES FOR LENT

rebuilt
FAITH

FORTY DAILY EXERCISES FOR REBUILDING OUR FAITH.

ONE DAY AT A TIME

Join a Small Group or Lead a Small Group



Week Six –Set your priorities for the day in prayer Scripture: Mark 1:29-39

Mark tells us that Jesus got up early in the morning to get alone with his heavenly Father. In prayer he discerned what God wanted him to do and then did it. He also learned to say no to what took him off course. In this message we will look at the importance of setting our daily priorities in prayer so that we can see where God is leading us.

Staying true to our priorities requires going into our day with a prayer and a plan. Pray and set the top three priorities for the day.



Through the course of this series, we will look at rebuilding our faith through the STEPS of discipleship. We will begin by looking at why Jesus is worth following and then how each of the STEPS draws us into a deeper relationship with him. As a result of this series, we want our community to have a greater understanding of the discipleship path and how it helps them to become more Christlike in their character. We hope that as a result they will be more open to taking the next step in their faith journey.

Small Group is where our large church gets small. Groups are 6-10 people who meet usually once a week to discuss faith, go deeper in the weekly message, and support one another in their relationship with Christ. During this season of Lent it is a great opportunity to discover and explore the small group experience. This is the place to care for others and be cared for; 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 rectory@abvmcentereach.com to sign up.



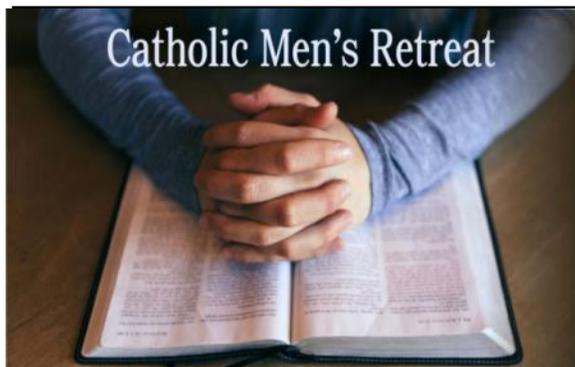
SPROUTS

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 sent forth 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. For information contact the Faith Formation Office.



Our Mission statement is Love God, Serve Others and Grow Disciples. The season of Lent is a perfect time to look back into our lives and try to live the way God wants us to live. In that we can see that Serving Others is particularly important. During this Lent we are going to discuss how we can serve others better and how important it is to grow in our faith. We can serve others in so many ways. But, as a Lenten sacrifice, on the weekend of February 24-25th we are having a clothing drive for gently used or new clothes. I am sure if we look into our closets, we will find new or, like new coats, shirts, pants, jackets etc. A lot of the time we know that we need to give it away, but then we forget. This is an opportunity to do just that and people who need it will be an immense help. We will accept new undergarments and socks.



Catholic Men's Retreat

Fear - Faith - Risk - Trust: Living in God's Promise with Jesus

March 1 @ 4:00 pm – March 3 @ 1:00 pm EST

Location: Cormaria Retreat Center, 77 Bay Street, Sag Harbor, NY 11963

Cost: \$265:00 To Register, call: 631-725-4206 or email: info@cormaria.org

Assumption Prayer Team

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 or scan the QR Code on your right. Please use **the parish code (NY563)**. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!



Parish Social Ministry Program Annual Report 2023

This is a summary of the assistance we were able to provide our clients in 2023. Our Program was able to do this thanks to the continued generosity of our parishioners who donated money, gift cards and food. This was especially true this year, since both the total number of individuals assisted and the total financial assistance was almost double the numbers from 2022. We are especially blessed with a dedicated group of volunteers led by Joe Galdi our wonderful coordinator, who assist our clients and make them feel welcome



Households Assisted: Number of households receiving food, toiletries, paper goods and cleaning products from the food pantry. This includes regular assistance given throughout the year as well as our Thanksgiving and Christmas Basket drives.

New Clients: This is the number of new families that joined our program in 2023.

Individuals Assisted: This shows how many people our program has assisted, also including information from our Thanksgiving and Christmas Basket drives.

Households Assisted	New Clients	Children Assisted	Adults Assisted	Seniors Assisted	Total Individuals Assisted
513	24	539	2620	150	3309

Financial Assistance: In addition to providing assistance from our food pantry, the Outreach Program also provides financial assistance to our clients. This includes assistance with rent, utilities, heating and other expenses, as well as gift cards to various stores in the area. These numbers also include information from our Thanksgiving and Christmas Basket drives.

Rental Assistance	Utility or Heating Assistance	Other Assistance	Gift Cards	Total Financial Assistance
\$1,395	\$4,305	\$1,370	\$7,300	\$14,370

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: Dishwashing Liquid, Laundry Detergent, Toothbrushes, Paper Towels, Deodorant, Liquid Hand Soap, Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Mustard, Coffee, Fruit Juice, Canned Pasta, Canned Chili, Jelly, Salad Dressing, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Dry Soup Mix.





Coffee
in the
Courtyard

in the Parish Center Hall

Coffee
Conversations
Community

After
9:30 AM
& 11:30 AM
Masses



*Invest time each week to
expand your vocabulary and
deepen your faith.*

04 February 2024

WORD OF THE WEEK

Evangelization ˈi-van-jə-lə-ˈzā-shən

The act of preaching or proclaiming the gospel; how the Good News of Christ's coming is delivered to the ends of the earth. **Evangelizing** begins with the witness of an authentic Christian life. This witness involves humility, detachment from wealth, faith, hope, and charity. In this way one becomes a credible proclaimer of the joy found in Jesus.

Pronunciation: <https://tinyurl.com/Take5-evangelization>

CONTEXT

An **evangelizer** must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral!

—Pope Francis, *Evangelii gaudium*

The person who has been **evangelized** goes on to **evangelize** others. Here lies the test of truth, the touchstone of **evangelization**: it is unthinkable that a person should accept the Word and give himself to the kingdom without becoming a person who bears witness to it and proclaims it in his turn.

—Pope Paul VI, *Evangelii nuntiandi*

To teach in order to lead others to faith is the task of every preacher and of each believer.

—Saint Thomas Aquinas

WHY IT MATTERS

Jesus is the first **evangelizer** when he proclaims the coming of God's reign. Delivering the Good News of what God has done for us is, in fact, the entire mission of the church.

All people have a right to receive the gospel, and all Christians have a duty to proclaim it. This is not an obligation, says Pope Francis in *Evangelii gaudium*, but a joy as we "point to a horizon of beauty" for all.

RELATED WORDS

Gospel | *Evangelii gaudium* | Preaching

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What's the difference between catechesis and evangelization?

Catechesis is basically religious education. Rooted in the Greek word for "echo," its intent is to nurture the Christian life through imitation in word and deed. **Evangelization** also has Greek origins and means "proclaiming good news." That good news of God's reign is contained in the gospel. Just as catechesis doesn't mean memorizing rote facts about faith, **evangelization** isn't the same as shouting scripture verses to passersby. We can think of **evangelization** as creating the spark that ignites the fire, and catechesis as the work of tending the flame once it's established. . . . When the two work hand in hand, **evangelization** and catechesis can make us saints by bringing us to faith and then to holiness, inch by inch.

—Alice Camille, from *Questions Catholics Ask* <http://tinyurl.com/QCA-evangelization>

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (FEBRUARY 4)

Our everything

The Second Vatican Council said the church is "missionary by its very nature"—in other words, mission, these days also called "**evangelization**," is more than just another thing the church does: It is part of everything the church does. What is mission? It's not only the sending of missionaries to foreign countries. Most simply, **evangelization** is bringing to others the Good News to which Jesus witnessed. It means seeing the face of Christ in everyone, especially the poor and outcast.

READINGS: Job 7:1-4; 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39 ([74 https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/020424.cfm](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/020424.cfm)). "Let us go to preach . . . For this purpose have I come."

FAITH IN ACTION

We can all be missionaries and **evangelizers** by showing compassion, spreading goodness, transforming, forgiving, loving, serving, preaching, teaching, and healing.