



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary RC Church

20 Chestnut Street, Centereach, NY 11720 • 631-585-8760 • abvmcentereach.com

*Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish is a welcoming community,
sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through faith, prayer and the sacraments.*

November 19, 2017

We celebrate EUCHARIST

Saturdays: 8:30 AM and 5:30 PM

Sundays: 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 AM

Weekdays: 7:30 and 9:00 AM

We celebrate PENANCE

Saturdays: 4:00 – 5:00 PM and by appointment.

We celebrate BAPTISM

Usually the first and third Sundays each month. Meeting with Deacon Mike and attendance at class is required. Please contact the rectory during regular office hours to register.

We celebrate MARRIAGE

Make arrangements with the priest at least six months prior to the wedding. All are required by our Bishop to attend the Pre-Cana Conferences as part of the preparation.

Catholic Daughters of the America's (Court St. Gerard)

First Thursday of the month: Sept - June at 7:30 PM in the Parish Library. Contact Maria Calestini at flo815@optonline.net.

Catholic War Veterans

Second Saturday of the month: Sept - June at 10:00 AM in the Parish Library. Contact Thomas Donnelly at tjdon@optonline.net.

Communion for the Sick or Shut-ins

Contact the rectory during regular office hours.

Eucharistic Adoration

- First Friday of the month: 1:00 - 2:00 PM. - Nocturnal Adoration
- Third Friday of the month: 7:30-8:30 PM. - ADOREMUS

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 Bruno Sidor at bjsidor01@optonline.net.

Miraculous Medal Novena

Saturdays following the 8:30 AM Mass.

Rev. Chris Aridas, Pastor

Msgr. Joseph K. Curley, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Joseph Alenchery

Deacon Michael Montelione

Music Ministry

Our parish's Music Ministry seeks to lead and support our parish family in full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy. Practices are on Wednesday, 6 – 7:30 PM, and Thursday, 6:30 – 8:00 PM. For further information call Rob at 516-523-1668.

Parish Social Ministry (Outreach)

Open Tuesday and Friday, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Food pantry available. Will also try to help with referrals and advocacy. Call Outreach Office for appointment, 631-585-8760 x101.

RCIA

Provides for those who have never been baptized an adult process to experience the joy of our Catholic community; also prepares those who have been baptized but have not celebrated Eucharist and/or Confirmation to do so within an adult context. Anyone 18 and over is welcome. Contact the rectory office at 631-585-8760.

Religious Formation Office

Works with parents to share faith with our youngest members, grades 1-8. Contact Lisette Robustelli for details at 631-588-6408. Office hours during school sessions: Mon., Tues., Wed. 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM; Saturday 9:00 AM - Noon. Office is closed Thursday, Friday & Sunday. Check bulletin for summer hours.

Rosary Altar Society

A service-based women's organization that cares for the Church and promotes the spiritual life of its members. Contact the rectory for meeting dates and times.

Scouting (Cub Scout, Boy Scouts)

Contact Anthony Ptak at 631-219-1503 or leaders@bsa356.com or visit www.bsa356.com for more details.

Youth Ministry

- High School Ministry (AYM), Wednesdays: 7:30 - 9:00 PM in parish center. All teens, grades 9 - 12, are invited.
- Middle School Ministry (MSM), Thursdays, 7:00 - 8:45 PM in parish center. All 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are invited.

For further information, contact Renata 631-585-8760 or email rptak@abvmcentereach.com.

Rectory: M - F 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Phone: 631-585-8760; Fax: 631-585-3601

Religious Education: 631-588-6408

Youth Ministry (AYM): 631-588-7434

From the Pastor's Desk — Stewardship Reflections

“And here the first word that I wish to say to you: joy! Do not be men and women of sadness: a Christian can never be sad! Never give way to discouragement! Ours is not a joy born of having many possessions, but of having encountered a Person: Jesus, in our midst.”
(Pope Francis: Palm Sunday Homily: March 24, 2013)

Accountability and stewardship are closely related.

accountability *noun* \ə-ŋkaʊn-tə-'bi-lə-tē\: the quality or state of being accountable; *especially*: an obligation or willingness to accept responsibility or to account for one's actions

stewardship *noun* \stü-ərd-ŋship\: the conducting, supervising, or managing of something; *especially*: the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care (Adapted from Webster's Dictionary)

Imagine, if you will, that you needed to go out of town and you entrusted your house to the care of your neighbor. Upon your return you see that the house is in disarray and has not been well-kept; your mail is overflowing from the box and your lawn is wild. Your first thought is that something must have happened to your neighbor, only to find that they are relaxing in your living room! Hopefully, you will never have this experience, but wouldn't you want at least an explanation or perhaps justice? Your neighbor was not a responsible steward of your home and you may hold them accountable for damages.

What does this mean to us? As we continue our journey of stewardship renewal, we discuss today our accountability as God's stewards. The story of Creation establishes God as the Creator and Source of all that is, was and ever will be. God decided, "to place Adam in the Garden of Eden to work it and keep it (Genesis 2:15). It is here that God explicitly entrusts us as human persons with the care of all creation.

We are responsible for the earth and all that is on it, including: natural resources and living creatures; people in all phases of the journey including the poor,

marginalized, unborn, imprisoned, aged, ill and so on. We are especially responsible, too, for the gifts God has placed in our lives, our personal gifts. These include our family and friends; our possessions, homes, clothes, money and food; our health, talents, skills, energy, intellect and time.

It is through our relationship with God that we experience true joy!

It is this last area, our personal gifts, that we examine today. Accountability prompts us to ask, "How well have I stewarded all the gifts I have received?" "Have I used and shared those gifts in a way that builds up the Kingdom of God rather than tears it down?" "What steps can I take to become a better steward of what God has entrusted to me?"

Our examination should prove joyful! Yes, there are always areas to improve upon and we may not always live as God intends, but we try...and when we try, we often times succeed!

In the above quote from Pope Francis, he exclaims that we should not be "men and women of sadness: a Christian can never be sad! Never give way to discouragement! Ours is not a joy born of having many possessions, but of having encountered a Person: Jesus, in our midst."

Yes, as stewards we place our

gifts and ourselves at the service of others to advance God's kingdom. Even though we stumble, we arise again with great joy knowing that, "The Lord never tires of forgiving, it is we who tire of asking for forgiveness."

(Pope Francis, March 17, 2013)

Never tire of seeking God's love and mercy. It is through our relationship with God that we experience true joy!

We can become More Accountable by:

- ♦ Discovering and embracing the gifts that God has given us.
- ♦ Examining how we have used our gifts in service to others and seeking to take-a-step further.
- ♦ Making a plan to share our financial resources and possessions in a responsible manner and put it into action.
- ♦ Learning more about our faith and traditions.
- ♦ Being conscious of the happenings in our lives and making decisions based on our faith and values.
- ♦ Inviting others to re-connect to our Church by sharing our stories and experiences of God.

Mass Intentions for the Week



Sunday, November 19th

- 8:00 a.m. — Molly Drew Connolly (Connolly & Licari Families)
- 9:30 a.m. — Joseph Mainhardt (M/M C. Festa, Jr.)
- 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

Monday, November 20th

- 7:30 a.m. — Laurie P. Flock (Family)
- 9:00 a.m. — Kathleen Prunty (Josephine Lynn)

Tuesday, November 21st

- 7:30 a.m. —
- 9:00 a.m. — Margaret O'Hara (Children)

Wednesday, November 22nd

- 7:30 a.m. —
- 9:00 a.m. — Deceased Members of Romeo & Wolz Families

Thursday, November 23rd

- Thanksgiving Day**
- 9:00 a.m. — People of the Parish

Friday, November 24th

- 7:30 a.m. — Intention of the Addiss Family
- 9:00 a.m. — John & Margaret Cahill (Mary Ross)

Saturday, November 25th

- 8:30 a.m. — Mary & Patrick McConnon
- 5:30 p.m. — Yolanda Nictotra (Pirri Family)

Sunday, November 26th

- 8:00 a.m. — Paul & Anne Lunetta (Andrew Lunetta)
- 9:30 a.m. — Abelardo Angeles
- 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

Middle School Ministry (MSM)

We invite all sixth, seventh, and eighth graders to participate in our parish's MSM. We meet on Thursdays from 7—8:45 p.m. in the Parish Center. Come and enjoy the fun! Check the web-site for further information.



Assumption Youth Ministry (AYM)

AYM welcomes all high school teens grades 9-12 to "Come & See" — Wednesday nights, 7:30-9 p.m. in the parish center.



Faith Formation Office Hours

Regular Office Hours (mid-October - May): Monday 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Tuesday & Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Thursday & Friday - Closed; Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to Noon; Sunday - 10:30 a.m. to Noon.

Outreach Needs

Turkey gravy, stuffing, canned vegetables, cake mix & icing, canned sweet potatoes, canned pumpkin pie, pudding, jello, jelly, shampoo, canned soup, boxed milk, boxed potatoes, toothbrushes, paper towels.

Gift Cards Needed

Help us prepare for Thanksgiving and Christmas by donating gift cards for those in need to purchase ham/turkey, for the Thanksgiving/Christmas season.

Eucharistic Adoration:

Friday, December 1st, 1 to 2 P.M.

Spend an hour of prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. In addition to the Office of the Blessed Sacrament and quiet time, the hour ends with Benediction—an excellent way to pray for your family, community, the world, and yourself.

Time, Talent & Treasure

Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life



Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary
(Regular Sunday Offering)

Last Week's Collection \$9,232
(includes *Faith Direct*)

Last Year's Collection \$10,699

Thank You!

New parishioner? Moving out of the parish? Kindly fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the rectory.

Name _____

Address _____

Town/Zip _____

Telephone _____

New Parishioner _____ Moving _____

Bottles for Birthright Babies

You can still return your Birthright Baby Bottle by giving it to one of our ushers or dropping it off at the office during regular office hours. Thank you for your generous contributions which enable us to continue serving pregnant women/girls in need.

Capital Campaign Update

To date we have received pledges and/or one-time gifts from 320 families, bringing our total thus far to \$642,000. Our goal remains \$800,000 to accomplish all that needs to be done: lighting, flooring, pews, AV system, parking lot. Everyone's participation is needed since everyone benefits from the upkeep of our church building. By making a pledge over a two- to three-year period, families will be able to give over a period of time far more than they would if they chose a one-time gift. Please prayerfully consider how you can join in reaching our goal!

Christmas Craft Fair

Centereach Fire Department (9 S. Washington Ave) is sponsoring an Indoor Christmas Craft Fair on Black Friday Weekend, 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Free Admission.

Rest in Peace

Kathleen Merle, Marie Dunne

Faith Direct

Faith Direct today is a great way to offer your gifts of treasure to our parish family in a timely and convenient fashion. Those using eGiving through *Faith Direct* agree that it is an easy and convenient way to offer their weekly offering to the parish. eGiving through *Faith Direct* also helps our parish reduce our postal expenses. To participate, go online to www.faithdirect.net and use our parish code (NY563) or pick up an enrollment form from the parish office and mail the form to *Faith Direct*. Remember, it doesn't matter how large or small your donation might be. eGiving through *Faith Direct* is accessible to all. As always, I would not ask you to consider something which I myself do not do. I personally use *Faith Direct* for my weekly offering because it's safe and helps me remain consistent in my support of the parish.



Bringing Home the Word **+**

A lectionary-based, electronically delivered resource for individuals,

families and parish groups. Readings for Sunday and the week following are listed, as well as helpful articles, faith-filled family reflection activities, and various prayers. Offered as a resource to help our parish family grow in faith, BHTW is on our parish website www.abvmcentereach.com. Check it out and tell us what you think.

CDA Raffle Winners

- November 13th — #007 — Ed Giarrusso
- November 14th — #363 — Patricia Dolan
- November 15th — #240 — Nick Petroccione
- November 16th — #298 — Anna Nugent
- November 17th — #030 — Emma Rivers

Cast Call!

Creative Ministries' *Journey, Cross and Crucifixion* production of the Stations of the Cross is looking for new troupe members. To learn more, call or email Barbara at journey@cmpac.com or 631-317-9415.

Thanksgiving Day Mass

On Thanksgiving day, our parish will celebrate one mass at 9:00 a.m. Let's come together as a parish family before heading out to other family celebrations. There will be an opportunity to share refreshments in the Parish Center immediately after Mass, compliments of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

