



# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**January 12, 2025**

**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



**Mass Intentions  
for the week**

**Sunday, January 12**

9:30 a.m. — Grace Colonico (Maureen Reilly)  
 Eileen Pacula (Eileen Dorriam & Timothy Meyers)  
 11:30 a.m.— Catherine T. Florio (Edward & Kathy Gutleber)  
 People of the Parish

**Monday, January 13**

9:00 a.m.— Mark Ballew (Jan Tassie)

**Tuesday, January 14**

9:00 a.m.— Theresa Gargiulo (Sharon Safran)

**Wednesday, January 15**

9:00 a.m.— Living & Deceased Members of Romeo & Wolz Family

**Thursday, January 16**

9:00 a.m.—

**Saturday, January 18**

5:30 p.m.— Joanne Douglass (Jack McCarthy)  
 Joseph A. Nemia (Briggs Family)

**Sunday, January 19**

9:30 a.m.— Richard Spindler (Ferrara Family)  
 Dr. Elisa Valisno, Frank Valisno & Gloria Roque (Aida, Tonypet & Arnold)  
 11:30 a.m.— Gaspare Carollo (Donna LeGall)  
 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](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 McMahan 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.

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

**Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary**

**Christmas Collection : \$27,485**

**Last Week’s Collection: \$9,229**  
 (includes Faith Direct)

**Last Year’s Collection: \$8,282**

**Thank You!**

Rest  
 in  
 Peace



Bridget Glynn  
 Caroline June Cofferrata

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

January 12, 2025

## The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 | Acts 10:34-38 | Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

### **GROW AS A DISCIPLE** | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

In many renditions of the Baptism of Jesus, artists connect the scene at the Jordan River with Jesus' death. A withered tree, for example, reminds us of the cross, or a mountain points to Mount Calvary. These connections show a real relationship between Jesus' baptism and his passion: his baptism marks the acceptance and beginning of his mission, which would ultimately lead to his crucifixion. For us, too, baptism is a decisive moment which destines us for – you guessed it – death! Not physical death (which will happen regardless), but a death to everything that is not of God. By making us part of God's family as his adopted children, our baptism summons us to “die” to our old life of sin and take on new life in Christ. This means turning away each day from sin so we can become increasingly fit to spend eternity with God. Like Jesus who rose both from the baptismal waters and from the tomb, we are meant, by our daily efforts to be faithful – to “rise” with him in the new life he won for us.

### **GO** EVANGELIZE

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

After Jesus is baptized, two important events occur immediately: the Holy Spirit descends upon him while God the Father proclaims his delight in his Son: “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” Here we see the profound meaning of our own baptism and its effects. In addition to cleansing us from the stain of original sin, baptism: 1) gives us the gift of the Holy Spirit; and 2) welcomes us into God's family as his adopted children. Armed with the Holy Spirit and the assurance of God's fatherly care, we are equipped to engage in the daily struggle of dying-and-rising in Christ. We can always call on the Holy Spirit for strength when we face temptations or difficult decisions. Likewise, when we are discouraged or we confront our own weaknesses, we can look to the Father for help. Recall the words which the Father spoke to Jesus, and which he says to us in our baptism (and he doesn't take them back!): *You are my beloved son. You are my beloved daughter. With you I am well pleased.*

### **CELEBRATE**

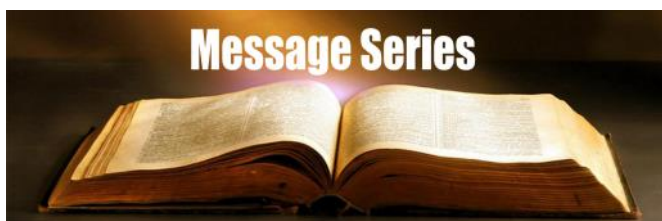
Find the date (or approximate date) of your baptism and the baptismal dates of your immediate family members. Make a list of the dates and spend time thanking God for his fatherly care for you. Then, when someone's baptismal anniversary comes around, make sure to celebrate!





In the reading from Isaiah, the Lord describes his servant with whom he has pleased. The servant will go through pain, will be bruised but will not break. He instead will be a light to the nations.

Like the servant described in Isaiah, we will go through pain and suffering at times. But if we can continue through the pain, God can use us as a light to others.



At Assumption, we preach in message series. Over several weeks, we will examine a topic in depth. We select a topic based on the weekend's scripture readings.

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 Groups** are where our large church gets small. Groups are 6-10 people who meet usually once a week for 90 minutes 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; Assumption small groups are open to accept more people anytime

during the year to help your faith journey. If you would like to join a small group, you can sign up by stopping by the Welcome Desk on Sunday or email us at [rectory@abvmcentereach.com](mailto:rectory@abvmcentereach.com) or contact the leaders who are listed below.

Testimonies: "I feel like I am part of something again." "I am glad to have found this." "We are friends in faith."

Nick Gigante 516-659-4010, Dan Callahan 631-681-2559 Andres & Sandra (Spanish) 631-704-4606

**Daily Practice** is a daily devotional that is sent in an email weekly. It is a Scripture passage, and a reflection, for each day of the week. If you would like to subscribe to it, please sign up with an email. Please leave your name and email at the Welcome Desk or contact the Office at [rectory@abvmcentereach.com](mailto:rectory@abvmcentereach.com)





THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

ADO REMUS EUCHARISTIC ADORATION WITH CONTEMPORARY AND TRADITIONAL MUSIC Friday, January 17, 2025 7:30 - 8:30 PM in person & LIVE Stream PRAISE AND WORSHIP \* SILENT ADORATION \* BENEDICTION



ASSUMPTION FAITH FORMATION CLASSES RESUME ON MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2025 after Christmas and New Year Recess



TRANSFORM YOUR MARRIAGE Learn to communicate more effectively... STRENGTHEN YOUR COMMITMENT Rediscover the joy, love, and faith that form the foundation of your strong marriage. Visit wwme.org to learn more information.

Tuesday's @ 2pm — 3:15pm

January 28th - to March 25th

St. Joseph R.C. Church

45 Church Street, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

For more information Call Michele Nappi, at 631 588-8456 or email michele@stjoronk.org.

### 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:** Toilet Paper, Tissues, Household Cleaner, Bar Soap, Liquid Hand Soap, Toothbrushes, Cooking Oil, Mustard, Salad Dressing Coffee, Fruit Juice, Snacks, Canned Pasta, Canned Chili, Jelly, Canned Cat Food.



# “FILLED WITH THE FULLNESS OF GOD!” EPHESIANS 3:19

ASSUMPTION LENTEN PARISH MISSION  
COMING ON APRIL 6-8, 2025

...HIS LOVE, HIS HEART, AND THE FULLNESS OF LIFE THAT  
YOUR HEART IS LONGING FOR.

## SPROUTS

Children's Liturgy of the Word

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 more information contact the Faith Formation Office.



Coffee  
*in the*  
Courtyard

in the Parish Center Hall

Coffee  
Conversations  
Community

After  
9:30 AM  
& 11:30 AM  
Masses



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



Sunday, Jan 12, 2025

**Make no small plans**

Let's focus on what it means to be the *beloved* of God. God would do anything for you. The nearest crucifix underscores what God means by "anything." When such immense love comes into your life, you want to respond in a big way, too. Baptism readies us for the task. Just what happens in Baptism? Saint John Chrysostom says, God sends "the grace of the Spirit," and then "brings us forth with much brightness, renewed, and made afresh, to rival the beams of the sun." Take a moment to consider what you will do with the gift of your radiant new life.

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22 (21).

*"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."*

Monday, Jan 13, 2025

**Mystery solved**

This month the liturgy draws extensively from the Letter to the Hebrews, which biblical commentators have called the "most elegant and sophisticated, and perhaps the most enigmatic, text of first-century Christianity." In early centuries it was attributed to Saint Paul, but the language and theology are very unlike Paul's letters. After discussing the possibilities, Origen (185-254), the first great biblical scholar, remarked: "But who wrote the epistle, in truth, God knows." That is true of all the mysteries of our faith. But as Hebrews reminds us, "In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways through the prophets," and now he speaks to us through his Son, "through whom he created the universe." Listen to Jesus, and the mysteries of the universe will be revealed.

Hebrews 1:1-6; Mark 1:14-20 (305). *"The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel."*

Tuesday, Jan 14, 2025

**How to be amazing**

The authority of Jesus comes from the fact that his words and actions are of a piece. People hear the ring of truth in what Jesus says. Indeed, Pope Francis says, "Jesus is the one who brings God to us and us to God." And for these reasons he attracts attention, and people are amazed. If you want to command authority, don't throw your weight around. Rather, speak truthfully, live with integrity, and bring God to others. People will be amazed.

Hebrews 2:5-12; Mark 1:21-28 (306). *"All were amazed and asked one another, 'What is this? A new teaching with authority.'"*

Wednesday, Jan 15, 2025

**What the cross puts into perspective**

The image of the crucified Christ signifies not what he can do for us, but what he actually *did* for us. His willingness to enter into our suffering reveals that God's love is always present. Reflect on the immense suffering Christ bore across time and across the world. As Saint Rose of Lima observed, "No one would complain about his cross or about troubles that may happen to him, if he would come to know the scales on which they are weighed." Pray for relief for your own suffering and, in turn, extend mercy to others so that they may experience Christ's compassion through you.

Hebrews 2:14-18; Mark 1:29-39 (307). *"He is able to help those who are being tested."*

Thursday, Jan 16, 2025

**Daily affirmations**

Pope John XXII advised Christians: "Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams." In other words, instead of dwelling on how bad things are or could become—whether it is worries about money, family, health issues, your job, or the state of the world—there is something you can depend on: Today is a new day filled with the promise of God's salvation. Take a moment each day to ponder your dreams and embrace the hope Christ brings.

Hebrews 3:7-14; Mark 1:40-45 (308). *"Encourage yourselves daily while it is still 'today.'"*

Friday, Jan 17, 2025

**Faith lives through community**

"Christianity means community through Jesus Christ and in Jesus Christ," said theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer. "No Christian community is more or less than this." Indeed, it is impossible to be Christian alone. Ours is a relational faith. Even when just one baby is being baptized or one class of second-graders receives the Eucharist for the first time, the words, gestures, and intentions of the sacrament benefit the entire church. Jesus did not write a book; he formed a community. Advance that community by actively participating in your parish and opening the door to others.


Hebrews 4:1-5, 11; Mark 2:1-12 (309). *"They came bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men."*

Saturday, Jan 18, 2025

**Step out of the shadows**

We now understand that the source of much of our negative behavior lies buried in past events and hidden impulses. The downside of this awareness, however, has been a greater difficulty taking personal responsibility for our actions. Yet, the act of confessing our sins—acknowledging when we've turned from God—is life-giving and draws us out of the shadows of our transgressions. As Saint Augustine said, "You do the truth and come to the light." Keep that light on with a regular examination of conscience.

Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 2:13-17 (310). *"I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."*



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 [abvmcentreach.formed.org](http://abvmcentreach.formed.org). Our parish code is P8DGQ8

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

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