



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

January 26, 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

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



Sunday, January 26

9:30 a.m. — Antonio Valisno Jr. (Aida, Tonypet & Arnold)
 Catherine Mary Wallace (Nick & Patti Campanelli)
 11:30 a.m.— Salvador Isaac (Harry & Luz Gaviola)
 People of the Parish

Monday, January 27

9:00 a.m.— Frank Manna (Elizabeth Leverock)

Tuesday, January 28

9:00 a.m.—

Wednesday, January 29

9:00 a.m.—

Thursday, January 30

9:00 a.m.—

Saturday, February 1

5:30 p.m.— William Kacinski (The Holy Name Society)

Sunday, February 2

9:30 a.m.— Fr. Chris Aridas
 Thanksgiving Mass for CDA Ct. St. Gerard #1920
 11:30 a.m.— Frank Manna (Ed Uy & Family)
 People of the Parish

*Whoever is begotten by God
 conquers the world,
 and the victory that conquers the world
 is our faith. 1John 5:4*

STEWARDSHIP
 GIVING to our parish as an act of worship

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary

Last Week's Collection: \$10,021
(includes Faith Direct)

Last Year's Collection: \$9,771

Thank You!

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.

Rest
in
Peace

Deceased Brothers & Sisters of Our Parish

“
The Spirit
of the Lord
is upon me,
because he has
anointed me.

”

(Lk 4:18)



January 26, 2025

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 | 1 Cor 12:12-30 | Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Late 19th-century English author G.K. Chesterton famously wrote, “Catholic doctrine and discipline may be walls, but they are the walls of a playground.” We can think of God’s commandments serving as rules governing primary school recess: by providing us with a structure in which we can explore, play, stumble, and get up again, they allow us to discover who God created us to be without wandering far from his love. The mosaic law that served the Jews in today’s first reading had given them the necessary parameters to live and grow within the covenantal relationship they had with God. Their unfaithfulness had led them astray, but upon their return from exile in Babylon they wept when hearing God’s word for the first time in generations. They knew the power of God’s commandments to keep them safe and secure in his love, and recognized all they had lost by wandering. Their sorrow was turned to joy in the knowledge that God rejoiced in their return to him.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Just as Ezra “opened the scroll so that all the people might see it” in today’s first reading, Jesus also “unrolled the scroll” and then rolled it back up so that all might see *him*. Ezra held the law in his hands, Jesus is the fulfillment of the law in himself. Jesus’ words in today’s Gospel, “Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing,” were an infusion of new life breathed into a new creation by God who is outside of time. All things, all mistakes, all failures brought about in our human pride and disobedience were being refashioned into new brick and mortar to build God’s kingdom in and through Christ. Jesus, with his commandment to love one another as he loves us, gives us structure and a true freedom to discover who God created us to be, while helping us not wander far from this playground the Lord has given us. Knowing what holds us together, and relying on it to guide us, enables us to help build the kingdom even more for the glory of God and the good of others.

LEARN

Research a Catholic teaching you do not fully understand for example, why Catholics attend Mass on Sundays. Ask God for the light to see how this teaching is life-giving instead of life-limiting. If you have the opportunity, share what you’ve learned with someone.



Week Four – The joy of the Lord is our strength Scripture: Nehemiah 8

One of the ways we grow our faith in unexpected crises is by growing our faith in ordinary times first: daily quiet time, listening to him in Scripture and speaking to him in prayer, Weekly worship of God at Mass. It's like a deposit in your bank account, it's a deposit in the relationship account you have with God. We increase our understanding of God and who he is. Through such an investment, the joy of the Lord really can become our strength. That's going to equip us for whatever might be ahead.



Message Series

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

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 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





“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.



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.

SPROUTS

Children's Ministry for
ages four to fifth grade on
Sundays during 9:30 AM Mass

Men's Weekend Retreat



February 28 @ 4:00 pm - March 2 @ 11:00 am

Cormaria Retreat Center, 77 Bay Street, Sag Harbor, NY 11963
Offering - Meals included \$275.00

God's Incredible, Tender Forgiveness.

Embraced by a loving, vulnerable God,
promising to be with us always.

To Register: 631-725-4206 or Email info@cormaria.org



TRANSFORM YOUR MARRIAGE

Learn to communicate more effectively,
rekindle romance, and deepen your
emotional intimacy.



*"This is an experience like
no other - a chance to
grow in your relationship
through the grace of
faith."*



STRENGTHEN YOUR COMMITMENT

Rediscover the joy, love, and faith that form
the foundation of your strong marriage.



Visit wwme.org to learn more information.

Next Experience on Long Island February 7-9, 2025

Seminary of the Immaculate Conception Lloyd Harbor, NY

Apply at: wwme.org

For more information call Kevin & Regina Hickson at (516) 554-3835

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: Shampoo, Liquid Hand Soap, Cooking Oil, Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Mustard, Salad Dressing, Coffee, Tea, Canned Chili, Canned Pasta, Jelly.



Parish Social Ministry Annual Report 2024

This is a summary of the assistance we were able to provide our clients in 2024. Our Program was able to do this thanks to the continued generosity of our parishioners who donated money, gift cards and food. We are especially blessed with a dedicated group of volunteers under the leadership of Joe Galdi our Parish Social Ministry 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 2024.

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
529	18	515	1170	150	1835

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
\$450	\$952	\$759	\$7810	\$9971



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 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 26, 2025**Hidden lives cast a shadow**

Humans are afflicted with the desire to make lists, categorize, arrange according to significance, and especially to assign importance among people. But we never see the whole picture, so how can we know who is more important, or which ability or action has the greatest potential for good?

In *Middlemarch* George Eliot reminds us: "For the growing good of the world is partly dependent upon un-historic acts, and that things are not so ill with you and me as they might have been is half owing to the number who lived faithfully a hidden life and rest in unvisited tombs." Remember, we are all part of the Body of Christ; we are all necessary and important.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Corinthians 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27; Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21 (69). *"Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work mighty deeds?"*

Monday, Jan 27, 2025**Remember for humanity's sake**

At the Wannsee Conference in January 1942, senior Nazi officials met to coordinate the implementation of the "Final Solution to the Jewish Question." No longer interested in driving Jews out of Germany, the Nazis embarked on a more efficient campaign: systematic extermination of those they deemed "undesirable" and "enemies of the state." In addition to the estimated 6 million Jews murdered, millions of others—political dissidents, Poles, Romani people, individuals with disabilities, gays, Jehovah's Witnesses, Catholics, and people of African descent—were also targeted. For any devoid of humanity, this plan could be seen as a success. For the rest of us, it stands as one of the darkest moments in human history, when evil reigned. On International Holocaust Remembrance Day, remember the horror of the final solution, for, as Pope Francis says, "Remembering is a condition for a better future of peace and fraternity."

Hebrews 9:15, 24-28; Mark 3:22-30 (317). *"Whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never have forgiveness."*

Tuesday, Jan 28, 2025**Questions, please**

Faith is not simply unquestioned belief; rather, it often inspires us to ask questions. As Saint Anselm, an 11th-century theologian and doctor of the church, said, "Faith seeks understanding." This desire to both believe and understand is a constant throughout our spiritual journey. We read, pray, and engage in discussions, hoping the mysteries of our faith, the universe, and our own lives will be revealed. When it comes to differing opinions, Saint Thomas Aquinas reminds us, "We must love them both, those whose opinions we share and those whose opinions we reject, for both have labored in the search for truth, and both have helped us find it." So, keep asking your questions; it is an essential part of a vibrant and healthy faith life.

MEMORIAL OF THOMAS AQUINAS, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Hebrews 10:1-10; Mark 3:31-35 (318). *"The law has only a shadow of the good things to come."*

Wednesday, Jan 29, 2025**Provide a strong foundation**

During Catholic Schools Week we remember and are thankful for the fact that the tradition of Catholic schools remains the same: "A Catholic education is an education for life." A Catholic education, whether on Sundays or five days a week, provides the foundation and the tools young people need to grow into faithful followers of Christ. The patron saint of teachers, John Baptist de la Salle, put it best: "Enter to learn, leave to serve." Support your local Catholic schools!

Hebrews 10:11-18; Mark 4:1-20 (319). *"Those sown on rich soil . . . bear fruit thirty and sixty and a hundredfold."*

Thursday, Jan 30, 2025**All for the good**

Catholic Schools Week is the perfect time to reflect on what we can learn from our Catholic schoolchildren. One young student wrote in a religion class report, "If you do good things, you will have good experiences. If you do bad things, you will have bad experiences." This simple yet profound understanding of virtuous living echoes Jesus' teaching in the gospel: "The measure you give will be the measure you get." If we want the young people in our lives to lead lives of love and good works, we do well to model those actions ourselves.

Hebrews 10:19-25; Mark 4:21-25 (320). *"We must consider how to rouse one another to love and good works."*

Friday, Jan 31, 2025**Share and share alike**

Christians commonly suffered the confiscation of their property during the persecutions of the early church, and church property has been confiscated by hostile governments ever since. Perhaps that is why the Catholic Church defends the right to private property. Yet the church also says that this right is not absolute; it is limited by the concept of the "social mortgage," our mutual obligations to one another and to a just distribution of wealth. You can read about church teaching on property and other social issues in the first "social encyclical," *Rerum novarum* ("On the Condition of Labor"), written by Pope Leo XIII and issued in 1891 (www.vatican.va).

Hebrews 10:32-39; Mark 4:26-34 (321). *"You . . . joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, knowing that you had a better and lasting possession."*

Saturday, Feb 01, 2025**A holy roll call**

In 1941 author James Agee and photographer Walker Evans published *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men*, a book chronicling the lives of Alabama sharecropper families in the 1930s. The title came from the first verse of chapter 44 in the Book of Sirach: "Let us now sing the praises of famous men, our ancestors in their generations"—ironic, because the book was about people who were distinctly un-famous. The Sirach passage introduces a recognizable form of biblical literature, the listing of people who were models of faith and virtue. Parents, teachers, coaches, bosses, maybe even a great-grandmother whose stern photo on the wall sees you out the door each day—each of us has a holy roll call of spiritual ancestors whose lives have guided us.

Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19; Mark 4:35-41 (322). *"Through Isaac descendants shall bear your name."*

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

