



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

February 2, 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, 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

Monday, February 3

9:00 a.m.—

Tuesday, February 4

9:00 a.m.— Living & Deceased Members of Rosary
 Altar Society

Wednesday, February 5

9:00 a.m.— Janice Walsh (Jerry & Michele Randall)

Thursday, February 6

9:00 a.m.—

Saturday, February 8

5:30 p.m.— William Kacinski (Sal Stingo)

Sunday, February 9

9:30 a.m.— Laura A. Scattareggia (Kelly McCoy)
 Verius Paul (children)
 11:30 a.m.— James Aliffi (Maria Aliffi)
 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: \$9,630
 (includes Faith Direct)
 Last Year's Collection: \$9,434
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 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, or phone 631 588 3423.

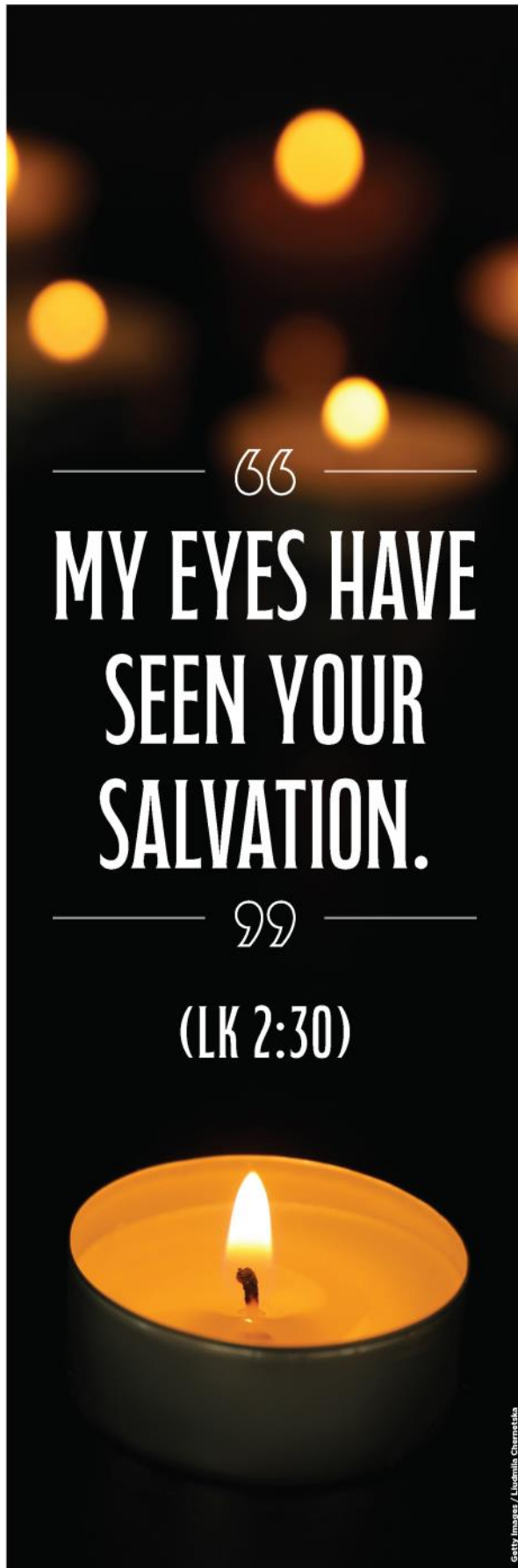
Holy Name Society

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		Catherine J. Secari Patrick Joseph Hughes Catherine M. Burfeind Geraldine L. Tracy
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February 2, 2025

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Mal 3:1-4 | Heb 2:14-18 | Lk 2:22-40

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

Mary and Joseph bring their 40-day-old infant Jesus to the temple in order to fulfill the Mosaic law. There, they are met by Simeon and Anna, the faithful prophets who have spent their lives waiting for the coming of the King of Glory. These many years of waiting were like the “refiner’s fire” which the prophet Malachi describes in the first reading. Refined like gold by prayer and fasting, Simeon and Anna are prepared to meet their Lord. And in this moment, the Old and New Testaments meet and the fulfillment of the Old is foreseen. Imagine the splendor of the moment when they finally laid their eyes on this king of light and glory – the culmination of a lifetime of hope, prayer, and preparation. Overcome with peace and joy at seeing his Lord, Simeon declares, “Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace,” for he had seen the glory of God.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Have you ever marveled at the beauty of a shiny, gold ring? Gold has long been regarded as one of earth’s greatest treasures, yet the gold we admire today doesn’t emerge in its pure, radiant form. To produce such beauty, gold must first undergo a process of intense refinement. A crude material is exposed to extreme heat to be melted and purified – until something of profound value emerges. Like gold, we, too, must be forged in fire to be made pure and holy. This is one way we can understand the prophet Malachi’s words. The “fires” we experience in our lives are not without purpose – God is purifying us so that one day we may live with him in eternity. He isn’t afraid of our “crude material”; rather, he gazes upon us with such intense love that our own beauty is revealed. As we undergo personal purification, let us stand in holy confidence like Simeon and Anna, witnessing to the truth that it is through the refiner’s fire that we are brought to glory.

REFLECT

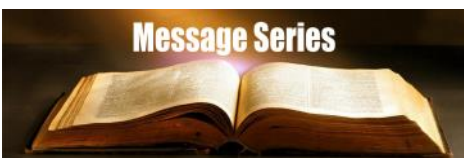
We can become discouraged, feeling that our prayers are unanswered or that a life devoted to Christ is too difficult. When these moments arise, consider the prophets Simeon and Anna, who gave their lives in quiet devotion, trusting in God’s promises. Pray Simeon’s canticle, meditating on the glorious gift we have been given in our salvation, and the promise that even in the darkest of days a bright and shining light awaits us.



Week Five Scripture - Luke 4:21-30 Nativity Story:

In the Gospel Jesus courageously preaches to the people of Nazareth. Rather than being accepted, Jesus is rejected. The people murmur against him because they know him. Jesus responds by saying, “A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown.” He references two stories from the Old Testament – the widow of Zarephath and Naaman.

Rejection is part of life. God often uses rejection in one area to launch us into a new endeavor. We simply need to have the courage and faith to believe that God is bringing us to a better place



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 or contact the leaders who are listed below.

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.


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





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



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.


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: Paper Towels, Shampoo, Liquid Hand Soap, Household Cleaner, Cooking Oil, Mayonnaise, Mustard, Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Canned Fruit, Canned Chili, Jelly.



We begin a new message series called “Moving Forward,” about the importance of community, and how as a community we can move forward in our relationship with Christ through our connections with one another.



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 abvmcentereach.formed.org. Our parish code is P8DGQ8



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, Feb 02, 2025**Get ready to fulfill your destiny**

The information in scripture on Jesus' childhood is a bit sketchy. At the end of the story of the presentation of the infant Jesus in the temple, we learn that Jesus "grew and became strong, filled with wisdom." When we next hear of him, Jesus is 12 years old, discussing Jewish teachings at the temple, and "astounding" those who hear him. Quite a bit of growth and development obviously transpired in the intervening years! Mary and Joseph are the unsung heroes here, for having nurtured and raised Jesus in such a way that he was ready to fulfill his destiny. How can you continue to grow and develop in *your* faith?

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40 (524). *"The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him."*

Monday, Feb 03, 2025**Roll back the stone**

Saint Pope John Paul II used the phrase the "culture of death" to describe society's willingness to undermine the value of human life at every turn. Abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, war, torture, discrimination, exploitative practices in research, and economic injustice are just a few of the many ways we devalue the image of God inherent in each person. Rather than seeking peaceful, life-affirming solutions, living "among the tombs" allows us to embrace violent and inhumane options more readily. Take steps in your own life to roll back the tombstone of indifference and promote life among the living.

Hebrews 11:32-40; Mark 5:1-20 (323). *"The man had been dwelling among the tombs, and no one could restrain him any longer, even with a chain."*

Tuesday, Feb 04, 2025**Keep in touch with Jesus**

Jesus' power to heal transcended that of a mere traveling wonder-worker or miracle man. His healing power came from God, and those who were afflicted were restored not just by his divine ability, but through their faith in him as the Son of God. His miracles reveal both his divinity and his humanity, as they often involved a personal, compassionate touch. Healing, like suffering, takes many forms—physical, emotional, and spiritual—and Jesus addresses each with care. In times of need, do not hesitate to turn to him in faith. He will hear you and, with wisdom, offer you the healing touch you seek.

Hebrews 12:1-4; Mark 5:21-43 (324). *"Do not be afraid; just have faith."*

Wednesday, Feb 05, 2025**Don't get stuck in a rut**

In the gospel, we often see Jesus amazed by the faith of others, crediting their belief as the key to their healing. But there are also moments when Jesus is "amazed"—perhaps *dismayed* would be the better word—by the lack of faith in those around Him. Narrow thinking, rigid routines, stereotypes, and negative assumptions can all block the miracles of God's love. To experience the fullness of God's power, keep your faith alive and open a path for the Lord to perform mighty deeds.

Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15; Mark 6:1-6 (325). *"He was amazed at their lack of faith."*

Thursday, Feb 06, 2025**Unchanging demands and promises**

Paul Miki (1562-97) was born into a wealthy Catholic family and received his education from the Jesuits. He grew to be deeply immersed in his own culture, with a profound understanding of Buddhism. After joining the Society of Jesus, he became an effective and compassionate preacher to the Japanese people. Despite the expulsion of his fellow Jesuits from Japan, Paul Miki chose to remain and continued his mission. Ultimately, he was crucified alongside 25 others in Nagasaki. For each generation of Christians, the core demands of faith and the promises of Christ remain unchanged: to love God and one another, and through this love, to experience eternal life.

MEMORIAL OF PAUL MIKI, MARTYR, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

Hebrews 12:18-19, 21-24; Mark 6:7-13 (326). *"Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave from there."*

Friday, Feb 07, 2025**Love is an open door**

When Jesus began his public ministry, only a select few knew who he truly was. Some believed him to be Elijah or another prophet, while King Herod and others believed he was John the Baptist returned from the dead. Regardless, it was clear that Jesus was quickly gaining recognition as a healer and holy man. For our part, we would do well to heed the wisdom found in the Letter to the Hebrews: "Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels." Welcome the stranger with love and you may find you've opened the door to the divine.

Hebrews 13:1-8; Mark 6:14-29 (327). *"Let brotherly love continue."*

Saturday, Feb 08, 2025**A prayer before you go**

Almost every Saturday of the year, we're invited to reflect on the example of Mary, the Mother of the Church, whose life reveals the essence of true discipleship. Her Magnificat is not just a model prayer and hymn of praise, but it lays the foundation for what all who follow Christ are called to do. As seventh-century monk Saint John Climacus wrote in his spiritual classic *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*, "Prayer is the work of angels, and is the nourishment of everything spiritual." Embrace every opportunity to lift your heart in prayer and gain strength to carry out the Lord's work here on Earth.

MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Hebrews 13:15-17, 20-21; Mark 6:30-34 (328). *"Through Jesus, let us continually offer God a sacrifice of praise."*

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



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