



# ASSUMPTION

## of the Blessed Virgin Mary

A welcoming community sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through faith, prayer and the sacraments.



December 13, 2020

### **We celebrate EUCHARIST**

Saturdays: 5:30 PM  
Sundays: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM  
Weekdays: 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.

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

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

### **Miraculous Medal Novena**

Wednesdays following the 9:00 AM Mass.

### **Communion for the Sick or Shut-ins**

Contact the rectory during regular office hours.

### **Parish Social Ministry (Outreach)**

Office hours, Monday to Friday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.  
Food pantry available. Will also try to help with referrals and advocacy. Call for appointment, 631-585-8760 x101.

### **RCIA**

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

### **Faith Formation**

Works with parents to share faith with our youngest members, grades 1-8. Contact the office for details at 631-588-6408.

### **Youth Ministry**

- High School Ministry (AYM), Wednesdays: 7:30 - 9:00 PM
- Middle School Ministry (MSM), Thursdays, 7:00 - 8:45 PM

For further information, contact Renata 631-585-8760

### **Music Ministry**

Our parish's Music Ministry seeks to lead and support our parish family in full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy. For further information call Rob at 516-523-1668.

20 Chestnut Street, Centereach, NY 11720 631-585-8760 [www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com)

Rev. Joseph Alenchery, Pastor  
Rev. Chris Aridas, Retired 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



**Sunday, December 13th**

7:30 a.m. — Maria Christina Caccavello (Luigi & Rita)  
 9:30 a.m. — Peter & Marjorie Gochan  
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

**Monday, December 14th**

9:00 a.m. — Alonzo Werner (Family)

**Tuesday, December 15th**

9:00 a.m. — Ralph Cirone (Family)

**Wednesday, December 16th**

9:00 a.m. — Intention of Nancy Keenan (Ed Uy & Family)

**Thursday, December 17th**

9:00 a.m. — Anna Joseph Alenchery (Pat Rivers)

**Friday, December 18th**

9:00 a.m. — Joanne Ruf

**Saturday, December 19th**

5:30 p.m. — Joseph Vetrovec (Riggs Family)

**Sunday, December 20th**

7:30 a.m. — Maria & Inacio DeSousa (Family)  
 9:30 a.m. — Stanley Mosior (Family)  
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish



Rest in Peace		Veronica Renne James Patrick Kelly Antoine Jean-Baptiste
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**Time, Talent & Treasure**  
 Fostering Stewardship  
 as a Way of Life

**Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary**  
 (Regular Sunday Offering)

**Last Week's Collection \$11,687**  
 (includes *Faith Direct*)

**Last Year's Collection \$9,808**  
*Thank You!*

**Faith Formation**

The ministry of the Word is a fundamental element of evangelization through all its stages, because it involves the proclamation of Jesus Christ, the eternal Word of God

**Faith Formation Office Hours**

Regular Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m; Friday - Closed; Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to 11 a.m.

**Middle School Ministry (MSM)**

Middle School Ministry is on Thursday nights from 7:00 PM to 8:45 PM. All Middle Schoolers (6<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup>) are welcome.



**Assumption Youth Ministry (AYM)**

Assumption Youth Ministry welcomes all high Schoolers (9th thru 12th) on Wednesday nights from 7:30-9:00 PM. We gather in the Parish Center Hall. Bring your friends with you.



**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 Alexandria McMahon at tacjs43@aol.com.

**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. Contact the rectory for meeting dates and times.

**Scouting (Cub Scout, Boy Scouts)**

Contact Chantal Mears at Chantalmears@yahoo.com or 631-438-2468 or visit www.bsa356.com for more details..

**Good News Reflection****Testifying to the Light**

This Sunday's Gospel reading tells us that John the Baptist came to "testify to the light." What does this mean?

We know that Jesus is the Light of Truth that shines in the darkness to draw us to eternal life. And we know that his Spirit enlightens us in the truth so that we can be saved from the destructive forces of our sins and follow our Savior to heaven. But what was the testimony given by John? How did he testify to the light? And how does this affect our lives today?

John's testimony was: "I am not the Christ. I am a voice. A voice in the wilderness. A voice in the desert." And his testimony brings us to the Light of Christ by challenging us with: "Where is your life arid and dry? Listen! Christ is coming to meet you there! Make a bee-line to him! Stop wandering around! Repent, change, do whatever is necessary to look for Jesus so that you can find him. He is coming to you!"



We've all experienced times when Jesus seems distant, unavailable, not present to us when we need him. What has opened your eyes to his presence? Whose voice has turned you back to God? It's time to do the same for others, to bring glad tidings to the poor (as it says in the reading from Isaiah), to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to those who are held captive in their sins, and to announce how to be blessed by a close friendship with the Lord.

We all have the same testimony and the same calling as John had: We are all supposed to be voices crying out loud enough to be heard above the din of the world. Many souls are lost in the wilderness of confusion, hopelessness, pain, heartache, and despair, not to mention sinfulness. Can we rightfully ignore their needs? Is it loving to be so quiet that they cannot hear the truth? Certainly not! Someday we will have to explain to Jesus why we ignored our baptismal calling to be the voice that could have helped others find him.

What kind of a voice do you have? Because we have Christ within us, our very lives are the voice. How we handle trials, revealing our faith in Jesus, is a voice that's audible to those who are lost in the wilderness. The more peace we have and the more love that we give, the louder is our cry.

Even if our vocal chords do not utter a single word, the way we live in the light is how we speak the truth of the light. The better we live the truth, the louder and clearer is our message.

What people choose to do with our message is up to them, but it's up to us to speak it so that they're given that choice.

**Questions for Personal Reflection:**

How has your life been changed by your faith in Jesus? What evil has been conquered, what darkness has been overcome? This is your testimony! Write a couple of pages about it to become more familiar with it. This will prepare you so that you can explain it to others when they ask you why you have faith..

**Questions for Community Faith Sharing:**

How has the Spirit of the Lord anointed you? What gifts do you have that enable you to give to the poor (i.e., the financially poor or the emotionally starving or the spiritually hungry) or to heal the brokenhearted? How has God used you to provide liberty to captives and release to prisoners? How are these a testimony that teach others about Jesus?

## ***Outreach Needs for Christmas***

### **Gift Cards for Christmas:**

With Christmas just around the corner, we're getting ready to prepare Christmas baskets for our Outreach clients. Gift cards to local stores such as **Walmart and Target** are very helpful in providing those in need with the ability to purchase gifts for their children. In addition, the cards can also be used to provide a great Christmas dinner for our clients by allowing them the dignity to choose their favorite holiday foods. If you choose to donate gift cards, either place them in the collection basket or deliver them to the Parish Office.



# **Christmas Masses**



### **CHRISTMAS EVE:**

**3:30 pm** [Church and Parish Center]

**5:30 pm** [Church]

**Midnight** [Church]

### **CHRISTMAS DAY:**

**9:30 am** [Church]

**11:30 am** [Church and Parish Center]

***Reservation is Required***

Please use Parish website  
[www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com)

or

Call the office at  
631-585-8760

Christmas is coming, and the celebration is going to be different than any other year. Still, we are preparing ourselves to do it safely and healthily, taking into account the state and county mandates. We will have all the masses usually have on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Christmas Eve at 3:30 PM, 5:30 PM, and Midnight. Christmas day 9:30 and 11:30 AM. For this year, we are adding a 3:30 Mass in the Parish Center on Christmas Eve and an 11:30 AM mass on Christmas Day. Because we are allowed only about 50% of our capacity, all the Masses in the Church building will have a Reservation System online and by telephone. Please go to our parish website [www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com) and reserve your seats for the Mass you plan to attend. I ask everyone's cooperation in this matter for a safe and healthy celebration of the birth of Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as a parish family. **Masses at 3:30 PM on Christmas Eve and 9:30 AM on Christmas Day will be live-streamed. Also, we will rebroadcast Mass every two hours on Christmas Eve after the 3:30 PM Mass.**



Third Sunday of Advent: Hope requires waiting. Hope is waiting for God to deliver what he is going to give us. In this week we will look at how to wait patiently and with joy wait for what God wants to give us.

We can wait joyfully for God to give us what we hope for.

Recognize that we can still have hope while we are waiting.



**Important information via E-Mail**

We are in the process of updating our contact list with updated email addresses. During this time of uncertainty, email is the best way to keep in touch with everyone as a parish family. So I like to ask everyone to update their email address so important information could be sent out. You will get one email a week unless we have something essential to convey. Since Christmas is coming, we want to update you with the schedule and other things.

Please use [rectory@abvmcentereach.com](mailto:rectory@abvmcentereach.com) to update or go to our parish website [www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com) and fill the form called "Get in touch with us" located right under the main banner to update your email addresses.

**ADO  REMUS**  
**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
 WITH CONTEMPORARY AND TRADITIONAL MUSIC  
**Friday, December 18, 2020 - 7:30 - 8:30 PM**

**LIVE  Streaming**

[www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com) - facebook: [Assumption BVM](#) - Youtube Channel: [ABVM Centereach](#)

**PRAISE AND WORSHIP \* SILENT ADORATION \* BENEDICTION**

### Parish Social Ministry (Outreach) Program

The Outreach Food Pantry is available for individuals and families that are struggling to stretch their food budget. We can also refer those needing assistance to any program appropriate to their needs. Appointments can be made by calling 631 585-8760 x2. The Outreach Office is open Monday through Friday from 10 AM to 12 PM.

**Pantry Needs: Ketchup, Mustard Mayonnaise, Dishwashing Detergent, Laundry Detergent, Household Cleaner, Deodorant, Liquid Hand Soap, Kleenex and Paper Towels.**



Please prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. You are helping our church be more efficient, and have a steady, predictable cash flow to support the works that are important to you, throughout the year. Signing up is easy! Visit [faith.direct/NY563](http://faith.direct/NY563) or download the **Faith Direct app** and search for the parish with the parish code (NY563). Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!



**Faith Formation Giving Tree** is up in the Lobby and is ready for you to pick an ornament to help a child living at the Lake House Shelter this Christmas. Gifts should be returned to the **Office by 12/18.**

**Please attach the description tag to the gift.**



FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

December 13, 2020

WATCH

#### SAINT TERESA OF ÁVILA: A STUDY IN PERSEVERANCE

Both St. John of the Cross and his dear friend St. Teresa of Ávila lived heroic lives of prayer. In honor of these spiritual masters, enjoy this film depicting the Carmelite way of life and the virtue of perseverance.



Our parish subscribes to a revolutionary online platform which provides the best in Catholic audio talks, movies, e-books, and video-based studies. It is, **free of charge**. Simply type in [abvmcentereach.formed.org](http://abvmcentereach.formed.org) on your browser. Once you have registered you'll have access to all the material on FORMED, again **free of charge**.

You also can install FORMED through an app. Learn more at [app.formed.org](http://app.formed.org). Our parish code is P8DGQ8.