



ASSUMPTION

of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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



January 31, 2021

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

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, January 31st

7:30 a.m. — Peter & Marjorie Gochan (Family)
 9:30 a.m. — Agnes Bares (Diane Melfi)
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

Monday, February 1st

9:00 a.m. — Ann Beechey (Family)

Tuesday, February 2nd

9:00 a.m. — Albert Boehm (Rose Picariello)

Wednesday, February 3rd

9:00 a.m. — Intention of President Trump (Legion of Mary)

Thursday, February 4th

9:00 a.m. — Joseph Nugent (M/M E. Pozzi & Family)

Friday, February 5th

9:00 a.m. — David & Kathleen Worrell (Family)

Saturday, February 6th

5:30 p.m. — Joanne Ruf

Sunday, February 7th

7:30 a.m. — Tiri Paeper (Sonia Crannage)
 9:30 a.m. — Ralph Cirone (Joan & Angus Johnson)
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish



Elizabeth Sarna
 Joseph Donoghue
 Annmarie Ladone
 Sue Mahoney
 Muriel Brandt



Time, Talent & Treasure
 Fostering Stewardship
 as a Way of Life

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary
 (Regular Sunday Offering)

Last Week's Collection \$7,989
 (includes *Faith Direct*)

Last Year's Collection \$10,467
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 (6th thru 8th) 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**The authority of Jesus**

This Sunday's Gospel reading illustrates the authority of Jesus. If we truly accept and understand his authority over our lives, we can rejoice in the Lord even when life hands us hardships.

Why? Because we know that Christ's authority is supreme, which means that everything we've placed under his authority will produce good fruits. Even bad situations will be transformed into blessings. Tragedies will be changed into triumphs. Sorrows will be transfigured into joy. Frustrations will lay the groundwork for new growth, new knowledge, and a greater ability to minister to others.



However, if we reject Christ's authority by acting as if we're the ones in charge, deciding for ourselves how to end a problem or how and when to escape from a hardship, our problems will only get worse. Pope Francis wrote in his Apostolic Exhortation on the Gospel of Joy (*Evangelii Gaudium*, paragraph 64) that this leads to a feeling of disorientation instead of joy. He noted: "We are living in an information-driven society which bombards us indiscriminately with data -- all treated as being of equal

importance -- and which leads to remarkable superficiality in the area of moral discernment. In response, we need to provide an education which teaches critical thinking and encourages the development of mature moral values."

The path to joy has been forged by the footsteps of Jesus. To benefit from his authority over evil and over human sufferings, we have to follow his example and obey his teachings. This means choosing to trust him, realizing that his ways are the best ways even when they're unpleasant ways. It means that we're willing to reach resurrection glory by going through the cross with Jesus.

There are no successful shortcuts to the triumphant victory that awaits us. There is no easy way to overcome evil. If this were not true, Jesus wouldn't have needed to die on a cross.

The good news -- the reason why we can rejoice -- is that the most loving, most powerful, most wise One in the universe is using his supreme authority on our behalf. The question is: Will we submit to it?

Questions for Personal Reflection:

In what ways are you still rejecting Christ's authority by trying to do things your own way? Which Church teachings have you been rejecting because you've decided to live by your own rules? Are you willing to ask the Holy Spirit to change your mind on these matters and teach you the value of Christ's ways?

Questions for Community Faith Sharing:

In what ways do Christians often reject Christ's authority in favor of defining their own rules? Why? What are the apparent risks to living completely under Christ's strict authority? How can we replace these risks with a sense of safety?

Worship with your talent



This is an opportunity to worship with your talent and help the parish community worship better by volunteering to help with live stream cameras and projecting lyrics and scriptures on the screen at Mass on the weekend and on special occasions. Training will be provided. Those who like to work with the camera and/or computer,



please contact Fr. Joseph at jalenchery@abvmcentereach.com

Ash Wednesday

For the past week or so, some parishioners asked me about Ash Wednesday services. We will have the regular schedule for Ash Wednesday that is 7:30 am, Noon (Masses), 4:00 pm (Scripture Service) and, 7:00 pm (Mass). The following is the excerpt from the instructions that the Diocese sent to all the pastors.

The reception of blessed ashes by the Catholic faithful as the hallmark of the beginning of the season of Lent remains very important for us. However, in the pandemic, the imposition of ashes in the usual manner is not possible. It is also to remember that Ash Wednesday is not a Holy Day of Obligation and that one is not obliged to attend Mass, nor is one obliged to receive ashes.

Because of the instruction from the Congregation of Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments in Rome and due to the pandemic's current state, this year, the Diocese of Rockville Centre will administer ashes to the faithful by sprinkling the blessed ashes on the top of the head of the recipient. This is the traditional practice of the Roman Rite and is currently observed in Rome, throughout Europe, and various other parts of the world. This is how Holy Father, Pope Francis, always receives his ashes on Ash Wednesday! This method, rooted in the scriptural tradition, will allow for ashes to be given easily without making physical contact.



Sprinkling ashes on the crown of the head recalls the biblical method of putting on sackcloth and ashes as a sign of penance. Several accounts in the Bible mention people sprinkling or pouring ashes over their heads (for example, Numbers 19:17, Jonah 3:6, Nehemiah 9:1, Judith 4:11, & Esther 4:1). This gesture, while not as dramatic, recalls that penitential practice. The ashes not being visible will also more clearly help those who receive them to practice the teaching of the Gospel appointed for the day to carry out one's penance in private. Additionally, it is helpful to recall that in Baptism, we have been anointed on the crown of the head. The ashes to be imposed on the crown signify our repentance from sin, which has marred the grace of Baptism.

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: Dishwashing Liquid, Laundry Detergent, Household Cleaner, Conditioner, Liquid Hand Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Egg Noodles.



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 faithdirect.net/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!



Compared to all the parishes around, mass stipends at Assumption were lower for a long time. So beginning February 1, 2021, mass stipends will be \$20.00 (the thick folder mass cards will be \$25.00), and also, we are accepting two intentions per mass. Folder Mass cards will not be available until the end of February. Thank you very much for your faithfulness and cooperation

Did you know a 401k can help our Parish do God's work?

You worked hard for your 401k, IRA or other retirement plan. If you leave it to anyone besides a spouse, a good portion of that savings may go to taxes. But if you leave it to our Parish, the entire value will be put to good use because we are a tax-exempt organization. Simply fill out a *change of beneficiary form* and name our parish as a full or partial beneficiary. To learn more contact Barbara Kilarjian at 516-678-5800 ext. 257 or bkilarjian@drvc.org.

Thank you for considering this meaningful parish gift!

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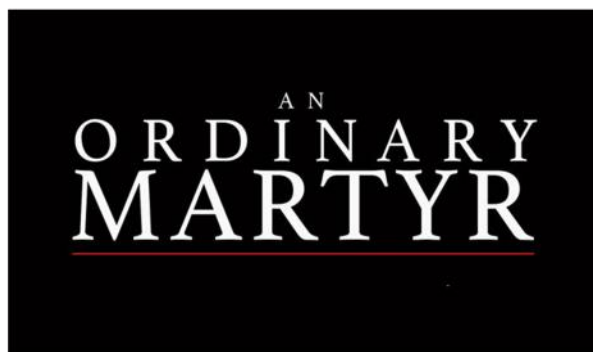
PICK OF THE WEEK

January 31, 2021

WATCH

AN ORDINARY MARTYR: THE LIFE & DEATH OF BLESSED STANLEY ROTHER

As we celebrate the martyrdom of Paul Miki and his companions this week, we invite you to learn more about a modern martyr from the United States: Blessed Stanley Rother. Join us as we consider this ordinary man who loved extraordinarily.



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 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. Our parish code is P8DGQ8.

Sunday, Jan 31, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Strengthen the partnership

The relationship between parishes and schools is long and intimate—important to note at the start of Catholic Schools Week. After the first Catholic diocese was established in the United States in Baltimore, pastors lobbied at once for schools and religious to staff them. Frontier pastors vowed to build the school first and the church later. They understood that without proper religious education, the parish venture would certainly fail. Today, celebrate this essential partnership with a holy hour, candlelight prayer vigil, or special project in the parish for young people and their supporters.

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28 (71). *"What is this? A new teaching with authority."*

Monday, Feb 01, 2021**Example is the best education**

Each day of Catholic Schools Week is the celebration of a component of Catholic education. Today we look at the experience of community. Through the relationships and interactions of service activities in the community and class trips to other environs, students get to practice the values they learn in their Catholic education and experience what it feels like to be making the world a better place. Plus they get a chance to observe others in community service and come to appreciate how they can continue caring for others their entire lives. Today, be an example of service to others.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 11:32-40; Mark 5:1-20 (323).
"[A]nnounce to them all that the Lord in his pity has done for you."

Tuesday, Feb 02, 2021

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Teach a faith that grows on you

Mary and Joseph bring their beloved firstborn to the temple at the appointed time, so Jesus can enter into the covenant with Yahweh that Jews have revered since Abraham. Not unlike infant Baptism today, it was—among other things—a powerful ritual of belonging that put the child on the right path to growing in faith. As we celebrate Catholic Schools Week—with the focus today being squarely on “the student”—may we never forget or neglect the promise of every young soul, so receptive to our efforts to plant the seeds of faith.

TODAY'S READINGS: Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40 (524). *"The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom."*

Wednesday, Feb 03, 2021**One nation, under God**

Catholic schools have made a unique contribution to the nation, and today we can recognize and celebrate that contribution. At their very best, Catholic schools train students to grow both as members of the Catholic church and as productive citizens of the nation. By “rendering to Caesar and to God,” Catholic schools in the United States have managed to achieve that rare combination in world history, the development of a relatively harmonious

church-state relationship that has endured for centuries. See the NCEA website for suggestions on how to celebrate the nation during Catholic Schools Week.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15; Mark 6:1-6 (325).
"Many who heard him were astonished. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him?'"

Thursday, Feb 04, 2021**Line things up**

Catholic schools prepare students to discover their vocation, so they can grow to use their gifts in service of church and world. Over the years, our notion of “vocation” has broadened significantly. A word that once designated those who take religious vows or are ordained into ministry is now used more broadly. No one defined vocation better than essayist and theologian Carl Frederick Buechner: “The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.” Are the two aligned in your life? And if not, how can you bring them into alignment?

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 12:18-19, 21-24; Mark 6:7-13 (326).
"Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two."

Friday, Feb 05, 2021**Thank those who opened your mind**

Where would any of us be without our teachers? They did everything from helping us with our “three R’s” to opening our minds to new ways of seeing the world. The really great teachers taught us how to learn for ourselves and thus set us up for a lifetime of discovery and fulfillment. When was the last time you thanked a teacher? Today is the day Catholic Schools Week pays special attention to the faculty, staff, and volunteers that make it possible for these great schools to function. [See the NCEA website for suggestions on how to give thanks and recognition.](#)

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 13:1-8; Mark 6:14-29 (327). *"The Lord is my helper, and I will not be afraid."*

Saturday, Feb 06, 2021**Make faith a family affair**

We close Catholic Schools Week by recognizing the central role in Catholic education played by the family. The Second Vatican Council called the family “the domestic church” because it is in the home that faith is first formed and nurtured. Whether you live alone or with others, your home can be a sacred space of prayer and spirituality. Creating sacred space in your home includes prayer and scripture readings at meal times and before bed; praying the Rosary; placing a crucifix in a prominent place; and [family traditions based on the liturgical seasons. Look for ways to recognize the family’s role in Catholic education and also ways to make your home a domestic church. Have at it!](#)

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 13:15-17, 20-21; Mark 6:30-34 (328).
"The Apostles gathered together with Jesus and reported all they had done and taught."

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



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