



ASSUMPTION

of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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



February 7, 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, 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

Monday, February 8th

9:00 a.m. — Tiri Paeper & Stefanie Ludyny
 Paeper (Anita Hoehne & Family)

Tuesday, February 9th

9:00 a.m. — Katherine Aridas (Josephine Scala)

Wednesday, February 10th

9:00 a.m. — Luis Luces (Luces Family)

Thursday, February 11th

9:00 a.m. — Norman Abramowitz (Maryann Morse)

Friday, February 12th

9:00 a.m. — Peter & Marjorie Gochan (Family)

Saturday, February 13th

5:30 p.m. — Salvatore Gambino (MMG. VanSchaick)

Sunday, February 14th

7:30 a.m. — Otto Wolz
 9:30 a.m. — Katherine Aridas (M/M J Zabbara)
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish



Danielle Golom



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

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary
 (Regular Sunday Offering)

Last Week's Collection \$10,464
 (includes *Faith Direct*)

Last Year's Collection \$9,829
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

Partnership with Christ

This Sunday's reading from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians describes my own ministry of writing these Good News Reflections:

If I preach the Good News, this is no reason for me to boast,
because I have an obligation to do this,
and woe to me if I do not do it!
If I do so willingly, I'm rewarded for it,
but if unwillingly, I'm merely fulfilling my responsibility of stewardship.
What then is my reward?
That, when I share the Good News,
I am able to offer it free of charge so that all may benefit.

Saint Paul was not saying it's wrong to charge a fee. In fact, Jesus said that the worker deserves his wages (Luke 10:7). But Paul knew that what matters most is being a good steward of the gifts that God has given us.

I am delighted that I can provide, without charging any fees, the Good News Reflections to you and thousands of other subscribers (plus untold others who receive them as forwarded messages or who read them on the Good News Ministries website or on Facebook). It's the generosity of partners in ministry -- the benefactors who support Good News Ministries -- that makes it possible.

Father Henri Nouwen said, "Fund-raising is proclaiming what we believe in such a way that we offer other people an opportunity to participate with us in our vision and mission." GNM's major end-of-year fund-raiser, and the donations link that's included year-round in each email and on the website, is a ministry of giving people the opportunity to join me and my team of staff and volunteers in the stewardship of preaching the Good News. Let me take this moment as an opportunity to thank all those who participate with me in the mission of Good News Ministries: Thank you!



When the collection basket comes to us in church or the pastor asks for more money or more time from parishioners, this is not wrong. It is our participation in the mission of the parish. How generously do we participate?

We have all been entrusted with an obligation to continue the ministry of Christ on earth in our contemporary world. A Christian who does not follow Christ in ministry has a lazy faith, or a self-focused faith, an unlively faith. Using your gifts, talents, wisdom, knowledge, compassion, etc., generously for the benefit of the faith of others is an alive faith. The immediate reward is a joyful awareness of being in partnership with Christ.

The Gospel reading for this Sunday shows us the generosity of Peter's mother-in-law in sharing her talent of hospitality. And it shows us the determination of Jesus to preach the gospel widely and tirelessly.

Both are examples of good stewardship. All gifts and talents and financial earnings are blessings from God that are meant to be shared.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

What have you received from God? How much of it is being shared with others? What seems too inadequate to give away? How can you become a better steward of God's gifts?

Questions for Community Faith Sharing:

Name any service that you provide: How important is it to you that you keep doing it no matter what? How important to Jesus do you think it is? Why?

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 February 17, at 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.



METANOIA

A journey of **CONVERSION** during this upcoming season of Lent.

An online study series on **ZOOM**

on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 - 8:30 PM beginning on Feb. 24th

Sign up on our website abvmcentereach.com using "Get in touch with us today!" box.



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!

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

February 7, 2021

WATCH

BERNADETTE

Millions of people each year go on pilgrimage to Lourdes, a place where miracles frequently occur. Explore the origins of this miraculous place of encounter with the Lord in this movie which depicts Mary's apparitions to St. Bernadette.



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, Feb 07, 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Game on

The odds for Super Bowl Sunday 2021 were available last February. Tickets for the game have been on sale for as long. But things don't always happen the way we plan them. Last year, when the Chiefs were pitted against the 49ers, no one imagined how the world would change between one Super Bowl and the next. Still, Jesus comes into our midst wherever we are, whatever our circumstances, and grasps us by the hand. We can't be sure of the game plan for the future. But we can trust that Jesus will be there for us.

TODAY'S READINGS: Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39 (74). *"Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. . . . [Jesus] grasped her hand, and helped her up."*

Monday, Feb 08, 2021

MEMORIAL OF JEROME EMILIANI, PRIEST

Share the love to feel the love

Who hasn't felt all alone before? Perhaps let down or left by a loved one. Perhaps in such dire straits that you thought even God abandoned you. Jerome Emiliani is the saint for those low points. He found God in ultimate isolation—prison. Once free, he became a priest and devoted himself to the abandoned of 16th-century Venice—especially orphans and prostitutes. When you feel stricken with an orphan spirit, remember that you are a beloved child of a loving Creator who will never let you go. Show that same love to those who need you most.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 1:1-19; Mark 6:53-56 (329). *"They laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak."*

Tuesday, Feb 09, 2021**Be the change**

Gregory XV became pope by "popular acclaim" on this day in 1621—interesting, because he changed the tradition soon after. Instead, Gregory made the case for the first secret ballot when electing a pope. He also did other remarkable things, considering his papacy lasted barely two years. He established the first missionary organization of the Vatican, the Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith. And he canonized these beloved saints: Ignatius of Loyola, Teresa of Avila, Francis Xavier, and Philip Neri. Is there a change you've been meaning to make in your own practice of the faith? Begin today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 1:20—2:4a; Mark 7:1-13 (330). *"The Pharisees and scribes questioned him, 'Why do your disciples not follow the tradition?'"*

Wednesday, Feb 10, 2021

MEMORIAL OF SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN

God's assistance rains down

There are few details of Saint Scholastica's early life, but we do know that this sister of Benedict of Nursia entered religious life and lived in a women's monastery a few miles from her brother's in Monte Cassino. Perhaps the most enduring story about Scholastica is one that pits her will against her brother's when she begs him to extend their yearly visit and spend the night in prayer and conversation. Benedict resists, not wishing to break his own rule with a night away from home. Determined, Scholastica asks God for assistance, and a torrential rainstorm ensues that settles

the matter in her favor—Benedict will spend the night. Never doubt that you are worthy to ask for God's help. Trust your heart to know what will draw you closer to God.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mark 7:14-23 (331). *"When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth."*

Thursday, Feb 11, 2021

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Turn to Mary

Much of Jesus' ministry had to do with some form of healing, and today's memorial, Our Lady of Lourdes, recognizes Mary's 18 reported appearances in Lourdes, France, a place of pilgrimage known for healing powers. Millions of people a year travel to Lourdes in search of healing; many report spiritual peace and transformation, and a handful even report experiencing cures without medical explanation. Today is also World Day of the Sick. It's an ideal day to ask Mary to intercede on behalf of healing that we need—or that our friends and loved ones desire.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 2:18-25; Mark 7:24-30 (332). *"Soon a woman whose daughter had an unclean spirit heard about him. She came and fell at his feet."*

Friday, Feb 12, 2021**Say their name**

This day, falling between World Day of the Sick and Valentine's Day, brings thoughts of how many are left alone after COVID deaths. Advertisers are pushing candy, cards, and flowery bouquets, but the countercultural church also counsels that we pay kind attention to those who are grieving. Practical actions are often most helpful: not only shoveling a driveway or baking some bread, but also reaching out and just listening to whatever is on the grieving person's heart. Sometimes all a grieving person wants is to name the beloved and talk about them again. Being a good listener is a welcome gift.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 3:1-8; Mark 7:31-37 (333). *"They were exceedingly astonished and they said, 'He has done all things well.'"*

Saturday, Feb 13, 2021

OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Saturdays belong to Mary

For more than a thousand years, the Catholic Church has dedicated most Saturdays to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The reason for choosing Saturday above all other days has been lost to antiquity. But according to tradition, Saturday has been set aside to celebrate the maternal example of Mary and witness to her dedicated discipleship as a woman of God and a follower of Jesus. The weekly memorial serves as a reminder that she is continuously present and operative in the life of the church. Reflect on how the Blessed Virgin Mary has been present and active in your life.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 3:9-24; Mark 8:1-10 (334). *"My heart is moved with pity for the crowd."*

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



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