



# ASSUMPTION

## of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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



February 14, 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](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, 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

**Monday, February 15th**

9:00 a.m. — Abelardo & Norma Angeles (Family)

**Tuesday, February 16th**

9:00 a.m. — Anna Joseph Alenchery (J. Scala)

**Ash Wednesday, February 17th**

7:30 a.m. (Mass), noon (Mass), 4:00 p.m. (Scripture Service), 7:00 p.m. (Mass)

**Thursday, February 18th**

9:00 a.m. — John Sparano (Family)

**Friday, February 19th**

9:00 a.m. — Joseph Francis Nugent (M/M Passanisi)

**Saturday, February 20th**

5:30 p.m. — Robert Stingo

**Sunday, February 21st**

7:30 a.m. — Tiri Paeper (Mark & Lisa Traxler)  
 9:30 a.m. — Anna Joseph Alenchery (M/M Zabbara)  
 Maria & Inacio DeSousa (Family)  
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish



Deceased Brothers and Sisters of our Parish Family



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

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

Last Week's Collection \$8,223  
 (includes *Faith Direct*)

Last Year's Collection \$9,697  
*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.

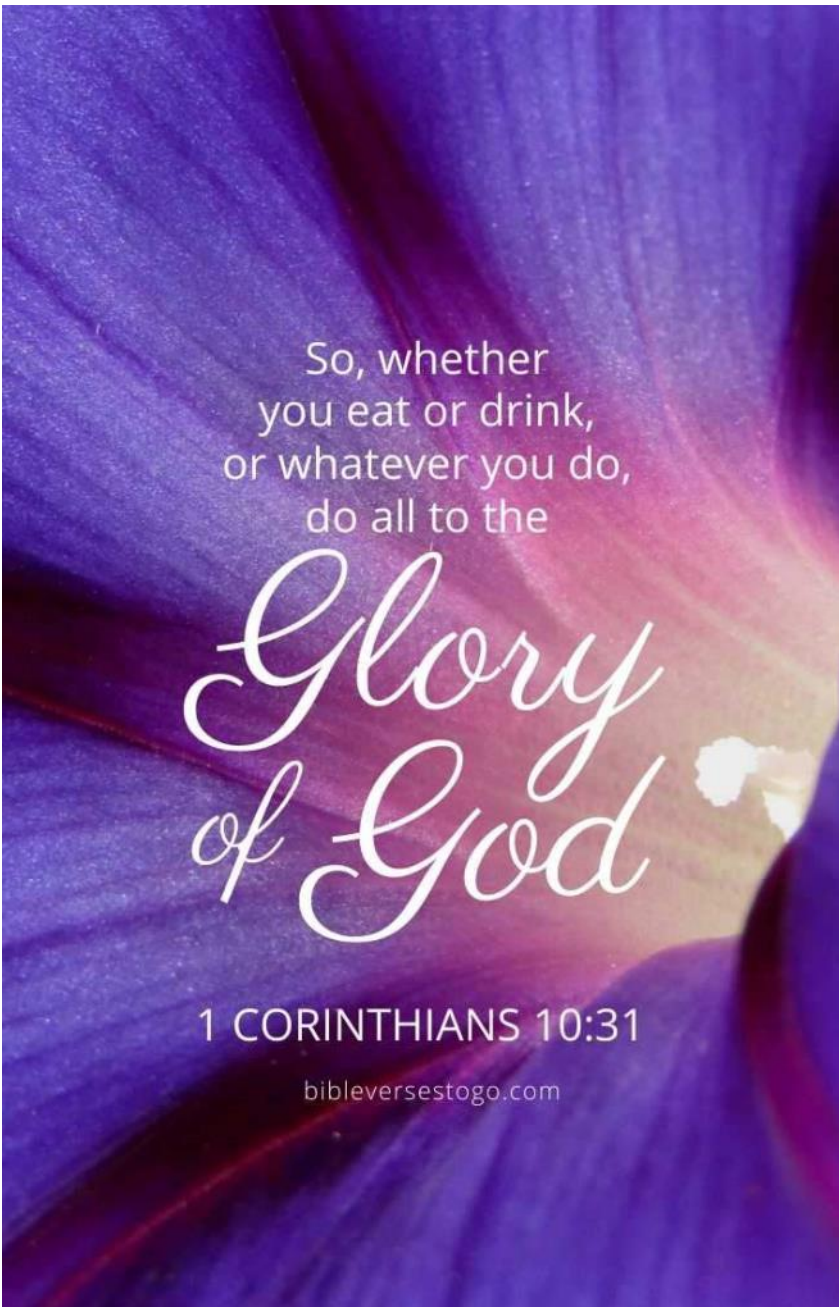
**Scouting (Cub Scout, Boy Scouts)**

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

**Good News Reflection****For the glory of God**

This Sunday's second reading gives us a great motto that we should post on our bedroom mirrors so that it's the first thing we see as our sleepy eyes awaken each morning: "Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God."

Everything! Brush your teeth for the glory of God. Kiss your family "Good morning!" for the glory of God. Go to Mass for the glory of God (in other words, we don't go to church just for what we can get out of it). Do your work for the glory of God. Drive politely for the glory of God. Shop and eat and greet others for the glory of God. Say yes to the needs of the Church for the glory of God. And receive all that he wants to give you (the compliments, the money you earn, the answered prayers, the good times and rewards) all for the glory of God.



This should be part of our daily prayers every morning: "Holy Spirit, help me to do everything today for the glory of God. Amen!"

By making it a daily habit to start the day this way, the glory of God becomes integrated into our character. When we remember to see our activities through the lens of "whatever you do, do it for the glory of God", we become stronger in avoiding all kinds of sins. It sanctifies each moment of every day.

Often, we see religious activities as separate from our normal activities. We take "time out" from our schedules to go to church. We stop what we're doing when we want to pray. We think that only Clergy and Religious can be religious all of the time and that a layperson who is like that is a "fanatic". But why?

Why should we limit "for the glory of God" to only what is "holy" -- Mass attendance, religious rituals, prayers, the works of ministry, etc.? We can sanctify every moment by remembering that whatever we do, we want to please God with it.

**Questions for Personal Reflection:**

What have you done already today that glorifies God? What is planned for later today and how can that be offered to God? What will you do to remind yourself daily to do everything for the glory of God?

**Questions for Community Faith Sharing:**

Describe ways that we can glorify God in normal, everyday activities. How do you

turn mundane tasks into a gift for God? When is it most difficult to glorify him? How can even our lapses into sin become blessings that glorify God?

## **Ash Wednesday—Feb. 17**

**Schedule: 7:30 am, Noon (Masses), 4:00 pm (Scripture Service) and, 7:00 pm (Mass).**

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.

Here at Assumption, we will distribute ashes by the priest or the minister using Cotton Swabs because of the Covid concerns. For each person, we will use a new cotton swab to apply the ashes on your forehead.



**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 Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>

Metanoia means conversion, but it is much more than that. It means to change, to repent, to turn, to think differently. Metanoia is an ongoing process. As Christians, we are to live a life of metanoia.

The purpose of this series is to assist us in this ongoing metanoia. I believe Jesus invites everyone to a deeper, more profound conversion - a metanoia - that moves us from something to someone, as metanoia ultimately turns us to Jesus.

Most people understand the word “conversion” to mean the act of converting from one religion to another, or a significant and powerful event, a conversion experience, that causes a person to grow deeper in their faith. But conversion is for everyone at all times.

As you walk through this series, I will continually be praying that you may come to understand how everyone is in constant need of metanoia and that this truth is a source of hope and encouragement, especially during this time of the pandemic. I pray that we all might continually experience this metanoia and seek the transformative grace of the Holy Spirit.

We will gather virtually on the Zoom platform on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. The schedule will be like this: After every one sign in via the link sent to you every week, we begin with introductions for about 10 minutes. We will then watch the video together and go to our breakout rooms for small groups for sharing and discussion. About 8:15, we will be back in our main room again for large group sharing and final prayer. I hope this allows us to come together as people of faith to prepare ourselves during this lent for the great feast of Easter, which provides us with new life and hope.

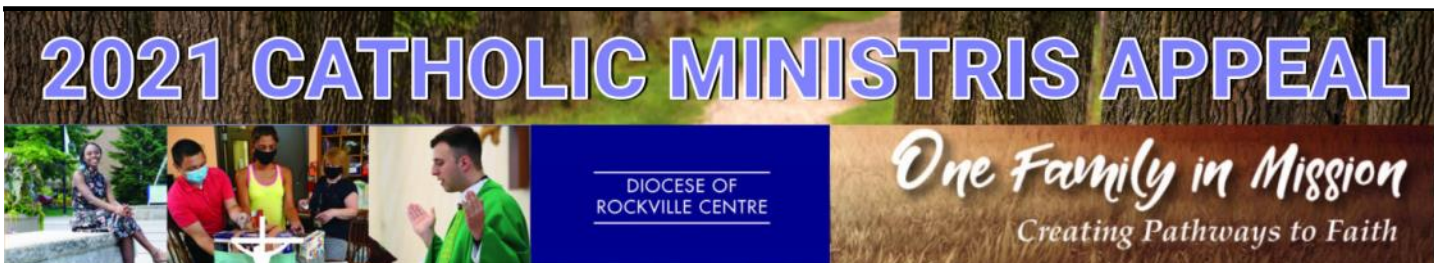
To signup, please visit our parish website [www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com) and click on the sliding banner that says METANOIA. I hope to see you all on the Zoom.

Fr. Joe

### 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: Noodles, Kleenex, Household Cleaner, Dishwashing Liquid, Mayonnaise, Salad Dressing, Razors, Toothbrushes, Fruit Juice, Icing**



This year our parish goal is \$57,400. Your generosity provides us with an excellent opportunity to reach out to those in need by supporting the many programs run by our diocese. In particular, the CMA enables our Catholic community on LI to support the work of Catholic Charities, our Catholic Regional Schools, programs for ongoing formation and training of lay leaders as well as our deacons; our seminary which trains men for the priesthood as well as various pastoral offices which provide excellent resources throughout the diocese.

In addition, parishes who make their goal receive a rebate from the diocese, amounting to 20% of the actual goal. Please ask the Lord how you might participate. Your pledge is payable over a ten-month period of time.



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](http://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 14, 2021

WATCH

#### BELOVED—SESSION 1: DOES MARRIAGE MATTER?

Happy Feast of St. Valentine! This Valentine's Day, remind yourself of the beauty of the Sacrament of Marriage with the Beloved series, presented by the Augustine Institute.



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.

**Sunday, Feb 14, 2021**

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Staying the course**

Quarantine is hard on relationships: both with the people you can't yet risk seeing in person, as well as those with whom you happen to be locked down. Families that have survived a long year of "acute togetherness" might congratulate each other on their success. Spouses, too, might reward each other for going the distance, without much distance, since last spring. On this World Marriage Day, take some time to reflect together on ways your vital relationships have been tested in a long period of crisis. Ask for forgiveness where necessary. Offer yours freely.

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1; Mark 1:40-45 (77). *"Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ."*

**Monday, Feb 15, 2021****Lead by example**

Presidents' Day—celebrated every February between Lincoln's and Washington's birthdays—is an occasion to remember all the presidents of the United States. Certainly some of them have been better than others. Our job is not to sit on the sidelines and criticize and complain. The church wisely instructs us on our duty as citizens "to contribute along with the civil authorities to the good of society in a spirit of truth, justice, solidarity, and freedom." That goes for participation in any community—get involved and raise it up!

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 4:1-15, 25; Mark 8:11-13 (335). *"Amen, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation."*

**Tuesday, Feb 16, 2021****Enjoy the feast before the fast**

Today is Fat Tuesday. Whether you call it Mardi Gras, Carnival, or Shrove Tuesday, the popular practice of one last big, sumptuous feast—right before the asceticism of Lent—actually had a very practical motivation. In the days before refrigeration, people couldn't preserve certain foods (like eggs, cream, and butter) during the time of prolonged fasting. They had to use them up. Nowadays, that's not the case for most of us. So it's worth considering: What does the feasting of this day signify, in contrast to the great fast that's approaching? Perhaps it's gratitude—for God's generous abundance.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Mark 8:14-21 (336). *"Do you not remember, when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand?"*

**Wednesday, Feb 17, 2021**

ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE

**Invitation to love**

We enter the Lenten journey with the intention to draw closer to God by means of prayer, generosity, and fasting. Talk to God and share what is on your mind, read the daily scripture, practice the prayer of meditation. Find ways to be generous with time or treasure: write a card, heal a broken relationship, bake bread to share, donate to a group that cares for the underserved. And admit that some fasting—whether from gaming, social media, or worrying—could improve your connection to God. This Lent is an

opportunity, not a burden. Embrace it with hope. Live it with love.

TODAY'S READINGS: Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 (219). *"Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart."*

**Thursday, Feb 18, 2021**

THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

**Choose life**

Today's readings focus on the urgency of choosing life. Moses tells his people to choose life over death; Jesus says we save our life by losing it in him. Meanwhile, events nationwide and worldwide keep reminding us that black lives matter and, as Catholic bishops put it, "everyone belongs." The disproportionate death of people of color from poor healthcare, poverty, abortion, crime and violence, judicial bias, and more cries out for major reform. **Support life in all its diversity by learning more about racial injustice as a prolife issue.**

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25 (220). *"For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it."*

**Friday, Feb 19, 2021**

FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

**Make abstinence a healthy habit**

The wisdom of making Lenten Fridays meatless has endured for centuries. We now understand that meat consumption at current levels is not only unhealthy, but unsustainable. Ever more Amazonian rain forests are cleared for grazing. Hundreds of activists have been gunned down trying to protect this biodiverse land and its poor settlers against the interests of powerful ranchers and loggers. Among the martyrs is Sister Dorothy Stang, SNDdN, whose death 15 years ago brought new attention to the plight of the farmers and the devastation of the Amazon for the sake of beef. Why not extend your meat abstinence beyond Lenten Fridays?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15 (221). *"Would that today you might fast so as to make your voice heard on high!"*

**Saturday, Feb 20, 2021**

SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

**Off to a good start?**

This is only the fourth day of Lent, and already we had a day of fasting and abstinence on Wednesday and another day of abstinence yesterday. During Lent back in the Middle Ages, Catholics weren't supposed to eat anything before 3 p.m. In the monasteries, that was the hour the "Nones" prayers were recited. So no eating until after Nones. But the monks would move the Nones hour up to 12 o'clock so they could eat earlier. That's how the 12 o'clock hour got the name "noon." While we can eat at any hour today, every day is a good day to control our appetites. What hunger stands between you and a peaceful heart? Can you put it on pause at least for a day?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32 (222). *"I have not come to call the righteous to repentance but sinners."*

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



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