



# ASSUMPTION

## of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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



March 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, March 14th**

7:30 a.m. — Mary Wagenofer (Family)  
 9:30 a.m. — Anna Joseph Alenchery (M/M Spina)  
 Maria & Inacio DeSousa (Family)  
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

**Monday, March 15th**

9:00 a.m. — Living & Deceased Members of the  
 Romeo & Wolz Family

**Tuesday, March 16th**

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

**Wednesday, March 17th**

9:00 a.m. — William & Sarah Ross (Mary Ross)

**Thursday, March 18th**

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

**Friday, March 19th**

9:00 a.m. — Nancy Liedemann (Rosary Altar Society)

**Saturday, March 20th**

5:30 p.m. — Tillie Plansker (Maryalice Griffin)

**Sunday, March 21st**

7:30 a.m. — Frederick C. Lingen (Family)  
 9:30 a.m. — Anna Joseph Alenchery (M/M E. Ahlfeld)  
 Audra Hancock (M/M J. Badagliacca)  
 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

<p><i>Rest in Peace</i></p>		<p>Ellen McGrory</p>
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	<p><b>Time, Talent &amp; Treasure</b>                  Fostering Stewardship                  as a Way of Life</p>
<p><b>Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary</b>                  (Regular Sunday Offering)</p>	
<p><b>Last Week's Collection \$10,449</b>                  (includes <i>Faith Direct</i>)</p>	
<p><b>Last Year's Collection \$9,000</b>  <i>Thank You!</i></p>	

**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 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.; 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)**

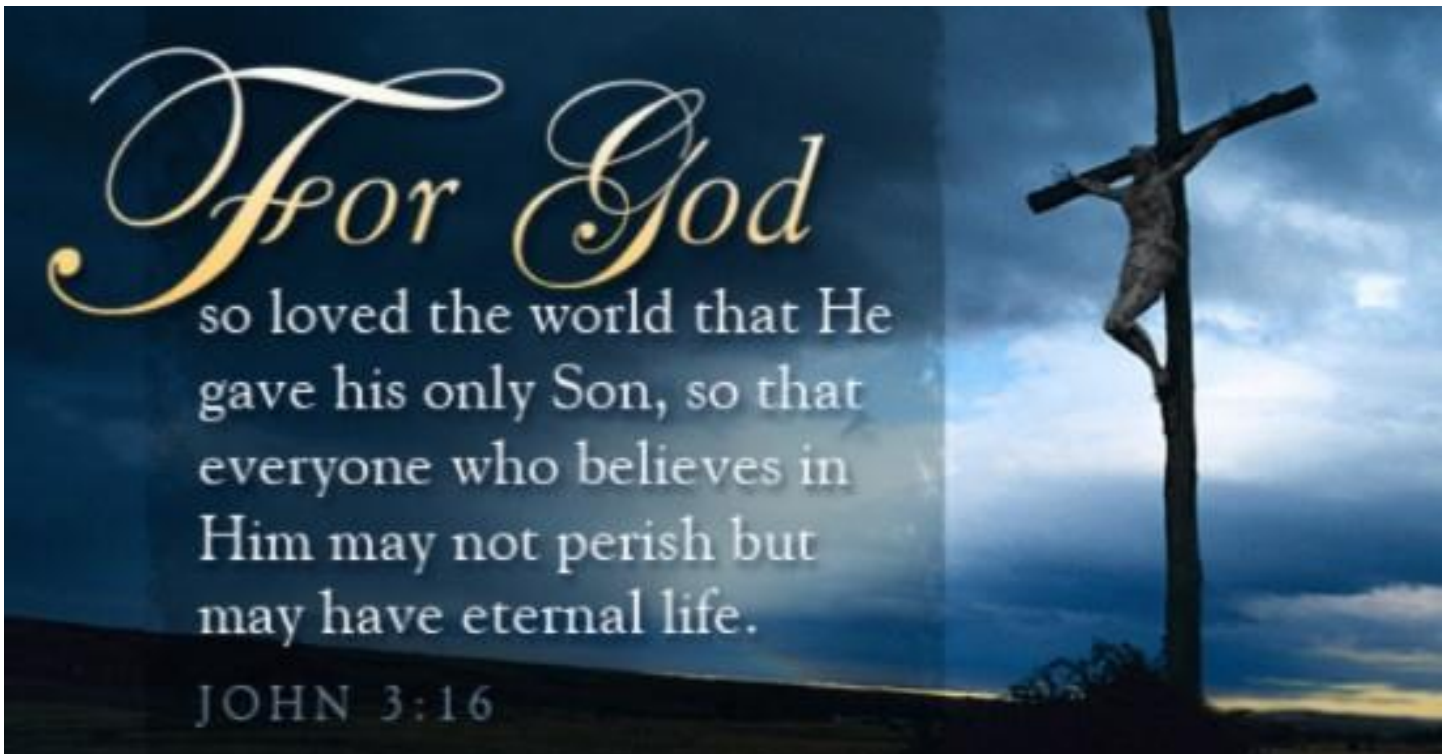
Contact Chantal Mears at Chantalmears@yahoo.com or 631-438-2468 or visit www.bsa356.com for more details..

**Good News Reflection****Rescued from shame**

Why do we hide in darkness? Why do we prefer to conceal our sins rather than face them and go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and speak about them out loud?

It's Jesus who meets us in the confessional, appearing to us in the form of a priest who's sworn to secrecy. In the Gospel reading, Jesus assures us that he did not come to condemn us. It is safe to come into the light where our sins are exposed.

However, we don't like going to Confession when guilt is driving us deeper into the darkness of low self-esteem, the fear of being unlovable, or an inability to forgive ourselves.



Guilt is a good motivator for repentance, and regret motivates us to change, but low self-esteem triggers shame, which says that we are undeserving of forgiveness. Shame makes us even more afraid to face the truth about our sins. Guilt tells us we have done evil, regret motivates us, and shame tells us that we are evil.

However, God's image of you is not poor: He sees what is wonderful about you. He says you do deserve forgiveness. He wants to replace shame with joy. What keeps you from repenting? Perhaps you would benefit from a therapist or spiritual director who helps you heal from low self-esteem. Whatever opportunity will help you get into the confessional, this is where your healing begins.

Jesus completes the healing by curing your spirit with forgiveness, mercy, and unconditional love through the words of absolution that he speaks to you through the priest.

In today's Gospel passage, Jesus points out that whoever lives the truth (whoever is honest about themselves) "comes to the light" to be rescued. When we admit our sins, speaking it out loud to the ears of one of Christ's servants, we are rescued by Jesus. We hear Jesus minister to us through the vocal chords of the priest, and we receive from Jesus the power to resist the same sins in the future.

Why suffer any longer, hiding in the darkness of fear and a poor self-image? Jesus has come to rescue you!

**Questions for Personal Reflection:**

What do you feel ashamed about? Have you taken this to the Sacrament of Reconciliation? If yes, remember that since God has forgiven you and the Church has forgiven you, they do not condemn you, so stop condemning yourself! If not, what are you waiting for? Blessings and healing await you!

**Questions for Community Faith Sharing:**

Why does admitting our sins and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation set us free to live in joy and peace? How have you experienced special graces from going to Confession? Describe a time when you lived in darkness; how did Jesus bring you into the light?



I want to thank everyone who helped make 2020 Catholic Ministries Appeal a success. As you may already be aware, 100% of all the money raised is restricted to support the objectives, programs, and mission that serves more than 600,000 people each year, and our parish shares in the money raised to use for our own local needs

Your generosity enabled our parish to reach our assigned goal of \$56,200 for 2020, thus bringing back to the parish \$11,260 that have been redirected to parish activities. This year our parish goal is \$56,400.

According to our Holy Father, Pope Francis, mission touches us personally as he has called each of us to be instruments of Jesus' love and show compassion to those in need. Walking together with Long Island's faithful, we can act on this call through our support of the Catholic Ministries Appeal.

When we support the CMA, together we create and strengthen pathways of compassion by providing programs and ministries that serve disadvantaged families, our senior citizens, those struggling with substance abuse, and providing housing support to seniors, people with disabilities and veterans. During the pandemic, Catholic Charities expanded homecare service, Meals on Wheels and shopping services to the most vulnerable; our Parish Outreach programs set up outdoor access and shared resources to help struggling communities.

Additionally, the Catholic Ministries Appeal helps pave paths of evangelization through the formation of our priests, deacons and lay leaders; assists in training our religious education catechists and adult faith formation leaders who educate our youth and parish families, and programs that promote the sanctity of life at all stages. Youth and Young Adult Ministries held virtual retreats and prayer services. Our Catholic Schools assisted the underserved to get much needed internet services which was crucial for remote learning. Working together, we are all enriching the lives of our Long Island family.

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. Remember also, one does not have to donate a large amount; joining everyone's sacrificial gift adds up to a great resource for those in need. If you haven't got a pledge card please use the form below and drop it off in the Sunday collection or at the office.

Fr. Joe

Make checks payable to:		
Catholic Ministries Appeal		
Parish _____	Pledge: \$ _____	
Name _____	Down payment: \$ _____	
Address _____		
City, State, Zip: _____		
Phone: _____	Signature: _____	Date: _____

### 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: Household Cleaner, Hot Chocolate, Mustard, Canned Fruit, Paper Towels, Tea, Coffee, Jello Mix.**



**ADOREMUS**  
 EUCHARISTIC ADORATION  
 WITH CONTEMPORARY AND TRADITIONAL MUSIC  
**Friday, March 19, 2021 - 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



Please prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. 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

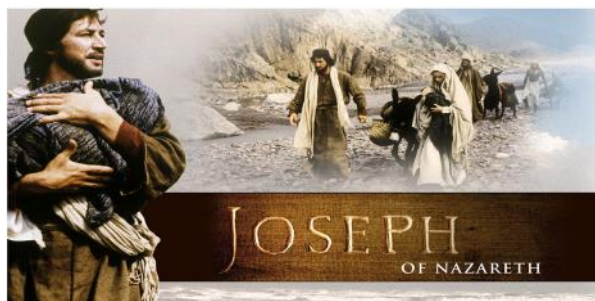
PICK OF THE WEEK

March 14, 2021

**WATCH**

### JOSEPH OF NAZARETH: THE STORY OF THE MAN CLOSEST TO CHRIST

With this year being consecrated to St. Joseph, we celebrate the feast day of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!



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, Mar 14, 2021**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

**Don't look at me**

During Lent, it's easy to imagine we're scoring points with heaven by all this fasting, praying, and almsgiving. Giving up binge-watching for a season, spending 15 minutes daily in contemplation, or funding a different cause each Friday are all worthy activities that may deepen our commitment to faithful living. None of these practices will actually buy us a ticket to paradise, however. Grace is free and unearned, so we can't boast about it. Our Lenten practices are simply our way of saying "Thank You" to the Giver of all good gifts.

TODAY'S READINGS: Year B: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21 (32). *"It is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast."*

**Monday, Mar 15, 2021**

LENTEN WEEKDAY

**Engender cooperation**

There have been some famous male/female teams in the history of Catholic religious orders. Benedict and Scholastica, Francis and Clare, Teresa of Ávila and John of the Cross. Another team included Vincent de Paul and Louise de Marillac, whose feast day is today. While Vincent founded the Vincentians, together he and Louise cofounded the Daughters of Charity. Today, there are 14,000 Daughters of Charity serving the poor all over the world. Commit to improving gender relations in your daily interactions. When woman and men feel free to make their unique contributions, great things can happen.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 65:17-21; John 4:43-54 (244). *"Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not believe."*

**Tuesday, Mar 16, 2021**

LENTEN WEEKDAY

**Healing water everywhere**

The custom of dipping a finger into holy water and making the sign of the cross upon entering a church serves to remind us of our Baptism, whereby we first entered the Catholic Church. But the waters of Baptism do much more, altering our metaphysical makeup in a profound way. Christians adopted the ritual from John the Baptist, but the practice has even more ancient roots. It's tied to the Jewish use of *mikvahs*, purifying pools—including those mentioned in the Bible, like Bethesda and Siloam—that believers visited to cleanse themselves of sickness and sin. Let your own bathing rituals remind you of your baptismal promises.

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12; John 5:1-16 (245). *"They shall be watered by the flow from the sanctuary."*

**Wednesday, Mar 17, 2021**

OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF PATRICK, BISHOP, MISSIONARY

**Offer an Irish-inspired blessing**

As the church and the Irish, and all who are "Irish for the day," celebrate the feast of Saint Patrick, let's also celebrate what we know of this remarkable fifth-century saint who brought the message of Christ to Ireland. Patrick writes in his *Confession* of his homeland (Roman Britain), his youthful captivity by pirates, his conversion, and his deepening desire to proclaim God's presence. There is no mention of snakes or shamrocks, but there is strong testament to Patrick's missionary zeal: *"That is why I cannot be silent . . . about such great blessings and such a gift that the Lord*

*so kindly bestowed in the land of my captivity."* Look for God's presence in this day and share your own good news.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30 (246). *"I cannot do anything on my own; . . . because I do not seek my own will but the will of the one who sent me."*

**Thursday, Mar 18, 2021**

MEMORIAL OF CYRIL OF JERUSALEM, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

**Explore the roots of your faith**

Saint Cyril of Jerusalem was a scholar and catechist at heart, but he spent years embroiled in the Arian heresy, which denied the divinity of Christ. He spent 16 of his 35 years as Jerusalem's archbishop in exile over Arianism and political wrangling. Although he died in 386, it took until 1882 for him to be declared a doctor of the church for his significant theological contributions, many written for adults joining the church. In keeping with Saint Cyril's dedication to catechesis, devote some time today to learning more about your faith.

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 32:7-14; John 5:31-47 (247). *"The works that the Father gave me to accomplish . . . testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me."*

**Friday, Mar 19, 2021**

SOLEMNITY OF JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

**Try a little tenderness**

When God's plans collided with his, Joseph attended to a calling beyond the law or custom of his day. He must have felt angry, betrayed, confused. But he also knew something greater was at stake than simply following rigid Mosaic code, which would have demanded stoning a woman found to be "with child" before marriage. Instead, he trusted Mary and trusted the dream that brought him angelic counsel. As Pope Francis said in his homily on this feast day in 2013, "in [Joseph's] heart we see great tenderness, which is not the virtue of the weak but rather a sign of strength." Practice tenderness—the sign of a strong heart!

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Luke 2:41-51a (543). *"He did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home."*

**Saturday, Mar 20, 2021**

LENTEN WEEKDAY

**Lie low to be raised high**

In 1812, six young women joined to devote their lives to providing care and education for Catholic families living in Kentucky. Nineteen-year-old Catherine Spaulding from Maryland was chosen to lead the group that became the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth (S.C.N.). Mother Catherine guided the congregation for 45 years, until her death on March 20, 1858. Today 550 S.C.N. sisters serve in 20 states and four foreign countries. Find your own quiet path of humility so that you, too, can be exalted.

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 11:18-20; John 7:40-53 (249). *"Never before has anyone spoken like this man."*

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



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