



# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**September 4, 2022**

**Our Mission**

**Love God.**

**Serve Others. Grow Disciples.**

**You Matter! + You Belong!**

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

Rev. Joseph Alenchery, 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



**Mass Intentions  
for the week**

**Sunday, September 4**

9:30 a.m. — Mark Kessenger (Reilly Family)  
George Dowling (Patti & Nick Campanelli)  
11:30 a.m — Patricia Berndt (Gerry Toth)  
People of the Parish

**Monday, September 5**

9:00 a.m. — Theodore Gutmann (Terry Vecchio)  
Abelardo & Norma Angeles (Family)

**Tuesday, September 6**

9:00 a.m. — Maria & Inacio de Sousa  
James Michael Schultz (Family)

**Wednesday, September 7**

9:00 a.m.— Fr. Chris Aridas (Nocturnal)  
Nora Charles (Annette Wolz)

**Thursday, September 8**

9:00 a.m. — Dawn Hearne (Prayer Blanket Ministry)  
Intentions of Antoinette Fontana  
(Josephine Scala)

**Saturday, September 10**

5:30 p.m.— Mary McConnon (Bea Hallinan)  
John Campbell (Dan & Patty Callahan)

**Sunday, September 11**

9:30 a.m.— Jim Reilly (Family)  
Dennis Russell Bengtson (Annette Wolz)  
11:30 a.m.— Rudolph & Caroline Spadaro (Coates Family)  
People of the Parish

**So whoever is in Christ is a new creation:  
the old things have passed away;  
behold, new things have come. 2Corinthians 5:17**

Rest  
in  
Peace

Nora Charles

**STEWARDSHIP**  
GIVING to our parish as an act of worship

**Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary**  
Last Week's Collection \$6,800  
(includes *Faith Direct*)  
Last Year's Collection \$10,423  
**Thank You!**

**We celebrate EUCHARIST**

Saturdays: 5:30 PM  
Sundays: 9:30, 11:30 AM  
Weekdays: Mon—Thurs 9:00 AM

**We celebrate PENANCE**

Saturdays: 4:00 – 5:00 PM and by appointment.

**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.

**ASSUMPTION YOUTH MINISTRY**  
**Every Thursday 7:00PM - 8:30PM**  
**in the Parish Center Hall**  
**All 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders are Welcome**

For more information please contact Renata Tutka-Ptak at 631-585-8760 ext. 105 or rptak@abvmcentereach.com

**Sacraments**

For more information on Baptism, Marriage and Anointing of the Sick, please visit our parish website [www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com) or call the office at 631-585-8760 during regular office hours.

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas (Court St. Gerard)**

First Thursday of the month: Sept - June at 7:30 PM in the Parish Library. Contact Alexandria McMahan 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 Denise Materazo at dmfl121@yahoo.com for more details..



## ***Good News Reflection***

### ***Priorities***

What in your life is a higher priority than your relationship with God? That's what Jesus wants us to look at in this Sunday's Gospel reading. Which people? What work? What trial? What possessions? What friendships? What goals? What activities?

What crosses do you want to get rid of that, if you do escape from them, would require you to abandon Jesus on his cross? (Hint: What sacrifices of love are you unwilling to make?)

Jesus says that unless we are first and foremost committed to discipleship — learning from him and making every effort to become more like him — we are ill prepared for all the other tasks of life.



In other words, we can start building toward good goals, but if our relationship with Christ is not our highest priority, we'll miss his guidance and his surprises and his blessings. We'll get distracted by worldly interferences and sin. We'll become victims instead of victors in the battles we face. Anything good that we achieve will be less than the best, because there is much more in the kingdom of God than what we can imagine.

A disciple is a student. We learn from Jesus how to love others, even when this becomes a cross to carry. He teaches us how to live a life of joyful love but also of unconditional, forgiving love. And we learn from him how to put up healthy, holy boundaries against those who interfere with our spiritual growth, and this too can be a cross.

The strength to follow Christ and become more and more like him every day requires a conscious effort to grow stronger in our ability to carry our crosses while uniting ourselves to his cross and to his strength. When we lack this intimate bond with Christ, we stumble and fall, crushed by the weight of our crosses. But if we are willing to make sacrifices out of love for others, like Jesus did, we embrace him more fully and we receive his love more deeply. And this is the most satisfying way to live!

### **Questions for Personal Reflection:**

Consider your daily activities: What are your top priorities? What do you value more than the time you spend with Jesus in prayer, scripture, and other faith-building activities?

### **Questions for Family & Community Faith Sharing:**

What are some common ways that we move God down in priority? By making him our highest priority, what are ways that we can lovingly show concern for others even while putting God ahead of them in our daily activities?



Many of us grew up going to Catholic School and attending CCD, where faith was taught as a subject, rather than as a relationship with Christ. In this “kickoff” message series of our ‘new year’ (starting in September), we will look at how our religious education experience was (and sometimes continues to be) viewed at as a checklist, and often “stopped” after Confirmation. We will look deeper into what God wants for our life and discipleship as mature, growing Christians, and discuss practical methods to help us grow in faith. After all, can you imagine doing your job, if you stopped learning at 8<sup>th</sup> grade? It’s the same for your faith.



It was a hot summer. Still, I believe we all have enjoyed the time outside, tending to flowers and vegetables, harvesting the fruits of our labor in the garden, time on the beach alone or with family and friends, etc.. Children are not so happy that the summer is ending, and now they need to go back to school. Parents are relieved that they can get back on a schedule. Some of us were away on vacation. I hope that all of us had a relaxing time. There are always difficult times too; losing a loved one or not-so-good news of a diagnosis or family issues. Wherever we were this summer, our God was always with us, protecting us, guiding and leading us. He is leading us to a new season of life. Like last year, we celebrate **Welcome Back Sunday** on September 10/11 as we begin our brand new message series, "8<sup>th</sup> Grade Faith." Invite our family, friends and neighbors to come to the house of the Lord to worship and celebrate together. I pray for all of us to Our Father to protect and guide us as we enter our new year of faith and grace.

**20 Catholic Ministries Appeal**  
**22** DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*"God's love calls us to move beyond fear. We ask God for the courage to put on faith, hope and love as we go out into the world and become the Word in body as well as spirit."*  
 — Pope Francis

One Family in Mission – Building a Community of

**FAITH** **HOPE** **& LOVE**

Our Parish goal this year is \$56,400. We have surpassed our goal last year (54,200) and got back more than \$13,000 as rebate to use it in our parish. Your generosity helps to make all of this, and so much more, possible!  
**Thank you for your support.**



### Parish Social Ministry

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. If you or someone you know can use our services, please call us at 631 585-8760 x2 or by email to outreach@abvmcentereach.com. We are happy to assist people of all faiths. The Outreach Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 AM to 1 PM. **Pantry Needs: Paper Towels, Cooking Oil, Mayonnaise, Mustard, Ketchup, Fruit Juice, Jell-O, Pudding Mix, Biscuit Mix, Coffee, Instant Potatoes, Canned Chicken, Jelly & Cat Food.**



# BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

*Sunday, September 11*

*9:30 & 11:30 AM Masses*

*Students of all ages are invited*

*Faith Formation*

Registration 2022-23 ends on September 12<sup>th</sup>

Register ONLINE at [www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com)

### MEMORIAL OF THE UNBORN

Prayer service on National Day of Prayer for the unborn is on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m., at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery Route 112 Entrance Coram. It is sponsored by the Long Island Coalition For Life. Questions and information contact Tom (631) 588-4590



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!

PayPal



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### Important DRVC Information

Information regarding a new deadline to file proofs of claim for victims of sexual abuse who were over 18 or older when the alleged conduct occurred and the forms to use, can be found on the following link to the Diocese's bankruptcy website and scrolling down the page: <https://dm.epiq11.com/drvc>



**Sunday, Sep 04, 2022****Value life above all**

What does it mean to renounce possessions? Monastic tradition recognizes that even owning a spoon is spiritually dangerous if the spoon possesses us back. Most of us own far more than utensils. We might consider the example of Lutheran humanitarian Dr. Albert Schweitzer. He wasn't a perfect man nor a flawless theologian. Schweitzer got a lot wrong about his medical mission in Africa. But he got one thing very right: Reverence for life is paramount, and society's resources should serve life as its primary ethical foundation. Place your worldly treasure at the service of life.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 9:13-18b; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Luke 14:25-33 (129). *"Anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple."*

**Monday, Sep 05, 2022****Home is where the charity is**

Today's commemoration of International Day of Charity got its start in Hungary to memorialize the death of Saint Mother Teresa (who died in 1997); the United Nations took it worldwide in 2012. The Missionaries of Charity, the order Mother Teresa founded with 12 members in 1950, continue her legacy by serving the "poorest of the poor." Now in 139 countries, the more than 5,000 sisters run orphanages and homes for those dying of AIDS, and care for refugees, the blind, disabled, aged, alcoholics, the poor and homeless, and victims of floods, epidemics, and famine. Despite the breadth of these efforts, Mother Teresa always said, "Love begins at home." Start your charitable activity there and watch where it takes you.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 5:1-8; Luke 6:6-11 (437). *"I ask you, is it lawful to do good on the sabbath rather than to do evil, to save life rather than to destroy it?"*

**Tuesday, Sep 06, 2022****Let the children come**

With Labor Day ending the summer, today is the first day of classes for millions of U.S. schoolchildren. Christian fantasy writer Madeleine L'Engle—who died on this day in 2007—once made a keen observation, which is helpful as children's faith formation classes begin anew: "No wonder our youth [are] confused and in pain; they long for God, for the transcendent, and they are offered, far too often, either piety or sociology, neither of which meets their needs." They encounter churches "which have become buildings that are a safe place to go to escape the awful [awesome] demands of God." Pray for parish religious ed programs today.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 6:1-11; Luke 6:12-19 (438). *"Everyone in the crowd sought to touch him."*

**Wednesday, Sep 07, 2022****Honor those who preserved the treasure**

On this day in 1303, Pope Boniface VIII was attacked in his hometown of Anagni, Italy, where he was sought out for his refusal to grant favors to the French monarchy. He briefly escaped with the help of the townsfolk, but died three weeks later in Rome, refusing to back down in the face of the monarch's attempts to

control the church. Pray for all those who have faced persecution and even death so that we could worship freely and without fear.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 7:25-31; Luke 6:20-26 (439).

*"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man."*

**Thursday, Sep 08, 2022****Born free**

Catholics have dozens of ways to honor Mary, and today's celebration of her birth fits into that larger picture of love and reverence. Today's date is nine months after the December 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception and is also meant to celebrate Mary's sinless condition from her very beginning. Today's feast day tends to fly below the radar in the U.S. church, but in Mangalore, India, Catholics hold flower-festooned processions, pray novenas, and prepare festive meals. It's a good day anywhere to consider Mary's radical embrace of her calling and ask her help to do the same in our lives.

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF MARY

TODAY'S READINGS: Micah 5:1-4a or Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23 (636). *"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."*

**Friday, Sep 09, 2022****Check for blind spots**

Saint Peter Claver, S.J. (1580-1654) spent most of his life in Cartagena, Columbia ministering to enslaved people arriving at the ports. He left a lasting legacy that inspired the formation of the Knights of Peter Claver, the largest African-American Catholic fraternal order in the United States; the Apostles of the Sea, who continue to minister to seafarers around the world; and the Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver, who serve the poor, particularly in Africa. However, like any of us—even saints—Peter had his blind spots. Though he worked tirelessly to serve those arriving in shackles, he himself enslaved people. Many Catholics at the time spoke out against slavery; Peter did not, nor did the majority of the Catholic hierarchy. Enlightenment takes time. Like Peter Claver, show compassion as you strive for clearer vision.

MEMORIAL OF PETER CLAVER, JESUIT PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22b-27; Luke 6:39-42 (441). *"Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own?"*

**Saturday, Sep 10, 2022****Help the pain**

Since 2003, World Suicide Prevention Day has been observed by dozens of countries. Hosted by the International Association for Suicide Prevention, the World Federation for Mental Health, and the World Health Organization, today is marked by activities designed to make people aware of the human cost of suicide and the means of prevention. For instance, by some estimates, 22 American service veterans take their own lives every day. We've got to do everything in our power to help these souls who have been so damaged by the horror of war. Check with your local VA to see how you can help.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 10:14-22; Luke 6:43-49 (442).

*"Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' but not do what I command?"*

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



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