



# Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary RC Church

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

*Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish is a welcoming community, sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through faith, prayer and the sacraments.*

## October 27, 2019

### **We celebrate EUCHARIST**

Saturdays: 5:30 PM

Sundays: 8:00, 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.

### **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 Maria Calestini at [flo815@optonline.net](mailto:flo815@optonline.net).

### **Catholic War Veterans**

Second Saturday of the month: Sept - June at 10 AM in the Parish Library. Contact Richard Gallagher at [popparich38@aol.com](mailto:popparich38@aol.com).

### **Communion for the Sick or Shut-ins**

Contact the rectory during regular office hours.

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

- First Friday of the month: 1:00 - 2:00 PM. - Nocturnal Adoration
- Third Friday of the month: 7:30-8:30 PM. - ADOREMUS

### **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](mailto:rtbhuntington@yahoo.com) or Anita Wolf at [hwolf96@aol.com](mailto:hwolf96@aol.com).

### **Miraculous Medal Novena**

Wednesdays following the 9:00 AM Mass.

### **Music Ministry**

Our parish's Music Ministry seeks to lead and support our parish family in full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy. Practices are on Wednesday, 6 – 7:30 PM, and Thursday, 6:30 – 8:00 PM. For further information call Rob at 516-523-1668.

### **Parish Social Ministry (Outreach)**

Open Tuesday and Friday, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Food pantry available. Will also try to help with referrals and advocacy. Call Outreach Office for appointment, 631-585-8760 x101.

### **RCIA**

Provides for those who have never been baptized an adult process to experience the joy of our Catholic community; also prepares those who have been baptized but have not celebrated Eucharist and/or Confirmation to do so within an adult context. Anyone 18 and over is welcome. Contact the rectory office at 631-585-8760.

### **Religious Formation Office**

Works with parents to share faith with our youngest members, grades 1-8. Contact the office for details at 631-588-6408. Office hours during school sessions: Mon. & Tues., 9 AM - 8 PM; Wed. 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM; Saturday 9:00 AM - Noon. Office is closed Thursday, Friday. Opened Sunday, 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM during class sessions. Check bulletin for summer hours.

### **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](mailto:Chantalmears@yahoo.com) or 631-438-2468 or visit [www.bsa356.com](http://www.bsa356.com) for more details.

### **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 or email [rptak@abvmcentereach.com](mailto:rptak@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

# Mass Intentions for the Week



## Sunday, October 27th

- 8:00 a.m. — Peter Avalos (Family)
- 9:30 a.m. — Michael Russo (Linda & John)
- 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

## Monday, October 28th

- 9:00 a.m. — Carmen Teresa Prestopino (Tiri & Children)

## Tuesday, October 29th

- 9:00 a.m. — Intention of Jim Flynn (Fran Craig)

## Wednesday, October 30th

- 9:00 a.m. — Kevin Willis (Merola Family)

## Thursday, October 31st

- 9:00 a.m. — Kathleen Sanacore

## Friday, November 1st (All Saints)

- 7:30 a.m. — Giovanni Ferrara (M/M A. Recca)
- Noon — People of the Parish
- 7:00 p.m. — David & Kathleen Worrell (Family)

## Saturday, November 2nd

- 5:30 p.m. — All Souls

## Sunday, November 3rd

- 8:00 a.m. — All Souls
- 9:30 a.m. — All Souls
- 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

New parishioner? Moving out of the parish? Kindly fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the rectory.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

New Parishioner \_\_\_\_\_ Moving \_\_\_\_\_

## Faith Formation

Faith Formation Classes will begin on the week of October 20<sup>th</sup>. Please keep all the children as well as the catechists in your prayers, so that may God open their hearts and minds with His wisdom and grace.

### Faith Formation Office Hours

Regular Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 3:00—8:00 p.m.); Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.—7:30; Thursday & Friday - Closed; Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to 11; Sunday - 10:30 a.m. to Noon.

## 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.



## Capital Campaign Update

To date we have received pledges and/or one-time gifts from 370 families, bringing our total thus far to \$708,000. More than 80% have completely redeemed their pledge with the other 20% faithfully sending in their payments. To date we have collected 88% of the total amount pledged. Many thanks. Your faithfulness is important for us to accomplish the final part of the project, namely, paying for the parking lot.

As mentioned previously, we “borrowed” \$200,000 from our savings to complete the parking lot. Everyone’s continued participation, support and generosity are needed since everyone benefits from the upkeep of our church facilities. Please prayerfully consider how you can join in reaching our goal!



## Time, Talent & Treasure

### Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary  
(Regular Sunday Offering)

Last Week’s Collection \$8,402 | Last Year’s Collection \$9,213

(includes Faith Direct)

Thank You!

## **Good News Reflection**

### **How love humbles us into righteousness**

In this Sunday's Gospel reading, we see what happens when our primary motivation in whatever we do is not love but self-centeredness. "Whoever exalts himself will be humbled." Sooner or later, self-exalting people get humbled, whether they realize it or not. They are brought down low by their own behaviors. People who encounter them in daily life do not think very highly of them. And certainly, God doesn't either.

The much better alternative is to let our love for others be what humbles us.

Without love as our motivation, we believe in our own so-called "righteousness," thinking we're okay when we're not. But when we do good deeds for others because we genuinely care about them, the pride of our self-righteousness is replaced by holy humility.



We are made righteous by our love for others. Self-righteousness is self-made -- it motivates us to do good, but only for the selfish purpose of looking admirable, winning God's approval, or gaining some other personal benefit. Love, which is true righteousness, motivates us to do good for the sake of others.

Look at the Pharisee in Jesus' parable. We all behave like that from time to time. Think of someone who is inferior to you because you are holier, who doesn't go to church as often as you do, or who doesn't pray like you do. Think of someone who is not worthy of your time and caregiving. Think of someone who is too difficult to love.

The cure for this self-righteousness is to get in touch with God's concern for them. Once we unite our hearts to God's love for them, we begin to care about them, too. And the most powerful, most successful way to accomplish such union with God is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which absolves us of self-righteousness and empowers us with divine grace to absorb Christ's own righteousness.

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

Think of those who are less spiritually active than you, e.g., family, friends, co-workers, and parishioners who cause you to think: "Thank God I am not like them!" Do you grieve for them because of their sins and blindness? Do you do anything to help them grow closer to Christ? Do they experience Jesus every time they encounter you?

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

What are some ways that you show love to those who are not as holy as you, or not as emotionally healthy as you, or not as intelligent as you? Describe a time when you were more self-righteous than righteous. How did you (or how will you) let Jesus turn your pride into love-filled humility?

### Assumption Youth Ministries



### Let the Service Begin!

All Middle School and High School students and their parents are invited to join us.

## November 8-10, 2019

Registration packets are available at [www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com), Middle School Ministry on Thursday Nights, AYM on Wednesday Nights or at the parish office.

Registration is a **MUST!**

Must be completed and returned no later than Nov 1, 2019 with \$30.00 Fee

For more information and **Registration Packet** please visit [www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com) or call Renata Ptak @ 631-585-8760 ext. 121 or [rptak@abvmcentereach.com](mailto:rptak@abvmcentereach.com)

### Parish Outreach Program

Our Outreach Program consists of trained volunteers who meet with anyone living within parish boundaries who is struggling financially or emotionally and needs support and direction. The Outreach office is open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### Coffee in the Courtyard

Assumption Youth Ministries invite everyone to “Coffee in the Courtyard”, on Sundays after the 9:30 AM Mass. It is a great opportunity to meet people who we worship with, make new friends, and build a stronger community, in which we then become a stronger parish family. All are welcome!



You're invited to a Flapjack Fundraiser breakfast to support **CATHOLIC DAUGHTER OF THE AMERICAS**



**APPLEBEE'S® LOCATION:**  
3145 Middle Country Road  
Lake Grove, New York 11755

**TICKETS: \$10.00**

**DATE & TIME:**  
Saturday, November 16th, 2019  
8am-10am

**CONTACT: Jennifer Orlic**  
516 909 9589

### Outreach Needs

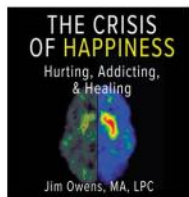
Syrup, Pancake mix, Baked beans, Laundry detergent, Paper towels, Oatmeal, Canned chicken,



PICK OF THE WEEK

## The Crisis of Happiness

by Jim Owens, MA, LPC



Find Answers to Today's Happiness Crisis

Jim Owens gives scientific evidence about how addictions and distractions are hurting us and practical advice for how to overcome our wounds.

*"Engaging, and made me examine my life on a meaningful level."*

—Martin P., Tallahassee, FL

[LISTEN ON FORMED.ORG](http://LISTEN ON FORMED.ORG)



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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**. Check it out by signing up for the website. 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.

## ***Financial Report: September 2018 through August 2019***



*One Family  
In Mission*

Here is our parish's financial report from our last budget year. Rather than give a list of incomprehensible numbers, I've divided income/expenses into recognizable categories, e.g., Sunday collections, program fees, parish offices, etc. Hopefully, this gives a clearer idea of where the money comes from and where it went. Expenses such as utilities, salaries, etc. have been proportionately divided them into several categories, e.g., Parish Office, Faith Formation, Church, etc. For those interested in the exact amount of items, I've listed a couple of our annual bills so you get a sense of how much must be spent just to keep the doors opened: gas, \$14,891; electric, \$21,667; water, \$4,194; snow removal, \$6,330; insurance, \$52,777; garbage removal, \$4,700; grounds, \$18,248

The goal is to have our operating expenses covered by our regular income without using our savings or interest. The operating expenses are what it costs to operate our day-to-day programs, while capital or extraordinary expenses -are one-time costs covered by taking money from savings or having a capital campaign. As you can see from the Income/Expense chart, we had a deficit in terms of our operating budget. There are two reasons for this. There was a decrease in our parish's overall income, including collections and program fees. There was also an overall increase in prices, such as insurance, etc. I would be remiss if I did not make it clear that using our savings to cover an operating deficit cannot be the accepted practice if we are to continue as a functioning parish entity.

For the parish to thrive, we have to raise the level of sacrificial giving. Our growth and well-being as a parish cannot be maintained unless everyone who considers themselves a parishioner offers their sacrificial financial support generously. If our parish is going to achieve a positive trajectory, we have to be realistic in terms of parish support. Unfortunately, many who use our parish's services and activities assume that someone else will cover expenses. Others continue to give at the level they gave ten-to twenty years ago, convinced that a few dollars offered when and if they come to mass, is sufficient.

One way of improving and stabilizing our financial situation would be for families to participate in *Faith Direct*, our parish's eGiving program. This easy-to-use service allows families to have their parish offering deducted automatically from their account or charged to their credit card. It's a great way to "take a step" toward a stewardship way of life, which is one of the characteristics of discipleship. Fr. Chris and I use this for our weekly parish offering. You can get additional information by picking up a brochure in the lobby or by going to [www.FaithDirect.net](http://www.FaithDirect.net). Our parish code is NY563.

Finally, this past year, we entered the third year of our parish's Capital Campaign. I am grateful to the 330 families and individuals who contributed to our Campaign. Thus far, we have approximately \$709,000 in pledges and have received \$616,546 in paid pledges. Fulfilled pledges have allowed us to accomplish all the projects we anticipated, e.g., refurbishment of the church interior, a new roof, church basement AV system and repairs to outside windows. Because the parking lot had become hazardous, we had to have it repaved this year instead of waiting until 2020 as planned. A large withdrawal had to be made from our savings account to pay for this expense. We do rely upon all those who are still fulfilling their pledges to do so in order to allow us to replenish our diminishing savings account.

Together we rely on God's abundance. I remain convinced that the Lord has much more prepared for us than we are receiving. We cannot receive these additional gifts, however, without consciously moving in the direction of putting every part of our life under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. For that reason, our ongoing stewardship efforts will continue to help us appropriate all that the Lord wishes to offer. In the meantime, the Income/Expense chart gives us an idea of where we've been over the past fiscal year. If anyone wishes further information or explanation, do not hesitate to contact me at the rectory to set up an appointment.

**Income**

Amount our parishioners contributed to the parish	\$484,072	Sunday, Christmas, Easter collections.
What the parish received from Catholic Ministries Appeal Rebate	\$14,434	This is the diocesan rebate the parish receives because of your support of the Catholic Ministries Appeal.
What the parish collected from program fees	\$79,624	Faith Formation, AYM, VBS, Adult Ed, etc.
What the parish received from auxiliary sources	\$41,667	Baptisms, weddings, funerals, Outreach donations, bulletin income, candles, miscellaneous donations.
What the parish received for diocesan collections	\$15,177	All the monies collected are given directly to the diocese. None stays in the parish.
Capital Gain & Extraordinary Revenue	\$172,474	Non-operating revenue. This includes Capital Campaign, insurance claims, investment income. <b>Note the diocese does not include these monies in determining operating surplus or deficit.</b>
TOTAL received by the parish to carry on its mission, <i>excluding Capital Gain &amp; Extraordinary Revenue.</i>	\$634,974	“Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary parish is a welcoming community sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through faith, prayer, and the sacraments.”

**Expenses**

What it costs to maintain our Rectory Office	\$181,229	Includes salaries, utilities, supplies, etc. Also includes Outreach.
What it costs to maintain our Faith Formation programs	\$283,579	Includes salaries, utilities, supplies, etc. used for the ongoing formation of our adults and children
What it costs to use our Church for liturgy	\$128,781	Includes salaries, utilities, supplies, etc.
What it costs to maintain our priests' residence	\$52,848	Includes food, utilities, maintenance
What our parish contributes to our Catholic Schools Subsidy	\$62,472	The diocese taxes all parishes 12% of a parish's collections to support Catholic schools.
What our parish paid the diocese for services rendered/owed	\$57,618	Diocesan assessment, Diocesan collections.
Capital improvement	\$383,661	<b>Not part of operating expense.</b> Includes church interior, church basement ceiling and heating pipes, sound screens for church basement
TOTAL Operating Expense: what the parish paid for personnel, goods, and services, <i>excluding capital expenses.</i>	\$766,527	
<b>Total operating surplus/deficit</b>	<b>(\$131,553)</b>	Does not include capital expenses or capital gains



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inspiring secure giving®

Please prayerfully consider supporting Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. Signing up is easy! Visit [faith.direct/NY563](http://faith.direct/NY563) or download the **Faith Direct app from ios or Android app store and search for the parish with the parish code (NY563)**. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!