



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary RC Church

20 Chestnut Street, Centereach, NY 11720 · 631-585-8760 · 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.*

December 8, 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.

Catholic War Veterans

Second Saturday of the month: Sept - June at 10 AM in the Parish Library. Contact Richard Gallagher at 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 or Anita Wolf at 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 or 631-438-2468 or visit 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.

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, December 8th

- 8:00 a.m. — Loreto B. Lavarez (M/M C. Gaviola & Emma Ella)
- 9:30 a.m. — Abelardo Angeles (Family)
- 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

Monday, December 9th

- 9:00 a.m. — Edwin Santiago (Tina & Marissa)

Tuesday, December 10th

- 9:00 a.m. — Thomas Donnelly, Jr. (Family)

Wednesday, December 11th

- 9:00 a.m. — Edward Pitti

Thursday, December 12th

- 9:00 a.m. — Joseph Angland, Jr.

Friday, December 13th

- 9:00 a.m. — Thomas Joseph Miller (Family)

Saturday, December 14th

- 5:30 p.m. — Margaret Miller (M/M G. VanSchaick)

Sunday, December 15th

- 8:00 a.m. — Jim Hogan (Tony Roman)
- 9:30 a.m. — Amelia & Inacio DeSousa (Family)
- 11:30 a.m. — People of the Parish

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. 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 (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.



Capital Campaign Update

To date we have received pledges and/or one-time gifts from 371 families, bringing our total thus far to \$812,934. The BIG bump came from a very generous gift of \$100,000. To date more than 90% of the pledge total has been collected. Many thanks.

Thus far we have spent \$859,066 to complete all the projects. In addition, there was a \$65,000 fee for running the campaign over the four years. 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!

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 _____



Time, Talent & Treasure

Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary

(Regular Sunday Offering)

Last Week’s Collection \$8,880 | Last Year’s Collection \$8,285

(includes Faith Direct)

Thank You!

Good News Reflection

The peace that comes from the Holy Spirit

Peace is the theme of the Second Sunday of Advent. The first reading describes Christ the Messiah, who came from the line of Jesse, the father of King David. It also describes how to obtain peace -- a peace that sustains us even in the midst of troubles: "The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him." Can you feel the Holy Spirit "resting" on you?

We experience true peace when we're in a restful relationship with God, i.e., when we're not struggling against him and his ways and his plans for us. Peace does not depend on bringing to an end the struggles we have with people or the problems we have with financial shortages or addictions or health, etc. We can work hard to accomplish peace in any trial, win the war, and still not be at peace.

Peace comes to us in the wisdom and understanding that we get from the Holy Spirit. Peace comes from following the Spirit's counsel and relying upon God's strength. Peace comes from gaining knowledge of the truth that God wants us to know, in total submission to his authority, obediently acting upon the truth.



In the Gospel reading, John the Baptist reminds us to "prepare the way of the Lord and make straight his paths." To receive the Spirit of God and his peace, we must prepare ourselves to meet Jesus in the Eucharist and in all the other ways that he comes to us. What kind of preparation produces peace? It's the work of honestly identifying our sins, happy that God is merciful, and straightening our crooked paths, because we realize that God's ways are really what's best for us.

Whatever separates us from God's peace, we must get rid of it. To do this, we have the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Penitential Rite at the beginning of every Mass. Christ equips us for the journey into true peace!

Questions for Personal Reflection:

What turmoil is going on in your life? What has stolen your peace? Where is Jesus? What obstacles (e.g., unforgiveness or resentment) do you need to repent of to see him and feel his peace?

Questions for Community Faith Sharing:

What methods do you use to settle down and rest in the Spirit of Jesus when turmoil is spinning around you? What kind of prayer helps? Do you go on retreat or confide in a spiritual director? What are some other ideas?

Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA)

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. Thus far we have collected \$57,603. Please ask the Lord how you might participate. Your pledge is payable over a ten-month period of time.

GIVE THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS to a child

Please take a tag from the Giving Tree in the Lobby of the Church with information of a child living at the Lake House Shelter, wrap the gift and return it before December 22nd.



FORMED

Coffee in the Courtyard Moving inside In the basement of the Church

Assumption Youth Ministries invite everyone to “Coffee in the Courtyard”, on Sundays after the 9:30 AM Mass. Since the weather has changed into cold and rainy we are moving inside until the Spring. 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!

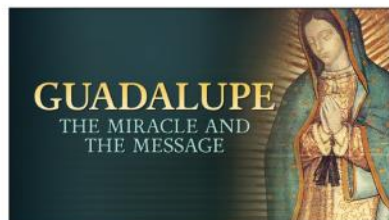


Salvatore Rosato
Rosemary Bliss



Don't Forget our Christmas Pageant, Sunday, December 15th, at 3:00 p.m. in the Church, followed by refreshments in the Parish Center. The production, done by our younger parishioners, from grades 1– 5 will include the “living Nativity.” Not to be missed!

PICK OF THE WEEK



Guadalupe
The Miracle and the Message

The Heart of the Evangelization of the Americas

The most important event in the evangelization of the New World occurred in December of 1531. Over the course of four days, the Virgin Mary, as Our Lady of Guadalupe, appeared to an indigenous convert named Juan Diego. As a result of this encounter, the image miraculously imprinted on Juan Diego's tilma (cloak). This gripping film explores both the inexplicable mysteries behind the image and the continued relevance of this Marian apparition to the modern world.

WATCH ON FORMED.ORG

POWERED 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 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.

One Family In Mission

Stewardship Reflection: You Are Gifted

We are used to hearing the term “gifted” applied to people of exceptional ability or talent. Yet each of us is gifted. Through God’s grace, each of us has strengths, gifts, talents, and abilities without which the Body of Christ, the Church, is incomplete. This key dimension of stewardship—the use of our gifts in service to others—is the one many Catholics have the most trouble with. We can see ourselves, with prayer and sacrifice, giving more of our time and our treasure. But talent? That’s for those other people, the “gifted” ones, we think.

The term “talent” for a gift with which we have been entrusted by God comes from Jesus’ Parable of the Talents, where it originally meant a valuable coin. Like the stewards in the parable, entrusted with valuable commodities by our Master, will we hide them away in fear, or invest them for great return?

Spend some time this week thinking about the gifts that you alone can share with our parish community and the wider world—and then make a plan to share them. “As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” (1 Peter 4:10)

Stewardship Appeal Update

As our Stewardship Appeal draws to a close, 228 households have increased their offertory contribution. Assumption parish family is truly blessed with generous stewards. Thank you.

If you have not already done so, please return the Special Response form to indicate your new level of giving, and return to your regular envelope packet for succeeding weeks. If you are interested in receiving information on our Electronic Giving Program, please see below or contact the parish office.



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 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!

Outreach Needs for the Holidays

Pantry Needs: Boxed milk, canned sweet potatoes, coffee, tea, cake mix and icing, liquid hand soap, shampoo, dishwashing liquid and paper towels.

Gift Cards for Christmas: With Christmas just around the corner, we’re getting ready to prepare Christmas baskets for our Outreach clients. Gift cards to local stores such as Walmart and Target are very helpful in providing those in need with the ability to purchase gifts for their children. In addition, the cards can also be used to provide a great Christmas dinner for our clients by allowing them the dignity to choose their favorite holiday foods.



Interactive Multisensory Advent Prayer Experience



December 6 - 8 in the Parish Center

Friday, Dec. 6 - 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Saturday, Dec. 7 - 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM & 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Sunday, Dec. 8 - 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

**Encounter the Story, the Scripture and,
the real Spirit of the Advent Season
as we wait for the Lord in peace,
hope, joy & love.**

**Volunteers are needed to assist the guests and guide them to the Prayer Room.
Please contact the Rectory office at 631-585-8760 or rectory@abvmcentereach.com**