



# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**January 22, 2023**

**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, January 22**

9:30 a.m. — Robert Gann (Maria Grant)  
James Michael Schultz (Family)

11:30 a.m.— People of the Parish

**Monday, January 23**

9:00 a.m. — John & Margaret Kahill (Mary Ross)  
Frank Buquicchio

**Tuesday, January 24**

9:00 a.m. — Thomas Santagato  
Maria Eck (Kolyer Family)

**Wednesday, January 25**

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

**Thursday, January 26**

9:00 a.m. — Margaret Tyrell (Nancy Dentrone)  
Joseph & Edith Buckley (Maureen & John Dalton)

**Saturday, January 28**

5:30 p.m.—George Leverock (Mary Ross)  
Marilyn Huether (Carol & Bill Jankowski)

**Sunday, January 29**

9:30 a.m.— Marilyn Huether (Catherine & Family)  
Antonio Valisno Sr. Aida, Tonypet & Arnold)  
11:30 a.m.—People of the Parish

**Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.**  
Psalms 107:1

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

**Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary**  
Last Week's Collection \$8,667  
(includes Faith Direct)  
Last Year's Collection \$8,419  
**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. Meetings are held on every first Tuesday of the month from September thru June.

Rest  
in  
Peace

Deceased Brothers & Sisters of Our Parish

**Good News Reflection****Helping those who live in darkness**

Who's troubling you? In this Sunday's Gospel passage, we hear of the fulfillment of the prophecy given by Isaiah in the first reading: Because of Jesus Christ, the people you know who are living in darkness have seen the light that will heal them. Who is making no effort to get out of their sin-induced misery? Who is overshadowed by the demons of spiritual death and destruction? Whose stubbornness is causing you great anguish?



Whose stubbornness is causing you great anguish?

Through your prayers and faithful love, Jesus has been revealed to them. Even as they fight against this truth and hide from him, the great light of Christ cannot be turned off. Soon or eventually this will cause great rejoicing, not only for you, but for those who are being rescued.

Elsewhere (Luke 12:49-50), Jesus expressed his feelings about people who live in darkness: "How great is my anguish until it is accomplished!" Thus, he knows your anguish and shares it, but more deeply and fervently. He is doing more than you know, more than you can imagine, to accomplish the victory for which you've been praying. He is doing everything possible -- as well as the impossible -- to bring it to fulfillment.

Pray that Divine Providence will use the bad consequences of each person's stubborn rebellion to draw them to himself. Pray that God will use others to bring them into his light. Pray that God will work in his own way (which might not be the way you would

choose) to dissolve their spiritual rebellion. Pray that after their conversion they will spread the light of Christ powerfully. And pray that their conversion will be deep, definite and permanent.

We don't pray to change God's mind; he's already working to bring the light of Christ to people who live in darkness. We pray to place these people into his arms, since they're not doing it for themselves.

**Questions for Personal Reflection:**

Write a list of people who are living in darkness. Will you trust in the power of Christ's great light and the victory he obtained through his death and resurrection? Make a commitment to feel Christ's anguish more keenly and use this pain to energize you into daily prayer on behalf of darkened souls.

**Questions for Community Faith Sharing:**

Think of those who are living in darkness. Get a large candle and etch their names into it. Light the candle and offer your prayers for these loved ones. If possible, do this with a prayer community in a mutual agreement of prayer support, and light this candle at all of your community meetings.



For the last few months, our parish offering envelopes have been delayed. A week ago, the company that we work with sent me an email stating that they cannot send the envelopes for January and February due to the supply chain, and the inability to add employees at the rate necessary has created a slow draw on production and shipping. The company assured me that offering envelopes will resume and be delivered by the first Sunday in March. In the meantime, Parish Office has mailed a few envelopes to use until we get on our regular ones from the envelope company. In case you haven't gotten a set please contact the office or pick up some temporary envelopes at the door. Thank you very much for

your love, generosity and commitment to our Assumption parish family as we live our Mission, Love God, Serve Others and Grow Disciples.

Thank you very much for your patience. Fr. Joseph




# Faith Formation

Classes will RESUME on

## Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>

after Christmas and New Year recess.

**Small Group** is where our large church gets small. Groups are 6-10 people who meet to discuss faith, go deeper in the weekly message, and support one another in their relationship with Christ. This is the place to care for others and be cared for; a place to impact our community and the world. Assumption small groups are open to accept more people anytime during the year to help your faith journey. If you like to join a small group, stop by at the Welcome Desk in the church lobby on Sunday or email [rptak@abvmcentereach.com](mailto:rptak@abvmcentereach.com) to sign up.

# Sprouts

Sprouts is a children's ministry for ages three and up on Sundays after 9:30 am Mass during Coffee in the Courtyard. We are ready to hear and be part of the stories our youngest disciples of our parish are living and

to invite them to the most incredible adventure of their lives, reminding them week after week, year after year, that our Father is madly after their hearts.

## ***Food Pantry Volunteers Needed***

Our Parish Mission Statement includes the words “Love God. Serve Others.” If you are looking to start the new year by putting those words into action, please consider joining the Parish Social Ministry. Our Ministry serves those in need in our community by providing a fully stocked food pantry as well as offering limited financial assistance in some cases. We are looking for volunteers who are compassionate, understanding and are committed to the mission of the Parish. The ability to converse in Spanish or familiarity with Microsoft Office software is helpful but not necessary. The following hours are available: Tues, Wed or Fri 10AM – 1 PM

If you are interested in joining our Ministry or have any questions please contact us.

Phone: 631 585-8760 x2, Email: outreach@abvmcentereach.com. You can also sign up or get information at the Welcome Desk following the 9:30 Mass.

**Pantry Needs: Household Cleaner, Laundry Detergent, Liquid Hand Soap, Cooking Oil, Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Cake Frosting, Canned Pasta, Canned Tomatoes, Canned Chicken, Fruit Juice and Cereal.**



## ***Men's Retreat***

***March 10 – 12, 2023 / Huntington***

Presenter: Larry Lewis, M.M.  
(popular preacher & retreat director)

Register by 2/14/23 or as soon as possible, rooms are limited  
sblyskalmd@gmail.com / 631-786-7855

Stanley Blyskal, 19 Tern Court, East Islip, NY

Carpooling from Assumption : Marty Muratore 516-650-1632





*Coffee*  
in the  
*Courtyard*

**in the plaza between the church and the parish center**

*Coffee*  
*Conversations*  
*Community*

**After**  
**9:30 AM**  
**& 11:30 AM**  
**Masses**

You are invited to “Coffee in the Courtyard”, on every **Sunday after the 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Masses at the Plaza between church and the Parish Center**. Hang out with our fellow worshippers, spend a few minutes conversing with others, make new friends, and build a stronger community, in which we then become a stronger parish family. **All are welcome!** Join us for fellowship, wonderful conversations and of course coffee.



Please prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. Signing up is easy! Visit [faithdirect.net/NY563](https://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!



**Sunday, Jan 22, 2023****Coming live to a parish near you!**

Some of us were taught that Mass attendance "counted" if we arrived for the gospel and stayed through Communion. Most churchgoers, thankfully, are weaned from this spartan idea to the liturgical celebration. In 2019, Pope Francis designated the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time as "Word of God Sunday." While every Mass includes a healthy serving of Bible readings, annually we're invited to reflect that this is "an experience which occurs 'live' and not through hearsay," as the pope says. "We gather precisely to listen to what God has done *and still intends to do for us.*" Let's not miss a word of it!

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 8:23—9:3; 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17; Matthew 4:12-23 (67). *"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone."*

**Monday, Jan 23, 2023****Don't let fear keep you from serving**

The disease of leprosy has been curable since the mid-20th century and is actually not highly contagious, as was believed in the past, but the physical effects were devastating enough to cause tremendous fear. Mother Marianne Cope was not afraid, which she stated in 1883 in her letter of acceptance to King Kalākaua of Hawaii, who had already asked for help from—and been turned down by—more than 50 other religious congregations to care for his people who had leprosy. The German-born American sister and six others came to his aid all the way from New York. When you go beyond your fears to answer a call, you may be bridging the greatest distance of all.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN; MEMORIAL OF MARIANNE COPE, RELIGIOUS  
TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 9:15, 24-28; Mark 3:22-30 (317). *"If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand."*

**Tuesday, Jan 24, 2023****There is strength in gentleness**

Francis de Sales is famous for his gentleness. He used it on his stubborn father, convincing him he was meant to become a priest instead of a lawyer. It was a virtue Francis tapped to win hardened Calvinists back to the Catholic faith following the Protestant Reformation, a time of much bitterness. Explaining that a "spoonful of honey gathers more flies than a barrel full of vinegar," Saint Francis practiced what he preached by greeting everyone with simple kindness, speaking good-naturedly about the goodness, truth, and beauty of the Catholic faith. "Be who you are and be that well," he reminds us in [Introduction to the Devout Life](#).

MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS DE SALES, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH  
TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 10:1-10; Mark 3:31-35 (318). *"Behold, I come to do your will, O God."*

**Wednesday, Jan 25, 2023****I can see clearly now**

We've all had the rather unpleasant experience of "being shown the error of our ways," though none perhaps as dramatically as Saul of Tarsus, zealous persecutor of early followers of Christ. On assignment to round up these dissidents, Saul was knocked from his horse by a blinding light and a voice from heaven. Three days

of blindness ensued before the scales literally "fell from his eyes" and the newly awakened apostle and great evangelist we know as Saint Paul emerged. Don't wait to be knocked to the ground before considering how your own life may have gone astray. Pray that anything that blinds you may fall away from your vision.

FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF PAUL THE APOSTLE

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Mark 16:15-18 (519). *"Saul, my brother, regain your sight."*

**Thursday, Jan 26, 2023****Our moment is now**

In the '90s, it seemed everyone wanted in on the "dot.com" internet startup craze. Many were excited to be in on the ground floor of something brand new. It's tempting to think that Timothy and Titus (both of whom have letters in the New Testament addressed to them) were like the dot.com entrepreneurs when it came to the new, exciting religion of Christianity. In contrast, today's Christianity can seem weighed down by centuries of precedent and proscriptions. Titus and Timothy dealt with plenty of church trouble in their time, however, from division to drunkenness to false teaching. Their witness reminds us to pray for the strength to rise to the challenges of the moment we've been given, just as they did.

MEMORIAL OF TIMOTHY AND TITUS, BISHOPS

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Timothy 1:1-8 or Titus 1:1-5 (520); Mark 4:21-25 (320). *"The measure with which you measure will be measured out to you."*

**Friday, Jan 27, 2023****Stay the course**

Sometimes when the going gets tough, if they are honest, the tough want to curl up under the blankets and never come out! Life is not always an easy road, even when we feel called by God. But we're not alone on the journey. We can look to the saints to see how they've weathered the storms. Today, on the feast of Angela Merici, educator and founder of the Ursuline Sisters, let us take heart in her wisdom. "Strive with all your might to keep yourselves as you have been called by God, and seek out and desire all those means and ways that are necessary to persevere and prosper till the end."

MEMORIAL OF ANGELA MERICI, RELIGIOUS FOUNDER

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 10:32-39; Mark 4:26-34 (321). *"We are not among those who draw back and perish, but among those who have faith and will possess life."*

**Saturday, Jan 28, 2023****Be resolute**

Sometimes your commitment to your faith or choice of a vocation or calling can lead to uncomfortable conflicts with loved ones who have a different idea of who you should be or how you should live your life. Even a saint as illustrious as Saint Thomas had to struggle against opposition. His family was so opposed to his decision to enter the Dominican order that they had him abducted and held captive for a year! Thomas stood firm and they finally relented, and as a result the church gained perhaps its greatest theologian. Stand firm when you need to—who knows what God has in store for you!

MEMORIAL OF THOMAS AQUINAS, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19; Mark 4:35-41 (322). *"He asked them, 'Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?'"*

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



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