



# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**March 12, 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, March 12

9:30 a.m. — Joseph Vetrovec (Riggs Family)  
Abelardo & Norma Angeles (Family)  
11:30 a.m.— People of the Parish

### Monday, March 13

9:00 a.m. — Judy V. Carlson (Marge Sparano)  
Antoine Jean-Baptiste (Ezell Family)

### Tuesday, March 14

9:00 a.m. — Fernando Pacheco Goncalves (Nancy Dentrone)

### Wednesday, March 15

9:00 a.m.—

### Thursday, March 16

9:00 a.m. — William & Farah Ross (Mary Ross)  
Jake Daniel Gentile-Farrell (Fisher Family)

### Friday, March 17

9:00 a.m. — Intentions of Marcus Numa (Marcelle Estriplet)  
Leonie Seneus (Marcelle Estriplet)

### Saturday, March 18

5:30 p.m.— Peter & Marjorie Gochan (Family)  
John Kump (Sister)

### Sunday, March 19

9:30 a.m.— Maria Serqueira (Acacio & Elizabeth Reis)  
Antonio Salgado (Acacio & Elizabeth Reis)  
11:30 a.m.—People of the Parish  
Michael Kennedy (Kennedy Family)

### 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 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. Meetings are held on every first Tuesday of the month from September thru June.

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

**Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary**  
**Last Week's Collection \$11,076**

(includes *Faith Direct*)

**Last Year's Collection \$14,130**  
**Thank You!**

Rest  
in  
Peace



Deceased Brothers & Sisters of our Parish

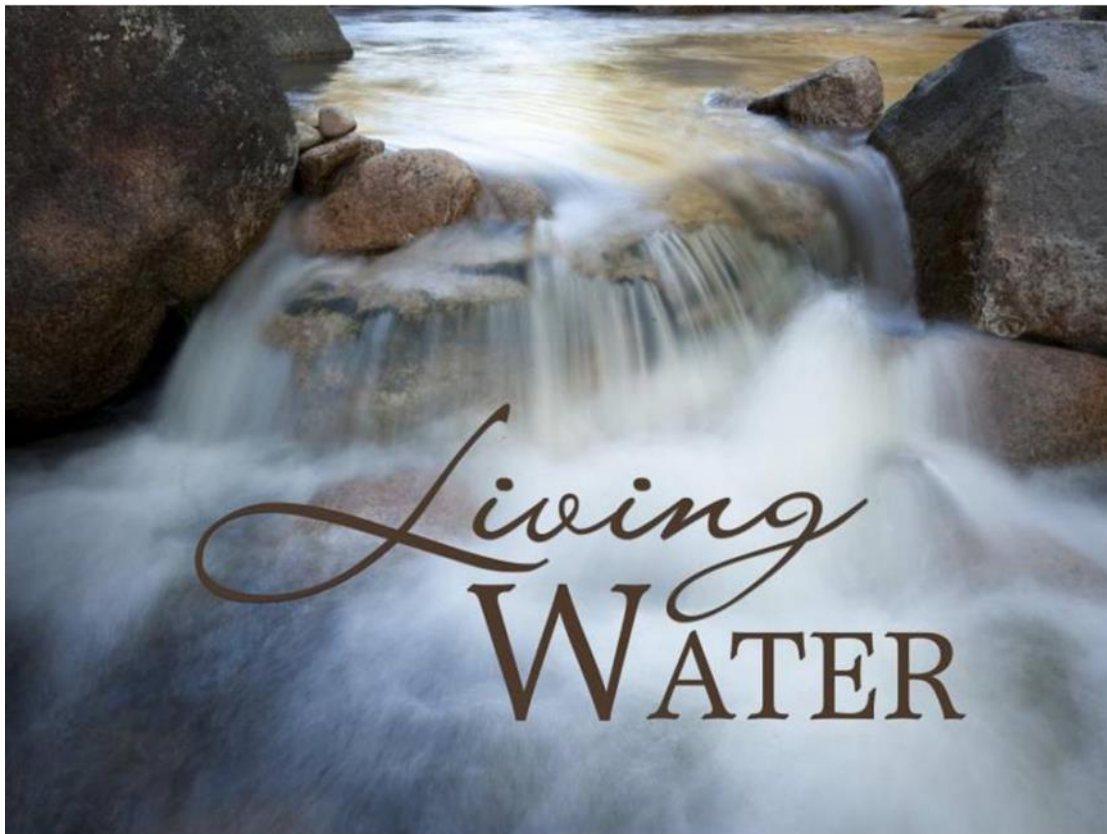
## ***Good News Reflection***

### ***What's your spiritual thirst?***

What are you thirsty for? Thirst is what happens when we lack something vital. Water is essential for our physical survival, and our bodies signal us when it's time to drink fluids to stay healthy.

Likewise, water is necessary for our spiritual survival, albeit a different sort of water -- the living water, which we first received from the baptismal water that purifies us for eternal life. This living water is a holy water that enables us to have abundant life in Christ.

The Holy Spirit is the Giver of Life. One of the biblical symbols that represents the presence of God's Spirit is life-giving water. Therefore, we can surmise that Jesus wanted to give the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Samaritan woman. Why? It would still be a while before the Holy Spirit descended upon everyone at Pentecost.



She needed the truth; the Holy Spirit is Truth, and Jesus wanted to give her whatever she needed to repent and receive salvation and then share this new life with the people around her.

We only get thirsty when we haven't had enough to drink. Spiritual thirst shows itself in many forms: addictions, loneliness, despair, frustration, self-indulgence, or any other feeling or behavior that's triggered when we lack something that we need or want.

And why would we lack anything spiritually? Because, like the woman at the well, we sometimes fail to realize that Christ is with us. We need to receive a spiritual healing.

How does God give us this healing? He pours his love

into us with all sufficiency, but to drink of it, we have to listen openly, like that woman, ready to be changed by the truth.

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

What sin or unhealthy habit do you need to overcome so that Jesus is free to quench your thirsts? What will you do this week to hand it over to Christ?

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

1. In the first reading, why did a physical thirst turn into a sin? How does this still happen today?
2. In Romans 5, grace and hope are mentioned as gifts we receive when we have been "justified by faith" (i.e., when we've repented of our sins and sought forgiveness through Jesus). How do grace and hope quench our thirsts? How do they help us resist sin?
3. The woman at the well eagerly received what Jesus said. Even though he confronted her about her sins, she drank it all in and then, without shame, excitedly told others about her encounter with the Messiah. What need was filled by the truth? What does this teach about how we can help others hear the truth?

# I'M FINE

...and neither are you

## New Lenten Message Series



This week we will look at the story of the woman at the well. Jesus intentionally goes into the woman's wound. He brings up the fact that the woman is not married and she has had five husbands. Five men have married and then discarded her. Jesus rips open the wound. The encounter shows that Jesus will actually take us to our wounds not because he wants to hurt us but because he wants to heal us. And we cannot be healed if we don't invite him in. In this message we will look at wounds of the heart and how Jesus wants to heal us.

Everyone has an emotional and spiritual wound and that comes with a message. Jesus will lead us into our emotional wounds so he can heal us and give us a new message of being loved and accepted. Let us confront the wounds of the past or present that have not been healed. Invite Jesus to heal the wound.

**I will restore you  
to health and  
heal your wounds,  
declares the Lord.**

*Jeremiah 30:17*

# Healing Prayer

**Tuesday, March 14<sup>TH</sup>**

**at 7:00 - 8:00 PM in the Church**

**by our PARISH PRAYER TEAM**

*Praying over individually for physical, emotional, relational and other wounds to be healed by our ultimate Healer.*



*Coffee  
in the  
Courtyard*

*Coffee  
Conversations  
Community*

**in the Parish Center Hall**

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

### 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: Household Cleaner, Toothbrushes, Bread/Muffin Mix, Box Milk, Hot Chocolate, Coffee, Fruit Juice, Shampoo, Conditioner, Deodorant, Noodles, Syrup, Instant Potatoes, Dog Food.**



CREATIVE MINISTRIES PRESENTS

# JOURNEY

CROSS & CRUCIFIXION

A live dramatic presentation of the Stations of the Cross

## PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2 at 3:00 PM in the Church



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!



### Catholic Ministries Appeal 2023

Diocese of Rockville Centre

*One Family - Journeying together in Communion, Participation and Mission*

Donor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



Please make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries Appeal

I/we agree to make a gift of:

\$500    \$250    \$100    \$50    \$25    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Pledge Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Initial Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reminders will be send each month for the next 10 months. Thank you very much for your generosity. Your gifts make a difference in the lives of others!

**Sunday, Mar 12, 2023****Truth be told**

Pontius Pilate famously asked Jesus, "What is truth?" Pilate didn't stick around for the answer (which in itself says a lot), but if he had, he might have heard something like the definition the Catechism of the Catholic Church provides: "Truth as uprightness in human action and speech is called truthfulness, sincerity, or candor. Truth or truthfulness is the virtue which consists in showing oneself true in deeds and truthful in words, and in guarding against duplicity, dissimulation, and hypocrisy." Now we have a sense of what it means to imitate Christ in all things.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42 (28). *"God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth."*

**Monday, Mar 13, 2023****On the frontiers of servanthood**

When you think of the legendary figures of the Wild West, Billy the Kid, Buffalo Bill, Annie Oakley, Geronimo, and Sitting Bull come to mind. But how about Sister Blandina Segale? Add her to list—because she had encounters with many of those men and women, and her life was also the stuff of lore. Born in 1850, this Italian-American Sister of Charity of Cincinnati traveled alone through the American frontier to serve the poor and sick (including saving the life of a seriously wounded Billy the Kid), to advocate for Native American civil rights, and to fight against lynching (including protecting a contrite murderer from a mob). This Catholic Sisters Week (March 8-14) count Segale, honored by the church with the title servant of God, among the heroic sisters who have your gratitude for spreading the faith.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Kings 5:1-15b; Luke 4:24-30 (237). *"Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place."*

**Tuesday, Mar 14, 2023****No room for hate**

Fannie Lou Hamer died this day in 1977. But she nearly died in 1963, in a Mississippi jail cell—so badly beaten, as a civil rights advocate, that her cell mate didn't think she'd survive the night. But Hamer asked her to join in singing the hymn "Walk With Me, Lord" and lived to see another day. In fact Hamer lived to testify, on television, before the 1964 Democratic National Convention. A tireless campaigner for women's voting rights, she was also inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame. Follow Hamer's lead in fostering forgiveness: "I feel sorry for anybody that could let hate wrap them up. Ain't no such thing as I can hate anybody and hope to see God's face."

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35 (238). *"Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him?"*

**Wednesday, Mar 15, 2023****Printing the truth is worth the struggle**

On this week in 1827, *Freedom's Journal* began publication as the first African-American newspaper in history. Founded by Protestant minister John Wilk and leading free black men in New York City, the paper would set off a revolution in U.S. media, resulting in similar papers being established nationwide, forming the black press. Daniel Rudd founded the first black Catholic

newspaper in 1885, and the explosion in African-American conversions to Catholicism in the 20th century can be attributed in large part to these newspapers advertising better conditions in the northern United States (where Catholic parishes and schools happened to be plentiful). The black press continues today in many American cities and represents one of the nation's original justice-focused professional institutions. Consider supporting a local—or national—black news outlet today.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19 (239). *"Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life."*

**Thursday, Mar 16, 2023****Let God carry it**

The comedy-drama *The Banshees of Inisherin* features a man gloomy about his eventual death going to Confession over a period of weeks. Each time, the priest asks, "And how is the despair?" implying despair itself might be seen as a sin—rather tough but also tender in the way the priest wants to understand the whole man. The church upholds hope as a virtue and warns against despair because it can leave no room for God's grace. That said, our faith leaders have long shown compassion for the complexities of depression in its many forms. Whatever your emotional state, consider turning today's burdens over to God.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23 (240). *"But if it is by the finger of God that I drive out demons, then the Kingdom of God has come upon you."*

**Friday, Mar 17, 2023****As luck would have it**

The Lord expects great things from us: namely, to love God with our whole heart, soul, and mind, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Are humans really capable of such love? Irish writer Oscar Wilde had his doubts: "I sometimes think that God in creating man somewhat overestimated his ability." We human beings do tend to make a mess of things when left to our own devices, but luckily for us, we have a loving God who sent Jesus to show us the way to love, and the Holy Spirit to keep us on the path of love. In honor of Saint Patrick, remember to draw on the Trinity as you continually recalibrate your trajectory toward love.

MEMORIAL OF PATRICK, BISHOP

TODAY'S READINGS: Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34 (241). *"Straight are the paths of the LORD, in them the just walk."*

**Saturday, Mar 18, 2023****The fragrance of forgiveness**

Cyril, a fourth-century bishop of Jerusalem and a doctor of the church, was instrumental in forming the church's doctrinal understanding of the Holy Spirit. He wrote, "The Spirit comes gently and makes himself known by his fragrance. He is not felt as a burden for God is light . . . The Spirit comes with the tenderness of a true friend to save, to heal, to teach, to counsel, to strengthen and to console." The formula for absolution in the sacrament of Reconciliation identifies the Holy Spirit as sent "for the forgiveness of sins." Celebrate the sacrament at your church this afternoon.

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

TODAY'S READINGS: Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14 (242). *"O God, be merciful to me a sinner."*

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



©2023 TrueQuest Communications. [TakeFiveForFaith.com](http://TakeFiveForFaith.com); [mail@takefiveforfaith.com](mailto:mail@takefiveforfaith.com). All rights reserved. Noncommercial reprints permitted with the following credit: Reprinted with permission from [TakeFiveForFaith.com](http://TakeFiveForFaith.com). Scripture citations from the New American Bible Revised Edition. For more information about TAKE FIVE and our regular contributors, go to [PrepareTheWord.com](http://PrepareTheWord.com). Free daily email and app available online at [TakeFiveForFaith.com/subscribe](http://TakeFiveForFaith.com/subscribe).