



# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**April 16, 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  
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



**Sunday, April 16**

9:30 a.m. — Mary P. McConnon  
Peter & Marjorie Gochan (Family)  
11:30 a.m.— People of the Parish

**Monday, April 17**

9:00 a.m. — Living & Deceased Members of the Romeo  
& Wolz Families  
Halina Lemanska (Chiaromonte Family)

**Tuesday, April 18**

9:00 a.m. — Mary Ann Lau (Helmig Family)

**Wednesday, April 19**

9:00 a.m.—Edward Lindstadt (Joan Reid)

**Thursday, April 20**

9:00 a.m.. — Alicia Cuervo (Family)

**Saturday, April 22**

5:30 p.m.—Judy Carlson (Calestini Family)  
Kevin Rivers (Ginny & Barbara)

**Sunday, April 23**

9:30 a.m.— Raymond Vutrano (Terry Cheshire &  
Navins Family)  
James Snith (Carole & Jerry Herchenroder)  
11:30 a.m.—People of the Parish

**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 web-  
site [www.abvmcentereach.com](http://www.abvmcentereach.com) or call the office at  
631-585-8760 during regular office hours.

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

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

**Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary**  
**Last Week's Collection \$22,624**  
(includes Faith Direct)  
**Last Year's Collection \$12,632**  
**Thank You!**

**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

Anthony DiLaurenzio

## ***Good News Reflection***

### ***How to continue the Easter experience***

How well do we live the Easter experience in our daily lives? We are an Easter people, because we know and celebrate that Jesus has risen from the dead. And yet, we're not always shouting, "Hallelujah!" We don't always feel like celebrating -- not in our worship nor outside the church where our joy could influence people toward faith in Jesus.



It's hard to feel like the Good Friday experience of carrying our crosses has really ended.

This Sunday's second reading describes what the Easter experience is supposed to feel like: We should rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy. But how does that happen?

The attitude of joy does not come from reaching the end of our cross-like burdens. Rather, it comes from knowing that Christ's death and resurrection have overcome our crosses, and by uniting ourselves to his life, we are victorious even before we see the battle end.

Furthermore, it comes from knowing that we have the ultimate victory -- eternal

life in God's abundant love -- and we know that this gift is "imperishable, undefiled, and unfading" and that it's being safeguarded by the power of God because, by choosing to have faith in Christ, we have accepted the gift in advance.

This joy-from-knowing is the true definition of "hope". Hope isn't wishful thinking. Hope means celebrating what is certainly going to happen before it happens.

Some Catholics say that they're afraid they might lose their salvation because they don't trust themselves to stay close to Jesus always. They're afraid that something will tempt them to turn away from Jesus between now and the hour of death. If you worry about this, let me ask you: During times of suffering, do you reject God or run to him?

Even when we get angry at him, we're actually very close to him. We're angry because we believe in him and trust him and he seems to be disappointing us. This is a normal part of the Christian life: Our faith is purified by our trials.

To embrace life as an Easter people, we must learn to remember that our sufferings are temporary and that someday we will enter into eternal joy. This is what we celebrate even while carrying our crosses.

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

In what ways has God apparently disappointed you? What is he doing -- or not doing -- that's upsetting you? How is this increasing your closeness to him, even if it feels like he's silent and distant?

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

Give an example of wishful thinking: What have you wished for in prayer? What have you been begging God to do? How is this different than hoping (joy-from-knowing)? Even if your wish never comes true, what's your reason for a higher hope?



Faith is not meant to be blind. We are free to question and explore and seek evidence that helps deepen our faith. In this message we will look at how Thomas moves from unbelief to believing in the Resurrection. Jesus invites Thomas to touch his wounds and to move out of unbelief.

**2023**  
**CATHOLIC**  
**MINISTRIES**  
**APPEAL**  
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

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



Catholic Ministries Appeal enables our Church on Long island to continue to form our youth and adults in the faith, promote the dignity of life,

provide quality education to our young people, feed the hungry, and foster vocations to the priesthood. Our Parish goal this year is \$56,600. We have made our goal last year (56,600) and got back more than \$11,000 as rebate to use it in our parish. Your generosity helps to make all of this, and so much more, possible! If you haven't made a pledge yet please do it soon. Pledges can be paid off in the next ten months. **Thank you for your support.**

**ADOREMUS**  
 EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WITH CONTEMPORARY AND TRADITIONAL MUSIC

**Friday, April 21, 2023 - 7:30 - 8:30 PM**

**in the church &  Streaming**

**PRAISE AND WORSHIP \* SILENT ADORATION \* BENEDICTION**

### Parish Social Ministry

The Outreach Food Pantry is available for individuals and families that are struggling to stretch their food budget. 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. The Outreach Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 AM to 1 PM. **Pantry Needs: Paper Towels, Kleenex, Liquid Hand Soap, Deodorant, Toothbrushes, Razors, Laundry Detergent, Mayonnaise, Salad Dressing, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Rice-a-Roni, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Dog Food, Cat Food.**



### 14th Annual Women's Retreat "BEHOLD THY SON"

Friday, 12 May 2023 – Saturday, 13 May 2023

Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, 440 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY

Cost: \$175 per person

Includes dinner Friday, 3 meals Saturday, private room w/ shower

For more information contact Lana Maggio at 631-374-1116 or Corinne Addiss 631-804-7222 or keepntuch@aol.com

# 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.

## SAVE THE DATE



### Vacation Bible School 2023 July 31<sup>st</sup> to Aug 4<sup>th</sup>



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!



**Sunday, Apr 16, 2023****Put disappointments behind**

Learn a lesson from the experience of the apostle we've come to know as "doubting Thomas." Insisting that our expectations be met is often the path to disillusionment and heartbreak. The way to peace is another route entirely. As Saint John Chrysostom taught, "So you want peace of heart? Then do not seek health, nor wealth, nor fame, nor power, nor luxury. Seek wisdom in God's sight, stick to the virtues, and nothing will be able to make you sad." Start by cultivating the seven big virtues: faith, hope, love, prudence, temperance, courage, and justice. And leave disappointment in the rearview mirror.

SOLEMNITY OF THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER; DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 2:42-47; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31 (43). "Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' "

**Monday, Apr 17, 2023****Reborn and renewed**

Are Catholics "born again"? Yes, when we are baptized. In Baptism, we die with Christ, in that all sins are purified, and are reborn as children of God. Once done, it need not and cannot be repeated because by Baptism we are incorporated into Christ, configured to Christ, and sealed forever with the "indelible spiritual mark" of belonging to Christ. Catholics can, however, renew baptismal vows—and often do at Mass, especially during the Easter season, including the Easter Vigil Mass. Cherish this opportunity to restate your promises, profess your faith, and strengthen your commitment to Christ and church once again.

EASTER WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:23-31; John 3:1-8 (267). "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless one is born of water and Spirit he cannot enter the Kingdom of God."

**Tuesday, Apr 18, 2023****The high cost of beauty**

On this day in 1506, Pope Julius II laid the cornerstone for today's St. Peter's Basilica, initiating the most celebrated architectural project in all of Christendom. The work involved renowned Renaissance artists Raphael and Michelangelo and took 120 years to complete. The result? Ralph Waldo Emerson declared it "an ornament of the earth . . . the sublime of the beautiful." To appreciate its beauty and grandeur, take a virtual tour of St. Peter's Basilica.

EASTER WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:32-37; John 3:7b-15 (268). "The wind blows where it wills, and you can hear the sound it makes, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes."

**Wednesday, Apr 19, 2023****Free advice**

From the Book of Exodus to the Book of Acts, biblical literature is filled with stories of God delivering people from bondage to freedom, from darkness to light. And, as the church instructs in its 1984 document on liberation theology, the "most radical form of slavery is slavery to sin." Reflect on God's activity in your own life, especially during times that you were stuck or caught in a

destructive pattern. God created us free and longs to see us free. Whatever fetters might have you tied down or wrestling in the dark at the moment, know that you can turn to God for release.

Liberation is what God loves to bring!

EASTER WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 5:17-26; John 3:16-21 (269). "The angel of the Lord opened the doors of the prison [and] led them out."

**Thursday, Apr 20, 2023****More than enough to go around**

If you grew up in a household marked by scarcity, the "theology of abundance" might be hard to embrace. This concept, popularized by Lutheran theologian Walter Brueggemann, is that God's generosity and abundance are overflowing, and that discipleship means sharing freely of both material and spiritual riches to rid the world of poverty in all its forms. How do you experience God's overflowing generosity? And how are you paying it forward?

EASTER WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 5:27-33; John 3:31-36 (270). "He does not ration his gift of the Spirit."

**Friday, Apr 21, 2023****Sad face emoji**

Behind smiley emojis and Instagram-worthy photos, many people are struggling to make it through the day. With so much heaviness of heart, Easter can seem totally out of place. Yet, the Paschal Mystery reminds us that we need not be struggle-free in order to allow the warmth, light, and new life of Easter to wash over us, if even a little. God welcomes us in just as we are and offers to us abundant love, holding us when we ourselves can hold no more. As we continue this season, what might you allow God to hold for you?

EASTER WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 5:34-42; John 6:1-15 (271). "Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted."

**Saturday, Apr 22, 2023****Calming the waters**

The Sea of Galilee is said to be prone to sudden, violent storms, with temperature swings and gusty winds provoked by the high mountains that surround it. Whether we understand Jesus walking on the choppy waters literally or figuratively, the message is clear: Jesus is our bridge over troubled waters. Whatever turbulence you might be experiencing, reach out a hand to the many incarnations of Christ in your life—those who will stand by you and stand with you, those who are ready to reach out a steadying hand as you face the storms of life.

EASTER WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 6:1-7; John 6:16-21 (272). "The sea was stirred up because a strong wind was blowing."

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



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