



# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**July 30, 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: Summer Hours M - Th 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, July 30**

9:30 a.m. — Mary O’Brien Reilly (Maureen Reilly)  
Patrick Bonavise (Ferrara Family)

11:30 a.m.— People of the Parish

**Monday, July 31**

9:00 a.m. —

**Tuesday, August 1**

9:00 a.m. — Otto Wolz

**Wednesday, August 2**

9:00 a.m.— Living & Deceased Members of the Rosary  
Altar Society  
Rob Sposito

**Thursday, August 3**

9:00 a.m.. — Salvatore DiBenedetto (Botero Family)  
Patrick Thomas Kearney (Kearney Family)

**Saturday, August 5**

5:30 p.m.— Kevin Rivers (Barbara Della Croce)  
Sharon Lynn Vandal (Charles & Barbara  
Donnelly)

**Sunday, August 6**

9:30 a.m.— Susana Macabenta (Harry & Luz Gaviola)  
Carla Sciara (Maureen Reilly)

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.

**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**  
**Monday to Thursday**  
**9:00 AM to 2:00 PM**  
**Friday: CLOSED**

**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 631-585-3938.

**Catholic War Veterans**

Second Saturday of the month: Sept - June at 10 AM  
in the Parish Library. Contact Vincent Zecca,  
[papazecca@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:rtbhuntington@yahoo.com) or Anita Wolf at  
[hwolf96@aol.com](mailto: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.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
and do not lean on your own understanding.  
In all your ways acknowledge him,  
and he will make straight your paths.”  
Proverbs 3:5-6

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

**Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary**  
**Last Week’s Collection: \$10,320**  
(includes *Faith Direct*)  
**Last Year’s Collection: \$9,823**  
**Thank You!**

Rest  
in  
Peace

Carmela Camarda

**Good News Reflection****Three layers of evangelization**

Go and Make Disciples: A National Plan and Strategy for Catholic Evangelization in the United States (published in 1992) names three important layers of evangelization: (1) Nurture your own faith-growth, (2) invite others to conversion, and (3) transform society through true Christian living. In this Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus teaches us these same three strategies, using parables.



(1) Nurture your own faith-growth: In the kingdom of God, we are like good wheat growing amidst weeds. This takes effort; the weeds will take over if we're not working daily at growing in holiness. What have you been doing to prevent the weeds around you from taking over and strangling your holiness? How is your faith life benefiting from living in the midst of non-believers and evil? Your Father-Creator is empowering you to grow.

(2) Invite others to conversion: In the kingdom of God, we are like the tiniest of seeds that grow into a bush so large that others benefit from our growth. Who is benefiting from your faith? How is your spiritual growth inviting them into a closer relationship with Jesus? The Holy Spirit is empowering you to evangelize others if you're willing to minister to them using what you've learned from your experiences.

(3) Transform society: In the kingdom of God, we are like yeast that helps the whole batch swell up and mature into the bread of life that nourishes others. What are you involved in, as a Christian, that improves the world? Is your faith making a difference in your workplace, your community, and your parish? During Mass, as you receive the nourishment of the Eucharist, you are empowered to become Eucharist for the world. Mass ends with Christ commissioning you, through the presider, to be the yeast of goodness that affects those around you.

**Questions for Personal Reflection:**

Maybe you never saw yourself as an "evangelist", but you are! This is your calling as a baptized Christian. Which of the above three areas of evangelization are you most actively doing? Which needs more of your attention?

**Questions for Community Faith Sharing:**

Give an example from your own life (or from the life of someone you know or have heard about) that illustrates one of the three goals above. What about the other goals? Make sure that, in your discussion as a faith sharing group, examples are given for all three goals of evangelization.

# Message Series



At Assumption, we preach in message series. Over several weeks, we will look at a topic or book of the Bible and go deeper into it. Starting in September, we select a topic based on the weekend's scripture readings and dive deep into it. These are the three questions we ask as we prepare each message series. What do we want the congregation to feel? What do we want them to know? What do we want them to do? This way, the message you hear in the church is not some head knowledge or something that flies over your head but has practical applications for our daily lives. That's why I always mention "homework" in my messages. God speaks to us every moment, especially in a community setting on Sundays when we listen to the Word of God as we celebrate, pray, praise, and thank God. Then the discussion continues in the Small Groups and goes deeper.

Our next brand new message series begins on the second week of September as we welcome back everyone after the summer. Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Fr. Joe

**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.



## Assumption Faith Formation



### K to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration 2023-24



Begins on July 22<sup>nd</sup> and ends on September 11<sup>th</sup>

## Register Online at [abvmcentereach.com](http://abvmcentereach.com)

## 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](mailto:outreach@abvmcentereach.com). The Outreach Office is open in the Summer on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 AM to 1 PM.

**Kleenex, Liquid Hand Soap, Bar Soap, Laundry Detergent, Household Cleaner, Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Fruit Juice, Canned Tomatoes, Salad Dressing, Rice-A-Roni, Instant Oatmeal, Pancake Mix, Canned Dog Food, Canned Cat Food.**



## Remember Our Parish in Your Will

We often do not realize how helpful it is to the parish that serves our spiritual needs when a person decides to share his/her resources as a way of saying “thank you” for all that has been provided. Most assuredly, a gift to the parish in your will or trust affirms your continued commitment to the parish’s life and works.

Making this gift is easy. You can instruct your attorney to use this wording: “I hereby give, devise and bequeath to Assumption of the BVM parish, with offices at 20 Chestnut St., Centereach, NY 11720, the sum of \$ \_\_\_ to be used for its most urgent needs.” As an alternative, you can make a gift of what remains in your estate or living trust after all other bequests and expenses have been paid: “I hereby give, devise and bequeath to Assumption of the BVM parish, with offices at 20 Chestnut St., Centereach, NY 11720, all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate (trust) to be used for its most urgent needs.” For more information about remembering the parish in your will or living trust, contact Fr. Joseph at 631-585-8760 or [jalenchery@abvmcentereach.com](mailto:jalenchery@abvmcentereach.com) or Barbara Kilarjian at 516-678-5800 x 257.



## Drug Crisis Assistance

Are you or someone you know having family or interpersonal problems due to drinking ALCOHOL and/or using DRUGS? CATHOLIC CHARITIES / Talbot House, a Chemical Dependence Crisis Center, located in Bohemia provides withdrawal and stabilization services on a voluntary basis to males and females over the age of 18, who are seeking to stop and/or withdraw from alcohol and/or other drug use. For more information, please call: 631-589-4144. Talbot House staff is available 24/7. Each call is confidential. Sliding scale fees, Medicaid, Medicare, and other third-party insurance accepted.



## L.I. Women’s Retreat Ministry Annual Retreat

At St. Joseph Villa, Hampton Bays, N.Y.

September 15-17, 2023

### “Getting to the Heart of Discipleship”

Cost - \$250.00 - Single Room Commuter - \$125.00

For more info: Yvonne Bracone (631) 398-4086 or Nina McGee (516) 449-6197



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!

PayPal



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**Sunday, Jul 30, 2023****String your own pearls**

Jewelry is a matter of taste. Some folks like gold; others prefer silver. But in Jewish tradition, the pearl is a metaphor for valuable teaching. Our "pearl of great price," then, is the teaching upon which we build everything else, the motivation that governs our decision-making. What's yours? For some, it's that all life is sacred. For others, the common good must be served. Still others take the preferential option for the poor, or champion stewardship of creation. Remember: You don't have to choose just one.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12; Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 13:44-52 (109). *"The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls."*

**Monday, Jul 31, 2023****Speak his name without shame**

Spanish priest Ignatius of Loyola founded the Society of Jesus (along with Saints Peter Faber and Francis Xavier) in Paris in 1541. Members of this religious order are known as Jesuits. Today, the Jesuits are the largest male religious order in the church, and Pope Francis is the first Jesuit pope. The term Jesuit was originally meant as an insult, meaning "someone who too frequently used the name of Jesus." Ignatius never used the term, but members later embraced it with positive meaning. After all, how could anyone use the name of Jesus too much? Take a cue from the Jesuits and don't hold back!

MEMORIAL OF IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34; Matthew 13:31-35 (401). *"The Kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field."*

**Tuesday, Aug 01, 2023****Our saving grace**

Alphonsus gave us much, but perhaps the greatest gift was his fight against the Jansenist heresy, encapsulated in his 1748 volume *Moral Theology*. Thanks to Alphonsus, Catholicism has been able to steer a middle path between a darkly pessimistic view of human worth on the one hand and moral laxity on the other. Jansenists held an extreme view of original sin, believing only some are pre-ordained for salvation, saying grace had little chance of saving the rest—even through the sacrament of Reconciliation. Alphonsus encourages us to trust and use the sacrament, but also to "acquire the habit of speaking to God as if you were alone with Him, familiarly and with confidence and love, as to the dearest and most loving of friends."

MEMORIAL OF ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Matthew 13:36-43 (402). *"Pardon our wickedness and sins, and receive us as your own."*

**Wednesday, Aug 02, 2023****Meet your maker**

As we honor Saints Eusebius and Peter Julian Eymard, two staunch defenders of the faith during their times, we would do well to remember that "faith is born of an encounter with the living God who calls us and reveals his love," writes Pope Francis in *Lumen*

*Fidei*. How do we encounter God? Any embrace of love is a start, but Peter Eymard is more specific: "Happy the soul that knows how to find Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, and in the Eucharist all things!"

MEMORIALS OF EUSEBIUS OF VERCELLI, BISHOP; PETER JULIAN EYMARD, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 34:29-35; Matthew 13:44-46 (403). *"The skin of his face had become radiant while he conversed with the LORD."*

**Thursday, Aug 03, 2023****God's dwelling place**

Biblical faith is unique in its image of a universal God who nevertheless chooses to dwell among his people. We have an intimate portrait of this in the Exodus story where Moses is instructed to build a tent that the people of Israel are to carry with them as they sojourn through the desert toward the Promised Land. We can take heart in the notion that God is with us as well, along for the ride so to speak. He will not leave us orphaned. Call on God today, he's right there with you.

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38; Matthew 13:47-53 (404). *"He spread the tent over the Dwelling and put the covering on top of the tent, as the LORD had commanded him."*

**Friday, Aug 04, 2023****The garden of the soul**

John Vianney was dedicated to helping people understand and live the Catholic faith. On the street, in the confessional, and in his writings, John offered wisdom and counsel to encourage people. He wrote many small catechetical teachings collected within his "Little Catechism." In one, John writes, "The Holy Spirit is like a gardener cultivating our souls." The soul as a garden is a beautiful image to meditate on. What does your garden look like? How are you growing in your relationship with God? With John, let us pray his words: "O God, send me Your Spirit to teach me what I am and what You are."

MEMORIAL OF JOHN VIANNEY, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Matthew 13:54-58 (405). *"Where did this man get such wisdom and mighty deeds?"*

**Saturday, Aug 05, 2023****Take a holy walk**

The 16th-century Italian priest Saint Philip Neri liked to organize a walk through Rome with a few of his friends and acquaintances, visiting churches along the journey. It was a nice way to combine friendly conversation and a shared religious activity. The churches they visited—St. Peter's Basilica, St. Paul Outside-the-Walls, St. Sebastian's, St. John Lateran, Holy Cross-in-Jerusalem, St. Lawrence-Outside-the-Walls, and the Basilica of St. Mary Major—became known as the Seven Pilgrim Churches of Rome and the walk is now repeated annually on Wednesday of Holy Week. Seek out holy places wherever you live—they can be a refuge in difficult times.

MEMORIAL OF THE DEDICATION OF THE BASILICA OF ST. MARY MAJOR

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 25:1, 8-17; Matthew 14:1-12 (406). *"This fiftieth year you shall make sacred by proclaiming liberty in the land for all its inhabitants."*

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



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