



# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**January 21, 2024**

**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



**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.

**RECTORY OFFICE HOURS**  
**Monday to Friday**  
**9:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

**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.

**Sunday, January 21**

9:30 a.m. — Richard Allen Spindler (Ferrara Family)  
Kate Montelione

11:30 a.m.—People of the Parish

**Monday, January 22**

9:00 a.m.—

**Tuesday, January 23**

9:00 a.m. —

**Wednesday, January 24**

9:00 a.m.—

**Thursday, January 25**

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

**Saturday, January 27**

5:30 p.m.— Jane Giacomini (Louise & Joe Ferrara)  
Denise Palmer (Palmer Family)

**Sunday, January 28**

9:30 a.m.— Antonio Valisno Sr. (Aida, Tonypet & Arnold)

Carol Cafaro (Marie Marsala & Mary Eggert)

11:30 a.m.—People of the Parish

**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: \$8,471**  
(includes *Faith Direct*)  
**Last Year’s Collection: \$8,667**  
**Thank You!**

*Rest  
in  
Peace*



Constance Killackey

**Good News Reflection****No better time than now**

This Sunday's Gospel reading is a call to surrender ourselves fully to God. "NOW is the time of fulfillment" - not just 2000 years ago, not at the Second Coming of Christ, but right now in your life when and where you need Jesus the most.

"The kingdom of God is at hand" - what you need from the Lord is right here, at hand, ready for you.

"Repent, and believe in the gospel" means "Come follow Me and learn from Me to become like Me." For the first disciples, it meant dropping whatever they were doing to spend so much time with Jesus that their whole lives were forever affected. And this is what it means for you and for me: We have to put aside our own agendas and busy schedules to spend more time following Jesus wherever he leads us.



In the modern world, we have become more dependent on our technological devices than on Jesus. Many of us cannot even go on vacation without remaining accessible to their employers via the cell phone. Somehow, we need to find a way to take a stand against this. It's one of the social justice teachings of the Church: We are actually called by God to rebel against working on Sundays and other days of rest. Why? Because we need to spend that time with Jesus getting renewed, restored and re-energized.

Unfortunately, Jesus doesn't walk through the door and circle dates on our calendar and write "Rest with Jesus" so that we can plan ahead. We have to follow his lead at a moment's notice - every moment. To experience the kingdom of God on the earthly side of heaven, we have to be willing to drop everything to follow Jesus into unfamiliar places at unexpected times. We have to learn to follow his lead even in situations where his way is the surprising way.

**Questions for Personal Reflection:**

What's on your to-do list? What keeps you busy? What are your goals for the future? What are you dreaming of? If Jesus has a different plan for your day or for your life, how easily could you switch over to new ideas and plans?

**Questions for Community Faith Sharing:**

What are some of the nets you've abandoned in the past in order to follow Jesus? How difficult was that to do? Are you happy about it now? Why? How was this an experience of the kingdom of God on earth?



Week Three – Repent and believe Scripture: Mark 1:14-20 - WEEKLY PRIORITIES

We all make mistakes with our priorities and time. We waste time by looking at social media or tv or frittering away the hours that make up a dull day as those great theologians Pink Floyd put it. Or we can find ourselves so overwhelmed with the stuff, we don't have a free moment. In those moments we can repent and believe in the Gospel. God can help us redeem our time. The best way to do that is to acknowledge our situation and create an ideal week to help us do better in the future. An ideal week plan is the best tool for living out our priorities.

**Daily Practice**

“Daily Practice” is a daily devotional that is sent in an email weekly. It is a Scripture passage, and a reflection, for each day of the week. If you would like to subscribe to it, please sign up with an email. It will be sent to you every week on a Friday before. Please leave your name and email at the Welcome Desk or contact the Office at [rectory@abvmcentereach.com](mailto:rectory@abvmcentereach.com).



**Elevator**

The elevator in the parish center was installed a little over ten years ago. It is serving us very well. But with all this rain and wind we are having this winter, there are some leaks in that area. We are in the process of finding out where that leak is coming from. So, in the meantime we are forced to shut down the elevator. I will let you know the progress as it happens. Thank you very much for your patience.

# SPROUTS

Children's Ministry for ages  
**FOUR to SECOND** Grade on  
 Sundays during 9:30 AM Mass

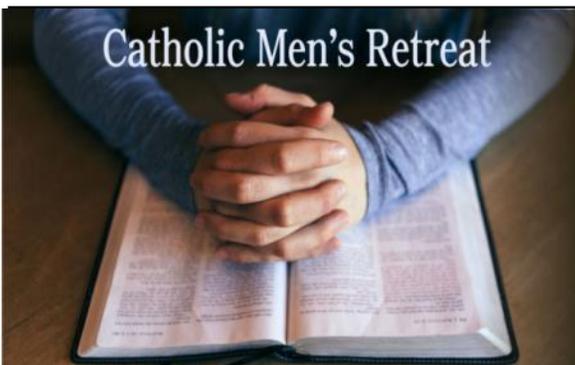
At the beginning of the Mass, children will be sent forth with catechists and assistants downstairs to the church basement to reflect and share the scriptures read at the Mass. A presentation is given, and then the children share in their small groups. This is an excellent opportunity for our youngest to engage during the Mass at their own level. We are ready to hear and be part of the stories of our parish's youngest disciples and invite them to the most incredible adventure of their lives, reminding them weekly, year after year, that our Father is madly after their hearts. For information contact the Faith Formation Office.

## 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 on Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 10AM to 1PM.



**PANTRY NEEDS: Razors, Conditioner, Deodorant, Syrup, Laundry Detergent, Dishwashing Liquid, Household Cleaner, Cooking Oil, Mayo, Ketchup, Coffee, Salad Dressing, Jell-O, Pudding, Box Milk, Fruit Juice, Rice-A-Roni, Chili, Canned Pasta, Jelly.**



**Fear - Faith - Risk - Trust: Living in God's Promise with Jesus**

**March 1 @ 4:00 pm – March 3 @ 1:00 pm EST**

*Location: Cormaria Retreat Center, 77 Bay Street, Sag Harbor, NY 11963*

*Cost: \$265:00 To Register, call: 631-725-4206 or email: info@cormaria.org*

## Assumption Prayer Team

We pray for every request in the prayer Petition Books, from Adoremus and those given to us in person. What are your prayer needs? Prayer Petition Books are in the back of the church.

*Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16*



**PRAYER TEAM**



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 scan the QR Code on your right. Please use **the parish code (NY563)**. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!



# Message Series

At Assumption, we preach in message series. Over several weeks, we will look at a topic and go deeper into it. We select a topic based on the weekend's scripture readings and dive deeper. These are the three questions we ask as we prepare each message series. What do we want the people to feel? What do we want the people to know? What do we want the people to do? This way, the message you hear in the church is not some head knowledge or something that flies over your head but touches the hearts and has practical applications for our daily lives. That's why I always mention "homework" in my messages. God speaks to us at every moment, especially in a community setting, when His people come together on Sundays and 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 message series usually runs from September to July. Our mission continues to Love God, Serve Others, and Grow Disciples.

BRAND NEW  
MESSAGE SERIES  
FOR LENT

rebuilt  
FAITH

FORTY  
DAILY EXERCISES  
FOR REBUILDING  
OUR FAITH.  
ONE DAY AT A TIME

Through the course of this series, we will look at rebuilding our faith through the STEPS of discipleship. We will begin by looking at why Jesus is worth following and then how each of the STEPS draws us into a deeper relationship with him. As a result of this series, we want our community to have a greater understanding of the discipleship path and how it helps them to become more Christlike in their character. We hope that as a result they will be more open to taking the next step in their faith journey.

**HELP WANTED**

### St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church | Lake Ronkonkoma

Part Time position, 8:00am to 12:30pm, Monday to Friday.

Cleaning and Maintenance of Church, Hall, and Office.

Minor repairs as needed at Rectory.

Call Lori at 631-737-4388 for more information.

**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; 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 [rectory@abvmcentereach.com](mailto:rectory@abvmcentereach.com) to sign up.





*Invest time each week to expand your vocabulary and deepen your faith.*

21 January 2024

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

### What does it mean to repent?

Repentance doesn't necessarily require falling on our knees and beating our breasts, though sometimes that may be the appropriate response—as it was for skeptical Thomas, when the resurrected Lord whom he'd doubted stood before him. Basically, to repent means to change course. That can mean movement if we've been standing still, or stopping if we've been in frantic motion. It can mean changing our minds or our hearts, our direction or our behavior.

The word has several important root meanings. The earliest is the Hebrew word *t'shuvah*: return. It's a crucial concept to prophets like Amos, Hosea, and Jeremiah. Their fellow citizens have wandered far from God's ways, and it's time for them to return home. *Metanoia* is the New Testament Greek term that carries a similar meaning. John the Baptist first issues the call to change direction, signaled by Baptism. Jesus uses this term when he invites his listeners to change their dispositions—to turn their hearts and lives around—in response to his teaching. Repentance carries the additional meaning of expressing regret for past actions and attitudes—along with the expectation that real change is forthcoming. In addition, the word *conversion* means turning around, implying a reorientation of intentions and actions. In the sacrament of Reconciliation, we include the stipulation of “making reparation” for what we've done or failed to do that has caused harm.

—Alice Camille, from *Questions Catholics Ask* <https://tinyurl.com/QCA-repent>

## REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE (JANUARY 25)

### Take the next turn toward truth

The amazing thing about Saint Paul's conversion was that he went from persecutor of Christians to a devout Christian himself. The change in him was so incredible not everyone believed it at first. His turnaround was a complete about-face toward Jesus.

READINGS: Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22; Mark 16:15-18 (519 <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/012518.cfm>). "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"

### FAITH IN ACTION

With God's help, you can bring about conversion in your own life. Start with a simple act of forgiveness.

## WORD OF THE WEEK

### Metanoia \me-tə-'noi-ə \

Greek word in the New Testament translated as "change of mind" or "change of heart." It corresponds with the Old Testament word for repentance and the Latin *conversio*, turning or returning, from which derives the idea of *conversion*. *Turning* is key, assuming we have lost our way or gone off course.

Pronunciation: <http://tinyurl.com/Take5-metanoia>

### CONTEXT

Community takes transformation. Being people of communion requires **metanoia** that results from encounter and dialogue.

—Sister Nicole Trahan, F.M.I.

Far from being a demand to feel lousy about our screw-ups, **metanoia** invites us to radically transform the way we perceive others, ourselves, and the world.

—David Anderson

**Metanoia** invites us to meet all situations, however unfair, with understanding and an empathetic heart.

—Father Ronald Rolheiser, O.M.I.

### WHY IT MATTERS

The willingness to change is a crucial ingredient in a life of integrity. On the journey through the years, we will all be confused or misdirected and swerve off the path of truth. **Metanoia** is the much-needed spiritual course correction. Consider **metanoia** the vital summons to recalculate where we're headed and what needs to change for us to get there.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Jesus' call to conversion and repentance, does not aim first at outward works, but at the *conversion of the heart, interior conversion*. [H]owever, interior conversion urges expression in visible signs, gestures, and works of penance (1430).

### RELATED WORDS

Conversion | Penance | Contrition | Transformation