



# ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**February 11, 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



## Mass Intentions for the week

### Sunday, February 11

9:30 a.m. — Julia Diaz Feldman (Roman Family)  
Ron & Steven Fregara (Lorraine Fregara & Family)  
11:30 a.m.—People of the Parish

### Monday, February 12

9:00 a.m.— Kevin Rivers (Anthony & Melissa Ferrara)  
Arlene Maggiulli (Helmig Family)

### Tuesday, February 13

9:00 a.m. — Otto Wolz  
Peter & Marjorie Gochan (Gochan Family)

### Ash Wednesday, February 14

7:30 a.m. & 4:00 PM — Scripture Service  
12:00 Noon & 7:00 p.m.— Mass

### Thursday, February 15

9:00 a.m.. — Diane Marie Pozzi (Pozzi Family)  
Rosemary Corsi (Acevedo Family)

### Friday, February 16

9:00 a.m.. — Rosemary Bills (Schnerk Family)  
Deborah Billings (Ed Uy & Family)

### Saturday, February 17

5:30 p.m.— Jane Giacomini (CDA Ct. St. Gerard #1920)  
Sal Platia (Pat Rivers)

### Sunday, February 18

9:30 a.m.— Mariana Ruivo (Ana Paula Goncalves)  
Marie Claude Casimir (Children)  
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.

## 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.

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

### Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary

Last Week's Collection: \$9,397

(includes Faith Direct)

Last Year's Collection: \$9,062

**Thank You!**

Rest  
in  
Peace



Anthony Michael Grieco  
John F. Curtin

## **Good News Reflection**

### **For the glory of God**

This Sunday's second reading gives us a great motto that we should post on our bedroom mirrors so that it's the first thing we see as our sleepy eyes awaken each morning: "Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God."

Everything! Brush your teeth for the glory of God. Kiss your family "Good morning!" for the glory of God. Go to Mass for the glory of God (in other words, we don't go to church just for what we can get out of it). Do your work for the glory of God. Drive politely for the glory of God. Shop and eat and greet others for the glory of God. Say yes to the needs of the Church for the glory of God. And receive all that he wants to give you (the compliments, the money you earn, the answered prayers, the good times and rewards) all for the glory of God.

This should be part of our daily prayers every morning: "Holy Spirit, help me to do everything today for the glory of God. Amen!"

By making it a daily habit to start the day this way, the glory of God becomes integrated into our character. When we remember to see our activities through the lens of "whatever you do, do it for the glory of God", we become stronger in avoiding all kinds of sins. It sanctifies each moment of every day.

Often, we see religious activities as separate from our normal activities. We take "time out" from our schedules to go to church. We stop what we're doing when we want to pray. We think that only Clergy and Religious can be religious all of the time and that a layperson who is like that is a "fanatic". But why?

Why should we limit "for the glory of God" to only what is "holy" -- Mass attendance, religious rituals, prayers, the works of ministry, etc.? We can sanctify every moment by remembering that whatever we do, we want to please God with it.

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

What have you done already today that glorifies God? What is planned for later today and how can that be offered to God? What will you do to remind yourself daily to do everything for the glory of God?

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

Describe ways that we can glorify God in normal, everyday activities. How do you turn mundane tasks into a gift for God? When is it most difficult to glorify him? How can even our lapses into sin become blessings that glorify God?

© 2024 Terry Modica, Catholic Digital Resources. Printed by permission.



# **ASH WEDNESDAY 2024**

## **Scripture Services: 7:30 AM & 4:00 PM**

## **Masses : 12:00 NOON & 7:00 PM**





### Week One: Introduction/Jesus

#### Scripture: Mark 1:40–45

This week, we will look at the person of Jesus Christ and his encounter with the leper. This passage shows in microcosm why Jesus is worth following. Aristotle noted that when it comes to listening to someone, we look at ethos, pathos, and logos. Are they ethical, do they care about us, and do they know what they are talking about? In Jesus' healing of the leper we see that he desires our good, he cares about us and has the power and ability to heal us and bring good into our lives.

Jesus desires our good, he cares about us, and he can bring good into our lives, so he is worth following. Read the book and participate in a small group.

***Rebuilt Faith***, written by Fr. Michael White and Tom Corcoran proposes five simple steps to learn (or relearn) more about our Catholic faith and deepen our relationship with God. Rebuilding and renewing our faith starts with a nagging feeling that we want more connectedness, community, and purpose. That's the spark that leads to a flame that burns brightly around Jesus, the foundation of living and growing in faith. *Rebuilt Faith* will be the theme of our weekend message series (homilies) throughout Lent. It will also be the focus of all our small group discussions this season. We're also encouraging parishioners to read the book this Lent and make a commitment to a small group experience in Lent.

**Small groups** are about life change, and small groups promote life change at a fundamental level that rarely happens in a weekend congregation. That's why growing our small group program is one of our primary goals for this Lenten season at Assumption.

Small groups are for everybody. Whether new to the faith, you can partake in or lead a group in person or online. If you're skeptical about whether you really need religious faith in your life, or if you're having that feeling something is missing, and you need more, or maybe you're just feeling stuck and don't know where to start, don't worry. When you join a small group, you'll receive a free copy of *Rebuilt Faith*, which is strategically designed with daily readings over the course of six weeks to help you develop your faith. We all know somebody who is skeptical, and you may even know somebody who may just be on the brink of giving themselves entirely to Christ. Let this be your call to action to join a small group, and just watch how much Jesus can change your life for the better.

It's time to begin a transformative journey. If you're already part of a small group, consider taking that next step in becoming a leader. Guiding others in their faith journey not only deepens your own understanding but also contributes to the growth within our community.



# 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.



## FRIDAYS OF LENT

### Mass at 9:00 AM

followed by

### Stations of Cross



Our Mission statement is Love God, Serve Others and Grow Disciples. The season of Lent is a perfect time to look back into our lives and try to live the way God wants us to live. In that we can see that Serving Others is particularly important. During this Lent we are going to discuss how we can serve others better and how important it is to grow in our faith. We can serve others in so many ways. But, as a Lenten sacrifice, on the weekend of February 24-25th we are having a clothing drive for new or gently used clothes. I am sure if we look into our closets, we will find new or, like new coats, shirts, pants, jackets etc. that we can donate. This is an opportunity to help the people who need it the most. We will accept new undergarments and socks too.

### **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!



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

**PANTRY NEEDS: Toothbrushes, Shampoo, Conditioner, Jelly, Liquid Hand Soap, Household Cleaners, Syrup, Pancake Mix, Dry Soup, Snacks, Paper Towels, Deodorant, Fruit Juice, Dog Food, Cat Food.**



**ADOREMUS**  
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Friday, February 16, 2024 - 7:30 - 8:30 PM**

**in the church & LIVE Streaming**

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

### 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).



Our parish subscribes to a revolutionary online platform which provides the best in Catholic audio talks, movies, ebooks, and video-based studies from trusted providers. This allows you, **free of charge**, to access online resources in bible study, apologetics, Christian entertainment, family catechesis, etc. at your convenience. It’s available 24/7 thus allowing you to put time aside when it’s best for you. To access please visit [abvmcentereach.formed.org](http://abvmcentereach.formed.org). Our parish code is P8DGQ8

**Coffee in the Courtyard**  
in the Parish Center Hall

Coffee Conversations Community

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



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

11 February 2024

## WORD OF THE WEEK

### Fasting <sup>(ˈfɑːstɪŋ)</sup>

Refraining from food and drink for religious purposes. Biblically, it implied not eating or drinking from morning till evening.

The Catholic Church defines **fasting** as one full meal a day, with two additional breaks. Catholics observe a eucharistic **fast** and abstain from food and drink one hour prior to receiving Holy Communion. They also **fast** annually on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday if in good health and between the ages of 21 and 59.

*Pronunciation:* <https://tinyurl.com/Take5-fasting>

### CONTEXT

Do you wish your prayer to fly toward God? Make for it two wings: **fasting** and almsgiving. —*Saint Augustine*

There's something about it that makes sense, Lent. You give something up, and everything's more joyful. —*Elaine Stritch*

When my stomach hungers from **fasting**, it is a reminder of the spiritual hunger my soul experiences at every moment of my existence. —*Bishop Robert Baron*

### WHY IT MATTERS

When we're self-sufficient, it's easy to forget that God is our ultimate source of life and hope. **Fasting** is a visceral reminder to trust in God. **Fasting** helps us to detach from worldly things not because they are bad but to remind us that God is the source of all gifts.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "**Fasting** and abstinence . . . help us acquire mastery over our instincts and freedom of heart" (2043).

### RELATED WORDS

Abstinence | Sacrifice | Asceticism | Mortification

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

### Why do we fast?

Why **fast**? Our survival requires us to eat and drink. When we refrain from these most basic activities, it reminds us that "we do not live by bread alone." **Fasting** provides us with an opportunity to affirm our faith in God's providential care.

**Fasting** as a spiritual practice falls into the category of sacrifice. As in other acts of religious sacrifice, **fasting** takes something away from us. **Fasting** stirs us to contemplate justice—many in this world go without food—and motivates us to pray in a deeper, richer way. Because we don't want to do it, **fasting** is regarded as a penitential practice: We do it in reparation for sin, ours and the world's.

When you think of everything **fasting** can do—encourage fidelity and humility, awaken the spirit of justice, enhance prayer, assist those who are tempted—the question becomes: Why *not fast*?

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

## REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

ASH WEDNESDAY, DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE  
(FEBRUARY 14)

### The spirit of our fasting

**Fasting**, prayer, and almsgiving are ancient spiritual practices that foster humility and charity. In the words of fifth-century Doctor of the Church Peter Chrysologus: "When you **fast**, see the **fasting** of others. If you want God to know you are hungry, know that another is hungry. If you hope for mercy, show mercy. If you look for kindness, show kindness. If you want to receive, give."

READINGS: Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 (219 <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/021424.cfm>).  
"*When you fast, do not look gloomy.*"

### FAITH IN ACTION

Use **fasting** as a way to see more clearly the things you've missed by inattention.