



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

April 14, 2024

Our Mission

Love God.

Serve Others. Grow Disciples.

You Matter! + You Belong!

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Good News Reflection

Christ's Forgiveness and Peace are Offered to All

Jesus knew his apostles well. He knew some felt shame and remorse for having denied and abandoned him. However, His sign of peace let them know that they were forgiven and that He still loved them. Our Divine Savior continues to offer Himself in peace and forgiveness to us all.

How can we find this peace in Christ? What if you have doubts? What if you're angry? What if life has been challenging, and things don't seem fair? What if you feel abandoned and God doesn't seem to be answering your prayers? What if you feel guilty because of sin and mistakes? Christ's peace and unconditional love are offered to all, especially to you.

First, ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and tell Him in your own words that you need Jesus and want Him to help. "Apart from me, you can't do anything," says the Lord (Jn. 15:5). Then, read the Bible, go to Confession, and nourish your soul with Holy Communion.

Prayer is another crucial element in reaching interior peace, as it raises your mind and heart to God in a relationship of love, trust, and peace. God wants to hear from you! He wants to hear about your praise, thankfulness, frustrations, anger, worries, needs, and repentance.

Many people begin with standard memorized prayers and then move into more honest, intimate conversations. Meditative prayer can be fruitful as well, like praying with Scripture, spiritual books, or the rosary.

To hear back from God, we must listen. Begin by letting go of all the busy conversation and spiritual reading and just sit silently in love and total surrender with our Lord. The goal is to bask in His glory, trusting His holy will in all things.

Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta once said, "The fruit of silence is prayer. The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service. The fruit of service is peace." May the peace of our Lord be with you always.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

What matters are troubling you that you can bring to prayer? As Christ displayed patience with the disciples' lack of understanding and unbelief, how has he been patient with you? How are you patient with others?

Questions for Community Faith Sharing:

How does the virtue of forgiveness lead to peace? How has Christ's resurrection made a difference in your life? Since Jesus calls us to do so, how can we share the literal truth of the Resurrection, and how can we witness this in our lives?





Week Three 4/14/24— Coach Scripture: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19

In the reading from Acts, Peter helps the people make sense of what is happening. He is healing people because of the power of Jesus. As Christ followers we influence people by coaching them and helping them see what God is doing in a certain situation. In this message we will look at helping people make sense of the world.

We can have an influence on the next generation by mentoring and coaching the children and our students in our community in their faith.

Pray this week about where God is calling you to step up and serve. True faith in Jesus leads to joy in our heart and our souls. A deep joy that this world cannot give people.

Small Groups are about life change, and small groups promote life change at a fundamental level.

Small groups are for everybody. Whether new to the faith or 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, don't worry. 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.



Small groups are where we grow. If you're interested in life change, new life for you and those you love, join one of our small groups for a five-week series. Talk to someone at the Welcome Desk; email us at rectory@abvmcentereach.com or fill in the form below and drop it off at the Welcome Desk. We'll call you. We're here to help!

Yes, I'm interested in a Small Group

Your Name _____ Cell phone _____

Email _____

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. Please leave your name and email at the Welcome Desk or contact the Office at rectory@abvmcentereach.com.



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.

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



SAVE THE DATE

Assumption

Vacation Bible School 2024

July 22nd to 27th



Coffee
in the
Courtyard

in the Parish Center Hall

Coffee
Conversations
Community

After
9:30 AM
& 11:30 AM
Masses



Please prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through *Faith Direct*. Signing up is easy! Visit 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. The Outreach Office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 10AM to 1PM.

PANTRY NEEDS: Kleenex, Household Cleaner, Bar Soap, Liquid Hand Soap, Cooking Oil, Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Coffee, Fruit Juice, Muffin Mix, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Rice, Pasta Sauce, Canned Tomatoes, Baked Beans, Pudding Mix, Hot Chocolate.



The **Catholic Ministries Appeal** is an Island-wide effort by our Church to support the critically important services and programs that serve more

than 600,000 people every year. 100% of every dollar raised is RESTRICTED to the ministries of the Appeal. Through the Catholic Ministries Appeal, we can provide pastoral care to those in need on Long Island. This year our parish goal is \$56,600. Use your phone camera to scan the QR Code to donate or pick up a brochure at the welcome desk or at the exits. The pledge you make will be billed for the next 10 months if you like to do so or you can pay it off in full amount. Thank you very much for your generous heart in Serving Others.



Do you need to fulfill your Marriage Prep Requirement? Engaged Encounter is an effective PreCana program designed to provide you with the tools for a successful marriage. Our next 2-day weekend will be held at the **Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington on June 8&9, 2024**. Visit longisland.engagedencounter.com for information and registration.



GIVE BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY

1ST ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE

OB DAVIS FUNERAL HOMES
2326 MIDDLE COUNTRY RD
CENTEREACH NY 11720

April 17th 2024 | 9am to 3pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 631-585-8888



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

14 April 2024

WORD OF THE WEEK

Liturgy of the Eucharist \ˈyü-kə-rəst\

Eucharist, Greek for “thanksgiving,” is the formal name for the Mass. Also part three of the four-part movement of the Mass: the Introductory Rite, Liturgy of the Word, **Liturgy of the Eucharist**, and Concluding Rite. The **Liturgy of the Eucharist** includes the people's offering, the Eucharistic Prayer, and the Communion rite.

Pronunciation: <https://tinyurl.com/Take5-Liturgy-of-the-Eucharist>

CONTEXT

Liturgy is, therefore, both word and action . . . the **Liturgy of the Eucharist** is the action that flows from the word.

—Sister Julia Upton, R.S.M.

The Liturgy of the Word centers its action at the ambo, the **Liturgy of the Eucharist** at the altar. The first is fundamentally verbal, the second primarily visual. The first is story, the second tangible sacrament.

—Alice Camille

WHY IT MATTERS

We celebrate our faith in two main units of liturgy that serve as the spiritual lungs of the church: Word and **Eucharist**. The first tells the story of how we came to be the People of God. The second gives thanks for this astonishing reality. In addition, the church teaches in *Lumen Gentium* that the faithful, “as true witnesses of Christ,” are “obliged to spread the faith by word and deed,” which includes taking part in the Eucharistic sacrifice, “the source and summit of the Christian life.”

From the General Instruction of the Roman Missal: The Church has arranged the entire celebration of the **Liturgy of the Eucharist** in parts corresponding to precisely [the] words and actions of Christ (no. 72).

RELATED WORDS

Ritual | Mass | Eucharistic Prayer | thanksgiving

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Why are Catholics focused on Eucharist?

A Eucharistic spirituality is ground-level for Catholic life. It's built on three gospel accounts of the Last Supper, in which Jesus employs well-known forms of Jewish prayers of praise and thanksgiving and urges his friends to “do this in memory of me.” While John's gospel doesn't recount this narrative, he does have an extended teaching on Jesus as the bread of life.

Early Church teachers like Justin Martyr, Tertullian, Cyril, Ambrose, and Augustine agreed that **Eucharist** had several meanings. One is the impact of the Passion of Christ for human history. Another is the unity Christians share as the Body of Christ. Engaging this sacrament has profound moral implications for those who do.

In the medieval church *why* Jesus makes this self-offering was obscured in debates about *how* it's accomplished ritually and theologically. Most believers adored the Host but fewer embraced a life of thanksgiving. The Second Vatican Council sought to restore “full, conscious, and active” participation so that the People of God might remember that the *why* of **Eucharist** is more vital than the *how*.

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

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (APRIL 14)

Grace-filled beginnings

The disciples on the road to Emmaus and those in the Upper Room experienced Jesus in bodily form and also in his role as rabbi. He helped them “connect the dots” of their Jewish tradition so they could see that the Resurrection was the fulfillment of the hopes of their ancestors.

READINGS: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 John 2:1-5a; Luke 24:35-48 (47 <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/041424.cfm>). “He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.”

FAITH IN ACTION

Allow Easter to help you locate yourself in the vast sweep of history and see that you are the intended beneficiary of God's grace since the beginning of time.