

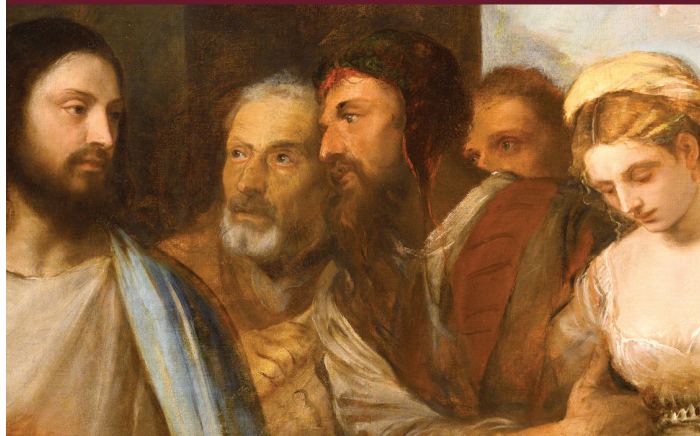
# St. John the Evangelist Greece

April 6, 2025

2400 West Ridge Road  
Rochester, New York 14626



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT  
*As disciples of Jesus Christ serving on the Parish Pastoral Council, we collaborate with the Pastor and Staff inviting the people of St. John the Evangelist Church to joyfully celebrate the Eucharist, faithfully teach Catholic tradition, and fervently form Catholic spirituality, so that together we may go forth in love to serve the Lord and each other.*



Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger. But when they continued asking him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." - Jn 8:6b-7

## Reconciliation & the Season of Lent

From the Desk of Father Peter.....2

## FINAL Fish Fry

Join Us THIS Friday.....3

## Easter Egg Hunt

Kids up to 12 & their families join us THIS Saturday.....3

## Decorating Church for Easter

Many Hands Make Light Work!.....4

## Holy Land Collection

Good Friday, April 18.....5

## Lenten Mite Boxes

Please Return by Good Friday, April 18.....5

## CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

**Saturday Evening:** 4:00 PM

**Sunday:** 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

**Holy Days:** As announced in bulletin

**Weekdays:** Monday–Wednesday & Friday 8:15 AM

**CONFESSIONS** By Appointment Only.

*Please contact the Parish Office 225-8980.*

**BAPTISMS** For parishioners requesting Baptism for their child, we encourage you to please contact the Parish Office at (585) 225-8980 before the birth of your child to prepare for the Sacrament of Baptism.

**MARRIAGE** Arrangements for the Sacrament of Marriage must be made at least SIX MONTHS in advance. Call the Parish Office at 225-8980.

**PRAYER LINE** Jill Finan [StJohnPrayerLine@gmail.com](mailto:StJohnPrayerLine@gmail.com)

**Pastor:** Rev. Peter Enyan-Boadu - 225-8980

**Deacons:**

Elmer Smith - 230-3074

Lon Smith - 489-7255

**Director, Music Ministry:**

Dawn Chmiel - 225-8980

**Director, Liturgical Music:**

Consuelo De Los Santos  
225-8980

[www.rocetholicsnorthwest.org](http://www.rocetholicsnorthwest.org)

**Pastoral Minister:**  
Tod Simone– 225-8980

**Faith Formation Coordinator:**

Cristyn Simone - 261-0831

**Secretary:**

Marcia Parsons - 225-8980

**Business Office:**

Joe Spurrier - 225-8980

**Finance Director:**

Christopher Frontale  
225-8980

**Parish Pastoral Council Chair:** Bob Gotham 227-4638

**Parish Office hours:** Monday-Wednesday & Friday:  
9-Noon and 1:30-5 PM; Thursday: 9-Noon

**Fax:** 585-723-9825

**E-mail:** [gstjohnt@dor.org](mailto:gstjohnt@dor.org)

Visit [www.StJohnGreece.org](http://www.StJohnGreece.org) Follow us on [@StJohnGreece](https://twitter.com/StJohnGreece)

Find us on [f](https://www.facebook.com/StJohntheEvangelistChurchofGreece) St John the Evangelist Church of Greece

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Monday

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62/  
Ps 23:1-6/  
Jn 8:12-20

### Tuesday

Nm 21:4-9/  
Ps 102:2-3, 16-21/  
Jn 8:21-30

### Wednesday

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/  
Dn 3:52- 56/  
Jn 8:31-42

### Thursday

Gn 17:3-9/  
Ps 105:4-9/  
Jn 8:51-59

### Friday

Jer 20:10-13/  
Ps 18:2-7/  
Jn 10:31-42

### Saturday

Ez 37:21-28/  
Jer 31:10- 13/  
Jn 11:45-56

### Sunday

Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/  
Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24 (2a)/  
Phil 2:6-11/  
Lk 22:14—23:56

## Welcome!

If you are new in the parish, we invite you to become a member of our faith community where we come together to worship the Lord and celebrate the Eucharist. We want to get to know you so please if you can introduce yourself after Mass, we will be grateful. Please know that your prayers, your presence, and support of our beloved St. John's Church are appreciated. Please call or e-mail the Parish Office for registration assistance. You will find contact information on the front cover of the bulletin.

## Reawaken Your Heart with Hope!

### Reconciliation & the Season of Lent (Part I)

There are times in life when each of us needs to begin anew. We recognize that our former ways are hurting us or preventing us from being who we so desire to be. We need a fresh beginning, a new way of thinking, acting and living. The Church invites us to a newness of life which calls for a deep personal conversion in each of us. More than ever, our world needs disciples and witnesses to the Gospel of Christ.

Beyond embracing the disciplines of Lent which are Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving, Lent is a time for us to be renewed in our spiritual life. If we are going to be made new, we have to be willing to change the way we think, act, and live our faith in our secular world today. All of our Lenten works must flow from, and lead us to change in order that we may become new people in Christ. In our Gospel passage today John 8:11 Jesus tells the woman and us, "Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more." It is not that Jesus ignores our sins, but since he loves us so much, he decided to take our sins upon himself and put them to death once and for all.

One of the Lenten gifts that the Church places before us is the Sacrament of Reconciliation or

 **PRAY**  
for the renewal of the Church

 **FAST**  
for the conversion of sinners

 **GIVE**  
through our Lenten Mite Box

Confession. Celebrating this sacrament is never an easy thing to do for most of us. It takes courage to be willing to take an honest look at our lives and to single out those areas that speak of selfishness and sin...not only, perhaps, by what I may have done, but also by what I have not done! It is easy to sit back

and just be content with ourselves. The Gospel calls us to much more, and if we are honest, truly honest, we all stand before our loving God as sinners! That is why Christ died on the wood of the cross for us! It was our sins that he bore through the wood of that cross, and it was for all of us that He died.

Soon we will be entering into Holy Week and concluding our Parish Lenten Retreat centered on Boundless Compassion – Compassionate Listening. I am grateful to those who availed themselves to take part in this Retreat and I thank Deacon Lon for his dedication to this effort leading us to *Reawakening Our Hearts with Hope!* It is my hope and prayer that each of us, through boundless compassion and compassionate listening, will make room in our hearts for forgiveness, leading us to peace and a closer relationship with Christ.

*Peace and Blessings*

Father Peter



**Masses for the Week—April 7—13**

**MONDAY, April 7** *St John Baptist de la Salle*  
 8:15 AM + *Holy Souls in Purgatory*

**TUESDAY, April 8** *Lenten Weekday*  
 8:15 AM + *Carol & Mike Spagnola*  
 by Marcia  
 2:30 PM *Mass at Hamilton*

**WEDNESDAY, April 9** *Lenten Weekday*  
 8:15 AM + *Evelyn Rinere*  
 by Altar Linen Ministry

**THURSDAY, April 10** *Lenten Weekday*

**FRIDAY, April 11** *St Stanislaus*  
 8:15 AM + *Florence Selmyer*  
 by Marcia

**SATURDAY, April 12** *Lenten Weekday*  
 4:00 PM + *Deceased Members of St John's*

**SUNDAY, April 13**  
**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**  
 8:00 AM + *Jeff Lader*  
 by Mom, Dad, and Family  
 10:00 AM + *Robert Colby*  
 by Wife and Family

**Wills/Bequests/Memorials—  
 Please Remember St. John the Evangelist Parish**

**This Week's Schedule**

**Sunday, April 6**  
 9:00 AM OCIA Class in Meeting Room  
 Coffee Hours following the 8:00 and 10:00 AM Masses in Parish Center

**Monday, April 7**  
 9:00 AM Bible Study in Parish Center  
 5:30 PM Liturgy Meeting in Parish Center  
 7:00 PM Parish Pastoral Council Mtg in Parish Center

**Wednesday, April 9**  
 Stations of the Cross Following 8:15 AM Mass  
 10:30 AM Lenten Retreat in Parish Center  
 6:00 PM Lenten Retreat & Soup Supper in PC

**Thursday, April 10**  
 4:30 PM Cursillo Men's Group Mtg in Meeting Room

**Friday, April 11**  
 3:30—6:30 PM Fish Fry in Parish Center  
 5:30 PM Stations of the Cross in Church

**Saturday, April 12**  
 10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt on Church Lawn  
 3:00—3:45 PM Confessions in Church

**Sunday, April 13 Palm Sunday**  
 9:00 AM OCIA Class in Meeting Room

**Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.**

April 6	April 7	April 8	April 9	April 10	April 11	April 12
Pope Francis	David Tedesche	Matthew Temple	Paul Tomasso	Daniel Tormey	Martin Truong	Jeffrey Tunnicliff



**Stations OF THE CROSS**

Stations of the Cross continue **THIS Wednesday, April 9 following the 8:15 AM Mass and THIS Friday, April 11, 2025 at 5:30 PM in Church** led by the Choir Ministry.



JOIN US FOR **DINNER THIS LENT!**

St. John the Evangelist Church and Knights of Columbus Council 3892 invite you to our Lenten Fish Fry.

**Last Fish Fry of the Lenten Season**

As the saying goes, *All good things come to an end* and our Lenten Fish Fry is one of those good things that's coming to a close **THIS Friday, April 11**. From 3:30 to 6:30 PM, dinners are served in the Parish Center or you can take them to go.

**St. John's Annual Easter Egg Hunt!**

**THIS Saturday, April 12 at 10:00 AM sharp on the lawn in front of Church\***

Bring your own basket! Donuts & Juice provided. Children to age 12 and their families are invited to join the fun!

*\*In the event of inclement weather, the hunt will be held in the Parish Center.*





**Jubilee Year 2025  
Fifth Sunday of Lent**

*Over the Jubilee Year we will explore the themes of Hope, Pilgrimage, and Jubilee, always ending with a questions for you to consider over the week.*

A hallmark of a Jubilee Year is setting right broken relationships. In today’s Gospel (Year C), Jesus shows us what that means by helping make right the relationship between the woman and her community. Reconciliation and mercy are fundamental to Jubilee.

**Ponder Point:** When have I had to recognize that I am not perfect and should, therefore, recognize others’ imperfections with compassion?



**Career Opportunity**

The Knights of Columbus is seeking a Field Agent for a career opportunity representing our insurance program in the Western New York area. We offer a complete benefits package with this full-time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus.

**For more information, please contact, John Hoolick,** General Agent, at 570-654-3390 or [HoolickAgencyMail@KofC.org](mailto:HoolickAgencyMail@KofC.org)



**Easter Flowers**

During the Easter Season remember a loved one (living or deceased) by donating toward an Easter Plant, adding to the beauty of our beloved St. John’s Church. We will list all the names in the bulletin. All you need do is complete the order form below and send your donation to: St. John’s Rectory, 2400 West Ridge Road, Rochester, NY 14626, **OR** place your order and donation in an envelope marked **Easter Flowers** and put it in the collection basket.

*Please print*

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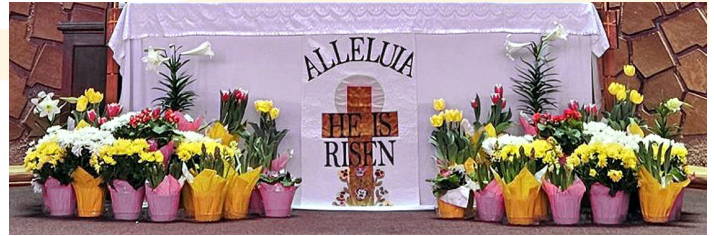
Print your name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Would like to donate toward Easter Flowers in memory/honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if living (L) or deceased (D) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Easter Decorating**

We will be decorating our beloved St John’s for Easter on Saturday, April 19 at 10:00 AM.

We will be meeting in the Parish Center to start arranging the flowers.

**If you are interested in helping with this, please contact me at 880-2426.**

Thank you

Patty Hoag

*Arts and Environment Committee*



**Please Take Note**

**A Change is Taking Place**

The time has come for a change and this said, beginning Monday, April 28, 2025, our Parish Secretary, Marcia Parsons, will transition to part-time hours, at her request. She will continue to perform her secretarial duties,

however, her availability to do so will now be done during the new hours and they are as follows:

- Monday: 9:00 AM—3:00 PM
- Tuesday: 9:00 AM—2:00 PM
- Wednesday: 9:00 AM—2:00 PM
- Thursday: 9:00 AM—Noon
- Friday: 9:00 AM—2:00 PM

With these new hours, the Parish Office **will be open** throughout the lunch hour.

To best assist you with your needs as this change takes place, it is recommended that, whenever possible, you contact the Parish Office ahead of time with your request. Thank you.

*Fr. Peter*

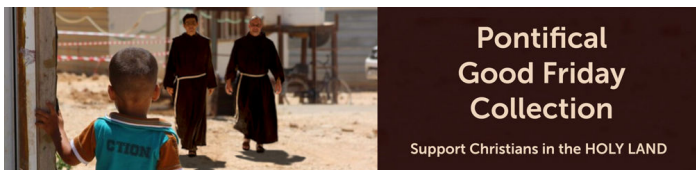
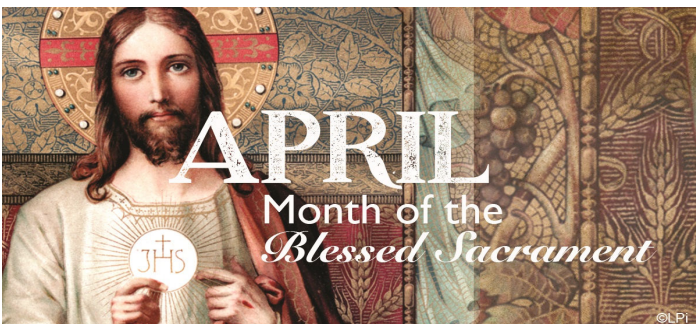




**Commissioning of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Ministers of the Word**

**Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper, April 17**

All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Ministers of the Word (Lectors) are asked to attend the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Thursday, April 17 at 7:00 PM at which time Fr. Peter will commission and bless those serving in these two ministries.



**Pontifical Good Friday Collection Friday, April 18, 2025**

This Jubilee Year is designated as a Year of hope. Indeed hope is a necessary virtue in a land marked by cycles of violence and relative calm. Gaza itself has been reduced to rubble. Missiles have hit many other places as well. People across the region are tasked with rebuilding homes, schools, hospitals, and even churches. Many of our faithful earn their living from pilgrimages. Still repaying debts from the pandemic shutdown, they found themselves soon assaulted by war. Now, already in debt, many have again lost jobs. Fear and despair have driven many Christians to leave the Holy Land: over the past century, Christians have gone from 23% to less than 2% of the population and more than 90 Christian families have already left Bethlehem since October 7, having lost hope in a good future for them in the land where Jesus and the Church were born.

As you know, each year the Holy Father asks every Catholic parish around the world to take up a Collection on Good



**Swieconka The Polish Easter Basket Blessing of Easter Food**

**Holy Saturday, April 19, 2025 2:00 PM in Church**

For those with Polish “roots” the word Swieconka may be very familiar but to those with little to no exposure to Polish tradition you may see this word and wonder what it’s all about. Read on ....

Swieconka means “the blessing of the Easter baskets”. It is one of the most enduring and beloved Polish traditions on Holy Saturday during Easter. Baskets containing a sampling of Easter foods are brought to church to be blessed on Holy Saturday. The basket is traditionally lined with a white linen or lace napkin and decorated with sprigs of boxwood, the typical Easter evergreen. Polish folks take special pride in preparing a decorative and tasteful basket with crisp linens, occasionally embroidered for the occasion, and boxwood and ribbon woven through the handle. Observing the creativity of other parishioners is one of the special joys of the event.

The three-part blessing prayers specifically address the various contents of the baskets, with special prayers for the meats, eggs, cakes and breads. The priest or deacon then sprinkles the individual baskets with holy water.

The foods in the baskets have a symbolic meaning:

**Maslo (butter)** – shaped into a lamb or a cross. Butter reminds us of the goodness of Christ.

**Babka (bread)** – a round loaf topped with a cross is symbolic of Jesus “Our True Bread of Life.”

**Chrzan (horseradish)** – Symbolic of the Passion of Christ.

**Jajka (eggs)** – Indicates new life and Christ’s Resurrection

**Kielbasa (sausage)** – Indicates God’s favor.

**Szynka (ham)** symbolic of great joy.

**Sol (salt)** – Jesus said “You are the salt of the earth.”

**Candle** – represents Christ, the Light of the world.

You are welcome to bring any food you plan on having at your Easter celebration to be blessed. You don’t have to be Polish to take part—All are Welcome!

**Mite Box Reminder**

If you haven’t already done so, please return your mite box to church. You can drop it into the collection basket or into the basket at the mite box display in church. Our boxes are due back by Good Friday, April 18, 2025.



Friday to keep a Christian presence in the Holy Land. With our help, the Franciscans can continue to be a light of hope to those living in darkness in the Holy Land. When we contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, we join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. PLEASE BE GENEROUS!



Marie Wilby *Aunt of Cristyn Simone*  
 Carmela Cappellino *Mother of Vivianna Grossmann*  
 Bonnie Ward *Sister-in-law of Jean Ward*  
 Jeffrey Gruschow *Brother of Scott Gruschow*



*This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for*

- ✝ Tabernacle I **Jeff Lader**
- ✝ Tabernacle II **open**
- ✝ Marian I **The Leger Family**
- ✝ Marian II **The Forgues Family**

**BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL**



<b>March 29/30</b> Week 40	ATTENDANCE.....	411
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,321.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$	4,641.00
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	872.00
TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$	5,513.00
SHORTAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING....	(\$	3,808.00)

**2nd Collection**

Catholic Relief Services.....	\$	837.00
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	50.00
TOTAL Offering.....	\$	887.00

**Fiscal Year 2024-25** as of March 30, 2025

YEARLY BUDGET .....	\$	494,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$	372,840.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$	360,637.54
SHORTAGE TO DATE.....	(\$	12,202.46)

*With sincere gratitude, Fr. Peter thanks all who continue with their financial assistance in support of the many needs in our parish.*

**Online Giving**

You can make your weekly, monthly, annual and one-time donations from your checking or savings account, or by using a credit or debit card, electronically, from your own computer. We use a product from a company that we have been with for a long time and has a long history of working with parishes around the country. It is easy, safe and secure! A link to Online Giving can be found at our Parish Home



Page [www.stjohngreece.org](http://www.stjohngreece.org).

Don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office, 225-8980 for details or assistance with Online Giving.



**A Tenebrae Service & Passion Story**  
 Presented by the Contemporary Music Ensemble of Holy Cross Church

# The Seven Last Words of Jesus

Monday, April 7  
**Our Mother of Sorrows Church**  
 5000 Mt Read Blvd | Rochester NY 14612  
 7:00 pm \*Doors open at 6:45 pm



**Mass of Recognition of the Sacrament of Matrimony**

Sunday, April 27, 2025, 11:15 AM  
 at Sacred Heart Cathedral

296 Flower City Park | Rochester, NY 14615

You are cordially invited to join The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano, Bishop of Rochester and couples celebrating anniversaries of Matrimony.

All married couples and their guests are welcome to attend and renew their vows with Bishop Matano. Those celebrating milestone jubilees will be given special recognition.

Please help us plan by letting us know you are coming by registering at <https://forms.gle/UVdG2SUKbvJw81ok8> or emailing [donald.smith@dor.org](mailto:donald.smith@dor.org).

Additionally, the June issue of the Catholic Courier will feature a Wedding Jubilee section. If you would like your name and anniversary (25, 50, and above) to be included, please send an email, or a letter with the following information: Names, Church, Town where you were married, wedding date/year, and a wedding photo (optional).

**Email:** [weddings@CatholicCourier.com](mailto:weddings@CatholicCourier.com)

**Mail:** Wedding Anniversaries Catholic Courier  
 PO Box 24379 Rochester, NY 14624-0379

**Submissions are due by April 30.**

*Photographs must still be submitted by US Post or email.*

**PRAYER TO  
ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL**

**St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle,  
be our protection against the wickedness  
and snares of the devil.**

**May God rebuke him we humbly pray;  
and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host,  
by the power of God, cast into hell Satan  
and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world  
seeking the ruin of souls.**

**Amen.**

**Make a Way**

What’s your comfort zone? Did you realize that you can have one spiritually? As much as we may not want to admit it, we get deeply attached to our own personal comfort zones — and we tend to view those outside with distrust.

Thankfully, our God is a God who “opens a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters.” Our God is a God who does “something new.”

The call to stewardship demands that we look outside of ourselves. Even if there is a vast, dry desert of discord, or a seemingly endless wasteland of opposing views between us and our neighbor, God challenges us to “make a way” out of our comfort zone, that together we may announce His praise.  
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

**Senior Home Communion Service Ministers April 2025**

**HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE**

April 13, 2025      Ron LaForce  
April 27, 2025      Steve & Mary Ann Donato

**THE VILLAGE AT UNITY**

April 6, 2025      Tom Grieco  
April 13, 2025      Bob & Barb Gotham  
April 20, 2025      Tom Grieco  
April 27, 2025      Bob & Barb Gotham

**ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE**

April 6, 2025      Dan & Melissa Kabasin  
April 13, 2025      Carolyn Kerhaert  
April 20, 2025      Chris Hoefler  
April 27, 2025      Terry & Pam Hearne