

St. John the Evangelist Greece

August 25, 2024

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 then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." - Jn 6:67-69

Twelve Rules to Live By

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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

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

Deacon: Elmer Smith - 230-3074

Pastoral Minister: Tod Simone- 225-8980

Director, Music Ministry: Dawn Chmiel - 225-8980

Director, Liturgical Music: Consuelo De Los Santos 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

www.roccatholicsnorthwest.org

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

Visit 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

2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/
Ps 96:1-5/
Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday

2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/
Ps 96:10-13/
Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday

2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/
Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/
Mt 23:27-32

Thursday

1 Cor 1:1-9/
Ps 145:2-7/
Mk 6:17-29

Friday

1 Cor 1:17-25/
Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/
Mt 25:1-13

Saturday

1 Cor 1:26-31/
Ps 33:12-13, 18-21/
Mt 25:14-30

Sunday

Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/
Ps 15:2-5 1a/Jas 2:1-5/
Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/
Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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.

Twelve Rules to Live By

Remember: Anger is a condition in which the tongue works faster than the mind.

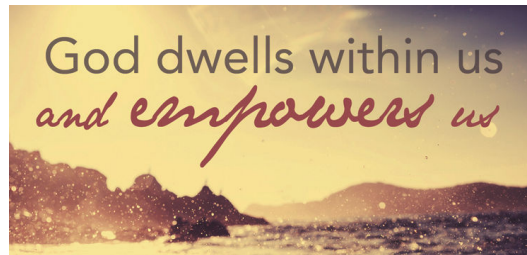
Remember: You can't change the past but you can ruin the present by worrying over the past and not embracing the future.

Remember: Love and you shall be loved and give back freely what you have received from God through the kindness of other people.

Remember: God always gives His best to those who leave the choice to Him.

Remember: All people smile in the same language.

Remember: A hug is a great gift. One size fits all. It can be given for any occasion and it is easy to exchange.



Remember: Everyone needs to be prayed for and loved, especially when they do not deserve it.

Remember: The real measure of a person's wealth is what one has invested in eternity.

Remember: Laughter is God's sunshine, so laugh a lot.

Remember: Everything has beauty but not everyone sees it.

Remember: Thank God for what you have; trust God for what you need.

Remember: Happy memories never wear out. Re-live them as often as you want.



Peace and blessings to all,
Father Peter



Back-to-School Collection through Sunday September 1

It's that time of year again when many begin their preparation for their children returning to school and we know part of this preparation is gathering school supplies. This can be a challenge for many families especially those with multiple children and in light of the higher cost for most everything these days. We all want our children to be well equipped with the supplies necessary so they can start off on the right foot as they begin a new school year; so we turn to you, our parishioners, who have so generously supported this collection in the past. The supplies we collect will be distributed to Sr. Mancuso, Principal of Nazareth Elementary School, for the benefit of the children of Nazareth Elementary.

You will find the collection bins for the supplies in the narthex of church by the center doors and the two far end doors between now and September 1. We thank you in advance for support of this annual project.

SUNDAYS
ARE BETTER IN COMMUNITY

Masses for the Week—Aug 26—Sept 1

- MONDAY, August 26** *Weekday*
8:15 AM + *Margaret Blodgett*
by Family
- TUESDAY, August 27** *St Monica*
8:15 AM + *Jeanne Shanley*
by Marianne Katz
- WEDNESDAY, August 28** *St Augustine*
8:15 AM + *Raymond Roth*
by Giulia Panella
- THURS, August 29** *Passion of St John the Baptist*
- FRIDAY, August 30** *Weekday*
8:15 AM + *James Lomoglio*
by Wife and Family
- SATURDAY, August 31** *Weekday*
4:00 PM + *James Scantlin*
by Paul & Janet Weitz
- SUNDAY, Sept 1** *22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00 AM + *For the People of St John's;*
Living and Deceased
10:00 AM + *Marie Balch*
by St John's Women's Guild

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

Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.

Aug 18	Aug 19	Aug 20	Aug 21	Aug 22	Aug 23	Aug 24
John Loncle	Kevin Mannara	Joseph Martuscello	Joseph Marcoux	Joseph Maurici	Michael Mayer	Joseph McCaffrey



Coming Soon, Save the Date!

Soon we will be resuming our monthly Coffee Hours. Our first one of the new season will be Sunday, September 15 following the 8:00 and

10:00 AM Masses. Our host will be members of our Parish Pastoral Council.

These Coffee Hours are a wonderful way in which to meet fellow parishioners you haven't yet gotten a chance to meet.

This Week's Schedule



Monday, August 26
9:00 AM Bible Study in Parish Center

We Will Miss You Father Peter

As mentioned in last weekend's bulletin, Fr. Peter will be traveling home to Ghana tomorrow, August 26, and returning on September 27.

While we will miss you Father Peter, we hope and pray your journey home is smooth and your visit with family and friends will be filled with peaceful days, lots of laughter, and of, course, delicious Ghanaian food!

We will be praying for you and please remember us in your prayers.



Welcome Fr. Ring!

Beginning tomorrow and throughout the month of September, Fr. Bob Ring will be here with us during Fr. Peter's absence. We certainly understand the respite Fr. Peter is in need of and we also know the challenge there is in finding priest coverage. Fr. Ring has graciously stepped up to help Fr. Peter again this year for which he and we, too, are very grateful. We look forward to Fr. Ring's ministry during his time with us.

NOTE: While Fr. Ring is here, he will be available for Confession on Saturdays (before the 4 PM Mass) from 2:30 'til 3:30 PM and each Friday morning following 8:15 morning Mass.

Birthday Wishes, Deacon Elmer!



As you celebrate your special day on Tuesday this week, August 27, know that we wish you a very happy day however you chose to celebrate, and be assured of our prayers being offered for happiness, good health and peace. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**

*Fr. Peter, Parish Staff,
and Parishioners of our beloved St. John's*



Why Enroll Your Children in Faith Formation?

You enroll your children in Faith Formation because we are here to help you fulfill the promise you made at your child's Baptism—to share the love of God with them and to raise them to understand their Catholic Faith. As parents,

we have all kinds of amazing goals we want for our children to achieve; good grades so they can get into a great college, social skills that help them succeed in our society, athletic skills so they remain active and healthy, the list goes on. But the most important job that we have as parents is to make sure they become Saints in heaven, and we work at this by being great role models for them in our Faith. We attend Mass at church every weekend and Holy Days of Obligation, we put God first in all things, we pray together as a family, and we put Faith Formation as a priority in our weekly activities.

Currently at St. John's we offer a Faith Formation Program for grades K thru 7. Bishop Matano is emphasizing the need throughout our diocese for family catechesis. Faith Formation registration is in addition to registration for any sacramental preparation program a child is participating in as each of these programs offer a different curriculum and focus.

Like so many things in life, structure is an essential element to achieving success; just as structure in school is essential, so, too, is structure in the practice of faith formation.

Registration is open for the 2024-25 year ahead, with classes beginning in September.

Remember: we are here to help you, so please give us a chance to do so!



“Let the children come to me and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it.”

Luke 18:16-17



It's That Time of Year Again

Faith Formation for 2024-2025 school year

For those who did not attend one of the summer sessions, please contact the office to register for Home Schooling for all children in grades K thru 7.

Sacraments for 2024-2025 school year

If you have a child entering the 2nd grade or have not yet made their First Penance and First Communion, please register them to start the preparation.

If you have a child entering the 8th grade, they can be registered for the 2-year Confirmation program.

ALL Registration forms can be found in the back of church or at the office.

Paid registration is due at the parish office by Tuesday, September 3.

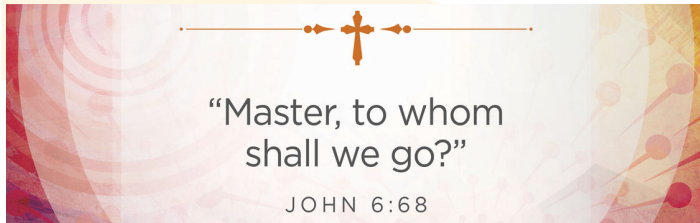
For additional information you can contact Cris Simone.

Let the Children Come to Me

As many of you may recall, here at St. John's during our 10:00 AM Mass, we had in place, *Children's Liturgy of the Word Ministry*. What is Children's Liturgy of the Word, you may ask? This is a ministry in which young children (who have not yet received the Sacrament of Holy Communion) leave the sanctuary during the Liturgy of the Word to hear the Scripture readings proclaimed and explained at an age-appropriate level. These sessions are not faith formation classes, arts and crafts activities, nor babysitting during Mass; rather, the children hear the same Mass readings as the adults but in simpler terms that are easier to grasp.

Like so many things, this ministry was suspended during the Covid-19 pandemic. The suggestion was made to bring this ministry active once again. Cheryl Watt was the leader of this ministry, however, Cheryl and her husband, Michael, have now relocated so without her leadership, we have a void with this position. We are looking for someone to fill this leadership role and if you think you might be interested and would like more information, you are asked to see Father Peter or Marcia.





Recognizing God in Your Ordinary Moments

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

To Whom Shall We Go?

A friend of mine, who is a far better Christian than I can ever hope to be, once shared with me that her family sneers at her belief system and lifestyle.

She believes in fairy tales they tell her. She’s looking for simple solutions from a kind-faced man in the sky because she doesn’t want to grapple with complicated answers to complicated problems.

Religion, they argue, is the easy way out.

As she spoke about this, her voice became unsteady. Not with anger, but with emotion. “I would never call this life easy,” she said. “If I was looking for something that was easy, I wouldn’t choose Catholicism.”

What was unspoken was *why* she has chosen Catholicism. I know the answer, but only because I know her. I knew her before she chose it wholeheartedly, and I know her now, and I see the difference. I see that these words are written so clearly across the days of her life: “Master, to whom shall we go?”

Once the truth is known in your soul, you see, it can never be unknown.

Following Christ is not about easy answers and simple teachings. Sure, it all sounds very basic: love one another as I have loved you. What could be more straightforward?

But what does that mean? What does that look like in daily, modern life, in a world full of the fallen, whose flaws have given us rough edges and weakened wills?

I’ll tell you what it looks like — it looks like a struggle. It looks like failure and mess and confusion and losing your way and finding it again, all because you remembered that within you there is a compass pointing due north. It’s a constant state of wandering in the dark, following a Voice that asks you to go where you’re afraid to go. And you follow the Voice not because it’s the only voice there is and not because it’s the voice that says what you want to hear, but because it’s the only one that speaks the truth, and the truth pulls on you in a way you can’t quite resist.

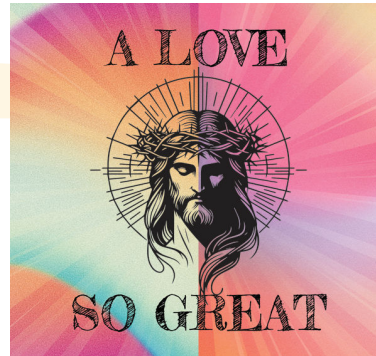
When Christ asks, “Do you also want to leave?” he is not gaslighting us. It’s a genuine question. We are free to go. We are not prisoners.

But we have heard the words of everlasting life, and now we can only have peace if we follow where they lead.

**“As for me and my household,
we will serve the Lord.”**

Joshua 24:15

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Encouraging Deeper Understanding of Scripture

August 25, 2024

21st Sunday
in Ordinary Time

The famous Russian novelist Fyodor Dostoyevsky said, “Love in action is a harsh and dreadful thing.”

In the Gospel reading this week, Jesus does something harsh and dreadful — he watches his own disciples abandon him. What could possibly be loving about that?

Well, we notice the context is Jesus’ teaching about eating and drinking his body and blood. His followers hear this and say, “**This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?**” John 6:60. We shouldn’t imagine we’d do anything different, because not even the ones who stay, like Peter, seem to understand what Jesus is saying. Then we hear this devastating line, “**Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him**” John 6:66. Besides the night of the Last Supper, only now do Jesus’ disciples abandon him. And, painfully, Jesus just lets them go.

*...love which is willing
to risk abandonment...*

The best way to make sense out of this is love. Jesus is God’s love in action. He

wants to become one with those whom He loves. He wants to love them as His own body. Yes, the oneness manifested in the Eucharist sounds harsh and dreadful because it is rooted in love which is willing to risk abandonment and separation to attain its goal: to be one body with the beloved. It is both terrifying and wonderful that Jesus will risk losing us in order to be one with us. Our response? Lord, we cannot grasp a love so great, but please help us never to abandon it, either.

— *Father John Muir*

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Prayer of Declaration

Lord,

*In the season when faith is hard,
help me to be as bold as Peter
who picked you above all others saying,
“To whom shall I go?”*

You have the words of eternal life.”

You’re my God.

I’m yours.

There is nowhere else I would rather be.

Amen.

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Rev. Michael Twardzik *Priest of Diocese of Rochester*
Amerigo Proia *Father of Mary Ann Proia (Tifone)*



This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

- ✝ Tabernacle I **Holy Souls in Purgatory**
- ✝ Tabernacle II **Deceased Priests of St. John's**
- ✝ Marian I **Deceased Nuns of St. John's**
- ✝ Marian II **Fr. Peter and all Travelers**

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



August 15 Assumption of Mary ATTENDANCE....216	
Offering.....	\$ 1,510.40
Giving.....	\$ 175.00
TOTAL Offering.....	\$ 1,685.40

August 17/18 Week 8 ATTENDANCE.....420	
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$ 9,321.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$ 6,987.90
ONLINE Giving.....	\$ 1,776.00
TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$ 8,763.90
SHORTAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING....(\$	557.10)

Fiscal Year 2024-25 as of August 18, 2024	
YEARLY BUDGET	\$ 494,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$ 74,568.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$ 76,920.62
OVERAGE TO DATE.....	\$ 2,352.62

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. It is easy, safe and secure! A link to Online Giving can be found at our Parish Home



Online Giving

Page www.stjohngreece.org.

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

St Monica & St Augustine

Two Saints with feast days in August who were mother and son.



Share a Prayer

Prayer for Peace in the World

Loving Father,
we bring to you the suffering of our world today.

Look kindly upon every person living in fear, suffering persecution, or facing death.

Help us to remember that you are the Father of all of your children on earth.

Fill each heart with an unwavering trust in your Fatherly love.

Forgive us for when we chose the path of selfishness rather than the path of love.

Forgive us for when we forgot to live as brothers and sisters on this earth, the way you have shown in fellowship with your disciples.

Look upon us with your compassion,
the way you looked upon the world from the Cross.

Remember not the evil we have done,
but see the depth of our repentance.

Give peace to the world,
help us to live anew.

Send your Spirit to guide our every step,
to build rather than to destroy,
to love rather than to hate,
to live rather than to die.

In Jesus' name, through the victory of his Resurrection,
we pray.
Amen.



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.

Senior Home Communion Service Ministers August/September 2024

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

August 18, 2024	Steve and Mary Ann Donato
September 1, 2024	Ron LaForce
September 15, 2024	Steve and Mary Ann Donato
September 29, 2024	Ron LaForce

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY

August 18, 2024	Tom Grieco
August 25, 2024	Bob and Barb Gotham
September 1, 2024	Tom Grieco
September 8, 2024	Bob and Barb Gotham
September 15, 2024	Tom Grieco
September 22, 2024	Bob and Barb Gotham

ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

August 25, 2024	Dan & Melissa Kabasin
August 25, 2024	Dan & Melissa Kabasin
September 1, 2024	Carolyn Kerhaert
September 8, 2024	Chris Hoefler
September 15, 2024	Terry & Pam Hearne
September 22, 2024	Dan & Melissa Kabasin
September 29, 2024	Carolyn Kerhaert