

# St. John the Evangelist Greece

December 22, 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.*



# Merry Christmas!

AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH



## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Monday

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/  
Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14/  
Lk 1:57-66

### Tuesday *Vigil*

Is 62:1-5/  
Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/  
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/  
Mt 1:1-25

### Wednesday

Is 52:7-10/  
Heb 1:1-6/  
Ps 98:1-6/  
Jn 1:1-18

### Thursday

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/  
Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17/  
Mt 10:17-22

### Friday

1 Jn 1:1-4/  
Ps 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12/  
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

### Saturday

1 Jn 1:5—2:2/  
Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8/  
Mt 2:13-18

### Sunday

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/  
Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10/  
1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/  
Lk 2:41-52

## 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.

## These are the Days of Wonders and Miracles

As Advent draws to a close, we focus more on the Birth of Our Savior. The Gospel reading for this weekend is about Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth. Try and imagine the conversation these two women might have had. We can picture them in their excitement.

During the days of Advent, think of yourself as standing in the circle of God, like Joseph. Hear God say to you, "you are not forgotten." In Advent we do not hear much about Joseph yet he is one of the principle characters this time of the year. He is an important personality in God's plan of salvation for us. Joseph is the symbol of compassion in this awakening to God's presence among us. Are we ready to follow his foot steps?...think about Joseph's compassion?...think about his care and concern for the Holy Family? If we are ready, then I invite you to see for yourself as a follower of the way of God's plan of salvation. We all must care about the world around us.

Advent is an awakening moment. The Church is about evangelizing and growing in holiness. It's about everyday people responding to the Spirit and working together in love to achieve the vital



## Jesus Come Heal Us

goal of being transformed in Christ. Like Joseph, our hearts must open and God's mercy be revealed to us. Our Jewish ancestors in the faith received this revelation as a name, Emmanuel—God is with us. The Church helps prepare us with words of hope and anticipation and so I say—bravo! I have been overwhelmed with the tremendous support we had for our Angel Tree Project. We will make many hearts happy. The love of our faith community here at St. John's is awesome! I sincerely thank all of you for your kindness. We honor God's Word when we welcome and allow the love of Christ to grow within us as we share ourselves like Joseph. He stood in the background of Jesus' life, but he certainly contributed immensely to the well-being of the Son of God.

I pray that we all have a peaceful last few days of Advent and Christmas week. I, along with our Parish Staff, Pastoral Council and Liturgy and Finance Committees wish all of our parishioners a very Merry Christmas. Thank you for all you do for our beloved St. John's!



*Peace & Christmas Blessings to All,  
Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu, Pastor*



## Parish Office Holiday Hours

**THIS Tuesday, December 24,  
Wednesday, December 25 and Thursday, December 26**  
Parish Office is CLOSED  
*Office will re-open on Friday, December 27*

**Masses for the Week—December 23-29**

**MONDAY, December 23** *St John of Kanty*  
 8:15 AM + *Jim Wenskus*  
 by Judy, Tim & Ted

**TUESDAY, December 24** *Vigil Nativity of the Lord*  
 4:00 PM + *Deacon Bob Burke*  
 by Family  
 10:00 PM + *Angelo Leonardis*  
 by Wife & Family

**WEDNESDAY, December 25** *Nativity of the Lord*  
 8:00 AM + *For the People*  
 10:00 AM + *Dan Craddock*  
 by Family

**THURSDAY, December 26** *St Stephen*

**FRIDAY, December 27** *St John, Apostle & Evangelist*  
 8:15 AM + *Rose Marie Skrypek*  
 by Family

**SATURDAY, December 28** *The Holy Innocents*  
 4:00 PM + *Brian Hoefler*  
 by Mother & Children

**SUN, Dec 29** *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph*  
 8:00 AM + *The People of St John's;*  
*Living and Deceased*  
 10:00 AM + *Madeline B. Resch*  
 by Bequest

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

**This Week's Schedule**

**Sunday, Dec 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
 NO OCIA Class  
 After 10:00 AM Mass  
 Decorating—Arts & Environment in Church  
 AND Final Pageant Rehearsal

**Monday, December 23**  
 9:00 AM Bible Study in Parish Center

**Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve**  
 Parish Office CLOSED

**Wednesday, December 25 Christmas**  
 Parish Office CLOSED

**Thursday, December 26 Christmas**  
 Parish Office CLOSED

**Sunday, Dec 29 Feast of the Holy Family**  
 NO OCIA Class



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

Dec 22	Dec 23	Dec 24	Dec 25	Dec 26	Dec 27	Dec 28
James Fennessy	John Firpo	Raymond Fleming	Deceased Priests	Jesus Flores-Rivera	James Muscatella	Jon Forni



**Christmas Eve**  
**Tuesday, December 24**  
 4:00 PM Family Mass with Youth Choir and Children's Pageant  
*Prelude music/carols beginning at 3:45 PM.*  
 10:00 PM Mass with Adult Choir  
*Prelude music/carols beginning at 9:30 PM.*

✦

**Christmas Day**  
**Wednesday, December 25**  
 8:00 AM Mass with Cantor  
 10:00 AM Mass with Adult Choir  
*Prelude music/carols beginning at 9:45 AM.*

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
*Holy Day of Obligation*  
**Tuesday, December 31, 2024 at 6:00 PM**  
 Mass of Thanksgiving for 2024 Year Ending & Holy Day Mass of Anticipation.  
**Wednesday, January 1, 2025 at 9:00 AM**  
 Holy Day Mass

## A Message of Peace and Joy from Fr Peter



At this special time of the year as we make final preparations for gift-giving and receiving family and friends for our Christmas celebration, let us, first and foremost, prepare our hearts. In these last few days before Christmas, I ask you to please spend some quiet time in prayer thanking God for all the blessings he bestows

upon us and our families—things that are obvious, things we take for granted, blessings yet to come, and especially for the gift of his Son—our Savior and Redeemer.

I take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to each of you for ALL you have done through the years for our beloved St. John the Evangelist Church, but especially this past year when times have been challenging for most and so many needs of the parish and our surrounding community needed to be met and you extended your generosity over and over again for the greater glory of God!

As your Pastor, together with Deacon Elmer, Deacon Lon and the Parish Staff, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas; may it be a time of simplicity and peace.

God bless us one and all!

*Fr. Peter*

P.S. I hope you will pray the prayer at right as you gather for your Christmas meal with family and friends.



## Christmas Day Table Prayer

Lord God of Life, together with the beautiful traditions of decorating the Christmas tree, of singing carols and giving gifts, this Christmas dinner is an important part of our celebration of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Come, Lord our God, and surround our feast day table as we delight in this joyous season of Christmas.

Gift us in this meal the taste of happiness as we savor this coming together of family and friends.

As sparkling stars and singing angels rejoiced at the birth of the Christ Child in Bethlehem, so may we take great joy in this our Christmas dinner-celebration.

May You, our God, bless it and us in Your holy name.

- Edward Hays, "Prayers for the Domestic Church: A Handbook for Worship in the Home"



2024-2025 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

## Extending Christ's Mission through the Catholic Ministries Appeal



### The Diocesan Catholic Ministries Appeal Continues

**The goal for St. John's is \$78,000.**

As of Tuesday, December 10, 263 households have pledged \$76,641 taking us to 98.26% of our goal

### Have you turned in your pledge card?

If not, we encourage you to do so soon. To all of you who are "Extending Christ's Mission" THANK YOU.

\* NOTE: When paying by check, be sure to make it payable to CMA and in the memo section of your check please write 039 St. John's, Greece.

We are required to complete the *pledge* phase of our campaign by year's end. But remember you have until May 31, 2025 to complete payment on your pledge.

**NOTE: If you have made your pledge and do not see your name listed after two consecutive bulletins, please notify the Parish Office at 585-225-8980. Thank you.**

*The following are the most recent donors since our last posting in the December 8 bulletin.*

Mr./Mrs. Joseph Aleo  
Mrs. Isobel Barbour  
Mr./Mrs. Roberto Battisti  
Mr./Mrs. Kevin C. Bishop  
Mr./Mrs. Matthew Braya  
Mr./Mrs. Frederick Castania  
Mr./Mrs. Brian Culbertson  
Mrs. Frances Ditucci  
Mr./Mrs. Stephen Donato  
Ms. Loretta M. Ennocenti  
Mr./Mrs. Ottavio Ercolino  
Mr./Mrs. Thomas Fien  
Mrs. Angela A. Frank  
Miss Shirley Hans  
Mrs. Katherine K. Headley  
Mr./Mrs. Stephen Hoas

Mr./Mrs. Michael Keane  
Mrs. MaryAnn Marciano  
Mrs. Francine M. Minch  
Mr./Mrs. Joseph Morinelli  
Mr. Tom Nicchitta  
Mr./Mrs. Raphael Opida  
Mr./Mrs. Frank Ragusa  
Mr./Mrs. Thomas Raisbeck  
Mr./Mrs. Franklin Ritz  
Mr./Mrs. Paul Sawicki  
Mr./Mrs. Victor Tifone  
Mr./Mrs. George Weinmann  
Mrs. Dorothy M. Yax  
Mrs. Eileen Zegarelli  
Mr./Mrs. Michael Zodarecky



## Our Christmas Poinsettias are Courtesy of the Following Donors

Donor	In Memory of	Donor	In Memory of
Lynda Baird	Molly & Marcy Mrzywka, Joan Ricci, Sue Mrzywka	Christine Hoefler	Brian Hoefler
Isobel R. Barbour	Fraser Barbour & Isobel Moynes	Mary Horst-Kotter	William Paul Horst-Kotter
Grace Battaglia	James Battaglia, Julie Winkler	Rita Hunt & Family	Pete Hunt
Carolyn Benham	Jean Cerone	Jean & Tom	Deceased Members of Raisbeck & Barbato Families
Karen & Michael Bessette	Eric & Jean Mertens	Michael & Patricia Keenahan	Harold & Mary Keenahan, Theron & Jennie Ross
Steve & Terri Braya	Deceased Members of the Baum & Braya Families	Gary Kern	Mildred & Anthony Costanza
Paul & Carolyn Brescia	Mary & Anthony Brescia, Mary Ann & George Sundt	Mr/Mrs Glenn Klingenberg	Angelo & Peggy Marfione, Dawn Spies, Renee Sergisson
Mr/Mrs Richard Bridgeman	Mr./Mrs. Walter Eisenberg, Mr./Mrs. Edward Bridgeman	Annabelle Kowalski	Robert Kowalski
Elizabeth Buda	Nick Buda	John & Linda Lacek	John & Catherine Lacek, Barbara Ann Lacek,
Kim & Michael Buda	Donal & Elizabeth Wiley	Ron LaForce	Donald & Lorraine Leege
Mr/Mrs Michael Catalfano	Ken & Betty Hamilton, Mary Ann & Frank Catalfano, John P. Meade	Suzanne Loucks	Barb LaForce
Linda T. Cavey	Michael H. Lembcke	Robert & Adrian Lucacci	Amber Rose Loucks, John B. Effinger
Dick Cerone	Jean Cerone	Cathy Moore	Lisa Anne Lucacci, Christine Lucacci
Daniel Conte	Henry Conte, Julia Conte, Henry D. Conte	Helen Morone	Buz Moore, Deceased Members of Moore & Naureth Families
Mrs. Sylvia Coppeta	Living & Deceased Members of Troiano & Coppeta Families	Paul & Audrey Parkman	Guy Morone
Karen Cottorone-Young	Deceased Members of Cottorone & Tarala Families, Joseph Young, Martha DiPaola, Barbara Ames-Braun	Tom Galligan & Elaine Passero	Duane E. & Beverly Parkman, Dominic & Josephine Viecele
Diana Craddock	Deceased & Living Members of Craddock & Schuff Families	Pizzi Family	Deceased Members of Galligan & Passero Families
Daughters	Albert & Helen DeConinck	David & Donna Post	Joseph Pizzi, Jane & Joe Tominez
Mr/Mrs David Deisenroth	Richard & Alida Deisenroth, Mary & Joseph Pacana	Gene Preston	Deceased Members of the Kenyon & Post Families
Ann Dellefave	Nick Dellefave	Jeanne M. Reiser	Clarence, Adrienne, Edward, Kenneth & Patricia Preston
Rita & James DeLucia	Fedora & John Vorrasi, Elizabeth & Patsy DeLucia	Mike & Jenny Rivera	Thomas A. McPherson, Thomas M. McPherson
Joseph & JoeAnne DiPaolo	Kathleen Kirsch	Patricia B. Smeltzer	Mario & Lucy Insalaco
Louise Dominik	Mr./Mrs. Bernard Dominik, Martha DiPaola, Irene Storkan	Deborah & Glenn Smith	Blanche & Arthur Blasius, Elizabeth & Ronald Dugal, Elsie & Hans Pinsl
Ken & Linda Francis	M.M. Francis, G.M. Lewis, T.I. Francis	Elaine & Rick Stein	Ray Kerhaert
Loretta & Dino Frasco	Deceased Members of Frasco & Paniccia Families	David, Michelle & Sharon Stoll	Paul & Dolores Stein
Catherine & Thomas Funston	Living & Deceased Members of Wargo, Funston, Camus, Seger Families	Pam Tofany-Kern	Paula Stoll
Mr/Mrs David C. Giarrizzo	Dorothy Hayes, Marion Smith	Eileen & Nick Verdino	Mr./Mrs. Vincent L. Tofany
Ellen & Edward Haak	Mr./Mrs. Raymond Haak, Mr./Mrs. Alfred Gallauresi	Alan & Eileen Vieira	Molly & Len Trotta, Giuseppa & Salvatore Verdino
MaryAnn Heh	Douglas Heh	Nancy & George Weinmann	Deceased Members of Vieira & Kryger Families
Rosa Hochheimer	Anna "Nina" DiPaolo	Joan Wiesner	Maisie Lucienne Gillan, Jack Gilligan
Michael & Kimberly Lana	Frances Lana	Jack Zienkiewicz	Charles & Evelyn Wiesner Janet Zienkiewicz

*Additional names will be appear in next weekend's bulletin.*



### *You are Invited to the Solemn Mass*

Inaugurating the Opening of the Ordinary Jubilee Year 2025 in the Diocese of Rochester

**NEXT Sunday, December 29, 2024 at 11:15 AM**

The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano, *Principal Celebrant and Homilist*

Sacred Heart Cathedral . 296 Flower City Park, Rochester, NY 14615





Margaret Zarud *Parishioner of St. John's*  
Eugene Chmiel, Sr. *Father-in-law of Dawn Chmiel*



*This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for*

- ✚ Tabernacle I **Donal Wiley**
- ✚ Tabernacle II **Deceased Clergy & Religious Sisters of St John's**
- ✚ Marian I **Jeff Lader**
- ✚ Marian II **Deceased Members of the Anthony & White Families**

**BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL**



<b>December 7/8</b> Week 24	ATTENDANCE.....	454
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,321.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$	8,272.10
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	2,190.00
TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$	10,462.10
<u>OVERAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING.....</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>1,141.10</u>

**Fiscal Year 2024-25** as of December 8, 2024

YEARLY BUDGET .....	\$	494,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$	223,704.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$	215,791.71
<u>SHORTAGE TO DATE.....</u>	<u>(\$</u>	<u>7,912.29)</u>

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



**Christmas Offering**

There is an envelope this month for Wednesday, December 25. This is for your gift to our beloved St. John's for Christmas and can be dropped into one of the collection boxes. Thank you for your thoughtful generosity.



**BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL**



Due to the upcoming Christmas holiday, our December 14/15 Collection and Mass attendance will be noted in Next Weekend's bulletin.

**Reminder on Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) (sometimes referred to as "IRA Charitable Rollovers) as a Way to Donate to St. John's Parish**

Under the legislation, donors aged 70½ or older can contribute up to \$100,000 from their IRA's directly to qualified charities without having to pay income taxes on the money.

Here is a quick recap of the IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution rules. Gifts qualify under the law if:

- The donor is age 70 ½ or older on the day of the gift.
- The donor transfer up to \$100,000 directly from their IRA to one or more qualified charities. This opportunity applies only to IRA's and no other types of retirement plans.
- The donor does not receive any goods or services in return for the rollover gift in order to qualify for tax-free treatment.
- The gift/check must be dated on or before Dec., 31, 2024 to qualify this year.
- The gift needs to be sent directly to the charitable organization which also has to be the payee for the gift.
- The official name and address to use for the receiver of the donation is:

St. John the Evangelist Church  
2400 W Ridge Road  
Rochester, NY 14626

*If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact your financial advisor. If you have other questions, please call or email Joe Spurrier: Business Office at St. John's, at 585-225-8980, or joseph.spurrier@dor.org*

Born in Bethsaida (d. 101), St. John, Apostle and Evangelist was called while mending his nets to follow Jesus. He became the beloved disciple of Jesus. He wrote the fourth Gospel, three Epistles and the Apocalypse. His passages on the pre-existence of the Word, who by His Incarnation became the light of the world and the life of our souls, are among the finest of the New Testament. He is the evangelist of the divinity of Christ and His fraternal love. He was one of the witnesses of the Transfiguration. At the Last Supper, he leans on the Master's breast. At the foot of the cross, Jesus entrusts His Mother to his care. John's pure life kept him very close to Jesus and Mary in years to come. John was exiled to the island of Patmos under Emperor Domitian.

**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.roccatholicsnorthwest.org](http://www.roccatholicsnorthwest.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

**Senior Home Communion Service Ministers December 2024**

**HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE**

December 22, 2024 Ron LaForce

**THE VILLAGE AT UNITY**

December 22, 2024 Bob & Barb Gotham

**ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE**

December 22, 2024 Dan & Melissa Kabasin

December 29, 2024 Carolyn Kerhaert