

St. John the Evangelist Greece

February 16, 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.



"Blessed are you who are now hungry,
for you will be satisfied.
Blessed are you who are now weeping,
for you will laugh."
- Lk 6:21

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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

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.rocatholicsnorthwest.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

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

Gn 4:1-15, 25/
Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21/
Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday

Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/
Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10/
Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday

Gn 8:6-13, 20-22/
Ps 116:12-15, 18-19/
Mk 8:22-26

Thursday

Gn 9:1-13/
Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23/
Mk 8:27-33

Friday

Gn 11:1-9/
Ps 33:10-15/
Mk 8:34—9:1

Saturday

1 Pt 5:1-4/
Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6/
Mt 16:13-19

Sunday

1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/
Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13
1 Cor 15:45-49/
Lk 6:27-38

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.

Let the Lord Cultivate the Ground of Faith

We need to know that our God is a God of consolation and love. He is always encouraging us. God never gives up on us. He never condemns or rejects us. The Church is for all of us. We are called to be the everyday Christian as we make the effort to renew our relationship with God. Researchers tell us that in our society today, about three out of every ten people who were baptized Catholic go to Mass weekly. If we count those who go twice or three times a month, the number increases, but the reality is that about half the people baptized into our faith no longer attend Mass. Some still consider themselves Catholic, and some do not. Many have drifted away from the church for so long that they seem lost. Like recently, a person asked me, "Father, I have not been to church for so long; I am Catholic. Would God forgive me?" God never forgets anyone, and welcomes all at any moment into His presence. Maybe for our Regional Retreat, try to invite someone to come and listen to Fr. Bob Kennedy. Invite a friend or family member. Show them some kindness. A loving person tries to always be kind. A true Christian is open and honest and does not judge



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the heart intentions of the other.

There is no doubt that one of the challenges facing the Church is that in our world today, people do not believe much in anything. There is too much self-sufficiency; too much "I am not interested;" and those in power have structured society in such a way as to make it very difficult to live humanely; let alone in a Christian way. So let us not be afraid to be ourselves with God.

Today's society faces a crisis of faith that can only be solved by responding to the personal call to conversion. Let us have time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation to experience the compassion of our God, and let it move us to share this compassion with everyone we meet.

Victory belongs to God's anointed. In the end, we become a sign of the way things will be in heaven, "when every tear will be wiped away," and everyone will be treated with respect and as equals. Even now, Jesus is waiting to talk with us about everything and anything. Why wait? Let us seek Him, hear His word and fall in love with Him again.



God bless us all,
Father Peter

"O My Mother, it is to your heart that I come to lay down the anguish of my heart; it is there that I draw strength and courage."

SAINT BERNADETTE



Holy Hour to Honor Mary, Our Mother

Monday February 24, 7 - 8 PM.

Knights of Columbus Our Lady of the Cenacle Council #3892 will be sponsoring Holy Hour to honor Mary, Our Mother at St. John the Evangelist Church. The contents of the Holy Hour will be as follows, Adoration, Exposition, Reflection, Holy Rosary, Litany of St. Joseph and the Divine Praises. All are welcome to participate in this Holy Hour of Adoration and prayer along with Fr. Peter and Deacon Lon.

Masses for the Week—February 17—23

MON, Feb 17 *The 7 Holy Founders of the Servite Order*
 8:15 AM + *Lawrence Rossignolo*
 by Family

TUESDAY, February 18 *Weekday*
 8:15 AM + *Madeline B. Resch*
 by Bequest

WEDNESDAY, February 19 *Weekday*
 8:15 AM + *Deceased Members of the Keane Family*
 by Jim & Delia Keane

THURSDAY, February 20 *Weekday*

FRIDAY, February 21 *St Peter Damian*
 8:15 AM *Natividad Rivera & Gary Smith (living)*
 by Gary & Naty

SATURDAY, Feb 22 *The Chair of St Peter, Apostle*
 4:00 PM + *Alexander Johnson*
 by Mr & Mrs Richard Bridgeman

SUNDAY, February 23 *7th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
 8:00 AM + *Bob Wunsch*
 by Jessica & Carrie Wunsch
 10:00 AM + *The People of St John's—Living*

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

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, February 16
 9:00 AM OCIA Class in Meeting Room

Monday, February 17 President's Day
 Parish Office CLOSED
 NO Bible Study

Wednesday, February 19
 10:30 AM *Journey through Grief* Bereavement Group
 in Parish Center

Thursday, February 20
 4:30 PM Cursillo Men's Group Mtg in Meeting Room

Sunday, February 23
 9:00 AM OCIA Class in Meeting Room
 11:00 AM Confirmation Class in Parish Center

Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.

Feb 16	Feb 17	Feb 18	Feb 19	Feb 20	Feb 21	Feb 22
Pius Pathmarajah	All Deacons	John Podsiadlo	Jorge Ramirez	John Reif	Leo Reinhardt	Robert Ring



Attention all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

St. John's will be conducting an in person training session, led by Deacon Elmer Smith, for all EMoHCs **THIS Saturday, February 22 from 9:00 to 10:00 AM in Church.** The training is meant to compliment the biographies and Professions of Faith you recently were asked to fill out. We strongly encourage your attendance and thank you for serving this Ministry.



St. John the Evangelist Parish is ALIVE!

There are different experiences being planned for your spiritual development along with Lenten and social activities. Our Parish Lenten Calendar will appear in Next Week's Bulletin

Our Bereavement Ministry, as outlined in previous bulletins, will continue on Wednesdays through **February 26 from 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM in the Parish Center.** Please register with Deacon Lon via the Parish Office.



RESPECT LIFE | Prayer & Action
February Prayer Guide

PRAY
Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECT
 The month of February has traditionally been dedicated to the Holy Family who provide for us a model of marriage and family life. Mary and Joseph perfectly witness to the gift of new life, welcoming the infant Jesus amidst difficult and challenging circumstances. God designed the love of husband and wife to be so complete, so ordered to a life-time of communion with Himself and each other, that it is open to creating a new human being whom they will love and care for together. Part of God’s gift to husband and wife is cooperation with His creative power. In participating in this “great mystery” of love that is total, faithful, and fruitful, married couples become a sign of the love between Christ and his Church Eph 5:32. Couples who cannot bear children still share in this cooperation. As St. John Paul II affirmed to such couples, “you are no less loved by God; your love for each other is complete and fruitful when it is open to others.”

While a couple does not need to seek to have a child in every act of intercourse, they should never act to reject the life-giving power granted by God through the use of contraception. In deliberately acting to suppress their fertility, couples harm their unity. For serious reasons, couples may choose to avoid pregnancy for a time or indefinitely. Natural Family

Planning (NFP) can help married couples identify and utilize the naturally infertile times in a woman’s cycle, all while cooperating with God’s design.

In today’s culture, living out God’s plan for married love and opening our hearts to the gift of children can be difficult. It can often require great generosity and trust in the Lord. But as Christ repeatedly exhorted, “Be not afraid!” The Church’s teaching on married love is an invitation to let God transform our hearts, knowing God’s plan is far richer than anything the world can offer us.

- ACT (Choose One)**
- Offer a *Prayer for Married Couples* for this month’s intention.
 - If you are married, participate in this 2025 *At-Home Marriage Retreat* anytime during the month of February.
 - Offer some other sacrifice or prayer that you feel called to do for this month's intention.

One Step Further
 Learn more about God’s plan for marriage and how husbands and wives are called to fully live out their vows in *Married Love and the Gift of Life*.



Friendship Children's Center

December 2024

To: St John the Evangelist Church

Thank you so much for your very generous donation to Friendship Children’s Center.

Thank you for your donation in the form of gifts for a family here at Friendship. These are struggling families who work every day to provide for their family. You truly gave them a “hand up”.

The words, “God Bless”, “who was it that adopted me?”, “Please thank them, it means so much to us!”. These were just a few words that were spoken.

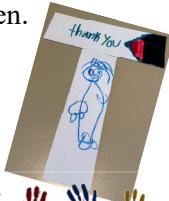
It is people like you who truly make a difference in our children’s and families’ lives.

Thank you again for supporting Friendship’s families. You are a treasured friend of Friendship’s children.

Sincerely,

Gina Lord, *Board President*

Joi McMurtry, *Executive Director*



Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes—February 3, 2025

Opening Prayer: Patti Hoag

Attendance: Father Peter, Deacon Lon Smith, Bob Gotham, Rick Paoletti, Wayne Howard, Patty Hoag, Paul Parkman, Nick Verdino, Stephanie Braya-Black, Christine Paoletti, Karen Bessette, Tod Simone, Alan Christodaro, Nick Sassano *Absent:* Kathy Christodaro *Excused:* Gary Kern, Pam Tofany-Kern, Sharon Miller, Deacon Elmer Smith, Melissa Ryan,

Motion to approve the agenda for tonight's Meeting (Emailed February 1, 2025) Approval: Alan Cristodaro | Second: Patty Hoag

Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes from the 1/6/2025 Meeting, in the Bulletin on January 26, 2025. Approval: Wayne Howard | Second: Nick Verdino

Chairperson's Comments:

CMA UPDATE: Our 2024 campaign has begun. Our numbers thru 1/31/2025:

- Donor to date: 302
- Commitment to date: \$83,658.02
- Commitment % to date: 107.25%
- Paid To date: \$78487.35
- Paid % of Goal: 100.62%
- Average per donor: \$277.01
- Our CMA goal: \$78,000
- \$\$ still needed: We have met our Goal as of 1/31/2025 **BINGO!!!!!!!! WE HAVE DONE IT AGAIN!**
- There are still a few outstanding commitments that will need to be honored by May 2025.

Volunteers and members needed: I did a follow-up with Father Peter on placing an announcement in the bulletin requesting volunteers for: Mass Lectors, Ushers, Altar Servers, Funeral Altar Servers, Choir Ministry, Eucharistic Ministers, Lenten Fish Fry and Flower Garden Ministry. Also, membership openings in Fatima Prayer Ministry, Knights of Columbus, Bible Study and Women's Guild. This notice was in the January 26th Bulletin.

Church Conversations: I have submitted a request to Father Peter for a Bulletin announcement concerning the social conversations that are happening prior to Mass beginning, that are distracting to those parishioners that are praying. Father has decided to place this notice in the January 26th Bulletin.

Coffee Hours: The Collection counters hosted our January Coffee Hour. And we have the Prayer Shawl ministry (Lead by Sue Kilpatrick) volunteering to host the February coffee hour.

DEACON LON SMITH UPDATE:

SAVE THE DATES:

- Lent/Easter Mass Schedule has been set
- Grief Counseling Ministry: up to 4 people participating in this group.
- Lenten Experience 2025: will start the Wednesday after Ash Wednesday with an afternoon and evening session. It will be more of a retreat format than a talk. I will get a sign-up going to see who wants to attend
- Social Activities: exploring some options of a day trip or a fun parish activity.
- St. John's 160th anniversary is this May. If we want to do something to celebrate this, we need to decide sooner rather than later so that we can inform the diocese.

Easter Vigil Planning Sheet Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

FATHER PETER'S UPDATE:

We need to work together with the diocese and make sure we are in compliance with their rules.

The Finance Council is looking into planned giving and ways to ask for our parishioners to consider increasing their giving as we continue to lose parishioners when they pass on.

Social Committee: The goal is to bring people in and keep them active in the parish. Easter Egg hunt will be on Saturday April 10th at 10 AM. Other activities are also being explored and planned out in advance.

Arts and Environment: Poinsettias are available for parishioners to take home at this point. The flowers for Easter are ordered as well as the palms. The baskets in the attic will be used for the plants this easter.

TASK FORCE: Nick Verdino: One last meeting on February 25th, the documentation has been finalized to send to the Bishop's office. The bishop had also given a letter thanking the committee for their time and recommendations and for taking the initiative to form this committee. The Bishop also provided some examples of other parish groups that have merged and what has been successful for them. The letter that was written by the task force committee will be posted on the ROC Diocese website after all meetings have been concluded so that others can see the time and thought that went into this research and recommendation.

Certificates of Appreciation: Sharon – no nominations pending

Knights of Columbus Council 3892: Update:

Rick: Fish fries start on March 7th and will be moved to 3:30 - 6:30. Pricing is being researched.

40 Days for Life will begin on Ash Wednesday

Outreach – Pastoral Ministry/Homebound

Update: Tod: Lots of funerals, several of the regulars that Tod visits are moving further away as they go into assisted living situations.

Liturgy Committee: Tod: Ash Wednesday Masses will be at 9 AM, 12:05 PM, 6 PM and maybe 7AM. St Joseph's table will be March 16th, Palm Sunday is being planned, working on a Lenten theme, Eucharistic Ministers have an upcoming training on 2/20. Stations of the Cross will be run by the different parish ministries.

St. John's Website: Website Statistics
Visitors – 595 - 47% Views – 1,664 – 43%
Facebook Update: 612 likes and 810 followers

Safety and Security: Nick Sassano: No issues recently, we are keeping an eye on the parking lot more with the recent issues that have been happening in the city with car break ins. If we have a special activity going on (expecting a large crowd) we no longer can give them heads up, but we can call the night of the event, and they will send a car to keep an eye on things as they become available.

Faith Stories: Paul Parkman – To celebrate St. John the Evangelist (whose feast day is December 27th) we will

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Jeanne Wiesner Stockmeister
Cousin of the Charles Wiesner Family



This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

- ✚ Tabernacle I **Our Nation**
- ✚ Tabernacle II **Prayer Requests from our Prayer Line**
- ✚ Marian I **Married Couples**
- ✚ Marian II **Rose Marie Skrypek**

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



February 8/9 Week 33	ATTENDANCE.....	353
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,321.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$	5,681.02
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	3,224.00
TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$	8,905.02
SHORTAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING....	(\$	415.98)

2nd Collection

Boiler Fund/Capital Improvement.....	\$	2,253.00
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	1,225.00
TOTAL Offering.....	\$	3,478.00

Fiscal Year 2024-25 as of February 9, 2025

YEARLY BUDGET	\$	494,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$	307,593.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$	297,877.71
SHORTAGE TO DATE.....	(\$	9,715.29)

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

www.notredameretreat.org
 585-394-5700
 Visit website for details and registration, or email staff@notredameretreat.org
NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE



Couple's Retreat February 28—March 2
"Walking in Friendship with God: Pilgrims of Hope"

\$300 per couple: Includes private room with full bath, linens & towels, meals, and retreat
 Celebrate your journey together during this Jubilee Year of Hope

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL *Continued from page 5*

be doing "In the Footsteps of St. John the Evangelist", This celebration will take place over periods of time, with a few events over time. We will form a temporary committee to put together displays of footprints to lead to displays and we may show a movie based on the Gospel of John. There is also music that centers around the Gospel of John. We would like to kick it off on May 3rd with the 160th Anniversary of our Parish. The council has agreed to support this plan.

Open Forum/For the Good of the Parish: Alan: Blessing of the throats was yesterday and it was noticeable that most people stayed around to get the blessing and as Alan assisted with the blessing, Alan could see the faith reflected in the parishioners eyes and it would be great to see their faith and how do we capture that and give them more of what they need?

Father Peter: So many of our parishioners are sick/dying. He would love to be able to anoint anyone who would like the anointing after an afternoon mass if he can find another priest to help with this.

Closing Prayer: Patti Hoag

Next Meeting: March 3, 2025

Opening and Closing Prayers: Nick Sassano

A Lenten Journey...
 Saturday, March 22, 8:30 AM—3:30 PM
"A Walk to the Well" Women's Lenten Retreat
Presented by Marie Mozzi

\$70: Take a day to enjoy others, reflection time, and the chance to just be. Your WELL will be replenished, and your spirit rekindled and re-connected.

Lenten Book Read
Mondays from March 10—April 14
"I Want to See" by Roc O'Connor, SJ
 Sign Up for one of the following options:
 \$50 (includes book)—**In Person:** 1:00—2:00 PM
 \$35 (book purchased by participant)
 —**Online:** 7:00—8:00 PM

Meet the author at March 31 Session

Lenten Retreat with Fr Roc O'Connor, SJ
March 28—30
 \$250 single room
 \$220 per person in shared double (full bath inside room)
 \$310 double alone (private room)

**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.



Jubilee Year 2025

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Today we hear about “a great crowd of his disciples and a large number of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon.” People journeyed to hear what Jesus had to say, in a sort of pilgrimage. And what they heard – the beatitudes – has the potential to change their lives. Our jubilee pilgrimage, if it includes Jesus as the destination, has the same potential.

Ponder Point: Imagine journeying to hear a celebrity, only to find out it was the Son of God who would save the world!

Senior Home Communion Service Ministers February 2025

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

February 16, 2025 Ron LaForce

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY

February 16, 2025 Tom Grieco
February 23, 2025 Bob & Barb Gotham

ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

February 16, 2025 Chris Hoefler
February 23, 2025 Dan & Melissa Kabasin