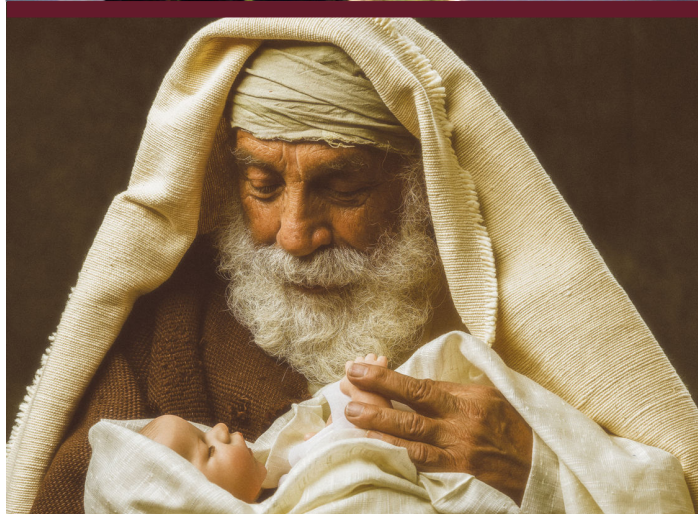


# St. John the Evangelist Greece

February 2, 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.*



“Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel.” - Lk 2:34

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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](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

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Monday

Heb 11:32-40/  
Ps 31:20- 24/  
Mk 5:1-20

### Tuesday

Heb 12:1-4/  
Ps 22:26b-28, 30-32/  
Mk 5:21-43

### Wednesday

Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/  
Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a/  
Mk 6:1-6

### Thursday

Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/  
Ps 48:2-4, 9-11/  
Mk 6:7-13

### Friday

Heb 13:1-8/  
Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc/  
Mk 6:14-29

### Saturday

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/  
Ps 23:1-6/  
Mk 6:30-34

### Sunday

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/  
Ps 138:1-8/  
1 Cor 15:1-11  
Lk 5:1-11

## 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.

## God Can Do Wonders in Our Lives

Faith is a simple word, yet it contains a powerhouse of potential for our happiness and even our survival as people. Faith cannot be scientifically measured or quantified; yet we know it exists. Countless people throughout time have witnessed to the importance of faith in their lives. Some have taken their faith to the limits of martyrdom because they remained steadfast for what they believed. For most of us, our faith sustains us in the daily routine of life. As well as for others, faith is the driving force that carries us through our most difficult times.

St Paul once wrote: "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9. The creed we recite every Sunday at Mass is our statement of faith. So, we can trust that salvation is ours as we "confess" this creed and as we place our faith and trust in the truths that this creed announces.

St Augustine said God created us without our help, but he will not save us without our help. While Jesus' death and resurrection have brought about our redemption we still have a role to play in letting that redemption penetrate our hearts and minds.



Jesus tells us that we cannot serve two masters. If we try to serve two masters, we will either be devoted to one and despise the other, or we will love one and hate the other. Matthew 6:24.

Placing this teaching within the context of our lives, most of us probably have several masters we are trying to serve. These include

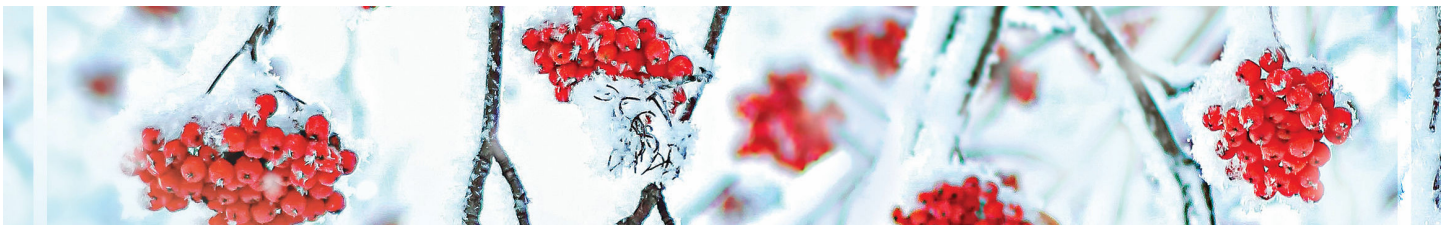
trying to serve the Lord while trying to gain the love and approval of others. The way to help ensure that our lives and hearts are truly focused on serving the Master, The Lord our God who promotes our greatest good, is through prayer and reflection. That is right—good, old fashioned prayer and reflection. This means that we need to clear away the clutter and, perhaps, shut off our cell phones, televisions, and computers so we can make time to pray each and every day.

It can be easy to forget that we depend on God's mercy for every breath we take. Every good attribute we have is a gift from his generous hand. It can be easy to think that Jesus "owes" us a favor because of our faithfulness. But in reality, we owe him for everything we are and everything we have. He is our Savior, not our business partner; he is our Lord, not our next-door neighbor. Connected to the Lord Jesus in faith,

we really can move mountains!

*Peace and May God bless us all.*

*Father Peter*



**Masses for the Week—February 3—9**

**MONDAY, February 3** *Sts Blaise & Ansgar*  
 8:15 AM + *Mae Sassano*  
 by Family

**TUESDAY, February 4** *Weekday*  
 8:15 AM + *Angela DeLuca*  
 by Pietro Nicotina

**WEDNESDAY, February 5** *St Agatha*  
 8:15 AM + *Dale & Donna Smith*  
 by Gary Smith

**THURSDAY, February 6** *St Paul Miki*

**FIRST FRIDAY, February 7** *Weekday*  
 8:15 AM + *Angelo Leonardis*  
 by Amy & Tony Preziosi

10:00 AM Benediction

**SAT, Feb 8** *Sts Jerome Emiliani & Josephine Bakhita*  
 4:00 PM + *The People of St John's;*  
*Living and Deceased*

**SUNDAY, February 9** *5th Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
 8:00 AM + *Deceased Members of the Vorrasi Family*  
 by Rita & Jim

10:00 AM + *Amerigo Proia*  
 by Eternal Father Prayer Group

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

**This Week's Schedule**

**Sunday, Feb 2 World Day for Consecrated Life**  
 8:00 & 10:00 AM Mass Blessing of Throats in Church  
 9:00 AM OCIA Class in Meeting Room

**Monday, February 3**  
 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

**Thursday, February 6**  
 4:30 PM Cursillo Men's Group Mtg in Meeting Room

**First Friday, February 7**  
 Following 8:15 AM Mass Adoration until 10:00 AM  
 in Church  
 10:00 AM Benediction in Church

**Sunday, February 9**  
 Coffee Hours following 8:00 & 10:00 AM Mass  
 9:00 AM OCIA Class in Meeting Room



**Join Us NEXT Sunday, February 9**

Join us following the 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Masses. Our host this month is our Prayer Shawl Ministry. This is a good time to catch up with

fellow parishioners and hopefully make some new acquaintances. We hope to see you there!

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

Feb 2	Feb 3	Feb 4	Feb 5	Feb 6	Feb 7	Feb 8
Pope Francis	James Lawlor	William Leone	Steven Lewis	Lance Gonyo	Vocations & Seminarians	Christopher Linsler



**Prayer for Family**

Dear God,  
 Help my family to be holy, too!  
 Amen.  
 ©LPi





## Candlemas: Origins and Traditions

**Candlemas is celebrated every year on February 2nd** and gives the opportunity to taste fabulous pancakes with all kinds of ingredients. It is a festival that gourmands would not miss under any pretext, but do you know its origin?

The word Chandelion comes from the Latin Festa Candelarum or festival of candles.

In the fifth century, Pope Gelasius I associated this pagan rite of the 'Feast of Candles' with the presentation of Jesus in the temple and the purification of the Virgin. It is also said that this same Pope had Crepes distributed to pilgrims arriving in Rome.

In churches, torches are replaced with blessed candles whose glow keeps away the Evil One and reminds us that Christ is the light of the world, just as the Jewish festival of Hanukkah, which lasts eight days is the 'Festival of Lights'.

But it was not until **1372 that the feast of Candlemas was officially associated with the purification of the Virgin.**

The traditions of Candlemas and the shape of the Pancakes would also be symbolic representations of the solar disk evoking the coming return of spring.

Did you know that pancakes or Crêpes are found in all civilizations of the Old and New Worlds, whether made from Farina of wheat, rice, corn or other grains.

Several proverbs are associated with this holiday celebrated on February 2 and are supposed to mark a turning point in winter:

*At Candlemas, winter dies or gains strength.*

*At Candlemas the day grows by two hours.*

*At Candlemas, the Cold makes pain.*

Peace and Blessings,

Deacon Lon



### Jubilee Year 2025

#### February Jubilee of Artists

*"The creativity of the artist share's in God's own passion for creation"*

Pope Francis

Celebrate the Jubilee of Artists in your home by setting up a "maker space" for young minds to design, develop, invent, and build! Take pictures or if you have the space, put together a "mini-museum" of everyone's work for the month. Your family might just discover their untapped gifts!

This month we highlight some of our Artists of St. John's

- **Patty Hoag, Marianne Katz and team members of our Arts & Environment Ministry** who bring together the beauty in the church throughout the liturgical year.
- **Marilyn Butler** for her artistic talent in creating the various handmade banners in church
- **Paul Parkman** for the religious artwork hanging in the narthex as well as the religious display board easels he produces throughout the liturgical year
- **Carol Napierala** for the beautiful artwork captured through her photography in the day to day life of our parish
- **Jenny Ertel** for her artful expertise in creating our parish bulletin on a weekly basis
- **Dawn Chmiel and Consuelo DeLosSantos** together with our Adult and Youth Choirs, Cantors, and substitute musicians who bring us the art of liturgical music



# SNOW DAY



**Disposing of Your Old Palms**

For those who have old palms at home, we offer you the opportunity to bring them to church for proper disposal. Because the palms have been blessed by a priest and, therefore, are holy objects, the palm branches used for Catholic Church services, especially those used on Palm Sunday, should not be disposed of in the regular fashion. Once an object is blessed, it is considered to be in the service of God and should be treated with respect. It is, therefore, considered sacrilegious to throw a holy item in the garbage where it would end up in a landfill. We will collect the palms and burn them to be used for ashes on Ash Wednesday. Please deposit your palms (no bags please) on or before Wednesday, February 26 in the labeled containers in the narthex. We kindly ask that you do not leave any palms after February 26.



2024-2025 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

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



**300 households have pledged \$83,348.02 taking us to 106.86% of our goal.**

**As an important reminder:** While we have successfully reached our goal on paper, we can sing *Alleluia* once we officially reach our goal by way of fully paid commitments from those who opted to make monthly payments by the end of May, 2025 (or sooner).

*The following is the most recent donor since our last posting in the January 26 bulletin.*

Mr./Mrs. Gino Fiordeliso      Mr./Mrs. Giovanni LaGamba  
Mr./Mrs. Jeffrey A. Heh



**Social Conversations Prior to Mass**

It has been brought to our attention by a few parishioners that prior to the start of Mass, many social conversations take place within the church. Some of these conversations are loud and are very distracting to those who are praying. We ask you to please be aware that people are praying to the Lord, and we should all try to avoid distracting their concentration. If possible, please hold these conversations after Mass is completed and when you need to have a conversation before Mass begins, please lower the volume.



**Volunteer/Membership Opportunities**

There is always a need for volunteers for the different Ministries and activities. Please consider joining one of the ministries. Volunteering even a small amount of time helps out so much and lightens the load on our current volunteers.

**Ministry Volunteers Needed:**

**Please call the Rectory 225-8980**

Mass Lectors, Ushers, Altar Servers, Funeral Altar Servers, Choir Ministry, Eucharistic Ministers, Lenten Fish Fry Collection Counter, Flower Garden Ministry

**Membership Openings:**

**Please call the Rectory 225-8980**

Knights of Columbus, Bible study, Woman's Guild, Fatima Prayer Ministry

**The Thoughts of Many Hearts**

When Simeon cradles the infant Messiah in his arms, he speaks of salvation and glory and revelation. He speaks of his own death. He speaks of the fulfillment of God's promise to all people.

But most memorable, in my opinion, are his words about the hearts of men. This Child, he says, will be the way "the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

Perhaps you're like me. Perhaps you don't enjoy scrutinizing yourself, your actions, your intentions. You don't like reflecting on why you feel or react the way you do, and you really don't enjoy measuring those feelings and reactions against what you know they could be.

It's exhausting to sit with God, your heart in your hands, both of us looking at it, talking about it. So far too often, I opt out.

But where is God truly at work? Where is the place God will point to, when my life on Earth has come to its close?

It is the very depths of my heart. The place where I am my most authentic self, for better or worse. The place where all my pretensions crumble away, and I am alone with the truth of who I am and what I choose to do.

Am I brave enough to look into the depths of my own heart? ©LPI



**Evelyn Rinere** *Mother of Frank H. Rinere*  
**Peter D'Elia** *Father of George D'Elia*  
**Donald Frank** *Husband of Beverly Frank*



*This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for*

- ✚ **Tabernacle I Homebound Parishioners**
- ✚ **Tabernacle II The Homeless**
- ✚ **Marian I Those Listed at the Marian Shrine**
- ✚ **Marian II Fallen Away Catholics**

**BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL**



<b>January 18/19</b> Week 30	ATTENDANCE.....	396
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,321.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$	7,955.01
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	3,328.00
TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$	11,283.01
OVERAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING.....	\$	1,962.01

<b>January 25/26</b> Week 31	ATTENDANCE.....	423
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,321.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$	8,170.20
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	1,522.00
TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,692.20
OVERAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING.....	\$	371.20

**Fiscal Year 2024-25** as of January 26, 2025

YEARLY BUDGET .....	\$	494,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$	288,951.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$	279,944.07
SHORTAGE TO DATE.....	(\$	9,006.93)

*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.



**Special Boiler Fund/Capital Improvement Collection**

NEXT Weekend, February 8/9



Thank you for your support of the ongoing needs of our parish buildings and grounds. Please donate when it is best suited for your household.

*We are grateful for everyone's support!*



**Community Memorial Service**

*Accompanying Our Neighbors  
Who Have Died without Family or Resources*

**Sunday, February 16, 2025 at 2:00 PM**

*Celebrating our 13th Year*

**Peace of Christ at St. Ambrose Church**  
25 Empire Boulevard, Rochester, NY 14609  
Corner of Empire, Culver and Clifford

*All are welcome.*

Sponsored by GRCC—Faith in Action Network and Sisters of St. Joseph

**For more information:**

(585) 355-8491 | [contact@rocchurches.org](mailto:contact@rocchurches.org)



*GRCC—Faith in Action Network has organized a number of pastoral leaders to preside and attendees to be present for burial services for people who have died without family or resources. We will be celebrating this Annual Memorial Service for people we have accompanied this past year and celebrating all involved in this tender service. Please share this invitation widely...*

**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 February 2025**

**HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE**

February 2, 2025 Steve & Mary Ann Donato  
February 16, 2025 Ron LaForce

**THE VILLAGE AT UNITY**

February 2, 2025 Tom Grieco + Blessing of Throats  
February 9, 2025 Bob & Barb Gotham  
February 16, 2025 Tom Grieco  
February 23, 2025 Bob & Barb Gotham

**ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE**

February 2, 2025 Dan & Melissa Kabasin  
February 9, 2025 Carolyn Kerhaert  
February 16, 2025 Chris Hoefler  
February 23, 2025 Dan & Melissa Kabasin