

St. John the Evangelist Greece

March 23, 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 said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!" - Lk 13:2-3

Let the Lord Cultivate the Ground of Faith
From the Desk of Father Peter.....2

Be a Palm Sunday Hosanna Child
Wave Palm Branches for Jesus’ Triumphant Entry...2

Easter Flowers
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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

2 Kgs 5:1-15b/
Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4/
Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday

Is 7:10-14; 8:10/
Ps 40:7-11/
Heb 10:4-10/
Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday

Dt 4:1, 5-9/
Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/
Mt 5:17-19

Thursday

Jer 7:23-28/
Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/
Lk 11:14-23

Friday

Hos 14:2-10/
Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17/
Mk 12:28-34

Saturday

Hos 6:1-6/
Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab/
Lk 18:9-14

Sunday

Jos 5:9a, 10-12/
Ps 34:2-7/
2 Cor 5:17-21/
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Reawaken Your Heart with Hope!

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 during this Lenten time. 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. The Synod the Church is currently undergoing is in place partly to address what the driving forces are that have led to this continual decline.

There is no doubt that one of the challenges facing the Church is that in our world today, people do not

 **PRAY**
for the renewal of the Church

 **FAST**
for the conversion of sinners

 **GIVE**
through our Lenten Mite Box

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. 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 the heart intentions of the other.

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.



Reawaken your Heart with Hope!
Rev Peter Enyan-Boadu



Celebrate the Triumphant Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem

Be one of the Palm Sunday Hosanna Children at the **Saturday, April 12, 4:00 PM** or the **Sunday, April 13, 10:00 AM** Masses. Reenact the children who waved palm branches during Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem by joining Father Peter in the entrance procession to the altar. **If you would like to be a part of this joyous celebration, please contact Melissa Kabasin at 315-731-7454.** We hope that you and your family will join us to begin Holy Week as we lead up to the miracle of the resurrection on Easter Sunday.



Diocesan Chrism Mass Sacred Heart Cathedral, 296 Flower City Park, 14615

We invite you to **Sacred Heart Cathedral** for Holy Week Chrism Mass on **Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 6:00 PM.** During this Sacred Liturgy, the Oil of the Sick and the

Oil of the Catechumens are blessed, and the Holy Chrism Oil is consecrated by Bishop Matano. Also at this Mass, the Priests and Deacons will renew their promises made during their Ordination. Parishioners from around the diocese travel to attend this Mass. It's a wonderful way to show our support for the priests and deacons of our diocese; especially our Pastor, Fr. Peter! We hope you will be there! As always, please keep Bishop Matano, Fr. Peter, Deacon Elmer, Deacon Lon, and all priests and deacons of the Diocese of Rochester in your prayers.

Masses for the Week—March 24—30

MONDAY, March 24 *Lenten Weekday*
 8:15 AM + *Margaret Blodgett*
 by Niece
 2:30 PM + *Mass at The Village at Unity*

TUESDAY, March 25 *The Annunciation of the Lord*
 8:15 AM + *Donald Frank*
 by Millie Schenkel

WEDNESDAY, March 26 *Lenten Weekday*
 8:15 AM + *Widows & Widowers of St John's*
 by Parishioner

THURSDAY, March 27 *Lenten Weekday*

FRIDAY, March 28 *Lenten Weekday*
 8:15 AM + *Frank Rinere*
 by Louis & Ellen Muto

SATURDAY, March 29 *Lenten Weekday*
 4:00 PM + *Joseph Pizzi*
 by Family

SUNDAY, March 30 *Fourth Sunday of Lent*
 8:00 AM + *Deceased Members of St John's*
 10:00 AM + *Angelo Leonardis*
 by Antoinetta Ragonese & Family

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

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, March 23
 9:00 AM OCIA Class in Meeting Room
 11:00 AM Confirmation Class 1 and 2 in Parish Center

Monday, March 24
 9:00 AM Bible Study in Parish Center

Wednesday, March 26
 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, March 27
 4:30 PM Cursillo Men's Group Mtg in Meeting Room

Friday, March 28
 3:30—6:30 PM Fish Fry in Parish Center
 5:30 PM Stations of the Cross in Church

Saturday, March 29
 3:00—3:45 PM Confessions in Church

Sunday, March 30
 9:00 AM OCIA Class in Meeting Room



Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.

Mar 23	Mar 24	Mar 25	Mar 26	Mar 27	Mar 28	Mar 29
Basilian Fathers	Daniel Ruiz	Sriram Sadhanala	Carlos Sanchez	All Missionaries	Robert Schrader	James Schwartz



Stations OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross continue **THIS Wednesday, March 26** following the 8:15 AM Mass and **THIS Friday, March 28, 2025** at 5:30 PM in Church led by the Fatima Women's Prayer Ministry



Easter Flowers

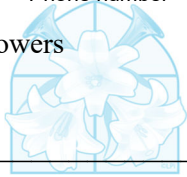
During the Easter Season remember a loved one (living or deceased) by donating toward an Easter Plant, adding to the beauty of our beloved St. John's Church. We will list all the names in the bulletin. All you need do is complete the order form below and send your donation to: St. John's Rectory, 2400 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

Print your name _____ Phone number _____

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

Please indicate if living (L) or deceased (D) _____



Diocesan Day of Penance and Mercy

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

Here at St. John the Evangelist Church, as well as all parishes throughout our diocese, there will be the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday, April 2, 2025. Times at parishes vary but here at St. John's, Fr. Peter will hear confessions from 10:00 AM 'til noon AND 3:00 PM 'til 5:00 PM.

As a continuation of last weekend's article that included information on Examination of Conscience prior to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we offer the following on celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

The forgiveness of sins involves four parts:

- **Contrition:** a sincere sorrow for having offended God, and the most important act of the penitent. There can be no forgiveness of sin if we do not have sorrow and a firm resolve not to repeat our sin.
- **Confession:** confronting our sins in a profound way by speaking about them- aloud- to God through the priest.
- **Penance:** an important part of our healing is the "penance" we perform in reparation for our sins.
- **Absolution:** the priest, by virtue of his ordination, speaks the words by which "God, the Father of Mercies" reconciles a sinner to Himself through the merits of the Cross

Rite of Reconciliation

The Sacrament may be celebrated face-to-face or anonymously, with a screen between you and the priest.

1. The penitent (you) and the priest begin with the sign of the Cross, saying: *"In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."*

2. The priest urges the penitent to have confidence in God with these or similar words: *"May the Lord be in your heart and help you to confess your sins with the true sorrow."*

3. The priest may read or say a passage from Sacred Scripture after which the penitent then states: *"Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been [tell him however many days, weeks, months or years] since my last confession."*

4. The penitent then states his or her sins. For the confession to be valid, the penitent must confess all of the mortal sins he or she is aware of having committed since the last confession, be sorry for them, and have a firm purpose of amendment to try not to commit the same sins in the future.

5. After this, the priest will general give some advice to the penitent and impose a penance.

6. Then he will ask the penitent to make an act of contrition. The penitent may do so in his or her own words, or may say one of many memorized acts of contrition like the following from the *Rite of Penance*:

Act of Contrition

"O My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you, whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy." (#45) OR

"Lord God, in your goodness have mercy on me; do not look on my sins, but take away all my guilt. Create in me a clean heart and renew within me an upright spirit." (#92)

7. After this the priest will pray the prayer of absolution, which absolves the penitent from their sins.

8. The penitent makes the sign of the Cross and answers, *"Amen"*.

9. The priest will then dismiss the penitent with a short prayer and encouragement. The penitent should try to fulfill the penance imposed as soon as possible.



Tuesday, March 25

The Annunciation of the Lord



Jubilee Year 2025 Third 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.

Today's Gospel about the fig tree reminds us that even when we don't see fruit, it is worth hoping for a brighter future. The gardener did not lose hope, and instead put in the work to see fruit in the future.

Ponder Point: What areas of my life need attention so I can see fruit in the future?



JOIN US FOR

**DINNER
THIS LENT!**

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

Eat In OR Take Out!

When: Fridays during Lent (excluding Good Friday) continues through April 11, 3:30 to 6:30PM

Where: St. John's Parish Center, 2400 W. Ridge Rd.

FISH FRY Menu

Battered Fried..... \$15.00
Skinless Baked..... \$15.00
Fried Shrimp(7 Large Butterfly).. \$15.00
Half portion of any of the above... \$ 9.00

All above meals come with a roll and a choice of two of the following sides:

French Fries Mashed Potatoes Baked Potato
Salad Cole Slaw Onion Rings

Cheese Pizza Slice..... \$ 2.00

Children 4 and under eat free! (*choice of mac & cheese or half slice of pizza*).

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes—March 3, 2025

Opening Prayer: Nick Sassano

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

Motion to approve the agenda for tonight's Meeting (Emailed February 25, 2025)

Approval: Nick Sassano | **Second:** Melissa Ryan

Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes from the 2/3/2025 Meeting, in the Bulletin on February 16, 2025.

Approval: Wayne Howard | **Second:** Nick Verdino

Chairperson's Comments:

CMA UPDATE: Our CMA numbers thru 2/21/2025: Donor to date: 303

Commitment to date: \$83,898.02

Commitment % to date: 107.56%

Paid To date: \$79,805.89

Paid % of Goal: 102.32%

Average per donor: \$276.89

Our CMA goal: \$78,000

There are still a few outstanding commitments that will need to be honored by May 2025.

Coffee Hours: The Prayer Shawl ministry (Lead by Sue Kilpatrick) hosted the February coffee hour. They did a marvelous job. Our March coffee Hour is really the St. Joseph Table on 3/16/2025. Christine Paoletti is organizing this event. Christine has sent out a sign up genius for volunteers

DEACON LON SMITH UPDATE:

SAVE THE DATES:

- Lent/Easter Mass Schedule: everything is settled for the Masses

- Ministry

- Lenten Experience 2025

- Social Activities

Easter Vigil Planning Sheet

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

FATHER PETER'S UPDATE:

160th Anniversary Celebration, with the Bishop if possible – looking for any ideas. (Big Cake, Cookies, Simple Coffee Hour). We will also have the "Footsteps of St. John" that will celebrate our patron saint throughout this year to honor and bring awareness to this saint. There will be displays and events throughout the course of the year to look forward to.

Confessions starting the first Saturday of Lent, 3:00 – 3:45 PM in church and every Saturday during Lent.

Wednesday, April 2 will be a Day of Penance and Mercy,

with confessions offered here at St John's, 10-12 PM and 3-5 PM. This will also align with the Lenten retreat.

Eucharistic Ministers need to have attended the training session or reviewed it online to continue as Eucharistic ministers. Please contact Jill Finan or Tod Simone if you have watched the streaming video.

Social Committee: No new updates but there are some ideas for Mother's Day in the works. The Easter Egg hunt will be Saturday, April 12.

Arts and Environment: Emails will be coming out asking for volunteers for the Easter season to prepare for these liturgies.

TASK FORCE: This has concluded. The Bishop was so impressed with this committee that he has encouraged other parishes to create their own task forces as well. The vocations team has started meeting this week. There will be a display in the narthex for those who may be interested in more information.

Certificates of Appreciation: Sharon – no nominations pending

Knights of Columbus Council 3892: Fish Fry starts Friday. 40 Days for Life starts on Ash Wednesday.

Outreach – Pastoral Ministry/Homebound

Update: Nursing homes are starting to open back up to our visits.

Liturgy Committee: Stations of the Cross schedule is filled up. Ash Wednesday Masses are scheduled, St. Joseph Table, Palm Sunday and Easter Triduum are all being planned. Tuesday, April 15 is the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral.

St. John's Website: Website Statistics

Visitors – 634, up 20% at this time of year

Views – 1616 – down 7% over the last 30 days

Facebook Update: 612 likes and 811 followers

Greece Food Shelf Food Drive: March 22-23 with delivery on Monday, March 24. See the bulletin announcement for the items requested (cereal, chunky soups, diced tomatoes, canned veg/fruit, peanut butter, soap, detergents)

Safety and Security: Extra attention and alertness is being paid to our busy events coming up.

Faith Stories: March 3 is the feast of Katherine Drexel and March 6th is Father Peter's Birthday.

Open Forum/For the Good of the Parish

– Deacon Lon: shared the book "The Great Weapon of the 21st Century: The Rosary"

Closing Prayer: Nick Sassano

Next Meeting: April 7, 2025

Opening and Closing Prayers: Nick Verdino





This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

- ✝ Tabernacle I Carol Eisenberg
- ✝ Tabernacle II Open
- ✝ Marian I Open
- ✝ Marian II Rose Marie Skrypek

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



Our March 15/16 Collection and Mass attendance will be noted in Next Weekend's bulletin.

Thank you!

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



Special Collection Catholic Relief Services NEXT Weekend, March 29/30

This collection provides funding for the basic operating costs of the U.S. Catholic community's *global social ministries*. At present it is funding the humanitarian aid the U.S. Catholic community is providing to brothers and sisters in Ukraine. Thank you for your generous spirit.

This annual collection is separate from CRS Rice Bowl.

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.



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



SAVE THE DATE

05 | 09 | 2025

"Reawakening" Spring Celebration
Notre Dame Retreat House

Wine & 3 Course Dinner
prepared by Chef Tony

5:30 pm Hors d'oeuvres
6:30 pm Dinner

We hope you can join us to support Notre Dame.

Invitations & RSVP to follow



Saturday, May 31, 2025
St. Lawrence Catholic School,
1000 North Greece Road
Rochester, NY 14626



All Proceeds to benefit St. Lawrence Catholic School
2025 RACE REGISTRATION
All Registrations will be online this year at: <https://runsignup.com/Race/NY/Rochester/AnnualRunfortheYoung5K1MileWalk>

*****Early Registration Bonus****

If you register by Friday, May 3, you'll receive a complimentary Race T-shirt! For Family Registrations, you be contacted via email for your family shirt sizes.



**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 March 2025

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

March 30, 2025 Steve & Mary Ann Donato

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY

March 23, 2025 Bob & Barb Gotham

ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

March 23, 2025 Carolyn Kerhaert
March 30, 2025 Chris Hoefler