

St. John the Evangelist Greece

September 1, 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.



He summoned the crowd again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." - Mk 7:14-15

Now & Forever is a Profession of Faith
From the Desk of Father Peter.....2

Happy Labor Day
Parish Office CLOSED This Monday.....2

Faith Formation
Its That Time of Year.....3

Strengthening Our Families
The Family that Prays Together, Stays Together.....4

Examples of Our Faith
St. Basil the Great 5

Get the Veterans Benefits You Deserve
Veterans Burial Benefits.....6

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	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Cor 2:1-5/ Ps 119:97- 102/ Lk 4:16-30	1 Cor 2:10b-16/ Ps 145:8-14/ Lk 4:31-37	1 Cor 3:1-9/ Ps 33:12-15, 20-21/ Lk 4:38-44	1 Cor 3:18-23/ Ps 24:1bc-4ab, 5-6/ Lk 5:1-11	1 Cor 4:1-5/ Ps 37:3-6, 27-28, 39-40/ Lk 5:33-39	1 Cor 4:6b-15/ Ps 145:17-21/ Lk 6:1-5	Is 35:4-7a/ Ps 146:7-10/ Jas 2:1-5/ Mk 7:31-37

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.

Now & Forever is a Profession of Faith

The task of renewal of our Catholic faith in this parish is our responsibility, each and everyone of us. As a parish we would like to see attendance at Mass growing. Every baptized member is called forth to be a witness of Christ in our family, at work, and in the community. Certainly the task of renewal will require changes in our thinking about the Catholic faith, structures, and organizational life of our beloved St John's parish.

As Catholics, we can no longer allow ourselves the complacency of the past. The way things have always been needs to become the way things need to be. If we have any hope of preaching Jesus Christ to the world around us here in Greece and beyond, then we need to stand up for our faith. We need to proclaim God's love for us in our family. We need to make room for the love of God to transform our lives so that we can put Christ first. In doing this, we will be able to love God and neighbor as well as make sure our Sunday obligation becomes part of our everyday life. Finally, we need to announce to the whole world our love for our Catholic faith despite its human imperfections. This means we have to pray for all the fallen away Catholics, and for those who do not have faith. We should tell them of our stories



and how God had been the rock of our foundation.

In the years ahead, as we grow together in the faith, we need to speak the truth to each other with charity and respect—but also candidly. This should be the spirit that should animate every level of our Church life. No one

“owns Church, not the bishops, not the clergy, and not the people. The Church belongs to Jesus Christ and to Him alone.” We are called by our baptism to serve in this Church and as St Paul says, we are called to the different ministries in the Church, to make God's kingdom grow. You and I are needed to build this Church of Christ founded on the apostles, which is now our turn to uphold. We are the driving force behind the function of the body of Christ, the Church.

We are never alone, God is always with us. As we are with God, we are one with each other. As we go through each day, let us pray to be guided by the Holy Spirit. Let us go forth now and forever with the realization we are never alone. Let our worship show by word and deed that God is with us. When we recite our Profession of Faith,

may it be one that we truly believe and put into action in our lives.

God Bless us all,

Father Peter



TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**THE THINGS THAT
COME FROM WITHIN
ARE WHAT DEFILE.**

MARK 7:15

Masses for the Week—September 2—8

MONDAY, September 2 Labor Day
 8:15 AM + *Todd McPherson*
 by Jeanne Reiser

TUESDAY, September 3 *St Gregory the Great*
 8:15 AM + *Ralph Annucci*
 by Vince & Geri Campbell

WEDNESDAY, September 4 *Weekday*
 8:15 AM + *Joanne Schum*
 by Fatima Women’s Prayer Ministry

THURS, September 5 *Weekday*
FIRST FRIDAY, September 6 *Weekday*
 8:15 AM *Special Intention for Assunta*
 by Eileen Zegarelli
 10:00 AM Benediction

FIRST SATURDAY, September 7 *Weekday*
 8:15 AM *Fr Ring’s Intentions*
 4:00 PM + *For the People of St John’s; Living and Deceased*

SUNDAY, Sept 8 *23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*
 8:00 AM + *Terry & Joan White*
 by Family
 10:00 AM + *Deceased Members of St John’s Choir*
 by Judy Weiser

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

This Week’s Schedule

Monday, September 2 Labor Day
 Parish Office CLOSED
 9:00 AM NO Bible Study Today

First Friday, September 6
 8:15 AM Mass followed by Adoration and concluding
 with Benediction at 10:00 AM in Church

First Saturday, September 7
 8:15 AM Mass followed by the Rosary in Church
 10:00 AM—Noon Prayer Shawl Gathering
 in Parish Center



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 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 registrations are due at the Parish Office by Tuesday, September 3.

For additional information you can contact Cris Simone.



The social ministry committee has two new co-chairs; Karen Bessette and Melissa Ryan. Over the summer we met with Deacon Lon, who has come to our parish with some wonderful ideas for social events for our parish. Social Ministry is looking for parishioners who would like to participate in our ministry. If you like to have fun, plan exciting events and share fellowship with your fellow parishioners, please email Karen Bessette at karengreen4043@gmail.com to join us and share your talents.

Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.

Sept 1	Sept 2	Sept 3	Sept 4	Sept 5	Sept 6	Sept 7
Pope Francis	Peter Mottola	Anthony Mugavero	Thomas Mull	John Mulligan	Vocations & Seminarians	Bishop Salvatore Matano

**Knights of Columbus Chicken Barbecue
 Sunday, September 8 from 3:00 PM until 6:00 PM
 in the St. Charles Borromeo church parking lot**

Knights of Columbus Council 3892 will host a chicken barbecue. This will be drive-thru only event. We will be taking pre-orders which are highly encouraged to insure you get a meal. To place your order, call or text Dick Dixon at (585) 629-1916 and leave your name and the number of meals you wish to reserve. **The last day to pre-order is Saturday, September 7.** People who pre-order are asked to pick up their meal by 5:00 PM the day of the barbecue.

The cost is \$13, and the meal includes:

- Half a chicken
- Baked beans
- Macaroni salad
- Corn bread

Come and get a great meal for a great price!



Strengthening Our Families

So much in society today militates against our families, and why, do you ask? Because:

- The family is the fundamental cell of human society.
- The family *mirrors the Blessed Trinity* because it is a “communion of persons.”
- In the family, children learn right from wrong.
- In the family, children *learn to love God and neighbor*.
- The family provides for the growth and nourishment of young souls.
- But most importantly: The family is an institution willed by God for our salvation. Like the Church, it is a divine institution.

Prayer is the spiritual balm that nurtures family life and assures victory over the forces of darkness. The Eucharist, of course, is the primary source of prayer and life for our families, but all other forms of prayer strengthen us:

- Prayers to recollect our souls *before* Mass
- Prayers to Our Lady and the saints
- Prayers specifically with and in the family
- Devotional prayers of all sorts
- Prayers for the deceased and the suffering members of our families
- Pro-Life prayers, and many more.

The power of prayer is our greatest force of spiritual protection against evil in the world.

To quote an old saying from Fr. Patrick Peyton that never ceases to be relevant:

The family that prays together, stays together.



If you are not already doing so, begin setting aside quiet time each day to pray as a family. Start out simple and build upon it as you go along. Unlike years past, families today are pulled in so many different

directions so it's not uncommon for families to be apart from one another for most of their waking hours. Look at this prayer time together as special because it is. Like anything new and unfamiliar, it will take time and there may be some resistance but persevere nonetheless; the reward will be priceless! Just as most of us in our youth were nurtured in the Catholic faith in our homes, so, too, our children and grandchildren should be nurtured in the faith and family prayer is a great way to do so. More on this topic down the road but in the meantime,

Keep Calm and Families Pray On!



Encouraging Deeper Understanding of Scripture

September 1, 2024

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Purity isn't popular at the moment. Or is it? Look at a rack of health magazines or at popular podcasts. You'll see an infinite ocean of regulations and rituals of diets, intermittent fasting, morning sun rituals, intense juice detox practices, lists of dangerous foods, mental practices, as well as long lists of dos and don'ts for the proper cleaning of clothes, dishes, cars, houses, pets, and children. Like it or not, we long to be pure, clean, and without blemish.

This question of purity haunted people in Jesus' day, too. The Pharisees and scribes (the leading purity authorities of the day) criticize Jesus, asking, “**Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?**” Mark 7:5. Jesus responds by saying, “**There is nothing outside the person that can defile him if it goes into him; but the things that come out of the person are what defile the person**” Mark 7:15. What does he mean, and how can it help us be pure?

We've probably all heard the somewhat shopworn interpretation that Jesus replaces the ritual, exterior notion of purity with a moral, interior one. Christianity is thus seen as a kind of moral re-tooling, as if religion doesn't make us pure. Good moral intentions do. But this doesn't take the rest of Jesus' ministry seriously enough, nor our obsession with purity. The better reading is that Jesus audaciously offers himself as the

ultimate source of human purity — from *within* each human heart. Both our religious ritual practices and our moral actions are meant to flow from this encounter with Jesus the Lord. When we are in friendship with him, everything becomes pure for us.

— Father John Muir ©LPI



Examples of Our Faith

St. Basil the Great (329 – January 1, 379) shares his feast day with his lifelong friend St. Gregory of Nazianzen. These accomplished men fought against heresies that threatened the foundations of the early Church, shaping doctrines around

Christ’s divinity and the nature of the Holy Trinity.

St. Basil was born at Caesarea of Cappadocia, to a family already deeply rooted in Christianity, going back to the time of widespread persecution in the 1st and 2nd centuries. Following in the footsteps of his father, Basil studied in Caesarea as well as Constantinople and Athens, training in the law and rhetoric. He became a popular teacher. However, his sister persuaded him to give up academia for monastic life. Before inviting St. Gregory to start an order with him, St. Basil traveled through Egypt, Palestine and Syria visiting monasteries, learning everything he could and formulating his own ideas about monastic rule. His rule is still followed today, and he is known as the Father of Eastern Monasticism.

His time in the monastery was relatively short, it was only five years before he was called to play a greater role in the Church. Ordained as a priest, by around 370 he was made bishop of Caesaria. It was in this role that he fought against the heresy of Arianism which denied the divinity of Christ, even defying an emperor! He also fought against other early Trinitarian heresies. But these important doctrinal stands were not what defined Basil. He was passionate about caring for the poor and sick, pastoral care, and fighting against institutionalized prostitution. He would preach twice a day to large crowds, and opened a complex with a hospital, orphanage, and shelter for the poor. In addition to influential monastic rules, sermons, and doctrinal treatises, more than 300 of his letters still exist.

St. Basil the Great, pray for us!

©LPi



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



Rev. Charles Latus *Priest of the Diocese of Rochester*
Ralph Parmelee *Husband of Gail Parmelee*



This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

- ✚ Tabernacle I Fr. Ventura
- ✚ Tabernacle II Prayer Line requests
- ✚ Marian I Catherine Lacek
- ✚ Marian II Mary Barbato

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



August 24/25 Week 9	ATTENDANCE.....	415
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,321.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$	6,500.01
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	1,812.00
TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$	8,312.01
SHORTAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING....	(\$	1,008.99)

Fiscal Year 2024-25 as of August 25, 2024

YEARLY BUDGET	\$	494,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$	83,889.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$	85,232.63
OVERAGE TO DATE.....	\$	1,343.63

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



Upcoming SOUL SHOP™ for Leaders* in Niagara Falls!

Take time to invite 5 friends, family and community members.

This is a one-day workshop designed to equip faith community leaders to minister to those impacted by suicide. This includes the creation of worship resource, training congregation members in suicide awareness and basic conversation skills, and then how to extend the invitation to those who have been suicidal in the past to share their stories. This workshop engages the question of how to cultivate a soul-safe culture within your congregation.

Lunch is provided and the workshop is FREE.

**For faith community leaders, both paid and lay/volunteer*

September 18, 2024, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Colonial Heights Free Methodist Church
1310 Saunders Settlement Rd, Niagara Falls, NY 14305

Visit <https://secure.givelively.org/event/mental-health-association-in-niagara-county-inc/soul-shop-for-leaders> to get FREE Tickets.

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.



Get the Veterans Benefits You Deserve
Veteran's Burial Benefits | Funeral Pre-Planning

Bartolomeo & Perotto and Walker Brothers Funeral

Homes strongly believe Veterans should be honored for their service and sacrifice to our country. We are committed to ensuring all Veterans and their families receive the burial benefits they are entitled to. We'd like to tell you all about the burial benefits you have earned. We welcome our friends from the Monroe County Veterans Service Agency; and the Western New York National Cemetery in Pembroke who will share information about this newly constructed cemetery and what it can offer to Veterans and their families. Take this opportunity to learn what you are entitled to as a U.S. Veteran! Thank you for your service!

Join us at Bartolomeo & Perotto Funeral Home, 1411 Vintage Lane, Greece, NY on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Light refreshments will be served.

To Reserve Your Spot for Learning at this informative seminar: call 585.720.6000 or email andrea@bartolomeo.com

RSVP deadline: Thursday, September 12

Request early • Seating is limited

bartolomeo.com | walkerbrothersfh.com

**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.

ATTENTION: All who have been a parishioner of Holy Cross Church or who attended Holy Cross School in the past, you are invited to attend this special celebration.

Join Us Sunday, September 15



As Holy Cross Celebrates
Shoulders of Faith, Recognizing
161 Years of our Strong
Catholic Faith.

Bishop Matano will Celebrate Mass
with Us at 10:00 AM followed by
Festivities for all ages between 11:00 AM
and 4:00 PM.

Senior Home Communion Service Ministers September 2024

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

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

ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

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

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY

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