

St. John the Evangelist Greece

April 16, 2023

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.



Divine Mercy

"Jesus, I trust in you"

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday

Acts 4:23-31/
Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9/
Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday

Acts 4:32-37/
Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/
Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday

Acts 5:17-26/
Ps 34:2-9/
Jn 3:16-21

Thursday

Acts 5:27-33/
Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20/
Jn 3:31-36

Friday

Acts 5:34-42/
Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/
Jn 6:1-15

Saturday

Acts 6:1-7/
Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/
Jn 6:16-21

Sunday

Acts 2:14, 22-33/
Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11/
1 Pt 1:17-21/
Lk 24:13-35

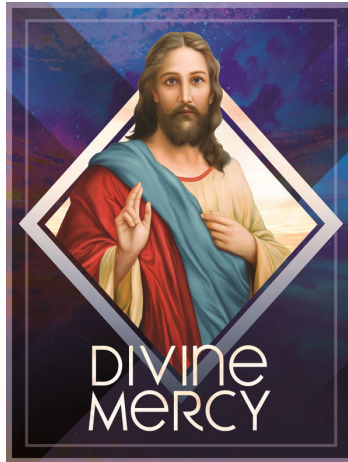
Welcome!

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 if you will please 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's Mercy Endures Forever

This Sunday we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. In the opening prayer of today's Mass, we address God as God of Mercy and our Scripture readings echo this theme. The Apostles acted in the name of Jesus when they showed mercy to the sick and troubled who were brought to them.

The message of Divine Mercy, as found in the writing of Saint Faustina, is a simple one: God's love and mercy are greater than sin; we can trust him to have mercy on us when we call out to him and, because we experience God's mercy in our lives, we can be merciful to others. It was through private revelations from Jesus to Saint Faustina that the Church, during the papacy of St John Paul, declared the Sunday after Easter to be a day dedicated to the tremendous blessing of God's mercy shown to us through Jesus. Some people would like to ignore the reality of sin in the world and believe that Jesus Christ took away all sin forever on Calvary. Indeed, we do believe that the death of Jesus *made satisfaction for our sins to the father* CC615 *and by his sacrifice he pours out the graces of salvation on his church* CC1407. However, we must remember that through God's gift of free will we can reject the



grace that Christ won for us on the Cross, thus we can choose to embrace a sinful way of living. It is only with God's grace and mercy that we can continue to fight against evil in the world and in our own lives.

Through Baptism we each became a recipient of God's mercy in a special way. Sin no longer had any claim on us as we became members of the body of Christ. In the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick, God continues to share his

mercy and forgiveness with us. We also acknowledge our trust on God's mercy when we come together for the celebration of our Eucharistic liturgy. Think about the prayers of the penitential rite: *Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.* Today think about the trust we express when we ask God for our needs in the prayers of the faithful. Let us today think about our plea for mercy and peace at the Lamb of God. Each day this week we can make the words of the psalmist our own. *Give thanks to the Lord, for his is good, for his mercy endures*

forever. Alleluia! Ps 118:1

Peace and love to all,

Father Peter



Please Remember in Prayer Bishop Matano, Fr. Peter, and all our Priests who Gather this week for Convocation

Heavenly Father,

You are the source of all wisdom and understanding.

Be with our bishop, our parish priests, and all the priests of the Diocese of Rochester as together they seek to deepen their knowledge and love of you and their dedication to the ministry You have entrusted to them.

Guide those who will lead our priests during their convocation so that, in all that is said and done, they may be configured more deeply in the image of Jesus Christ, our High Priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Masses for the Week—April 17—23

MONDAY, April 17 *Easter Weekday*
8:15 AM + Josephine Embury
 by Jessica & Carolyn Wunsch

TUESDAY, April 18 *Easter Weekday*
No Mass Today—Priests' Convocation

WEDNESDAY, April 19 *Easter Weekday*
No Mass Today—Priests' Convocation

THURSDAY, April 20 *Easter Weekday*

FRIDAY, April 21 *St Anselm*
8:15 AM + Carl & Barbara Cottorone
 by Children & Grandchildren

SATURDAY, April 22 *Easter Weekday*
4:00 PM + Francesca Paiano
 by Family

SUNDAY, April 23
8:00 AM + For the People
10:00 AM + Robert Colby
 by Wife & Children

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

This Week's Schedule

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 16
 Coffee Hour following the 8:00 and 10:00 AM Masses

Monday, April 17
8:15 AM Mass then Priests' Convocation

Tuesday, April 18
 No Mass —Priests' Convocation

Wednesday, April 19
 No Mass —Priests' Convocation



Day of Caring—2023

Our Day of Caring is scheduled for **Saturday, May 20**; this is a rain or shine date. We will start at 9:00 AM and finish with a Hot Dog lunch between 11:00 AM and 12:00 PM. There is a variety of things to do but it mostly involves raking. We need volunteers to complete assigned duties and be flexible in completing a list of tasks. Please bring with you: Work Boots, Work Gloves, a rake, clippers and a lot of energy.

Please dress warm and please wear long pants for safety.

If you can help us out please contact the Rectory office and leave your name, phone number and email address, so that we can contact you if needed.

Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.

Apr 16	Apr 17	Apr 18	Apr 19	Apr 20	Apr 21	Apr 22
Inactive & Sabbatical	Peter Clifford	William Coffas	John Colacino	Daniel Condon	Patrick Connor	Brian Cool



Join Us for Coffee Hour!
THIS Sunday, April 16
following the 8:00 & 10:00 AM Masses

Come socialize with your fellow parish members and your hosts for this month, our

Prayer Shawl Ministry.

We look forward to seeing you there!

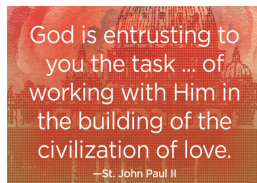


Women's Guild Members

Back by popular demand, we will be having a May dinner at the Brook House in May! They have agreed to let us have up to **25 women ordering off the menu like last year.**

We can't book the date 'til April, but we are looking at the second week in May. Watch for further details and get your friends together for an enjoyable get together.

Pastoral Planning:



The Charlotte/Greece/Hilton Pastoral Planning Task Force met again on March 15. After opening with Adoration, the bulk of the meeting was devoted to exploring natural groupings among our 7 parishes. We anticipate that the future will likely mean more parishes sharing a pastor or pastoral administrator, since there is a declining number of priests available to lead and serve parishes across the 12 counties of the diocese.

Each member was asked to share their response to the question "If your parish were to join with another, which parish makes sense to you and why?" This exercise was brainstorming. Any possible recommendations to go from our 7 parishes to the Bishop would only be made after parishioners had the opportunity to give input and shape them. The ultimate decision will be the Bishop's. If you have any questions or feedback, please contact one of your parish representatives.

Sunday, April 16 Sunday of Divine Mercy

First Reading Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one's need. Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

**R. Give thanks to the LORD for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever."
Let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy endures forever."
Let those who fear the LORD say,
"His mercy endures forever."

**R. Give thanks to the LORD for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

I was hard pressed and was falling,
but the LORD helped me.
My strength and my courage is the LORD,
and he has been my savior.
The joyful shout of victory in the tents of the just:

**R. Give thanks to the LORD for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.
By the LORD has this been done;
it is wonderful in our eyes.
This is the day the LORD has made;
let us be glad and rejoice in it.

**R. Give thanks to the LORD for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

Second Reading 1 Pt 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you who by the power of God are safeguarded through faith, to a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the final time. In this you rejoice, although now for a little while you may have to suffer through various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold that is perishable even though tested by fire, may prove to be for praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Although you have not seen him you love him; even though you do not see him now yet believe in him, you rejoice with an

Continued above

indescribable and glorious joy, as you attain the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Alleluia Jn 20:29

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord; blessed are they who have not seen me, but still believe!

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Jn 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Now, Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Parish Council Meeting Minutes—March 6, 2023

Opening Prayer: Jill Bailey

Attendance: Father Peter, Bob Gotham, Karen Bessette - Sec, Gary Kern, Pam Tofany-Kern Rick Paoletti, Nick Sassano, Tod Simone, Paul Parkman, Jill Bailey, Wayne Howard, Nick Verdino, Patty Hoag, Jan Gallucci, Alan Christodaro, **Excused:** Sharon Miller, Deacon Elmer, Kathy Christodaro, Melissa Ryan, **Visitors:** Marcia Parsons, Mike Zodarecky

Approval of Agenda: for tonight's Meeting
(Emailed, 3/5/2023) Approval: Gary Kern, Second: Patty Hoag

Approval of Meeting Minutes: from February 6, 2023, Meeting (in bulletin on 2/26/2023) Approval: Pam Tofany-Kern, Second: Karen Bessette

Chairperson's Comments:

- **CMA UPDATE:** as of 3/3/2023 we had 330 donors that have pledged \$78,554.75 of our goal of \$83,000. That is 94.64% of our goal. That is an average of \$238 per donor. We need to be around \$250 per donor. Last year at this time we had already met our goal. So, we are behind by \$4,445. We are also short by 30 donors from last year. We are losing momentum, as the donations have definitely slowed down. BUT WE ARE GETTING VERY CLOSE!!!
- **WEBINAR SERIES:** The CMA Office will be hosting a ZOOM meeting on Tuesday March 14th @ 2 PM, (Utilizing a Personal Approach in the CMA). If interested in joining this meeting, please see Bob Gotham and he will forward you the email for the sign up. ON the February 14th call, a couple of points that I noted were that the Average age of the CMA donor was 72 years-old. Donors were giving at a higher rate, with the average donation being \$314.00. These are numbers from across the United States, not just here in our Diocese.
- **MINISTRY NEEDS:** in front of you, you should find the "VOLUNTEER FORM" that Gary provided and the "MINISTRY NEEDS" that I created. Is this what we want? Do we make this as an insert in the bulletin and/or place it in the pews. Is there any more fine tuning that needs to be done? We will review one more time and then present to Father Peter for approval.
- **COFFEE HOURS:** The March Coffee Hour was hosted by the Eucharistic Ministers, on Sunday 3/5/2023 after the 8:00 am and 10:00 am Masses. Jill Finan was organizing this group. The Prayer Shawl Ministry is Hosting the next Coffee Hour on April 16th. I did notice in my notes that we do not have a ministry hosting the May coffee Hour.

Fr. Peter's Update: Thank you all for the Birthday wishes, the cards, phone calls and the singing. Father passed around a printout with the number of priests in our dioceses and their ages. There are 7 priests over the age of 90, 23 priests between 80-89, 21 priests ages 75-79, 25 priests ages 70-74, 22 priests ages 60-69, 13 priests ages 50-59, 11 priests ages 40-49, 9 priests 30-39 and 1 priest between 20-29. There are a total of 133 priests. You can see by the numbers the decline of new priests in our diocese. We need everyone's hands on deck, this is our diocese, and this is our future. We have to pray for vocations to the priesthood. This is also why the 7 parishes in our surrounding area have formed the Pastoral Planning task force. The task force is requesting a representative from each parish to be on the vocation for new priests' team, and the evangelization team that will focus on bringing parishioners back to church. We are moving into the

unknown. We need someone who is willing to speak for our parish, be supportive, and bring ideas. If we keep quiet and don't participate, we will be left behind. We do not want our parish to be left behind. Father also asked if we could find a volunteer that would be the resource person for the coffee hours each month. This person would help with what is needed for the coffee hour as far as volunteers, food, how to make the coffee etc. Marcia added that maybe the coffee hour should be a little simpler with just coffee and doughnuts. Rick said maybe a printed document could be given to the point person as a guideline.

Arts and Environment: Patti Hoag is the leader. Patti, had a successful "RE-POTTING" day. Thanks to: Elaine Stein, Rick Stein, Mickie Slattery, Nancy Lader, Donna Schmidt, Sandy Smith, Jan Gallucci, Marianne Katz, Bob Gotham and of course Patty Hoag. Many hands make light work, it only took 1 hour to repot all the plants thanks to the 9 volunteers that participated. Marianne Katz and I are coordinating plans for preparation for Palm Sunday and Easter.

Certificates of Appreciation: Sharon Miller – Our Parish Council Member Jan Gallucci received a certificate of Appreciation on Saturday 2/12/2023 at 4:00 am Mass. Congrats Jan. There was 1 new nomination that came in today.

Liturgy Committee: Tod (5 Min) – Tod Simone We had very good attendance at each of the Masses for Ash Wednesday. This Friday the Choir will be hosting Stations of the Cross. There will be a Chrism Mass this year at the Cathedral, and it will be open to the public on April 4th. We are looking at dates for the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Pastoral Ministry/Homebound Outreach Update: Tod Simone (5 min.) - Visitation is now allowed at the hospitals and it is good to be back to seeing our parishioners.

Knights of Columbus Council 3892 Update: Rick Paoletti (5 min) We are well into our Friday night Fish Fry's. The first week we served 218 and the 2nd week we served 207. I send out the sign-up Genius to 130 people to ask for volunteers and we have seen some new faces helping us this year which is fantastic. There are 3 youth ministers on the list, and they have been sending some of the youth from their parishes to help as well. The knights will be selling Easter Lilly's again this year. The Knights will be hosting the annual Bishop's dinner this year and the Bishop will be the guest of honor.

St. Joseph's Table: – Rick Paoletti to speak about this: There was an article in this week's bulletin announcing the St. Joseph's table. Christine sent out a Sign-up Genius asking for volunteers. This will take place on March 19th.

Outreach – Social Media/Communications Committee Update:

- Gary Kern – Website update: All activities have been completed. All other updates should be sent to Gary's email address.
- Christine Paoletti via Cleveland– Facebook update – 734 likes
- Paul Parkman – Faith Stories update - March 6th is the feast day of St. Collette the same day as Father's birthday. St. Collette spent her life reforming and was quoted to say, "Your cross is heavy when you desire something more than Christ".

Continued on page 6.



Margaret Curtis *Mother of Lisa Pfeifer*
Kevin Maguire *Nephew of Gene & Diane Englert*



This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

- ✚ Tabernacle I **Souls in Purgatory**
- ✚ Tabernacle II **Protection of the Unborn**
- ✚ Marian I **Protection of Children & Families**
- ✚ Marian II **Bishop Matano and Priests on Convocation**

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



April 1/2 ATTENDANCE.....492

BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$ 9,706.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$ 13,178.26
ONLINE Giving.....	\$ 1,402.00
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TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$ 14,580.26
OVERAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING.....	(\$ 4,874.26)

2nd Collection

Boiler Fund.....	\$ 2,197.00
ONLINE Giving.....	\$ 100.00
<hr/>	
TOTAL Boiler Fund.....	\$ 2,297.00

Fiscal Year 2022-23 as of April 2, 2023

YEARLY BUDGET	\$ 495,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$ 388,240.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$ 374,849.44
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SHORTAGE TO DATE.....	(\$ 13,390.56)

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

Due to an early bulletin deadline, the Mass attendance and contributions for April 8/9 will be posted in our April 22/23 bulletin.

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.

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES *Continued from page 5.*

Safety: Nick Sassano – (5 min.) There was a request in the bulletin asking for volunteers for this group and there was no response. Nick suggested asking for new ushers and maybe then using them for security as well. Mike Zadorecky suggested that we use the word safety instead of security. The word security scares people, and they don't want to be responsible. Mike suggested asking for parishioners to be safety monitors. Mike also said he is more than happy to assist with this group. Mike is retired from the Greece Ridge Fire Department and has 27 years of experience with assisting people and has a safety background.

Open Forum/For the Good of the Parish: – around the room (1 min each) Alan said that are several parishioners that he sees on a regular basis at the 8am mass that he believes would be able to assist with safety if he asked them. Father and Bob said by all means please reach out to them.

Nick Verdino – There will be a write up in the bulletin starting next week with an update from the Pastoral Planning task force.

Closing Prayer: Jill Bailey

Next Meeting: 4/10/2023

Opening and Closing Prayers: Nick Sassano

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

“LET NO ONE DOUBT CONCERNING THE GOODNESS OF GOD; EVEN IF A PERSON'S SINS WERE AS DARK AS NIGHT, GOD'S MERCY IS STRONGER.”

- ST. FAUSTINA

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, Choir Ministry: 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

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

Senior Home Communion Service Ministers April 2023

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY		ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE	
April 16, 2023	Tom Grieco	April 16, 2023	Chris Hoefler
April 23, 2023	Bob & Barb Gotham	April 23, 2023	Dan & Melissa Kabasin
		April 30, 2023	Dan & Melissa Kabasin
HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE			
April 16, 2023	To be determined		
April 30, 2023	Steve & Mary Ann Donato		