

St. John the Evangelist Greece

August 20, 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.



Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour. - Mt 15:28

Fr Ring Breaks Down Scripture

For All People..... 2

Annual Missionary Appeal

Fr Doug May M.M. will be here NEXT Weekend.... 3

Back-to-School Collection

Supplies and Backpacks..... 3

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings for August 19/20..... 4

NYS Eucharistic Congress

October 20-22, 2023..... 5

Examples of Our Faith

Venerable Mother Celestina Bottego 7

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

Visit www.StJohnGreece.org Follow us on [@StJohnGreece](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnGreece)

Find us on [f](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnGreece) St John the Evangelist Church of Greece

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday

Jgs 2:11-19/
Ps 106:34-37, 39-40, 43ab, 44/
Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday

Jgs 6:11-24a/
Ps 85:9, 11-14/
Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday

Jgs 9:6-15/
Ps 21:2-7/
Mt 20:1-16

Thursday

Rv 21:9b-14/
Ps 145:10-13, 17-18/
Jn 1:45-51

Friday

Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/
Ps 146:5-10/
Mt 22:34-40

Saturday

Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/
Ps 128:1b-5/
Mt 23:1-12

Sunday

Is 22:19-23/
Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8/
Rom 11:33-36/
Mt 16:13-20

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 and recognize there are some challenges in doing so during Covid-19, however, 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.

Fr Ring Breaks Down Scripture Open House

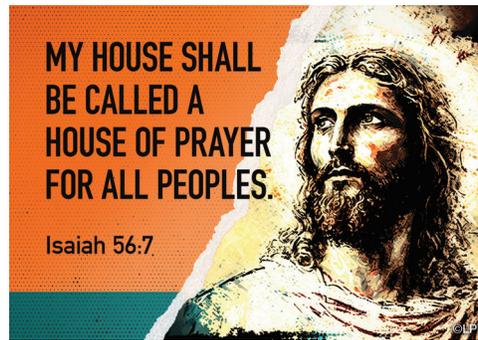
We hear from the last section of Isaiah this weekend, known as 3rd Isaiah. The Babylonian exile has ended, the Temple has been rebuilt, and the prophet's vision of God's plan is quite radical. Rather than the exclusive pride of those born Jewish, the temple is meant to be a house of prayer for all people. (When cleansing the temple, Jesus quoted these very words!)

More shocking yet, the prophet tells us that offerings of foreigners who come into the faith will be just as welcomed and acceptable as those whose whole life has been lived in the covenant.

I recall words I heard a bishop speak years ago. A different context, but the issue of inclusion or exclusion was the same. "It would be a mighty strange theology that would exclude them." A possible task for the week: reflect on how we can make our house of prayer a house of prayer for all people.

Broken Family

Last week we heard St. Paul's deep lament that many of his fellow Jews did not accept Jesus as their Messiah, leading to division in the one family he believed God calls into grace. He continues reflecting on that family rift in today's reading. Perhaps his fellow Jews who failed to accept Jesus will see Gentiles living in grace, growing communities worshipping the one true God, as well as more and



"It would be a mighty strange theology that would exclude them."

more people living in covenant love. Moved by jealousy at the sight, some who have rejected Jesus would be moved to accept him as the Christ.

This passage was not selected to connect with the 1st reading or the Gospel; we simply have been working through Paul's letter to the Romans. However, that 'the gifts and call of God are irrevocable' flows beautifully from the vision of our first reading and the prayer of the psalm.

Never Give Up

Of course Jesus loved his own people. Bringing back the lost sheep of the house of Israel was his mission, his passion. But the Canaanite woman in our Gospel today was just as passionate about the well-being of her daughter. Not one to give up, she isn't ready to walk away from the chance her daughter could be made whole.

According to John, what pushed Jesus to begin his ministry before he felt it was time? Mary's concern about the embarrassed family in Cana who ran out of wine! Another key turning point in his ministry? This Canaanite woman's persistence, opening his ministry among Gentiles. Jesus was not only Divine, he was also fully human in all things but sin. Isn't it part of our human nature that at times people and their circumstances call us to step out in faith? Lord, help us to realize how other's needs can be an invitation into grace, calling us to live our mission. Help us to realize as well that sharing our need may help others to live their mission, a graced opportunity for both.



Masses for the Week—August 21—27

MONDAY, August 21 *St Pius X, Pope*

8:15 AM + *Bruno Mezzatesta*

by Family

2:00 PM + *Mass at Village at Unity*

TUESDAY, August 22

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:15 AM + *Ivan SanFilippo*

by Frank & Lorrie DiBisceglie

WEDNESDAY, August 23 *St Rose of Lima*

8:15 AM + *Joseph Donoghue*

by Joe & Laura Foley

THURSDAY, August 24 *St Bartholomew, Apostle*

FRIDAY, August 25 *Sts Louis & Joseph Calascanz*

8:15 AM + *Nicoline Gowdy*

by Daughter

SATURDAY, August 26 *Weekday*

4:00 PM + *Nancy Williams*

by John and Carol Argento

SUNDAY, August 27 *21st Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:00 AM + *The People of St. John the Evangelist*

10:00 AM + *Pasquale Cirocco*

by Angelo & Maria Leonardis

Wills/Bequests/Memorials—

Please Remember St. John the Evangelist Parish

This Week's Schedule

Monday, August 21

9:00 AM Bible Study in Parish Center

2:00 PM Mass at Village at Unity

6:30 PM Fatima Women's Prayer Ministry

in the Parish Center and Church

Wednesday, August 23

6:00 PM RCIA Information Night in the Parish Center

Weekend, August 26/27

Mission Appeal Weekend at ALL Masses



Council 3892 Wins Star Council Award

Congratulations to Knights of Columbus Council 3892 for winning the prestigious Star Council Award.

This is awarded by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council to those councils who meet charitable, service, membership, and administrative goals for the year. Thanks to all 3892 members for their service to their parishes and their community.



Annual Missionary Cooperative Appeal

NEXT Weekend, August 26/27



We will soon welcome **Father Doug May, M.M.** to our beloved St. John's for the Annual Missionary Cooperative Appeal. Father May will speak at all the Masses next weekend. He has served as a missionary in **Egypt for over 20 years, and in Kenya for several years.** Father May will invite us to take part in the vital work of bringing

Christ and His Gospel to all people.

A second collection will be taken for the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers. Your loose donation is welcome and for anyone wishing to donate by check, please **make your check payable to St. John's and in the memo section please write: Maryknoll Mission Appeal.** While at the parish, Father May will be happy to speak with anyone who is interested in doing overseas mission work.

For more information please visit:

www.maryknollsociety.org



Back-to-School Collection of Supplies and Backpacks through NEXT Sunday, August 27

It's that time of year again when many begin their preparation for their children returning to school and we know part of this preparation is gathering school

supplies. This can be a challenge for many families especially those with multiple children and in light of the higher cost for most everything these days. We all want our children to be well equipped with the supplies necessary so they can start off on the right foot as they begin a new school year; so we turn to you, our parishioners, who have so generously supported this collection in the past. The supplies we collect will be distributed to Sr. Mancuso, Principal of Nazareth Elementary School, for the benefit of the children of Nazareth Elementary.

You will find the collection bins for the supplies in the narthex of church by the center doors and the two far end doors between now and August 27th. We thank you in advance for supporting this annual project.

Sunday, August 20 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**First Reading** Is 56:1, 6-7

Thus says the LORD:

Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed.

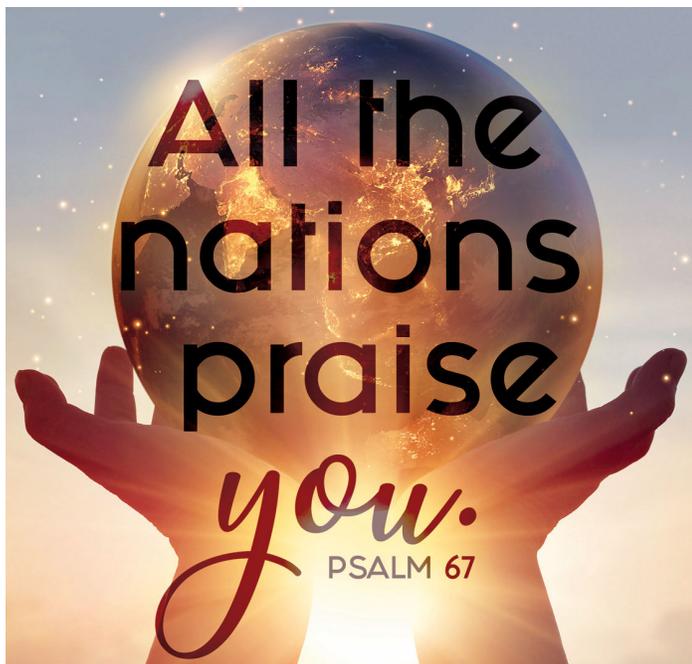
The foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, ministering to him, loving the name of the LORD, and becoming his servants— all who keep the sabbath free from profanation and hold to my covenant, them I will bring to my holy mountain and make joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be acceptable on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

Second Reading Rom 11:13-15, 29-32

Brothers and sisters:

I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I glory in my ministry in order to make my race jealous and thus save some of them. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable. Just as you once disobeyed God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now disobeyed in order that, by virtue of the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy upon all.

**Alleluia** Cf. Mt 4:23**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom and cured every disease among the people.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.**Gospel** Mt 15:21-28

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, “Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon.” But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her.

Jesus’ disciples came and asked him, “Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us.”

He said in reply,

“I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, “Lord, help me.”

He said in reply, “It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs.”

She said, “Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters.”

Then Jesus said to her in reply, “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.”

And the woman’s daughter was healed from that hour.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8**R. O God, let all the nations praise you!**

May God have pity on us and bless us;
may he let his face shine upon us.

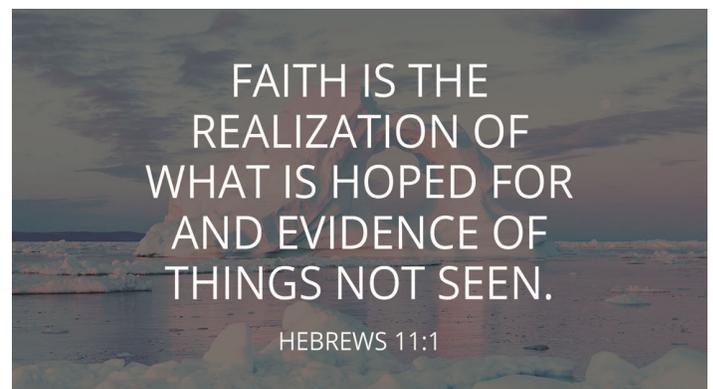
So may your way be known upon earth;
among all nations, your salvation.

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

May the nations be glad and exult
because you rule the peoples in equity;
the nations on the earth you guide.

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

May the peoples praise you, O God;
may all the peoples praise you! May God bless us,
and may all the ends of the earth fear him!

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

The Challenge of Stewardship

Every day we are called by Christ to respond in some way. The more practice we have at giving of ourselves freely and living in His presence, the easier it is to discern that call. Once we hear the call, the choice is ours: will we respond with yes or no? We could say that we are not required to say yes because God has given us free will. However, our response speaks much to where we are in our maturity of faith. When we were children, the word “no”

The choice is always ours. used to be one of our favorites. If we continue to say that as we get older, well, that says something about where we are in our walk with the Lord. If we truly are disciples of Jesus Christ and are serious about growing in our faith, we will say “yes.” We are not required to say yes, but we say yes because that is who we have become.

This is the challenge of a stewardship way of life. Have we matured enough to say yes when God calls, regardless of how much our answer may cost us? What matters more to us: what it will cost us or our relationship with Jesus? Some days we will easily be able to say yes. The grace and love he gives us will be plenty to see us through whatever situation in which we find ourselves. However, we are imperfect beings and there will be days when we are more into ourselves than him. It is on those days that we find ourselves at a true crossroads of a challenge. The choice is always ours. Hopefully, our faith will be strong enough. His call is never for his own sake. He calls us because the world he created and the Church he instituted need us. They wait just as he does for our response.

– Tracy Earl Welliver ©LPI



NYS Eucharistic Congress

October 20-22, 2023

Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine, Auriesville, NY

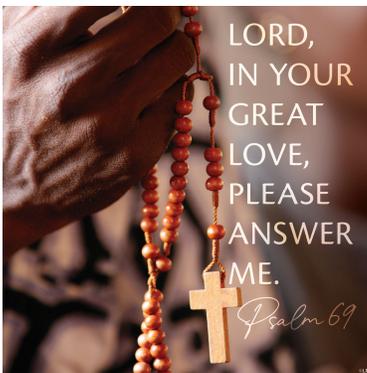
Join 10,000 Catholics to worship at the sacred spot where the North American Martyrs gave their lives for Christ and where St. Kateri Tekakwitha was born.

EVENTS INCLUDE:

- Mass with Cardinal Dolan and NY Bishops
- Confessions
- Great Speakers!
- Eucharistic Adoration and Procession

To register and find out more, visit nyseucharisticcongress.org.

For More Information about the National Eucharistic Revival 2023 visit: www.eucharisticrevival.org and/or eucharisticrevival.dor.org



The Prayers God Always Answers

When I was a child, my mother bought a book called “The Prayers God Will Always Answer.” I remember my anticipation as I cracked the spine and turned to the first page.

I had been spending a lot of time asking God — begging God, actually — over and over again for some specific things that were not materializing. Frankly, it was beginning to feel a lot like that time I asked Santa Claus for a new house, only to wake up on Christmas morning to find ordinary, non-house-shaped presents under the tree — and a growing sense of suspicion that my faith had been ill-placed.

To the great disappointment of my pre-teen heart, my mother’s book was not a directory of magical phrases God is compelled to obey. It was a list that included things like “Forgive me” and “Help me.” I tossed it aside, disappointed.

I marvel at the wisdom and the confidence of the Canaanite woman who persists in begging Jesus to heal her daughter. She is ignored, and still she will not be deterred. The disciples try to dismiss her — still, she presses on. Christ himself challenges her, and her faith makes her ready with a reply.

Prayer is not a negotiation

Somehow, I am sure that even if Christ had said, “No, it cannot be done for you as you wish,” she would have still dropped to her knees and worshiped him, because she knew what I did not: God is not a vending machine, and he’s not the genie from “Aladdin.” Prayer is not a negotiation, but a relationship.

The story of the Canaanite woman is not a story about how to get God to give you what you want. It is a story about the prayers God always answers.

“Then Jesus said to her in reply, ‘O woman, great is your faith!’” — Matthew 15:28 ©LPI



This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

- ✝ Tabernacle I Irene Eisenberg
- ✝ Tabernacle II All Who are Affected by the Fires in Maui
- ✝ Marian I Elizabeth Wiley
- ✝ Marian II Rose Marie Skrypek

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



August 12/13	ATTENDANCE.....	379
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,530.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$	6,567.36
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	1,775.00
TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$	8,342.36
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SHORTAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING....	(\$	1,187.64)

Fiscal Year 2023-24 as August 13, 2023

YEARLY BUDGET.....	\$	486,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$	66,710.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$	70,257.90
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OVERAGE TO-DATE.....	\$	3,547.90

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.



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



ST. ROSE OF LIMA

APART FROM THE CROSS, THERE IS NO OTHER LADDER BY WHICH WE MAY GET TO HEAVEN.

Wednesday, August 23

*Notre Dame Retreat House,
5151 Foster Rd., Canandaigua, NY*

“Self Compassion”
Presented by Deacons George Welch and Lon Smith
Offering a Day to Fill your Soul . . .
Tuesday, September 5, 2023

This is a day of Looking at the River of suffering. We will explore how radical self compassion invites us into holy ground. Through presentation, Teresian prayer of the heart and gratitude we are more aware of God's loving presence.

Day begins at 9:00 AM and concludes at 3:00 PM
There is a \$35.00 Fee. Please call 585-394-5700 or email us at ndretreat@rochester.rr.com to register.
For more details on the day and presenter's visit visit www.notredameretreat.org

*Please join in praying together at the end of each Mass
the Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel*

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.**



Examples of Our Faith

Mother Celestina Bottego

Celestina Bottego was born on December 20, 1895, in Glendale, Ohio to an Irish immigrant mother and an Italian immigrant father. Venerable Mother Celestina Bottego

was born in Ohio. She went on to be the foundress of the Xavier Missionaries Sisters of Mary in Italy. The Sisters rejected the traditional habit commonly worn by religious women in favor of wearing the same clothing styles as those they served.

Her reputation as a leader grew and she was invited to the opening sessions for the Second Vatican Council in Rome. She served as General Superior until she retired from the position 1966. In 1980 she died of breast cancer at age 85 and was declared venerable in 2013.

Senior Home Communion Service Ministers August 2023

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

August 20, 2023 Steve & Mary Ann Donato

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY

August 20, 2023 Tom Grieco
August 27, 2023 Bob and Barb Gotham

ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

August 20, 2023 Dan & Melissa Kabasin
August 27, 2023 Carolyn Kerhaert