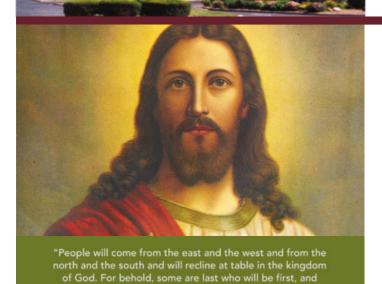


August 24, 2025

2400 West Ridge Road Rochester, New York 14626

In the Footsteps of St John

A journey of exploration and reflection upon the treasure who is the patron of our parish church, St John the Evangelist.



some are first who will be last." - Lk 13:29-30

A World of Gratitude!

For Generous Donations to Help People in Need......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.

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

223 0700

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

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DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/ Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b/ Mt 23:13-22	1 Thes 2:1-8/ Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/ Mt 23:23-26	1 Thes 2:9-13/ Ps 139:7-12ab/ Mt 23:27-32	1 Thes 3:7-13/ Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/ Mt 24:42-51	1 Thes 4:1-8/ Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12/ Mk 6:17-29	1 Thes 4:9-11/ Ps 98:1, 7-9/ Mt 25:14-30	Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/ Ps 15:2-5/ Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/ Lk 14:1, 7-14

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.

God Can Do Wonders in Our Lives Because We Believe

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 of what they believed. For

most of us, our faith sustains us in the daily routine of life. For others, faith is the driving force that caries us through our most difficult times.

St Paul 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 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 redemption, we will have a role to play in letting that redemption penetrate our hearts and minds.

Jesus tells us we cannot serve two masters. If we try to serve two masters, we will either hate the



one and love the other, or we will be devoted to the one and despise 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 seeking to grow wealthy or seeking 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 phone, television, 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!

May we pray to serve our God and God alone, and not rely solely on material things that do not endure forever.

Peace and love to all, Father Peter



Masses for the Week—August 25—31

MONDAY, August 25 Sts Louis & Joseph Calasanz

8:15 AM + Mary Martha Ryan by Eileen Zegarelli

2:30 PM + Mass at Village at Unity

TUESDAY, August 26 Weekday

8:15 AM + *Manuel Sa & Deceased Family Members* by Granddaughter Nidia

WEDNESDAY, August 27 St Monica

8:15 AM + Silvia Lucania by Peter Nicotina

THURSDAY, August 28 St Augustine

FRIDAY, August 29 Passion Of St John the Baptist 8:15 AM + Louise Maier by Jim & Cindi

SATURDAY, August 30 Weekday

4:00 PM + Annette Arbia

by Joe Arbia & Family

SUNDAY, August 31 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM + James Lomoglio by Kathy & Family

10:00 AM + Living Members of St John's

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

Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.

Aug 24	Aug 25	Aug 26	Aug 27	Aug 28	Aug 29	Aug 30
Joseph	Joseph	Daniel	Michael	Michael	Jospeh	William
Marcoux	Maurici	McMullin	Merritt	Mayer	McCaffrey	McGrath



Coming Soon, Save the Date!

Before long we will be resuming our monthly Coffee Hours. Our first one of the new season will be Sunday, September 14 following the

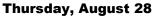
8:00 and 10:00 AM Masses. Our host will be members of our Parish Pastoral Council.

Mark your calendar so you can plan to join us.

This Week's Schedule

Monday, August 25

9:00 AM Bible Study in Parish Center 2:30 PM + Mass at Village at Unity



4:30 PM Cursillo in Meeting Room





As you celebrate your special day on Wednesday this week, August 27, know that we wish you a very happy day however you chose to celebrate, and be assured of our prayers being offered for happiness, good health and peace in the year ahead. HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

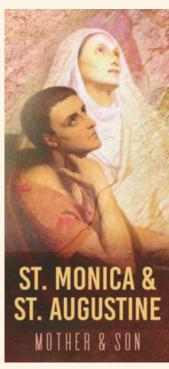
Fr. Peter, Deacon Lon, Parish Staff, and Parishioners of our beloved St. John's



Last Call for Back to School Collection Drop Off Your Donation by NEXT Sunday, Aug 31

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 everything. 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 Mrs. Rhonda Neal, 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 Sunday, August 17 and August 31.We thank you in advance for the support of this annual project.



Holiness Runs in the Family

Raising faithful children is no easy task. For St. Monica, it seemed nearly impossible. Her husband wasn't Christian and often mocked her faith. Their son, Augustine, fell quickly into wild ways. He and his friends drank, stole, and caroused throughout town. Monica never stopped praying for Augustine, no matter how far he strayed. Augustine became swept up in heresy, a false form of Christianity. He lived with a mistress and had a child out of wedlock. All

the while, Monica kept praying. Conversion came slowly to Augustine, but at age 32, he was finally baptized. Augustine would go on to become a priest, then bishop, then world-renowned theologian whose works have stood the test of time. May St. Monica and St. Augustine inspire us to never stop praying for our loved ones. ©LPi

St Monica's Feast Day Aug 27 | St Augustine's Feast Day Aug 28



Dear Music Ministry and Parish Family,

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

"For behold, some are last who will be first and some are first who will be last."

Luke 13:30

In essence, this verse encourages believers to examine their own lives, to seek God's will with humility, and to strive for holiness, recognizing that God's judgment is based on individual faithfulness and not on social standing or perceived privilege. It requires a sincere commitment to living a life of faith and a conscious choice to turn away from sin and worldly desires. The challenges and sacrifices involved in following Christ are opportunities for endurance in our faithfulness and for us to embrace the path of discipleship.

Let us sing our Communion hymn: "Open my eyes, Lord"...

Bridge:

And the first shall be last. And our eyes are opened. And we'll hear like never before. And we'll speak in new ways. And we'll see God's face in places we've never known. Faith and love,

Consuelo

For more information about joining our ministry, please contact Consuelo De Los Santos, Director of Liturgical Music consuelo.delossantos@dor.org or 585-225-8980

Gospel Meditation

August 24, 2025 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke 13:22-30

I've been hiking Camelback Mountain in Phoenix, Arizona most of my life. It is a vigorous forty-five minutes to the top. Near the peak, the end suddenly appears much further away, and steeper. At that

moment, a descending hiker often offers encouragement: "Keep going! The peak is right there. It's not as far as it looks. You can do it!" It usually works. After another five minute push, you summit and enjoy a glorious panorama of the Sonoran Desert in the Valley of the Sun.

When Jesus is asked about how many people are saved, he says: "Strive to enter through the narrow gate" Luke 13:24. How many? Strive! Focus on your journey. What does heavenly census taking have to do with you or me? How



would it help a hiker on a mountain to ask the others coming down, "How many people are going to make it to the top?" A normal response would be something like: "How is that a relevant question? Carry on!"

Jesus links one virtue directly to salvation: perseverance cf. Matt 24:13; hypomone in Greek. Strive! Endure!

Keep going! The one absolutely necessary virtue is perseverance, to not give up on our journey. The mountain we struggle to climb is often our own weakness, failures, and sins. Persevere in prayer. Keep celebrating the sacraments. Embrace daily duties. With God's grace, you are strong enough to keep going. Perhaps the peak is not as far away as you might fear. Keep going!

— Father John Muir

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Do You Know Him, or Just Know About Him?

Facebook, Twitter, and other forms of social media can be powerful tools of communication. They allow people to stay in touch. They provide an avenue for fresh ideas. People can be engaged in conversations and be exposed to issues of the day in ways few could have dreamed of just a few decades ago. But social media can also give the false sense of really knowing someone, when only the surface has been scratched about who a person is in reality.

You don't really know someone just because you know a lot about him or her and are linked to a profile online.

...seemingly close, but with no real relationship at all. Unfortunately, people develop emotional attachments to the idea of a person all the time. If they do find themselves fortunate enough to meet the person face-to-face

one day, they can often find out they never really knew the person in the first place.

There are people who believe they know Jesus so very well. They can readily share their view of what Jesus would do or wouldn't do in a given situation. They own items like crosses and Bibles that seem to provide evidence of this person they know so well. Sometimes, they even strongly admonish others because their view of Jesus is certainly not in line with their own.

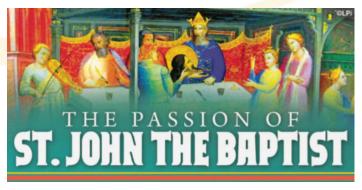
But in Luke 13, Jesus speaks about those who claim to know him, but they really do not belong to him at all. They make claims based upon what they have seen and heard, but they have never allowed Jesus to truly change them. They are like Facebook followers; seemingly close, but with no real relationship at all.

Do you know Jesus? Don't just be a fan. Invite Jesus into your life and let the real relationship begin.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

Good Shepherd, guide me through the narrow gate. Remove from me anything that distracts me from You, Your love, Your invitation, Your mission. Keep me close to You, familiar at every step.

 $\pmb{Amen.}$ ©LPi



THIS Friday, August 29, the Church commemorates one of the oldest feasts within the Church, the Memorial of the Beheading of Saint John the Baptist. Just as John preceded Jesus in birth, preaching, and baptizing, so too did he precede Jesus in death, dying as a prefiguration of the one who would give His life sacrificially on the Cross.

As we honor this man so highly honored by our Lord, we also honor our Lord Himself. John's life was given to the mission to which he was called. He never wavered and willingly accepted even death, rather than shy away from God's will. He introduced the Lamb of God to the world and led the way for Jesus by his preaching, baptism of repentance, and death, which prefigured Jesus' own death. As you ponder Saint John's life, reflect especially upon the wholehearted commitment he made to selflessly give himself to the mission he received. Where you see hesitancy in your own life, take inspiration from Saint John the Baptist, praying that you will exemplify his courage and resolve to fulfill the will of God.

Saint John the Baptist, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.







Nazzareno E. Monti Husband of Sandra Monti



This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

- Tabernacle I Ben & Pauline Dominik
- Tabernacle II Safety of all Military Personnel
- TMarian I Charlie & Martha DiPaola
- Marian II Dolores Jweid

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL

Aug 15 Feast of the Assumption ATTENDA	NCE161
Holy Day Offering\$	1,358.15
ONLINE Giving\$	80.00
TOTAL Holy Day Offering\$	1,438.15
August 16/17 Week 7 ATTENDA	NCE407
BUDGETED Sunday Offering\$	9,950.00
SUNDAY Offering\$	8,136.25
ONLINE Giving\$	1,921.00
TOTAL Sunday Offering\$	10,057.25
OVERAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING\$	107.25

Fiscal Year 2025-26 as August 17, 2025

riscai Tear 2025-26 as August	17,4	2025
YEARLY BUDGET	\$	517,500.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE	\$	69,650.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED	\$	80,268.69
OVERAGE TO DATE	\$	10 618 69

As we are underway in our new Fiscal Year, I am encouraged by the early financial report and I am deeply appreciative for the generosity your sacrificial giving offers for the well-being of our parish.

Fr Peter

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. 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.



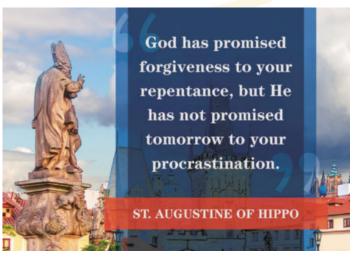
A World of Gratitude!

Having recently received Fr. Augustine Kipkemei of the Catholic Diocese of Nakuru in Kenya with a warm welcome from all of us here at our beloved St. John's, I wish to thank you so much for the **very generous donations** you made to help the people in need in the Diocese of Nakuru. As you probably saw in last weekend's bulletin, we collected \$5,426.00 for this cause. Way to go! As your Pastor, I am touched by the support you provide each and every time there is a need. As Catholics, this is what we are called to do – help those in need – and you have lived up to this call once again. May God reward you for your kindness and generosity.

God bless, Fr. Peter







Senior Home Communion Service Ministers August 2025

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

August 31, 2025 Ron LaForce

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY

August 24, 2025 Bob & Barb Gotham August 31, 2025 NO Communion Service ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

August 24, 2025 Dan & Melissa Kabsin August 31, 2025 Carolyn Kerhaert



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