

St. John the Evangelist Greece

December 18, 2022

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.



"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." - Mt 1:21

Tidings of Comfort & Joy

From the Desk of Father Peter.....2

Something to Ponder

What is My Response to Mary and Joseph?.....2

Christmas Liturgy Schedule

And a Reminder about Collections.....3

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Readings for December 17/18.....4

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

From December 5 Meeting..... 5

Pastoral Planning

Task Force Update..... 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, 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://twitter.com/StJohnGreece)

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

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/
Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/
Lk 1:5-25

Tuesday

Is 7:10-14/
Ps 24:1--4ab, 5-6/
Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday

Sg 2:8-14
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/
Lk 1:39-45

Thursday

1 Sm 1:24-28/
1 Sm 2:1, 4-7, 8abcd/
Lk 1:46-56

Friday

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/
Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14/
Lk 1:57-66

Saturday Vigil

Is 62:1-5/
Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/
Mt 1:1-25

Sunday Day

Is 52:7-10/
Ps 98:1-6/
Heb 1:1-6/
Jn 1:1-18

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.

Tidings of Comfort and Joy

When a woman is pregnant, we say that she is "expecting." This is exactly the state of being that Advent invites for all believers. As Christmas draws near, each of us should think of ourselves as 'expecting.' Advent is a season for us to anticipate the birth of whatever new life is forming within us. We might be pregnant with a new idea, a developing virtue, a new relationship or even a fresh perspective. Faith proclaims that all these forms of life are conceived by the Spirit and manifestations of Emmanuel, God with us.

Advent is a season to rekindle our hope in the Good News, our belief that God still speaks to us in varied and wonderful ways. It is a time to remember that the guiding voices we hear, the holy impulses we feel, and the hopeful messages we receive are God's good news delivered by angels we have heard on high.

It is true that God has given each of us wonderful gifts. But these gifts do not work in isolation. There are some things that we simply cannot do



on our own, and that is exactly the way God planned it. God wants us to learn how to interact with each other and depend on each other through God's grace. Our human nature tells us we are self-sufficient, but God's word tells us something different, "There are many parts, yet one body ... You are Christ's body." 1 Corinthians 12:20, 27

This Advent if you feel somewhat disconnected from Church, from your faith, or if you know someone who is unattached to church, maybe the spirit is calling you to take one more step to become more engaged. Just as God has a plan for you personally, God also has a plan for you as part of his body! It takes the eyes of faith to see it. We need all God's people to come home to the Lord. During Advent, we strive in faith to make ourselves holy so that like Mary the mother of the Savior, our souls may magnify with the Lord.



I hope and pray that your season be a blessed one in God's name.

Rev. Peter Enyan-Boadu

Something to Ponder

I had a dream, Joseph, I don't understand it, not really, but I think it was about a birthday celebration for our Son. I think that was what it was all about. The people had been preparing for it for about six weeks. They had decorated the house and bought new clothes. They'd gone shopping many times and bought elaborate gifts. It was peculiar, though, because the presents weren't for our Son. They wrapped them in beautiful paper and tied them with lovely bows and stacked them under a tree. Yes, a tree, Joseph, of glowing balls and sparkling ornaments. There was a figure on the top of the tree. It looked like an angel might look. Oh, it was beautiful. Everyone was laughing and happy. They were all excited about the gifts.

They gave the gifts to each other, Joseph, not to our Son. I don't think they even knew Him. They never mentioned His name. Doesn't it seem odd for people to go to all that trouble to celebrate someone's birthday if they don't know Him. I had the strangest feeling that if our Son had gone to this celebration, He would have been intruding. Everything was so beautiful, Joseph, and everyone so gay, but it made me want to cry. How sad for Jesus – not to be wanted at His own birthday party. I'm glad it was only a dream. How terrible, Joseph, if it had been real.

- Author Unknown

This story was shared with me by a friend and is something that should cause each of us to pause and ask ourselves, "What is My Response to Mary and Joseph?" ~ Fr Peter

Masses for the Week—Dec 19—25

MONDAY, December 19 *Late Advent Weekday*
 8:15 AM + **Thomas D’Ambrosio**
 by Eileen Zegarelli

TUESDAY, December 20 *Late Advent Weekday*
 8:15 AM + **Living & Deceased Members
 of the Hartman Family**
 by Family

WEDNESDAY, December 21 *St Peter Caniaius*
 8:15 AM + **John Preston Baker**
 by Narcissa Baker

THURSDAY, December 22 *Late Advent Weekday*

FRIDAY, December 23 *St Jogn of Kanty*
 8:15 AM + **Jim Wenskus**
 by Family

SATURDAY, December 24 *Christmas Eve*
 4:00 PM + **Deacon Bob Burke**
 by St John’s Women’s Guild
 10:00 PM + **James J. Fleming, Nicolina,
 and Norman Gowdy**
 by Joan Fleming

SUNDAY, December 25 *Nativity of the Lord*
 8:00 AM + **Robert Kowalski**
 by Wife & Family
 10:00 AM + **Carol Spagnola**
 by Fr Peter & Staff

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

Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.

Dec 18	Dec 19	Dec 20	Dec 21	Dec 22	Dec 23	Dec 24
Christopher Linsler	Frank Lioi	John Loncle	Bernard Maloney	Kevin Mannara	Redemptorist Frs. & Brs.	Joseph Martuscello



Parish Office Holiday Hours

Friday, December 23, Parish Office is CLOSED
Monday, December 26 Parish Office is CLOSED
Office will re-open on Tuesday, December 27 at 9:00 AM

This Week’s Schedule

Sunday, December 18
 11:00 AM Coffee Hour with Santa in Parish Center

Monday, December 19
 9:00 AM Bible Study in Parish Center
 6:30 PM Women’s Fatima Prayer Group in Parish Center & Church

Friday, December 23
 Parish Office CLOSED



Christmas Liturgy Schedule

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Mass with Children’s Choir
Prelude music/carols beginning at 3:45 PM.

10:00 PM Mass with Adult Choir
Prelude music/carols beginning at 9:30 PM.



Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day

8:00 AM Mass with Cantor

10:00 AM Mass with Adult Choir
Prelude music/carols beginning at 9:45 AM.

A Savior is Born

★ A reminder that there are two collections for Christmas. The Ushers will pass the basket twice. The first collection is for our regular Sunday Offering and the second collection is for our Christmas Offering. Our offerings play a vital role in the ongoing life of the parish so please know how beneficial everyone’s sacrifices are. Thank you and God bless.

Sunday, December 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent**First Reading** Is 7:10-14

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying: Ask for a sign from the LORD, your God; let it be deep as the netherworld, or high as the sky! But Ahaz answered, "I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!" Then Isaiah said: Listen, O house of David! Is it not enough for you to weary people, must you also weary my God? Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6.**R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**

The LORD's are the earth and its fullness;
the world and those who dwell in it.
For he founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.

R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD?
or who may stand in his holy place?
One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean,
who desires not what is vain.

R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD,
a reward from God his savior.
Such is the race that seeks for him,
that seeks the face of the God of Jacob.

R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**Second Reading** Rom 1:1-7

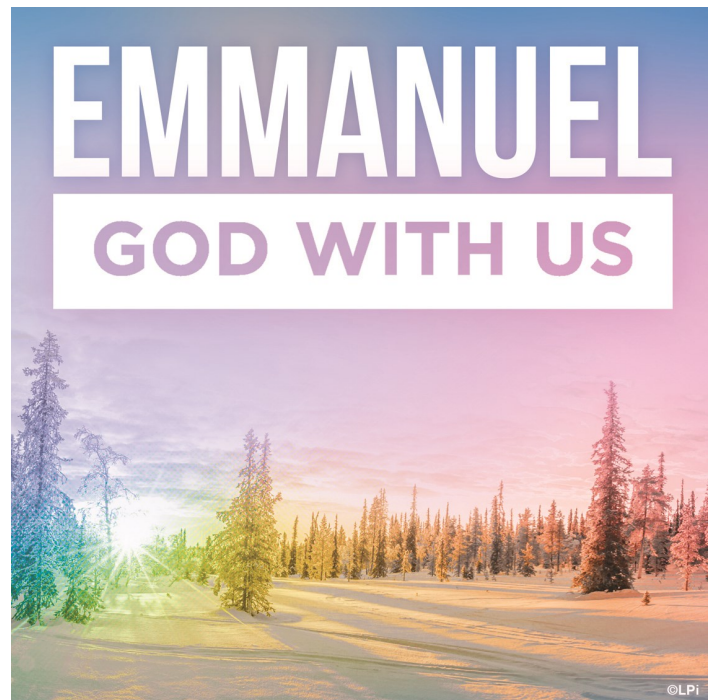
Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised previously through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, the gospel about his Son, descended from David according to the flesh, but established as Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness through resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him we have received the grace of apostleship, to bring about the obedience of faith, for the sake of his name, among all the Gentiles, among whom are you also, who are called to belong to Jesus Christ; to all the beloved of God in Rome, called to be holy. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia Mt 1:23**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The virgin shall conceive, and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.**Gospel** Mt 1:18-24

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,
which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

**An 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

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes—December 5, 2022

Opening Prayer: Melissa Ryan

Attendance: Father Peter, Bob Gotham, Rick Paoletti, Nick Sassano, Tod Simone, Kathy Christodaro, Alan Christodaro, Jill Bailey, Melissa Ryan, Wayne Howard, Nick Verdino, Sharon Miller, Patty Hoag, Jan Gallucci, Gary Kern, Pam Tofany-Kern, *Visitors:* none *Excused:* Karen Bessette -Sec, Paul Parkman, Deacon Elmer

Approval of Agenda for tonight's Meeting (Emailed, 11/25/2022) Approval: Sharon Miller, Second: Patti Hoag

Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 17, 2022 Meeting (in bulletin on 11/13/2022) Approval: Alan Christodaro, Second: Patti Hoag

Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 7, 2022 Meeting (in bulletin on 12/4/2022) Approval: Gary Kern, Second: Kathy Christodaro

Chairperson's Comments:

CMA UPDATE: as of 12/2/22 we had 240 donors that have pledged \$50,388 of our goal of \$83,000. That is 60.71% of our goal. That is an average of \$209 per donor. We need to be around \$250 per donor. We are behind last year at this time by \$5,510 and 31 donors. The diocesan average is \$307 per donor. Bob notes that St. Marks has already exceeded their goal. Father suggests someone from the council provide reminders during the 8:00 and 10:00 mass.

COFFEE HOURS: The Music Ministry is hosting the December Coffee Hour with Santa. This should be great fun. I would like to have members of the Parish Council help in the clean up of the Parish Center, after the event. Cookie donations can be brought in at the 4:00 Mass Saturday and before the 10:00 Mass on Sunday.

Fr. Peter's Update: Father visited and had lunch with retired priests this afternoon; Remembering them is very important and fulfilling. Father is gracious about all of the angels that have been taken from the giving trees; As of this morning's Mass, all angels have been taken. Father expresses gratitude for the lawn crew and enjoys their fellowship. There are new candles on the altar and we are in the process of getting a refurbished crucifix as well. On December 12 the pastoral task force will meet at St. John's at 6:30 pm. There will be information in the bulletin about the event. December 29 is the feast of John Fisher. There will be a dinner for prospective candidates. Father is hoping to reach out and encourage someone in the parish to join the priesthood and asks us if we know anyone who might be interested.

Arts and Environment: Patti Hoag is the leader. **Giving Tree** – With the help of Deb Colby, Cheryl Watt, Judy Weiser and Melissa Ryan, all the angels were placed on the trees on Saturday the 26th and Sunday the 27th. There were 210 Angels and the Agencies that we are working with are: Daystar Kids, Friendship Center, House

of Mercy, Mother Teresa Missionary center, St. Michaels Workshop, Focus Pregnancy, Nazareth Elementary, Mary's Place Refugee Outreach, and Families in Need at St. John's.

Advent Decorations were done on Friday November 24 with the help of Donna Schmidt, Stephabie Roberts, Nancy Lader and Mickey Corsi

Christmas Decorations we will be decorating for Christmas on Friday December 23. The Choir will be helping along with others. Father would like the Christmas decorations up until either Jan 8 or 9 for the Feast of Epiphany.

Certificates of Appreciation: Sharon Miller – we have one pending Nomination that is being worked on. Marilyn Butler and Judy Weiser received their certificates on Sunday, November 13 at the 10:00 Mass. There will be an article in the bulletin encouraging everyone to nominate someone they feel is deserving of the award.

Liturgy Committee: Tod (5 Min) – Christmas Masses: 4pm, 10pm on Christmas Eve, 8am and 10am on Christmas day.

Pastoral Ministry/Homebound Outreach Update: Tod Simone (5 min.) Homemade Christmas ornaments are being distributed to the nursing homes. Sharon Miller has been helping Tod with the large volume of home visits.

Knights of Columbus Council 3892 Update: Rick Paoletti (5 min) – *Keep Christ in Christmas* campaign - the Knights have put up nativity scenes in 3 parishes. Completed car bumper sales, sold out. Members of council gathered at Planned Parenthood to pray for the end of abortion.

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 -573 facebook likes

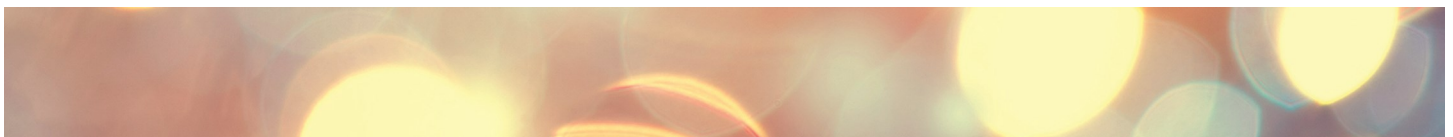
Safety & Security: Nick Sassano – (5 min.) Still trying to schedule a meeting, will likely be after Jan 1. For the upcoming Christmas masses, they think there is coverage of ushers with the exception of the 10pm mass. Will alert Greece Police of our Christmas mass schedule so they can possibly monitor the area.

Open Forum/For the Good of the Parish: – around the room (1 min each) Sharon Miller: Remarks how beautiful the manger scene looks silhouetted against the church. Jan Galucci: The prayer tribute to Nick Lippa is beautiful.

Closing Prayer: Melissa Ryan

Next Meeting: 01/09/23

Opening and Closing Prayers: Pam Kern



BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



December 3/4	ATTENDANCE.....	426
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,706.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$	7,706.97
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	1,493.00
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TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,199.97
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SHORTAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING.....	(\$	506.03)

Fiscal Year 2022-23 as of December 4, 2022

YEARLY BUDGET	\$	495,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$	223,238.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$	215,874.34
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SHORTAGE TO DATE.....	(\$	7,363.66)

Reminder on Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) (sometimes referred to as "IRA Charitable Rollovers) as a Way to Donate to St. John's Parish

In December, 2015, the IRA QCD Legislation was signed into law permanently.

Under the legislation, donors aged 70½ or older can contribute up to \$100,000 from their IRA's **directly** to qualified charities without having to pay income taxes on the money.

Here is a quick recap of the IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution rules. Gifts qualify under the law if:

- The donor is age 70 ½ or older on the day of the gift.
- The donor transfers up to \$100,000 directly from their IRA to one or more qualified charities (i.e. St John's). This opportunity applies only to IRA's and no other types of retirement plans.
- Since a QCD can potentially reduce a donor's Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), please discuss your situation with your Financial Advisor.
- The donor does not receive any goods or services in return for the rollover gift in order to qualify for tax-free treatment.
- The gift/check must be dated on or before Dec., 31, 2022 to qualify this year.
- The gift needs to be sent directly to the charitable organization which also has to be the payee for the gift.
- The official name and address to use for the receiver of the donation is: St. John the Evangelist Church
2400 W Ridge Road
Rochester, NY 14626

If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact your financial advisor. If you have other questions, please call or email Joe Spurrier: Business Office at St. John's, at 585-225-8980, or joseph.spurrier@dor.org



This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

✠ Tabernacle I Living & Deceased Members of the Hartman Family

✠ Tabernacle II Jim Wenskus

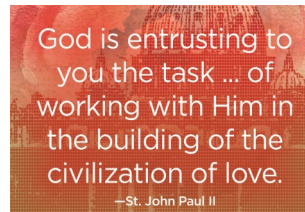
✠ Marian I Jim Wigton

✠ Marian II Jeff Lader

Due to early bulletin deadlines for the Advent and Christmas Holidays, our December 10/11 and December 17/18 Mass attendance and contributions will be noted in the December 24/25 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.



Pastoral Planning Task Force Update

The Charlotte/Greece/Hilton Pastoral Planning Task Force met again on November 16. After opening prayer and faith-sharing, the first portion of

the meeting was devoted to an initial discussion about what we can do to prepare for the inevitable future where fewer priests are available to serve our parishes. Key questions were: How would Masses be distributed across our 7 parishes as the number of available priests declines? How would other sacramental ministry happen? What would we do in an emergency where a priest was unable to preside at a weekend's Masses? Since it is possible that more of our parishes will be joined under a single pastor, Fr. Coffas, Fr. Enyan-Boadu, Fr. Firpo, and lay members of the task force shared what they view as best practices based on their experience with clustered parishes. In response to some comments heard from parishioners, it was emphasized that this task force—formed by the pastoral leaders of the 7 parishes—was not charged with recommending parish closures but with reaching agreement on how best to prepare for a reduced number of priests while keeping all of the parishes vibrant.

Over the previous month, task force members had responded to two surveys. Twenty-one ideas for how to work collaboratively on the Church's mission of Word, Worship, Community and Service were reduced to 3: reaching out to inactive parishioners, a shared vocation approach, and creating a shared website to communicate what is happening in all our parishes. The last part of this meeting was spent working in small groups to focus on how to begin and who in each parish might carry each of the initiatives forward.



Christmas Poinsettias

During the Christmas season, remember a loved one or honor someone by making a donation for a poinsettia to add to the beauty of our beloved St. John’s Church. Please complete the order form at right.

Make checks payable to:

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH

Write Poinsettias in the Memo;

and Send your order form and donation to:

St. John the Evangelist Church,
2400 West Ridge Road, Rochester, NY 14626

OR

Place your order and donation in an envelope marked “Poinsettias” and drop this into the collection basket.

Please print

Print your name as you want it to appear in the bulletin.

Phone Number

Would like to donate poinsettias for the holiday season. in memory/honor of:

Please indicate if living or deceased

Senior Home Communion Service Ministers, December 2022

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

December 18, 2022 Dan & Melissa Kabasin