

St. John the Evangelist Greece

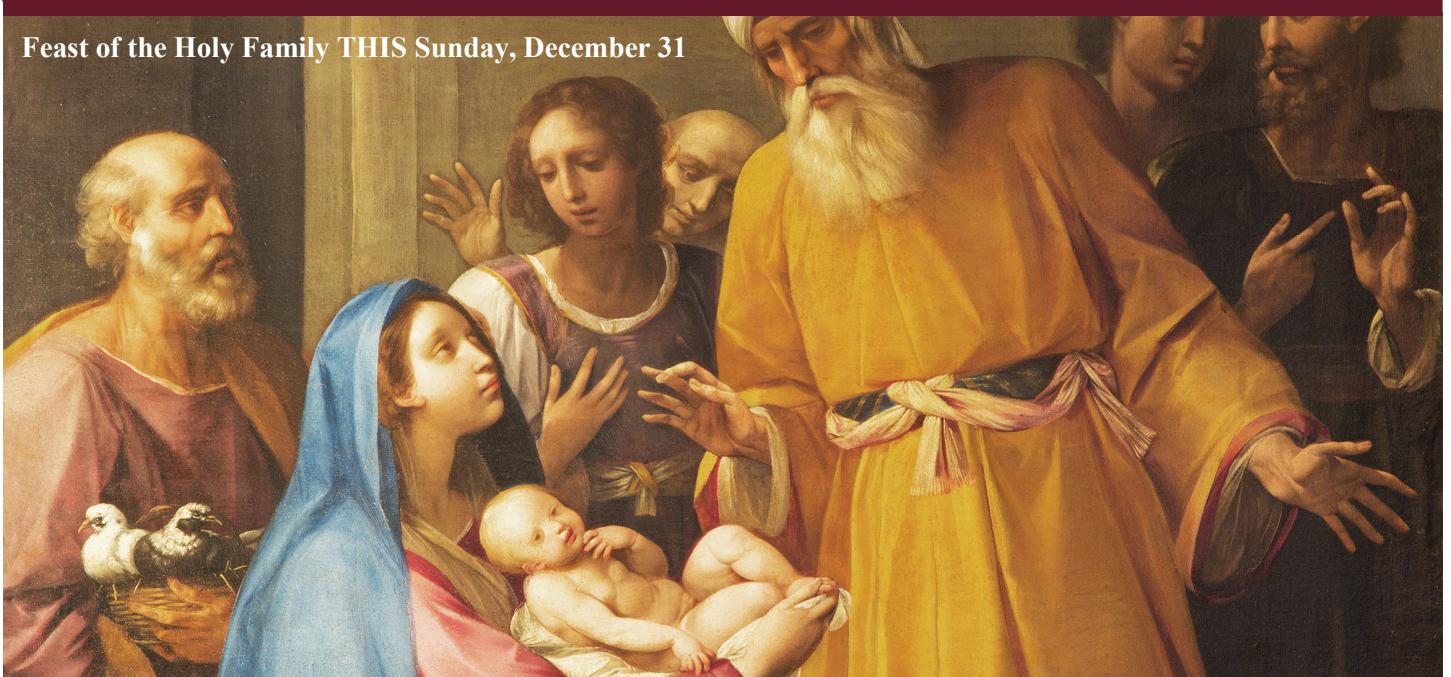
December 31, 2023

2400 West Ridge Road
Rochester, New York 14626

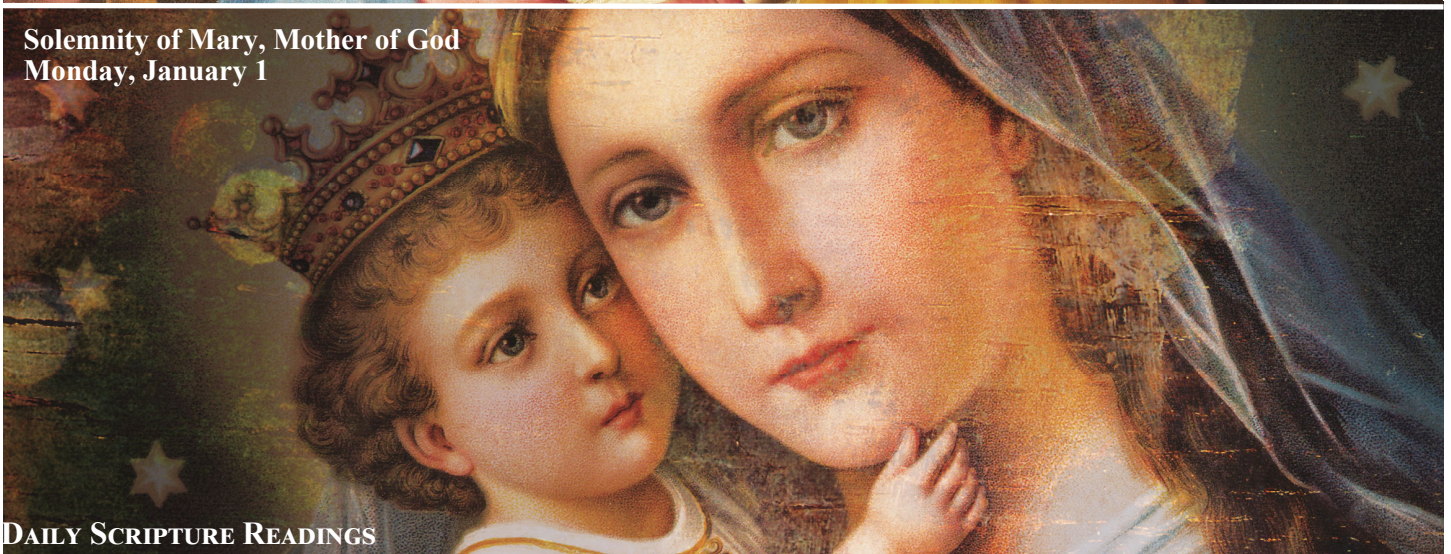
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT
As disciples of Jesus Christ serving on the Parish Pastoral Council, we collaborate with the Pastor and Staff inviting the people of St. John the Evangelist Church to joyfully celebrate the Eucharist, faithfully teach Catholic tradition, and fervently form Catholic spirituality, so that together we may go forth in love to serve the Lord and each other.



Feast of the Holy Family THIS Sunday, December 31



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Monday, January 1



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday

Nm 6:22-27/
Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8/
Gal 4:4-7/
Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday

1 Jn 2:22-28/
Ps 98:1-4/
Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday

1 Jn 2:29—3:6/
Ps 98:1, 3cd-6/
Jn 1:29-34

Thursday

1 Jn 3:7-10/
Ps 98:1, 7-9/
Jn 1:35-42

Friday

1 Jn 3:11-21/
Ps 100:1b-5/
Jn 1:43-51

Saturday

1 Jn 5:5-13/
Ps 147:12-15, 19-20/
Mk 1:7-11

Sunday

Is 60:1-6/
Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13/
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/
Mt 2:1-12

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.

The Holy Family is a Sign of Hope to All Families

This is the Sunday of the year when most people can look out in the church and sometimes see people poking one another during the Scripture readings. In the first reading, parents poke children to remind them that the Scriptures admonish the attitudes of honor, reverence, and kindness. It is an amazing sight to see from the altar.

If we read Scripture carefully, we will find that the Holy Family had their share of troubles and difficulties. Joseph cared for and protected the child and his mother by obeying the will of God without hesitancy. Mary, too, searched for God's will as she pondered the words spoken to her by Simeon in the Temple, as well as the various events in her life. Both Mary and Joseph obeyed God even when the future was uncertain. Jesus, too, had to learn obedience to his parents. They were worried and concerned about His whereabouts when they lost Him for three days in Jerusalem. As faithful Catholics we need to remember that the Holy Family too was once a family of immigrants and refugees. Mary—our mother and mother of God, had an intimate understanding of suffering, flight, homelessness, and uncertainty. As Catholics preparing to enter into a new year with our families with all the uncertainties of tomorrow, we have to look at what we have right



God still speaks to us in varied and wonderful ways.

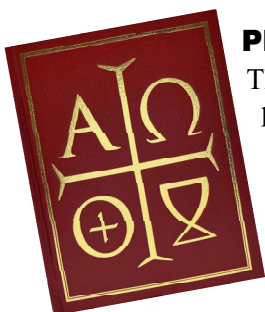
in front of us as a family, at what we could become, and *stop* measuring it against what we *may* have lost. We are family; *we are called to share our past and envision our future in Christ.* These events help us to realize just how human the Holy Family really was, and how much they have to teach our own families. Through the ups and downs of life, they stayed close to God. We can remember that we have been chosen by God to be part of his family, and have been promised the Holy Spirit to teach, guide, and comfort us. There is no perfect family but this one—the Holy Family. I fondly remember this that

someone once said: *Having a place to go—is a home. Having someone to love—is a family. Having both—is a blessing.*

When we are in harmony with God's will, then we are at peace, and peace will flow into our dealings with each other—family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. Our actions and our attitudes will reflect our Christian faith if we strive daily to search out and be open to the will of God in our lives. May each family, regardless of circumstances, approach this New Year with a sense of harmony like the Holy Family and strive to live in peace.



Peace and love to all families,
Rev. Peter Enyan-Boadu



Please Understand

The diocese has recently notified parishes of a copyright matter pertaining to the weekly bulletin publication of the Sunday Readings and because of this we are no longer including the Sunday Readings in our weekly bulletin. I remind everyone that we still subscribe to and provide in the pews, the *Celebrating the Eucharist* missalettes that have the Sunday Readings. I appreciate everyone's understanding as we certainly do not want to knowingly infringe on any copyright matter that might create a problem for us.

God bless,
Fr. Peter

Masses for the Week—January 1—7

MONDAY, January 1 Solemnity of Mary
 9:00 AM + *Deacon Bob Burke*
 by Wife

TUES, Jan 2 *Sts Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen*
 8:15 AM + *Jonie Oliveri-Broccuto*
 by Family

WEDNESDAY, January 3 *Most Holy Name of Jesus*
 8:15 AM + *Eleanor Zanni*
 by Beloved Husband, Tony & Family

THURSDAY, January 4 *St Elizabeth Ann Seton*

FIRST FRIDAY, January 5 *St John Neumann*
 8:15 AM + *Lori Keenan*
 by Ray & Marcia Parsons
 10:00 AM *Benediction*

FIRST SATURDAY, January 6 *St Andre Bessette*
 8:15 AM Fr Peter's Intentions
 4:00 PM + *The People of St John's,*
Living & Deceased

SUNDAY, January 7 Epiphany of the Lord
 8:00 AM + *Clarence & Adrienne Preston*
 by Son, Gene
 10:00 AM + *Daniel Englert*
 by The Lennox Family

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

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, December 31 The Holy Family
 NO RCIA Class Today
 6:00 PM Holy Day Mass of Anticipation
 and Thanksgiving for 2023 Year Ending

Monday, January 1 Solemnity of Mary
 Parish Office CLOSED
 NO Bible Study

9:00 AM Holy Day Mass in Church

First Friday, January 5
 8:15 AM Mass followed by Adoration
 with Benediction at 10:00 AM in Church

First Saturday, January 6
 8:15 AM First Saturday Mass followed by Rosary,
 Meditation, and Devotional Prayers in Church

Sunday, January 7
 9:00 AM RCIA Class in Parish Center



Ring in the New Year-2024!

As the calendar flips to a new year, we have the chance to pause and reflect on our lives. The idea is not to get stuck on any past failures but rather, assess our past actions and set goals for the months ahead. Hope and renewal are essential themes as we step into the New Year. In our faith, we see each new year not just as a change in the calendar but as an opportunity for a fresh start, a time to renew our commitment to God and to grow in our spiritual walk.

I encourage each of us to make spiritual reading and daily prayer a priority in this New Year and as we continue on this journey of Eucharistic Revival, what better reading than on the Eucharist. We were blessed this past Advent with multiple copies of the book, *Beautiful Eucharist*, donated by a faithful and generous parishioner. If you haven't read it, please do so and then feel free to pass it on to someone else. I also remind you that we have a Spiritual Reading Library in the narthex so feel free to help yourself to these books as another way to enhance your spiritual life.

May our good and gracious God bless each one of us with good health and true happiness and peace that comes from God.

Fr. Peter

*Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation,
 be constant in prayer.*

Romans 12:12

Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.

Dec 31	Jan 1	Jan 2	Jan 3	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6
All Missionaries	Peter Helfrich	James Hewes	Alfred Hicks	Daniel Holland	Vocariors & Seminarrians	Bishop Salvatore Matano



Parish Office Holiday Hours

Parish Office is CLOSED
THIS Monday, January 1
 Office will re-open on Tuesday, January 2

Parish Council Meeting Minutes—December 4, 2023

Opening Prayer: Wayne Howard

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

Approval of Agenda: for tonight's Meeting (Emailed 12/3/2023) Approval: Gary Kern Second: Alan Christodaro

Approval of Meeting Minutes: from the November 16, 2023, Meeting (Not published in bulletin yet) Approval: Pam Kern Second: Alan Christodaro

Chairperson's Comments:

CMA UPDATE: Our Goal for this year is set at \$81,000, which is lower than last year. As of December 1, 2023

- # of Donors to date – 233
- \$\$ committed to date - \$66,874.
- Average per Donor - \$287
- % of Goal – 83%
- 7 less Donors than last year at this time
- \$\$ ahead of last year - \$14,126

Just in case you wanted to know, we reached our CMA goal last year of \$83,000 by March 28, 2023. We ended with 339 donors and an average donation of \$246.

St. John the Evangelist Parish FEAST DAY: Wednesday, December 27 is the Feast Day of St. John the Evangelist – Father would like to Celebrate that Day as Follows:

- 8:15 – Daily Mass Followed by Adoration until 11:45
- 11:45– Final Benediction
- 12:00 – Proceed to the Parish Center to view a 30 minute on the Eucharistic Miracle
- 12:35 – Soup and Sandwich Lunch provided by St. John's Sign-up for movie and lunch attendance will be required with a deadline of December 18. A request will be made for those interested in donating a crockpot of soup. (whether they be from the PPC or the general faith community). Details will appear in the December 10 Bulletin.

Food Collection Days: Father would like to have a FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY quarterly/every three months for the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf. We would need a point person and backup person to help organize this from planning the day of drop, set up the table(s) for the collection, Box all the donations and then Transport the donations to the Food Shelf. The more people that volunteer to organize and work on this the better it will be.

Fr. Peter 's Update: Father talked about the celebration of St. John the Evangelist's feast day on December 27. He said that this day means a lot to him, and he encourages all of us to spread the word and ask our fellow parishioners to attend. Father said he is very grateful to have such amazing parishioners that are so very generous when it comes to helping others less fortunate. Our last food collection for the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf was very successful and he hopes that we can get volunteers to continue with this quarterly.

Father is very pleased that our parish has a representative on each committee for the 7-parish task force. Father thanked Rick Paoletti, Paul Parkman, Nick Verdino, Gary Kern and Marianne Katz for all of their time and talent for this committee. Father said that with Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday, which is also the 4th Sunday of Advent, he hopes that people

will notice the time changes and come to Sunday Mass and Christmas Mass.

Father said he went to the Sisters of St. Joseph House today. Father Weis said to say hello to everyone at St. John's. Father said it is very nice to reconnect with Priests that have a history at St. John's and hearing their stories. Father asked that we keep the priests and the nuns in our prayers.

Arts and Environment: ADVENT GIVING TREE – The trees are up and ready. Returns to be in by Sunday Dec 17. Patty Hoag said that there were 210 Angels put on the trees the first weekend and all but 5 were chosen. Father asked her to add 30 more Angels for this weekend. This year we have ordered wooden doves that will be painted white. The doves will be put in the giving trees after the angels are gone to go with our theme of spirit and giving. We will be decorating for Christmas after the 9am Mass on Christmas Eve. The organizations we are supporting from our Angels are as follows: Daystar Kids, Focus Pregnancy, Friendship Center, Nazareth Elementary, House of Mercy, The Margaret Home, St. Michael's Woodshop, Mary's Place Refugee Outreach, Families in Need at St. John's, Mother Teresa Missionary Center at Holy Apostles.

Coffee Hour with Santa: On Sunday Dec 10 following the 10:00 am Mass. Karen said that the choir members all made donations for the gifts for the children. Cookie donations can be dropped off on Saturday, Dec 9 between 12-4 PM while the choir is setting up in the parish center.

Certificates of Appreciation: Sharon – There are 2 certificates in the works and 1 in consideration.

Liturgy Committee: Tod – Christmas Masses will be at 4 PM (youth choir) 10 PM (adult Choir) on Christmas Eve. 8 AM and 10 AM on Christmas Day. The Solemnity of Mary Masses will be at 6 PM on Dec 31 and 9 AM on January 1. We are looking ahead to start planning for Lent, it starts early this year on Feb 14. We will be live streaming the 4 PM and 10 PM Masses on Christmas Eve.

Pastoral Ministry/Homebound Outreach Update: Tod - I plan to get to all of our parishioners in the nursing homes before Christmas, and they will each receive a beautiful handmade angel that was donated by a generous parishioner.

Knights of Columbus Council 3892 Update: Rick - Our keep Christ in Christmas campaign started this week-end; it was a huge success with only 2 magnets that were not sold. The knights will hand out Holy Cards on December 31, the Feast of the Holy family and Father will lead us in prayer. We also donated 6 cases of coats to children in need last month.

Outreach – social media/Communications Committee Update:

Gary Kern -New Website: After our successful launch of the new St. John's Website on October 30 Gary said he is still tweaking and changing a few things.

Christine Paoletti via Cleveland– Facebook update. 595 likes and 791 followers

Paul Parkman – Paul talked about the feast of St. Nicholas which is on Dec 6.

Safety: Nick Sassano: No updates at this time.

Continued on page 6.

*Go Forth
With Christ*



2023/2024 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL
www.dior.org/cm20



As of Tuesday, December 19, 286 households have pledged \$78,515 taking us to 96.93% of our \$81,000 goal.

If you haven't given, this is a great time to do so as WE ARE SO CLOSE!

Being this close to

reaching our goal, it is our hope and prayer that through more pledges from those who have not yet done so, we can secure these last few percentage points and start this new year off on a great note!

Please fill out your envelope, be sure to make your check payable to: *CMA* and put 039-St John's—Greece in the check memo.

Anonymous
Mrs. Palma Anselm
Mr./Mrs. Rhett Asis
Mr./Mrs. Jeffrey B. Bielecki
Mrs. Debra Colby
Mr./Mrs. Bruce Davis
Mr./Mrs. Stephen Donato
Mrs. Angela A. Frank
Mr./Mrs. Robert P. Harradine
Mrs. Karin Harris
Mr. Wayne Howard
Mr./Mrs. Richard Jacobs
Mr./Mrs. Thomas F. Johnson
Mrs. Patricia Kastner
Mrs. Pauline Leger

Ms. Vicki Maher
Mr. William M. Maley
Mrs. MaryAnn Marciano
Mr./Mrs. Patrick McCann
Mr./Mrs. Douglas Miller
Mr./Mrs. Raphael Opida
Mr./Mrs. Roger Raeppel
Mr./Mrs. Bruce Ricigliano
Mr. David Stoll
Mr./Mrs. James Sufliita
Mr./Mrs. Nikolai Terpak
Ms. Annette Wiesner
Mr./Mrs. Robert Yare
Mr./Mrs. Dominick Zarcone

Next week's bulletin will have a complete listing of all those who have participated thus far in the 2023-24 campaign. If you have pledged and do not see your name, please contact the Parish Office so we can look into this. **MANY THANKS!**

Finance Council Meeting Agenda & Notes—June 28, 2023

Opening Prayer:

Attendance: Fr. Peter, Bob Skrypek, Mary Speer, Chris Frontale, Joe Spurrier, Jerry Dominik (via Zoom)

Excused: Mary Grace Paoletti

Purpose of Meeting:

Review and Approve Parish Budget for FY 2023-2024

Attendees each had a printed copy of the budget and 2-page Summary Narrative of major budget points.

Budget was unanimously approved by all attendees after thorough discussion of Revenue and Expense items and associated reasoning supporting the numbers.

Revenue:

– new budget reflects actuals from FY 2022-2023

- Our focus was on what is termed “regular collections”.
- Total budget for 3 main collections was reduced from \$495,000 to \$486,000, and weekly target amount reduced from \$9,706 to \$9,530.
- Decreased the total budget for combined Regular Collections and Electronic Giving because of reduced attendance at Masses.
- Increased the budget for Holy Days.
- Had some discussion of Capital Improvement and Boiler Fund budgets, both of which were increased – from zero budget in previous years.
- Reduced budgeted revenue from Funerals
- Increased budget for Giving Tree donations and revenue from annual Lenten Fish Fry (we share profits with the Knights of Columbus)

Expenses:

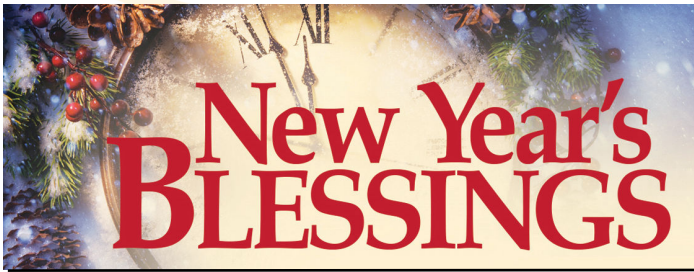
– focus will be on tracking and controlling because we have more control over expenses than we do over revenue.

- SJ share of the costs of the Central Business Office (CBO at St. Charles) has been increased due to our increased use of their services.
- PSIP Insurance – big jump of \$10,000 mainly due to impact of bankruptcy
- Snow Removal - expensive but vendor is best we could find and does a good job for us. Also we feel we can work with them on timing of salting runs to reduce this expense.
- Legal Fees – expect more next year explain due to lingering issues from Bankruptcy.
- Some discussion of including \$250,000 in budget for the repair of the Silo Roof; we decided to not include it for FY 2023-24 because it is not a currently active project.

Next Meeting – to be determined – but it should be in early September.

Closing Prayer





This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

- ✚ Tabernacle I Donal Wiley
- ✚ Tabernacle II Families
- ✚ Marian I Peace on Earth
- ✚ Marian II Our Catholic Church

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



December 16/17	ATTENDANCE.....	415
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,530.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$	7,203.16
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	2,317.00
TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,520.16
SHORTAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING....	(\$	9.84)

Fiscal Year 2023-24 as December 17, 2023

YEARLY BUDGET.....	\$	486,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$	238,250.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$	235,165.35
SHORTAGE TO-DATE.....	(\$	3,084.65)

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

Due to early bulletin deadlines for the upcoming Christmas Holidays, our December 23/24 and Christmas Mass attendance and contributions will be noted in NEXT Weekend's 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 4.

Open Forum/For the Good of the Parish: Nick Verdino spoke about the 7 parish task force. He explained that the task force has been gathering information about the population of the parishes, how many Deacons there are, and how many priests. There are 7 parishes and 7 priests, what happens if we only have 6 priests, what will happen then? There are 3 sub committees and St. John has a parishioner on each one. Rick Paoletti is on the Vocation committee, Marianne Katz and Dominic Zarcone are on the Evangelization committee and Gary Kern is on the Shared website committee. The 7-parish committee is the first of this kind in our diocese and we are trying to be proactive rather than reactive for our future. Patty Hoag said that the arts and



Our Christmas Poinsettias are Courtesy of the Following Donors

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF
Roberto & Annunziata Battisti	Pasquale & Giovanna Battisti
	Enrico & Anna Raponi
Mrs. Angela Borrelli & Family	Jack Borrelli
	James Borrelli
Diana Craddock	Joel Daniel Craddock
Debbie, Steve & Wayne Howard	Joseph & Lorraine Howard
Mr/Mrs Angelo Leonardis	Giuseppi & Filomena Coccitto
	Vincenzo & Damiana Leonardis
Edward & Yong Sun Mattson	Hubert J. Mattson
	Bernice Mattson
	Hubert D. Mattson
	Jhang Dai Sup
	Hwana Rae Yong
David & Lynda O'Connor	Joseph & Rose O'Connor
	John & Helen Monaghan
Barbara Parkhurst	William & Carmella Parkhurst
	Anne Angora
	Rose Indovina
Jean Ward	Jennie Marcoux
	Ken Ward
	Craig Ward
Elaine & Collin Zahn	Richard & Jeanette Clarke
	Mark Hubbel

environment committee has placed Jesse Tree's in the narthex, it is a lineage of Jesus ancestry. There is an ornament on the tree for each day in December until Christmas Day and each one has a scripture reading on it from Genesis. There is also a packet with the readings for the kids to take and work on at home. Karen said that while she was taking an angel off of the giving tree, 2 different parishioners said that they miss being able to shop for the person that they choose and asked if this may return in the future. Father said because Covid is still around this is the best way to donate at this time.

Closing Prayer: Wayne Howard

Next Meeting: 01/08/2024

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

Parish Pastoral Council Chair: Bob Gotham 227-4638

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 Office hours: Monday-Wednesday & Friday: 9-Noon and 1:30-5 PM; Thursday: 9-Noon

Fax: 585-723-9825

E-mail: gstjohnt@dor.org

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

Senior Home Communion Service Ministers January 2024

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

January 7, 2024 Steve & Mary Donato

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY

January 7, 2024 Tom Grieco

January 14, 2024 Bob & Barb Gotham

ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

January 7, 2024

Dan & Melissa Kabasin

January 14, 2024

Carolyn Kerhaert

January 21, 2024

Chris Hoefler

January 28, 2024

Dan & Melissa Kabasin