

St. John the Evangelist Greece

February 25, 2024

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 a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.
- Mk 9:7-8

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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

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| Dn 9:4b-10/ Ps 79:8-9, 11, 13/ Lk 6:36-38 | Is 1:10, 16-20/ Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23/ Mt 23:1-12 | Jer 18:18-20/ Ps 31:5-6, 14-16/ Mt 20:17-28 | Jer 17:5-10/ Ps 1:1-4, 6/ Lk 16:19-31 | Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/ Ps 105:16-21/ Mt 21:33-43, 45-46 | Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/ Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/ Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 | Ex 20:1-17 Ps 19:8-11/ 1 Cor 1:22-25/ Jn 2:13-25 |

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

www.roccatholicsnorthwest.org

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

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.

Bring Your Challenges and Struggles and Walk with Jesus to Calvary

We have all seen and experienced hardships that have touched us all at some level. The

annual observance of Lent is the special season for the ascent to the holy mountain of Easter. It's a call to renewal in fervent prayer.

The majority of human resentment clearly does not result in self-destruction or in the killing of another, but it certainly leads to death in goodwill, opportunities, cooperation, and relationships—just to name a few human interactions. And this is because we let these thoughts of failure and inadequacy—which again, are not from God!—convince us they are true.

So Lent is here once again.

Whether we come today with no idea of what we will do for Lent this year or whether we come with a clear plan, we have the opportunity to reflect and

think about what Jesus asks of us in the spiritual disciplines of *prayer, fasting and almsgiving*.



In the words of Pope Francis we too:

***Fast from hurting words
and say kind words.***

***Fast from sadness
and be filled with gratitude.***

***Fast from anger
and be filled with patience.***

***Fast from pessimism
and be filled with hope.***

***Fast from worries
and have trust in God.***

***Fast from complaints
and contemplate simplicity.***

***Fast from pressures
and be prayerful.***

***Fast from bitterness;
fill your heart with joy.***

***Fast from selfishness
and be compassionate.***

***Fast from grudges
and be reconciled.***

***Fast from words;
be silent and listen.***

Fasting is usually associated with food, but as Christians we are called to refrain from other things as well. Fasting from these those things that separate us from God our Father can draw us

closer to him and to others. We fast because when we deprive ourselves of something, we make more room for God and his grace which, in turn, helps us to grow in holiness and virtue.

Confident that the Lord will help us identify what specific-ally we should do this Lent, let us take a moment of quiet and listen to God's direction in the silence of our hearts. What we surround ourselves with does affect us and Lent is a good time to examine what that "surround sound" is. If we are not seeing or hearing enough truth, goodness and beauty in our days, this season of Lent is a good time to refocus our efforts.

Many Blessings on your Lenten Journey.

Rev. Peter Enyan-Boadu



Stations of the Cross

THIS Friday, March 1 at 5:30 PM

led by Confirmation followed by a Reflection from Father Peter.

Birthday Celebration

Someone has a Milestone Birthday on the Horizon...

And that would be our pastor, Father Peter. On March 6 he will be celebrating 70 years. More next week.

Masses for the Week—Feb 26—March 3

MONDAY, February 26 *Lenten Weekday*
 8:15 AM + **Madeline B. Resch**
 by Bequest

TUESDAY, February 27 *St Gregory of Narek*
 8:15 AM + **Bob Wunsch**
 by Carrie & Jessica Wunsch

WEDNESDAY, February 28 *Lenten Weekday*
 8:15 AM + **Anthony Evangelista**
 by George J. Faris

THURSDAY, February 29 *Lenten Weekday*
FIRST FRIDAY, March 1 *World Day of Prayer*
 8:15 AM + **Edith Salamone**
 by Neighbors
 10:00 AM *Benediction*

FIRST SATURDAY, March 2 *Lenten Weekday*
 8:15 AM *Fr Peter's Intentions*
 4:00 PM + **John Brohman**
 by Family

SUNDAY, March 3 *3rd Sunday of Lent*
 8:00 AM + **Connie Rucinski**
 by Family
 10:00 AM + **The People of St John's,**
Living & Deceased

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

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, February 25
 9:00 AM RCIA Class in Parish Center

Monday, February 26
 9:00 AM Bible Study
 2:30 PM Mass at Village at Unity
 6:30 PM Women's Fatima Prayer Ministry
 in Parish Center then Church

Wednesday, February 28
 Stations of the Cross following 8:15 AM Mass
 6:30 PM Parish Lenten Catechesis in the Parish Center

First Friday, March 1
 8:15 AM First Friday Mass followed by Adoration
 until 10:00 AM in Church
 10:00 AM Benediction in Church
 4:00-7:00 PM Fish Fry in Parish Center
 5:30 PM Stations of the Cross in Church

First Saturday, March 2
 8:15 AM First Saturday Mass followed by Rosary,
 Meditation, and Devotional Prayers in Church
 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry in Parish Center

Sunday, March 3
 9:00 AM RCIA Class in Parish Center
 10:00 AM RCIA Rite of First Scrutiny in Church

Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.

| Feb 25 | Feb 26 | Feb 27 | Feb 28 | Feb 29 | Mar 1 | Mar 2 |
|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Thomas Nellis | All Deacons | Timothy Niven | Symon Peter Ntaiya | Inactive & Sabbatical | Vocations & Seminarians | Bishop Salvatore Matano |



**Food Drive for the Greece Food Shelf
 Weekend of March 9/10**

The Greece Food Shelf feeds over 300 Greece residences each month. We are asking for donations of the following items. Look for containers in the Narthex.

- Regular size cans of vegetables, corn, green beans etc....
- Cream of Chicken Soup, Chunky Soups, Cans of Stews, Chili, Spaghetti O's
- Baked Beans and Canned Fruit
- In addition to the food items, small bottles of laundry detergent and liquid dish soap (Dollar Store size) are needed.

If you can help box and deliver the food to the Greece Food Shelf on the morning of March 11 please contact Pam Tofany-Kern at 585-227-6053 or email gakern85@gmail.com.



**Transform Us Lord
 in the Eucharist
 – A Lenten Catechesis**

Join me on a journey this Lenten season as we spend some time looking at the teachings of the Catholic Church as they pertain to the Most Precious Gift we, as Catholic Christians, have been given – *The Most Holy Eucharist*. All are invited, including practicing and non-practicing friends and family, as well as our non-Catholic brothers and sisters in Christ. Each presentation will have a video to watch and there will be time for discussion afterward. Please take this opportunity to open your heart to the heart of our faith as we come to a fuller understanding of the Real Presence and may fully and reverently embrace Jesus when receiving him in Holy Communion. Come and be transformed!

We will gather in the **Parish Center** from **6:30 PM until 8:00 PM THIS Wednesday, February 28**, followed by **Wednesday, March 6**, and **Wednesday, March 13**.

Blessings on your Lenten Journey,
Fr Peter

Lenten sacrifices can be valuable if they help increase our reliance on Jesus and if the void we create by giving something up opens up space in our hearts for God to fill.

Prepare for the Eucharistic

Fasting Before Communion

Canon Law is the code of laws that governs the Catholic Church. Here are the Canons surrounding fasting before receiving the Eucharist at Mass:

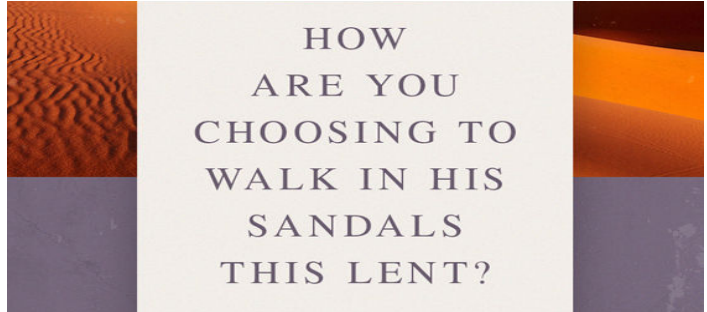
“Can. 919 §1. A person who is to receive the Most Holy Eucharist is to abstain for at least one hour before holy communion from any food and drink, except for only water and medicine.

§2. A priest who celebrates the Most Holy Eucharist two or three times on

the same day can take something before the second or third celebration even if there is less than one hour between them.

§3. The elderly, the infirm, and those who care for them can receive the Most Holy Eucharist even if they have eaten something within the preceding hour.”

This simple fast, and sacrifice we make helps us to hunger more deeply for Jesus, the Bread of Life!



St. John the Evangelist Church and Knights of Columbus Council 3892 invite you to our

Lenten Fish Fry

Eat-in or Take Out

Fridays during Lent (excluding Good Friday) continuing March 1, 4:00 - 7:00 PM

St. John’s Parish Center 2400 W. Ridge Rd.

FISH FRY Menu

Battered Fried \$14.00 Skinless Baked \$14.00

Fried Shrimp (7 Large Butterfly) \$14.00

Half portion of any of the above \$ 9.00

All above meals come with a roll and a choice of two of the following sides:

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| French Fries | Mashed Potatoes | Baked Potato |
| Salad | Cole Slaw | Onion Rings |

Cheese Pizza Slice \$ 2.00

Children 4 and under eat free!

(choice of mac & cheese or half slice of pizza)



Our Mass Book will open via telephone beginning Wednesday, March 13, 2024 for those who will like to schedule Masses during the months of May through August 2024. Please call the Parish Office at (585) 225-8980 on March 13 between 9:00 AM and Noon and 2:00 PM ‘til 4:30 PM. After March 13, you can call during regular office hours. We are not accepting scheduling requests before March 13. Each Mass stipend is \$10 and we will continue to follow the scheduling guidelines that have been in place. Those with Mass cards: any **Unscheduled Masses** will need to be scheduled before new Mass requests can be taken.

When Sacrifice Becomes Mundane

It seems to happen every year, like clockwork: we drag a bit, as we enter into the second week of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we feel a bit like soldiers banging our shields, rushing into battle. “We’re ready, God!” our hearts cry out. “Transform us through sacrifice! Your will be done!”

But by now, these Lenten resolutions are no longer novelties — they’ve joined the ranks of everyday inconveniences, which somehow are the hardest to bear. Because transformation, in real life, happens in inches, just as a battle is won slowly in the crash of one sword against another. It’s not always a dramatic thing, to the naked eye. It’s the perseverance in prayer despite weariness, or the continual denial of some pleasure even though there’s that nagging voice in our minds saying: *go ahead, God doesn’t really mind.*

It’s a week when we all need a shock to the system — and wouldn’t you know it, this Sunday God gives us a double-whammy of dramatic sacrificial scenes. We picture Abraham, who also cried “Ready!” when God called, never imagining what He would ask: the surrender of his long-awaited son. We see Christ himself transfigured, as God shows us what He is ready to give up for love of us.

We must remain committed, persevering daily in acknowledging that everything belongs to God. What we sacrifice, we simply give back to Him.

If God is for us, who can be against us? Can we still reply, “Ready!” when we hear the call of God?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPI



Share a Prayer

The following was submitted by someone who prays this prayer to start her day.

Lord Jesus, You are the highest authority, and there is no spiritual power above You. Therefore, I hide in You, as You are my safe shelter. I’m confident that in submitting to You, no evil will ever be able to conquer me. Therefore, in Your name, I trust You to send Your messengers and protect me wherever I go. *Amen.*

Parish Council Meeting Minutes—February 5, 2024

Opening Prayer: Patty Hoag

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

Approval of Agenda: for tonight's Meeting (Emailed 1/31/2024) Approval: Gary Kern Second: Sharon Miller

Approval of Meeting Minutes: from the 01/08/2024, Meeting in the January 21, 2024, bulletin

Approval: Wayne Howard Second: Alan Christodaro

Chairperson's Comments:

CMA UPDATE: Our Goal for this year is set at \$81,000, which is lower than last year. We have made our GOAL by January 1st!!!!!! Now we need to collect the outstanding \$6,375.48 which have until May to get PAID. We Did MARVELOUS!!!!!! Our average donation was \$263 compared to \$246 in the prior year.

Eucharistic Adoration proposal: I am working on the proposal for any modifications that may be needed to have the Daily Eucharistic Adoration available to the parishioners of St. John's. I have met with a Locksmith, and he is going to work up his proposal and it will take 1-2 weeks. Items being considered:

- Type of locking system – Keypad, swipe card or Fob
- Crowd control retractable belts – use to keep visitors within a confined area
- Install a motion-sensitive light above the tabernacle and at the entrance door
- Fix the trip hazard by the exit door
- Find two kneelers and two chairs to accommodate the visitors
- Concern about the natural trip hazard caused by the single step that leads to the Altar

I am concerned that this process may be more expensive than we thought and therefore it may have to be tabled. Every one of these safety and security issues (and there may be more) need to be addressed before we open up St. John's to Daily Eucharistic Adoration. After having a discussion with Father Peter and a walk through with all that needs to be addressed, Father Peter is coming up with OPTION #2 for Eucharistic Adoration here at St. John's.

Web Site Review: Before our New Website went live many of us were asked to review the site to make sure things were okay. I personally reviewed the Site and I forwarded my questions and thoughts on to Gary. However, the other day I was going thru the Web Site and found numerous SPELLING errors that should have been caught months ago. I am going to assign some work for everyone on the Council to review a specific section of the Website and review your section for Spelling errors, Grammatical errors, Errors in Dates, etc etc. Between today and our next meeting, each of you will have to send an email to Gary and copy Bob that you have reviewed "WHAT" section and the following errors were found, or that you found no errors. But each of you need to do your homework.

- Rick and Pam – "HOME"
- Melissa and Wayne – "ABOUT"
- Sharon and Jill – "MASS"
- Nick Verdino and Nick Sassano – "OUR FAITH"
- Tammy and Paul – "EVENTS and ACTIVITIES"
- Alan – "GIVING"
- Kathy – "MINISTRIES"
- Patty – "CONTACT"

Fr. Peter's Update: Father spoke about the safety concern of the proposed Eucharist adoration. Recently someone fell in church coming down from getting a poinsettia. What if someone were to fall in the church and no one else was around to assist them? He also said that we would have to have sensor lights installed, as the church is dark during the day. If this were to come to fruition it would take place until 4 PM when it starts to become dark. There are plans to have a specific day that will be dedicated to Eucharistic adoration that will be decided shortly. Paul asked if he could offer a couple of ideas regarding this issue. EWTN has live Eucharist Adoration every day, he suggested that Gary could add a link to our website. He also suggested that we have a leader that would reach out to parishioners to attend the first Friday Mass. Father said that the Lenten theme this year will be *Transform us Lord in the Eucharist*. There are plans for a meeting in April for the 7-parish task force to get together with their Parish and Finance council members.

Arts and Environment: Since we are leaning towards GIFTS for next years Angel tree. There was some concern that "FOCUS PREGNANCY" could really use monetary donations instead of gifts. However, Rick stated they could easily take gifts of diapers and formula.

FOOD COLLECTION DAYS: Pam is working to organize this. Pam has scheduled food collection day for the weekend of March 9/10 with transporting the donations on the Monday, March 11. The more people that volunteer to organize and work on this the better it will be. Pam said that she will see how the collection goes in March and then decide how often we will do the collection.

TASK FORCE: Nick Verdino said there is not a meeting this month. We will have a gathering of the task force members along with parish council members that will be held at one of the 7 churches (to be decided). Nick thanked Gary and Brendan for all of their hard work on the combined website. It has lots of information on it and it will be up and running soon. Things are moving along quickly and there will be more information in the coming months.

COFFEE HOUR for February: Is on Sunday, February 11 and is hosted by the Fatima Group. It would be nice to see the members of the Parish Council at the Coffee Hour even if your regular Sunday Mass is not the 8:00 or 10:00 AM. Let us show our support.

Certificates of Appreciation: Tod and Bob presented a certificate to Brenden Parker by who helped Gary with getting our new website up and running. There are 2 pending certificates.

Liturgy Committee: Tod said that he has covered all of the Fridays for Stations of the Cross. The Lenten retreat

Continued on page 6.



This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

† Tabernacle I **Steven McGuckin**

† Tabernacle II **Douglas Heh**

† Marian I **Connie Rucinski**

† Marian II **Connie Rucinski**

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



Due to an early bulletin deadline for President's Day, our Ash Wednesday and February 17/18 Mass attendance and contributions will be noted in the March 3 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.

Catholic Courier

During the month of March, we kindly ask you to make your Catholic Courier contribution using the pink envelope in your packet or by way of an online donation.

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.



SAVE THE DATES! ROC Catholics Northwest Lenten Retreat

At Our Mother of Sorrows Church, 5000 Mt Read Blvd.

"The Spirituality of Change: Being with Jesus"

- **Sunday, March 17** at 7:00 PM
- **Monday, March 18** at 1:00 PM and program repeated at 7:00 PM
- **Tuesday, March 19** at 1:00 PM and program repeated at 7:00 PM

Presenters: Damian Zynda, Michael Sauter, and Fr. Ed Palumbos

More information to follow.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES *Continued from page 5*

will be held March 17th-19th. The 7 parish Lenten Calendar was distributed at Mass this weekend and is already on our website.

Pastoral Ministry/Homebound Outreach Update: Tod said that the number of homebound parishioners has grown. There were 5 funerals in the month of January.

Knights of Columbus Council 3892: Update: Rick – We have filled the position of order taker for fish fries which will begin on Friday, February 16. February 12 Holy Hour at St. Charles at 7:00 PM and the 40 Days for Life starts on February 14 and we always are looking for more prayer vigil participants.

Outreach – Social Media/Communications Committee Update:

No update at this time.

Facebook update 595 likes and 776 followers.

Paul Parkman – Talked about the feast of St. Blaise whose feast day is February 3. St Blaise healed a child by removing a fish bone from his throat on his way to his death. Paul said that our parish is vibrant, and we should evangelize our brothers and sisters.

Safety: Nick Sassano said that we still need to be vigilant and report anything that is concerning.

Open Forum/For the Good of the Parish: – Paul thanked Rick for all of his efforts with the 40 days for life campaign. He asked that we please support this campaign as well, it is the least we can do for unborn children. Wayne said that the Eucharist Ministers need to close the choir loft door when they are done distributing communion. Someone also turned off the sound system and when he started singing, he was not aware that it was not on. Tod said he didn't think anyone would have done this but would look into it. Sharon Miller suggested that we send, in Council's name, a congratulation card to parents as new little ones are Baptized.

Closing Prayer: Patty Hoag

Next Meeting: 03/4/2024



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.**

Senior Home Communion Service Ministers February/March 2024

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| March 3, 2024 | Steve and Mary Ann Donato |
| March 17, 2024 | Ron LaForce |
| March 31, 2024 | Steve and Mary Ann Donato |

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| February 18, 2024 | Tom Grieco |
| March 3, 2024 | Bob and Barb Gotham |
| March 10, 2024 | Tom Grieco |
| March 17, 2024 | Bob and Barb Gotham |
| March 31, 2024 | Bob and Barb Gotham |

ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| February 25, 2024 | Dan & Melissa Kabasin |
| March 3, 2024 | Chris Hoefler |
| March 10, 2024 | Carolyn Kerhaert |
| March 17, 2024 | Dan & Melissa Kabasin |
| March 24, 2024 | Chris Hoefler |
| March 31, 2024 | Dan & Melissa Kabasin |

