

St. John the Evangelist Greece

January 15, 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.



"Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God." - Jn 1:34

The Baptism of the Lord

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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
Heb 5:1-10/
Ps 110:1- 4/
Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday
Heb 6:10-20/
Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10/
Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday
Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/
Ps 110:1- 4/
Mk 3:1-6

Thursday
Heb 7:25—8:6/
Ps 40:7-10, 17/
Mk 3:7-12

Friday
Heb 8:6-13/
Ps 85:8, 10-14/
Mk 3:13-19

Saturday
Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/
Ps 47:2-3, 6-9/
Mk 3:20-21

Sunday
Is 8:23—9:3/
Ps 27:1,4, 13-14/
1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/
Mt 4:12-23

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

Welcome!

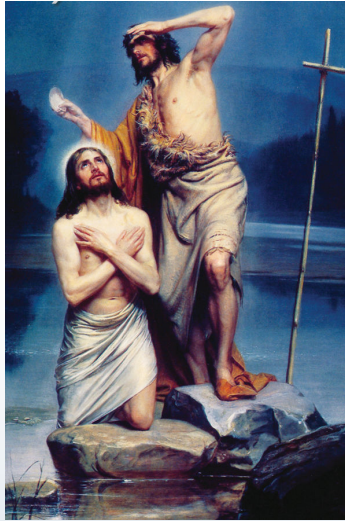
If you are new in the parish, we invite you to become a member of our faith community where we come together to worship the Lord and celebrate the Eucharist. We want to get to know you so if you will please introduce yourself after Mass, we will be grateful. Please know that your prayers, your presence, 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.

Baptism of the Lord: The Spirit Descended

I know of a deacon who liked to conduct the interviews of parents whose children were about to be baptized. During the interviews, he asked the parents to describe what would happen to their child through baptism. He would receive various answers. Some parents spoke about cleansing from original sin. Others spoke about their child being welcomed into the Church. These were all correct answers, but what the deacon was really longing and hoping to hear one of the parents say was that their child would receive the HOLY SPIRIT. The gospel passage we hear today for the Baptism of the Lord speaks of heaven opening and the Holy Spirit descending upon Jesus like a dove.

We often associate the coming of the Holy Spirit with Pentecost and the Sacrament of Confirmation, but the Holy Spirit first descended upon us the day of our baptism so that we could go forth to be Christian witnesses in the world. It is correct to say that our Baptism cleansed us of original sin and made us members of the Church. But after we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, we are called to go forth from our parishes and bring the good news of Jesus into the world.

The Holy Spirit, whether we know it or not, has been with us since our Baptism, and wants to make a difference in



our lives. This simple truth of our faith can fill us with great confidence. There may be ominous threats in the world, to our faith in God. We may face struggles and temptations of the evil one. We may have to battle the annoyances of our own shortcomings in the faith as well as our sinful tendencies. But no matter what challenge is set before us we do not ever have to be afraid because we belong to God. His Holy Spirit has conquered all. How? By the Holy Spirit, God wants to help us navigate the murky or tumultuous water we face every day. The same Holy Spirit who reveals Jesus to us today can also un-mask those spirits that want to turn us away from Jesus.

Remember the words: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased." Matthew 3:17. Let us start experimenting today. In our prayer, let us ask the Holy Spirit to open our eyes to God's ways in the world. Then let us follow His guidance in the choices we make. We will find that the more we listen, the easier it gets to hear! Let us in this year of 2023 try to find a good book that explains the Catholic faith and learn to know the treasure of the faith we share.



May we all be blessed this New Year of 2023 by God's grace. Peace and Love to all,

Father Peter



Martin Luther King Jr Day

Monday, January 16

Parish Office is CLOSED

The office will re-open on Tuesday, January 17 at 9:00 AM.

HOLY HOUR for

Life



Thursday, January 19, 7:00 PM Mass

Sacred Heart Cathedral, 296 Flower City Pk, Rochester, NY 14615

In solidarity with bishops around the country, Bishop Matano will preside at the Holy Hour for Life as a part of the nationwide observance of the Vigil for Life during January 19-20. Please join us at 7:00 PM

Masses for the Week—January 16—22

- MONDAY, January 16** *Weekday*
8:15 AM + *Joseph Pellman*
by Jim & Trudy
- TUESDAY, January 17** *St Anthony*
8:15 AM + *Lori Monge*
by Dan & Melissa Kabasin
- WEDNESDAY, January 18** *Weekday*
8:15 AM + *James Zarud, Jr.*
by The Nichols Family
- THURSDAY, January 19** *Weekday*
- FRIDAY, January 20** *Sts Fabian & Sebastian*
8:15 AM + *Tia Torregrossa*
by John Mammano Marshall
- SATURDAY, January 21** *St Agnes*
4:00 PM + *For the People*
- SUNDAY, January 22** *3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00 AM + *Beverly Volkmar*
by St John's Women's Guild
10:00 AM + *Fr Ventura*
by Jean & Tom

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

This Week's Schedule

Monday, Jan 16 Martin Luther King Jr Day
Parish Office CLOSED
NO Bible Study



A special gathering was held recently at Our Mother of Sorrows Church with some of my brother priests of our diocese, together with a group of 12 young men in our Diocese of Rochester who are inquiring about the possibility of becoming a priest, therefore, discerning a possible call from God to the priesthood. How wonderful is this gift! It was an honor for me to be in attendance especially with one of our own St. John's parishioners being one of the discerners. I take this

opportunity not only to share this great news, but to also ask for everyone's daily prayers to include these young men and their families. I offer the following prayer for you to include in your daily prayers. This prayer was shared in the Order of Service from Fr. Kevin Murphy's recent Mass of Christian Burial. As stated by Fr. Bob Schrader, "We always wonder, who will replace all these who are passing?" - Gratefully, Fr Peter

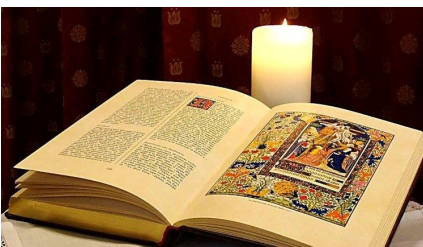
Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, Lord of the harvest, call forth vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life from our parishes. Inspire men to imitate Jesus Christ the Eternal High Priest in sacrificial service to Your Church, especially our Diocese of Rochester. Move the hearts of men and women to offer themselves wholly to You in poverty, chastity, and obedience. Send them as laborers for Your harvest. Inspire the faithful to support them with prayer and sacrifice. Raise up holy families who foster openness to Your call. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

"God is alive, and he needs people to serve him and bring him to others.

It does make sense to become a priest: the world needs priests, pastors, today, tomorrow and always, until the end of time."

- Pope Benedict XVI, Letter to seminarians, Oct. 18, 2010



Sunday of the Word of God

In 2019, Pope Francis established the *Sunday of the Word of God* to be celebrated each year on the Third Sunday

in Ordinary Time. As the Holy Father stated in his apostolic letter instituting the observance, "Devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the word of God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world" *Aperuit illis*, no. 2

NEXT Weekend, January 22/23, 2023, in observance of the *Sunday of the Word of God*, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, through a grant from the American Bible Society, will offer a "Sunday Seminar Series" of five videos about Sacred Scripture in the life of the Church. These videos, available in English and Spanish, will feature some of the most renowned biblical scholars in the United States and will be accompanied by discussion/reflection questions and suggestions for further reading.

The videos will be made available on January 22, 2023 at: <https://catholic.bible/sunday-of-the-word-of-god/>

Sunday, January 15 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**First Reading** Is 49:3, 5-6

The LORD said to me: You are my servant, Israel, through whom I show my glory. Now the LORD has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb, that Jacob may be brought back to him and Israel gathered to him; and I am made glorious in the sight of the LORD, and my God is now my strength! It is too little, the LORD says, for you to be my servant, to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and restore the survivors of Israel; I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

I have waited, waited for the LORD,
and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.
And he put a new song into my mouth, a hymn to our God.

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

Sacrifice or offering you wished not,
but ears open to obedience you gave me.
Holocausts or sin-offerings you sought not;
then said I, "Behold I come."

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

"In the written scroll it is prescribed for me,
to do your will, O my God, is my delight,
and your law is within my heart!"

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

I announced your justice in the vast assembly;
I did not restrain my lips, as you, O LORD, know.

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

**Second Reading** 1 Cor 1:1-3

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, to the church of God that is in Corinth, to you who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be holy, with all those everywhere who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia Jn 1:14a, 12a

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.
To those who accepted him,
he gave power to become children of God.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Gospel** Jn 1:29-34

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.' I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel."

John testified further, saying,

"I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God."

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 from You. Amen.

St. John the Evangelist, Greece

Finance Council Meeting Agenda & Notes—December 14, 2022, 5:00 PM

Attendees: Fr Peter, Bob Skrypek, Chris Frontale, Joe Spurrier, Jerry Dominik. Mary Grace Paoletti, Tod Simone

Excused: Mary Speer

Notes drafted by Joe Spurrier

Opening Prayer

Review and Approve Meeting Agenda - approved and seconded

Review October 2022 YTD

Financial Statements (distributed at the meeting)

Chris distributed:

- Balance Sheet as of 10/31/22 (including a comparison to 2021}
- Statement of Revenue and Expenditures from 7/1/22 through 10/31/2022 (4 months) also including results from 2021.
- Group discussed various line items on the Revenue and Expenditures Report. The focus was on understanding some of the individual General Ledger items aggregated within some Account Groupings and their associated balances.
- The focus on the line item for School Assessment was about how the Diocese calculated our Quarterly Payment. Answer - *It is based on 3 year average of "regular" collections of which a % is applied.* Chris verified that the amount charged St. Johns is in line with our collections.
- AGREED: Bob Skrypek volunteered to present the Summary Financial Results for the full Fiscal Year 2021-2022 to each Mass on the weekend of January 14/15 2023. By that time, the one-page Financial Summary of that Fiscal Year will have been published in the Bulletin.

Review Communis Accounts

- Good discussion centered on Investment Strategy used by the Fund Managers and how the returns achieved on the Communis Funds tracked against the General Benchmarks such as S&P, etc...
- Communis invests in a mix of Equities and Bonds as do other Balanced Funds but with a very long-term horizon.

Statement on Governor Hochul Signing Legislation Permitting Human Composting

Following is a statement of Dennis Poust, executive director of the NYS Catholic Conference: “Throughout human history and in every culture, the disposition of human remains has followed a variety of rituals, but always involving interment or cremation. The process of composting is associated with the sustainable disposition of organic household or agricultural waste to be repurposed as fertilizer for gardens or crops. But human bodies are not household waste; they are vessels of the soul. Therefore, the Bishops of New York State do not believe the process meets the standard of reverent treatment of earthly remains.

“In the Catholic Church, preference remains for the burial of the body, with cremation and burial of the ashes as an acceptable and increasingly popular alternative. Just as Church teaching prohibits the scattering or dividing of cremated remains, it would not permit the spreading of composted human remains co-mingled with other organic matter to fertilize a garden.

“Given this fact, the bishops regret that Gov. Hochul has signed this legislation. For Catholics who share concerns regarding care for the environment, numerous Catholic and other cemeteries in New York offer green burial areas that do not involve embalming, concrete vaults or traditional coffins. As noted, cremation and burial of the ashes is also a legitimate option for faithful Catholics.” The Catholic Conference represents the Bishops of New York State in public policy matters. 518.434.6195 www.nyscatholic.org

Collection & Attendance

-brief comments; no discussion

Catholic Ministries Appeal Update

-St John's Target is \$83,000; progress is being made.

Buildings & Grounds Update - Roofing Project

- We received an estimate from Elmer Davis Roofing to replace the Skylight over the Altar. The estimate came from one of their glass subcontractors. The amount was too high for us to consider moving ahead with the job.
- Elmer Davis was the firm that did repairs over the summer which have proved successful.
- We can't consider it but know that we must explore options,
- No doubt we will have to bring in Engineers and Architects
- Options:
 1. Call Labella (local) who has done work on Diocesan properties
 2. Consider others such as Le Chase and firms who worked on St Michael's Church
 3. Fr Peter has a book of firms that have dealt with projects in NYC; + reach out to Brockport and Pittsburgh
 4. Mike Burgess may know of someone in the Syracuse area

Audit Update

- Auditors have issued a list of "Findings" in the areas of collection, counting, vendor insurance coverage
- We will be responding before the end of December

Executive Session: Bankruptcy Update:

The St. John's Finance council reviewed recent article in the Catholic Courier {page 4} written by Karen Franz.

The Finance Council concludes that the Article speaks for itself.

Other Business or Comments - None

Closing Prayer



Mary Tartaglia, *Mother of Antoinette Jeerings*
 Juliette Barsed, *Parishioner*
 Daniel Englert, *Son of Gene and Diane Englert*



This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

- † Tabernacle I **Joseph Konopelski**
- † Tabernacle II **Leonard Katz**
- ‡ Marian I **Edward & Eva Bridgeman**
- ‡ Marian II **Wendi Miller**

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



Dec 31/January 1	ATTENDANCE.....	385
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,706.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$	9,109.00
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	1,275.00
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TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$	10,384.00
OVERAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING.....	\$	678.00

Solemnity of Mary Offering

Solemnity Offering.....	\$	1,481.00
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	0.00
<hr/>		
TOTAL Solemnity of Mary Offering.....	\$	1,481.00

January 7/8	ATTENDANCE.....	441
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,706.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$	7,126.64
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	2,471.00
<hr/>		
TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,597.64
SHORTAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING.....	(\$	108.36)

Fiscal Year 2022-23 as of January 8, 2023

YEARLY BUDGET	\$	495,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$	271,768.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$	264,712.47
<hr/>		
SHORTAGE TO DATE.....	(\$	7,055.53)

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



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



Victims of sexual abuse should always report to the Civil authorities. To receive help and guidance from The Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester, contact our Victim Assistance Coor:

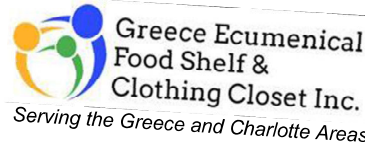
Deborah A. Housel, 585-328-7177, x1555; Toll-free: 1-800-388-7177, x1555 or by e-mail to victimassistance@dor.org



Baptismal Blessings

On Saturday, December 31, 2022, **Zachary Michael Bilinski** received the Sacrament of Baptism from Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu. We welcome Zachary into the Catholic Church and it is our prayer that this time of grace will fortify his journey of faith, together with his parents and godparents.

"Let the children come to me, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 10: 14



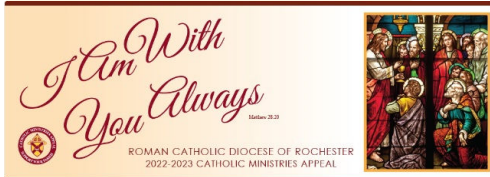
December 19, 2022

Dear members of the Church of St John the Evangelist, The Board Members of the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf & Clothing Closet Inc. thank the congregation at the Church of St John the Evangelist for both the monetary donation of \$671 and the 284 lbs. of food donated in November. We are very grateful for your **continued** support to our organization. The people in need in our community certainly benefit from your contributions.

I would like to share our November statistics with you so you will know that we truly thank you for your support. In November 2022, the GEFS served 251 households and a total of 697 people. That is a 28% increase from November 2021! In addition, the Clothing Closet served 80 households in November 2022 versus 72 in 2021.

This contribution will be used to purchase food to help us with our mission to feed and clothe the residents of our community.

Sincerely,
 Chris Pucher, *Assistant Treasurer*



Thank you to all who have pledged their support!

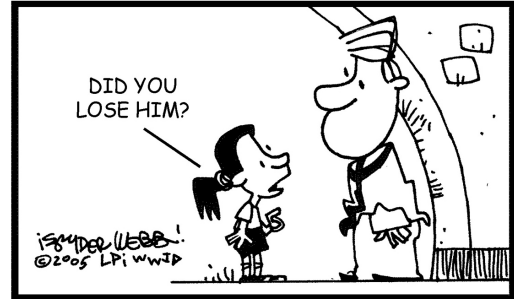
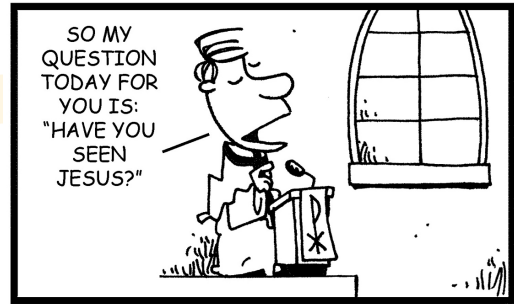
As of Tuesday, January 10, 311

households have pledged \$72,184.75 taking us to 86.97% of our \$83,000 goal.

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.

As furnished by the Diocese of Rochester on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, these are the latest additions to the listing of St. John the Evangelist CMA Donors.

- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Mr./Mrs. Frederick Castania
- Mr. Shawn A. Fischer
- Ms. Annette Wiesner



Senior Home Communion Service Ministers, January 2023

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

January 22, 2023 Ron LaForce

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY

January 15, 2023 Bob And Barb Gotham

ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

January 15, 2023 Carolyn Kerhaert
 January 22, 2023 Chris Hoefler
 January 29, 2023 Dan & Melissa Kabasin