

# St. John the Evangelist Greece

January 21, 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.*



He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him. - Mk 1:19-20

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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](mailto: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](mailto:gstjohnt@dor.org)

Visit [www.StJohnGreece.org](http://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

2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/  
Ps 89:20-22, 25-26/  
Mk 3:22-30

### Tuesday

2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/  
Ps 24:7- 10/  
Mk 3:31-35

### Wednesday

2 Sm 7:4-17/  
Ps 89:4-5, 27-30/  
Mk 4:1-20

### Thursday

Acts 22:3-16  
Ps 117:1bc, 2/  
Mk 16:15-18

### Friday

2 Tm 1:1-8  
Ps 96:1-3, 7-8a, 10/  
Mk 4:26-34

### Saturday

2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/  
Ps 51:12-17/  
Mk 4:35-41

### Sunday

Dt 18:15-20/  
Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/  
1 Cor 7:32-35/  
Mk 1:21-28

## 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.

### Making Changes in Our Lives in Order to Please God

Many people like a good story, especially a story filled with imagery and action. A good story is one to which people can relate and one they can clearly understand. The best story, however, is one that gives people a lesson they can apply to their lives. If we tell ourselves, I think I can, I think I can, Jesus will be there to help us overcome any obstacles we may face and help us move along on the fast track to eternal life.

One of the most futile enterprises anyone can undertake is to please everybody. The only person we should try to please is God. Politicians are sometimes accused of finding out what people want them to say before they speak. Few people deliberately choose to offend others; most people want to be liked and appreciated.

While most of us want to be liked, there comes a time when swimming upstream against the prevailing current is the only way our conscience will let us go. Parents teach their children not to be swayed by peer pressure but ask them to do what they know is right in their hearts. More seriously, we adults should take a good look at all our habits and our business and political decisions. In our work today, how do our choices align with the social teachings of the Gospel and the Church?

GO OUT  
AND  
SPREAD  
THE  
GOOD  
NEWS

Jesus came to bring "glad tidings to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, recovery of sight to the blind, and release to prisoners." These ideas were not welcomed by the influential people of His town and of His day; neither are they today in our time. Where did Jesus come up with such social plans? How comfortable have we become with God's law?

The Lord repeatedly challenges our worldly opinions and attitudes and we find them when we walk in the shoes of the aged, the abandoned and the

forgotten. These people, we have them in all aspects of our lives. Do we have faith enough to risk making some changes in our lives in order to please God? How many times do we miss God's blessings because they are not packaged in the way we would expect them? When was the last time you shared with other people what Christ has done for you? If we want the Good News of salvation to spread, then we must be like those before us and be unafraid to share it with others. Tell the stories, share the pain and joy, help build up God's kingdom here on earth through our positive attitude in what Jesus has done for us. Let us pray that the Spirit of Jesus will be in our hearts at all times so that nothing can ever separate us from the love of God and neighbor.



*Peace and love to all.*

Rev. Peter Enyan-Boadu



**Masses for the Week—January 22—28**

**MONDAY, January 22**  
*Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children*  
**8:15 AM + James J. Fleming**  
 by Wife, Joan  
**2:30 PM Mass at Village at Unity**

**TUESDAY, January 23** *Sts Vincent & Marianne Cope*  
**8:15 AM + Bruno, Vincenza, & Salvatore Ragonese**  
 by Bruna

**WEDNESDAY, January 24** *St Francis de Sales*  
**8:15 AM + Deceased Members of the Drdul Family**  
 by John Drdul

**THURSDAY, Jan 25** *Conversion of St Paul, Apostle*

**FRIDAY, January 26** *Sts Timothy & Titus*  
**8:15 AM + Connie Rucinski**  
 by Family

**SATURDAY, January 27** *St Angela Merici*  
**4:00 PM + The People of St John’s, Living & Deceased**

**SUNDAY, January 28** *4th Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
**8:00 AM + John McTammany**  
 by Norman & Veronica Cetnar  
**10:00 AM + Deceased Members of St John’s Choir**  
 by Judy Weiser

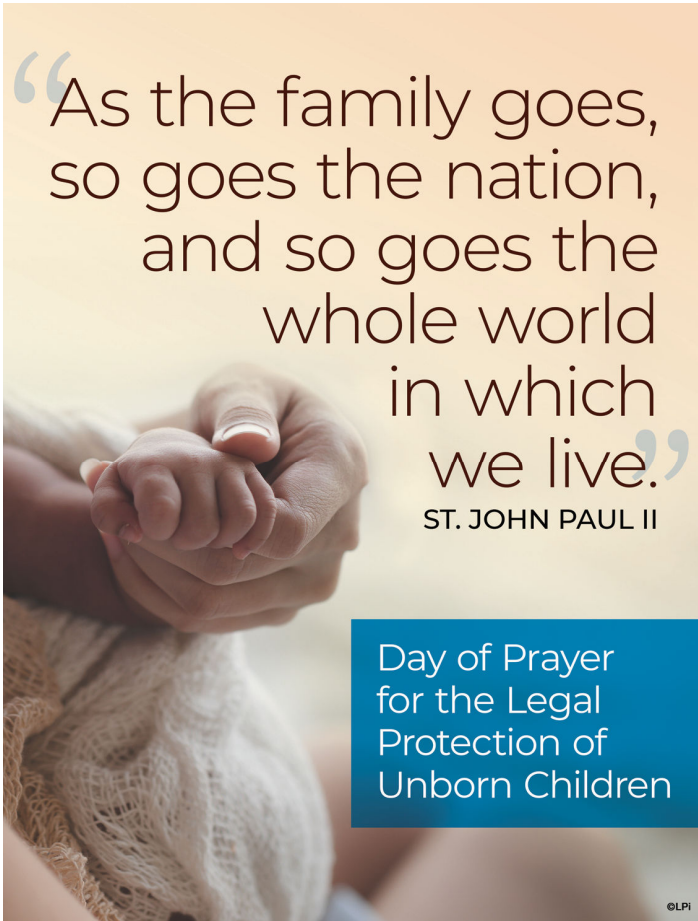
**Wills/Bequests/Memorials—  
 Please Remember St. John the Evangelist Parish**

**This Week’s Schedule**

**Sunday, January 21**  
**9:00 AM** RCIA Class in Parish Center  
**11:00 AM** Confirmation Class in Meeting Room

**Monday, January 22**  
**9:00 AM** Bible Study in Parish Center  
**2:30 PM** Mass at Village at Unity  
**6:30 PM** Women’s Fatima Prayer Ministry  
 in Parish Center then Church

**Sunday, January 28**  
**9:00 AM** RCIA Class in Parish Center



“As the family goes,  
 so goes the nation,  
 and so goes the  
 whole world  
 in which  
 we live.”  
 ST. JOHN PAUL II

Day of Prayer  
 for the Legal  
 Protection of  
 Unborn Children

**Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.**

Jan 21	Jan 22	Jan 23	Jan 24	Jan 25	Jan 26	Jan 27
William Laird	Steven Lape	Charles Latus	James Lawlor	All Missionaries	William Leone	Steven Lewis

**Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children**

Pope Francis has said that respect for life is not just about the unborn child in the womb, but also about the least of our brothers and sisters. Yes, it is even upon the undocumented resident alien who has no voice but ours. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are all called to protect the voiceless.

*Let us pray...*  
 Good and gracious God, you blew into our nostrils the breath of life. You are the One to whom we owe our very existence. Give us the courage to take that unpopular position of protecting those who have no voice, the unborn child in the womb to the person taking his or her last breath.  
 The life you have given us is a gift beyond measure. Embolden us to speak the truth about protecting the child, the elderly, and the one without a voice in the public square.  
 With thankful hearts, we ask all this of the One God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
 Amen.

## Go Forth With Christ



2023/2024 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL  
www.dor.org/cma



**For all who made a pledge/donation, we are very grateful for your support of this year's campaign and helping us attain our parish goal!**

Our most recent CMA donors are:

Mr./Mrs. Fred Castania

*If you have contributed and your name did not appear in last weekend's bulletin, please contact the parish office at 225-8980.*

### Knights in Action and Helping our Parish



Did you know that our Knights of Columbus Council 3892 helps support St. John the Evangelist Church through the various activities the Council leads? Well they do and we'd like to share with you how they have done so.

I will start with the "delicious" **Fish Fry** since this is coming our way again soon. This is very popular not only within our parish community but in the surrounding community as well. The Fish Fry is a joint venture with the Knights leading the way and St. John's volunteers stepping up to bring this together so nicely. Last year, in 2023, the net profit for St. John's was \$3,908.05 along with \$782.61 provided for Utilities. This year's Fish Frys will be getting underway before too long; look for more info in the next couple of bulletins.

The annual **Chicken BBQ** is run by the Knights and in 2023 they donated \$200.00 to St. John's.

You're probably familiar with the Knights of Columbus selling **C&B (Charity & Benevolent) tickets** before and after weekend Masses a couple of times a year here at St. John's. Based on ticket sales here in 2023, they presented us with a \$288 check. Thanks to those of you who purchased tickets.

The Catholic Church is blessed to have the support of the Knights of Columbus and at the parish level, namely, here at our beloved St. John's, we are **very grateful** for Council 3892 and all they do not only with fundraising efforts but the spiritual support they offer as well. Council 3892 consists of members from the parishes of St. John's, St. Charles, and Our Mother of Sorrows.

*Vivat Jesus,*

*Fr. Peter*

Dear Parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Church, Greece, NY

As your Pastor, I take this opportunity so early in this New Year to extend to each of you the fantastic news that we have successfully reached our parish CMA goal! What a tremendous effort on our part to have brought this to fruition not only in record time for our parish but amidst the challenging times we are all facing. This is indeed awesome news for me to report and for each of us to receive. Please know of my sincere gratitude to each household taking part in this 2023-24 campaign—I am deeply grateful for the generosity of the people of this parish and even those from outside of our parish who supported our parish campaign this year.

May our good and gracious God reward you for your kindness and generosity and bless you and your family abundantly throughout the year.

**Go Forth with Christ,**

*Fr. Peter*

P.S. I also share the following that I recently received from Bishop Matano...



**OFFICE OF THE BISHOP**

1150 Buffalo Road  
Rochester, New York 14624  
(585) 328-3210

Reverend and dear Father Peter Enyan-Boadu and devoted Parishioners:

I write to express my sincere gratitude for exceeding your assigned goal in contributions and pledges for the 2023-2024 *Catholic Ministries Appeal* (CMA), bearing the theme **Go Forth With Christ**.

Through your exemplary leadership in this important *Appeal*, you have demonstrated your commitment to supporting the mission of our Diocese, to love God above all things, and to serve our neighbors in need, in imitation of Jesus, our Good Shepherd.

I pray that Our Lord will continue to bless your parish family. Be assured of my prayers for you, and please, in your kindness, remember me in your good prayers.

Renewing my sincere gratitude, I remain

Devotedly yours in Christ,

*+ Salvatore R. Matano*

*The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano  
Bishop of Rochester*

*Congratulations upon this fine accomplishment!  
May you have a blessed New Year.*

The Reverend Father Peter Enyan-Boadu  
Saint John the Evangelist Church  
2400 West Ridge Road  
Rochester, New York 14626-3043

## Parish Council Meeting Minutes—January 8, 2024

Jill Bailey, Melissa Ryan, Wayne Howard, Sharon Miller, Karen Bessette, Patty Hoag, Nick Verdino, Nick Sassano, *Absent:* Tammy Mahar *Excused:* Deacon Elmer, Alan Christodaro, Kathy Christodaro *Visitors:* Mary Martha Ryan

**Approval of Agenda:** for tonight's Meeting (Emailed 12/29/2023) Approval: Gary Kern, Second: Patty Hoag

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** from the 12/4/23, Meeting in the December 31, 2023, bulletin Approval: Karen Bessette Second: Wayne Howard

### Chairperson's Comments:

**CMA UPDATE:** Our Goal for this year is set at \$81,000, which is lower than last year.

As of January 5, 2024

- # of Donors to date – 307
- \$\$ committed to date - \$81,327.
- Average per Donor - \$264.91
- % of Goal – 100.40%
- 4 less Donors than last year at this time
- \$\$ ahead of last year - \$9,142.25
- We have made our Goal!!!! We reached our goal by January 1st this year with an average donation of \$264.

We reached our CMA goal last year (2022-2023) of \$83,000 by March 28th, 2023. We ended with 339 donors and an average donation of \$246.

**St. John the Evangelist Parish FEAST DAY:** The Mass, Benediction, Adoration, Movie, Discussion, and luncheon, all were handled very nicely. There were 33 parishioners that attended the feast day.

**FOOD COLLECTION DAYS:** Pam has been working on organizing a plan for the food collections to support the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf. It was decided at the meeting that the collection will take place every other month. Pam will reach out to some of the parishioners that have trucks that may be able to help with transporting the food on the Monday after the collection. Gary stopped at the food shelf, and they will have boxes for us to use to collect the food. Father thanked Pam for organizing this very important need in our community.

### Fr. Peter 's Update:

- Father thanked Patty and the arts and environment committee for all of their efforts during the advent season and for the beautiful decorations in our church. He also thanked the Music Ministry for the beautiful music, and all of his staff.
- Father said that two weeks ago at the 10 AM Mass the RCIA candidates were introduced. He plans on supporting them with their classes.
- Bob let Father know that some of the parishioners were not happy that the readings will no longer be in the bulletin. Father explained that the cost for the copyright for the readings is \$5000.00. This is something that the diocese did during covid, but it is no longer necessary because the readings are in the Missalettes that can be found in our pews.
- Father said that Lent is coming very quickly. Ash Wednesday is on Valentine's Day this year. The Masses will be at 7 AM, 12:05 PM and 6 PM. The 7-parish retreat

- will be held on March 17th, 18th and 19th. We are still trying to decide on a date for the St. Joseph's table. Father said he would like to show the movie that was shown at the St John the Evangelist Feast luncheon one day during lent. He would like parishioners to get outside of their comfort zone and do something here that they can take home with them that they learned, pray about it during lent and take our faith seriously. We need to have the ability to grow our faith, it is so important to know how important our faith is.
- Mary Martha asked if she could attend the meeting and talk about a proposal she had for our parish. Father asked Mary Martha to speak about it. Mary Martha told us that her son's church in Ohio has had someone in their church praying every hour of every day since October 1st. Mary Martha said that we need to get into church and sit and feel Jesus, he needs to be in our lives. Mary Martha said that her son's parish had a sign up for those who were interested in this. There was a keypad installed at the church and only those that had signed up were given the code to go into the church. Mary Martha asked if this was something we could propose to do at our church. There was a lot of talk and concern from the council regarding the safety of someone sitting in church by themselves. There was some discussion about doing this during business hours only and parishioners that signed up could sign out a key to the church from the parish office and let themselves in and then return the key when they were finished. Paul said that good things happen at a parish when you have a Eucharist Adoration like this and he feels as though it would be a blessing for our parish. Father said the Council would consider and discuss further and that Mary Martha should pursue gathering more information concerning the questions asked. Mary Martha will need to do the groundwork to make this happen.

**Arts and Environment:** The Giving Tree Total was \$10,687. There were 240 Angels on the trees and all 240 were returned. Patty said that next year we will be going back to buying gifts for the recipients. Daystar Kids \$960, Focus Pregnancy \$1,605, Friendship Center \$1,105, Nazareth Elementary \$1,660, House of Mercy \$1,105, The Margaret Home \$1,000, St. Michael's Woodshop \$660, Mary's Place Refugee Outreach \$842, Families in Need at St. John's \$450, Mother Teresa Missionary Center at Holy Apostles \$1,300.

**COFFEE HOUR WITH SANTA:** On Sunday December 10th following the 10:00 AM Mass. – The Choir Ministry hosted the Coffee Hour with Santa. It was well attended and there were many smiling faces in the Parish Center. There were 25 children that visited Santa.

**Certificates of Appreciation:** Sharon said that there are 2 certificates ready to be presented and another in the works. There were 3 recommendations for people that have already received a certificate. Sharon said this shows that the people that volunteer their time continue to be noticed and this illustrates that recipients, volunteer and contribute in multiple and different services/ministries for the Parish.

**Liturgy Committee:** The Feast of St Blaise and the blessing of the throats will be the weekend of Feb 2nd and 3rd. Tod said that he will ask 6 ministries to choose a Friday



Ellen Smith *Mother of Glenn Smith*



*This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for*

- ✝ Tabernacle I **The Unborn**
- ✝ Tabernacle II **The Newly Baptized**
- ✝ Marian I **Connie Rucinski**
- ✝ Marian II **Rose Marie Skrypek**

## BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



Due to an early bulletin deadline for the Martin Luther King Jr Holiday, our January 13/14 Mass attendance and contributions will be noted in the January 27/28 bulletin.

*Thank you!*

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

**NOTE:** If not already received, you will soon be receiving your 2023 End of Year Tax Statement in the mail from the Parish Office. A very special THANK YOU to each of you who provide contributions to help sustain our parish financially—everyone's support is vital in this effort. If you are not currently contributing, please reach out to me or to the Parish Office to find out more on how you can do so. God bless, *Fr. Peter*

### Online Giving

You can make your weekly, monthly, annual and one-time donations from your checking or savings account, or by using a credit or debit card, electronically, from your own computer. 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](http://www.stjohngreece.org).



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



### What To Do With Your Old Palms

If you have any old palms at home, you can bring them here to the church narthex **NO LATER than Sunday, February 4.** We will have these palms burned and will use the ashes on Ash

Wednesday. Again, please bring your old palms to church on or before Sunday, February 4th We kindly ask that you **do not leave palms in church after February 4th.** Thank you.

### COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES Continued from page 5

during lent to lead the stations of the cross. The parish council agreed to lead on March 8th.

**Pastoral Ministry/Homebound Outreach Update:** Tod said the year has not started out well with 4 funerals already.

**Knights of Columbus Council 3892: Update:** Rick said the Knights will be hosting a holy hour at 7 PM on February 12th at St. Charles Church. The Fish Fry's will begin on February 16th. The cost will be \$14.00 and you may dine at the parish center or take your dinner to go. Father asked Rick if he could look back to the profit that was made for our parish from last year's Fish Fry's and publish it in the bulletin. He would like the parishioners to be able to see how supporting the fish fry's benefits our parish.

### Outreach – Social Media/Communications

**Committee Update:** Gary gave us an update with some numbers of people visiting our new website. From Nov - Jan7th 5800 views, December alone had 3100 views. Most of the views are visited by cell phones at 61% and 60% of the views are of our home page.

Christine Paoletti via Cleveland– Facebook update – 592 likes and 769 followers.

Paul Parkman – Today is the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord. Jesus led us as the high Priest into this sacrament and we should renew our baptismal vows often. Paul asked Father if he would renew our vows with us at the meeting and we did so together.

**Safety:** Nick Sassano said that when Mass begins the doors are locked, the only time the door is then open to let someone in is if it is a parishioner that we know and recognize. The ushers continue to monitor the cameras during Mass. If any parishioner has a feeling that something is not right, they should contact an usher or call 911 themselves.

**Open Forum/For the Good of the Parish:** Pam had a question about the finance committee's minutes and Father answered her question. Karen asked why we did not have a pageant at the 4pm mass this year. Father said there are just not enough young children to make this happen. Karen suggested that next year we try to get the children to sign up to be in the pageant at the breakfast with Santa.

**Closing Prayer:** Pam Tofany-Kern

**Next Meeting:** 02/5/2024

**Opening and Closing Prayers:** Patty Hoag

*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.**



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**Senior Home Communion Service Ministers January 2024**

**HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE**

January 21, 2024      Ron LaForce

**THE VILLAGE AT UNITY**

January 21, 2024      Tom Greico  
January 28, 2024      Bob & Barb Gotham

**ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE**

January 21, 2024      Chris Hoefler  
January 28, 2024      Dan & Melissa Kabasin