

St. John the Evangelist Greece

November 19, 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.



“Well done, my good and faithful servant.” – Mt 25:21

Is Our Faith Too Small

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

Happy Thanksgiving!

Let Us Join Together in Praise and Thanksgiving.... 3

Share a Prayer

May Others Find Comfort in These Prayers.....3

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings for November 18/19.....4

Annual Parish Financial Report

Fiscal Year 2022-23.....Insert

Prayer for Eucharistic Revival

Awaken within Us a Deep Love for this Sacrament.....6

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday Evening: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

Holy Days: As announced in bulletin

Weekdays: Monday–Wednesday & Friday 8:15 AM

CONFESSIONS By Appointment Only. *Please contact the Parish Office 225-8980.*

BAPTISMS For parishioners requesting Baptism for their child, we encourage you to please contact the Parish Office at (585) 225-8980 before the birth of your child to prepare for the Sacrament of Baptism.

MARRIAGE Arrangements for the Sacrament of Marriage must be made at least SIX MONTHS in advance. Call the Parish Office at 225-8980.

PRAYER LINE Jill Finan StJohnPrayerLine@gmail.com

Pastor: Rev. Peter Enyan-Boadu - 225-8980

Deacon: Elmer Smith - 230-3074

Pastoral Minister: Tod Simone- 225-8980

Director, Music Ministry: Dawn Chmiel - 225-8980

Director, Choir Ministry: Consuelo De Los Santos 225-8980

Faith Formation Coordinator: Cristyn Simone - 261-0831

Secretary: Marcia Parsons - 225-8980

Business Office: Joe Spurrier - 225-8980

Finance Director: Christopher Frontale 225-8980

Parish Pastoral Council Chair: Bob Gotham 227-4638

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

Fax: 585-723-9825

E-mail: gstjohnt@dor.org

Visit www.StJohnGreece.org Follow us on [@StJohnGreece](https://twitter.com/StJohnGreece)

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

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday

1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/
Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/
Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday

2 Mc 6:18-31/
Ps 3:2-7/
Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday

2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/
Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15/
Lk 19:11-28

Thursday

1 Mc 2:15-29/
Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/
Lk 19:41-44

Friday

1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/
1 Chr 29:10bcd-12bcd/
Lk 19:45-48

Saturday

1 Mc 6:1-13/
Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19/
Lk 20:27-40

Sunday

Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/
Ps 23:1-3, 5-6/
1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/
Mt 25:31-46

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.

Is Our Faith Too Small?

If you were to read the editorial pages of any newspaper in the country today, you would find a variety of opinions about many issues. Not everyone thinks the same way. The various opinions usually depend on the culture, religious traditions, or politics of the people in an area. The same can be said about us Christians; we represent diverse groups of people. While we are many people, we are all one in Christ. However, as with us Christians, there are different spiritual ways to arrive at the place God wants us to be. Remember, like reading editorials, every day we are free to choose the attitude we will bring to that as Christians. This story that someone told me many years ago is a blessing and a lesson for all of us.

“Two men went fishing. One was an experienced fisherman, the other wasn't. Every time the experienced fisherman caught a big fish, he put it in his ice chest to keep it fresh. Whenever the inexperienced fisherman caught a big fish, he threw it back in the water. The experienced fisherman watched this go on all day and finally got tired of seeing this man waste such good fish. ‘Why do you keep throwing back all the big fish you catch?’ he asked. The inexperienced fisherman replied, ‘I only have a small frying pan,’ Such was his intention.”



Sometimes, like that fisherman, we throw back the big plans, big dreams, big jobs, great opportunities that God gives us. Our faith is too small. We laugh at that fisherman who didn't figure out that all he needed was a bigger frying pan; yet how ready are we to increase

the size of our faith? What specific effort do we take in that direction? How is our church important to us in our every day outlook of things? How do we grow in the faith? We should not be afraid to be open and vulnerable to the Holy Spirit working in us. If we do, we will see God's power more clearly, and readily invite Him into our heart. Each of us is called to be a disciple of encouraging words and of charity, willfully giving of our time, talents, and treasure to support the Church. Each of us is called to be a disciple of welcome to the holy people who come to us, who are sent by God to lead, challenge, and call the world to Christ. One thing that everybody in the world needs is friendliness. It is by our work and support that we, ourselves, are active and vibrant in the ministry of the Church. Whether it's a problem or a possibility, God will never give us anything bigger than we can handle. That means we can confidently walk into anything God brings

our way. We can do all things through Christ. Phil 3:13.

God bless you all,

Father Peter



Presentation of
the Blessed Virgin
Mary, Nov 21



The Parish Office will be **CLOSED THIS Thursday, November 23 and THIS Friday,**

November 24 for *THANKSGIVING*

Wishing you a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.
May God bless you abundantly.

Your Pastor, Fr. Peter and the Parish Staff

Masses for the Week—Nov 20—26

MONDAY, November 20 *Weekday*
 8:15 AM + *Florence DiPonzio*
 by Scott & Nancy Stephany

TUESDAY, Nov 21 *Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary*
 8:15 AM + *Matilda & Roger Paoletti*
 by Rick & Kathy Paoletti

WEDNESDAY, November 22 *St Cecilia*
 8:15 AM + *Michael & Helen Gogal*
 by Patty

THURS, November 23 Thanksgiving
 9:00 AM + *The People of St John's,*
Living & Deceased

FRIDAY, November 24 *St Andrew Dung-Lac*

SATURDAY, November 25 *St Catherine of Alexandria*
 4:00 PM + *John Jweid*
 by Dan & Melissa Kabasin

SUN, Nov 26 *Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe*
 8:00 AM + *Pete Hunt*
 by Wife & 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, November 19
 KofC C&B Ticket Sales before/after all Masses
 9:00 AM RCIA in Parish Center
 Confirmation Class in Meeting Room
 following the 10:00 AM Mass

Monday, November 20
 9:00 AM Bible Study in Parish Center

Thursday, November 23 Thanksgiving
 Parish Office CLOSED
 9:00 AM Thanksgiving Day Mass in Church

Friday, November 24
 Parish Office CLOSED

Sunday, November 26
 9:00 AM RCIA in Parish Center



Please Join Us on Thanksgiving Day
THIS Thursday, November 23, 2023, Fr. Peter will celebrate Mass at 9:00 AM. Let us join together in praise and thanksgiving to God for EVERYTHING he blesses us with even though we may not always recognize some things as blessings when in fact they truly are.

Our tradition here at St. John's remains the same this Thanksgiving. We are accepting your non-perishable and not yet expired food paper product donations to benefit our friends served through the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf. If you prefer to make a monetary donation you can do so in the basket provided at the donation table. If donating by check, please make your **check payable to St. John's and in the memo section write: Greece Food Shelf.** St. John's will take all monetary contributions and issue one check directly to the Food Shelf on behalf of the parishioners of St. John's.

Share a Prayer

SHARE YOUR FAVORITE PRAYER

As mentioned in a previous bulletin, we are starting a new feature in our bulletin, as space allows, called *Share a Prayer*. By sharing our favorite prayer, the hope is that others, too, may find comfort and benefit in praying one or more of them. Our first *Share a*

Prayer comes from a gentleman named Joe and, in addition to the Prayer, he shares the *following:

“My mother read this prayer every morning to help start her day. My father had passed and with my sister and I married with children, this made some days lonely for her. As I have gotten older I can now relate to this special prayer. My mother is gone and I now understand how important this prayer was to her. At 82 years of age, I now start my days as my mother started hers...talking with the Lord. I hope by sharing this prayer with others, it will help those who are going through some lonely and frightened days! God Bless, Joe.”

*Please know that the story behind the prayer you are sharing is optional; the prayer is the main focus.

DAILY PRAYER

Good morning Sweet Jesus, it's me again God, remember me God? I come every day just to talk to you Lord and to learn how to pray.

You make me feel welcome, you reach out your hand. I need never explain for you understand. I come to you frightened and burdened with care, so lonely and lost and filled with despair. Suddenly Dear Lord I am no longer afraid, my burden is lighter, my sorrows fade. Oh God what a blessing to know that you care, to know when I need you you'll always be there. Thank you Dear God!

Sunday, November 19 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**First Reading** Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls. Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize. She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life. She obtains wool and flax and works with loving hands. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers ply the spindle. She reaches out her hands to the poor, and extends her arms to the needy. Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her a reward for her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates.

Second Reading 1 Thes 5:1-6

Concerning times and seasons, brothers and sisters, you have no need for anything to be written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief at night. When people are saying, "Peace and security," then sudden disaster comes upon them, like labor pains upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to overtake you like a thief. For all of you are children of the light and children of the day. We are not of the night or of darkness. Therefore, let us not sleep as the rest do, but let us stay alert and sober.

Alleluia Jn 15:4a, 5b**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

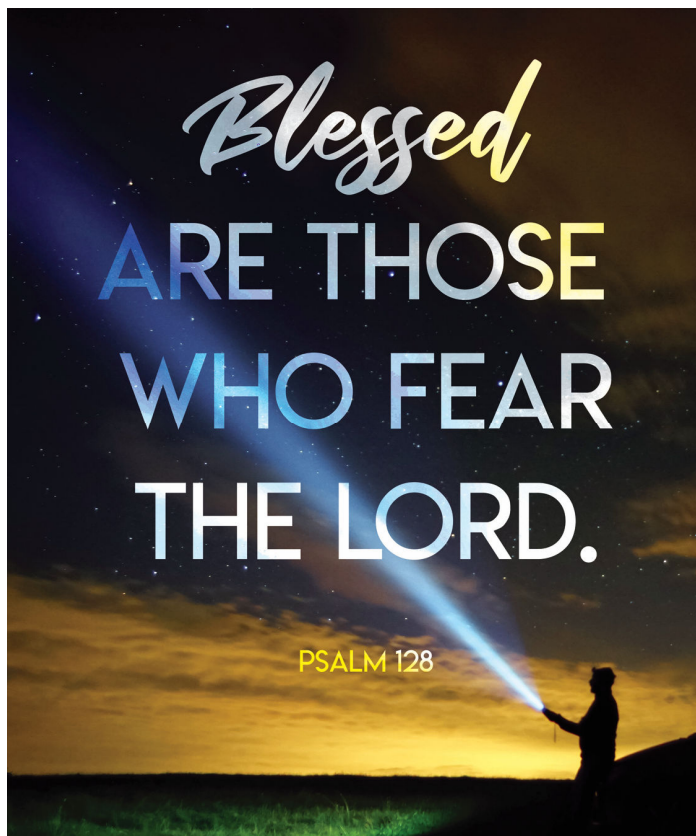
Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me bears much fruit.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.**Gospel** Mt 25:14-15, 19-21

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

"A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one--to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

"After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, 'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.'"

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5**R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord.**

Blessed are you who fear the LORD, who walk in his ways!
For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork;
blessed shall you be, and favored.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine
in the recesses of your home;
Your children like olive plants around your table.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD.
The LORD bless you from Zion:
may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

The Diocesan Catholic Ministries Appeal Continues . The goal for St. John's is \$83,000.

Due to an early bulletin deadline for Thanksgiving, our latest report on the number of donating households, donation totals and listing of donating households will be included in NEXT Weekend's bulletin.

To Our Donors and to Those from Whom We are Waiting to Hear

As indicated by the recent numbers, there has been a fair amount of activity in CMA donations within our parish and we are grateful to those who have given generously. For those who have not yet contributed, **we need everyone's support and hope that you will discern your appropriate level of support.**

To consider your level of giving, first PRAY about it and then take a moment to reflect on what you gave last year. Ask yourself if there's any way you can increase that amount. Many times we will find it is possible to offer an



increased donation. Consider for a moment where we spend our money for the smaller things. If we were to forego our daily/weekly/monthly "simple pleasures", we might be surprised how the savings add up, allowing for that increase in giving this year.

Your pledge is due by the end of December. However, we remind you that

payment of your pledge is due at the end of May, 2024— appx 6½ months from now. This means you can break down that pledge into 6 equal payments, making it a little easier for you to complete payment of your pledge.

The deeper issue is not really about the money, but our faith and the participation that flows from it. So, you are invited to consider ways you can respond with a grateful heart. In living this way, we demonstrate that we — "Go Forth with Christ"

In the memo area of your check, please indicate that your contribution goes towards the goal of *St John's—Greece Parish # 039.*

Please continue to pray for the success of the CMA.



In this bulletin of November 19, 2023, there is an insert, as approved by our Parish Finance Council, reporting to you the results of our parish financial status for Fiscal Year 2022-23. Please take time to review this report and should there be any questions, please contact the Parish Office.



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

Make checks payable to:
ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH
Write Poinsettias in the Memo;
and Send your order form and donation to:
St. John the Evangelist Church,
2400 West Ridge Road, Rochester, NY 14626
OR

Place your order and donation in an envelope marked "Poinsettias" and drop this into the collection box.

Please print

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

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

Please indicate if living or deceased



Save the Date: Sunday, December 10
Santa is coming to join us following the 10:00 AM Mass for our *Coffee Hour with Santa.*
More details will come in our next bulletin.

Happy Thanksgiving




This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

- ✠ Tabernacle I **Jeff Lader**
- ✠ Tabernacle II **Anne and Mario Catalano**
- ✠ Marian I **Those listed**
in our **Book of Remembrance**
- ✠ Marian II **Rose Marie Skrypek**

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



Due to an early bulletin deadline for Thanksgiving, our November 11/12 Mass attendance and contributions and Boiler Fund Collection will be noted in NEXT Weekend's bulletin.

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

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.

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

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

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

- The donor is age 70 ½ or older on the day of the gift.
- The donor transfer up to \$100,000 directly from their IRA to one or more qualified charities. This opportunity applies only to IRA's and no other types of retirement plans.
- The donor does not receive any goods or services in return for the rollover gift in order to qualify for tax-free treatment.
- The gift/check must be dated on or before Dec., 31, 2021 to qualify this year.
- The gift needs to be sent directly to the charitable organization which also has to be the payee for the gift.
- The official name and address to use for the receiver of the donation is:

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

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

Prayer for Eucharistic Revival

In the Sacrament of the Eucharist You, Lord Jesus Christ, make present to us the memorial of Your Passion—the outpouring oblation of love to the Father that brings salvation to the world, for our journey unto everlasting life.

Holy Spirit, stir up and awaken within us, within our diocese, within our parishes, and within all the faithful a lively devotion, profound reverence, and deep love for this Sacrament of Sacraments. Grant us the grace to hunger and thirst for You in the Eucharist. Help us to approach You in Holy Communion frequently and to receive You worthily and fruitfully.

Strengthen us that we may hear you calling us to the altar, to the tabernacle, and to the monstrance, that we may joyfully bask in Your Eucharistic Presence with all the angels and saints and call all people to faith in the Most Holy Eucharist. May Mary, Your mother and ours, teach us to be docile and humble in the sight of this wondrous Mystery. And may Your Eucharistic Heart, so fully and totally present to us, be ever praised, adored, and loved at every moment, in all the tabernacles of the world, even until the end of time. **AMEN**



*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 November 2023

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

November 26, 2023 Steve and Mary Ann Donato

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY

November 19, 2023 Tom Grieco

November 26, 2023 Bob and Barb Gotham

ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

November 19, 2023 Chris Hoefler

November 26, 2023 Dan & Melissa Kabasin