

St. John the Evangelist Greece

November 30, 2025

2400 West Ridge Road
Rochester, New York 14626

In the Footsteps of St John

A journey of exploration and reflection upon the treasure who is the patron of our parish church, St John the Evangelist.



A Season of Waiting

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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.

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

Deacons:

Elmer Smith - 230-3074

Lon Smith - 489-7255

Director, Music Ministry:

Dawn Chmiel - 225-8980

Director, Liturgical Music:

Consuelo De Los Santos
225-8980

www.roccatholicsnorthwest.org

Pastoral Minister:

Tod Simone– 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: 9AM-3PM | Tuesday,
Wednesday & Friday: 9 AM-2PM | Thursday: 9-Noon

Fax: 585-723-9825

E-mail: gstjohnnt@dor.org

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

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

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday

Is 4:2-6/
Ps 122:1-9/
Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday

Is 11:1-10/
Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/
Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a/
Ps 23:1-6/
Mt 15:29-37

Thursday

Is 26:1-6/
Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/
Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday

Is 29:17-24/
Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/
Mt 9:27-31

Saturday

Is 30:19-21, 23-26/
Ps 147:1-6/
Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday

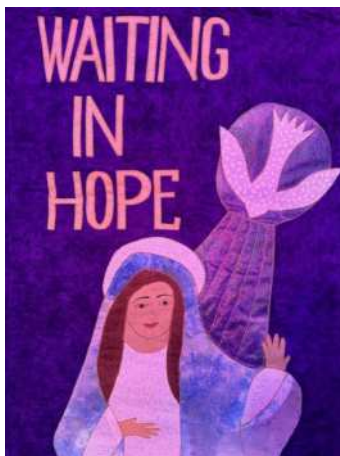
Is 11:1-10/
Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/
Rom 15:4-9/
Mt 3:1-12

Welcome!

If you are new in the parish, we invite you to become a member of our faith community where we come together to worship the Lord and celebrate the Eucharist. We want to get to know you and recognize there are some challenges in doing so during Covid-19, however, 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.

Today we begin a new church calendar year. Advent is most often described as a season of waiting. We, of the developed world find waiting to be time consuming and we get jumpy and fidgety if we have nothing to do but to wait. To some, today's celebration of the First Sunday of Advent is a reminder that there is less than a month before the arrival of Christmas. To others, it means the rush is on to put twinkling lights around the house, to buy what is needed for the Christmas pastry cooking and to shop for presents and gift cards. While we wait, our fears rise to the surface. Maybe that is why we try to keep busy, so those fears can stay down below the surface, and we can go about our daily lives oblivious.

Today's three scripture readings encourage us to be spiritually uplifted. During the First reading from the book of Jeremiah, God was now promising that a righteous branch would spring up from the descendants of King David. God was instilling HOPE in his people to restore unity. A divided nation needs strong, committed and just leadership for stability and harmony. This Advent begins with this brief pointed message from the prophet Jeremiah. He doesn't need a lot of words to get his message across; he offers the hope that God will provide the urgently-needed leadership. He does not say when this will happen. The promise is given



and the people are invited to put their trust in God's fidelity to them.

Today's Gospel can seem to be very sobering. Jesus doesn't mince his words—there is going to be a reckoning, a judgement—and we do not know when. But we know it is coming, and therefore we need to be vigilant, prayerful and ready. This is not a pious platitude, but a tenet of faith we profess in the creed.

But there are also two other themes in this Gospel passage that we need in order to have the full picture. First as Christians, we are encouraged to stand tall in the knowledge that our redeemer is at hand, and to hold fast to the hope that our faith gives us even in times of trial and tribulation. Second, that as Christians we are called to be realistic, to face up to the fact that our world is broken and in need of healing, and yet we are never hopeless. Indeed the Christian view is to see imperfection not as lost cause, but as an opportunity for healing and redemption. All is never lost until that moment of final judgement.

Advent is pregnant with a promise of new beginnings. We have an opportunity to grow, or develop from scratch, a spirituality of waiting—a time of hope—as we pray constantly for ourselves, our world, and our church in the ancient prayer of Advent—“Maranatha, Come Lord Jesus come and Revive us O Lord.”

Waiting in Hope

A Christmas Concert and Sing-along!

Saturday, December 20, 2025 at 5:30 PM at St John the Evangelist Church, Greece NY
Featuring our Adult Choir and Youth Choir Directed by Consuelo De Los Santos

Masses for the Week—December 1—7

MONDAY, December 1 *Advent Weekday*

8:15 AM + *Luigi & Francesca Grillo*
by Daughter, Giulia

TUESDAY, December 2 *Advent Weekday*

8:15 AM + *Deceased Members of the McArdle Family*
by Jim & Delia Keane

WEDNESDAY, December 3 *St Francis Xavier*

8:15 AM + *Elvira, Vincenza and Salvatore Ragonese*
by Bruna

THURSDAY, December 4 *St John Damascene*

FIRST FRIDAY, December 5 *Advent Weekday*

8:15 AM + *Jeff Lader*
by Family

10:00 AM *Benediction*

FIRST SATURDAY, December 6 *St Nicholas*

8:15 AM + *Fr Peter's Intention*
4:00 PM + *Filomena & Cosmo Coccitto*
by Maria Leonardis & Family

SUNDAY, December 7 *2nd Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM *Living Members of St. John's Parish*
10:00 AM + *Leon Weise*
by Daughter, Eileen

Wills/Bequests/Memorials—

Please Remember St. John the Evangelist Parish

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, November 30

9:00 AM OCIA in Meeting Room

11:15 AM Children's Pageant Rehearsal in Parish Center

Monday, December 1

NO Bible Study

5:30 PM Liturgy Committee Meeting in Parish Center

7:00 PM Parish Pastoral Council Mtg in Parish Center

Wednesday, December 3

12:00 PM Women's Guild Christmas Luncheon
in Parish Center

Thursday, December 4

4:30 PM Cursillo in Meeting Room

First Friday, December 5

Following 8:15 AM Mass Adoration until 10:00 AM

10:00 AM Benediction

First Saturday, December 6

10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry in Parish Center

2:45 PM First Reconciliation in Church

Sunday, December 7

9:00 AM OCIA in Meeting Room

11:15 AM Pageant Rehearsal in Church

Dear Music Ministry and Parish Family,

Happy New Liturgical Year A! (First Sunday of Advent)
Our Advent Theme: *Waiting in Hope!*

Advent is the season of joyful expectation, prayerful penance, spiritual preparation, and hopeful longing for the birth of Jesus. Advent means "coming" and it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas. As a faith community, we begin our Advent journey by praying and waiting in silence. Advent is like a "little lent", a time for prayerful penance, sharing, and offering blessings to those who are in need.

Our Adult Choir and Youth Choir have begun preparations for our Christmas Liturgies and diligently learning some beautiful hymns. Let the holy light fill up your soul with love for Christ as we assist you weekly in giving praise to God. Let us sing: "Come, O Long-Expected Jesus"

On Nov. 16, 2025, Deacon Lon ended his homily with these words: *The Eucharist is Our Hope!*

Hope and Love,
Consuelo

*"Humility is not thinking less of yourself.
It is thinking of yourself less."* ~ C.S. Lewis

For more information about joining our ministry, please contact Consuelo De Los Santos, Director of Liturgical Music consuelo.delossantos@dor.org or 585-225-8980

Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.

Nov 30	Dec 1	Dec 2	Dec 3	Dec 4	Dec 5	Dec 6
Jeffrey Chichester	Augustine Chumo	Peter Clifford	William Coffas	John Colacino	Vocations & Seminarians	Bishop Salvator Matano



Keep Christ in Christmas Car Magnets

The Knights of Columbus will be selling "Keep Christ in Christmas" car magnets after all Masses THIS weekend Nov 29/30 and December 6/7 or until sold out. It is a great way to

spread an important message as we enter the Christmas season. The durable and attractive magnets will last for years. The cost is \$4 or three for \$10.



Family Coffee Hour with Santa

Sunday, December 14 in the Parish Center following the 10:00 AM Mass *hosted by our Music Ministry*

Toddlers to Teenagers can visit Santa and receive a gift | Lots of Goodies to Eat! | Come and Enjoy the Fun! Donated homemade cookies would be welcome. **Drop off homemade cookies Saturday, December 13** between 2:00 and 4:00 PM in the Parish Center. Come join in the festivities hosted by our Music Ministry. We look forward to seeing you there!

Parish Council Meeting Minutes—November 10, 2025

Opening Prayer: Melissa Ryan

Attendance: Father Peter, Bob Gotham, Rick Paoletti, Wayne Howard, Melissa Ryan, Paul Parkman, Nick Verdino, Christine Paoletti, Tod Simone, Gary Kern, Pam Tofany-Kern, Karen Bessette, Patty Hoag, Stephanie Braya-Black, Joe Waters, Deacon Lon Smith, Nick Sassano
Absent: Excused: Deacon Elmer Smith, Alan Christodaro
Visitors: Marcia Parsons

Motion to approve the agenda for tonight's Meeting
 (Emailed 11/10/2025)

Approval: Karen Bessette | **Second:** Melissa Ryan

Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes from the 10/6/2025 Meeting, in the Bulletin on 10/26/2025.

Approval: Wayne Howard | **Second:** Stephanie Braya Black

Chairperson's Comments:

- **CMA UPDATE:** Our Goal for this year is set at \$80,000, which is higher than last year.
 - # of Donors to date – 184 | \$57,712 committed to date
 - % of Goal – 72.14% | Donors short by 5 from last year
 - The Diocese is at 56.47%, so we are ahead of the average | We had a monster jump in the amount of dollars committed and the percentage of Goal.
- **Special Touch Bakery Pie Sales:** As of last count we sold 101 pies. Delivery date is Monday, November 17. Pickup in the Parish Center.
- **Certificate of Appreciation:** A Certificate of Appreciation has been prepared for Anne Marie Nicchitta who has retired from the Altar Linens Ministry after 25+ years of dedicated and faithful service. This was presented at November 9 Mass.
- **Coffee Hour is Sunday November 16.**
- **Community Service at villages at Unity**, while Barb and Bob Gotham were waiting to begin on 11/9, the hallway was lined with Veterans Pictures. Out of 56 people, 22 people raised their hands when asked to raise their hand if they were a Veteran. They joined their voices together to sing the National Anthem at the end of the service. Volunteering for these ministries is very rewarding when experiencing these moments with others.

DEACON LON SMITH UPDATE:

- **Bereavement:**
 - 10/15/25: Anna Stetzel from Lifespan (15 people) excellent presentation
 - 11/19/25: TBD probably surviving the holidays!
 - 12/17/25: May be moved to get folks to go to the Dady Concert event to encourage joy
- **Advent Retreat:**
 - 12/10/25 Reflections on theme "Waiting in Hope"
 - Morning with coffee and snacks, Evening Soup Supper
 - Fr. Peter asked me (Lon) to see if Fr. Pius from St. Charles will conduct a healing Mass. Calls gave been made. Awaiting his response to move forward. Otherwise, we will have a morning session with coffee and snacks, and an early evening Soup Supper. All is TBD awaiting Fr. Pius' response.
- **Dady Concert:**
 - Sunday, December 14, sponsored by K of C 3892
 - Bulletin Announcements start November 15, I will provide each church with an article to publish
 - Tickets distributed to 7 churches via K of C.

- St. John 400, OMOS 80, Holy Cross 80, St. Charles 80, St. Lawrence 80, St. Mark 80, St. Leo 80
- Day of the concert from 12:00 – 2:00 PM Band Set Up | 3:00 – 5:00 PM Performance | 5:30 – 6:00 PM Clean up
- **Lent:**
 - SOUP SUPPER(s), Small group book discussion. Mathew Kelly's book, "The Seven Pillars of the Catholic Spirituality".
 - SJE Celebration Continues: A 4–5-hour Retreat on St. John the Evangelist by Lisa Lickona
 - January-March at St. Bernard's Saturday morning. Schedule TBD.
- **Cursillo Retreat:** Men's retreat will be in July; Women's retreat will be before that. This is geared towards the leaders in the church, and you must be sponsored. This is a close encounter with the Lord, it is very Orthodox, and it is very charismatic. It is a powerful weekend that can change your life.

FATHER PETER'S UPDATE:

- Thank you to everyone for being supportive of our ministry. Welcome to Joe Waters to the parish council.
- The crane that is outside is here to do the work on the roof leak, the material is here, and it is now too cold to do the job, and it will have to wait until the spring to be done. Pricing has been set and signed off on, but we are not sure if this delay will affect it.
- **Event Request Form:** This form is to be used for any parish events and activities being proposed whether it be routine or a one-of-a-kind event/activity. Please note, this form is **not** used for ministry meetings and classes; those requests will fall under the Ministry Meeting/Class Reservation Form.
 For the purpose of me knowing the various activities/ events being proposed, please use the guideline below. If a request is submitted after the date indicated, it will still be considered, however, having it by the date indicated will help me in my decision-making when it comes to overall parish planning. Please submit a hard copy to the Parish Office or electronically to gstjohnt@dor.org
- If requesting an Event/Activity during the months of January thru April, 2026, please submit on or before November 1, 2025.
- If requesting an Event/Activity during the months of May thru August, 2026, please submit on or before March 1, 2026
- If requesting an Event/Activity during the months of September through December, 2026, please submit on or before July 1, 2026.

Social Committee: Karen and Melissa –

- **OCTOBERFEST** – October 18 – Fund RAISER for SJE is \$20/person. There was a profit of over \$1,100 that was given to the parish.
- We have some ideas for the winter months that we are considering. A chili cook-off, sock hop, or a pasta dinner are some of the possibilities. There may be a caroling event around the holidays that the choir is working on.

Arts and Environment: Information is being gathered for the Jesse Giving Tree tags. Dates have been published in the bulletin asking for help with our advent events. There are about 240 tags for 9 organizations. Help is needed for sorting and moving these items.

Greece food shelf – Food Drive: 542 pounds was collected and donated. This is a time of need especially this year. There will be a thank you notice in next week's bulletin. The next one will be in March and then in June. There will be a Thanksgiving collection this year as well. Pam will check on this event.

Knights of Columbus Council 3892:

- The Columbus Dinner was an event that supported Mom Mentors who accompany women in crisis pregnancies. Jan Healy was the presenter and \$1,500 was raised.
- The Christmas magnets will be sold again this year.
- Deceased Members' Memorial Mass will be at St. Charles this coming Sunday.
- The 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign ended last week and 3 babies were saved.

Liturgy Committee:

- Annual Memorial Mass was on Saturday with very good attendance.
- Setting up for Thanksgiving was discussed.
- Immaculate Conception Holy Day Masses will be at 9 and 12:05 and a 6:30 AM Mass has been added
- Waiting in Hope is the Advent Theme this year
- Dady Concert details
- Changes for First Friday adoration (December only). It will be more interactive with music and rosary.
- Lenten retreat was discussed and details to follow. It will be March 22 at 2 PM and March 23 at 6:30 PM here at St. John's. The Heart of Jesus and Casting Fire Upon the Earth. Matt Kuhner and Lisa Lickona will be the speakers.
- Ornaments for the nursing homes will be made and counts from ministries who would like these.
- Ushers at 4 PM and 8 AM Masses are in dire need. Safety Team and the Funeral Mass Altar Servers are also in need of volunteers

Websites Annual Review: Thanks to everyone that provided feedback and updates during the Annual Review of the St John's website. All of the changes have been made, so we can consider our annual review complete. Any other changes will be made during our routine weekly updates.

St. John's Social Media – Statistics:

Website (last 30 days)

Visitors: 880 up 14% | **Views:** 2280 up slightly

Facebook: (last 30 days)

Followers: 858 | **Follower Views:** 11238 down 5%

Non-Follower Views: 2809 up 24%

Mass Streaming – 283 weekly views - 60% watch on Sunday

Blessing of the Pets Photo Album – 1031 Views

Oktoberfest Photo Album - 1588 Views

Microsoft Publisher is being phased out and Canva will be the new software that we will use to create the bulletin. We will need volunteers to help with the transition and getting it made and published weekly going forward. This will be the only option by October 2026. LPI will create a template for us to use.

Safety and Security: Nick Sassano

- Can we have a Narcan station? Nick called the overdose prevention and there are some criteria and training that needs to happen to get one. What would be the side effects and liability of the parish in the event we need to administer this?
- Can we have an AED in the Parish Center? We can have one only if there is public access and we have a person that has taken a course (every assembly would need a certified person). So we are not allowed one based on these guidelines. There is a chance that we can have a class a few times a year to learn CPR, Defibrillators and first aid.
- Can we have a red plastic sign identifying the location of the first aid kits? Nick will look at getting these.
- Can we get a wheelchair for church? We do have one on the visiting priest cubicle that is available, Nick will look into signage.
- Can we get someone to patrol the parking lot during the Dady Concert? We do have a volunteer to patrol the parking lot for this event, and there will be surveillance on the monitors inside the church.

Faith Stories: Take a few minutes to wonder at the things that God is doing. The church is temporal and eternal. We are invading cyberspace with Christ, which is an amazing thing. Keep in mind all the eternal things that God is giving us. The Lateran Palace in Rome was given by the Emperor Constantine to the Church. Almost 1700 years later, we have these treasures, such as the holy stairs, to bolster our faith. Our faith is strengthened when we take a minute to wonder at the past and future of our faith.

Open Forum/For the Good of the Parish:

- We are looking for a Santa for the December Coffee Hour.
- The blood drive in April will be scheduled and move forward.
- If you need food from the Greece Food Shelf, please contact them for assistance.
- The part on the event form says that if you want a form between these dates does not mean you cannot request the space outside of these dates but is a guideline or suggestion to get the dates you want.
- There will be a children's pageant and if you have children that are interested in being in the pageant,

please see the details in the bulletin.

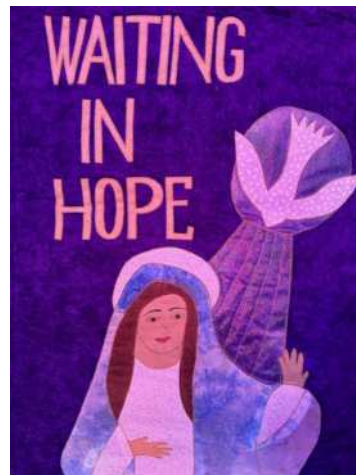
- Engage new parishioners so that they may want to volunteer and stay engaged in our parish and our faith.

Closing Prayer:

Melissa Ryan

Next Meeting:

12/01/2025





Doris Gendron Wife of Michael Gendron
Barbara Parkhurst Sister of Lorraine Parkhurst



This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

✠ **Tabernacle I Intentions of the George Family**

✠ **Tabernacle II Liz McArdle**

✠ **Marian I Edith DiLorenzo**

✠ **Marian II Jeff Lader**

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



November 15/16 Week 20	ATTENDANCE..447
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$ 9,950.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$ 10,642.16
ONLINE Giving.....	\$ 2,011.55
TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$ 12,653.71
OVERAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING.....	\$ 2,703.71

Fiscal Year 2025-26 as November 16, 2025

YEARLY BUDGET	\$ 517,500.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$ 199,000.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$ 207,984.94
OVERAGE TO DATE.....	\$ 8,984.94

Please know of my sincere gratitude for those who are fulfilling their increased giving pledge to sustain the needs of the church. I humbly ask you to continue with your sacrificial giving and for those who may not be currently contributing, please prayerfully reflect on this and offer what you can. We are a family and we're in this together to spread the Good News for the greater glory of God! God bless,

Fr. Peter

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

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

In December, 2015, the IRA QCD Legislation was signed into law permanently.

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 transfers up to \$100,000 directly from their IRA to one or more qualified charities (i.e. St John's). This opportunity applies only to IRA's and no other types of retirement plans.
- Since a QCD can potentially reduce a donor's Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), please discuss your situation with your Financial Advisor.
- 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, 2025 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



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 left.

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.

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 throughout
the world seeking the ruin of
souls. Amen.



Get Your Tickets Now for the upcoming Dady Advent Concert

Sponsored by KofC Council 3892

Tickets, free of charge, are being distributed by Deacon Lon and brother Knights beginning November 15 until they are gone. A free will offering taken at the concert to benefit *Joseph Dady Musical Scholarship Memorial Fund*. Don't wait as tickets tend to go quickly. The concert will take place right here at St. John the Evangelist Church on **Sunday, December 14, 2025, beginning at 3:00 PM.** Check with your family and friends to see if they'd like to join you for this enjoyable holiday concert as we *Wait in Hope* for the coming of our Savior!

Senior Home Communion Service Ministers November/December 2025

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

November 23, 2025 Ron LaForce
December 7, 2025 Steve & Mary Ann Donato
December 21, 2025 Ron LaForce

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY

November 23, 2025 Bob & Barb Gotham
December 7, 2025 Tom Grieco | Dec 14, 2025 Bob & Barb Gotham
Dec 21, 2025 Tom Grieco | Dec 28, 2025 Bob & Barb Gotham

ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

November 30, 2025 Dan & Melissa Kabasin
December 7, 2025 Carolyn Kerhaert
December 14, 2025 Chris Hoefler
December 21, 2025 Dan & Melissa Kabasin
December 28, 2025 Carolyn Kerhaert

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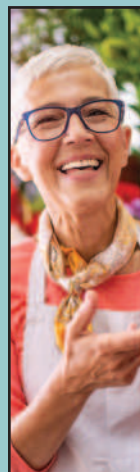
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