

St. John the Evangelist Greece

September 10, 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.



"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." - Mt 18:15

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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

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

Col 1:24—2:3/
Ps 62:6-7, 9/
Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday

Col 2:6-15/
Ps 145:1b-2, 8-11/
Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday

Col 3:1-11/
Ps 145:2-3, 10-13ab/
Lk 6:20-26

Thursday

Nm 21:4b-9/
Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38/
Phil 2:6-11/
Jn 3:13-17

Friday

1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/
Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11/
Jn 19:25-27

Saturday

1 Tm 1:15-17/
Ps 113:1b-5a, 6-7/
Lk 6:43-49

Sunday

Sir 27:30—28:7/
Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/
Rom 14:7-9/
Mt 18:21-35

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.

How Often Do We Fail the Demands of Discipleship?

In my thirty-nine years as an ordained priest, I have heard it all with countless advice and suggestions as to how this could be done or done better. I have even had people tell me how to celebrate the Eucharist, simply because this was how Father Y or Z did it.

I learned a great lesson in a defensive driving course that I took years ago. The instructor had each of us participants in the class introduce ourselves and say what brought us to the class—or why we got a ticket. At the end of the introductions she commented that many said it was NOT FAIR that they were ticketed. She went on to say that whenever her children complained that life was not fair, she would have them read their birth certificate...every word of it. Then she would ask them, “Does the word ‘fair’ appear anywhere on that piece of paper?” Of course, it does not.

Fairness aside, the fact is we would prefer mercy. Yes, my classmates and I wished the police had had mercy on us but instead, we were facing the consequences of our actions; which we should. Mercy is a hard thing for many of us to accept and embrace. We like to “do our own thing,” not be inconvenienced and “pull ourselves up by our bootstraps.” However, our lives are formed by the choices we make each day. When we make those choices, do we think about others around us? Do we choose to stay in our parish or take the path of least resistance to our convenience? Do we choose to save money or spend it lavishly? Do we choose to be defeated by a challenge or try to rise above it? Do we choose to see the reality of the



Parish Mass today or gloss over it for the sake of “my time schedule?” The same is true of our spiritual lives. Each day we are confronted by many choices; good and evil, values and vices. Each day we Christians are called to make choices—should we live as God has commanded or as changing societal norms dictate? But we cannot become “Consumer Catholics” or “Cafeteria Catholics” moving from parish to parish. St John’s needs your participation in shaping the future of our parish life.

I would welcome any suggestions that can help us to grow our parish as a faith community. What can we do to attract the young people to Church instead of seeing them only at weddings and at baptisms? What can we do better for them so that the cornerstone of St John’s will remain strong? What can we do to show fellowship and solidarity to our fellow parishioners instead of only in time of sickness or at a funeral? How many people do we know who should be here with us at Mass but are not? How many people do not want to be bothered by their inner call to be with us? How many people do we know feel abandoned because no one from our Church has checked on them be it you or the priest?

In the Scriptures, God tells that he will never leave or forsake us. Hang on to that when hard times hit. There may be some people who will simply wonder where God is in all these decisions. Remember, the teacher is usually quiet during the test. He is here for you all of the time. Here in the Mass.



With peace and love,
Father Peter

Masses for the Week—Sept 11—17

- MONDAY, September 11** *Weekday*
8:15 AM + *Madelina B. Resch*
by Barbara & Tom Miller
- TUESDAY, September 12** *Most Holy Name of Mary*
8:15 AM + *Robert West*
by John & Carol Leary
- WEDNESDAY, September 13** *St John Chrysostom*
8:15 AM + *John Englert*
by Mr & Mrs James Scantlin
- THURSDAY, Sept 14** *Exaltation of the Holy Cross*
8:15 AM *Intentions of Father Peter*
- FRIDAY, September 15** *Our Lady of Sorrows*
8:15 AM + *Joseph Genova*
by Jean DePetres
- SATURDAY, Sept 16** *Sts Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian*
4:00 PM + *Richard & Jeanette Clarke*
by Elaine & Collin Zahn
- SUNDAY, Sept 17** *24th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00 AM + *The People of St. John the Evangelist*
10:00 AM + *Kenneth Ward*
by Bill & Sue D'Ambrosio

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

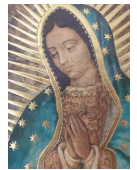
This Week's Schedule



- Sunday, September 10**
Coffee Hours following the 8:00 AM
and the 10:00 AM Masses in Parish Center
- Monday, September 11 Patriot Day**
9:00 AM Bible Study in Parish Center
5:30 PM Liturgy Committee Meeting in Parish Center
9:00 AM Parish Pastoral Council in Parish Center
- Thursday, September 14**
8:15 AM Mass with church open until noon for
Veneration of the Holy Cross Relic
- Sunday, September 17**
Parent Meeting for Confirmation in Parish Center
Following the 10:00 AM Mass

Welcoming New Neighbors

It's not every day that someone asks for the priest to come and bless their new restaurant. Well this is exactly what happened recently when a young man stopped at the Parish Office asking if the priest will please come to bless his restaurant that is soon to open here in Greece. How special is this and how awesome for someone to even think to ask for this. I recently visited with the owners of **Mi Rancho Alegre** at 300 Center Place Drive and also met some of their family and some of the staff. When I arrived I was received with respect and in friendship. Next thing I know, they presented for the blessing, a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe. I was told their plan is to have Our Lady on display so she is visible for all to see as they arrive to the restaurant. Sure enough, before I left, they had the shelf installed and the statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe in place. We all know this is not something we see every day and it was uplifting to say the least. Their Catholic faith is strong. I prayed the blessing and was led around the restaurant blessing everything with holy water. I shared some prayers in Spanish with them and we listened to some Spanish music in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe.



They will soon open their doors to our local and surrounding communities to offer their delicious Mexican food. I can attest to the food being delicious as I enjoyed a wonderful meal with them. I encourage you to visit our new neighbors to enjoy some authentic and delicious Mexican cooking. I was provided with some coupons to distribute to our congregation so please stop by the Parish Office for one while they are available.

Father Peter



A Holy Mystery Revealed!

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

The saints help us in so many ways. We know that St Helena found the Holy Cross of Christ almost 1,700 years ago. Because of her, our beloved St John's Parish holds an actual relic of the True Wood of the Cross of Christ! Please join me as I celebrate 8:15 AM morning Mass **THIS Thursday, September 14** on the *Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross*.



The relic of the True Wood of the Cross of Christ with which St. John's is blessed, will be present allowing for veneration after Mass. Please know our church will remain open after Mass until noon and I am encouraging everyone to set aside time this morning to come and venerate and pray before this holy relic. It is my hope and prayer that you will do so.

Father Peter

"We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our resurrection: through him we are saved and made free."

Sunday, September 10 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**First Reading** Ez 33:7-9

Thus says the LORD:

You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel; when you hear me say anything, you shall warn them for me. If I tell the wicked, "O wicked one, you shall surely die," and you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way, the wicked shall die for his guilt, but I will hold you responsible for his death. But if you warn the wicked, trying to turn him from his way, and he refuses to turn from his way, he shall die for his guilt, but you shall save yourself.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;
let us acclaim the rock of our salvation.
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us bow down in worship;
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.
For he is our God,
and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Oh, that today you would hear his voice:
"Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as in the day of Massah in the desert,
where your fathers tempted me;
they tested me though they had seen my works."

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

**Second Reading** Rom 13:8-10

Brothers and sisters:

Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law.

Alleluia 2 Cor 5:19

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Mt 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples:

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that 'every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector.

Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."



Prayer for Blessing of Grandparents

Lord God almighty, bless our grandparents with long life, happiness, and health. May they remain constant in your love and be living signs of your presence to their children and grandchildren.

For our grandparents who have gone before us, may they rest in peace.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



"I may never know the answers to the questions that plagued me after 9/11. But I know if we lean on God and each other, we will be guided to a better, brighter future."

- Michael Hinson, 9/11 survivor



Public Rosary Rally—Please join us!

Please join us at the South/East corner of Long Pond & Latta Rd. on the following dates/times:

THIS Wednesday, September 13 at 6:00 PM
Friday, October 13 at 6:00 PM

NOTE: Please use the various parking lots in the vicinity so as not to diminish the parking availability for customers at any one business.

We hope to see you there! For any questions, please contact the Parish Office (585)225-8980.

Our
LADY of Sorrows
 Friday, September 15



Confirmation Preparation Classes

Confirmation Parent Meeting for BOTH 1st & 2nd Year Candidates

NEXT Sunday, September 17 in the Parish Center right after the 10:00 AM Mass.

Meeting is mandatory, materials will be handed out at this time to the 1st year candidates.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

Holy Hour Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 3892

Monday, September 18, 2023, from 6:30 'til 7:30 PM

Please save the date and plan to take part the evening of the 18th when the Knights of Columbus Council 3892 will host our next Holy Hour in preparation for the start of the upcoming **40 Days for Life** campaign; Wednesday, September 27 through Sunday, November 5, 2023



There will be **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** by Father Peter followed by the Knights leading us in the Rosary, the Litany of St. Joseph, and the first prayer to begin the Nine Day Novena for Life.

Together we journey in this Parish Year of the National Eucharistic Revival, and it is the hope that each of us will always seek ways to draw closer to Christ and what better way than to be in His Presence before the Blessed Sacrament.



Calling All Pets & Bring Your Owners, Too!

Save the date and join Deacon Elmer for our Annual Parish Blessing of the Pets on **Saturday, October 7, 2023, at 10:30 AM** outside in front of church. Our well-behaved feline and canine friends are not the only pets invited—all pets are special and invited to receive this special blessing.



Renee Sergisson
Daughter of Cheryl & Glenn Klingenberg



This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

- ✚ Tabernacle I **Victims of 9-11**
- ✚ Tabernacle II **Deceased Ministry Leaders and Volunteers of St. John's**
- ✚ Marian I **Deceased Grandparents**
- ✚ Marian II **Our Homebound Parishioners**

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



Due to an early bulletin deadline for Labor Day, our September 2/3 Mass attendance and contributions will be noted in NEXT Weekend's bulletin.

Thank you!

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



Notre Dame Retreat House

Weekend Retreat Offerings—Join Us this Fall Season!

Men's Retreats

September 22-24 with Fr Anthony Michalek, CSsR, Fr Daniel Ruiz, Nancy Lynch, and Deacon Brian McNulty

December 8-10 with Fr Michael Cunningham, CSsR, Fr Daniel Ruiz, Nancy Lynch, and Deacon Jon Schott

Women's Retreats

October 20-22 with Fr Dennis Billy, CSsR, Fr Daniel Ruiz, Sister Donna del Santo, SSJ, and Nancy Lynch

November 3-5 with Fr Francis Gargani, CSsR, Fr Daniel Ruiz, Lisa Lickona, and Nancy Lynch

Couples' Retreats

November 17-19 with Fr Kevin McDonald, CSsR, Fr Daniel Ruiz, Deacon Gregory & Elena Kiley, and Deacon Richard & Rosemary Lombard

To register, contact is at 585-394-5700 or email nlynch@notredameretreat.org.

For more information, see our website: www.notredameretreat.org.



Break the Cycle of Poverty: Support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Next weekend, Sept. 16/17, we'll be taking up a collection for the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development**.

CCHD addresses the root causes of poverty in America

by supporting community-controlled, self-help organizations of low-income people. Here in our Diocese, many life-changing community organizations have been funded with major CCHD national grants. They included:

- **City Roots Community Land Trust**, a group of low-income people that renovated blighted properties and became homeowners in inner city Rochester
- **Refugees Helping Refugees**, an organization of and for refugees that provided English classes, job skills training, and tenants organizing
- **Alianza Agricola**, a farmworker group *empowering its membership to achieve a more dignified life*
- **Coffee Connection**, a wholesale and retail coffee business providing job skills and a supportive, sober environment for women in recovery from addiction
- **The Tompkins County Workers Center**, a not-for-profit led by low-income people which promotes living wages and assists workers who are victims of wage theft and other mistreatment in the workplace

Similar groups from around the country will benefit from this year's collection.

In addition, 25% of the funds will remain in our diocese to fund smaller anti-poverty projects. By supporting this collection, you are standing with people on the margins and making positive social change.

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. It is easy, safe and secure! A link to Online Giving can be found at our Parish Home Page www.stjohngreece.org.

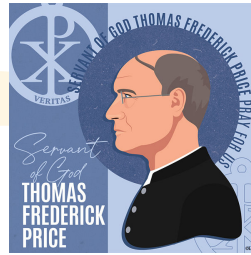


Don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office, 225-8980 for details or assistance with Online Giving.

*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.**



Examples of Our Faith

**Servant of God
Thomas Frederick Price**

Thomas Frederick Price was born in Wilmington, North Carolina on August 19, 1860, to parents who were Catholic converts. As a child he was an altar server and developed a deep faith. Servant of God Thomas Frederick Price survived severe illness and a shipwreck as a young man before becoming a priest. He cofounded the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America, better known as Maryknoll, and led the institution’s first mission to China. Despite operations to help, he died of a burst appendix on September 12, 1919. He was originally buried in Hong Kong but, he was transferred to the Maryknoll Cemetery in 1936.

Senior Home Communion Service Ministers September 2023

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

September 17, 2023 Steve & Mary Ann Donato

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY

September 10 Bob and Barb Gotham
September 17 Tom Grieco
September 24 Bob and Barb Gotham

ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

September 10, 2023 Terry & Pam Hearne
September 17, 2023 Dan & Melissa Kabasin
September 24, 2023 Carolyn Kerhaert