

St. John the Evangelist Greece

September 22, 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.



"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." Taking a child, he placed it in their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me." - Mk 9:35b-37a

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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

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.rocceatholicsnorthwest.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-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

Prv 3:27-34/
Ps 15:2-4ab, 5/
Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday

Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/
Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44/
Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday

Prv 30:5-9/
Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163/
Lk 9:1-6

Thursday

Ecc 1:2-11/
Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b/
Lk 9:7-9

Friday

Ecc 3:1-11/
Ps 144:1b, 2abc, 3-4/
Lk 9:18-22

Saturday

Ecc 11:9—12:8/
Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17/
Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday

Nm 11:25-29/
Ps 19:8, 10, 12-14/
Jas 5:1-6/
Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Welcome!

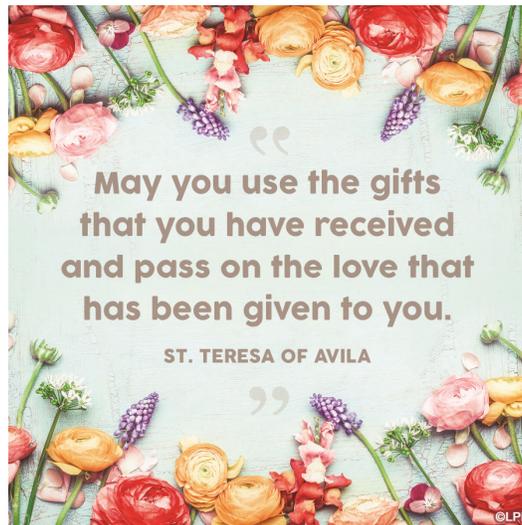
If you are new in the parish, we invite you to become a member of our faith community where we come together to worship the Lord and celebrate the Eucharist. We want to get to know you so please if you can introduce yourself after Mass, we will be grateful. Please know that your prayers, your presence,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

We Are Called to Step Up in Our Faith

One of the joys of being a priest is hearing the spontaneous comments of children about important events in their lives. Interestingly, their beliefs are on a multitude of topics. Each age group seems to have a slightly different viewpoint on everything from A to Z. One such topic is the meaning of FAITH. We are all needed to grow in the faith—the church and families working together.

We must revitalize our relation with Jesus and His message of mercy and forgiveness. We must live our faith by renewing our spiritual relationship with Jesus. We must experience new ways of worship—in the Eucharistic celebration, as we pray with the Communion of Saints, and in the Sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation. Finally, by knowing and sharing our faith, we are ready to share it with others. While missionaries continue to bring the Good News to the world at large, we have opportunities in our own communities, our own parishes, and our own families to let our light shine as Christians. Let's try to be doers and not just voices with opinions.

During this month of October, let us remember to pray the rosary. Let us pray for ourselves and for all who have asked for our prayers.



We have opportunities in our own communities, our own parishes, and our own families to let our light shine as Christians.

I want to encourage all to please return your Catholic Ministries Appeal pledge. Please help us reach our goal this year. If you have not received a pledge card, please let me know. I am eternally grateful to all who have given already. We need each other to grow as a family. We need each other as a faith community. We need each other to grow as Church.

Remember that each time we come to Mass we make the sign of the cross. Do you know that the Cross is God's unconditional love for us? We take up this cross by making it our own by loving God above all else—

with our commitment, witness, and care for each other. The Cross is TWO intersecting pieces. This reminds us that our lives intersect with each other. We are all needed to step up in the faith. We are all Catholics and we are all called to be partakers in the important work of making Christ known, irrespective of our imperfections. Jesus will be our guide. He will fill our nets to be able to help spiritually nourish others. We are important and we are all needed in this call to proclaim the Gospel. The CMA helps make this possible. As Scripture tells us, if we remain faithful to God in all things, God will certainly be faithful to us and bless our efforts.

Peace and blessings to all.

Father Peter



Masses for the Week—Sept 23—29

MONDAY, September 23 *St Pius Pietrelcina*
 8:15 AM + *Ray Kerhaert*
 by John & Carolyn Kerhaert

TUESDAY, September 24 *Weekday*
 8:15 AM + *Tom D'Ambrosio*
 by Mom & Dad

WEDNESDAY, September 25 *Weekday*
 8:15 AM + *Nick Sassano, Sr.*
 by Family

THURS, September 26 *Sts Cosmas & Damian*

FRIDAY, September 27 *St Vincent De Paul*
 8:15 AM + *Florence Cally*
 by Daughter, Barbara

SATURDAY, Sept 28 *Sts Wenceslaus & Lawrence Ruiz*
 4:00 PM + *The People of St John's;*
Living and Deceased

SUNDAY, Sept 29 *26th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
 8:00 AM + *Salvatore Panella*
 by Wife & Family
 10:00 AM + *Gary Walz*
 by Mother, Mary

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

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, September 22
 Following 10:00 AM Mass Parent Meeting for
 Confirmation in Parish Center

Monday, September 23
 9:00 AM Bible Study in Parish Center



**40 Days for Life Fall
 2024 Rochester Campaign**

Help save lives in Rochester due to the ongoing scourge of abortion! One of the most proven, effective means to decrease abortion is 40 Days for Life. Since its inception, over 20,000 babies have been saved from abortion! Take part in the Rochester Fall 40 Days for Life Rochester Campaign from **September 25 thru November 3**. Through prayer and fasting embrace human life and promote the end of abortion. Volunteer to pray with your friends, in a peaceful vigil, outside of Planned Parenthood at 114 University Avenue.

Visit 40daysforlife.com/RochesterNY for info and to sign up for prayer vigil times. For more info, contact Rick Paoletti at (585) 489-9555 or Roc40DFL@gmail.com.

Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.

Sept 22	Sept 23	Sept 24	Sept 25	Sept 26	Sept 27	Sept 28
All Deacons	Carlos Sanchez	Robert Schrader	James Schwartz	Felicjan Sierotowicz	Louis Siriani	George Smith



**A Holy Hour
 for Diaconal
 Vocations**
 Thursday, October 3
 5:30—6:30 PM
 St Mark's Church
 54 Kuhn Road, Greece

An information session will follow for men and their wives who are interested in hearing more about the diaconate.

Sponsored by the Vocations Committee



COMING SOON—SOCKTOBER!

As outlined by Deacon Lon in last weekend's bulletin and in his homily, the month of October brings to our beloved St. John's—SOCKTOBER! During the month of October, through our Social Ministry, we will be collecting new socks of all kinds for men, women and children. Look for the bins in the narthex by the center doors and each of the two far end doors where you can drop off your donation of new socks throughout the month of October. The socks will be donated to those in need in our local area—those who live on the margins in our local nursing homes, Bethany House, Dimitri House, St. Joseph's House of Hospitality and the homeless around the city. We look forward to this new collection and how fun it will be to see all the different socks come in!



Autumn

PRAYER

God of all seasons, we thank you for Autumn.
 We thank you for the touch of coolness in the air
 that gives us a new burst of energy,
 for the coloring of trees
 that shows the creativity of the Divine Artist,
 for the falling leaves
 that reveal the strength of the branches,
 for the hues of fields
 that bring peace to our souls,
 for the smiles on pumpkins
 that bring joy to children,
 for the fall harvest
 which that brings us gratitude for the bounty of our land,
 for this change of seasons
 that reveals the circle of life.
 God of all seasons, as you transform the earth,
 transform us by your Spirit.
 Amen
 — Rev. Doug Leonhardt, S.J.



Prayer for Children

Dear Jesus,
 Wrap the young members of our family in your love.
 They know how to love BIG,
 even though they are still small.
 Their trust can inspire, their faith can change hearts.
 Help them to know you, now and always.

Amen.

©LPi

Who Loves Pie?

Most everyone loves pie or knows someone who does which is great especially for the upcoming holidays, as a random act of kindness or just because! St. John's Social Ministry will soon be holding a parish fundraiser taking orders for a variety of pies from Special Touch Bakery. Look for more details in next weekend's bulletin.

In the meantime, think pie!



Examples of Our Faith

St. Pius of Pietrelcina | September 23

Best known as Padre Pio, St. Pius was born Francesco Forgione in 1887 in Pietrelcina, Italy. As a young boy he suffered many illnesses including typhoid. He joined Capuchin Franciscans at 15 and took the name of Pius or "Pio" in honor of Pope Pius I. He was ordained in 1910, and at this time he received the marks of stigmata, the wounds of Christ, but they eventually



healed. Frequent illnesses continued to plague him as a young man.

Padre Pio served in the Italian Medical Corps during World War I, but he was discharged early because of illness, which was likely tuberculosis. He was assigned to the friary in San Giovanni Rotondo. In 1918, while continuing to serve at the friary, the stigmata appeared again, and this time remained until his death.

Many faithful came to see him at the friary, his days were long, beginning with Mass at 5 a.m. then hearing confessions all day with breaks to bless the sick. A simple man, content to do God's will on earth and with the ardent desire to serve the sick and poor in whom he saw Christ, he urged a hospital, Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza (House for the Relief of Suffering), to be built in San Giovanni Rotondo. It opened in 1956.

Padre Pio died at the age of eighty-one in 1968 and in 2002 Pope John Paul II proclaimed him "St. Pio of Pietrelcina."

Catholic Devotion for September – Our Lady of Sorrows

The Month of September is winding down and the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows has passed (Sept 15), however, it's never too late to dedicate ourselves to Our Lady of Sorrows.

The Catholic Church dedicates the month of September to Our Lady of Sorrows. The joys and sorrows of Our Lady are incredible – it does us good to meditate upon them. In fact, in Saint Bridget of Sweden's visions of Our Lady, Mary herself asks us to contemplate her sorrows! "My eyes were full of tears when I contemplated the places in my Son's body destined for the nails as well as his future passion, and when I saw all the prophecies I had heard foretold by the prophets being fulfilled in him. And now I look around at everyone who is in the world to see if there happens to be some who might have compassion on me and be mindful of my sorrow, but I find very few who think about my sorrow and tribulation."

This is why, my daughter, although I am forgotten and neglected by many people, you must not forget me! Look at my struggles and imitate them as far as you can! Contemplate my sorrow and tears and be sorry that the friends of God are so few." Revelations Book 2; Chapter 24

The Seven Sorrows of Our Lady. Unite our Suffering with Our Lady of Sorrows

The First Sword of Sorrow: Simeon announces the suffering destiny of Jesus Luke 2:34-35

The Second Sword of Sorrow: Mary escapes into Egypt with Jesus and Joseph Matthew 2:13-15

The Third Sword of Sorrow: Mary seeks Jesus lost in Jerusalem Luke 2:41-51

The Fourth Sword of Sorrow: Mary meets Jesus as He carries His Cross to Calvary cf. Luke 23:26-31

The Fifth Sword of Sorrow: Mary stands near the Cross of her Son Jesus John 19:25-27

The Sixth Sword of Sorrow: Mary receives into her arms the body of Jesus taken down from the Cross cf. John 19:38

The Seventh Sword of Sorrow: Mary helps place the body of Jesus in the tomb cf. John 19:39-42

Why Meditate Upon the Seven Sorrows of Mary?

"The purpose of the Devotion of the Seven Sorrows is to promote union with the sufferings of Christ through union with the special suffering that Our Lady endured because she was the Mother of God. By uniting ourselves with both the Passion of Christ and His holy Mother, we enter into Jesus' Heart and honor Him greatly; He is more honored because we have so honored His Mother."

Four Graces to those devoted to Our Lady's Sorrows

"According to St. Alphonsus de Liguori in his book, *The Glories of Mary*, it was revealed to Saint Elizabeth at the request of Our Lady, that Our Lord promised four principal graces to those devoted to Her Sorrows:

That those who before death invoke the divine Mother in

the name of Her Sorrows will obtain true repentance of all their sins.

That He will protect all who have this devotion in their tribulations, and will protect them especially at the hour of death.

That He will impress on their minds the remembrance of His Passion.

That He will place such devout servants in Mother Mary's hands to do with them as She wishes and to obtain for them all the graces She desires."

Honor Our Lady of Sorrows

By praying the powerful Seven Sorrows Rosary or the Seven Sorrows devotion. The Seven Sorrows devotion involves praying seven Hail Mary's a day, each one while meditating on one of Our Lady's seven sorrows, as are mentioned earlier in this article.

The Seven Sorrows Rosary involves dwelling upon each of the seven sorrows as you would one of the mysteries of the rosary, with seven Hail Mary's instead of a decade. Begin each sorrow with an Our Father.

Other ways in which we can honor Our Lady of Sorrows:

Don't run from the sorrows of others. Be fully present to them, even when their difficulty is hard for you to think about. Really listen when someone wants to talk about a worry, a grief, a pain, or a loneliness and offer time and empathy.

Put empathy into action. Offer to help ease the suffering of another, carrying their cross for a bit, like Simon of Cyrene. Offer to drive a friend to the doctor, visit someone in the hospital, pray a Rosary for a friend's special intention, babysit for an overwhelmed mom or spend time with an elderly relative while their caretaker has some time to themselves.

Bring an image of Our Lady of Sorrows to someone who's suffering. It could be a painting, a prayer card, a statue, or even a computer printout. In this way you can offer them the companionship of her compassion and the opportunity to offer their sorrows up, giving their pain a greater purpose.

Pray the powerful Seven Sorrows Rosary or the Seven Sorrows devotion.

Donate something. Even if it a widow's mite of the few dollars you can manage, give to a charity for those suffering.

Pray daily for someone who's suffering and let them know.

Light a candle at your parish church before a statue of Our Lady.

Make an altar to Our Lady of Sorrows in your home.

Find an image of the "Pieta" by Michelangelo.

Listen to Stabat Mater. Composed by a Catholic priest, Fr. Antonio Vivaldi, it translates as "Sorrowful Mother." Its incomparable beauty is perfect to accompany or inspire prayer.



This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for
 ✚ Tabernacle I Prayer Requests through our Prayer Line
 ✚ Tabernacle II Open
 ✚ Marian I Open
 ✚ Marian II Rose Marie Skrypek

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



September 14/15 Week 12 ATTENDANCE.....396

BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$ 9,321.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$ 5,412.52
ONLINE Giving.....	\$ 1,640.00
TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$ 7,052.52
SHORTAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING....	(\$ 2,268.48)

September 14/15

Campaign for Human Development Offering \$	1,027.00
CHD ONLINE Giving.....	\$ 10.00
TOTAL CHD Offering.....	\$ 1,037.00

Fiscal Year 2024-25 as of September 15, 2024

YEARLY BUDGET	\$ 494,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$ 111,852.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$ 108,165.18
SHORTAGE TO DATE.....	(\$ 3,686.82)

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.

Encouraging Deeper Understanding of Scripture

September 22, 2024

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

When I was a wet-behind-the-ears seminarian, I was sent for an immersion with the poor. For one month, I lived in a home for adults with developmental disabilities. It was a challenge for me because the residents had significant communication issues. A 30-year-old man there named Robin was totally deaf and mute. He had Down's Syndrome. He looked like a Viking, with a shock of red hair and a fine beard. But I felt awkward and disconnected from him. All my normal ways of interacting failed. I resigned myself to the fact that we'd never connect.



Then one morning something amazing happened. He was on the living room floor quietly playing with toys. Watching him from a chair, I sensed Jesus' words float into my mind, "Whoever welcomes one

such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me" Mark 9:37. I thought, "Jesus, you must somehow be in Robin." I sheepishly made sure no one else was in the room, and then I spoke in a clear voice: "Jesus, are you there?" Robin did not turn to me and say, "Hi, John. Yes, it's me, Jesus." He kept playing with his toys in silence.

But something changed in me. From that moment on, it was easier to just be with Robin, to joke around with him, to try sign-language with him, to let him be himself, and for me to be myself. His "disabilities" were no longer obstacles to overcome. He became just Robin, my friend.

Quietly invoke the name of Jesus, and see how the barriers disappear in you.

Who in your life seems awkwardly distant or uncomfortable to be with? Next time you see him or her, quietly invoke the name of Jesus, and see how the barriers disappear in you.

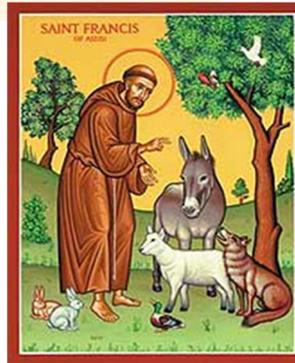
— Father John Muir ©LPi

**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.



**Annual Blessing
of Our Pets**

**Saturday, October 5
at 10:30 AM**
in front of the Church with
Deacon Elmer

Senior Home Communion Service Ministers September 2024

HAMILTON NURSING HOME COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

September 29, 2024 Ron LaForce

THE VILLAGE AT UNITY

September 22, 2024 Bob and Barb Gotham

ELDERWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNION SERVICE SCHEDULE

September 22, 2024 Dan & Melissa Kabasin
September 29, 2024 Carolyn Kerhaert