

St. John the Evangelist Greece

April 11, 2021

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.



Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."
- Jn 20:28-29

Avoid Close Contact with Others

Stop the Spread

Breaking Open the Word

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

Catholic Ministries Appeal

Your Contribution Helps Us More than You Know... 2

Selecting Godparents

A Trustworthy Witness to the Faith..... 3

2nd Sunday of Easter

Readings for April 11, Divine Mercy Sunday..... 4

Annual Parish Day of Caring—May 1

Now is the Time to Register to Help..... 7

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 couples requesting Baptism for their child, please contact the Parish Office at (585)225-8980.

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 When prayers are needed for yourself or others contact Nick Lipa 227-0549.

Pastor: Rev. Peter Enyan-Boadu - 225-8980
Deacon, Senior Status: Robert Burke - 732-3080
Deacon: Elmer Smith - 230-3074
Director, Music Ministry: Consuelo De Los Santos 225-8980
Finance Director: Daniel Leitten - 225-8980
Parish Pastoral Council Chair: Bob Gotham 470-9757

Senior Assistant Priest: Rev. Stephen Kraus
Pastoral Minister: Tod Simone– 225-8980
Faith Formation Coordinator: Cristyn Simone 261-0831
Secretary: Marcia Parsons - 225-8980
Business Office: Joe Spurrier - 225-8980

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)

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DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday

Acts 4:23-31/
Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9/
Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday

Acts 4:32-37/
Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/
Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday

Acts 5:17-26/
Ps 34:2-9/
Jn 3:16-21

Thursday

Acts 5:27-33/
Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20/
Jn 3:31-36

Friday

Acts 5:34-42/
Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/
Jn 6:1-15

Saturday

Acts 6:1-7/
Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/
Jn 6:16-21

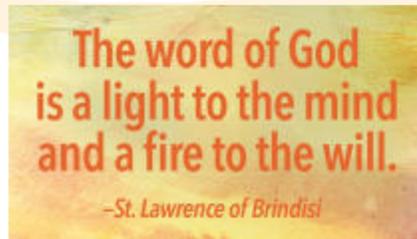
Sunday

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/
Ps 4:2, 4, 7-9/
1 Jn 2:1-5a/
Lk 24:35-48

Mass—Breaking Open the Word

When the priest finishes proclaiming the Gospel, he kisses the text. This is an intimate moment. He and His Lord touch and share breath. This gesture indicates the priest's desire to be enlivened and for his lips to be purified so that he may speak the life-giving Word of Life. When the priest "breaks open the Word of the Lord," this is a moment of communion for the faith community. It is at this moment that the community looks upon the leader of the celebration, the one who represents Christ in our midst in a special way, to share with us his faith.

This special sharing is for the purpose of enlightenment of our minds and the feeding of our hungry souls. The homily is a continuation of the flow of the communal experience of a specific encounter with Christ—an informed reflection upon what we have seen and heard.



We want to hear how the priest helps us live out the Word of God today; we who are the living body of Christ. The priest or the one preaching helps us to get in touch with the Gospel story as it is unfolding in our lives. The Homilist

is sharing an event in which we are all participating; the wonder of our Salvation History.

It is good for us to pause after the homily so we can absorb the point the preacher has made, and be in touch with the experience. This moment of reflection is necessary to allow the Word of Life which has been underscored to come to life in us.



Then we rise up to respond with our yes, "Belief," in the Profession of Faith.

Peace and love to all.

Rev. Peter Enyan-Boadu

Dear Parishioners:

I write to you with warmest wishes and my heartfelt prayers that glorious Easter was a blessing to you and your family in this most challenging year. I have found so much hope in the oft-repeated phrase during this pandemic, "We are all in this together." Our parish community remains vibrant, and we have been there for each other. Nothing serves more as a healing balm than the love and support of community.

In the spirit of community, I am reaching out for your much-needed help, as we approach the May 31 end of the Catholic Ministries Appeal. As of this writing, **we are at 82.84 % - \$ 13,319 short of our \$ 87,757 goal.**

Approximately 436 households have contributed to the CMA this year, and I am so very grateful for their contributions. I know if this number was larger, if everyone who had the means took part, we would certainly make our goal and avoid having to use much-needed parish funds to make up the shortfall, a tangible loss when funds are already tight due to the effects of the pandemic and loss of Mass attendance.

Your contribution to the CMA helps us more than you might know or imagine! As a parish, we simply cannot afford the services the CMA provides in such areas as



training, advice and counsel in facility management and planning, development of resources for religious education and youth ministry,

communications, human resources and -- so vital especially this past year -- in technology. Beyond our parish boundaries, as a larger community of faith, CMA funds allow us to be part of ministries that assist those in need in the inner city and rural areas, the infirm, the aged, the incarcerated and so many more people experiencing hardship whom we may never know by name. I know I feel better knowing that my contribution, combined with thousands of others, truly lets us be the hands of Christ. And I feel better knowing, through the CMA, young men are being trained to be the priests of the future, and others will continue the wonderful ministries of our beloved deacons.

Again, I ask you to please pray on this and, if you are able, join your fellow parishioners in supporting your parish, our parish, in this year's CMA campaign. It will help our parish, our Diocese, our larger Church. Truly, we all are in this together.

May God continue to bless us all!

In Love of Him,

Fr Peter



Masses for the Week—April 12—18

MONDAY, April 12 *Easter Weekday*
 8:15 AM + *Rita Penazek*
 by Tom Holahan

TUESDAY, April 13 *St Martin I*
 8:15 AM + *Stephen Enyan Sarkodie*
 by Frank and Nancy Lader

WEDNESDAY, April 14 *Easter Weekday*
 8:15 AM + *Anthony DePetres*
 by The Waters Family

THUS, April 15 *Easter Weekday*

FRIDAY, April 16 *Easter Weekday*
 8:15 AM *The Special Intention of Richard Montrois*
 by Patricia

SAT, April 17 *Easter Weekday*
 4:00 PM + *For the People*

SUNDAY, April 18 **3rd Sunday of Easter**
 8:00 AM + *Helen Vieira*
 by Mr. & Mrs. Alan Vieira
 10:00 AM + *Ernie Giordano*
 by Sam & Ann Marie Nicchitta

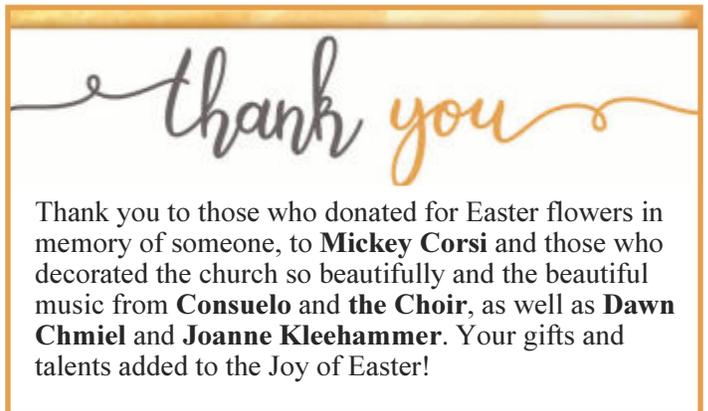
**Wills/Bequests/Memorials—
 Please Remember St. John the Evangelist Parish**

This Week's Schedule

SUNDAY, April 11 **Divine Mercy Sunday**
 Chaplet of Divine Mercy prayed following 10 AM Mass

MONDAY, April 12
 5:30 PM Liturgy Committee Mtg in Parish Center
 7:00 PM Parish Pastoral Council Mtg in Parish Center

SUNDAY, April 18
 8:50 AM Faith Formation Class in Parish Center



A Godparent should be a Trustworthy Witness of the Faith who will Help the Godchild Attain Salvation.

by Fr. Saunders, dean of the Notre Dame Graduate School of Christendom College and pastor of Queen of Apostles Parish, both in Alexandria.

To be a sponsor, a person must be chosen by the person to be baptized, or by the parents or guardians of a child, or, in their absence, by the pastor or minister of the sacrament. The sponsor must not only have the intention of being a sponsor but also meet proper qualifications. The



Parents need to find good practicing Catholics for godparents.

The sponsor must have completed his sixteenth year unless the Bishop has established another age for sponsorship, or the pastor or minister judges that a just cause warrants an exception to the rule. He must be a Catholic who has received the sacraments of holy Eucharist and confirmation, and “leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken.” Moreover, the sponsor cannot be impeded by some canonical penalty. Ideally, this sponsor at baptism should also be the sponsor for confirmation. Note that the mother and father of the child cannot serve as sponsors. Also note that these are the same requirements for confirmation sponsors. (Cf. *Code of Canon Law*, No. 874.1).

Strictly speaking, a person only needs one sponsor for baptism — male or female, but may have two sponsors, one male and one female. Here the *Code of Canon Law* wants to

eliminate the practice of having numerous sponsors, as has occurred in some cultures (No. 873). Also, in the case of an emergency, such as imminent death, no sponsor is needed. Here we should pause to clarify who qualifies as a Catholic godparent. A Catholic who does not practice the faith by regularly

attending Mass or who is in an invalid marriage disqualifies himself from being a godparent. Moreover, if a person is Catholic but antagonistic to the faith, i.e. has the attitude “I am a Catholic but...,” and would not be a good example and witness to the faith also disqualifies himself. If a person is not striving to fulfill his own obligations of baptism and confirmation, he will not fulfill the responsibilities of helping another to do so.

Fr. Saunders continues to say: As a pastor, I am truly perturbed each time someone comes by the rectory office and wants me to sign a sponsor’s certificate and attest that he is a practicing Catholic when I do not recognize him, he has not registered in the parish and he does not attend Mass faithfully. In justice, I cannot meet such a request.

Continued on page 7

Divine Mercy Sunday (2nd Sunday of Easter)

First Reading Acts 4:32-35

The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all. There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need.



Responsorial Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever."
Let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy endures forever."
Let those who fear the LORD say,
"His mercy endures forever."

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

I was hard pressed and was falling,
but the LORD helped me.
My strength and my courage is the LORD,
and he has been my savior.
The joyful shout of victory in the tents of the just:

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.
By the LORD has this been done;
it is wonderful in our eyes.
This is the day the LORD has made;
let us be glad and rejoice in it.

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

Second Reading 1 Jn 5:1-6

Beloved:

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith. Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood. The Spirit is the one that testifies, and the Spirit is truth.

Alleluia Jn 20:29

R. Alleluia, Alleluia.

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord;
Blessed are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

R. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel Jn 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



Reflect & Respond to Scripture



First Reading:

Luke gives us a glimpse into the solidarity of heart and mind with the original community of believers in Jerusalem.

How does your current community of faith compare to this first-generation

Jerusalem church?

Second Reading:

John speaks of the power of faith and love for believers in conquering evil in the world.

How does the faith and love in your life sustain you?

Gospel:

The story of Thomas' doubt in the resurrected Jesus is one of the most well-known resurrection narratives.

Why do you think Christians throughout the ages are drawn to this story?

©LPi

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Thank you to all who made donations. Your gifts in memory of your loved ones enabled us to decorate our beloved St. John's in beautiful spring flowers. *Additional names will appear in next weekend's bulletin.*





John Mallon Parishioner & Usher of St. John's
Roger Palermo, Jr. Brother of Debbie Cichelli



This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

- ✚ Tabernacle I **Special Intentions of St. John's**
- ✚ Tabernacle II **Holy Souls in Purgatory**
- ✚ Marian I **Living & Deceased Benefactors of St. John's**
- ✚ Marian II **Deceased from Coronavirus**

BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL



March 27/28	ATTENDANCE.....	404
BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$	9,706.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$	7,134.28
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	1,225.00
TOTAL Sunday Offering.....	\$	8,359.28
SHORTAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING....	(\$	1,346.72)

April 1 Holy Thursday ATTENDANCE..... 88

April 2 Good Friday

Collection for the Holy Land Offering.....	\$	1,085.07
ONLINE Giving.....	\$	55.00
TOTAL Collection for the Holy Land Offering \$	\$	1,140.07

The Mass attendance and contributions for April 3/4 will be posted in our April 17/18 bulletin.

Fr. Peter thanks you for your continued financial assistance.



I take this opportunity once again to say THANK YOU to all who have made your CMA pledge.

The most recent report at the time of this bulletin printing shows **346 households have pledged \$ 74,438, taking us to 84.82%** of our \$ 87,757 parish goal.

If you need a CMA envelope, you will find one in the back of church or you can see Fr Peter.

Remember to write "039-St. John's Greece" in the memo section of your check!

As furnished by the Diocese of Rochester on Monday, April 5, 2021, the following was added to the listing of the St. John the Evangelist Catholic Ministries Appeal Donors since the last CMA update listed in our April 4 bulletin:

- Mrs. Dorothy A. Jones
- Mr. James E. Markese
- Mr. Mark Scarpulla

If your name does not appear here this weekend, look for it in the April 17/18 bulletin next weekend.

If you have contributed and your name does not appear here this weekend, in a prior bulletin, or in an upcoming bulletin, please contact the parish office at 225-8980.

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.



All Those Affected by the Coronavirus throughout the World



OUR ANNUAL PARISH DAY OF CARING

Saturday, May 1, 9:15 AM till noon

As you know, the Catholic Church is in the midst of celebrating *The Year of St. Joseph*, and each year, on May 1, the Church honors St. Joseph the Worker, so what a great day for us to hold our Annual Parish Day of Caring.

We invite our volunteers, other parishioners and visitors to church as Fr. Peter celebrates First Saturday Mass at 8:15 AM. Following Mass we will gather outside the Parish Center where Fr. Peter will have donuts for us to enjoy before getting underway with raking, branch cutting, garden cleaning, and painting. Bring your work/garden gloves and a rake if you have one as we will only have a limited supply of rakes on hand—and oh, let's not forget our masks to have on hand when they are needed. Please know bottled water will be available to the volunteers throughout the day. Then, after all our hard work, to show his gratitude, Fr. Peter will offer the volunteers a hot dog lunch (yes, red and white hots!).

If you haven't already received a Sign-Up Genius invitation through your e-mail, or if you have questions, please call Ray

Parsons (764-9974) or Bob Gotham (470-9757) or the Parish Office (225-8980) to register your helping hands.

If you can't help physically, come along anyway; join us for Mass and then, weather permitting, bring your lawn chair and watch the action unfold while chatting with others—socially distanced, of course. This is an opportunity to get outside and see others after a long cooped up year of Covid.

Lastly, please pray for nice weather!

GODPARENTS Continued from page 3

Parents need to find good practicing Catholics for godparents. Sadly, this task can be very difficult in today's world. The best place is to look for relatives, even grandparents, who have a blood relationship with the godchild and have kept the faith over the years. Good friends are also appropriate, but sometimes friendships wane, leaving the godchild without an active godparent. Godparents should be faithful individuals who are ready to accept the responsibility of being a part of a godchild's life for the rest of his life.

In all, godparents serve a special role in the life of the baptized person. Therefore, each parent should choose a godparent not just because of a blood relationship or friendship; rather, a godparent should be a trustworthy witness of the faith who will help the godchild attain salvation.

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