# St. John the Evangelist Greece January 2, 2022

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.



They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold,

#### **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

#### **DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Monday
1 Jn 3:22—4:6/
Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

How Do We Manifest Our Faith?
From the Desk of Father Peter2

Following Christ Register Now
<b>Epiphany of the Lord</b> Readings for January 24
Christmas Poinsettias Donor Acknowledgement
<b>Forward in Faith</b> Where We Stand with the CMA6
Encounter God's Love God is Tangible, Real

Pastor: Rev. Peter Enyan-Boadu - 225-8980 Deacon, Senior Status: Robert Burke - 732-3080 Deacon: Elmer Smith - 230-3074 Director, Music Ministry: Dawn Chmiel - 225-8980 Director, Choir Ministry: Consuelo De Los Santos 225-8980

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 **Finance Director:** Daniel Leitten - 225-8980

Parish Pastoral Council Chair: Bob Gotham 470-9757

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 Find us on **St** St John the Evangelist Church of Greece

ay	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
· ·	1 Jn 4:7-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/ Mk 6:34-44	1 Jn 4:11-18/ Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/ Mk 6:45-52	1 Jn 4:19—5:4/ Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17/ Lk 4:14-22a	1 Jn 5:5-13/ Ps 147:12-15, 19-20/ Lk 5:12-16	1 Jn 5:14-21/ Ps 149:1-5, 6a, 9b/ Jn 3:22-30	Is 42:1-4, 6-7/ Ps 29:1-4, 9-10/ Acts 10:34-38/ Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

# 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.

In western Christian tradition, the first Sunday of January is celebrated as Epiphany. It goes by other names in various church traditions. In the Hispanic and Latin cultures, as well as in some places in Europe, it is known as Three Kings' Day.



Christmas celebrates a family that

could not get a place to stay; a family that was homeless, with no place at the Inn. Mary had to give birth in a stable. The angels came and glorified God. Then the people of the East came and found the Wonder Child that King Herod had sought to eliminate because he felt Jesus was a threat to his parochial sense of kingdom. Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the world. As Christians, how can we manifest our faith to others who are less fortunate in our lives? I am happy and thrilled with the outpouring of support we, as a parish, provided the many organizations represented on this year's Angel Trees. Again this year, due to the impact the pandemic continues to have on our daily lives, we were not able to purchase and wrap actual gifts as we have done in the years prior to the pandemic. Instead, we repeated last year's format by donating monetary gifts to selected organizations.

Your donations brought in a grand total of \$ 7,455. Underneath my article today you will see a list of the organizations and how each one benefitted from our generosity this year. As your Pastor, I realize we have so many good things in us that we just do not talk about or share to let others know our out-

reach, especially when it comes to church related issues. We each have a hidden talent which we may consider ordinary but which turns out to be the basis for a new hope, a new lease on life for others. Thanks to all who gave so generously to those in need through our Angel Tree Project. May God richly bless your families and continue to shower you with His blessings.

True joy, the protection of God, and a deepening knowledge that God wants to provide us with every good thing are among the gifts we can also become more aware of at this time of the year. To open our awareness, we may need to pause, to be silent and quietly contemplate our gracious loving God, and feel deeply that the Emmanuel is with us, in whose name we too have shared ourselves

with others. Happy New Year and God bless us all! Fr. Peter



On behalf of all of us here at our beloved St. John's, the following gifts were distributed before Christmas to these organizations:

Daystar Kids: \$ 960.00 Friendship Center: \$ 735.00 House of Mercy: \$ 675.00 Journey Home: \$ 600.00 Focus Pregnancy Center: \$ 1,215.00

Mother Teresa Missionary Center: \$ 750.00 Nazareth Elementary: \$1,250.00 + a donated \$ 50 gift card St. Mary's Refugee Center: \$ 790.00 St. John's Families in Need: \$ 430.00

### Masses for the Week—January 3—9

MONDAY, January 3 Holy Name of Jesus 8:15 AM + Eleanor Zanni by Ange & Eileen Zegarelli

**TUESDAY, January 4** St Elizabeth Ann Seton 8:15 AM + Sue Grieco by Bob & Nikki MacDonald

WEDNESDAY, January 5 St John Neumann 8:15 AM + John Preston Baker by Wife, Narcissa Baker

**THURSDAY, January 6** *St Andre Bessette* 

**FRIDAY, January 7** St Raymond of Penafort 8:15 AM + *Rev. Fr. Thomas Wheelend* by Fr. Peter

**SATURDAY, January 8** Christmas Weekday **4:00 PM** + James DiBella by Wife Rose & Family

SUNDAY, January 9 Baptism of the Lord 8:00 AM + For the People 10:00 AM + Barbara Cottorone by Children & Grandchildren

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

# Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.

Jan 2	Jan 3	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6	Jan 7	Jan 8
Pope	Eugene	Robert	RIP Thomas	Daniel E.	Vocations &	Daniel L.
Francis	Weis	Werth	Wheeland	White	Seminarians	White



~~Fr. Steve Kraus~~ From all of us at St. John's May you be blessed with good health and happiness in the year ahead. You remain in our thoughts and prayers.

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If you'd like to send a card to Father, his address is 4206 Providence Circle, Rochester, NY 14616

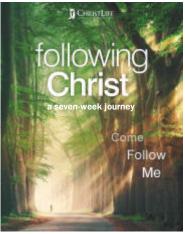


# This Week's Schedule

Sunday, January 2 11:00 AM Baptism Class in Parish Center

FRIDAY, January 7
8:15 AM First Friday Mass followed by Adoration until 10:00 AM in Church
10:00 AM Benediction in Church

**Saturday, January 8 10:00 AM** Prayer Shawl Ministry in Parish Center



#### Following Christ, Register Now

Following Christ continues the journey of Discovering Christ. During the seven weekly sessions and retreat day, learn ways to strengthen our relationship with Jesus and follow Him more closely. Join us beginning **Tuesday**, **January 11**, for 7 weeks 6:30 to 8:30 PM Dessert included. Retreat planned Saturday.

February 12, 2022. Weather delays may adjust schedule. Register by January 4, 2022, by email ChristLifeStJgreece@gmail.com or call 585-303-8860.

I take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to those of you who sent Christmas cards, gave gifts and offered prayers for which I am especially grateful in view of my health challenges. I humbly ask for your continued prayers.

Please know I am grateful to so many of you here at St. John's for the many ways in which you help me and our parish. There are so many of you that naming names is not in order, lest I forget someone, but as I see you around, I will extend my personal thank you.

Not only from me, but from all of us—THANK YOU to those who took time at this busy time of year to decorate the church for our Christmas celebrations. A big part of the decorating are the beautiful poinsettias, so thank you to all those who donated toward them in memory of loved one or in honor of someone. They add so much beauty to our Sanctuary at this special time of year. Last, but certainly not least, a special thank you to those who brought us the beautiful music—Consuelo, Dawn, Maria, our Adult Choir, our Children's Choir, and our Cantor—Eileen Verdino. God bless each of you for your dedication and beautiful gifts!

Peace and blessings, Fr. Peter

## Sunday, January 2 The Epiphany of the Lord

#### First Reading Is 60:1-6

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

#### Responsorial Psalm Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13.

#### R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son; He shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment.

#### R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more. May he rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

#### R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts; the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute. All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him.

#### R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save.

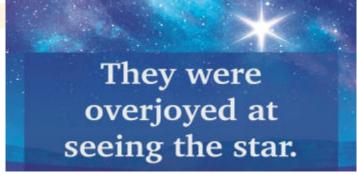
#### R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

#### Second Reading Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

#### Brothers and sisters:

You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.





#### Alleluia Mt 2:2

R. Alleluia, Alleluia.

We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.

#### R. Alleluia, Alleluia.

#### Gospel Mt 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet:

And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel."

who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

#### **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.

Our Ch	nristmas Poinsettias are	Courtesy of the Follo	wing Donors
Donor	In Memory of/In Honor of	Donor	In Memory of/In Honor of
Narcissa Baker	John Preston Baker	Cathy Moore	George (Buz) Moore
Angela Borrelli & Daughters	Jack Borrelli		Deceased Members of the
	James Borrelli		Nauerth Family
	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lippa		Deceased Members of the
	Mr. & Mrs. James Borrelli		Moore Family
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bridgeman	Eisenberg & Bridgeman Families	Barbara Parkhurst	William & Carmella Parkhurst
Karen Cooper	Eric & Jean Mertens		Anne Angora
Gene & Diane Englert	Scantlin & Englert Families		Rose Indovina
Susan Hartwig	Frank & Irma Figliomeni	Sharon Rucinski	Connie Rucinski
Donna Heassler	Mr. & Mrs. William Baskerville	Tod & Cris Simone	Carl & Barbara Cottorone
	Mr. Charles Baskerville		Christine Cottorone
The Heh Family	Douglas Heh		Michael Simone
Mr. Bill Hueber	Margaret & Earl Hueber	Henriette Vindigni	Aurelio Vindigni
Terry Kier	Chuck Kier		Helene Vindigni
	Tony & Mary Ligozio	D # V	Joseph Vindigni
Nikki & Robert MacDonald	Deceased Members of the Gallese &	Dottie Yax	Michael Yax
	MacDonald Families		Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Tedesco
Edward & Yong Sun Mattson	Hubert D. Mattson	T :11: X/	Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Yax
	Hubert J. Mattson	Lillian Yeager	Jack Yeager
	Bernice Mattson	Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Zegarelli	Alfreda & Leon Weise
	Jhang Dai Sup		Dominick Zegarelli
	Hwang Rae Yong	Any additional donors will be l	isted in the January 9 bulletin.

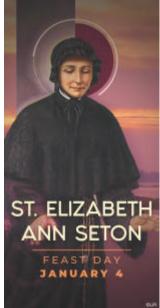


To the households who have made their pledge—THANK YOU! We are closer to our goal and are anxious to reach the 100% mark. We humbly ask if you are able to donate an additional \$20 (to what you have already donated) we will be extremely grateful. You can place it in an envelope marked "Additional CMA Donation" along with your name/ address and drop it into one of the collection boxes in church or drop it at the Parish Office. *Remember to write "039-St. John's Greece" in the memo section of your check!* 

As furnished by the Diocese of Rochester on Tuesday, Dec 21, 2021, these are the latest additions to the listing of the St. John the Evangelist Catholic Ministries Appeal Donors since the last CMA update in our December 26 bulletin.

Mr./Mrs. Joseph Anthony Mr./Mrs. Bruno Antonini Mr./Mrs. David Deisenroth Mr./Mrs. Stephen Donato Ms. Darlene Forte Mrs. Angela A. Frank Mr./Mrs. Richard Frisicano Mr./Mrs. Samuel Gioia Mr./Mrs. Robert Gotham Mr./Mrs. Robert P. Harradine Mr./Mrs. Paul Hugh Mr./Mrs. Robert Jaskot Mr./Mrs. Michael Kasperowicz Mr./Mrs. Michael Keane Ms. Mary C. Martin Mr. Tom Nicchitta Ms. Christine Paoletti Mrs. Joanne M. Quinn Mr./Mrs. Richard Signorino Mr./Mrs. Thomas A. Smith Mr./Mrs. Kenneth J. Ward Mr. Daniel Yargeau

As of Tuesday, December 21, 313 households have pledged \$70,188 taking us to 85.71% of our \$81,886 goal.



#### St. Elizabeth Ann Seton | January 4

The patron saint of Catholic schools, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (August 28, 1774 -January 4, 1821) was born in New York City to a prominent family of the Episcopal faith. When she turned 19, she married a wealthy businessman with whom she had five children. He later died of tuberculosis in 1803, leaving her a young widow. After discovering the Catholic faith in Italy, where her husband had died, she returned to New York and converted to Catholicism in 1805.

After several years struggling

as a single mother, Elizabeth moved in 1809 to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph, the first community for religious women established in the United States. She also began St. Joseph's Academy and Free School, which started a chain reaction of Catholic-based education in the United States that continues today.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was canonized September 14, 1975 in St. Peter's Square by Pope Paul VI and was the first citizen born in the United States to be given the title of "saint."



BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL

December 18/19	ATTENDANC	CE388
BUDGETED Sunday Offering	\$	9,706.00
SUNDAY Offering	\$	6,777.02
ONLINE Giving	\$	2,684.00
TOTAL Sunday Offering	\$	9,461.02
SHORTAGE for SUNDAY OF	FERING(\$	244.98)

#### Fiscal Year 2021-22 as December 19, 2021

YEARLY BUDGET \$	495,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE\$	242,650.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED\$	244,983.09
OVERAGE TO DATE\$	2,333.09

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

Due to early bulletin deadlines for the Christmas Holiday, our December 25/26 Mass attendance and contributions will be noted in NEXT Weekend's bulletin.

#### **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. Contact the Parish Business Office, 225-8980 for details or assistance with Online Giving.





The Light of the Moon

If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you've caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film "It's a Wonderful Life."

If you're not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from child

hood through adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for

Tabernacle II Special Intentions of St. John's

Tabernacle I Eleanor Zanni

✤Marian I Sally Kenyon
✤Marian II Eleanor Zanni

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart Mary while they sing "Buffalo Gals — Won't you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?"

That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon

Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. doesn't have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us,

doesn't it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. "Upon you the LORD shines," writes Isaiah, "and over you appears his glory." Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

At the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others.

Remember — the magi didn't chart their own course. They merely followed the star.

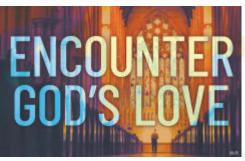
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

**January 2, 2022** 

In his Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." Today we celebrate

an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, "Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being."

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of



faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor,

exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved. ©LPi





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