

# St. John the Evangelist Greece

January 9, 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.*



After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. - Lk 3:21-22a

## Children of God

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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

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Monday

1 Sm 1:1-8/  
Ps 116:12-19/  
Mk 1:14-20

### Tuesday

1 Sm 1:9-20/  
1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd/  
Mk 6:34-44

### Wednesday

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/  
Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10/  
Mk 1:29-39

### Thursday

1 Sm 4:1-11/  
Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/  
Mk 1:40-45

### Friday

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/  
Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/  
Mk 2:1-12

### Saturday

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/  
Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/  
Mk 2:13-17

### Sunday

Is 62:1-5/  
Ps 96:1-3, 7-10/  
1 Cor 12:4-11/  
Jn 2:1-11

**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](mailto:gstjohnt@dor.org)

Visit [www.StJohnGreece.org](http://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

## 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.

### Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

This Sunday, we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. The public life of Jesus began with His Baptism by John in the River Jordan; this marks officially the end of the celebration of the Christmas season even though the Church allows us to celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2. In cooperation with the Holy Spirit who descended over Jesus in the form of a dove, Christ accepted His mission. He came to fulfill all that was right, submitting to the Father's will. Jesus consented to baptism and His death for the remission of our sins, and is the source of the Spirit for all humanity. It is through our baptism that we, as Christians, are sacramentally assimilated to Jesus. We take His mission. John had been proclaiming the words of the prophets to the people and teaching lessons of charity, repentance, truthfulness, honesty, and justice in everyday life. As Christians, each of us can rightly say that God has called us. We have heard at one time or another that we are "children of God." But what does this mean?

By our faith, we are instructed that if we face difficult and challenging times in life, Christ is there with His compassion. By the grace of our baptism, we call upon him to help us in those moments, and many times, by His grace, we are saved. As God's children through baptism, we are blessed with the faith of His loving kindness and



mercy to meet life's struggles. We approach the Lord, the Lamb of God, with humility and repentance, knowing that in HIM, ALL WILL BE WELL. As we are in the first month of the year 2022, what a joyful and comforting thought that

is. In Christ we pass from worry to peace, from pain to comfort; however it is up to each individual to ask Jesus for His help and grace in those areas challenging us. There are demands placed upon us when we accept the challenge to be a follower of Christ. There will be joy that comes from accepting the message of Christ and following it in our lives, there will also be suffering that comes to those who prefer darkness. We do not want darkness to blind our eyes. We want the light of Christ to illuminate our way in the world. Just as prayer was essential in the ministry of Jesus, it must be essential in our own lives, too. This is how we will be able to reach our goal, to one day be called to be with Christ in the heavenly kingdom—a Kingdom where there will be no more suffering, no more darkness, only rejoicing with the Saints and angels.

Let us then, work and pray that we may develop and nurture that personal relationship with Jesus that God asks of us. Such a relationship is what will guide and comfort us through this life and welcome us to the next.



**Peace and blessings to all in the New Year!**

Fr. Peter



*We are grateful for you! Thank you so much for facilitating your parish congregation's recent gift of \$1,250.00 to Nazareth Elementary. This generosity means that our children can continue to receive a Nazareth education and flourish. It changes lives. Your parish Advent Angel Tree project will bless many children! We are overwhelmed by your kindness & generosity!*

An excerpt from the thank you received from Sr. Margaret Mancuso, SSJ, Principal of Nazareth Elementary

**Masses for the Week—January 10—16**

**MONDAY, January 10** *Weekday*  
 8:15 AM + *Josephine Mastro Simone*  
 by Peter & Rose

**TUESDAY, January 11** *Weekday*  
 8:15 AM + *Sue Grieco*  
 by Alan & Eileen Vieira

**WEDNESDAY, January 12** *Weekday*  
 8:15 AM + *All Healthcare Workers*

**THURSDAY, January 13** *St Hilary*

**FRIDAY, January 14** *Weekday*  
 8:15 AM + *Joseph Pellman*  
 by Jim & Trudy

**SATURDAY, January 15** *Weekday*  
 4:00 PM + *Sally Kenyon*  
 by Karen Nolte

**SUNDAY, January 16** *2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
 8:00 AM + *Craig Ward*  
 by Frank & Nancy Lader  
 10:00 AM + *For the People*

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

**This Week's Schedule**

**Monday, January 10**  
 5:30 PM Liturgy Meeting in Parish Center  
 7:00 PM Parish Pastoral Council Mtg in Parish Center

**Tuesday, January 11**  
 6:30—8:30 PM Following Christ in Parish Center

**Sunday, January 16**  
 8:30 AM Faith Formation in Parish Center  
 11:00 AM Confirmation Class in Parish Center

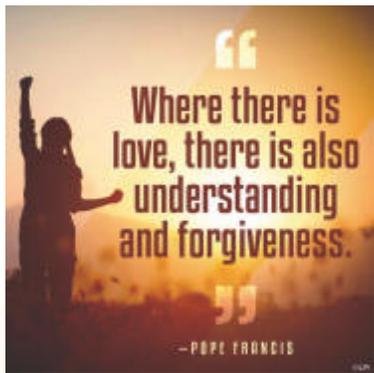
**Please keep the following ordained in your prayers this week.**

Jan 9	Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 12	Jan 13	Jan 14	Jan 15
Mitchell Zygadlo	William Amann	Anthony Amato	Ronald Antinarelli	Fred Asuming	Theodore Auble	William Barrett



**Family, Place of Forgiveness....**

There is no perfect family.  
 We do not have perfect parents, - you are not perfect yourself. We do not marry a perfect person or we do not have perfect children.  
 We have complaints from each other. We cannot live together without offending one another.  
 We are constantly disappointed. Yes, for so many reasons at different times we are disappointed by one another.  
 There is no healthy marriage or healthy family without the exercise of forgiveness. Forgiveness is the medicine of family joy and happiness.  
 Forgiveness is vital to our emotional health and spiritual survival. No matter the offense or who is the offender. Without forgiveness the family becomes an arena of conflict and a fortress of evil.  
 Without forgiveness, the family becomes sick and unhealthy.  
 Forgiveness is the asepis of the soul, the purification of the spirit and the liberation of the heart. No sin is too big to be forgiven. He who does not forgive does not have peace in his soul and cannot have communion with God.  
 Unforgiving is Evil and a poison that intoxicates and kills the one who refuses to forgive.



Keeping heartache of unforgiving in your heart is a self-destructive gesture. It's autophagy.  
 Those who do not forgive are physically, emotionally and spiritually ill. And they will suffer in two ways.  
 For this reason, the family must be a place of life and not a place of death, a place of forgiveness, a place of paradise and not a place of hell; a healing territory and not a disease; an internship of forgiveness and not guilt.  
 Forgiveness brings joy where sorrow has brought sadness; of health where sorrow has caused disease.  
 A family is a place of support and not of gossip and slander of one another. It must be a place of welcome not a place of rejection. Shame to those who plan evil about others. We are family and not enemies.  
 When anyone is going through a challenge all they need is support.  
 by Pope Francis  
 This could help healing some family wounds and settle some battles!  
 Family and Forgiveness—thoughts from Pope Francis on the Feast of the Holy Family, 2021

## Sunday, January 9 Baptism of the Lord

### First Reading Is 42:1-4, 6-7

Thus says the LORD:

Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations, not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street. A bruised reed he shall not break, and a smoldering wick he shall not quench, until he establishes justice on the earth; the coastlands will wait for his teaching.

I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10

**R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

Give to the LORD, you sons of God,  
give to the LORD glory and praise,  
Give to the LORD the glory due his name;  
adore the LORD in holy attire.

**R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

The voice of the LORD is over the waters,  
the LORD, over vast waters.  
The voice of the LORD is mighty;  
the voice of the LORD is majestic.

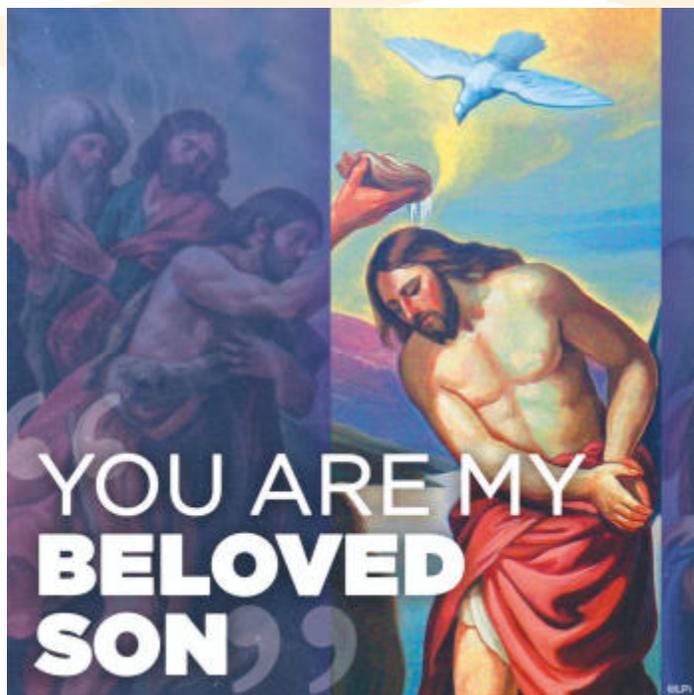
**R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

The God of glory thunders,  
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"  
The LORD is enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD is enthroned as king forever.

**R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

### Second Reading Acts 10:34-38

Peter proceeded to speak to those gathered in the house of Cornelius, saying: "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the Israelites as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him."



**Alleluia** Cf. Mk 9:7

**R. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

**R. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

### Gospel Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

The people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

### 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.

Baptism  
OF THE Lord

## Parish Council Meeting Minutes—December 13, 2021

**Opening Prayer:** Jill Bailey

**Attendance:** *Present:* Father Peter Enyan-Boadu, Nick Verdino, Bob Gotham, Jill Bailey, Pam Tofany-Kern, Paul Parkman, Tod Simone, Karen Cooper, Kathy Christodaro, Nick Sassano, Melissa Ryan, Sharon Miller.

*Excused:* Deacon Bob Burke, Father Steve Kraus, Deacon Elmer Smith, Rick Paoletti, Christine Paoletti, Gary Kern, Patty Hoag.

*Absent:* Alan Christodaro, Rick Ryan, Consuelo De Los Santos. *Visitors:* Marcia Parsons

**Approval of Agenda:** 1<sup>st</sup> – Melissa Ryan, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Karen Cooper

**Approval of Meeting Minutes: – November 8, 2021 meeting:** 1<sup>st</sup> – Nick Sassano, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Nick Verdino

**Chairperson's Comments: Bob Gotham**

- **Parish Council Secretary:** Due to family obligations and a new job, Jill Bailey has decided to step down as the Secretary for the Parish Council. Jill has faithfully served as our secretary for four years. I thank her for all that she has done for the Council and Myself. Christine Paoletti has agreed to fill this role starting in January 2022.
- **ChristLife:** Bob encourages us to participate in the Following Christ segment of the ChristLife program scheduled to start in January. The program is scheduled as follows:
  - Tuesday evenings January 11 - February 22, 2022 from 6:30-8:30 PM
  - Includes desserts and beverages
  - Retreat day: Saturday, February 12, Time TBD, meals provided, free will offering accepted for meals.
  - Note that the program may be elongated if cancellations for weather are required.
  - COVID protocols are followed. Social distancing in place for group discussion.
- **CMA – 2021 thru 2022:** As of December 10th – we have raised \$62,288 which is 76.07% of our Goal. So far, we have had 290 donors for an average of \$215. We are still below last year's average of \$237 but we are getting closer. Father Peter mentioned he has sent letters to those who have celebrated Weddings and Baptisms at St. John's recently in hopes that they will support us with our CMA campaign.
- **Angel Tree:** We are supporting 9 organizations this year - 190 Angels in total. Organizations included are Daystar Kids, Friendship Center, House of Mercy, Mother Teresa Missionary Center At Holy Apostles, Journey Home Hospice, Focus Pregnancy Center, Nazareth Elementary, St. Mary's Refugee Center, St. John's Families. Most of the angels have been returned, a few have not yet been returned.
- **Holiday Wreaths:** The holiday wreath sale to benefit St. John's was a success and raised \$530.25 for the Parish. Pam Tofany-Kern mentioned that a parishioner asked if wreaths can be pre-ordered next year. According to Steve Seely (who provided the wreaths for sale), it is possible they can be pre-ordered in September for delivery in time for the holidays.
- **Church decorating** scheduled for Thursday, December 23 at 9:00 AM.

**Update from Father Peter:**

- Father informed us of a task force being assembled by the Greece Pastors to include 2 people from each parish. The purpose of the task force is to look at the future of Holy Cross, Our Mother of Sorrows, St Charles, St Lawrence, and St John's.
- The Feast of St. John the Evangelist is on December 27 and Father would like ideas on how we can celebrate.
- Father is considering doing an Anointing Mass for the entire church.
- Father mentioned that many of our parishioners are in homebound/nursing homes and we don't know their current status. Sometimes urgent requests for Last Rites come in and can be difficult to meet. Knowing their current status can be helpful in preparing for any future requests.
- Father told us of a parishioner who knitted hats that were provided to Nazareth Elementary students. The students and staff were extremely appreciative of the donation.
- Tod Simone will be working with Dawn to troubleshoot microphone issues experienced with the music.

**Certificates of Appreciation:**

There is a Certificate of Appreciation currently waiting to be presented to a recipient.

Sharon Miller suggested we place a note in the bulletin inviting the parishioners to nominate someone for a Certificate. Sharon will provide Marcia with a snippet to place in the bulletin.

**Liturgy Committee: Tod Simone**

- **Christmas Eve:** Mass will be held at 4:00 PM and 10:00 PM.
- **Christmas Day:** Mass will be held at 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM.
- There will be no Mass of Anticipation (4:00 PM Mass) on Christmas Day.
- **New Years Eve:** Mass will be held at 4:00 PM.
- **Solemnity of Mary/New Years Day:** Mass will be held at 9:00 AM.

**Pastoral Ministry/Homebound: Tod Simone**

- Tod met with the 51st family of the year for Funerals in the church this year.
- Tod has been able to visit Atria. Other homes have strict COVID restrictions.

**Knights of Columbus: Rick Paoletti**

- December 26: Holy Family Consecration.
- Knights of Columbus will be sending Christmas cards to the homebound within the parish.

**Outreach - Social Media/Communications Committee Update:**

- **Website:** Gary Kern is currently updating the ChristLife section to include online registration forms. There are sections of the website under Parish Ministries/Activities that need updating. Gary will work with members of the committees to update the information.
- **Facebook:** No updates
- **Faith Stories:** Paul Parkman talks to us about the Feast Day of St. Lucy and Our Lady of Guadalupe.

**Outreach - Social Activities Committee - No updates**

*Continued on page 6*



**Dolores Stein** *Mother of Nancy Hennelly*  
**Joanne Callahan** *Wife of David Callahan*  
**Evelyn Gotham** *Mother of Bob Gotham*  
**Henry Manfredi** *Brother of Shirley Marang*



*This Week's Sanctuary Candles burn for*

- ✝ Tabernacle I **Walter Eisenberg**
- ✝ Tabernacle II **August DeConinck**
- ✝ Marian I **August DeConinck**
- ✝ Marian II **Healthcare Workers**

**BLESSINGS OF FINANCIAL**



**December 26** ATTENDANCE.....280

BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$ 9,706.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$ 8,368.02
ONLINE Giving.....	\$ 1,340.00
<b>TOTAL Sunday Offering.....</b>	<b>\$ 9,708.02</b>
OVERAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING.....	\$ 2.02

**Christmas, Dec 24/25** ATTENDANCE..... 667

Offering.....	\$ 8,288.26
ONLINE Giving.....	\$ 605.00
<b>TOTAL Christmas Offering.....</b>	<b>\$ 8,893.26</b>

**January 2** ATTENDANCE.....231

BUDGETED Sunday Offering.....	\$ 9,706.00
SUNDAY Offering.....	\$ 6,438.14
ONLINE Giving.....	\$ 2,235.00
<b>TOTAL Sunday Offering.....</b>	<b>\$ 8,673.14</b>
SHORTAGE for SUNDAY OFFERING...(\$	1,032.86)

**Solemnity of Mary, Dec 31/Jan 1**

ATTENDANCE.....	151
Offering.....	\$ 1,516.09
ONLINE Giving.....	\$ 10.00
<b>TOTAL Sunday Offering.....</b>	<b>\$ 1,526.09</b>

**Fiscal Year 2021-22 as January 2, 2022**

YEARLY BUDGET .....	\$ 495,000.00
BUDGETED TO-DATE.....	\$ 262,062.00
ACTUAL COLLECTED.....	\$ 263,364.25
<b>OVERAGE TO DATE.....</b>	<b>\$ 1,302.25</b>

*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. It is easy, safe and secure! A link to Online Giving can be found at our Parish Home Page [www.stjohngreece.org](http://www.stjohngreece.org). Contact the Parish Business Office, 225-8980 for details or assistance with Online Giving.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES *Continued from page 5*

**Safety and Security: Nick Sassano**

Nick mentions it has been very helpful to watch the monitors at the back of the church during Mass to allow the ushers to see people who arrive late and let them into church.

**Open Forum: All**

- **Paul Parkman** reminds us to think about St. John the Evangelist Feast Day on 12/27 and how we can celebrate.
- **Pam Tofany-Kern:** Thanks everyone who assisted in the Angel Tree project this year.
- **Nick Verdino** asks whether masks will be required for Mass. The answer is yes - it has been announced before all Masses the weekend before the NYS mask mandate takes effect. Signs have been posted within the Church and Father Peter plans on getting more masks to provide to parishioners if they need them.
- **Father Peter** thanks everyone and asks that God provide us great health and a peaceful end to the year.
- **Bob Gotham** reminds us to show up on December 23 if we're interested in decorating the church for Christmas.

**Next Meeting: January 10, 2022.**

Opening/Closing prayer: Pam Tofany-Kern

**Closing Prayer:** Jill Bailey

*\*\*Respectfully submitted by Jill Bailey\*\**



**Join Us For a Life-Saving, Life-Changing Experience**  
**January 20 – 21, 2022**

**Make Your Reservations Now!** Spots Are Filling Up Fast! Visit our web site: [march4life.gmsander.info](http://march4life.gmsander.info) for details and to register. Contact: Gerry Sander at 585.503.3256 OR [committeeforallife@yahoo.com](mailto:committeeforallife@yahoo.com)

*Sponsored by **The Committee for Life** with representation from the Webster Penfield Catholic Connection (WPCC) parishes*



*Your generous gift of \$960.00 will give our incredible infants and children priceless opportunities to push their limits, rebuild their strength, and learn new skills to help bridge the gaps caused by their prolonged periods of hospitalization and recovery. Thank you & all of your wonderful parishioners for their generous hearts! We appreciate your support & prayers! Thanks for your continued faith in our mission and for believing in Daystar Kids. Happy Christmas from all of your friends at Daystar Kids.*

An excerpt from the thank you received from Kim Condon, Executive Director of Daystar Kids



329 households have pledged thus far a total of \$73,892 bringing us to **90.24%**. As you can see we are slowly making progress and we emphasize progress.

We remain hopeful that additional pledges will come forward from households who haven't done so yet.

*As furnished by the Diocese of Rochester on Tuesday, Jan 4, 2022, 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 January 2 bulletin.*

Mr/Mrs. Martin Budinski  
 Mrs. Debra Colby  
 Mr/Mrs. Bruce Davis  
 Ms. MaryAnn DiRaddo  
 Mr. Robert Dornan  
 Mr/Mrs. Gino Fiordeliso  
 Mr. James Germano  
 Mr/Mrs. Jeffrey Humphreys  
 Mr/Mrs. Vincent Lombardini

Mr/Mrs. Robert MacDonald  
 Mr. Tom Nicchitta  
 Mr/Mrs. Bruce Ricigliano  
 Mr/Mrs. James Sufliita  
 Ms. Susan K. Thiele  
 Mr. Jonathan Verdun  
 Mr/Mrs. Michael Wilson  
 Ms. Jessica Wunsch

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