ST. RITA CHURCH

1008 Maple Dr., Webster, NY 14580 (585)671-1100 www.saintritawebster.org All Masses are livestreamed on our website.



Joyfully living and sharing the Gospel of Jesus, we welcome, worship, inspire, and serve with love.

DECEMBER 22, 2024



JOURNEYING THROUGH ADVENT
WITH HOPE
A time of sharing, prayer, & listening with Fr. Tim.
Join us for our last session in Room 1.

December 23 - 9:30am or 6:30pm

Christmas Masses

Tuesday, December 24

3pm Family Mass, 5pm, and 10pm
(carols starting at 9:30pm)

Wednesday, December 25

9am

DECEMBER 25, 2024 The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas



We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us. If you would like more information about St. Rita Church or to register, please go to our website at **www.saintritawebster.org** and click the "Join the Parish" link. Sign up to receive our weekly E-Newsletter to keep up with all that is happening.

On our website, click on "Newsletters".

We are happy to have you with us!



From the Desk of Father Tim . . .

Merry Christmas



I consider myself to be very blessed to welcome you to St. Rita Church for Christmas. Whether a parishioner or a guest, I am so glad that you are here.

I have a spiritual suggestion for all of you: whatever Mass you are attending, spend some of your Christmas time reading, praying, and pondering the Gospel that is used at the Mass on Christmas Morning. It is John 1:1-18.

I think you will find it to be moving, inspiring, provocative, powerful, and a fresh take on the meaning of Christmas. It begins with the words,

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

What does it mean that it begins with the same three words as the Book of Genesis? A little bit later in the reading we have perhaps the most important words in all the scriptures, because it has formed so much of what we believe about Jesus,

"And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth."

This is the very core of the meaning of Christmas for us who believe. The Word can bring a calming and healing light into the darkest of our times and be the grace that we need to move forward in hope.

There is so much to discover in this reading. If after pondering it on your own you want to have more to think about, you can use a google search like "catholic+commentary+John 1:1-18" and see what you might be able to discover.

I pray for you and yours to have all the blessings of a most Joyful Christmas!

Sincerely in the love of Christ, *Fr. Tim*

Reflections on Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Advent "He Shall Be Peace!"



In this fourth Sunday of Advent, the Church shifts our focus from the prophesies of the end times to the coming birth of our savior, Jesus.

In our first reading (Micah 5:1-4), the prophet Micah proclaimed the role of Bethlehem, the ancient birthplace of King David, as the birthplace of the savior Messiah, who would restore the children of Israel from the scattered lands. The Prophet Micah writes, "You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel ... He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock by the strength of the LORD, in the majestic name of the LORD, his God..."

In our Epistle reading (Hebrews 10:5-10), we hear of Jesus's suffering for the sins of the world, in contrast to the repeated and imperfect sacrifice of the priests under the old law. Jesus understood that the continual offering of blood sacrifices did not effect the forgiveness of their sins, so he, perceiving the will of the Father, offered his own body for the forgiveness of sins once, for all. The Hebrews author writes, "When Christ came into the world, he said: 'Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight. Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll, behold, I come to do your will, O God.'"

In our Gospel reading (Luke 1:39-45), we hear of Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John the Baptist. Elizabeth proclaimed the child in Mary's womb as "my Lord" as Elizabeth's own child in her womb "leaped for joy" at the sound of Mary's voice. "When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?""

And so we take heart - it won't be long now. Our Christ is near, and when He comes, He Shall Be Peace! May we take that peace into our hearts and may it rule our lives.

www.bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/122224.cfm

MASS INTENTIONS / WEEKLY CALENDAR

INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES DECEMBER 21/22

JOHN RECCHIA SR. - By Robert & Roslyn Patti RICHARD "DICK" JOHNSON - By Joyce Lochner JOHN FOGARTY - By Family JOSEPH DONAHUE - By Pat & Sharron Trimaldi

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2024

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024

8:00AM Mass
10:30AM Christmas Family Mass Rehearsal
6:00PM - 8:00PM Gift Wrapping Party - Parish Center

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2024

8:15AM CAROL GIACOBBE - By Pat & Sharron Trimaldi Mass 8:45AM - 9:15:AM Confessions - Church 9:30AM Journeying Through Advent with Fr. Tim - Rm 1 6:30PM Journeying Through Advent with Fr. Tim - Rm 1

INTENTIONS FOR MASSES DECEMBER 24/25

THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF ST. RITA PARISH

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024

3:00PM 5:00PM 10:00PM F Christmas Eve Mass Christmas Eve Mass Christmas Eve Mass

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2024 9:00AM

Christmas Day Mass

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2024

HOLIDAY - NO MASS OR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2024

HOLIDAY - NO MASS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2024

4:00PM - 4:30PM 5:00PM Confessions - Church
SF Mass

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

8:00AM 10:30AM Mass CL Mass

INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES DECEMBER 28/29

MARY FALVO - By Anne Lehman ERIC ANDREW STRUB - By Kathy Foster GERRY ERNST - By Husband John AN VAN PHAM - By William & Nguyet Schrader



Our Tabernacle Light will burn from December 23 – December 29 in loving memory of Otto & Paula Reisch by Family.

If you would like to carry up the gifts at a weekend Liturgy, please arrive at least 10 minutes before the start of Mass and let the Mass Coordinator know.

LINEN CLEANING: DECEMBER 22

MARY ANN BEIKIRCH



Please Remember in Prayer our parishioners and those connected with our parish who have recently died, especially:

Robert Ryan

Sr. Jackie Reichart, RSM Sister of Sr. Jeanne Reichart

We have Low
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Mass, let the
greeter know
you would like
a low gluten
host.

Please come up the center right hand aisle any time during Communion.



St. Rita's Prayer Line



If you would like to have a special intention remembered in prayer through our Prayer Line, please send your intention request to Julie at Julie.Cohnedor.org or call 671-1100 ext. 103. Would you like to become one of our "prayers"? Let Julie know and she will add you to our phone/email chain.

AT ST. RITA, WE OFFER A VARIETY OF MASS EXPERIENCES.

WANT TO KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT AT MASS?

LOOK FOR THESE SYMBOLS ON THE

WEEKLY CALENDAR.



Family Mass

Our school-aged friends participate in the Mass as greeters, readers, and choir members. Children are invited to come forward for the homily - **third Sunday of the month at 10:30 am**



Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children ages 3-7 can leave to hear and discover the readings at their level of understanding and return for the Liturgy of the Eucharist- **Sundays** at 10:30 am



Sensory Friendly Mass

Lower lights, quieter volume, and a shorter length make this Mass easier for those with diverse needs to attend - once a month; alternates between 5 pm Saturday and 2 pm Sunday



Count It All Joy

Our contemporary music group leads us in praising God - once a month at 5 pm on Saturday



Incense is used at this Mass.

The Parish Office will be CLOSED

on the following days in observance of the Christmas Holiday:

Tuesday, December 24 Wednesday, December 25 Thursday, December 26 Friday, December 27

As always, in the event of a pastoral emergency that needs immediate attention of a priest, please call 671-1100 ext: 106

We wish you all a safe and blessed Christmas!



The beautiful flowers throughout the church this Christmas season have been donated in loving memory/honor of the following:

Ed Geier Grace & Will Hebing Bill Hebing Mary & Pat Schafer Steve & Patty Imburgia Charlotte & Ed Geier Phil & Charlotte Vandermeyer John Pastorella Eleanor Cimino Joseph Gleason Margaret Gleason Joshua Gleason Fr. Firth Perryman Nancy Perryman Brian Buerman Robert Uhl Kenneth Keilman

Richard & Margaret Sementelli Joe & Virginia Longo Patrick & Adelade Flood Walter & Bernice Bayer Chip & Tomaz WWFD Mary Jo Hohl

Mary Jo Hohl John & Ruth Hohl Mary Beth Hohl Roy & Pat Ford Otto & Paula Reisch Carl Beechler Sr.

John Fogarty Brian Leary Gary Kochanek Denzel Family Bellinger Family Charles Coleman Alice Coleman James Kelleher Rena Kelleher Ellenmarie Smith Michael Ledtke Luigi Picciolo Caterina Picciolo Maria Renna Sante Renna Tina Nellucci Cosmo "Dell" Anno Foster & Donovan Families Josephine Tubiolo Anthony H. Tubiolo Vera M. Kissinger Oran E. Kissinger Betty & Lou Boyer Fran & Jack Lynch Thomas Ellia Phyllis Ellia

Anna M. Zander

Carl Beechler Sr. Vincenzo, Francesco, and Maria The Woytash & Cripps Deceased Family Members



Many thanks for your generosity!









Sacraments 2025-2026

How to Seek First Communion and Confirmation for Your Family

Are you looking for your child(ren) to prepare for their First Communion or their Confirmation in the coming year? Congratulations!

I'm looking forward to supporting you along your family's sacramental journey!

- If you have a child who will be entering 1st grade next school year, Faith Formation next fall will lay the foundation for their First Reconciliation and First Communion in 2nd grade. Catholic schools are also a fantastic foundation in our faith. If you have a child in 1st grade now, but they're not in Faith Formation or Catholic school this year, please reach out to me about Faith Formation so that we can get you ready for next year.
- If you have a child who will be entering 8th grade next school year, Confirmation awaits! This two-year preparation program begins in September and is open to youth in 8th grade and above.

Look for enrollment to open on our website this summer.

Enrollment is due in early September, and we get started a few weeks after the new school year begins. I'm excited to work with you. In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you at Mass! I'm the harried mom at the back at 10:30 with the noisiest kids in church, so I'm with you through it all, and I'm here to help.

God Bless,

Anne Thomas - Faith Formation Coordinator
Anne.Thomas@dor.org

It's Never "Too Late" For Sacraments

We love to walk with everyone on their sacramental journeys, whenever they happen! Children can prepare for their First Communion any time after 2nd grade, and youth can prepare for their Confirmation any time after 8th grade.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to Anne Thomas <u>anne.thomasedor.org</u> about your children's needs at any grade level.

Young adults seeking Sacraments after high school, please contact Julie Cohn, Pastoral Minister julie.cohn@dor.org.

GAMES&

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

@ Room 1 6:00-8:00 PM

RSVP HERE:

ALL AGES! INCLUDES A POTLUCK **DINNER!**



FRIDAY, JANUARY 24 @ Room 1

6:00-8:00 PM







FOOD FOR ALL

@ ST. RITA

JANUARY 5 @ St. Rita's Parish Center 8:30 - 10:00 AM also 2/2, 3/2, 4/6, & 5/4

DONUT SUND

3rd SUNDAYS OF THE MONTH after both Sunday Masses

FRIDAYS MARCH 7 - APRIL 11 @ St. Rita's Parish Center 5:00-7:00 PM **DINNERS**

CHURCHES OFFERING MEALS 7, JANUARY 22 FOR EVERYONE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12 hosted @ St. Rita's Parish Center 5:00-6:00 PM

OBSTACLE COURSE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19 SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 @ St. Rita's Parish Center 10:00-10:30 AM

Get your wiggles out before Mass on our "extreme" obstacle course set up in the gym. Great for ages 3-12! Just drop in! *Parent supervision required.



SUNDAYS @ 10:30 MASS JANUARY 5, 12 & 26 FEBRUARY 2, 9, & 23

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SCAN FOR MORE INFO



For more information or to schedule a visit, call 585-671-3132.

area schools.

St. Rita School - 1008 Maple Drive (off Old Ridge Road), Webster, New York 14580 (585) 671-3132 - www.srswebster.org

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - SUMMER 2025! JULY 28-AUGUST 1

Look for enrollment to open after Easter! Contact Anne Thomas

Service

(anne.thomas@dor.org) if you'd like to help.







We'll put on an Epiphany play

together to celebrate the end of the Christmas season - no rehearsals needed! (And no lines to memorize. Just fun for all!) We hope to see you there!

All families with kids in grades K-7 are welcome!

Merry Christmas!

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and much peace, joy, and happiness in the New Year! With love.

St. Rita Faculty, Staff, & Students



WALK IN OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday 9:00am - Noon

Please reach out to us with any of your needs.

Fr. Tim Niven, Pastor - Nivenedor.org 671-1100 ext. 106

Deacon Jim Fien - James. Fienedor.org 233-0334

Deacon Rick Rall - bernrick@frontiernet.net 545-8467

Dawn Clark - <u>Dawn.Clark2@dor.org</u> Parish Administrative Assistant General Inquiries, Bulletin, Weddings, Mass Cards 671-1100 ext. 101

Julie Cohn - Julie.Cohnedor.org Pastoral Minister Funerals, Baptisms, Prayer Line, Visitation 671 -1100 ext. 103

Elizabeth Kwiatkowski - Elizabeth Kwiatkowskiedor.org Website, Communications, Liturgy Coordinator, CYO 671-1100 ext. 104

Anne Thomas - Anne.Thomas@dor.org Children's Faith Formation and Sacraments 671-1100 ext. 110 or call/text 585-402-9254

Finance Office

WeblronFinance@dor.org

June Frosino - June.Frosino@dor.org Music Director 671-1100 ext. 105 or call/text 585-362-0708

Jennifer LeFrois - Jennifer.LeFrois@dor.org St. Rita School Principal

St. Rita School Office 671-3132

THANK YOU to all the Saint Rita parishioners who provide items and support to the outreach ministries serving those most in need in the Webster area and near downtown Rochester. These ministries are most grateful for our continued help!



Please bring donations of non-perishable items to St. Rita and place them in or near the shopping cart in our church Greeting Area whenever the church is open for Mass.

We continue to distribute items to the following:

St. Peters Soup Kitchen PO Box 11031, Rochester, NY 14611 https://stpeterskitchen.org/

St. Joseph's House of Hospitality PO Box 31049, Rochester, NY 14603

http://www.saintjoeshouse.org/blog/donate/

Webster HOPE

1450 Ridge Rd., Webster, NY 14580 http://www.websternyhope.org

No opened or expired items please.

Webster HOPE December Wish List:

Cooking Oil, Flour & Sugar Spaghetti Sauce (jarred) Pasta (NOT whole wheat) Hand Soap, Body Wash & Bar Soap Deodorant & Lotion Shampoo & Conditioner Toothpaste & Dish Soap Shaving Cream/Razors Laundry Detergent

Peas, Pineapple, Mandarin Oranges (canned) Beets, Potatoes (canned)

Dear parents,

Have you ever felt that taking children to Mass can be overwhelming, lonely, or more of a burden than a blessing?

We want to change that!

- Let's engage our children in the Mass as often as possible, giving more ways to participate.
- Let's provide plenty of opportunities to socialize, so children and parents see friends at Mass, instead of strangers.
- Let's educate our children about our faith so it is not just something that we do on Sundays, but something we live every day.

Ultimately, we want our children to know that no matter where life takes them, the Church is their home.



Are you interested in receiving Family Connections" email newsletters specifically about events for families and children? Sign up here!

Join us during Breakfast @ St. Rita on the first Sunday of the month!

We welcome anyone who has ideas - you do not even have to be a parent yet or have young children at home. You don't have to come every month. Bring your ideas and have some fellowship. Hope to see you there!



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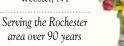
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