

FEBRUARY 23, 2025

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. RITA CHURCH



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

Over the Jubilee Year, we will explore the themes of Hope, Pilgrimage, and Jubilee, always ending with a question for you to consider over the week.



Loving your enemies is a tough lesson from Jesus. In today's world we want justice – or we think we do. True justice is putting right a relationship that has been hurt. It does not mean revenge, retribution, or forgetting; it means seeing Jesus' lesson in the situation and loving someone even when we can't like them. It's a very jubilee stance.

Pondering Point

When have you wanted revenge?
When have you wanted justice?

February 22 - 23 Blessing of Deacons

This weekend we pray for our wonderful Deacons. Please keep Deacon Jim Fien, Deacon Rick Rall, and all our Deacons of the Diocese of Rochester in your special prayers.

Please join us!

Pray the Rosary each Monday after the 8:15am Mass in the Chapel.



Congratulations and Welcome to the newest members of our parish family who were baptized this weekend:

- Evan James Gottermeier
- Krew Nicholas Johnson

ARE YOU NEW TO OUR PARISH?



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. Also, everyone is invited to sign up to receive our weekly E-Newsletter to keep up with all that is happening. On our website click on "E-news". **We are happy to have you with us!**



Weekend Mass Schedule:
 Saturday at 5:00pm
 Sunday at 8:00am & 10:30am

Daily Mass Schedule:
 Mon., Tues., Fri. at 8:15am & Thurs. at 6:00pm
 Communion Service on Wednesdays at 8:15am
 Our 8:00am Sunday Mass is live-streamed on Facebook

MASS INTENTIONS / WEEKLY CALENDAR

INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES FEBRUARY 22/23

ARTHUR KELLER - By Carl & Josephine Gangarossa
 ANNAMARIE MCGRATH - By James & Michael Kelliher
 JOAN "JO" CASTON-LEWIS - By The Music Ministry
 ROBERT FIEN SR. - By The Reinhardt Family

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2025

4:00PM - 4:30PM Confessions - Church
 5:00PM Mass
 6:00PM Game Night - Rm 1

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2025

8:00AM Mass
 10:30AM **CL** Mass
 11:45AM Priest, Prophet, & King Bible Study - Rm 1

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2025

8:15AM RICK LINES - By John & Julie Odenbach Mass
 8:45AM - 9:15AM Confessions - Church
 4:30PM Faith Formation
 6:00PM Fiesta Planning - Rm 1

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025

8:15AM FR. CHARLES LATUS - By Tom Yaeger Mass
 9:00AM Eucharistic Adoration - Church
 9:00AM WEROC - Rm 1
 2:30PM Angel Choir Rehearsal - Rm 1

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2025

8:15AM Communion Service
 6:30PM Adult Choir Rehearsal - Rm 3
 7:00PM Priest, Prophet, & King Bible Study - Rm 1

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2025

5:30PM Eucharistic Adoration - Church
 6:00PM VIRGINIA NICASTRO - By The Bergen/Veltz Family Mass
 7:00PM Women's Faith Sharing - Rm 1

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2025

8:15AM INTENTIONS OF DOREEN ALVITO - By Tom & Terri Mass

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2025

9:00AM - 11:00AM Kid Zone - Gym
 1:00PM - 6:00PM Confirmation Retreat - Yr. 2
 4:00PM - 4:30PM Confessions - Church
 5:00PM **C** Mass

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2025

8:00AM Mass
 8:30AM - 10:30AM Breakfast @ St. Rita - Gym
 10:30AM **CL** Mass
 1:00PM - 6:00PM Confirmation Retreat - Yr. 2

INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES MARCH 1/2

MARY KATHERINE OSSWALD - By The Reinhardt Family
 OTTO & PAULA REISCH - By Family
 GABRIELLA GASBARRE - By Pat & Sharron Trimaldi
 JOHN, SHANNON, & MICHAEL GALLAGHER - By Family

LINEN CLEANING: FEBRUARY 23
DEBBIE WHITEHAIR

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.

SF Sensory Friendly Mass **CL** Children's Liturgy of the Word
C Count It All Joy **I** Incense Used **F** Family Mass

Reflections on Readings for the
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

**"Love Your Enemies, Do Good
To Those Who Hate You"**

Our readings this Sunday ask us to do the unthinkable - to "do good to those who hate you." It is an act only God is capable of (or those acting in the image of God).



This is what David did in our first reading and what Jesus invites us to do in today's Gospel.

In our first reading (1 Samuel 26:2,7-9, 12-13, 22-23), we hear excerpts from the fascinating story of young David, who was being pursued by his former patron, King Saul. Saul and his army were trying to kill David. David stumbled on the opportunity to slay his would-be killer in the night but he chose not to. He refused to take vengeance on King Saul, whom he called "the Lord's anointed." In short, he did good to those who hated him, blessed those who persecuted him.

In our Epistle reading (1 Corinthians 15:45-49)

St. Paul contrasts (the first) Adam with the last (or second) Adam (Jesus). The first Adam is from the earth, the natural world and the second Adam, Jesus, is from the spiritual world - the image of the heavenly one. It is this image that Jesus calls us to be in today's Gospel. Paul writes, "As was the earthly one, so also are the earthly, and as is the heavenly one, so also are the heavenly. Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one."

In our Gospel reading (Luke 6:27-38), we hear a continuation of Jesus' Sermon on the Plain that began in last Sunday's Gospel reading. Here, Jesus laid out what it is to be a follower of Christ, in the image of God. This is an image of meekness and humility. It is a call to love our enemies with an "Agape" love, like the love between God and mankind. Imagine how counter-cultural Jesus' words were to those who heard Him; how counter-cultural they are even today.

Have you ever given a gift to someone and not received a thank-you? Were you offended? If the gift was truly given in the spirit of today's Gospel, with no expectation of return, there would not be offense, only love. The gifts given to us by God are not only with no expectation of return, it would be impossible for us to reciprocate with God. God gives purely because He loves us, over and over again. We are called to live in His image.

www.bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/022325.cfm



Our Tabernacle Light will burn
from February 24 – March 2
for the intentions of Doreen Alvito
by Tom & Terri.

From the Desk of Deacon Jim. . .

Our Moment Has Arrived



Every generation has something that defines them. A moment when we will need to rise to the occasion. I can't help but feel that moment has arrived. I'm speaking to everyone, all generations – teens, young adults, and those a little older. 😊

In a world that seems to have lost its moral compass in so many ways, the world needs people of faith to step up. To be Christ in the world, no matter the personal consequences. I know, easier said than done. We can feel helpless, anxious, scared. It is in these moments though that God gives us what we most need...courage. Often times that courage comes in the form of our own faith community. The weight of it all is a little lighter when we stand tall together.

St. Rita Parish has always shown the way in this regard. But God's work is never easy and it is never done. We must not get fatigued in our moment. There are critical needs within our community and many current ministries offer opportunities to live out our faith. If you are not already active in one of our ministries, please consider engaging in one now. If you have questions or are not sure where you are most needed, please feel to contact me and I am sure we can find the perfect fit! Perhaps an easy start is to simply invite someone to come to Church with you.

Lastly, let us pray for hearts courageous enough to face our fears, to extend mercy and compassion to those most in need of God's unconditional love. And if you need a Bible reference or two to really bring this point home, The Beatitudes and the Good Samaritan provide a great foundation.

Thank for listening!
Much love,
Deacon Jim

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Fridays during Lent beginning March 7th
5:00PM in Church
Come and join us for a new guided stations
experience every week.

WITH HEARTFEEL **SYMPATHY**

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



Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays 9:00-9:30am

Thursdays 5:30-6:00pm

Come and spend some quiet time with the Lord.

Breakfast @ St. Rita

Please come and join us
NEXT SUNDAY
for breakfast and fellowship.

Sunday, March 2nd

8:30am - 10:30am

St. Rita Parish Center

**Monetary donations will be accepted,
but not expected. Please join us and
bring your family.**

If you would be willing to help with breakfast, please
contact Marie Torrens at 585-507-2991

marietorrens740@gmail.com or or Evelyn Powe
732-648-4383 dmpowe@aol.com

Women's Faith Sharing

**Thursday, February 27th
7:00pm in Room 1**

Women's Faith Sharing
will meet once a month
to discuss topics to
strengthen our faith,
deepen our relationship
with Jesus, and provide
practical ways to live as
a disciple of Christ.

Please contact Jane
Murray at
jmurr66@yahoo.com for
more information.



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.Cohn@dor.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.

Knights of Columbus Trinity Council #4618 Fundraiser



Trinity Council #4618, Knights of Columbus, is conducting a Cooperstown Vacation (and more) Fundraiser to benefit the Trinity Council Charitable Fund. One Grand Prize and Six Second Place prizes will be awarded. The Grand Prize winner will receive a \$1,250 value package to the luxurious Otesaga Resort Hotel on Glimmerglass Lake in Cooperstown, NY, home of the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

There will also be six Second Place prizes. Each Second-Place winner will choose from among the remaining second place prizes, which include: four Box Seats to a Rochester Red Wings 2025 regular season home game, a Rochester Red Wings Hoodie, six 100 Level vouchers for any 2025-2026 Rochester Amerks home game, one autographed Rochester Amerks player jersey, six 100 Level vouchers for any 2025-2026 Rochester Knighthawks home game, one autographed Rochester Knighthawks player jersey.

Raffle tickets for these fabulous prizes are only \$35.00 each and sales will be limited to 180 tickets.

A random drawing will be held at the Trinity Council March meeting on March 6, 2025. To obtain a ticket, contact David Powe at 585-627-1716 or dmpowe@aol.com.

Ash Wednesday is March 5th

7:00am Liturgy of the Word
12:00pm Liturgy of the Word
6:00pm Mass

Ashes will be distributed
at all services.



Bags of ashes will be available to bring to those who are unable to attend a service in person.

JOIN US!

Tuesdays at 9:00am in Room 1

Ladies, please join us! WEROC is an informal gathering of women of faith sharing coffee, friendship, and reflections on timely reading.

For more information or if you have questions, please feel free to contact Julie Cohn, our Pastoral Minister at:
julie.cohn@dor.org
(585) 671-1100 Ext: 103.

All are welcome!

W.E.R.O.C.

WOMEN
ENJOYING
REDISCOVERING
OUR
CATHOLICISM

St. Rita Music Ministry

All musicians are welcome to join our Music Ministry! We are starting rehearsals for the Easter Triduum and will meet on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm in Room 3.

Please email June Frosino at June.frosino@dor.org for more information!

**We have Low Gluten Hosts
available at all Masses.**

When you arrive for Mass, let the greeter know you would like a low gluten host. Please come up the center right hand aisle any time during Communion.

LENTEN DISCIPLINES OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE



Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.



Date: Saturday, March 1
Time: 9-11 am
Who: Ages 4-12
 (older or younger with a sibling)
Cost: \$10 per family
 (pay at the door;
 free if an adult stays to help)
RSVP here: 

Join us for a morning of relay race style fun. Participants will speed from one activity to another in a race to the finish line. Everyone is a winner in this high-energy event!

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE
St. Rita School's
 ANNUAL BLUE & GOLD
Celebration

SATURDAY, MARCH 15TH 2025
 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM DINNER & AUCTION
 WEBSTER GOLF CLUB || 440 SALT ROAD

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\$70 PER TICKET (EARLY BIRD PRICING UNTIL FEBRUARY 28TH)
 \$80 PER TICKET
 \$65 SEND A TEACHER
 \$650 FOR A TABLE OF 10
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SRSWEBSTER.ORG under the Giving tab!

Lenten Soup Suppers & Reflections

Tuesdays during Lent
 6:00pm Soup Supper in the Gym
 6:45pm Reflection in Church

Join us at 6:00pm for a light meal, fellowship, and a chance to spend time with other families and friends.

Our Lenten Reflection Series will follow our soup dinners in Church starting at 6:45pm

March 11
"Achieving Hope through Suffering"
 with Deacon Jim

March 18
"The Way to Santiago: Hope in Every Footstep"
 with Maurini Strub

March 25
"Taize Prayer Service"
 with St. Rita Music Ministry

April 1
"Our Everyday Journey, Our Everyday Hope"
 with Fr. Tim Niven

April 8
"Dorothy Day: Champion of the Poor"
 with Donna Ecker

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

Look for enrollment to open after Easter!
 Contact Anne Thomas
 (anne.thomas@dor.org) if you'd like to help.




Lent Soup Suppers

Five weeks of Tuesday Lent Soup Suppers begin on March 11.

Sign up to bring soup, bread, cookies.
 Set-up and clean-up help is also needed.
 The link and QR code to sign up are here.
<https://tinyurl.com/SoupSuppers2025>




Have You Moved or Changed Your Contact Information?

Please let us know on our website - click "Join the Parish", then choose the option to update if you have a change in name, address, or phone number so we can keep our records up to date and you up to date on all that is going on in our parish.





WALK IN PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
Monday - Friday 9:00am - Noon

Please reach out to us with any of your needs.

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

Deacon Jim Fien - James.Fien@dor.org
233-0334

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

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

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

Elizabeth Kwiatkowski - Elizabeth.Kwiatkowski@dor.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
WebIronFinance@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

DID YOU KNOW?

WE HAVE A HEARING LOOP!

We have a hearing loop available for hearing aid users. It works best near the outside of the sanctuary, closest to the system wiring.



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 January/February Wish List:

Ground Coffee
Tea & Hot Chocolate
Flour & Sugar
Cooking Oil
Laundry Soap
Dish Soap
Boxed Pasta (Please no whole wheat.)
Jarred Pasta Sauce
Canned Chili, Beef Stew, Hearty Varieties of Soup
Canned Peas, Pineapple, Beets



Thank you for your financial support of St. Rita parish!

Your generosity helps us continue our good works and much needed ministries.

To set up recurring online payments or make any changes to your current giving, please visit our Giving page at www.stritawebster.org/give-online.

If you attend a different church for weekend Mass, you can place your St. Rita Church Offering Envelope in that church's collection basket/donation slot and it will be sent back to us. We do this in turn for other parishes whose parishioners are here visiting our church.



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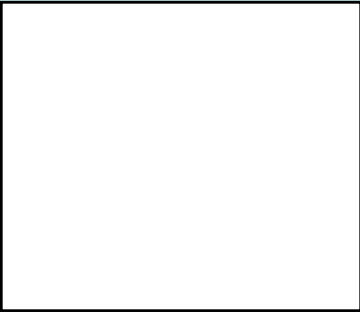
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