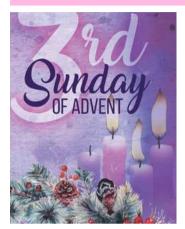
DECEMBER 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

ST. RITA CHURCH

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



Please join us! Pray the Rosary each Monday after the 8:15am Mass in the Chapel.



God of Love, Your Son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us. He is a sign of your love. Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent, as we wait and prepare for His coming. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen

> JOURNEYING THROUGH ADVENT WITH HOPE

A time of sharing, prayer, & listening

December 16 - 9:30am & 6:30pm December 23 - 9:30am & 6:30pm

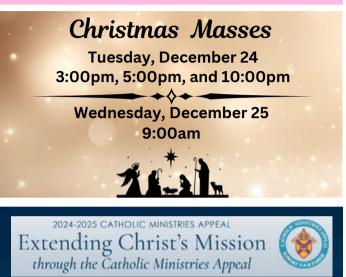
Spend some time together with Fr. Tim and the Scripture readings and prayers of Advent to help our experience of the Sunday Masses come even more alive. Attend either session each week.



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

Noelle Raine Conlon

Madelyn Rose Zukauskas



GOAL \$146,000 PLEDGES \$138,964

Please place your CMA envelope in the donation slot in Church or bring to the Parish Office and we will send it in for you. Please make checks out to "Catholic Ministries Appeal".

You can also make your gift online at www.dor.org/cma (St. Rita Parish number is 327).

We are at 95% of our goal from 354 households.*

Thank you for your generosity and prayers for the success of our CMA!

> *UPDATED AS OF 12/9/24



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

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

St. Rita Church

MASS INTENTIONS / WEEKLY CALENDAR

INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES DECEMBER 14/15

DONALD GALLO - By Amy Gallo ROBERT FIEN - By Virginia Nolan DICK JOHNSON - By John & Jeannine Thomas LENA SPAZIANO - By Kathy & Charlie Rosenzweig

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024 - DONUT SUNDAY! 💐

4:00PM - 4:30PM	Confessions - Church
5:00PM	Count It All Joy Music Ministry at Mass
6:00PM	Blood Pressure Screening - Rm 1

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024

8:00AM	Mass
9:00AM & 11:30AM	Blood Pressure Screening - Rm 1
10:30AM	Student Sunday Mass
11:45AM	Confirmation Session
4:00PM	Youth Group - Rm 1

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2024

8:15AM	SUSAN RUDDLE - By Dirk & Nora Dunbar	Mass
9:30AM	Journeying Through Advent with Fr. Tim	- Church
4:30PM	Faith Fo	ormation
6:30PM	Journeying Through Advent with Fr. Tim	- Church
7:00PM	Men's Faith Grou	p - Rm 1
7:15PM	Confirmation	Session

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2024

8:15AM	Mass
9:00AM	Eucharistic Adoration - Church
9:00AM	WEROC - Rm 1
2:30PM	Angel Choir Rehearsal - Rm 1
7:00PM	O.C.I.A Meeting - Rm 1

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024

5:30PM	Eucharistic Adoration - Church
6:00PM	DON MAIER - By Julie Cohn Mass
6:30PM	Companions in Grief - Rm 1
7:00PM	Women's Faith Sharing - Gathering Area
9:00PM	Men's Basketball - Gym

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2024

8:15AM ANNAMARIE MCGRATH - By Dorothy McGrath Mass

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2024

4:00PM - 4:30PM	Confessions - Church
5:00PM	Mass
5:00PM - 8:00PM	Kids Night Out - Parish Center

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024

Mass
Children's Liturgy of the Word at Mass
Confirmation Session
Gift Wrapping Party - Parish Center

INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES DECEMBER 21/22

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

LINEN CLEANING: DECEMBER 15 PAM KUNZER

Reflections on Readings for the Third Sunday of Advent

"Rejoice In The Lord Always... The Lord Is Near."

Today is the third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday. The word Gaudete is taken from today's entrance antiphon,



"Gaudete Domino semper" (Rejoice in the Lord always). It is a reminder that there is reason to be joyful—Christ is not far off.

In each of our first readings during Advent, we hear from a different Old Testament prophet, each proclaiming the coming of our Lord in majesty and bringing us salvation. In today's first reading from the Prophet Zephaniah (Zep 3:14-18), we hear him proclaim to the people that there would come a day when the King of Israel, the Lord would be in their midst and renew them in his love. It would be a cause for great rejoicing.

In our Epistle reading (Philippians 4:4-7), we hear the passage on which today's Gaudete theme is based. St. Paul sums up its meaning succinctly: "*Rejoice*! . . . *The Lord is near*." Paul also reminds us that our joy can be especially found in the kindness (mercy) we show to one another.

In our Gospel reading (Luke 3:10-18), the people were asking John the Baptist, "What should we do?" To each group, John exhorted them to act with justice, virtue and mercy. Do not steal, do not covet, do not bear false witness. Feed the hungry and clothe the naked. He called them to change the way they were living. No matter what their station in life, they should treat everyone with justice, and care for those who have less. "The people were filled with expectation and were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all saying, 'One mightier than I is coming . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

And so, we wait for the coming of our Lord. And while we wait, we are called to change the way we live so that we may be prepared for His coming. Give alms to the poor, treat everyone with honesty and love. It should be noted that our parish family is practicing these very values in the number of Advent related activities that we have. Thanksgiving baskets, Christmas Angel Project, CMA, food drives, and various ministries are all evidence that we hold these values near to our hearts. This is where we find our Lord; this is how He comes to us. We find such joy in giving. It is indeed a cause for rejoicing.

www.bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/121524.cfm



Our Tabernacle Light will burn from December 16 – December 22 in loving memory of Sheila Korol-Joseph by Evan & Austin Korol.

Men's Faith Group

Join us to discuss topics that strengthen our faith, deepen our relationship with Jesus, and provide practical ways to live as a disciple of Christ.

> Monday, December 16 at 7:00pm Room 1

> > Contact John Matina at 585-314-6096 if you have any questions.

Companions in Grief Thursday, December 19th at 6:30pm in Room 1

Join us for this informal meeting with others who are experiencing the loss of someone they love. We do not offer counseling; we offer support to one another.

For more information, contact Julie Cohn, our Pastoral Minister at julie.cohn@dor.org or 671-1100 ext:103.

The Jubilee will officially open on December 24, 2024 at 7pm, with the

rite of Opening of the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of St. Peter by the

Holy Father, who will then preside over the celebration of the Night Mass

of the Lord's Birth inside the Basilica.

All are welcome!

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.

- PILGRIMS WHOH
- "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision."
 Pope Francis
- A Jubilee Year is traditionally proclaimed by the Universal Church every 25 years. It is a particular year set aside to encourage the faithful to embark on pilgrimages, to repent of their sins and forgive the sins of others, and to renew a focus on the spiritual life.



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

Ronald Cocilova



Women's Faith Sharing Thursday, December 19th 7:00pm in the Greeting Area

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 **jmurr66eyahoo.com** for more information.

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith You have given us in Your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of Your Kingdom.

May Your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, Your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To You our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen. St. Rita Church



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@ St. Rita Parish 1008 Maple Dr., Webster 585-671-1100

Let us help you find some moments of peace and joy during this Advent season with the following events. Questions? Contact elizabeth.kwiatkowski@dor.org.

Kids Night Out



*Limited spot available - don't wait to sign up!





PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Share your prayers thanking God for the blessings in your life this Advent! Write your prayer on a purple slip and put it in the basket in the Greeting Area before any Mass during Advent. These prayers of thanksgiving will be brought forward during the Offertory at Mass.

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.



Children's Liturgy of the Word is offered each Sunday at 10:30am Mass!

This special opportunity is offered every Sunday except on the 3rd Sunday of each month when Father Tim will preside over a Family Mass in Church.

Children's Liturgy of the Word is designed to give children in Pre-K thru Grade 2 an opportunity to hear and share about the Sunday readings at a level of their understanding. Children will be dismissed from church to Room 1 before the first reading and will return approximately at the Offertory Prayers.

Join Sofia Bosco for **Christmas faith and fun!** Sofia is a previous Confirmation leader who has branched out to minister to all youth and teens in our parish.



Sunday December 15 Grades 7-12 from 4-5PM in Room 1



St. Rita School Where Faith and Knowledge Meet! **God Drop Corner**

- The December school liturgy was hosted by Mrs. Manarchuck's 3rd grade class. What a beautiful job they did leading the entire school in a joyous liturgy during this very special Advent season.
- Congratulations to the participants of our after school Spanish Club for completing the most recent 6 week learning program this week. We love seeing our God Drops dive into learning and expand their interests.

Bravo to our 1st and 2nd graders on their three exceptional performances of "Behind The Stable Door." We could not be more proud of the hard work, dedication, and the courageous spirit they displayed on stage. We are such a blessed school community!



BORROW A KID KIT DURING MASS

These bags are designed to encourage children's participation in the Mass by providing activities that connect to what is happening in Church.





If Webster Central Schools are closed due to weather, then our daily Mass will also be cancelled. If Webster Central School PM activities are cancelled, our parish PM activities, including Faith Formation, will also be cancelled.

St. Rita Church



CONTACT US

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

Please reach out to us with any of your needs.

Fr. Tim Niven, Pastor - <u>Niven@dor.org</u> 671-1100 ext. 106

Deacon Jim Fien - <u>James.Fien@dor.org</u> 233-0334

Deacon Rick Rall – <u>bernrick@frontiernet.net</u> 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 - <u>Julie.Cohn@dor.org</u> Pastoral Minister Funerals, Baptisms, Prayer Line, Visitation 671 -1100 ext. 103

Elizabeth Kwiatkowski – <u>Elizabeth Kwiatkowski@dor.org</u> Website, Communications, Liturgy Coordinator, CYO 671–1100 ext. 104

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

Finance Office WeblronFinanceedor.org

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

Jennifer LeFrois - <u>Jennifer.LeFrois@dor.org</u> 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)

NATIVITY ORNAMENTS & SAVE AROUND ROCHESTER COUPON BOOKS

The Parish Office is once again selling Christmas ornaments and coupon books to support the St. Damien Pediatric Hospital Port-au-Prince in Haiti.

This year's ornaments are 3D printed nativity scenes, crafted by the students at St. Michael's Woodshop. St. Michael's Woodshop teaches Rochester city teenagers marketable skills including woodworking and 3D printing.



The ornaments are beautifully packaged and cost \$7 each or 3 for \$18.

Save Around Rochester Books are \$25.

Payment can be made by cash or check. Please make checks payable to:

St. Louis Church, with Haiti ornaments or Haiti books in the memo line.

Stop by the Parish Office weekdays between 9:00am - Noon to purchase ornaments or coupon books now through December 20th.

Thank you for helping us support the St. Damien Pediatric Hospital, Port-au-Prince - Haiti's only state-of-the-art pediatric hospital free to the indigent.



SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

