

APRIL 6, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Lent

ST. RITA CHURCH



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



From the Desk of Deacon Jim . . .

In this week's Gospel of John, Jesus proclaims, *"I am the resurrection and the life."* Jesus speaks these words in the context of mourning the death of Lazarus, revealing His power over death and His role as the source of life; that, through faith in Christ, death is not the end, but the beginning of the rest of our time with our God.

It calls us to trust in His divine plan, even amidst the suffering and uncertainty we experience in today's world. As Catholics, we are reminded that our belief in the resurrection is foundational; it is not merely a future hope but a present reality that shapes how we live our lives!

It encourages us to live out our faith joyfully by offering hope to those who are grieving and marginalized. In doing so, we become instruments of life, instruments for Jesus, shining a light in a world often overshadowed by despair. So, let us reflect further on our belief in the resurrection – how can we better live our lives amidst the reality of the resurrection?

Continued blessings on your Lenten journey.

Much love,
Deacon Jim


PARISH OFFICE CLOSED APRIL 10 - STAFF RETREAT

Lenten Soup Suppers & Reflections

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


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

Donna Ecker is the longtime director of Bethany House, a local Catholic Worker House of Hospitality for women and children. In addition to discussing Dorothy Day, she will also discuss her spirituality, the spirituality of the Catholic Worker movement: serving the needs of poor and marginalized while advocating for systemic change through peace and nonviolence.



Congratulations and Welcome to the newest member of our parish family who was baptized this weekend:

Rosalina Jo Roberti



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

William V. Topel

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 APRIL 5/6

MICHELE FERRI - By Anna & Michael Renna
 JANET & PAUL PERDUE - By Molly Perdue
 CAMERON GIRVIN - By John & Mary Beth Klofas
 DOMNICA BOGHIAN - By Pat & Sharron Trimaldi

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025

3:00PM - 4:00PM Practice the Presence of God - Church
 4:00PM - 4:30PM Confessions - Church
 5:00PM Mass

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025

8:00AM Mass
 8:30AM - 10:30AM Breakfast @ St. Rita
 10:30AM **CL** O.C.I.A. Third Scrutiny at Mass
 11:45AM Confirmation Session
 4:00PM Youth Group - Rm 1

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025

8:15AM RYAN CORCUERA - By The Corcuera Family Mass
 8:45AM - 9:15AM Confessions - Church
 9:30AM Topics with Fr. Tim - Rm 1
 4:30PM Faith Formation
 6:45PM Parish Pastoral Council Meeting - Rm 1
 7:15PM Confirmation Session

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025

8:15AM SR. RUTH AGNES KESSELRING, SSJ - By Tom Yaeger Mass
 9:00AM Eucharistic Adoration - Church
 9:00AM WEROC - Rm 1
 10:00AM Mass at Baywinde - Castle Point
 2:30PM Angel Choir Rehearsal - Rm 1
 3:00PM - 5:00PM Open Church Time
 4:30PM - 5:30PM Practice the Presence of God - Church
 6:00PM Lent Soup Supper - Gym
 6:45PM Lenten Reflection Series - Church

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025

8:15AM Communion Service
 6:00PM & 7:15PM Confirmation Yr. 2
 6:30PM Adult Choir Rehearsal - Rm 3

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED - STAFF RETREAT


4:00PM Eucharistic Adoration - Church
 4:30PM - 5:30PM Confessions - Church
 6:00PM INTENTIONS OF DOREEN ALVITO - By Tom & Terri Mass

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2025

8:15AM DR. LOUIS GIORDANO - By Ed & Gloria Viele Mass
 9:00AM Buildings & Grounds Meeting - Parish Office
 1:00PM SRS Living Stations of the Cross - Church
 5:00PM Guided Stations of the Cross - Church
 5:00PM - 8:00PM Game Night - Rm 1
 5:00PM - 6:30PM Fish Fry - Gym

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025

4:00PM - 4:30PM Confessions - Church
 5:00PM Mass
 6:00PM Blood Pressure Screenings - Rm 1

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025 - PALM SUNDAY 

8:00AM Mass
 9:00AM & 11:30AM Blood Pressure Screenings - Rm 1
 10:30AM **CL** Mass

INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES APRIL 12/13

FLORENCE & ARTHUR GAGLIO - By Family
 THOMAS N. DAVIS - By Albertha & Family
 SAVERIO & ROSEMARIE PALUMBO - By Family
 ALPHONSO & FRANCESCA MAGRI - By Anthony & Angela Magri

Reflections on Readings for
The Fifth Sunday of Lent

"I Am The Resurrection And The Life"

Our readings for this Fifth Sunday of Lent focus our attention on the promise of new life in the resurrection of the body. It is a promise not to be taken lightly. It is a central point of our faith.



Our first reading (Ezekiel 37:12-14) is an excerpt from the prophet Ezekiel's "vision of the valley of bones", prophesied during the time of Judah's exile in Babylon. It was a time when all hope seemed lost. In Ezekiel's vision, God commanded that he prophesy of a time when Israel would be restored and the "dry bones" would be raised from their graves, and given flesh and sinew and breath. "Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and have you rise from them, O my people!" We await that same promise in Jesus Christ.

In our Epistle reading (Romans 8:8-11), St. Paul draws a sharp contrast between those who live in Christ and those who are still "in the flesh". For those believers who are living "in the Spirit", they will know the resurrection through the same Spirit who raised Christ from the dead.

In our Gospel reading (John 11:1-45), we hear the story of Jesus raising his friend Lazarus from the dead. Jesus did this "so that the crowd may believe that you (the Father) sent me". He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth." This was a foretaste of the bodily resurrection that will come to us all at the final judgement and similar to Paul's words in our Epistle reading. This is not unlike our first reading from Ezekiel when the Lord will "open your graves and have you rise from them, O my people!"

This Sunday's readings along with the previous two Sundays (The Woman at the Well and the Healing of the Man Born Blind) were traditionally used by the early Church as instruction and insight for catechumens in preparation for Baptism. May their reflection be a source of renewal of our own Baptism as our Catechumens prepare for their Baptism in Christ and we all prepare for the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

www.bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/040625-YearA.cfm



Sensory Friendly Mass



Children's Liturgy of the Word



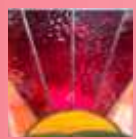
Count It All Joy



Incense Used



Family Mass



Our Tabernacle Light will burn from April 7 - April 13 for the intentions of Doreen Alvito by Tom & Terri.

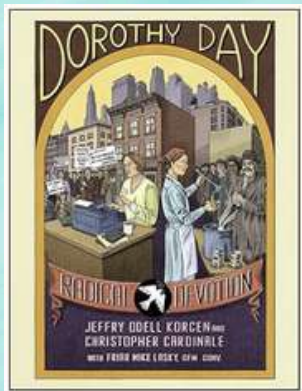
St. Rita Reads...

Nurturing Our Relationship with Christ and Each Other through Faith Filled Reading and Dialogue



Dorothy Day: Radical Devotion

Sunday, April 27th and May 4
11:45am-1pm (after 10:30 Mass)



Dovetailing off of Donna Ecker's Lenten Soup Supper Reflection, St. Rita Reads will be reading a selection entitled, Dorothy Day: Radical Devotion.

The book is a graphic novel: a quick read, appropriate for

teens and adults, showing Dorothy Day's life through illustrated panels and text.

Sign up in the Greeting Area.

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.



The Church uses a 3-year cycle of readings (we are currently in "Year C"), but when a parish celebrates the scrutinies for those entering the Church at the Easter Vigil, the readings from "Year A" are used for the 3rd, 4th, & 5th Sundays of Lent.

In the Gospel, Jesus raises his friend, Lazarus, from the dead. Lazarus' pilgrimage of life seemed to be over, but Jesus had bigger plans for him!

Pondering Point

When have I thought a particular journey or pilgrimage was over, only to find I was needed for more?

SUMMER SERVICE PROJECT



I am happy to report that we will have a team of parishioners heading down to **Frenchville, PA** to take part in a Summer Service Project from **July 13 to July 18**. While there, we will provide ministry to the people of the area in a number of ways. This may include activities like painting a room, removing/creating a stone walkway, building a wheelchair ramp, fixing porches, and visiting with residents in nursing homes. We stay at the facilities of Bethany Youth Retreat Center. More info can be found at: www.anawiministries.com/missiongroups.

The group is now open to

- high schoolers
- middle schoolers who have a parent of the same gender also participating
- adults 21 years or older

If you are interested, we will have an informational meeting on Sunday, May 11 after the 10:30 am Mass (about 11:45) in Room 1. The first planning meeting for participants will be Sunday, May 18 after the 10:30 am Mass.

More information can be found by downloading the Youth Leader Handbook at www.anawiministries.com/bethanyyouthprogram.

Fr. Tim

Join Us
FOR A FISH FRY!

Fridays
5:00pm - 6:30pm
March 7 - April 11

St. Rita Parish Center
Sit down service or
take out available.
Proceeds support
St. Rita School.



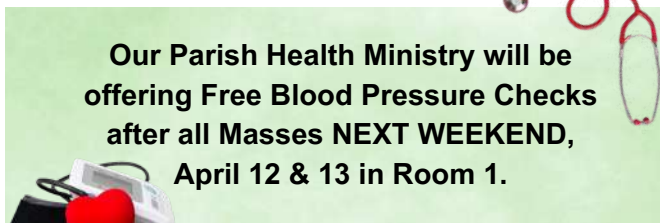
Game-Nights!



5-8 pm on Fridays. March 7-April 11

Come on up to Room 1 to play board or card games. All ages welcome!

**LINEN CLEANING: APRIL 6
PAM KUNZER**



Our Parish Health Ministry will be offering Free Blood Pressure Checks after all Masses NEXT WEEKEND, April 12 & 13 in Room 1.



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>

St. Rita Health Ministry is sponsoring...

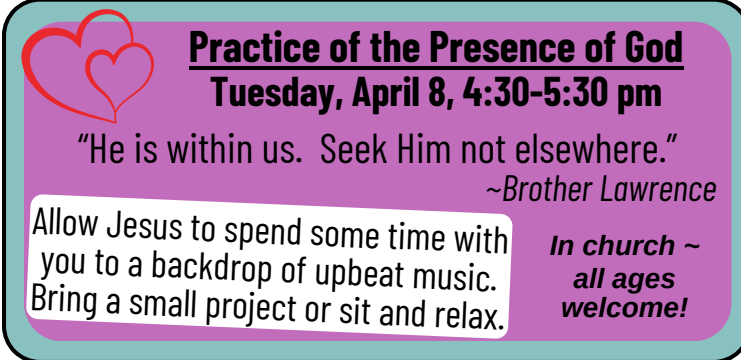
PREVENTING FALLS IN OLDER ADULTS: KEY FACTS AND STRATEGIES

Presented by Judy Mariotti, PT, DPT
May 15th at 11:00am
in Room 1



Join us for this educational and interactive presentation given by fellow parishioner Judy Mariotti. Learn all about ways to enhance balance and lower your risk of falling.

Light lunch to follow.
RSVP to Martha O'Connor (585)820-1076; text or voicemail by May 7th.



Practice of the Presence of God
Tuesday, April 8, 4:30-5:30 pm

*"He is within us. Seek Him not elsewhere."
~Brother Lawrence*

Allow Jesus to spend some time with you to a backdrop of upbeat music. Bring a small project or sit and relax.

In church ~ all ages welcome!

Join us for Holy Week!

Palm Sunday - April 12 & 13
5 pm Saturday;
8 & 10:30 am Sunday

We celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem with an opening procession, blessing of palms, and the Passion reading.

Holy Thursday - April 17
7:00pm
(arrive by 6:45)

We recreate the Last Supper, with washing of feet, sharing the Eucharist, and praying with Jesus late into the night. Adoration continues until 10 pm.

Good Friday - April 18
3:00pm

This continuation of the Holy Thursday celebration includes extended Solemn Intercessions and the showing and veneration of the Holy Cross, as well as another reading of the Passion of Jesus.

Holy Saturday - April 19
8:00pm

We begin at the bonfire and bring the Light of Christ into the church. New members are welcomed into the church through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion.



EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 20
Masses at 7:30am, 9:30am, & 11:30am
Alleluia! Christ is Risen!





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God Drop Corner

Congratulations

- Congratulations to our 5th graders who graced the stage with their talents for 3 fabulous performances of their play, "The Mysterious Case of the Missing Ring." We are so proud of you all!

FUNDRAISING NIGHT

SRS is fortunate to have the generosity of Winfield Grill donate back 20% to SRS. Please join us!

TUESDAY

- APRIL 8TH
- 647 Winton Road North
- 3pm-9pm
- DINE IN & TAKEOUT!**
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Holy Week

We celebrate - at last! - the last Sunday of Lent this week. But the most difficult part of the journey to Easter is still ahead. We enter Holy Week soon, when we walk with Jesus on His last days to the cross, from Palm Sunday through the Easter Vigil.

Lots of things about Palm Sunday and Holy Week are uncomfortable for children. The story of Christ's last days with His disciples before His Resurrection are full of the painful realities of our sinful mistreatment of others. Jesus endures betrayal, torture, and death - not even a natural death, but an execution. It's not a G-rated story, and nevertheless we share it publicly for all to hear because it is central to our faith.

This is a good time to check in with the children in your life. Are they feeling uncomfortable? Do they have questions about death? About how people can treat others so cruelly, or where to turn for help if they see someone hurting?

And don't forget yourself, too. How are you feeling? Are these stories hitting you in new ways this year? What crosses are you bearing?

Give yourself and your family the space for your questions and your feelings this Holy Week. Then, remember the hope that the cross brings. Even the Resurrection isn't the end of the story; we, too, have the hope of living with Jesus in heaven.

Anne Thomas - Faith Formation Coordinator

Pasta

FUNDRAISER

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Tickets will be sold after all Masses the weekends of April 5 & 6 and April 12 & 13.

FAITH! *Youth Group* **FUN!**

Youth Group Gatherings for Teens
Sunday, April 6th & 27th

4:00PM -5:00PM in Room 1

7th-12th Grade *Join us!*

Please RSVP to Sofia at srbosco01@gmail.com
by 9am on Saturday, April 5th.
New friends are welcome to drop in any time and try it out!


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

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 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




Fridays during Lent beginning March 7th
 5:00PM in Church

INCENSE

Incense must be used at any liturgy which includes the Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. It is a symbol of sanctification and purification and this is why incense will be used on Holy Thursday and at the Easter Vigil.

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