

DECEMBER 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

ST. RITA CHURCH



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

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who supported our Thanksgiving Food collection!

With your generous donations of food items and monetary gifts, we were able to provide 38 households (164+ people) Thanksgiving dinners this holiday. Your kindness was a blessing to so many people!

A special **Thank You to Pack #163** who took the time to organize, pack, and distribute all of our Thanksgiving dinner packages!

This Weekend there will be a second collection to support Catholic Universities and Other American Catholic Higher Education Institutions.



ADVENT EXTRAvaGanza

Monday, December 2

Free! 4:30-7:00 pm ALL AGES!

in the Parish Center

Learn about Advent and Christmas traditions from around the world, create a unique Advent calendar, make a gift to share, enjoy some treats, sing the night away, and more!

2024-2025 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Extending Christ's Mission
through the Catholic Ministries Appeal

GOAL \$146,000 PLEDGES \$126,614

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 87% of our goal from 316 households.*

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

*UPDATED AS OF 11/21/24

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.

MASS INTENTIONS / WEEKLY CALENDAR

INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES NOV. 30/DEC. 1

LOTTIE BART - By John & Karen Muir-Smith and Family
 PHILIBERT & CHARLOTTE VANDERWEYDE - By Daughter Virginia
 ANNAMARIE MCGRATH - By The Lang Family
 GARY PALMIERE - By Pat & Sharron Trimaldi

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2024

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024

8:00AM Mass
 8:30AM - 10:30AM Breakfast @ St. Rita - Gym
 10:30AM Children's Liturgy of the Word Mass

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024

8:15AM NANCY ARMSTRONG Mass
 - By MaryBeth & John Clofas

8:45AM - 9:15AM Confessions - Church
 9:30AM Journeying Through Advent with Fr. Tim - Church
 4:30PM Advent Extravaganza - Gym
 6:45PM Pastoral Council Meeting - Rm 1

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024

8:15AM SALVATORE (SAM) TRIPI Mass
 - By Salvatore & Carol Tripi

9:00AM Eucharistic Adoration - Church
 9:00AM WEROC - Rm 1
 10:30AM Prayer Shawl Ministry - Rm 1
 2:30PM Angel Choir Rehearsal - Rm 1
 6:30PM Journeying Through Advent with Fr. Tim - Rm 1

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2024

8:15AM Communion Service
 4:30PM & 6:00PM First Reconciliation Gathering
 6:30PM Adult Choir Rehearsal - Rm 3

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2024

5:30PM Eucharistic Adoration - Church
 6:00PM TONY COCILOVA - By Pat & Sharron Trimaldi Mass
 6:45PM Holy Beginnings - Rm 1
 9:00PM Men's Basketball - Gym

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2024

8:15AM JOAN GALUNKE - By The Viola Family Mass
 9:00AM Buildings & Grounds Meeting - Parish Office

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024

4:00PM - 4:30PM Confessions - Church
 5:00PM Rite of Enrollment at Mass

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2024

8:00AM Rite of Enrollment at Mass
 10:30AM Rite of Enrollment & Children's Liturgy of the Word Mass
 2:00PM Lessons & Carols - Church
 4:00PM Youth Group - Rm 1

INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES DECEMBER 7/8

MARTINA FAME - By Joe & Julie Cohn
 NICOLE RANALLETTA - By The Ranalletta Family
 RUTH YAEGER - By Family
 GIUSEPPE MISTRETTA - By Maria Mistretta & Family

Reflections on Readings for the First Sunday of Advent

"The Days Are Coming, Says The Lord, When I Will Fulfill My Promise"

This is the first Sunday of our new liturgical year – a time of anticipation and a new fresh start in our relationship with the Lord.



For the next four weeks, our readings will focus on three things – God's promise from ancient times for a Messiah, anticipation of God's promises kept at Christmas as God Himself comes to live among us, and God's promise of Jesus' second coming when our "redemption is at hand."

The words of the prophet Jeremiah in our first reading ([JER 33:14-16](#)),

offered hope to the Jewish people in exile in Babylon. He prophesied God's promise of the restoration of Jerusalem and that an heir to the throne of David ("A Just Shoot") would one day reign as king forever. If there is one thing the Jewish people knew, it was that God keeps His promises.

In our Epistle reading ([Thessalonians 3:12 - 4:2](#)),

St. Paul gives us advice on how to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord. This advice holds true for both the first coming of Christ at Christmas and for His second coming at the end of time. This advice is perhaps something parents today could write in a Christmas letter to their own children – "May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you."

In our Gospel reading ([Luke 21:25-28, 34-36](#)),

Jesus described a time of tribulation when the final judgement would come and Jesus would return. But for the faithful and vigilant ones, "stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." In other words, the end times should not be a frightful time for the faithful, but a time to look forward to our redemption.

This Advent season is a time of looking to the past and looking to the future with the purpose of influencing our present. Just as Jesus comes into the world anew at Christmas, so too He comes anew into our hearts. This is a time of preparation for that glorious event.

www.bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/120124.cfm

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 1
PATTY ZACHMAN



Our Tabernacle Light will burn from December 2 – December 8 in loving memory of Giuseppe Mistretta by Maria Mistretta & Family.

ATTENTION SNOW BIRDS

If you are heading south this winter and wish to have parish mailings and/or your envelopes put "on hold", please call the Parish Office at 671-1100 and let us know the dates you will be away and when you will return.



Christmas Masses

Tuesday, December 24
3:00pm, 5:00pm, and 10:00pm

Wednesday, December 25
9:00am

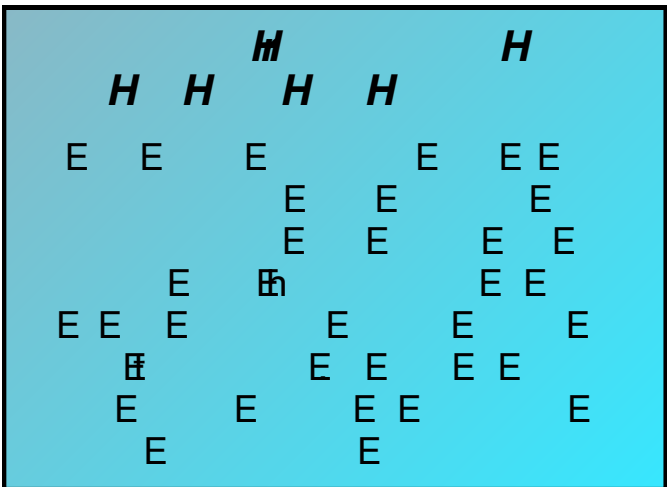


JOURNEYING THROUGH ADVENT WITH HOPE

A time of sharing, prayer, & listening

Dec 2 - 9:30am & Dec 3 - 6:30pm
 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.



Lessons & Carols
 Sunday, December 8
 2 pm

Join us for a joyous celebration of the holiday season through music and word as we retell the story of the birth of Jesus.

Need some extra prayer time this Advent?

The church doors will be open from 3-5 pm, Mondays-Fridays from December 2 through December 23. Stop by!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Do you like to knit or crochet? Come and join us!

Tuesday, December 3
 10:30am - 12:00pm in Room 1

Prayer Shawls and Lap Blankets are given to anyone facing serious illness or hard times in their life. Blankets are blessed by Father Tim and a prayer card is included with our love and support. We also give small white knitted blankets to each of our recently baptized children. If you are able to share your time and talent, please join us here or make an item at home and leave it in the greeting area in Church.

If you know anyone that could use a prayer shawl please contact Julie Cohn at: julie.cohn@dor.org or (585) 671-1100 ext. 103.



D

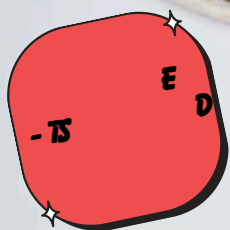


@ St. Rita Parish
1008 Maple Dr., Webster
585-671-1100

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.

SIGN UP

Kids Night Out



Need an evening to go shopping, go out to dinner, or have a quiet time at home?

Drop off your kids at the Parish Center on Saturday, December 21 between 5-8 pm! We'll have games, pizza, snacks, crafts, a movie, & more!

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

GIFT WRAPPING PARTY

Need a kid-free zone to get your wrapping done?

Need a hand wrapping gifts?

Come on over Sunday, December 22 between 6-8 pm!

Bring your gifts and wrapping supplies - we'll provide the tables, refreshments, and a festive atmosphere.



SIGN UP

V E D Y A C
B

Please plan to arrive at church by 2:15 pm on Christmas Eve.

All children in grades 2-6 are also invited to sing with the Angel Choir at this Mass!

Contact june.frosino@dor.org for rehearsal dates.

SIGN UP



We invite all children to participate in a special way during the reading of the Gospel story! **Costumes and directions will be provided.** An optional rehearsal will be held on Sunday, December 22 following the 10:30 Mass. Adult help is appreciated.



**THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 12
1PM**

**FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 13
10AM & 6PM**

IN THE GYM

**"Behind the
Stable Door"**

PERFORMED BY THE ST RITA SCHOOL
1ST AND 2ND GRADERS

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.



Youth Group

Advent

**Sunday
December 8**

**Sunday
December 15**

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

**Grades 7-12 from 4-5PM
in Room 1**

Happy Advent!

Advent is my favorite liturgical season. This isn't surprising, because I love looking forward to good things. It also is surprising, because I hate waiting. Yes, I'm aware that doesn't make any sense! I suppose because I am not a patient person, I don't like just waiting without anything to do or control. And I don't like waiting for news that might be negative, or to be disappointed when a good thing doesn't happen.

Advent is the perfect balance. It is the peace of a pause, but it's not the nothingness of just waiting. It is the chance to look forward: to prepare, to plan, to seek out Christ - in its peace, it is not passive.

And the promise of Advent is always fulfilled: Christmas always comes. Christ is always born. Christ is always here! I've had Christmases where bad things happened. I've had strep, chicken pox, and the flu. My husband often works Christmas Eve and Christmas Day shifts. My kids have been overwhelmed by the activity. There was the grief of a first Christmas without my mother, and a first Christmas without my father. Even still, Christ is always born. Even if it is mixed with the "anxieties of daily life" from today's Gospel reading, there is always joy and love.

I don't meant to dismiss the reality of pain or hardships, especially those things that sting a little extra during the holidays. I mean to pray that you and any children you care for find the peace you need this Advent season. It helps me find that peace to know Christ, the joy and love we receive in the Eucharist, and the joy and love we share with our communities and loved ones - these will be enough for me on Christmas. (I should work on that the rest of the year!)

May you have "enough" for peace! May you have enough food, shelter, and love this Advent. May all children have enough food, shelter, and love, always.

Peace,
Anne Thomas - Faith Formation Coordinator

Advent

HOPE LOVE JOY PEACE


WALK IN 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 - bernickr@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 November/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.



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