DECEMBER 14, 2025
3rd Sunday of Advent

# ST. RITA CHURCH



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

ARE YOU NEW TO OUR PARISH?

We are delighted that you have show

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 "Newsletters".

We are happy to have you with us!



## NEXT WEEKEND IS DONUT SUNDAY!

After the 8am & 10:30am Masses
Stay for a donut and coffee
(or juice) after Mass







GOAL \$155,000

**PLEDGES \$142,408** 

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 92% of our goal from 325 households.\*

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

\*UPDATED AS OF 12/5/25



### Men's Faith Group Monday, December 15th at 7:00pm Room 1



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



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

Giovanni Michael Catalano

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 DECEMBER 13/14**

GERRY ERNST - By John Ernst DONALD GALLO - By The Gallo Children VIRGINIA NOLAN - By Carol & Angelo Gifaldi JUDITH PELLITTIERI - By Kate Sherry

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025

1:00PM CIAJ Rehearsal - Church 4:00PM - 4:30PM Confessions - Church 5:00PM Mass 6:00PM Blood Pressure Screening - Rm 1

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

8:00AM Mass 9:00AM & 11:30AM Blood Pressure Screening - Rm 1 **CL** Mass 10:30AM 11.45AM Confirmation Session 75th Anniversary Painting Party - Rm 1 3:00PM 4:00PM Youth Group - Barn SF Mass 5:00PM

#### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025**

8:15AM ROBERT BEIKIRCH - By Pat & Sharron Trimaldi Mass 8:45AM - 9:30AM Confessions - Church 9:30AM Waiting with Hope (Week 4) - Church 4:30PM Faith Formation 6:30PM Waiting with Hope (Week 4) - Church 7:00PM Men's Faith Group - Rm 1 7:15PM Confirmation Session

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2025**

8:15AM TERRY DEVEY - By Tom & Patty Zachman 8:45AM - 9:30AM Eucharistic Adoration - Church WEROC - Rm 3 9:00AM 2:30PM Angel Choir Rehearsal - Rm 3 6:30PM Rochester Hope Committee Meeting - Rm 1

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2025

8:15AM Communion Service 10:00AM Communion Service at Baywinde - Castle Point Communion Service at Baywinde - Sage Harbor 11:00AM 2:30PM Angel Choir Rehearsal - Rm 1 5:00PM C.O.M.E. Dinner - Parish Center 6:30PM Adult Choir Rehearsal - Rm 3

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2025

5:00PM - 6:00PM **Eucharistic Adoration - Church** 5:00PM - 5:45PM Confessions - Church 6:00PM LEE FORGEY - By The Chinchilla Donnelly Family 6:30PM Companions in Grief - Rm 1 7:00PM Women's Faith Sharing - Chapel

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2025

8:15AM KELLY ROSSELOT - By Teresa Lebrun Mass

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2025

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

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025 - DONUT SUNDAY!

8:00AM 10:30AM



### **INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES DECEMBER 20/21**

NICKY CARLISI - By George Petrone FRED LEWANDOWSKI - By St. Rita Parish Staff **ELAINE VICK - By Carol Yarton** ANGELA RENNA - By The Renna Family





Children's Liturgy of the Word







### Reflections on Readings for the Third Sunday of Advent

"This Is The One About Whom It Is Written: Behold, I Am Sending My Messenger Ahead Of You"

This Sunday is Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. The word is taken from the opening prayer of today's Mass, "Rejoice in the Lord always." It is a time filled with hope and trust in



the Lord that our deliverance and ultimate salvation will come. Our readings today highlight the role of John the Baptist in "preparing the way of the Lord". John sent disciples to ask Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come?" In asking this, John wasn't merely asking "Are you the Messiah?", he was asking, are you the one of whom Isaiah prophesied when he said, "Here is your God". Jesus' answer hearkened back to the very words of this morning's first reading, when Isaiah foretold long ago about the day the Lord himself would come.

**In our first reading (<u>Isaiah 35:1-6, 10</u>)**, the Prophet Isaiah described the day when God himself would intervene in Salvation history and deliver His people; a time of utter joy and gladness. The words Isaiah used are the very words Jesus will use in today's Gospel to announce to the world that indeed, Jesus is the one of whom Isaiah spoke.

Our Epistle reading is from the Letter of St. James (Jas 5:7-10). It reflects the belief at the time that Jesus' return was imminent and counseled patience and firmness of heart - a lesson still applicable today.

**In our Gospel reading (<u>Matthew 11:2-11</u>)**, we hear that John the Baptist, while he was in prison, sent disciples to inquire if Jesus is "the one who is to come". Jesus replied using the words of Isaiah's well known prophesy – in effect saying, Yes, I am "the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God." Jesus used the words of Isaiah's prophesy saying, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised". Jesus also told them that John was the one of whom the prophets also spoke when it was written, "Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you."

Today is a day of great rejoicing that, at a time of God's choosing, He will come with vindication to save us. Patience! Joy! The day is near! May our hearts be firm!

https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/121425.cfm

### **LINEN CLEANING: DECEMBER 14 PAM KUNZER**



Our Tabernacle Light will burn from December 15 - December 21 in loving memory of Frank & Ann Matroniano by Pat & Sharron Trimaldi.

## Last Sessions NG WITH HOPE

Times of Sharing, Prayer, & Listening

WEEK 4: MON. DEC. 15 AT 9:30AM OR 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.

## hurches Offering Meals To veryone

The next C.O.M.E.

Webster Community Dinner at St. Rita is on Wednesday, December 17, 2025

We are again seeking your help with donations.

To sign up, go to the following link: https://tinyurl.com/Dec25COME or scan the QR Code:



Items may be dropped off at church the weekend of December 13 and 14 in the totes labeled "C.O.M.E. Dinner" in the greeting area. Thank you so much for your generosity.



585-671-1100 ext. 103



julie.cohn@dor.org

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.



In today's Gospel, Jesus shows us how much MORE there is than what we first see. "Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet..." The virtue of hope does the same. It assures us that there is more than what we know, and that more is part of God's plan of love.

### **Pondering Point**

As our days are almost as short as they come, it can be easy to get lost in the darkness, but consider what hope for light brings with it. What is the more of that hope?

### **December 13 - 14 Jubilee of Prisoners**

Lord, we pray for those who are in any type of prison, even those that are self-imposed. Help them know they are not abandoned and that you are ever present with them. May we be tangible sources of comfort, hope, and love to those who suffer, so they never feel alone.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# Companions in Grief

Thursday, December 18th 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.



## We invite all children to participate in the 3 pm Christmas Eve Mass! Costumes and directions will be provided.



Rehearsals are on Wednesday, 12/17 at 3 pm or Saturday, 12/20 at 3 pm to try on costumes, practice speaking roles, and learn the songs.

Questions? Contact elizabeth.kwiatkowski@dor.org

Let us know uou are interested by signing up here:



# Thank You!

Thank you to all who donated yarn to the Prayer Shawl Ministry! Our hearts are filled with gratitude!



Your donation will allow us to continue to make
Baptismal blankets, prayer shawls, and lap
blankets for members of the parish community.
-Prayer Shawl Ministry



Together We Bring Hope
...and Hope does not disappoint

# Is this year's CMA a Success? Definitely! Maybe? Not quite! Yes!

Dear Friends,

As I write this on December 5th, we are at 92% of our goal. 325 households have contributed over \$142,000 of our \$155,000 goal. This is an average gift of \$435 per household. This is amazing and inspiring. We have set for ourselves the goal of completing our CMA responsibilities before Christmas, and I think we are going to make it for the 7th year in a row!

However, we are approaching this success with fewer participating parish households than last year, 113 fewer.

Participation is really the only way to measure how fully St. Rita parish has embraced the importance of the ministries of the Diocese and our combined responsibility to support them. What will really make this year's CMA a success is if, even after we reach our Diocesan goal, more households continue to participate.

I am sincerely thankful for everyone who has been able to participate this year, and I humbly understand that not every household is in a situation that allows them to participate. And I trust that the other households will prayerfully consider their responsibility to join in the success of our CMA and support the good work of the ministries of our Diocese.

### Thank you in advance for your gifts!

I will be sure to let you know when we have reached our overall goal and I will hold off on any other CMA news until after the New Year. Thank you again!

Yours in Christ, Fr. Tim

# FAITH! Youth Group FUN!

### **Christmas Party**

Sunday, December 14th 4PM in the Barn Youth in grades 7th-12th

Join Sofia & Rudy Vollo for some Christmas fun! Teens will be making ornaments for St. Anne's, reflecting on the Nativity, and watching a Christmas movie. All are welcome to join in faith and fun!

Please contact Sofia with any questions at srbosco01@gmail.com.

# 9

## PRAYER PARTNERS

Take a Heart Leave Your Prayers

Our young folks preparing for their Sacraments of Initiation are in need of your prayers! Please consider taking the name of a youth home with you, and praying for their journey through the Easter season. If you are willing to leave kind words each week for our youngest children preparing for their First Reconciliation and First Communion, take a heart from the organizer on the hallway wall and leave us your name and email on the purple sign-up sheet. This ministry brings SO much joy to these children throughout the winter and spring! If you would simply like to pray without the extra steps, take a dove from the basket, and pray for a teen preparing for their Confirmation.

Thank you for all your prayer and support of our youth!



## Order your St. Rita 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Apparel & Gifts!

RECOGNITION EXPERTS has a variety of printed and embroidered items to choose.

The online store is available here or through the link our website: www.saintritawebster.org/75thapparel/



Orders take about 3 weeks to be delivered. Select 'Pickup In Store' as your shipping method and you can pick up items right from St. Rita.

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### St. Rita School News Where Faith and Knowledge Meet

Can you guess who this special visitor is?
We are so grateful to have had
Sister Katherine Ann stop by Miss Hicks'
Kindergarten classroom and read some
festive books during the holiday season!
What a heartwarming memory for all
involved!





## Catholic Social Teaching 101

Our Racial Justice Ministry will host this
7-part discussion series from the United States
Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and Catholic
Relief Services. Videos, scripture, prayer, and
discussion will highlight our core Catholic values and
inspire us to put our faith into action.

Sessions include 30 minutes of video and 30+
minutes of discussion.
Choose from Sundays at 11:30 (in-person) or
Wednesdays at 7 pm (online),
starting January 4 for 7 weeks.

Sign up in the Greeting Area, online at www.saintritawebster.org, or by calling the Parish Office at 671-1100.



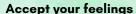
Take a peek at all of those shoes filled with treats in the hallway!
St. Nicholas stopped by SRS again this year and spoiled our little God
Drops. While he filled the shoes in the hall, our hardworking 5th Graders
visited the younger students in their classrooms and performed skits to
teach them all about St. Nicholas and his feast day.



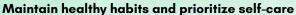
### A Message from your Parish Health Ministry Team

### Managing Mental Health during the Holiday Season

The Christmas season can be associated with very different sets of emotions for each of us. For some, the feelings may be joy, warmth, and excitement. For others, it can spark feelings of loneliness, worry, and stress. You may have lost a loved one since the last holiday season and are experiencing grief. If you find yourself feeling anxious or sad over the holidays, you are certainly not alone. Here are a few steps you can take during this hectic season:



Try your best to acknowledge and accept your emotions rather than place judgement on them. It's okay to feel happy; it's okay to feel sad. Give yourself compassion and allow yourself to sit with whatever you are feeling.



Don't use this time of year to abandon your healthy habits! Continue to eat right, get enough sleep, and exercise. It is normal that the holiday season has a tendency to challenge our routines, but maintaining healthy habits is critical to your mental health. It's also important to remember that self care is a priority. It is important to take other's needs into account, but not at the expense of your own. Take time to do things that will 'fill your cup' like reading a book, listening to music, praying, and attending Church services.



### Set boundaries

It is ok to say no, especially when you are feeling overwhelmed. If attending certain events or activities add unnecessary stress to your life then it is okay to prioritize those invitations or activities and only participate in those that you are able to comfortably. Allow some breathing room in your schedule.

### Accept and seek help

Connect with those close to you who offer you the most support and comfort. Reach out to those friends and family and let them know how you are feeling. There are also mental health counselors available through your Primary Care Providers who can identify and manage your needs.

In a crisis, you can call or text 988 in the Rochester area for Lifeline support.

Some of these suggestions are easier than others.

It's not about doing it all but taking small steps to manage your mental health during this season.





### **WALK IN PARISH 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.Clark2edor.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** - <u>Elizabeth Kwiatkowski@dor.org</u> Parish Life and Liturgy Coordinator 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 - <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 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. You may also call the Parish Office at 671-1100 or visit our website at www.saintritawebster.org for the most up to

**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!

date closing information.

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.



### No opened or expired items please.

### **Webster HOPE December Wish List:**

Macaroni & Cheese (boxed)
Pasta (all types except spaghetti)
Canned Beets & Canned Pineapple
Shampoo & Conditioner
Coffee & Tea

Crackers
Tuna (albacore preferred)
Canned Chicken
Applesauce

Oatmeal (instant or regular)
Baby Wipes \*\*high need\*\*
Deodorant & Toothpaste
Dish Soap & Hand Soap



# UNITED IN FAITH COMMUNITY

MASS ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

NOVEMBER 29/30 SAT. 5:00PM 185 SUN. 8:00AM 182 SUN. 10:30AM 310



### COLLECTIONS

COLLECTED BUDGETED VARIANCE WEEKLY COLLECTED
WEEK OF NOV. 30: \$11,832 \$14,135 \$2,303 -- \$14,544

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.

Thank you for your generosity in your presence and contributions!







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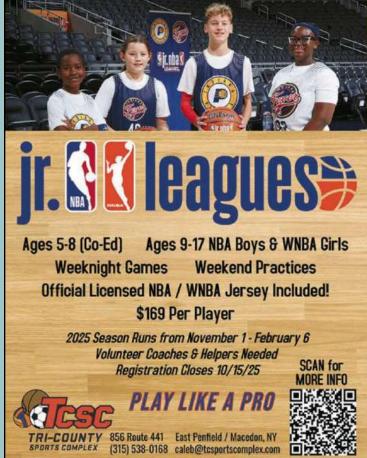


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