

NOVEMBER 30, 2025

1st Sunday of Advent

ST. RITA CHURCH



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



The Advent Wreath



Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreathes adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles.

The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and His coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." Candles and vestments are purple throughout Advent to remind us that while we wait in hopeful stillness, we also wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. As the candles are lit in order, the wreath is also a spiritual countdown for our celebration of the first coming of Jesus at Christmas.

On the third Sunday of Advent, we light a rose candle. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin.

Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas and our waiting in joyful hope for the coming of our Lord.

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 51 households (216+ 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!

2025/2026 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

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

GOAL \$155,000 PLEDGES \$125,008

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 81% of our goal from 282 households.*

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

**UPDATED AS OF 11/20/24*

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

MASS INTENTIONS / WEEKLY CALENDAR

INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES NOVEMBER 29/30

FRED LEWANDOWSKI - By Deacon Jim & Chris Fien
 MARTIN AMATO - By Norine Amato
 CHARLES & ANTONIA KAESSER - By Family
 BETTY JANE DICK - By The Family of Bob & Mary Jo Lafferty

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2025

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025

8:00AM Mass
 10:30AM **CL** Mass

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2025

8:15AM Mass
 8:45AM - 9:30AM Confessions - Church
 9:30AM Waiting with Hope (Week 2) - Church
 4:30PM Faith Formation
 6:45PM Pastoral Council Meeting - Greeting Area

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2025

8:15AM ROBERT BEIKIRCH - By Tom & Patty Zachman Mass
 8:45AM - 9:30AM Eucharistic Adoration - Church
 9:00AM WEROC - Rm 3
 10:30AM Prayer Shawl Ministry - Parish Office
 1:30PM RJM Education Committee - Parish Office
 6:30PM Waiting with Hope (Week 2) - Church

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025

8:15AM Communion Service
 10:00AM Communion Service at Baywinde - Castle Point
 11:00AM Communion Service at Baywinde - Sage Harbor
 2:30PM Angel Choir Rehearsal - Rm 3
 6:30PM Adult Choir Rehearsal - Rm 3

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025**Parish Office Closed Today - Staff Retreat**

5:00PM - 6:00PM Eucharistic Adoration - Church
 5:00PM - 5:45PM Confessions - Church
 6:00PM Mass
 6:45PM Holy Beginnings - Greeting Area

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2025

8:15AM TONY COCILOVA - By Wife Mass

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2025

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

8:00AM Mass
 8:30AM - 10:00AM Breakfast @ St. Rita - Parish Center
 10:30AM **CL** Mass
 11:45AM Confirmation Session
 2:00PM Lessons and Carols - Church

INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES DECEMBER 6/7

LOTTIE BART - By Karen & John Muir-Smith and Family
 NICOLE RANALLETTA - By Christine Ranalletta
 ROBERT BEIKIRCH - By Bob & Roslyn Patti
 GIUSEPPE MISTRETTA - By Family



Our Tabernacle Light will burn
 from December 1 – December 7
 in loving memory of
 the deceased members of St. Rita Parish.

Reflections on Readings for the
First Sunday of Advent

*“At An Hour You Do Not Expect,
 The Son Of Man Will Come”*

This First Sunday of Advent is the beginning of our new liturgical year (Year A). Most of our Gospel readings through-out the year are taken from the Gospel of Matthew.



The word “Advent” is taken from the Latin word Adventus, meaning “to come” or “arrival”. In the Roman usage, the word meant the glorious entry of an emperor to his capital city. This is a season of preparation and anticipation for the glorious entry of our savior into our world and our lives. In order to prepare our hearts to receive Christ as new again, the Church brings our attention to two comings of Christ. We contemplate, through scripture, Jesus’ “arrival” as the Christ child and also His second coming at the final judgement.

In our first reading (Isaiah 2:1-5), Isaiah prophesies about the end times when Jerusalem would be restored to its full glory and that the covenant promise made by God to Abraham would be fulfilled. All nations will “climb the Lord’s mountain . . . that he may instruct us in his ways”. No longer will nations be at war with one another. The Lord will be the judge of all nations.

Our Epistle reading (Romans 13:11-14): During the time of St. Paul, it was thought that Christ’s return would be sooner rather than later. St. Paul instructs his readers how to live in anticipation of Christ’s coming, throwing off “the works of darkness” and putting on Christ.

In our Gospel reading (Matthew 24: 37-44), Jesus prepared His followers for “the coming of the Son of Man” at the final judgment and admonished them to be alert and watchful. “So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”

Our scripture readings today help us look to the future, when Christ will come in judgement and mercy. They also help us focus on how we are to live in the present, walking “in the light of the Lord.” The early Christians thought Christ’s coming was imminent. While it has been two thousand years of anticipation, that day and hour could be a thousand years from now or tomorrow. The time and hour is not as important as the life we live in anticipation, in assurance and joy of what is to come. That is what the Advent season is about.

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/113025.cfm>



Sensory Friendly Mass



Children's Liturgy of the Word



Count It All Joy



Incense Used



Family Mass

**LINEN CLEANING: NOVEMBER 30
PATTY ZACHMAN**



**It's time to order!
St. Rita 75th Anniversary
Keepsake Cookbook**

To Order:

Forms are on the table by the entrance of church. Fill it out and leave it in the box.

Forms are also available at the Parish Office.

Order online at <https://tinyurl.com/75thcookbook>



\$10.00 Each
Preorders due by December 15
Delivery end of January
Payment due at time of delivery



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



Elba Flor Williamson
Erica Linda Williamson



On June 27, 1954 Bishop Kearney appointed the first assistant priest at St. Rita. Who was that priest?

Answer: Rev. Richard O'Connell



Thank you for walking along our journey to learn about Life and Dignity of the Human Person, one of the Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching!

Keep an ear out for an upcoming homily on the next theme: **Call to Family, Community, and Participation.** We'll learn about how we are sent out in the world to love and serve one another, living the Gospel with our lives.

Christmas Masses

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



Thursday, December 25
9:00am



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

Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 7 at 2:00pm

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



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.



Pilgrimage is not just about a journey, it is about being aware. In that regard, jubilee is similar to Jesus' message in today's gospel – to remain prepared for His Second Coming. Our pilgrimage of faith prepares us, but also requires us to put in the effort.

Pondering Point

How have you become more aware of Jesus this past year during our Jubilee of Hope? Do you feel you have journeyed with and to Jesus?

Churches Offering Meals To Everyone

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



St. Rita School News

Where Faith and Knowledge Meet



Arrrrr you proud? Because we sure are! Our 3rd and 4th Graders lit up the stage with their production of their musical play "Pirates!" Their work, energy, and enthusiasm truly shined over their three great performances. What a fun and unforgettable performance!

Entrepreneur Club has officially kicked off at SRS and we are SO excited. It is a hands-on program that teaches our 2nd-5th graders the fundamentals of entrepreneurship by guiding them through the process of creating, marketing, and selling a product or service. We can't wait to see what they create through their creativity, teamwork, & problem solving!



Holy Beginnings Outreach

Cordially invites you to join us in prayer and conversation, for monthly gatherings of our LGBTQ+ community (family, friends, and allies welcome as well).

Thursday, December 4th

Mass at 6pm (adoration at 5:30pm)

**Gathering 6:45-7:45 pm
in the Greeting Area**

**Join us for a Christmas gathering
with food & fellowship!**

Holy Beginnings is a collaboration of Catholic faith communities fostering inclusion and dialogue to those on the margins of the church and society, allowing us, as children of God, to live our call authentically.

**Learn more: holybeginnings.org
Contact: Deacon Jim Fien at
James.Fienedor.org**

Are you a Christmas Angel?

New, unwrapped gifts are being collected at church or the Parish Office from 11/29-12/7.

Choose tags with suggested items from the tree or donate any items of your choice.

Gifts are distributed to 8 local agencies.

Monetary donations are also accepted - we'll do the shopping for you!

We accept checks (made out to St. Rita Church with 'Christmas Angel' in the memo) or online donations through our Giving Page.

WAITING WITH HOPE

Times of Sharing, Prayer, & Listening

WEEK 2: MON. DEC. 1 AT 9:30AM OR TUES. DEC. 2 AT 6:30PM

WEEK 3: MON. DEC. 8 AT 1:00PM OR 6:30PM

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.

Do you have children in grades Pre-K through 12*?

we want to hear from you!

Children are our most precious gift. Help us give them the best foundation in faith that we can!

This is the first of two surveys that will help shape our faith formation and sacrament preparation programs to best provide the support your family needs, no matter what schools you attend.

Please take this opportunity to share about your family. We look forward to learning how we can meet your needs.



Answers requested by December 7. It only takes 15 minutes!

s.surveypal.com/ur9801tb

*We would like to hear from all parents, grandparents, or caregivers to any child in grades Pre-K to 12 being raised in the Catholic faith. Paper forms are also available in the Greeting Area.



Order your St. Rita 75th 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.

All major credit cards accepted.





We recently heard from Fr. Daniel Ruiz of Rochester Hope – now is your opportunity to take part in this meaningful ministry!

We need volunteers to work at the pantry and in the kitchen so we can feed and clothe the poor of Rochester. There are many different ways to serve, and we can find something that will match your interests and abilities.

You will find pens and brochures in your pew. More copies can be found on the table at the entrance of church.

Please complete the tear-off section of the brochure, and leave it with one of the representatives or put it in the donation slot. The pen is a gift for you. Please take it with you.

Here is a link to request more information if you'd prefer to sign up online:
<https://tinyurl.com/RochHope>

Thank you for considering this ministry.

For further info, contact Julie Cohn by email
julie.cohn@dor.org
 or call the office - 671-1100




The Webster Lions Club presents

Breakfast with Santa

**Saturday, December 6
8-11 am**

@ St. Rita Church ♦ 1008 Maple Dr.

- ♦ Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs & Juice and Coffee ♦
- ♦ Vision Screening for Children ♦
- ♦ Basket Raffles ♦

Donations greatly appreciated!
 Proceeds to benefit Webster Community Chest and other Local Charities




Reflections on a Saturday Morning at Rochester Hope



Sharing food with the hungry is part of the fabric of Christian life and a deep-seated part of the culture of St. Rita Parish. God commands it, Jesus gave us spectacular examples of it, and even declared that our willingness to do it on His behalf is one of the pillars of our final judgement. Our need to nourish our bodies is one of the strongest common denominators linking us as human beings, indeed, as part of creation.

So, it was natural for me, when I heard of a need for “shopping aides” at Rochester Hope’s Food Pantry, to go down for a Saturday shift and lend a hand. Over 300 individuals come there every Saturday, waiting in long lines, seeking help in feeding their families; the need is great! There they are treated with the utmost human dignity and respect – the underlying principle of Rochester Hope.



In the 3 ½ hours I was there, I accompanied 16 to 18 persons, one by one, through the pantry, pushing a shopping cart, helping them select and bag basic food items, and then helping them unload the cart onto a pallet outdoors where they bundled their bags to take them home. The pantry was crowded with many other pairs doing the same, in a slow, methodical, well-organized pattern, while other volunteers hustled in and out re-stocking shelves.

What deeply touched me in a way I can’t really articulate was the variety I encountered in both the clients and volunteers – people of every size, shape, age, and skin color, some dressed up, some disheveled, people of multiple languages and cultures, a true mosaic of the “image and likeness of God” in which we are made. When I looked into their eyes and greeted them by name, I could glimpse the face of Christ. The next day at Mass, it dawned on me: this, then, is the Kingdom of God – standing together in companionship with God’s people, celebrating our common humanity. What a graced experience!

I went back for more the next month.

Peace, Joanne Facci – St. Rita Parishioner/Rochester Hope Volunteer

CONTACT US

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
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
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



FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL PLEASE NOTE!

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 date closing information.

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.



No opened or expired items please.

Webster HOPE Oct./Nov. 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 15/16
SAT. 5:00PM 174
SUN. 8:00AM 172
SUN. 10:30AM 382

Thank you

| | COLLECTED | BUDGETED | VARIANCE | AVERAGE WEEKLY | 2024 COLLECTED |
|-------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------------|----------------|
| OCTOBER: | \$58,262 | \$56,540 | \$1,722 | \$14,566 | \$59,917 |
| WEEK OF NOV. 9: | \$13,822 | \$14,135 | \$313 | -- | \$21,934 |
| WEEK OF NOV. 16: | \$12,687 | \$14,135 | \$1,448 | -- | \$12,823 |

Thank you for your generosity in your presence and contributions!

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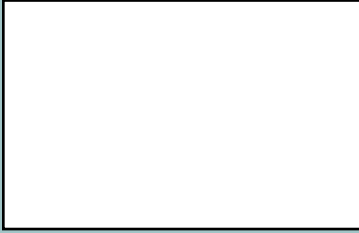
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