

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

First Sunday of Lent

ST. RITA CHURCH



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

Listening and Fasting
Lent as a Time of Conversion

Message of Pope Leo XIV for Lent 2026

LISTENING



Lent is a time that invites us to make room for the Word:

- So that it truly becomes a process of listening
- So that God teaches us how to listen as He does
- So that we may recognise the cry of the poor and the suffering

"The willingness to listen is the first way we demonstrate our desire to enter into relationship with someone"



Click here
and read the
full article

Please join us!



Pray the Rosary each Monday after
the 8:15am Mass in the Chapel.

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT



**There will be a second collection
THIS WEEKEND to support The Black,
Native American, and Hispanic
Ministry Fund.**



Fridays during Lent
5:00PM in Church
Come and join us for a new guided stations experience every week.



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

David Vacchetto

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 FEBRUARY 21/22

MICHAEL LOMBARDO - By Jackie Colicchio
 DIANE PERTICONE - By Vincent Mitrano

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026

8:00AM Mass
 10:30AM CL Mass

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026

8:15AM SUSAN RUPP - By John & Julie Odenbach Mass
 8:45AM - 9:15AM Confessions - Church
 9:30AM My Hope is in You - Bible and Faith Sharing - Church
 4:30PM Faith Formation
 6:30PM My Hope is in You - Bible and Faith Sharing - Rm 3
 6:45PM Rochester Hope Meeting - Rm 1

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026

8:15AM Mass
 9:00AM Eucharistic Adoration - Church
 9:00AM WEROC - Rm 3
 6:00PM - 6:45PM Saintly Supper - Parish Center
 6:45PM Holy Hour for Peace - Church

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

8:15AM Communion Service
 4:30PM & 6:00PM Sacrament Preparation

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026

4:00PM - 6:00PM Eucharistic Adoration - Church
 4:00PM - 5:30PM Confessions
 6:00PM Mass
 7:00PM Women's Faith Sharing - Rm 1

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

8:15AM CLAYTON & RITA KIRCHGESSNER Mass
 - By Patty & Tom Zachman
 5:00PM Guided Stations of the Cross - Church
 5:00PM - 6:30PM Fish Fry - Gym
 6:00PM - 8:00 PM Game Night - Rm 1

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

8:00AM Mass
 8:30AM - 10:00AM Breakfast @ St. Rita - Parish Center
 10:30AM CL Mass
 11:45AM Confirmation Session

INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES FEBRUARY 28/MARCH 1

DOROTHY (MCALPIN) SMITH - By Pat & Sharron Trimaldi
 OTTO & PAULA REISCH - By Family



Our Tabernacle Light will burn
 from February 23 - March 1
 in loving memory of Dorothy (McAlpin) Smith
 by Pat & Sharron Trimaldi.



SF Sensory Friendly Mass



Count It All Joy



I Incense Used



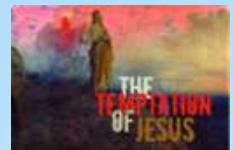
CL Children's Liturgy of the Word



F Family Mass

Reflections on Readings for the
 The First Sunday in Lent**"The Lord, Your God, Shall You Worship
 And Him Alone Shall You Serve"**

Lent is a time to prepare our hearts for the *Easter Triduum*. It is a time to remind ourselves of all that Jesus endured and accomplished to bring us the grace of salvation.



For the next six Sundays during Lent, our Gospel readings will help orient us to the Passion of Christ and His Resurrection. The Old Testament readings will help us explore salvation history and our Epistle readings will support the theme of the Gospel.

In this first Sunday of Lent, the Church asks us unite with Jesus in His 40 days in the desert by offering prayer, fasting, and giving alms. In so doing, we focus our attention on renewing our relationship with God.

In our first reading ([Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7](#)), we hear of the creation story of Adam and Eve and then their great fall to Original Sin, giving in to the temptations of Satan by failing to trust God completely. They chose, instead, *"to be like gods who know what is good and what is evil."* They desired the pleasure of eating the forbidden fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, possessing its beauty and the pride of gaining the wisdom of God.

In our Epistle reading ([Romans 5:12-19](#)), St. Paul explains how the effects of Adam and Eve's original sin were undone by the righteous act of Jesus in rejecting the Devil's empty promises and trusting completely in the Father. *"For if, by the transgression of the one, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ."*

In our Gospel reading ([Matthew 4:1-11](#)) we hear how Jesus was tempted three times by Satan in the desert and each time, Satan was rejected and overpowered by Jesus. We see a very human Jesus, weak and hungry from fasting in the desert. But these temptations are, in a sense, a "do-over" of the first temptations of Adam and Eve, with a completely different result. Jesus, the *"new Adam"*, has accomplished what the *"first Adam"* did not—complete trust in God and rejection of sin.

Our readings today remind us of what a slippery slope one sin can put us on and how the only response is trust in God completely and choose God.

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/022226.cfm>

LINEN CLEANING: FEBRUARY 22
DEBBIE WHITEHAIR

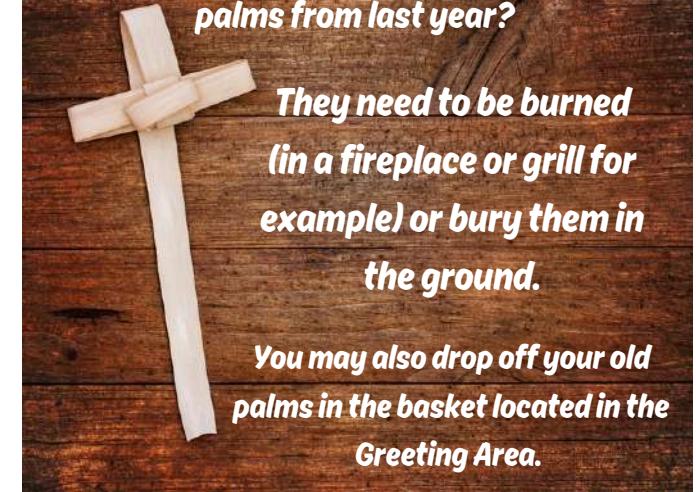
Women's Faith Sharing

**Thursday, February 26th
 7:00pm in Room 1**

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 jmurr66@yahoo.com for more information.

Did you know that you can dispose of your palms from last year?



Holy Hour for Peace

**Tuesday, February 24
 6:45-7:45 pm**



Join us in church for a service of prayer, readings, reflection, and song.



May this Holy Hour be a moment of renewal for our hearts and for our nation. Entrusting our fears and hopes to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, let us ask the Lord to make us instruments of His peace and witnesses to the inherent dignity of every person.

~Archbishop Coakley

"Let us pray fervently for peace. First of all for peace in our hearts, but also for peace in our families, in our nation and in all the world. Heart of Jesus, our peace and reconciliation, have mercy on us!"

~St. John Paul II

@ St. Rita

Breakfast
 Please come and join us for breakfast and fellowship.

Next Sunday: French Toast

**Sunday, March 1st
 8:30am - 10:00am**

St. Rita Parish Center

Monetary donations will be accepted, but not expected.

Please join us and bring your family.



SAINTLY SUPPERS

Join us on Tuesday evenings from 6-6:45 pm for a free meal with our parish family.

The menu features a variety of soups, bread, and cookies each week, thanks to the generous donations of our talented cooks.

If you'd like to make or bring something, you can sign up here:



**Got Questions?
We've Got Answers!**

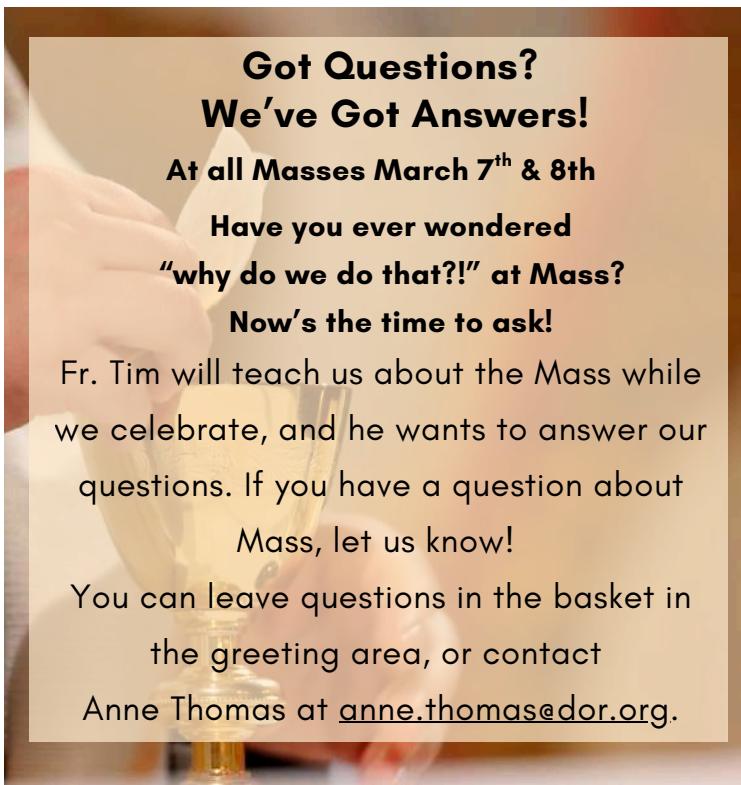
At all Masses March 7th & 8th

**Have you ever wondered
"why do we do that?!" at Mass?**

Now's the time to ask!

Fr. Tim will teach us about the Mass while we celebrate, and he wants to answer our questions. If you have a question about Mass, let us know!

You can leave questions in the basket in the greeting area, or contact Anne Thomas at anne.thomas@dor.org.



My Hope is in You
Bible and Faith Sharing

February 23 - March 30

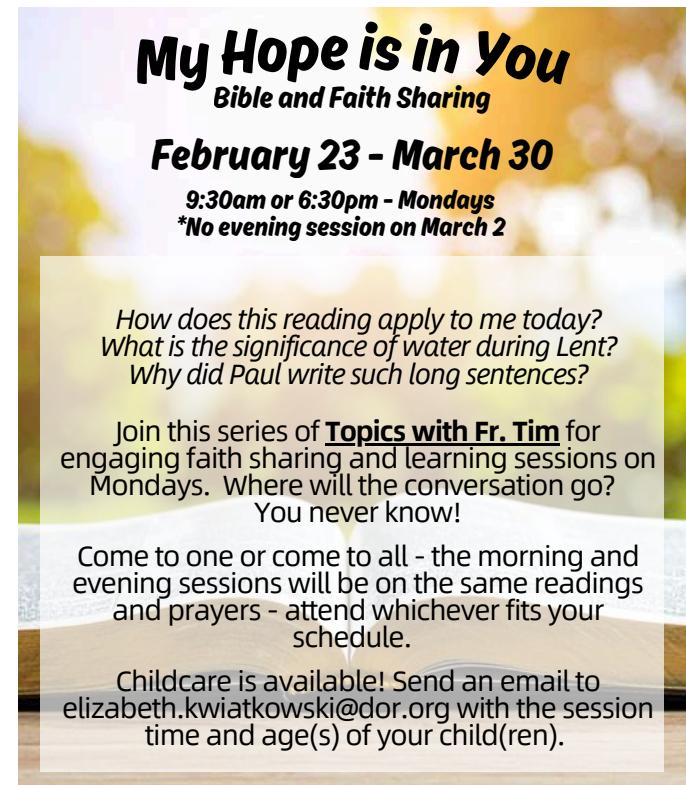
9:30am or 6:30pm - Mondays
***No evening session on March 2**

*How does this reading apply to me today?
What is the significance of water during Lent?
Why did Paul write such long sentences?*

Join this series of **Topics with Fr. Tim** for engaging faith sharing and learning sessions on Mondays. Where will the conversation go? You never know!

Come to one or come to all - the morning and evening sessions will be on the same readings and prayers - attend whichever fits your schedule.

Childcare is available! Send an email to elizabeth.kwiatkowski@dor.org with the session time and age(s) of your child(ren).





Catholic Social Teachings Lived

All humans possess inherent dignity as God's image, giving rise to fundamental rights. These include basic human needs: food, housing, health care, and education.



My heart and energy have always been with education. I have always loved children and watching them grasp concepts presented me with little miracles almost every day! Not having my own children was probably the hardest to give up when I entered the convent. However, I have had the privilege of touching the lives of hundreds at Notre Dame High School in Elmira, NY for 12 years and St. Rita School for 30 years. During that time, I spent some summers teaching Religion, reading, and math. Upon retiring in 2013, I spent 8 years with Mercy Bridges, a ministry of the Sisters of Mercy that does one-on-one tutoring for adults, especially immigrants who want to improve their English language skills. Our theme at St. Rita School is **JOY - Jesus, Others, Yourself**. That helps students embody all our Church's social teachings while learning and living our faith. I was always impressed with the parents and grandparents, some making huge sacrifices to pay the tuition. The alums I encounter are doing wonderful things to try to make our world a world of **JOY**. They are following our Church's social teachings. As I always said to our graduates, I say to you: keep **JOY** in your hearts.

Peace, Sr. Katherine Ann Rappl, RSM

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WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET



St. Rita's Prayer Line



If you would like to have a special intention remembered in prayer through our Prayer Line, please send your intention request to Julie at Julie.Cohnedor.org or call 671-1100 ext. 103.

Join us for
FISH FRY FRIDAYS!



Fridays 5:00pm - 6:30pm
February 20-March 27
St. Rita Parish Center
Eat in or take out!

Fish Dinner...\$16/\$15 for seniors
Child-size Fish Dinner...\$9

Cheese Pizza...\$9 whole/\$5 half

Dinners include fried or baked fish, potato wedges, coleslaw or applesauce, and a roll. Drinks and desserts are also available.

Proceeds support
St. Rita School.

Cash and credit accepted.

If you attend a different church for weekend Mass, you can place your St. Rita Church Offering Envelope in that church's collection basket/donation slot and it will be sent back to us. We do this in turn for other parishes whose parishioners are here visiting our church.

GAME Nights

FRIDAYS
in Room 1
6:00-8:00 PM

Games are provided - or bring your favorite!

FREE FUN FOR ALL*!

*Anyone under the age of 12 must be with an adult or older sibling


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

UNITED IN FAITH + COMMUNITY

Mass Attendance				Total
	5pm	8am	10:30am	
Feb 1	173	150	235	558
Feb 8	110	98	185	393
Feb 15	197	142	265	604



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 January & February Wish List:



Laundry Detergent
 Cleaning Sprays
 Toilet Bowl Cleaner
 Liquid Hand Soap
 Canned Pineapple & Canned Beets
 Flour & Sugar
 Cooking Oil
 Gently used children's clothing (all sizes)

Due to the holiday, collection numbers have been delayed.

COLLECTIONS

	Collected	Budgeted	Variance	Weekly Average	Collected last yr.
month of Jan	\$ 57,028	\$ 56,540	+\$488	\$ 14,257	\$53,774
week of Jan 25	\$12,273	\$14,135	-\$1,862	--	\$15,070
week of Feb 1	\$10,710	\$14,135	-\$3,425	--	\$13,632

To set up recurring online payments or make changes to your current giving, please visit our Giving page at www.saintritawebster.org/give-online.

Thank you for your generosity in your presence and contributions!

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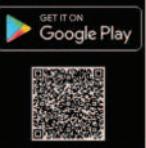


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