

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.

## 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT



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



STATIONS  
OF THE  
CROSS

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



WITH HEARTFELT  
**SYMPATHY**

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**

1008 Maple Dr., Webster, NY 14580 (585)671-1100 [www.saintritawebster.org](http://www.saintritawebster.org)

All Masses are livestreamed on our website.

## 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 &amp; 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 Sainly Supper - Parish Center

6:45PM Holy Hour for Peace - Church

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025

8:15AM Communion Service

4:30PM &amp; 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 &amp; RITA KIRCHGESSNER Mass

- By Patty &amp; 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.

## 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>

SF Sensory Friendly Mass

CL Children's Liturgy of the Word

C Count It All Joy

I Incense Used

F Family Mass



**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](mailto:jmurr66@yahoo.com) for more information.



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

*They need to be burned (in a fireplace or grill for example) or bury them in the ground.*

*You may also drop off your old palms in the basket located in the Greeting Area.*



## **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

**COOKBOOKS**

**ARE HERE!**

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**HAVE BEEN PICKED UP.**



**Breakfast**

**@ St. Rita**

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 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>

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](mailto: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](mailto: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.Cohn@dor.org](mailto:Julie.Cohn@dor.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**

**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](mailto:Niven@dor.org)  
671-1100 ext. 106

**Deacon Jim Fien** – [James.Fien@dor.org](mailto:James.Fien@dor.org)  
233-0334

**Deacon Rick Rall** – [bernrick@frontiernet.net](mailto:bernrick@frontiernet.net)  
545-8467

**Dawn Clark** – [Dawn.Clark2@dor.org](mailto:Dawn.Clark2@dor.org)  
Parish Administrative Assistant  
General Inquiries, Bulletin, Weddings, Mass Cards  
671-1100 ext. 101

**Julie Cohn** – [Julie.Cohn@dor.org](mailto:Julie.Cohn@dor.org)  
Pastoral Minister  
Funerals, Baptisms, Prayer Line, Visitation  
671-1100 ext. 103

**Elizabeth Kwiatkowski** – [Elizabeth.Kwiatkowski@dor.org](mailto:Elizabeth.Kwiatkowski@dor.org)  
Parish Life and Liturgy Coordinator  
671-1100 ext. 104

**Anne Thomas** – [Anne.Thomas@dor.org](mailto: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](mailto:WebIronFinance@dor.org)

**June Frosino** – [June.Frosino@dor.org](mailto:June.Frosino@dor.org)  
Music Director  
671-1100 ext. 105 or call/text 585-362-0708

**Jennifer LeFrois** – [Jennifer.LeFrois@dor.org](mailto:Jennifer.LeFrois@dor.org)  
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](http://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)

## 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

Thank you

### COLLECTIONS

Due to the holiday, collection numbers have been delayed.

	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.stritawebster.org/give-online](http://www.stritawebster.org/give-online).

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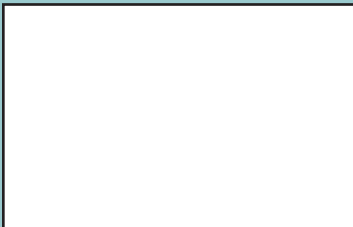
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