

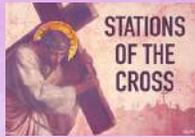
MARCH 1, 2026

Second Sunday of Lent

ST. RITA CHURCH



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

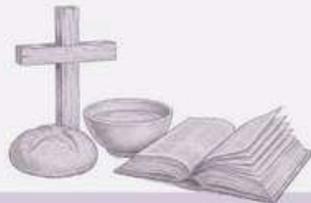


StATIONS OF THE CROSS
Fridays during Lent
5:00PM in Church
Come and join us for a new guided stations experience every week.

Listening and Fasting
Lent as a Time of Conversion

Message of Pope Leo XIV for Lent 2026

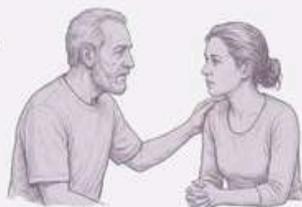
FASTING



By involving our bodies, fasting supports our discernment:

- It keeps our hunger and thirst for justice alive
- It governs our desires towards God and towards goodness
- It disarms our language and helps us refrain from words that hurt others

“Instead, let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness.”



www.humandevlopment.va

ARE YOU NEW TO OUR PARISH?

WELCOME

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!



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

Anthony James Reiber
Stella Marie Perri

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT



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 FEBRUARY 28/MARCH 1

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

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

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026

8:15AM Mass
8:45AM - 9:15AM Confessions - Church
9:30AM My Hope is in You - Bible and Faith Sharing - Church
4:30PM & 6:00PM Faith Formation Family Night
6:45PM Pastoral Council Meeting - Rm 1
7:15PM Confirmation Session

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026

8:15AM ROBERT BEIKIRCH - By Tom & Sharon Bayer Mass
9:00AM Eucharistic Adoration - Church
9:00AM WEROC - Rm 3
10:30AM Prayer Shawl Ministry - Parish Office
6:00PM - 6:45PM Sainly Supper - Parish Center
6:45PM Sainly Inspiration - Church

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2025

8:15AM Communion Service
10:00AM Communion Service at Baywinde - Castle Point
11:00AM Communion Service at Baywinde - Sage Harbor
4:30PM & 6:00PM Sacrament Preparation

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026

4:00PM - 6:00PM Eucharistic Adoration - Church
4:00PM - 5:30PM Confessions
6:00PM Mass
6:45PM Holy Beginnings - Rm 1

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026

8:15AM GERTRUDE PROVOST - By Family Mass
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, MARCH 7, 2026

4:00PM - 4:30PM Confessions - Church
5:00PM Mass
6:00PM Blood Pressure Screenings - Rm 1

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026

8:00AM Mass
9:00AM & 11:30AM Blood Pressure Screenings - Rm 1
10:30AM **CL** Mass
11:45AM Confirmation Session

INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES MARCH 7/8

THOMAS & KATHLEEN BIFARELLA - By The Bifarella Children
ROBERT BEIKIRCH - By Casey Magin
GREG PELCHER - By Family

Reflections on Readings for the
The Second Sunday in Lent***"This Is My Beloved Son, With Whom
I Am Well Pleased; Listen To Him"***

In our Second Sunday of Lent, our readings continue to help us walk with Jesus on His journey to Calvary and the Cross. It should be noted that in Ordinary Time, our first reading reflects and supports the theme of the Gospel for that Sunday. But during Lent, the first reading bears its own track of highlighting important events in Salvation history.



Our first reading (Genesis 12:1-4) highlights one of the major events in salvation history—the story of Abraham. In a sense, this is where it all began. Abram (later to be renamed Abraham) was called by God to leave his homeland (in what is now central Iraq) and travel to a new land which God would give to him (the Promised Land). In this passage, Abram's complete trust in God is rewarded. God made a three-fold covenant (promise) with Abram: a) a promise of land, b) a promise of descendants to become a "great nation", and c) that "all communities of the earth will find blessing in you."

In our Epistle reading (2 Timothy 1:8-10), St. Paul instructs his young protégé Timothy to "bear your share of hardship for the gospel". He then offers him (and us) a most important teaching—that God's gift "was not according to our works but according to his own design." It is a pure gift from God. No amount of "good works" can give us what God gives us freely because He loves us.

In our Gospel reading (Matthew 17:1-9), we hear the account of the Transfiguration of Jesus. This is the pivotal event where Jesus is revealed to be the divine "beloved Son" of God. Elijah is said to represent all of the prophets and Moses is said to represent the Torah or Law of God. Together, they are said to represent all of Scripture. Jesus is the fulfillment of Scripture and all that the prophets had foretold about Him. Also, Jesus is the "new Moses" and the fulfillment of Law of God.

Knowing that it is through the gift of God's grace that we are saved (there is nothing we can do to merit it), we have the confidence to follow God's call wherever it leads. Just like the faith of Abram who pulled up stakes entirely to travel to an unknown land, might we have that same faith to follow wherever God calls us. We know that ultimately, like Abram, Moses, and Elijah, our journey of faith will lead us to the transfigured Christ.

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/030126.cfm>



Sensory Friendly Mass



Children's Liturgy of the Word



Count It All Joy



Incense Used



Family Mass

LINEN CLEANING: MARCH 1
ANN MARIE LIPARI



Our Tabernacle Light will burn
 from March 2 – March 8
 in loving memory of the deceased members of
 St. Rita Parish.

Saintly Inspiration

Tuesday, March 3
6:45 pm in church



“The Cross that Spoke to St. Francis”

Join us as we celebrate the Jubilee of St. Francis for an evening of prayerful reflection on the cross that spoke to St. Francis and told him to “Go, rebuild my church.”

Learn about the special place the cross holds in the Franciscan tradition and pray over it with us.



Tuesday, March 10
6:45 pm in church

“The Saint of Impossible Causes”

Join us as we celebrate our 75th Jubilee Year for an evening about St. Rita.

Learn her story, how we try to reflect that as a parish, and how we can reflect the Saint in our own lives.

Tuesday, March 17
6:45 pm in church

“Pray Your Life; Live Your Prayers”

Spend some time reflecting on the writings and prayers of one of Ireland’s most inspirational saints.



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 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).

First Thursdays of the Month

Thursday, March 5th

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

Gathering 6:45-7:45 pm
 in Room 1

Join others from around the diocese!

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.Fien@dor.org

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:



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

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.



Lenten Collection to benefit Rochester Hope

During Lent St. Rita Parish is collecting
diapers and baby wipes for the families
at Rochester Hope.

Donations of diapers and wipes can
be brought to the greeting area of
church the weekends of
March 7/8, 14/15, and 21/22.



Diapers and Baby Wipes needed



Any size ~ packages can be open
Most needed are sizes 3 and up



Our Parish Health Ministry will be
offering Free Blood Pressure Checks
after all Masses NEXT WEEKEND,
March 7 & 8 in Room 1.



O.C.I.A. ~ Scrutinies

Our O.C.I.A. **Candidates**, Evelyn Powe, Alexander Rosenzweig, Thomas Somers, and Laura Casserino and the **Elect**, Kimberly Serio and Alexis Kantor have reached the Period of Purification and Enlightenment.

This period began on the first Sunday of Lent, when we celebrated the RITE of Election and Calling to Continuing Conversion at Sacred Heart Cathedral on Sunday, February 22.

This time of purification and enlightenment is given to a "more intense preparation of spirit and heart, which has the character of recollection rather than of catechesis, and is intended to purify hearts and minds by examination of conscience and penitence.

This period is intended as well to enlighten the minds and hearts of the elect with a deeper knowledge of Christ the Savior."

Quoted from The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults #139

Scrutinies

The scrutinies are rites for examining oneself and a call to repentance. The elect will look at themselves to find anything that is keeping them from Jesus and ask Jesus to heal and strengthen them.

We will celebrate the Scrutinies with our elect at weekend masses the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent. The candidates and the elect, along with our congregation, will hear and reflect on the Gospel stories to discover how the stories apply to themselves as they prepare for the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil.

The third Sunday of Lent, we celebrate the first scrutiny. The Gospel story is Jesus meeting a Samaritan woman at the well. We see Jesus in this Gospel as **Living Water**. The elect will be attending the 5:00 PM mass on Saturday, March 7.

On the fourth Sunday of Lent we celebrate the second scrutiny, the Gospel story is Jesus healing a man who was born blind. Jesus refers to himself as **The Light of the World**. The elect will attend the 8:00 AM mass on Sunday, March 15.

The third scrutiny is on the fifth Sunday of Lent. The Gospel story, is Jesus raising his friend Lazarus back to life. Jesus is **The Resurrection and the Life**. The elect will be at the 10:30 AM mass on Sunday, March 22.

Please join us in praying for our candidates and elect
and their families as they enter this final stage
before becoming full members of the Roman Catholic Church
Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil Mass on April 4.

Julie Cohn, Pastoral Minister





St. Rita School

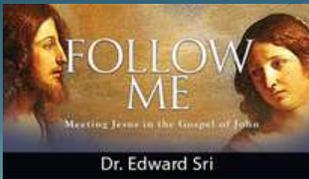
Where Faith and Knowledge Meet!

How about escaping to Paris for the night? Oui Oui!



The annual Father Daughter Dance theme was a hit as our God Drops dressed to impress and danced the night away with the special father figure in their life. There are moments that pass in a minutes but live in our hearts forever and this night is surely one of those moments.

Follow Me: Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John with Dr. Edward Sri



Eight weekly sessions starting Sunday, April 12 and Wednesday, April 15 in Room 1

Sundays at 11:45am
April 12,19,26, May 3,10,17,24,31

Wednesdays at 7:00pm
April 15,22,29,May 6,13,20,27,June 3

The registration fee is \$25, which includes a workbook.

To register for this program, please e-mail or call the Parish Office at wstritap@dor.org or 671-1100.

If you have specific questions, please e-mail Jerry Lupien at galupien@gmail.com.

This Bible Study will guide you through John's Gospel and invite you to encounter Christ every step of the way. As you read about Jesus calling His first disciples, meeting the woman at the well, and offering Himself for us on the Cross, you are invited to enter these dramatic moments, not as a bystander, but as a witness to God's merciful love for us made manifest in Jesus Christ.

Join Us FOR A FISH FRY!

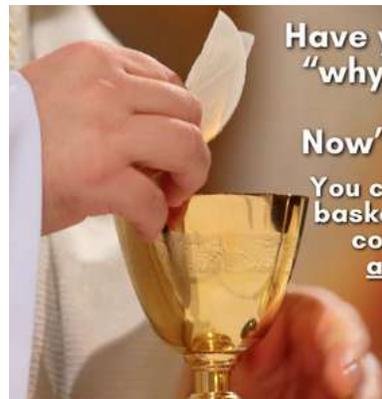
St. Rita Parish Center
Fridays
5:00pm - 6:30pm
February 20 - March 27

Sit down service or take out available.

Proceeds support St. Rita School.



Cash and credit accepted.



Have you ever wondered "why do we do that?!" at Mass?
Now's the time to ask!
You can leave questions in the basket in the greeting area or contact Anne Thomas at anne.thomas@dor.org.
Fr. Tim will teach us about the Mass on March 7 and 8 while we celebrate.

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



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 March 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 8	110	98	185	393
Feb 15	197	142	265	604
Feb 22	245	119	235	599

Thank you

COLLECTIONS

	Collected	Budgeted	Variance	Weekly Average	Collected last yr.
month of Jan	\$ 57,028	\$ 56,540	+\$488	\$ 14,257	\$53,774
week of Feb 8	\$21,883	\$14,135	+\$7,748	--	\$16,541
week of Feb 15	\$12,059	\$14,135	-\$2,076	--	\$24,283

To set up recurring online payments or make 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!



Scan for more details

Summer Offerings



Writing Spirituality: Finding God in the Stories of our Lives

June 26th-27th
(6:30pm - 3:00pm)

FREE - Sponsored by Jesuit Media Lab
With Eric Clayton - Award Winning Writer

Real Presence: Entering more deeply into our Eucharistic Celebrations

July 12th-17th
5:00pm - noon

\$600.00
With Sr. Mary McGlone, CSJ



Silent Directed Retreat - Meeting God in the Silence

July 19-24, 2026
5pm Sunday - Friday noon

\$800.00
With Fr. Dennis Billy, C.Ss.R., Fr. Philip Sutherland, SJ, Sr. Elaine Englert, SSJ, Jodie Scordo and Dcn. Kevin Carges

Unplug and Discover

July 24th-25th
7:00pm - 7:00pm

\$110 - \$150 (depending on style of room)
With Jamie Fazio, M. Div. and Zoe Howland



GO TECH FREE



NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE

WWW.NOTREDAMERETREAT.ORG 585-394-5700

Upcoming Events

CORE Retreat Weekends

2026 Theme: "Holy and Beloved"

May 1st - 3rd - Women

with Fr. Jim McDonald, C.Ss.R., Suzette Norris and Jodie Scordo,

May 29th - 31st - Women

with Fr. Kevin MacDonald, C.Ss.R., Sue Shady, and Jodie Scordo,

Fill Your Soul Days

March 17th 9am - 3pm

"Visio Divina"

with Sr. Melissa Gernon, SSJ

April 14th 9am - 3pm

"Walking the Pilgrimage of Easter Faith in 2026"

with Fr. Gerry McKeon, SJ

Special Events - LENT

March 7th - Women's Lenten Retreat

"Who Cooked the Last Supper"

with Sr. Carol Cimino, SSJ

March 24th - Lenten Retreat Day

"Do Not Judge Anyone: Desert Wisdom for a Polarized World"

Lead by Fr. Isaac Slater, OCSO (author)

March 31st - Sacred Day of Silence 9am-3pm



The Lyric Chorale Cabaret

Songs of Ireland – A Celtic Celebration

with Róisín Dubh, outstanding Celtic ensemble from East Rochester High School

Saturday, March 7th 7:30 PM

St. Rita's School Gym, 1008 Maple Drive, Webster

Tickets can be purchased at <https://www.thelyricchorale.org>

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You can find me at pew E11 every Sunday at 10:30 Mass

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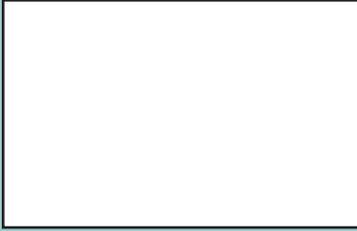
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