

# EUCHARIST INTENTIONS

Among the intentions for those who gather for the Eucharist this week will be:

## MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2003

9:15AM AGNES GIBSON – Marge Gallo

## TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2003

7:00AM ROBERT PHELPS – Wife, Mary Phelps

9:15AM MORNING PRAYER

**ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2003**  
9:15AM THE PEOPLE OF ST. RITA PARISH  
10:30AM LITURGY OF THE WORD  
School Prayer Service with distribution of ashes. All are welcome.  
7:00PM HELEN WHALEN –  
Sr. Helen & Sr. Edwardine

## THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2003

7:00AM IRENE JERGE – Leon Bartle

9:15AM MORNING PRAYER

## FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2003

9:15AM MORNING PRAYER

**Stations of the Cross at 8:50am**

**Eucharistic Adoration following Morning Prayer for one hour followed by Benediction.**

## SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2003

5:00PM KEN CARR – John Carr & Family

## SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2003

7:30AM BETTY BARTLE – Red Peiffer

9:00AM CHARLES RANDISI – Gertrude Provost

10:30AM RAYMOND ARSITZ –  
Mary & Glenn Reaves

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### ~ A VOCATION VIEW ~

In today's Gospel, people have difficulty believing that Jesus can forgive sins. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we have a powerful sign of God's mercy, understanding, and forgiveness for those who are sorry for the sinfulness of their lives. A priest becomes God's minister to visibly assure those seeking forgiveness, that God's mercy is theirs. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, please call Pat Finnerty, Dir. of Vocations Awareness at 328-3228 x 229 or Fr. Bill Donnelly, Rector at Becket Hall at 461-2890.

## Pastor's Perspective

Earlier this month, Pope John Paul II published his 2003 Lenten message. He expressed hope "that believers will find this Lent a favorable time for bearing witness to the Gospel of charity in every place, since the vocation to charity is the heart of all true evangelization." Over these weeks I will share his message. He writes:

*Lent is a season of intense prayer, fasting and concern for those in need. It offers all Christians an opportunity to prepare for Easter by serious discernment about their lives, with particular attention to the word of God which enlightens the daily journey of believers.*

*This year as a guide for our Lenten meditation, I would offer a phrase taken from the Acts of the Apostles: "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). What we have here is not simply a moral exhortation or a command which comes to us from without. The inclination to give is rooted in the depths of the human heart: Every person is conscious of a desire to interact with others, and everyone finds fulfillment in a free gift of self to others.*

*Our age, is particularly susceptible to the temptations toward selfishness which always lurks within the human heart. In society generally and in the media people are bombarded by messages which more or less openly exalt the ephemeral and the hedonistic. Concern for others is certainly shown whenever natural disasters, war and other emergencies strike, but in general it is difficult to build a culture of solidarity. The spirit of the world affects our inner propensity to give ourselves unselfishly to others and drives us to satisfy our own particular interests. The desire to possess ever more is encouraged. Surely it is natural and right that people, by using their own gifts and by their own labor, should work to obtain what they need to live, but an excessive desire for possessions prevents human beings from being open to their Creator and to their brothers and sisters. The words of Paul to Timothy remain relevant in every age: "the love of money is the root of all evils; it is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith pierced their hearts with many pangs" (1 Tm 6:10)!*

*Exploitation of others, indifference toward the suffering of our brothers and sisters, and the violation of basic rules of morality are just a few fruits of the thirst for gain. Faced with the tragic situation of persistent poverty which afflicts so many people in our world, how can we fail to see that the quest for profit at any cost and the lack of effective, responsible concern for the common good have concentrated immense resources in the hands of a few while the rest of humanity suffers in poverty and neglect?*

*Appealing to believers and to all people of good will, I would like to reaffirm a principle which is self-evident yet often ignored: Our goal should not be the benefit of a privileged few but rather the improvement of the living conditions of all. Only on this foundation can we build that international order truly marked by justice and solidarity which is the hope of everyone.*

*To be continued . . .*

Peace, Fr. Chuck

**PLANS FOR THE WEEK MARCH 2, 2003**

**SUNDAY**

8:00-11:00AM BREAKFAST CLUB - Gym  
 10:30 AM Babysitting during 10:30 Mass - Rm 4  
 7:30PM BINGO at the K of C – Team 4

**MONDAY**

4:30-5:30PM Religious Education Classes  
 6:30-7:30PM Religious Education Classes  
 7:30PM Caregivers Support Group – Rm 3

**TUESDAY**

9:30-11:00AM M.O.M.S Group – Rms 1 & 3  
 1:00PM Recovery – Rm 3  
 4:30-5:30PM Religious Education Classes  
 6:15PM Liturgy Committee – Rm 1  
 7:00PM Sr. High Youth Group – Barn  
 7:15PM Scripture Study Group – Rm 3

**WEDNESDAY**

8:30PM Men's Basketball – Gym

**THURSDAY**

7:00PM Single & Single Again – Rm 1  
 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3  
 7:00PM Contemporary Choir Rehearsal – Church  
 7:30PM Charismatic Prayer Group at St. Paul's

**FRIDAY**

9:45-11:00AM Eucharistic Adoration – Church  
 2:00PM Jesus Rosary – Church  
 5:00-7:00PM Fish Dinner – Gym

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<u>PARISH SUPPORT</u>		
<b>Last Week</b>	<b>Weekly Goal</b>	<b>Variance</b>
\$9,515	\$12,654	- \$3,139
<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Year to Date Goal</b>	<b>Variance</b>
\$426,655	\$417,641	+ \$9,014
(The Church's fiscal year begins 7/1/02)		
<b>THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!</b>		

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This week the Tabernacle Light  
 will burn for  
 Edwin & Margaret Neary



**BIBLE READINGS:**

2 Sun **8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time** Hos 2:16-17,21-22 Ps 103:1-4,8,10,12-13 2 Cor 3:1-6 Mk 2:18-22  
 3 Mon Sir 17:19-27 Ps 32:1-2,5-7 Mk 10:17-27  
 4 Tue Sir 35:1-12 Ps 50:5-8,14,23 Mk 10:28-31  
 5 Wed **Ash Wednesday** Jl 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-6,12-14,17 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Mt 6:1-6,16-18  
 6 Thu Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-4,6 Lk 9:22-25  
 7 Fri Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-6,18-19 Mt 9:14-15  
 8 Sat Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-6 Lk 5:27-32  
 9 Sun **First Sunday of Lent** Gn 9:8-15 Ps 25:4-9 1 Pt 3:18-22 Mk 1:12-15

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**ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULED NEXT WEEKEND  
 ~ MARCH 8 & 9**

**Saturday, 5:00pm:**

Greg Pitts, Adam Reask, Michael Boehm

**Sunday, 7:30am:**

John Hohl, Dan Hohl, Elizabeth Hohl

**Sunday, 9:00am:**

Andy Episcopo, Sam Piekarczyk, Brad Chiesa

**Sunday, 10:30am:**

Kathrena Smith, Lauren Benz, Jamie Farris

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**BREAKFAST CLUB NEWS!**

Each week a white contribution envelope is drawn from the collection. The person or family named on the envelope receives a free breakfast.

**This week's winner: Joan Lyness**

**Next Week's Special:** Scrambled Eggs, warm buttered toast served with your choice of bacon or sausage and free coffee for \$2.75.

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**SACRISTAN:**

Week of March 2

Jean Melia

**LINENS:**

Week of March 9

Marie DeVogelaere

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*Thank You ~*

The family of Julia Ciszewski would like to thank all the parishioners of St. Rita's for their wonderful support throughout her illness and at her Memorial Mass and reception.

With thanks,  
 Bill Ciszewski and Family

**MARCH 2, 2003**

## **Stepping Stones to Stewardship**

As Christian stewards, we willingly offer service because we believe. We don't guess. We don't hypothesize. We don't suspect or speculate or suppose. We believe. Belief implies confidence, assurance, trust. As Christian stewards, we place our trust in the Lord because we believe.

God rewards our generosity. That's why we should believe in stewardship.

An excerpt from *Catholic Stewardship – Sharing God's Gifts* by Colleen Smith. Used with permission by Our Sunday Visitor, Inc.

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## **CATHOLIC SCHOOL REGISTRATION**

The Webster Catholic Schools will be taking applications for their Pre-K through Grade 6 programs (includes before and after school care) from Monday, March 3 through Friday, March 7. Applications will be taken between 9:00am and 2:00pm or evenings by appointment. A birth certificate, baptismal certificate and a \$100.00 fee are needed when applying. Tuition assistance forms will be available (only for Kdg. – 6) at this time. If more information is needed or you wish to visit either school please call Holy Trinity at 265-2002 or St. Rita School at 671-3132.

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### **CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP will meet on**

**Monday, March 3  
at 7:30pm in Room 3**

This gathering is for anyone who is presently caring for a loved one at home, in the hospital or nursing home. More people are finding themselves taking care of sick relatives . . . a little time out will help you! Come for support, prayer and reassurance.

## **PARISH LENTEN “SOUL” MEALS**

**at 6:00pm  
in the Parish Center Gym**

Please consider coming to our parish's Wednesday Soup Supper. We will join together for a delicious bowl of homemade soup and bread.

### **Wednesday, March 12 “African Connection”**

Presented by Rev. George Okugh, Pastor at St. Theodore's Church.

### **Wednesday, March 19 “The Migrant Worker”**

Presented by local migrant workers Salvador & Lucille Solis along with Bill Abom, Director of Rural and Migrant Ministry and Sr. Janet Korn will speak on Safe House and Migrant Ministries.

Admission is free. We would ask that you bring one can of soup as a donation for the needy. Please RSVP to the Parish Office (671-1100) to let us know you are coming.

## **FAMILIES ARE WELCOME!**

Take advantage of this Lenten opportunity to help us “Prepare the way of the Lord.”

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### **Our Lenten Theme is:**

***“Harbor of my heart,  
I take refuge in You.”***

**Below are the words and music to the  
psalm response we will use during Lent.**

**OPERATION RICE BOWL  
(LENTEN FOLDERS)**

As part of our faith community's Lenten observance, we will again participate in Catholic Relief Services' Lenten program, *Operation Rice Bowl*. This program will help us become more aware of hunger around the corner and around the globe. We will **pray, fast, learn** and **give** in solidarity with the poorest of the poor. We encourage you to participate fully in *Operation Rice Bowl* at home with your family and loved ones. You can use the Lenten folders you find in today's bulletin to remind you to pray for those in need, and offer a daily donation.

75% of the proceeds from Operation Rice Bowl are used by Catholic Relief Services to fund development projects in 40 countries around the world. 25% of Operation Rice Bowl proceeds stay in our county to provide needed resources for local efforts to help the poor. In Monroe county, some of the places that have benefited from your donations in the past are: Hispanic Migrant Ministry, House of Mercy, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, St. Andrew/St. Philip Neri - St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Bridget, St. Martin's Place, St. Michael, Sts. Peter & Paul, St. Peter's Kitchen, and Corpus Christi –Matthew's Closet

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**ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER**

**MONDAY, MARCH 17  
at 6:00PM  
in the Parish Center**

This adult dinner will offer delicious corned beef and cabbage, carrots, potatoes, Irish soda bread, ice cream and cookies along with Irish coffee and our Irish sing-a-long. Irish Dancers will grace the stage (Boland School of Dance). The cost is \$12.00 per adult and tickets may be purchased at Masses this weekend and next, at the Parish Office or call Deidre (727-5404). **Paid reservations only!** Deadline is Friday, March 14.

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**Webster/Penfield Catholic Connection News!  
(Holy Spirit - Holy Trinity - St. Paul's - St. Rita's)**

**COMPANIONS IN GRIEF  
Will gather on  
Tuesday, March 11  
at 7:30pm in Room 3**

If you have experienced the loss of a loved one, you are most welcome to come. All are welcome!

**STEPHEN MINISTRY**

**Confidential!** That's what Stephen Ministry is. Everything a person tells his or her Stephen Minister is kept in strict confidence. People are often afraid that if they tell someone what is troubling them, word will get around and others will look down on them. But a Stephen Minister keeps everything a care receiver shares confidential, and through the sharing God works miracles of healing and peace. If you or someone you know is in need of a Stephen Minister, contact Rose Leisenring at 671-1100 ext. 14.

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**The Webster-Penfield Catholic Connection  
SINGLES & SINGLE AGAIN  
Presents  
"Sharing, Prayer & Encouragement"**

**Guest Speaker:** Mike Latona  
from the Catholic Courier

**Thursday, March 6 at 7:00pm  
St. Rita Church ~ Room 1**

All singles and single again are welcome to come ~ this presentation applies to all singles. RSVP by Wednesday, March 5 to 671-1100 days and 671-5449 evenings. H'ors deuvres and beverages will be served. Walk-ins are welcome.

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**Parish Outreach Committee Update**

Thanks to your generous donations through the needy fund jars and envelopes, we have been able to provide help to several local ministries. One of those is the H.O.P.E Ministry of Holy Trinity Church.

The H.O.P.E. Ministry responds to special or emergency needs of Webster area residents. All who come to H.O.P.E Ministry are received in a spirit of compassion and care, faith and hospitality. The Trinity House of H.O.P.E. is located at 1450 Ridge Road, Webster, New York 14580

If H.O.P.E. can be of help to you or anyone you know, they can be reached at 265-6694, where a H.O.P.E. Minister will be in touch with you.

We thank you for your support in enabling our Parish to be sensitive to the needs of the poor. Because of your generosity, we were able to send \$1000 in financial support to H.O.P.E Ministry.

**LENTEN FISH DINNERS**

**Begin Friday, March 7**

**5:00-7:00 PM**

**Each Friday during Lent**

Each Friday during Lent Fish Dinners are served from 5:00-7:00pm in the Parish Center Gym. Fried or Baked Fish is available as well as Cheese Pizza! Adult fish dinners are \$7.00 and include coleslaw, French fries and a roll. Children's portions are available for \$3.50. Come in for a great meal! Take out is available, just stop in!

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**ATTENTION ENGAGED COUPLES!**

St. Rita's will be hosting a Pre-Cana Marriage Preparation session on Saturday, March 29, 2003. This is a perfect opportunity for couples with summer and fall weddings to spend a fulfilling day preparing to spend their lives together in marriage. Couples may register by calling Steve and Mary Ann Kwiatkowski at 671-1997. You may also register on-line at: <http://www.saintrita.org/committ/chriform/marriageprep/registration.html>.

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**DAY OF PRAYER**

**Ash Wednesday, March 5**

Presented by Fr. John Kingsbury, C.S.S.R., D.Min. at the Notre Dame Retreat House overlooking Canandaigua Lake. Registration is at 9:00am, 9:30am morning prayer, 9:45am conference, 12:00pm lunch, 1:00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation, 2:00pm Sacred Liturgy. For reservations please call 585-394-5700. Cost is \$15.00 per person.

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**Your Will:** Please remember St. Rita Parish in your will. Our legal name is "St. Rita Church of West Webster".

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**Knights of Columbus  
PASTA DINNER**

Saturday, March 8 from 4:00-8:00pm  
\$6.00 Adults ~ \$4.50 Seniors and kids under 12  
Desserts and baked goods  
will be available to purchase.

**ST. RITA SOCIETY NEWS!**

All women are invited to our next meeting will be

**Tuesday, March 18 at 7:30pm  
in the Parish Center Gym**

**TOPIC: Plan to Celebrate the Life  
of a Loved One**

Presented by Scott Funeral Home who will share with us decisions and paperwork and Sister Judy will offer thoughts on the Liturgy.

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**OUR ANNUAL EASTER CANDY SALE IS HERE!**

Easter is coming and so are the bunnies . . . chocolate bunnies that is. Those delicious Chocolate Rabbits and Mint Melt Aways will be sold after Masses beginning March 8 & 9 and at the Parish Office. The cost remains the same at \$3.00 each. The St. Rita Society now sponsors this ongoing fundraiser and proceeds will be used for parish projects. Thanks for your continued support!

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**St. Rita's VOCE Ensemble** will be singing as part of a Monday evening Lenten series of concerts at St. Louis Church in Pittsford on Monday, March 10 at 7:30pm. The ensemble will be singing a capella Lenten repertoire, and there will also be anointing of the sick. Everyone is invited.

There are a few openings for anyone who is interested in joining St. Rita's Choir on their pilgrimage to Austria from October 15-23, 2003. If interested please contact Chris Yule at 381-2721 for more information.

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**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

**Friday, March 7**

At St. Paul's Church 783 Hard Road  
12:00pm Prayer Service ~ 1:00pm Lunch

All are welcome!

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide movement of Christian men and women to come together for common prayer.

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**NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING**

An Introductory class for the Creighton Model of Fertility Care will be held on Friday, March 21, 7:30 - 9:00 PM at Guardian Angels Church, 2061 East Henrietta Rd. in Henrietta, Room 6. To register or for information, please call Anne Olek at 387-9113.