

EUCCHARIST INTENTIONS

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2003

9:15AM JOHN SCOTT – Leonard Genesky

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2003

7:00AM BILL BENWITZ – Jean White

9:15AM MORNING PRAYER

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2003

7:00AM REV. FRANCIS KLEEHAMMER –

Founding Pastor - Anniversary of Death

9:15AM JOHN SLACK – Eleanor Slack

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2003

7:00AM ROBERT BECHTOLD – Wife

9:15AM FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF ST. RITA PARISH

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2003

9:15AM FAY PANCIONE – Fran Aquilina

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2003

5:00PM JOSEPH HOHMAN – Gert Hohman

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2003

7:30AM LENA WHEATER – Sandy Traino

9:00AM NINO RUGGERI – Family

10:30AM CHARLES MCLELLAN – Mr. & Mrs. David McLellan

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This week the Tabernacle Light will burn in honor of Fr. Joe's Birthday



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Thank You . . .

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our parish family for their many prayers, cards and remembrances following the death of our beloved husband, father and friend Walter Dixon.

Sheron Dixon and Family

Pastor's Perspective

We are pleased to welcome Fr. Jim Sichko to St. Rita Church next weekend as he shares his message of love and service to others.

Father Jim has been a priest for the Diocese of Lexington for the past five years. He is 36 years old. His ministries in the Diocese include being Campus Minister, Youth Minister and Sacramental Minister to the African American Community of St. Peter Claver in Lexington, Kentucky.

Through the Propagation of the Faith of the Diocese of Rochester our parish usually hosts a mission speaker during the summer months. From the first full weekend of June through November 1st, Fr. Jim will travel throughout the United States each weekend, preaching on behalf of the Lexington Diocese through the generosity of the Propagation of the Faith.

The Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky is comprised of 44 parishes and 26 missions. Many of these churches are located in what are the poorest counties in the United States. At least 28% of the people in the Appalachian counties live below poverty level. We will have a second collection next weekend for these missions. This is Fr. Jim's first time in the Rochester area. Please join me in extending Fr. Jim a warm welcome.

Peace,

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Word of Thanks . . .

Words cannot express my gratitude to each and every one of you who helped make my Golden Jubilee as a Sister of St. Joseph so spectacular. The Mass, reception, and the many non-perishable food items for the needy. . . so wonderful. The House of Hope and St. Martin's Soup Kitchen received 30 cartons of food! Your generosity to me in many ways is eternally appreciated.

In prayer,
Sr. Judy

PLANS FOR THE WEEK SEPTEMBER 21, 2003

SUNDAY

10:30 AM Babysitting during 10:30 Mass - Rm 4
1:00-4:00PM Parish Family Picnic – Field
 7:30PM BINGO at the K of C – Team 1

MONDAY

4:30-5:30PM Religious Education Classes
 6:30-7:30PM Religious Education Classes

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
 7:00PM Partner's In Faith – Rm 1
 7:00PM Boy Scout Information Night – Gym

WEDNESDAY

7:00PM Finance Council – Parish Office

THURSDAY

7:00PM Parish Twinning – Church Library
 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3
 7:00PM Contemporary Choir Rehearsal – Rm 1
 7:30PM Parent Reconciliation Meeting – Church

FRIDAY

2:00PM Jesus Rosary – Church

SATURDAY

6:30PM Euchre Tournament – Gym

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PARISH SUPPORT		
Last Week	Weekly Goal	Variance
\$13,904	\$13,160	+ \$744
Year to Date	Year to Date Goal	Variance
\$152,927	\$157,920	- \$4,993
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!		
(Our fiscal year is 7/1/03 - 6/30/04)		

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SACRISTAN:

Week of September 21 MaryAnn Beikirch
 and Jean Melia

LINENS:

Week of September 28 Cindy Wahl

We welcome the newest member of our parish family who was baptized this weekend:

Sophia Frances Gorton 

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BIBLE READINGS:

21 Sun **25th Sunday in Ordinary Time** Wis 2:12,17-20 Ps 54:3-8 Jas 3:16-4:3 Mk 9:30-37
 22 Mon Ezr 1:1-6 Ps 126:1-6 Lk 8:16-18
 23 Tue Ezr 6:7-8,12b,14-20 Ps 122:1-5 Lk 8:19-21
 24 Wed Ezr 9:5-9 Tb 13:2-4,6-8 Lk 9:1-6
 25 Thu Hg 1:1-8 Ps 149:1-6,9 Lk 9:7-9
 26 Fri Hg 2:1-9 Ps 43:1-4 Lk 9:18-22
 27 Sat **St. Vincent de Paul** Zec 2:5-9,14-15a Jer 31:10-13 Lk 9:43b-45

28 Sun **26th Sunday in Ordinary Time** Nm 11:25-29 Ps 19:8,10,12-14 Jas 5:1-6 Mk 9:38-43,45,47-48

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**ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULED
 NEXT WEEKEND ~ SEPTEMBER 27 & 28**

Saturday, 5:00pm:

Josh Formella, Johnathan Formella, Adam Reask

Sunday, 7:30am:

John Hohl, Dan Hohl, Elizabeth Hohl

Sunday, 9:00am:

Alex Vernetti, Nick Vernetti, Chris Mauro

Sunday, 10:30am:

Adam Rall, Ryan Rall, Eric Rall

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~ BREAKFAST CLUB NEWS ~

All are invited to come to the gym after the 7:30am or 9:00am Mass each Sunday and check out our full menu of delicious choices.

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

**This week's winner:
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Lodato**

Next Week's Special: Western Omelettes with home fries, warm buttered toast and a free bottomless cup of coffee for a donation of \$3.50.

Change In The New Millennium

Stepping Stones to Stewardship

ST. RITA'S MUSIC MINISTRY!

Check out the Stewardship Center!

The **Music Ministries** here at St. Rita's Church are being highlighted by the Stewardship Committee at the Stewardship Center in the greeting area in Church. Our parish is blessed to have such a diverse group of talented music ministries. There is something for everyone! Groups are now forming and your participation is most welcome. Music has such a vital part in our celebration of faith. You are invited to be a part of that!

For more information call:

Chrisanne Yule, Music Director at 381-2721
Judy Leone, Contemporary Choir Dir. at 482-4440

The process for bringing adults and children into full communion with the Catholic Church from other faiths has undergone many changes in recent years.

The most dramatic change has been the realization that the Church needs to address people where they are in their faith journey and be more flexible when they come to the Church for initiation. This has translated into offering the RCIA journey when people come to the Church, rather than making them wait for the September through Easter cycle in the calendar.

At St. Rita Church this year, we are beginning the process of moving toward this flexible agenda. If one is a catechumen, meaning a person who has never been baptized, we are creating a process where they are engaged in the community in a more immediate fashion. However, the catechumen must be brought into the Church at the Easter Vigil.

If one is a candidate, meaning someone who has already been baptized in the Catholic Church or another faith and needs to finish the initiation process with the reception of Confirmation and Eucharist, they can start the RCIA process when they declare interest and not wait until September. Practically, this means we will bring candidates into full communion year round at St. Rita Parish. After they finish their preparation process, you will see candidates enter the Church at different times during the year.

The core of the instruction process is the dismissal at weekend liturgies. After the homily, the catechumens and candidates will be dismissed from the community to reflect on the scripture readings of the day. The reason is that they are not fully initiated in the Church and are not eligible to receive the Eucharist with the community.

The catechumens and candidates also receive one on one mentoring with a team member and they are invited to participate in two six-week courses on the catechism and customs and rituals of the Church. When you see our catechumens and candidates, please make them feel welcome in the warm embrace of our loving faith community.

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ST. RITA'S CHOIR NEWS!

The **St. Rita's Mixed Choir** is seeking new members. Those interested should possess some choral singing experience, be able to match pitch, and preferably have some music reading ability. We sing a variety of 4-part (SATB) music, and provide music for the 10:30am Sunday liturgies. Our choir is a fun-loving group that enjoys singing and being together, and seeks to grow spiritually, musically and personally through our music ministry. Rehearsals are held each Thursday from 7:00-8:30pm in Room 3. We would welcome new members to the choir. If interested, please call Chrisanne Yule at 381-2721.

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CHORAL CONCERT!

Sunday, October 5 at 4:00pm at St. Rita

The combined choirs of St. Rita and St. Louis Churches will be hosting a choral concert in preparation for their pilgrimage to Austria in October. All are welcome to enjoy this beautiful time of song and praise.

SACRAMENT NEWS

FIRST RECONCILIATION PARENT MEETING

On Thursday, September 25 and Wednesday, October 1, there will be parent meetings for the start of our First Reconciliation Program. The meetings will be held in Church at 7:30pm. The September 25 meeting is designed for parents who are going through this process for the first time. The October 1 meeting is geared to the parents repeating this sacrament. **You only need to attend one meeting.** If this is your third child going through the process, you can pick up the material at the Religious Education Office in school starting Thursday, October 2 and bypass the meetings.

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SACRAMENTAL REGISTRATION

Registration for the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation is underway now. Registration forms are available in the back of Church, Parish Office and Religious Education Office. Sacramental preparation is a parish-based process which means it does not take place in the Catholic School or the Religious Education Program. Once you have registered, you will receive a letter letting you know when the parent meeting takes place. Children who are seven years old are eligible for the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.

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CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP will meet on

**Monday, October 6
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. If you have questions call Sr. Judy at 671-1653.

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Theology On Tap: "A Match made in Heaven"

Should faith be a part of your dates? Ask Nora Bradbury-Haehl about how being a Christian influences dating and relationships. Come to Johnny's Irish Pub on Wednesday, October 1 at 7:30pm (happy hour at 6:30pm). Bring a friend! For more information contact Shannon Loughlin at loughlin@dor.org or 328-3228 ext.1375

ADULT FORMATION NEWS

From the desk of Drew Desmarais

SCHOLA IS BACK!

The four parishes in the Webster-Penfield Catholic Connection are sponsoring the program "Schola" again this year. This is a program created by St. Bernard's School of Theology to help parishes bring theological education to their parishioners. The following list gives the date, time, parish and theme to be covered by the Schola program. We encourage everyone to take some time out of your busy lives to learn more about your Catholic faith. All the dates are on Wednesday evenings.

October 1 Holy Trinity Parish at 7:30pm
**"What Every Catholic Needs to Know
About the Mass"**

October 8 St. Rita Parish at 7:30pm in Room 1
"Holy Mary, Mother of God"

October 15 St. Paul Parish at 7:30pm
**"Reading the Signs of the Times:
The Catholic Social Justice Tradition"**

October 22 Holy Spirit Parish at 7:30pm
"Jesus"

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Calling all Pets (and their humans too!)

BLESSING OF PETS
Saturday, October 11 at 2:00pm

Do you ever wonder where your humans go on Saturday evening or Sunday morning? Have you ever felt sad and left behind? Here is your big chance to see what they do.

In honor of St. Francis of Assisi -- he was a man who lived long ago and showed everyone how God created all animals, plants and, yes, humans too, to live in unity here on Earth -- we will be celebrating a special blessing just for you. Bring your humans to the bus loop near the Parish Center on Saturday, October 11 at 2:00pm and our very own Fr. Joe will offer you a special blessing.

Don't forget to grab your leash and/or travel carrier for this very special day (oh, and your scooper for those unexpected events). If you have any questions have your human call Anita Wagner at 671-2079.

The Webster-Penfield Catholic Connection

**SINGLES & SINGLE AGAIN
Something New!**

**CHORAL CONCERT
AND DINNER!**

The combined choirs of St. Rita and St. Louis Churches will be hosting a choral concert in preparation for their pilgrimage to Austria in October.

When: Sunday, October 5 at 4:00pm

Where: St. Rita Church

**Followed by: Dinner at the Royal Dynasty
(Baytowne Plaza)**

Reservations are requested for dinner. Please call 671-1100 (M-F days) or 671-5449 (evenings & weekends).

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**Webster-Penfield Health Ministry
presents**

"Oh, My Aching Back!"

**Sunday, October 5, from 4-6 pm at Holy Trinity
1460 Ridge Road in the Trinity Life Center.**

This is a program designed to help you better manage every day tasks while avoiding undue stress and strain, learn good body mechanics to maintain your health, and learn techniques for managing pain.

Janet Vaughan, RN, Nurse Practitioner in Pain Control; Marc Szuba, Registered Occupational Therapist; and Tony Oliveri, Board Certified Specialist in Orthopedic Physical Therapy, will each offer presentations and answer your questions.

A light supper will be served. Reservations are requested by Thursday, October 2. Please call Felice at 671-5177 or Sheila at 265-3693 or email your reservation to ffa10@aol.com.

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~ 2003-2004 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS ~

Entertainment Books are valid from August 2003 through November 2004. They are filled with terrific discounts on all types of restaurants (formal and informal) and entertainment. Profits this year will benefit the House of Mercy and St. Rita's Social Action Ministry. The cost per book is \$22.00. They are available at the Parish Office or call Ed and Diane Langen at 217-9386. They will deliver if needed.

"RITUAL SONG HYMNAL"

Thank you to all for your great response. We are halfway to our goal of 500 books. You can choose to commemorate a hymnal in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special. Your donation of \$15.00 helps to offset the cost of our new parish hymnals. The new hymnal is on display in the back of church. Please feel free to look through the books before you make your decision. There are cards available for you to fill out and either return to the Parish Office or place in the collection basket. If you have any questions please contact Chrisanne Yule at 381-2721 or Judy Leone at 482-4440.

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From the Webster Charismatic Prayer Group

We wish to thank all those who have supported us in any way the past five years, whether it be by presence, prayer or thought and a special thank you to St. Rita and St. Paul Churches who opened their facilities to us. We will no longer be meeting on a weekly basis at St. Paul's Church because we have decided to join the diocese in coming together **each Wednesday evening at 7:30pm for prayer at St. John Fisher's Murphy Hall.** We will gather with many other prayer groups who are doing the same thing. We hope to reach out to the entire diocese along with the college students who worship in this chapel. So we are not disbanding, but coming together to pray as a larger community. We invite all to come and meet with us as we lift our hands and voices in prayer to our God.

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VOCATION VIEW ~ God chooses, from among the royal priesthood of the faithful, a few to serve Him in a special way and to serve their brothers and sisters. This life is the ministry of a priest, sister, lay minister or deacon. If you feel God is calling you to one such vocation, call Fr. Bill Donnelly, Rector at Becket Hall at (585) 461-2890

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MARRIED COUPLES ~ Almost all married couples that attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend say, "We should have done this a long time ago!" Why? Because their relationship came alive again on the Weekend like when they were newlyweds. Join us and rekindle the passion for your spouse and for the Lord. Next weekends are October 3-5 at the Best Western in Lockport or November 7-9 at the Radisson in Rochester. Call 872-3180 to register, see www.wwme-wny.org for additional dates and more information.

NEW Registration Procedures

This year we will be conducting a WALK-IN registration process for Grades 5th – 8th.

The registration will take place at the Field House adjacent to RL Thomas High School on Publishers Parkway on two days:

- Saturday, September 20 from 9:00am – 12:00pm
- Saturday, September 27 from 12:00pm – 3:00pm

The registration process will also include a Skills Assessment for each participant which will take about 15 – 20 minutes. Players should come dressed for basketball (shorts and sneakers).

There are registration forms available on the tables of the Church Narthex and also at the Parish Office, or you can fill out a form at the Field House.

Registration for the 3rd and 4th grade teams will be held at the end of October. High School registration information will be out soon. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Tom Cali at 671-0428.

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Cub Scout Joining Night

**Tuesday, September 23
7:00 pm in the GYM**

It's that time of year again!

Saint Rita Cub Scout program is on the move! With over nineteen registered leaders and committee members as well as 58 registered Cub Scouts we are off to our biggest year ever.

If your son is in grades 1 through 5 and is interested in camping, hiking, making crafts and having fun, perhaps Cub Scouts is the way to go.

Not only is the Saint Rita Cub Scout program fun, it is based on Christian values and principles. Saint Rita Cub Scouts are one of the ministries at Saint Rita Parish, and is part of the Stewardship Program.

So if you're interested in a great program, want to sign up your son or just have some questions, don't miss out on Tuesday, September 23 for Saint Rita Cub Scout joining night. We will be meeting in the gym at 7:00pm. Hope to see you there!

SCHOOL NEED ~ St. Rita School is in need of a large carriage typewriter that can handle the thickness of report cards. If anyone has or knows someone who has a Xerox memory writer, IBM wheel writer or anything comparable they would like to donate to the school please call Mary Ann, school secretary at 671-3132. Your donation would be greatly appreciated!

HOW YOU CAN HELP – DID YOU KNOW???

Here are some simple things we can all do which may seem small, but make a big difference for St. Rita School. Collect from your family and friends too:

Tops Tapesaver Program – save your Tops receipts and drop them off at school in the 3 drawer file by the fish tank near the school office. Last year Mrs. Morehouse collected over \$200 from Tops for St. Rita School.

Box Tops for Education – clip these coupons from General Mills box tops on products such as cereals, cake mixes, frosting, Chex Mix, Pillsbury biscuits, Yoplait Yogurt, etc. For a complete list check out the web site: www.boxtops4education.com/how/brands.asp. Deposit them in the 3 drawer file by the fish tank near the office. Mary Ann Kwiatkowski organizes these and earned us over \$800 last year.

Bottles and Cans – Last year the 5th grade Girl Scouts collected over \$700 by returning bottles and cans for 5¢ deposit. This year the 5th Grade Cub Scout Den will take over the responsibility. Please bring your empties to the collection bins outside the rectory garage to help in this effort.

Ink Cartridges – Please recycle your used Ink and Laser cartridges. You may put them in the 3 drawer file by the fish tank. This is a great way to save our earth and earn extra dollars for our computer lab.

Target Credit Card – If you designate St. Rita School as recipient, we receive a percentage of each purchase made with the card.

K-Mart School Card – Show this card when you make a purchase at K-Mart and a percentage goes to your designated school.

SchoolPOP-This program allows you to support St. Rita School when you shop from websites, stores, and catalogs and it doesn't cost a thing. There are 3 ways to contribute: through online shopping, registering for a Schoolpop Visa or ordering from the discount catalog. All the information that you will need to enroll in any or all of the programs is included in the paperwork sent home last week.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

"I BELIEVE – WE BELIEVE"

SESSION 1; SECTION 1

Chapter 1 (26-49)

26 Faith is humankind's response to God, who reveals himself and gives himself to us, at the same time bringing us a superabundant light as he/she searches for the ultimate meaning of life.

27 The desire for God is written in the human heart, because we are created by God and for God; and God never ceases to draw us to himself.

30 Although we can forget God or reject him, he never ceases to call every one of us to seek him, so as to find life and happiness.

32 One can come to a knowledge of God as the origin and the end of the universe through the world's order and beauty, through the eternal power of God's invisible nature, made visible in all the things that have been made.

#33 The human person, with his/her openness to truth and beauty, sense of moral goodness, freedom and voice of conscience, longing for the infinite and happiness, questions himself/herself about God's existence. The soul, the "seed of eternity we bear in ourselves", can have its origin only in God.

#35 For the human person to enter into intimacy with God, God willed both to reveal himself to the human person and to give the person the grace of being able to welcome this revelation in faith.

44 Man and woman are by nature and vocation religious beings. Coming from God, going toward God, man and woman live a fully human life only if they live by their bond with God.

47 The Church teaches that the one true God, our Creator and Lord, can be known with certainty from his works, by the natural light of human reason.

REFLECTION ~ The Church teaches that our capacity to reason pushes us toward God. This inner compulsion is not deception from within but a God given sign in the nature that surrounds us and in the conscience that we develop. As stated in # 35, God gives us the grace to welcome his revelation in faith. This response called faith brings us to praise God for the revealing nature that surrounds us and to love God for the gift of his divine revelation. The element of reason allows for the fact that every person is capable of hearing and understanding the Church's belief about God. The key question that remains for us is, "What response will I give?" All of us are called to intimacy with God. Our response to God's love will determine whether we accomplish our soul's infinite quest for happiness with God.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did God create me?

45 "Humankind is made to live in communion with God in whom they find happiness."

2. How can I know God exists?

46 "When he/she listens to the message of creation and to the voice of conscience, humankind can arrive at certainty about the existence of God, the cause and the end of everything."

3. Can my reason know God?

47 "The Church teaches that the one true God, our Creator and Lord, can be known with certainty from his works, by the natural light of human reason."

LIFE APPLICATION:

1. Is my curiosity about the world and God alive and well?
2. Do I engage my intellectual curiosity with books and articles?
3. Am I too grown up to experience awe and wonder?
4. Do I sense a spiritual restlessness in my soul?
5. What have I done lately that makes me aware of my need for God?
6. What am I most passionate about in life?