

Saint Lawrence Church

1000 North Greece Road

Rochester, NY 14626

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www.stlawrencegreceny.org • www.stlawrenceschool.org

MUSINGS

By Father Lee Chase

The COVID-19 crisis has affected every single person on this planet. Life has not gone on as usual. I think one part of our community that has felt this very deeply is our parish school. The teachers and our principal were quickly thrown into that whirlwind of preparing classes and lessons for remote learning. Our parents had to adjust not only working from home but making sure their children continue their learning. For the first few weeks, it was new and even exciting to do this. As time has gone on, our parents are tired and feeling the frustration of the circumstances. I read a news piece that said all over the country, parents are “melting down” over trying to keep up with their own jobs and trying to teach their children. Teachers are frustrated because, while they are doing their best, parents are calling or emailing them with constant complaints. And these teachers have the same challenges of trying to work from home while taking care of their own families. Principals are trying to be supportive of both the teachers and the parents and, mostly, the students. I want to thank our parents of our school. For the most part, they have been understanding and supportive of this situation we all find ourselves in. And, to the parents who have not been very happy - I want to ask them for their patience and understanding. We are not perfect and our faculty and staff are doing their very best. I am very confident to speak for Fr. Caton, Fr. Temple, and myself (all of us college professors!) that teaching our courses remotely has been a challenge. We are doing it as best we can. And that’s what happens for all of us - when in a traumatic situation, we do the best we can. One of the biggest challenges for me, as pastor, has been navigating the parish and school finances during these times. I am grateful for the support and work of our Finance Director, Marisa Stieve, our Parish Office Manager, Wendy Speciale, and our Principal, Frank Arvizzigno. With public Masses not being held, that means we are not holding our regular collections. You, the people of our parish, have been so generous in remembering us in sending in donations - but we are still about 30% - 35% down in our budgeted need. Painfully, we have had to temporarily lay off people from both the parish and the school. And, to answer the question that has come from some of our school parents - why we are not refunding tuition nor discounting tuition if people have been laid off and we’re not in the building teaching as usual. The answer is that our teachers are still working as is our principal. Further, tuition only covers about 60% of our school costs. The parish subsidizes the rest. With collections down - we are still struggling to meet the payroll needs of the school and parish. So, please, understand that we’re working hard, doing our best, and trying to navigate the school and parish through these difficult times. Thank you for your ongoing support and prayer. And please know that as your pastor, I am praying for all of you - especially for those who have died, are sick, are unemployed, and in need.

On a personal note, I want to remember in prayer a dear friend of mine - Mary Donoghue. She recently died. She and I worked together in the 1980s at St. Anne’s Church in the city. She was one of the first lay women who was not a nun to work in pastoral ministry. Eternal rest, grant unto her, O Lord. May she rest in peace.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER



*This week, we light the
Sanctuary Lamp in Memory of
Aleykutty Joseph
by Mrs. Jessy John*

Monday, May 4

Easter Weekday

For all essential workers

Tuesday, May 5

Easter Weekday

Cabelek & Temple families by Martha & Tom Temple

Wednesday, May 6

Easter Weekday

Mary Theresa O'Keefe by O'Keefe family

Thursday, May 7

Easter Weekday

For all those suffering with Coronavirus

Friday, May 8

Easter Weekday

Anita Bianchi by Doug & Sevine Brooks

Saturday, May 9

Easter Weekday

For the people of St. Lawrence Church by Father Chase
Deceased members of the DeVaney & Englert families by
Alan & Joanne Englert

Sunday, May 10 Fifth Sunday of Easter

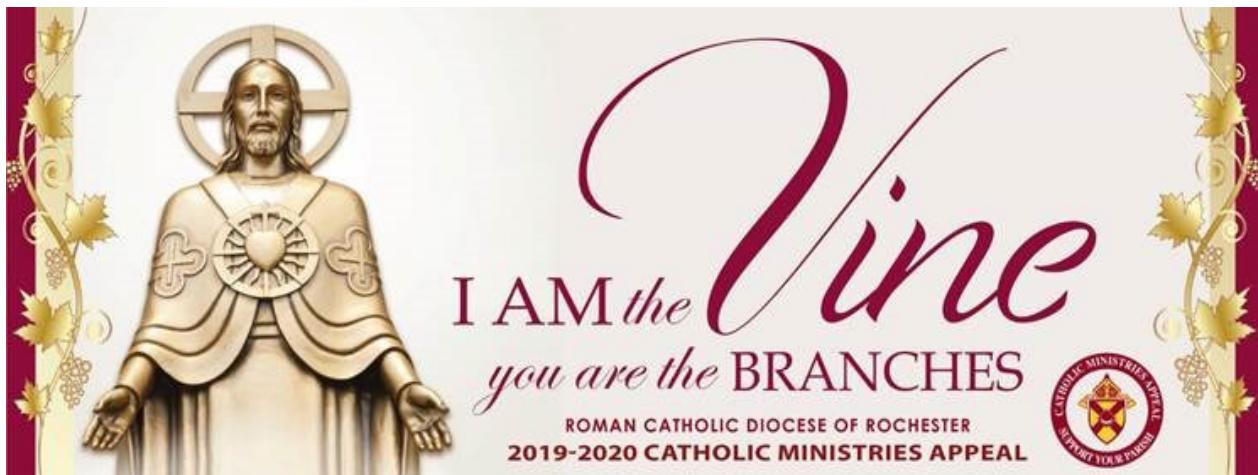
Gene & Antonette Volpe by Gene & Marykay Volpe
Marian & Anthony Juzwiak & Frank G. Pierga by Dorothy

*Please note: Fr. Chase and Fr. Caton continue to celebrate Mass
without a congregation and offer these intentions during those
Masses. Thank you.*

Readings for the week of May 4, 2020

Monday, May 4:	Acts 11:1-8/Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday, May 5:	Acts 11:19-26/Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday, May 6:	Acts 12:24—13:5a/Jn 12:44-50
Thursday, May 7:	Acts 13:13-25/Jn 13:16-20
Friday, May 8:	Acts 13:26-33/Jn 14:1-6
Saturday, May 9:	Acts 13:44-52/Jn:14:7-14
Sunday, May 10:	Acts 6:1-7/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

STEWARSHIP



We are a Stewardship Parish committed to giving our time, talent, and resources for others!

April 25/26 2020 Collection

	Amount Received	Weekly Budget	Surplus (Shortfall)
Sunday Collection	\$ 12,184.13	\$16,200.00	\$ (4,015.87)
General Maintenance	\$180.00	\$1,040.00	\$ (860.00)
School Support	\$47.00	\$360.00	\$ (313.00)

Hello,

We hope you and your loved ones are well! Over the past 6 weeks we've seen quite an increase in requests for assistance - many from people who have not previously requested food. Since church services are canceled and organizations are not meeting, food donations are down and our shelves are getting bare. To help us restock, we are holding a **Drive-In Drop-Off food collection on Thursday, May 7, 10 am to 2 pm, at the Shelf (500 Maiden Lane** - next door to the Greece Police substation). It will be a no contact event - donors are asked to place items in boxes that we will place outside our door or just inside, depending on the weather. Our volunteers will then pick up the food and take it into the building. To help ensure everyone's safety, we are requesting that everyone wear a face mask and maintain at least a 6' distance.

Items especially needed: chunky soup; rice; cold cereal; canned tuna & chicken; canned vegetables and fruit; pasta sauce and dry pasta; peanut butter; canned stew, chili, or pasta; instant mashed potatoes; and shelf-stable milk. Regular size cans and packages (rather than large or family-size) are most needed.

We know that many of us cannot safely go out in public or shop at this time and understand completely if you can't participate. Thank you for all that you have done in the past! We look forward to waving at those who do participate -- thank you in advance for helping our neighbors-in-need!

Take care,

Amy



Amy Peritsky

Chairperson, Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf

GEFS phone: 585-683-9674

On line and televised liturgies from our Diocese:

(Weekly) Mass Schedule on TV:

WHEC.Com -streaming mass

Channel 10-5:30am

ME TV 10.2 / Cable Channel 1245- 8:00am

You may also go to www.dor.org for a link to the
livestreamed Masses of Bishop Matano.



Please note: we continue to hear confessions every Saturday from 2:30—3:30 p.m.

Confessions are heard in the Infant Chapel / Family Cry Room.

You must stand at the line marked on the floor— keeping a safe social distance.

Novena Prayer for An End to the Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, full of grace, Patroness of this nation and Mother of the Church, in this time of illness and worldwide need we seek your intercession for the human family before your Son's throne of grace and mercy. We ask for strength in adversity, health in weakness, and comfort in sorrow. Help us, O Blessed Mother, to be filled with confidence and trust in the tender compassion of our God. Let us not be afraid, like our own Saint Marianne Cope, who entrusted her life and ministry among the outcasts of society into the care of our Divine Physician. Continue to watch over all who are sick as well as those who care for them and give wisdom to all who are seeking a cure. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(Prayer written by Bishop Douglas Lucia, Bishop of Syracuse)



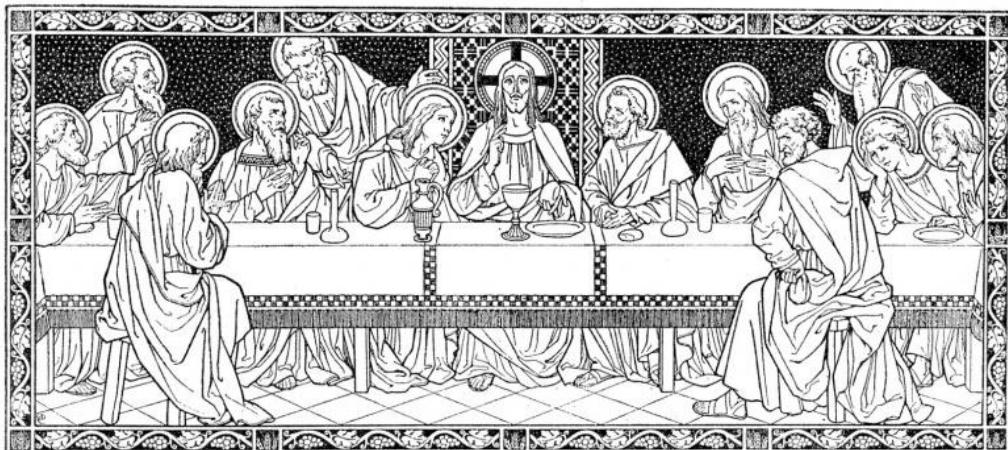
SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an *Act of Spiritual Communion*, which is a source of grace.

Spiritual Communion is “an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace Him” at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion.

(Saint Thomas Aquinas).

The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.



Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.