

# Saint Lawrence Church

1000 North Greece Road      Rochester, NY 14626      585-723-1350

[www.stlawrencegreeceky.org](http://www.stlawrencegreeceky.org) \* [www.stlawrenceschool.org](http://www.stlawrenceschool.org) \* [www.roccatholicsnorthwest.org](http://www.roccatholicsnorthwest.org)



## MUSINGS

*By Father Lee Chase*

### The Life of a Catholic Parish

I've been reflecting on something for a while now: the life of a Catholic parish. In conversations and meetings, I have been in all over the diocese about the future, about trying to anticipate what things might look like, in trying to plan on what might happen – again and again my thoughts turn to what a parish is and the evolution of its life.

Parishes have a beginning. They are "born," if you will. The bishop of a diocese decides that a certain area of his diocese is in need of a parish and so he assigns a founding pastor and the work begins. The notice is put out to the parish communities that already exist. Their geographical boundaries will be bordering the new parish. Catholics in that area who reside within the boundaries of the new parish are invited to be founding members of the new parish. The new pastor and parishioners find and set up a temporary place to worship as they look for land and, having bought that land, build their new church. There is an excitement that surrounds this process. People start to get to know one another. Parish groups form: ushers, choir members, committees, and parish staff. All work together to give shape and personality to the newly formed community. It doesn't happen overnight. It probably takes a decade if not two for the new parish to coalesce into a real community. And during that time, the community will grow. New people will show up and be welcomed. This, too, brings a sense of excitement.

After a while, though, as time moves on, habits begin to form and people find a niche. They know wish subgroups of the parish they belong to the Social Ministry Committee, the Faith Formation parents, the Buildings and Grounds group. They develop friendships that will last their lifetime and they settle in. The parish's growth slows down. The parish has grown to adulthood if you will. People get used to the way things are.

The hard part comes when the original group of founders begin to die or move away. That initial excitement is gone. Parishioners begin to silently ask themselves, "what is happening?" And, sometimes, people begin to cling to their own cliques not because they wish to be exclusive but because they want the comfort of familiarity. But sometimes, when new people want to join the parish, they may find themselves feeling frozen out, unwelcomed, not wanted. New people bring new ideas, a new way of doing things.

All parishes go through this. We need to remind ourselves every now and again that new members to St. Lawrence Church are wanted. Their ideas and time and talents are wanted. Sometimes, yes, they may challenge the way things are done. That's good. That's growth. That's what faith is all about. Our faith is ever the same, ever new. We need to remember that at one time, we were new here. We relied upon the welcome of others. And we need to deliberately welcome the new members of our parish, the younger members, the families coming for worship, for school, for faith formation. A vibrant parish is one that is alive and active. We want all: the founders from 60 years ago, the families who joined 40 years ago, the families and people who joined 6 months ago or are with us for the first time today. Welcome to St. Lawrence Catholic Church.



This week, we light the Sanctuary  
Lamp in memory of  
**DeBerger Family**  
From Gary & Carrie Carlson

## *THIS WEEK'S PRAYER*

### *Monday, June 8*

*Weekday*

8:30 a.m. Mass for Bernie Bubel by Jean & Tom Raisbeck

### *Tuesday, June 9*

*Weekday*

8:30 a.m. Mass for Steven Otis by Bob Brucato

### *Wednesday, June 10*

*Weekday*

8:30 a.m. Mass for Penny L. Martin by Brian Martin

### *Thursday, June 11*

*Saint Barnabas, Apostle*

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

### *Friday, June 12*

*The Most Sacred Heart Of Jesus*

8:30 a.m. Mass for Martin & Theresa O'Keefe by The O'Keefe Family

### *Saturday, June 13*

*Weekday*

4:00 p.m. Mass for Michelle Spahn by Sister, Renee Spahn

### *Sunday, June 14*

#### *Eleventh Sunday In Ordinary Time*

8:00 a.m. Mass for St. Lawrence Parishioners by Father Chase

10:00 a.m. Mass for Joseph & Dora Berardi by their family

## **Readings for the week of June 8, 2026**

Monday, June 8:	1 Kgs 17:1-6/Mt 5:1-12
Tuesday, June 9:	1 Kgs 17:7-16/Mt 5:13-16
Wednesday, June 10:	1 Kgs 18:20-39/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday, June 11:	Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3/ Mt 5:20-26
Friday, June 12:	Dt 7:6-11/1 Jn 4:7-16/Mt 11:25-30
Saturday, June 13:	1 Kgs 19:19-21/Mt 5:33-37
Sunday, June 14:	Ex 19:2-6a/Rom 5:6-11/Mt 9:36-10:8

# STEWARDSHIP

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

<p><b>Attendance May 23 &amp; 24, 2026</b>                  Total -881</p> <p><b>Attendance May 30 &amp; 31, 2026</b>                  Total -904</p>
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Fund	Amount Received	Weekly Budget	Surplus (Shortfall)
Sunday Collection	\$12,550.69	\$14,230.00	\$(1,679.31)
General Maintenance	\$1,069.00	\$1,154.00	\$(85.00)
School Support	\$350.00	\$577.00	\$(227.00)

## Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 pm  
 Sunday 8:00 am  
 10:00 am

Mon - Wed, Fri 8:30 am  
 Thu Communion Service 8:30 am.

Holy Days of Obligation  
 Please see bulletin or website calendar.

## Confessions

Saturday 3:00 pm

## Anointing of the Sick

Please call us if you or a family member wish to be anointed.

## Baptism

Parents should contact the Parish Office to schedule the baptism of their child.

## Marriage

Engaged couples should contact us at least **one year** in advance of their desired date.

## Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
 9 a.m. - Noon, 1 pm - 4 pm  
 Phone: 723-1350 fax: 723-1361

## St. Lawrence School

585-225-3870

## Internet and Social Media

Email - rstlawre@dor.org  
 website - stlawrencegreece.org  
 Facebook - www.fb.me/STLGreece

## May 30 & 31, 2026

Fund	Amount Received	Weekly Budget	Surplus (Shortfall)
Sunday Collection	\$11,087.97	\$14,230.00	\$(3,142.03)
General Maintenance	\$584.00	\$1,154.00	\$(570.00)
School Support	\$1,265.00	\$577.00	\$688.00

<p><b>Rectory Office 723-1350</b>  <i>The Very Rev. Lee P. Chase, V.F., S.T.L.</i>                  Dean, Monroe West Deanery for the Diocese of Rochester, Pastor, x 207</p> <p><b>St. Lawrence School</b>  <i>Joseph Gaudio – School Principal,</i>                  225-3870</p> <p><b>Finance Administration</b>  <i>Christopher Frontale</i>                  Email: CBOwest@dor.org</p> <p><b>Pastoral Ministry</b>                  Deacon David Squilla  <i>Pastoral Associate, x. 212</i>                  Deacon Manny Asis  <i>Senior Deacon, x. 201</i>                  Deacon Bill Rabjohn  <i>Parish Deacon</i>                  Email: Bill.Rabjohn@dor.org</p>	<p><b>Administrative Staff</b>  <i>Wendy Speciale</i>                  Office Manager, x. 201</p> <p><b>Faith Formation Ministry</b>                  Maura Spencer  <i>Multi-Parish Faith Formation Director,</i>                  (585) 663-8000 x. 1                  Donna Gray                  Regional Youth Ministry/CYO,                  (585) 225-1485</p> <p><b>Music Ministry</b>                  M. Virginia Pierce  <i>Music Director, 227-7236</i>                  Susan Judkins  <i>Song Prayers, 797-3719</i>                  Steve Amico  <i>Faithful Voices, 225-7338</i></p>
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## WHAT'S NOW – THIS WEEK AT ST. LAWRENCE

<b>Monday, June 8</b> Human Development Mtg. – Deacon Hall	6:30pm
<b>Tuesday, June 9</b> Faithful Voices – Church	7:00pm
<b>Wednesday, June 10</b> Song Prayers – Church	7:15pm
<b>Thursday, June 11</b>	
<b>Friday, June 12</b> Girl Scouts – Deacon Hall	
<b>Saturday, June 13</b>	
<b>Sunday, June 14</b>	

Human Development Share Sunday, June 14, 2026

Dimitri House

Dimitri House, located at 102 North Union Street in the City, offers a food cupboard and drop-in lunch program that supplements weekly needs of 12,500 people in our community on an annual basis. Please join Dimitri House in stocking the cupboard shelves for local families in the Rochester Community, the weekend of June 13/14. Items needed:

Paper Products: toilet, toweling, tissues, plates, napkins

Hygiene Products: soap, shampoo & conditioner, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, razors and shaving cream, feminine products

Cleaning Supplies: laundry and dish soap, disinfectant

The Human Development Committee of St. Lawrence thanks you for your generosity, as we share a little of what we have. Please have your donations at church by Sunday, June 14, by 11:00.



## Summer Faith Formation - Religious Education

Soon it will be time for our two-week Summer Faith Formation Program! This is a curriculum-based faith formation program for children in 1<sup>st</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> grades. It consists of two weeks (ten days) of religious education for a total of 30 hours. Each daily session includes Scripture lessons, hands-on activities, prayer, and faith-filled fun!

*When: July 6-17 (9:00 am-12 noon)*

*Where: The school building at **St. Charles***

**OR**

*When: July 27-Aug 7 (8:00 am-11:00am)*

*Where: The school building at **St. Lawrence***

Classes fill up quickly, so register soon! Please contact [maura.spencer@dor.org](mailto:maura.spencer@dor.org) or call the Faith Formation Office (663-8000) for more information. We hope you can join us!

**Save The Date !** Chicken BBQ, Pizza, Basket Auction,  
New To You Garage Sale, Baked Goods , Kids Games

**Festival Time! Sat., July 11, 2026**

10:00am- 7:00 pm

at the **Nativity Church of the BVM, Brockport**

# You Are Cordially Invited!

*Most Rev. John S. Bonnici*

*Bishop of Rochester*

INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE YOUR MARRIAGE

*Sunday*

**June 14, 2026**

**11:15 AM**

**Sacred Heart  
Cathedral**

All married couples and their guests are welcome to attend and renew their vows. Those celebrating milestone jubilees will be given special recognition.

Help us plan!  
RSVP: anniversary year and guest  
count to [donald.smith@dor.org](mailto:donald.smith@dor.org)

