

SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT

Third Sunday of Easter

April 14 & 15, 2018



From the Desk of the Pastor

My dear parish family, this week we welcome our Ordinary, Most Reverend Richard J. Malone, to St. Gregory the Great to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation for our teenagers on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7:00pm. I invite and urge you to come to celebrate Mass with us either or both of these evenings, as this is a major celebration of our community. It is a time for the entire parish to come and celebrate with our teens and their families. This is not a private celebration of Confirmation, but a gathering of the community.

Having the Sacrament of Confirmation this week, along with reflection on the daily Mass readings from the Acts of the Apostles, calls us to the meaning of "community." We would do well as a Church and as a parish community to reflect on the actual nature and meaning of "community." Today we often want to "create" communities or "build" communities. These terms and many workshops I have attended on this subject concern me because it leads one to conclude that a community is manufactured or engineered in some way. I believe that a community, although requiring hard work, is something that forms when a group of people with a common purpose and goal band together. A community is not engineered, but is a gathering of individuals with like mind, purpose and conviction to accomplish that purpose.

I think back to 1958 when St. Gregory the Great Parish was formed. It was the beginning of transforming farmland into what we now know as the largest suburb of Buffalo. Many people moved out from "the city" to live and form "the suburb" of Amherst. Many houses were built and many businesses naturally followed. A community was formed at 200 St. Gregory Court under the name and patronage of "St. Gregory the Great." Why? I believe the answer is simple. Many of those who moved out here were Catholic. They came from various other city neighborhoods, and even different cities, to work, as Buffalo was thriving. Since they possessed the like belief and practice in the Catholic Faith, they formed a parish and school to worship God in the Catholic tradition and to have a place dedicated to passing on the Faith to their children and following generations. I do not believe that someone at the Chancery office engineered a Church to be planted here in order to develop homes for a community to begin. The people came, had like belief, and the Diocese of Buffalo and the people realized a community was forming and a parish needed to be erected.

I think back to 1907 when my Grandfather came to Buffalo and settled in Black Rock. He bought a home and began a tailor shop and dry cleaning business. He was one of many Polish immigrants who came from the same region of Poland to seek a better life in the United States. (continued on page 2)

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CLOTHING DRIVE - THIS WEEKEND

The Annual Spring Clothing Drive will be held this Sunday, April 15. Trucks will be available in the parking lot near the Ministry Center from 8:00 am - 6:00 pm. Receipts for tax purposes will be available. CLOTHES ONLY.

New Parish Office Hours

In 2014, Fr. Leon introduced evening office hours. However, due to a decrease in the Sunday offertory and the need to adjust the budget we will no longer be able to offer evening office hours. This will also affect appointments with the Priests in the evening. The Parish Office will be open Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 4:00pm. We will also be open on Saturday and Sunday from 9:00am - 1:00pm.



On Monday, April 9, our newly formed St. Greg's Young Adult Ministry went to the Anchor Bar for Trivia Night. 29 Young Adults (18 years - 30s) came out for wings and trivia!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon. April 16: Acts of the Apostles 6:8-15; John 6:22-29

Tues. April 17: Acts of the Apostles 7:51-8:1 a; John 6:30-35

Wed. April 18: Acts of the Apostles 8:1b-8; John 6:35-40

Thurs. April 19: Acts of the Apostles 8:26-40; John 6:44-51

Fri. April 20: Acts of the Apostles 9:1-20; John 6:52-59

Sat. April 21: Acts of the Apostles 9:31-42; John: 6:60-69

Sun. April 22: Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12 (50B); 1 John 3:1-2; John 10:11-18

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

The living Christ

- Reading I** Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 (Peter's discourse on Jesus' resurrection)
- Reading II** 1 John 2:1-5 (keeping the commandments)
- Gospel** Luke 24:35-48 (Jesus appears to the Eleven)
- Passage** Jesus said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself." (Luke 24:38-39)

Adult: *What questions about Jesus still arise in the midst of your faith?*

Child: *What question would you like to ask someone about Jesus' appearance to the Apostles?*

VOCATION VIEW

After some time of journeying to Emmaus, and after failure to recognize the risen Jesus at first, two of Jesus' disciples recognized the Risen Lord as He broke bread with them. Might Jesus be calling you to make His presence known by this very gesture? If God is calling you to a Church vocation call Fr. Andrew Lauricella at 716-847-5535. You can also check out the "Priest of the Month" stories on our website – www.buffalovocations.org!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES PARISH UPDATE:

\$521,866.37 COLLECTED, 75% OF OUR GOAL

Our parish goal for Catholic Charities is **\$693,000**. To donate, please mail your contribution to the Parish Office or donate online at www.ccnw.org. Thank you for your continued support of the **2018 Appeal!**

PARISH SOCIAL/NEW PARISHIONER WELCOME

All parishioners and new families are invited to join us for refreshments this Sunday, April 15, after 9:30am Mass, in the Gathering Rooms. If you have questions about our Faith or would like to register with the Parish, please join us.

From the Desk of the Pastor

(continued from page 1)

People from one region of Poland formed the community of Black Rock and other Polish people from other regions formed communities in other areas of Buffalo, including the East Side, Kaisertown and more. They formed a neighborhood to live together as they had a shared bond from the "old world" and they formed Churches to worship God and to pass on the Faith to their children. No one engineered or planned for this to happen other than God.

What is the community of St. Gregory's today? This week 139 of our teenagers will become full members of the community of the Catholic Church at St. Gregory's. What exactly does this mean? Are we an intentional community of believers or a community of convenience? Honestly, there are a number of our teenagers who have chosen to be confirmed elsewhere for various reasons probably including convenience. Today we see people come and go from parishes for various reasons including the services the parish may offer (a consumer mentality), who is the pastor (personality and popularity), what subjects are preached about, and more. The Catholic Church has always had the Eucharist as the center of the Church and each parish community. Is the celebration of the Eucharist the real center of our community? I know that I see it as such. Is that where the 6,000 plus registered households are at St. Gregory's, and in any parish in the Diocese? A question to ponder! Bishop Malone is requiring all parishes to examine Mass attendance and will have non-parishioners count the number of people assembled to worship at every Mass for the next three weeks. The Eucharist is the central moment for the community to gather and needs to be celebrated with our full participation and a full congregation with parishioners focused on contributing their time, talent and treasure to allow the Mass to be the "source and summit of our faith" (Second Vatican Council). Is that what we search for and the purpose of our gathering? For me it is, and I hope the same is true for all.

Please take some time to reflect on the meaning of community and the importance of our parish community. Please take time to reflect on the intentional nature of our Catholic Parish rather than the conveniences we have or search for regarding our faith lives. Please pray for our teenagers who will become fully initiated members of the community and please come to be a community with them on Tuesday and Thursday at 7:00pm to pray with and for our brothers and sisters in Christ with our Bishop presiding at the Eucharist.

May God bless you, our Mother Mary watch over you and St. Gregory the Great intercede for you, always.

Sacramental Information

2018 Confirmation Dates have been scheduled:

Tuesday, April 17, and Thursday, April 19, at 7:00pm in the Church. Letters and emails were sent to candidates with their assigned date of Confirmation.

Any questions, please contact Arlene Meyerhofer at ameyerhofer@stgregs.org or call 688-5760.

Confirmation 2019 and 2020

ATTENTION ALL Catholic and Public Schools Parents who currently have a student in Grade 8 and 9:

Please attend the appropriate **Parent Meetings to Register for Confirmation:**

▪ **Incoming Gr 10** (Current Gr 9 students)

Register **In Person** on Tuesday, May 15, at 7:00pm **OR** on Saturday, May 19, at 10:30am, in the School Cafeteria.

▪ **Incoming Gr 9** (Current Gr 8 students)

Register **In Person** on Thursday, May 17, at 7:00pm **OR** on Saturday, May 19, at 9:00am, in the School Cafeteria.

Catholic School students: Faith Formation is completed at a Catholic High School during Grade 9. However, **students MUST register with our program** to ensure they will receive all Confirmation related notifications including information required for service hours and Confirmation retreats.

Public School Students: In addition to registering your child for Confirmation, this meeting will also cover important information for High School students (in the Weekly Program, Monthly (GOF) and the HS Summer Programs).

Registration for the HS Summer Program will be available during the Parent Meeting, so please be prepared to make a registration payment. See FFF section in the Bulletin for full Registration Schedule for other high school FFF programs.

Ladies of Charity

Our next meeting will be on Monday, April 23, at 1:00 pm in the Café. This month's aid is directed to the Jamaica Mission Trip. Our next day of service at the Thrift Store is Monday, May 7. Please call Marge at 688-5954 if interested. New members are always welcome.

Prayer Chain Anniversary

On March 30 the St. Greg's Prayer Chain celebrated their 26th Anniversary. Happy Anniversary! The Prayer Chain is a group of dedicated "pray-ers" that pray for special intentions and healing of those who are sick and in need. If you would like to add someone's name to the Prayer Chain you may call the Parish Office at 688-5678. Their name will stay on the Prayer Chain for 30 days.

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY!

In March we Baptized 3 new Christians. Welcome to our parish family and congratulations to the parents of: **Camden John Ertel, Drew Christopher Masiello** and **Adriana Nicole Michalski**. Special thanks to parish seamstresses for the white Remembrance Stoles.

Senior Citizens

May 14, Meeting and Mother's Day Luncheon, 12:00 noon Mass, 1:00 pm lunch catered by "Johnny C's" at Ministry Center, \$16 per person. Reservations to Dolores Mason at St. Gregory's no later than May 7.

May 28, Seneca Niagara Casino, \$16 per person, \$25/Slot Dollars plus \$5/food voucher. Bus departs St. Gregory's Ministry Center at 8:30 am and returns at 3:30 pm. Valid Government Photo ID required.

June 18, *Our All American City* Tour, \$73 per person, 3 hour Buffalo Creek Casino with \$15 free slot play, lunch at Pearl Street Grill, menu choice of CharGrilled Chicken, Fish & Chips or Pot Roast. 90 minute double-deck bus tour of Canalside, Outer Harbor, Erie Canal, Erie Basin Marina and more. Bus departs Ministry Center at 9:30 am returning at 5:30 pm. For travel reservations/information, call Nancy at 631-5313.

MEN OF GOD

Men of God (MOG) is a Spirituality Group for Men 21 years and over that meets monthly for fellowship, praying the Rosary, and group discussion. Our next meeting is on **Wednesday, April 18, from 7:00-9:00 pm in Gathering Room 2**. Please bring a friend, a brother, a dad, an uncle or cousin for this special night. For more information, contact Ray Geska at 541-8345 or raygeska@yahoo.com, or Jeff Criden at 207-4878 or jeffrcrd@aol.com.

April Outreach: We are collecting **Children's Sunday Best/First Communion Clothes** throughout the month of April. Please bring donations to the Family Faith Formation Office during normal business hours (M-F 9:00 am - 2:00 pm), and when classes are in session. We are requesting all sizes but we also have a special need for size 10 and 12 dresses. Last day of the collection is on Monday, April 30. Thank you as always, for your generosity!



EASTER FLOWERS WERE DONATED IN MEMORY OF

Mr. & Mrs. Humbert Armao ... Balcerak & Kozakiewicz Families ... Frank & Mildred Bartscheck ... Franklin Boehler ... Bogdan & Daigler Families ... Vincent & Anna Bonanno. . . Wally Brewer. . . Deceased Members of Bucki & Bruch Families . . . Ruthie Burke . . . Chaya & Fix Families . . . John Cusack . . . James Daly. . . Robert Deavens . . . Gerri De Lac . . . Albert & Elizabeth DeRouche . . . John J. DiPasquale . . . Diane Egger . . . Joseph Ferraro . . . Dr. Thomas Hassenfratz . . . David Hayes. . . Donald G. Held . . . Herr, Nenni, LoManto Family . . . Deceased Members of Hertel Family . . . Harvey & Rose Hoelscher . . . John J. Jeffery . . . David E. Jones. . . Judith Kaczmarek. . . Joseph Klawon . . . Daniel A. Knoll . . . Daniel J. Kowalski. . . Earle Kramer. . . Joseph J, Katherine A. & Joseph A. Latona . . . Richard Laux . . . Lembo-Mason Family. . . Paul & Patrick Moran . . . Henrietta Napieralski. . . Leonard Nirelli . . . Shirley O'Brien . . . David Orr . . . James T. Palisano . . . Richard Panepinto . . . Christine Ann Parisi . . . Parisi & Curto Families . . . Anthony J. Pelosi. . . Michael C. Perry . . . Fred Postolese . . . Marie Risone . . . Thomas Ruthven . . . Grace Schick . . . Rundak, Seykoczky & Urbanski Families . . . Robert & Vivienne Schifferli. . . Sigeti-Kull Family . . . Albert & Amelia Sodaro . . . William & Anna Taylor . . . John Tronolone. . . Percy Wilson . . . Julian Vitiello. . . Cecilia & Michael Wagner . . . William Wiedeman . . . Robert Wilde & Son, James . . . Mr. & Mrs. Percy Wilson . . . John J. Wojnar . . . Bob & Loraine Wopperer.

Diocesan Task Force on the Study of Liturgies

Bishop Malone and his Presbyteral Council are currently looking into ways to promote both the spiritual welfare of priests and the liturgical life of each parish. They are particularly concerned about the number and quality of Masses celebrated at each parish. With a declining number of priests, we should not expect priests to celebrate more liturgies on a weekend than are needed; and, fewer Masses with larger attendance would encourage more-vibrant celebrations of the Eucharist.

The Bishop is asking all parishes to engage in a collaborate effort to look at Mass schedules and Mass attendance. This will be coordinated at the Vicariate level with suggestions to be sent to a Diocesan Task Force that has been established by the Bishop. Engagement in this process at the parish level will be vital in creating a revised and coordinated Vicariate Mass schedule that will promote the physical and spiritual well-being of priests as well as provide quality liturgical celebrations in each parish.

Catechist's Corner



The role of a catechist is to teach our faith by word and example.

“Jesus did not say, ‘Go out and get by. No, he didn’t say that! Jesus said, ‘Go, I am with you.’ - Pope Francis “

From a Junior high student:

“...Thank you Ms. Zak for teaching me about how God is important in our changing world and also, how we keep weekly prayer journals.”

If you're interested in learning more about becoming a catechist or a classroom aide in the Family Faith Formation program, please call Joan Rischmiller at 688-5760.

MOTHER'S DAY NOVENA CARDS

Mother's Day Novena Mass Cards are now available at all entrances of the Church. Please feel free to take a card or two, fill out the enclosed envelope with your offering, and return it in the collection basket or to the Parish Office before Mother's Day. The Intentions for these Novenas will be prayed for each day during the week of May 13 - 20.

THINKING ABOUT COMING BACK TO THE CHURCH?

Has it been awhile since you have been part of a faith community? Are you sensing God's prompting to reconnect with the Church? We invite you to join us on Sunday, April 15, after the 9:30am Mass for refreshments in the Gathering Rooms to ask questions and get to know more about our parish faith community. Staff members and parishioners will be present to share information about the parish. There will also be an opportunity to register with our parish if desired. All are welcome!



On Sunday, April 8, St. Gregory's celebrated Divine Mercy Sunday with the Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and a reception.

FREE BABYSITTING
BY RESERVATION
Contact Lorianne:
507-2026
ltmacnamara@gmail.com

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ltmacnamara@gmail.com

St. Greg's MOMS *presents:*
Meet the Catholic Doctors

Friday, April 20

St. Greg's Gathering Room

9am-11am

Dr. Sheliah Roehmholdt



Dr. Kathy Grisanti



Dr. Jennifer Piwko



Dr. Gloria Roetzer



Meet 4
Catholic
Female Pediatricians:
Dr. MOMS *who*
fearlessly practice their
Faith & Medicine

Panel discussion with Q & A- all welcome
stgregsmoms@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus, St. Gregory Council #14687

9th Annual Spring Mulch Sale

Saturday, May 5, Mulch Pick Up & Delivery, 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

St. Gregory the Great, Ministry Center Parking Lot

Knights Proceeds Support Our Religious Vocations

Free Bag Mulch Delivery with Orders of 10 or More Bags!

Advance orders for bag mulch (specify black, brown or red) can be placed for \$5.00 per bag (2 cubic foot size) by returning the below form and check to the Parish Office, dropping it off after Masses on April 21/22 or by mailing the check with the order form below to Knights of Columbus Annual Mulch Sale, 200 St. Gregory Court, Williamsville, NY 14221. Checks can be made payable to St. Gregory Knights of Columbus Council 14687. Any questions, call George Tirabassi @ 572-7772. **Orders can be taken up through Thursday, May 3.**

Name: _____

I will Pick up _____

Address: _____

***I would like Delivery** _____

Phone #: _____

Black Quantity: _____ @ \$5.00 /bag

Red Quantity: _____ @ \$5.00 /bag

Brown Quantity: _____ @ \$5.00 /bag

Total: \$ _____

***If ordering 10 bags or more, do you
have a specific location for delivery?**

Family Faith Formation

Open Monday - Friday, 9:00am - 2:00 pm and during classes.

FFF Calendar of Upcoming Events:

2018-2019 FFF Registration Schedule:

High School Summer Program (formerly SPLASH)

Class dates: June 25 - 29, 9 am- 4 pm. For program details, go to www.stgregs.org/summerhighschool/

Registration dates for the HS Summer Program:

▪ **Incoming Gr 10** (Current Gr 9 students)

Register **In Person** on Tuesday, May 15, at 7:00 pm **OR** on Saturday, May 19, at 10:30am, in the School Caf.

▪ **Incoming Gr 9** (Current Gr 8 students)

Register **In Person** on Thursday, May 17, at 7:00pm **OR** on Saturday, May 19 at 9:00am, in the School Cafeteria.

Generations of Faith (Monthly FFF Program, Gr 1-10)

Registration for All Sessions (A, B and C) is on Monday, May 21, 2018 at 7:00 pm. **Online Registration Only.** Each session will close at 50 Families. For program details, go to www.stgregs.org/generations-faith/

Disciple Camp (Summer FFF Program, Gr 5-8)

Register **In Person Only** (parent and student must attend) in the School Cafeteria on Saturday, June 2, at 9:00am **OR** on Monday, June 11, at 7:00pm.

Meetings and registration will last approx. 35 minutes.

For program details and Registration form go to

www.stgregs.org/disciple-camp-5/

Weekly FFF Program (Gr 1-10)

Registration begins on Wednesday, June 1, 2018
Register Online or In Person. For program details, go to www.stgregs.org/program-options/ then select your child's grade level.

Little Cherubs (Preschool, Ages 3 - 5)

Weekly Program, September 2018 - April 2019
Registration begins on Wednesday, June 1, 2018
Register Online or In Person. For program details, go to www.stgregs.org/pre-school/

Vacation Bible School (Pre K*- Gr 4 in Sept 2018)

*child must be 3 years old by Dec. 2017

Registration begins on Monday, May 14, and closes on June 22. Register Online or In Person. For program details, go to www.stgregs.org/vacation-bible-school/

For FFF Program Registration, go to

www.stgregs.org/register-now/ Find the program of your choice and depending on the program, you will either be able to download a form to bring to the registration meeting, **OR** you will see a link to register online. Links will be live on the dates as per the registration schedule.

St. Greg's School

Kindergarten Registration

We accept registrations from **9:00am-1:00pm** in the School. **At the time of registration, parents MUST present the following information:**

Birth certificate copy (Child must be 5 years old by 12/1/2018) Baptismal Certificate copy & **Immunization Record**

NEW FAMILIES: \$150 non-refundable deposit at time of registration

...plus \$100.00 non-refundable tuition deposit will be due at time of screening

Cougars Corner

Last week was Easter break and the St. Gregory the Great students did not attend school. This was our last weeklong break for the year. This year will be the 8th Graders last year and students are generally starting to realize that school is going to be ending permanently for them. We will be going on to other schools and may not be in contact with some of our friends for a while. Being part of St. Gregory the Great School has always been an amazing opportunity. The friendships created there will last longer than a normal friendship. We watched each other grow up. We have seen the hard times of each other's lives and we've seen their most joyful times, but sadly all that will be coming to a close soon.

Most of us started around Kindergarten or First Grade, the first three or four years of our lives, so you could say we all got attached to each other pretty quickly. Even this year we've made multiple new friends who have come to our school. We have around three months left in the School so we should enjoy it. There are other opportunities coming up for us to have a proper goodbye. This school has always been the school that I would always be a part of and after nine years it's going to be hard making the change to another school, but we won't really be gone. With a community like this we will never leave and will always come back.

By Elsie Hilmey, St. Greg's Eighth Grade Student

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St. Gregory the Great Parish code: **D7B6CQ**

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Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Adam Jarosz: ajarosz@stgregs.org; Nicole Janecek:
njanecek@stgregs.org; Richard Patti: rpatti@stgregs.org
~ 688-3578

Middle School

Edge Nights: April 19, 26; 6:30 - 8:30pm

Middle-School Retreat, May 4-6

We are returning to Camp Turner for our second-ever Middle-School Retreat! Join us for an unforgettable weekend of fun, friends and faith! Spots are limited so contact Nicole ASAP to reserve your spot for the Middle-School event of the year!

High School

Life Teen: April 22; 5:30 - 7:30pm

SWAT Team: April 17, 24; 7:00 - 8:30pm

Spiritual Weapons And Tactics team is our new prayer group that will meet every Tuesday in the Ministry Center Basement. This group is open to all high-schoolers. If you are looking for something that will help you dive deeper into your faith this is for you! Snacks will be provided.

Young Adult Ministry (18 - 30something)

College Oasis Magazine:

Sign up for the online magazine for college students both home and away for original content to keep you fresh throughout the semester. If you have any questions about College Ministry, contact Adam!

New Website and Social Media:

Check out the new website, complete with a fantastic section for young adults. Includes upcoming events, great recommendations for media and ways to serve at stgregsYM.org! Plus, follow us on our new Instagram account just for this age group for fresh content!

Mass and Lunch: Wednesdays at 12:00pm

Take a break during your day and join us at noon for daily Mass on Wednesdays. If you have time after, stop over to the Café for a drink or a bite to eat.

Women's Bible Study: Wednesdays at 7:00pm

Our groundbreaking new Women's Bible Study meets every Wednesday at 7:00pm in Sr. Maureen's Room (upstairs) in the Ministry Center. If you are looking for a dynamic community of Catholic women living the Faith, this is the place for you!

Follow St. Greg's on Social Media



- Like us on Facebook at St. Gregory the Great
- Follow us on Twitter @StGregsBuffalo
- Download the St. Greg's Mobile App.
Search St. Gregory the Great and enjoy daily spiritual quotes

"SPIRITUAL SPINS & GRINS"

For Those Who Live Alone

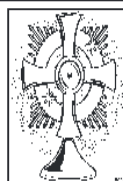
I live alone, dear Lord, stay by my side;
In all my daily needs be Thou my guide.
Grant me good health, for that indeed I pray,
To carry on my work from day to day.
Keep pure my mind, my thoughts, my every deed.
Let me be kind, unselfish, in my neighbors' need.
Spare me from fire, from flood, malicious tongues,
From thieves, from fear, and evil ones.
If sickness or an accident befall, then humbly,
Lord, I pray, hear Thou my call.
And when I'm feeling low or in despair,
Lift up my heart, and help me in my prayer.
I live alone, dear Lord, yet have no fear,
Because I feel Your Presence ever near. Amen

Young Women's Conference:

"Be Purely You"

All girls Grades 8 - 12 are welcome to join us for a fun-filled day of inspiring workshops! Learn about colors and fashion styles that make you look and feel your best; discover your unique and special gifts as a daughter of the King; learn to recognize the strength of authentic femininity!

Saturday, April 28, 8:00am – 3:00 pm at St. Gregory the Great Parish Ministry Center. Register online at www.stgregs.org, \$20 before April 22 or \$25 at the door. Registration fee includes a delicious and nutritious lunch provided by Core Life Eatery. For more information, call Lori at 716-866-2373.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

"The fruit of silence is PRAYER, the fruit of prayer is FAITH, the fruit of faith is LOVE, the fruit of love is SERVICE, the fruit of service is PEACE." (St. Teresa of Calcutta)

"ADORERS NEEDED!!!" You are invited to join us and sign up for any hour(s) convenient for you. We especially need Adorers for **Mondays, 2:00-3:00am; Tuesdays, 9:00-10:00am; Wednesdays, 3:00-4:00am, 6:00-7:00pm; Thursdays, 2:00-3:00am, 3:00-4:00am, 7:00-8:00am & 11:00am - 12:00noon; Fridays, midnight to 1:00am; Saturdays, 4:00-5:00pm, 5:00-6:00pm, 6:00-7:00pm & 7:00-8:00pm; Sundays, 10:00-11:00am, 12:00noon-1:00pm, 4:00-5:00pm, 5:00-6:00pm & 6:00-7:00pm.** If you are willing to be a substitute Adorer, please contact Kathy at 759-7149 or Barbara at 634-7478. Thank you for your commitment to spend one hour each week with Jesus in Adoration.



Music Ministry

Rehearsals



Children Choir (Grades 2-8)

Tuesday, April 17, at 4:30pm

The children will be singing

at the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday, April 22.

For more information about the various ensembles, please check the Music Ministry page on the parish website, or contact Daniel Victoor at 688-5678, ext. 308

Respect Life



Crucial Victory in Fight Against the HHS

Mandate: On March 28, a federal judge ruled in favor of the Catholic Benefits Association (CBA), issuing a permanent injunction and declaratory relief against the Department of Health and Human Services' contraception mandate.

The CBA represents more than 1,000 Catholic employers. More than 88,000 people work for companies that are part of the CBA.

In 2014, the CBA filed two federal lawsuits against the HHS mandate which required all insurance plans to cover contraception, sterilization procedures, and emergency contraception. The CBA argued that this mandate ... was forcing Catholic employers to violate their deeply-held religious beliefs. U.S. District Court Judge David Russell agreed. [His] injunction will prevent the federal government from enforcing the mandate. Russell also ruled that this mandate [violated] the Religious Freedom Restoration Act by attempting to force employers to provide contraception and sterilization, [infringing upon] their sincerely held religious beliefs.

Failure to comply with the mandate meant that businesses were subject to fines. The companies that make up the CBA had collectively accrued \$6.9 billion in fines, which were eliminated with the ruling. Companies that are not part of the CBA are still subject to the mandate, which remains in place as-is.

CBA CEO Douglas G. Wilson, Jr. said the association was "most grateful" by the decision, [and] ... that Russell's ruling is an "important judicial validation of religious liberty" in the context of the First Amendment and of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. Wilson believes that this will pave the way for other religious groups to protect themselves against the mandate.

"His ruling creates a precedent which, we are sure, will be cited by religious faiths across America in their own resistance to these immoral intrusions." (From catholicnewsagency.com)

Parish Activity Calendar

Sunday, April, 15

10:30 am Parishioner Social (GR 1)

Monday, April 16

6:30 pm American Heritage Girls Meeting (GR 1-2)

Tuesday, April 17

2:00 pm Athletic Track Practice (School Track)

6:30 pm Evening Prayer (Crying Room)

7:00 pm Youth Ministry S.W.A.T. (MC Basement)

7:30 pm Boy Scouts Troop 440 Meeting (MC Gym)

7:00pm Sacrament of Confirmation (Church)

Wednesday, April 18

10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry (MC Gym)

6:30 pm Boy Scouts Wolf Den Meeting (Art Room)

6:30 pm Men's Golf League Kickoff Mtg. (GR 1)

6:30 pm School Board Meeting (GR 1)

7:00 pm Men of God Meeting (GR 2)

7:00 pm RCIA Presentation (Room 702)

Thursday, April 19

2:15 pm Girl Scouts Brownies Meeting (GR 2)

6:30 pm Youth Ministry EDGE (MC Gym)

6:30 pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting (GR 1)

7:00pm Sacrament of Confirmation (Church)

6:30 pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting (GR 1)

Friday, April 20

9:00 am MOMS Meeting (GR 1&2)

7:00 pm Father/Daughter Dance (MC Gym)

7:00 pm Youth Ministry XLT (Church)

Saturday, April 21

9:00 am FFF Board Meeting (MC 1)

10:00 am Women's Enrichment Coordinators' Mtg.
(MC 2)

Sunday, April, 22

10:30 am Parishioner Social

5:30 pm Youth Ministry Life Teen (MC Gym)

Marriage Moment

"Jesus made himself known to them in the breaking of the bread." (Luke 24:35) Sometimes when I have been around my beloved for a long time, it's easy to seem invisible to each other. Consciously look at your spouse at dinner tonight. See the likeness of God within them.

Parenting Perspective

April 22 is Earth Day. Often our children teach us how to be responsible recyclers, take care of nature, etc. Brainstorm with your child ways that your family can take a step to care for creation. Do one of the ideas today.

Mass Schedule

Saturday, April 14

Vigil Masses

- 4:00 pm Chester Kosnik (birth) by Daughter,
Amy Ventura
- 5:30 pm Marie Pierino & Thomas Pierino
by Joyce Santora & Family
Paul LoTempio by Ronald & Joanne Zini

Sunday, April 15 – Third Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 am Chet Yauchzy by Daughter, Judy Klug
- 9:30 am Robert Farrington
by St. Gregory the Great School Office
Mary Nowatka by John & Sandy Schimenti
- 11:00 am Donald Dillon by Dillon Family
Mark Kocsis by Ruth Crowley
- 12:30 pm Patricia & Frank Palczak
by Alfasso Family
Hanna Dawli by Joseph & Anita Anain
- 1:30 pm Baptisms
- 4:30 pm William Hartigan by Grandmother, Reidy

Monday, April 16

- 7:00 am Parishioners of St. Gregory's
Albert Gottstine by (birth)
by Bill & Linda Dohn
- 8:00 am Michael P. Varbanov by Nigam Family
- 12:00 pm Fred Riccio by Dr. & Mrs. Franz Glasauer
Devin J. Waring by Barbara Voigt

Tuesday, April 17

- 7:00 am Gladys Villardo by Family
Michael Varbanov
by Mother, Edith Varbanov
- 8:00 am Juanita M. Schober
by Jim & Maureen Ferguson
- 12:00 pm Gloria Lynch by Marie Rowekamp
Theresa Paganello
by Mr. & Mrs. Russell Todaro

Wednesday, April 18

- 7:00 am Marge Conlan by Cousin, Donna
- 8:00 am Judith Kaczmarek (birth)
by Robert & Michelle Schifferli
Leon Biernat by Son, Father Leon Biernat
- 12:00 pm Hilda Trauffer
by Bill & Kathy Schrameck
Karen Marie Fassl (birth) by Family

Thursday, April 19

- 7:00 am Richard Romanowski (birth) by Estate
Fr. Jack Mattimore by Friend
- 8:00 am Juanita Schober by Curazzato Family
- (School Mass)**
- 12:00 pm Veta Thurston (birth) by Family
Rose Hoelscher by Distefano Family

Friday, April 20

- 7:00 am John & Joyce Ambrosoli by Estate
- 8:00 am Michael Varbanov by Edith Varbanov
Devin J. Waring by Ken & Deb Kistner
- 12:00 pm Thomas Zurek (anniv) by Family
Mary Manaher by 1st Friday Rosary Group

Saturday, April 21

- 8:00 am Anastasia Kuhn (birth) by Family
Roselyn M. Murphy (birth) by Family

Vigil Masses

- 4:00 pm James H. Cosgriff by Wife & Family
- 5:30 pm Charles Donner by Mary Kate Vivacqua
John Cusack by Wife, Patricia, & Family

Sunday, April 22 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 am Mary Manaher by Marie Brewer
- 9:30 am Louise Militello
by Militello & Mazza Families
Phyllis DiGiore by Marie Gambino
- 11:00 am Donato LaLama by Lydia LaLama
Mark Kocsis by Ruth Crowley
- 12:30 pm Frank Scarcella
by Victoria Simonetta & Family
Peter, Jr. & Maryflorencia Bertola (living)
by Mom, Michelle
- 1:30 pm Baptisms
- 4:30 pm Hanna Dawli
by Fouad & Marcelle Mirshak

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Raymond J. Lipski
Joyce M. Mecca
Margaret Wegman

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Pilgrim Virgin Statue

YOU ARE INVITED to host the Pilgrim Virgin Statue into your home for one week, with the commitment to offer the Rosary daily during that week. Since most of us are unable to make a pilgrimage to Fatima, Our Lady, with characteristic humility and love, reverses the process. She becomes the pilgrim. The spiritual benefits of the "Pilgrim Virgin" are numerous. Consider this wonderful opportunity to invite our Blessed Mother into your home. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Church foyer. For more information, please call Donna at 688-5989.

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Deacon Peter Donnelly; pdonnelly@stgregs.org

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Fr. Leon J. Biernat, Chairman; lbiernat@stgregs.org

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DIRECTOR

Joan M. Rischmiller (358); jrischmiller@stgregs.org

* * * * *

Moving In? Moving Out?

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PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:30 am - 4:00 pm

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Mass Schedule

SATURDAY: 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm

SUNDAY: 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am; 12:30 & 4:30 pm

HOLY DAYS: As listed in the Bulletin.

WEEKDAYS: (Monday-Friday) 7:00, 8:00 & 12:00 noon; (Saturday) 8:00 am only.

For those who are unable to join us, all Masses can be viewed via the Web at: www.stgregs.org

Catholic Store & Café

CATHOLIC STORE HOURS (276-6920): Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm; Wednesday 5:30 - 7:30 pm; Saturday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. *Closed Monday.*

CAFÉ HOURS (276-6915): Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 7:30 am - 2:00 pm; Wednesday 5:30 - 7:30 pm; Saturday 8:30 am - 12:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. *Closed Monday.*

Sacraments

BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated the second and fourth Sundays after the 12:30 pm Mass - limit of six babies, ceremony only. All parents desiring Baptism for their child are asked to attend the Pre-Baptismal class at least two months prior to the Baptism. The class is held the first Tuesday of each month, 7:30 pm, in the Ministry Center, Room 2. If you have had another child baptized within the last three years, you may attend the class or come to the Parish Office to complete the necessary paperwork. Call Jo at 688-5678 to register.

PENANCE (CONFESSIONS)

First Fridays: 8:30-9:00 am; Saturdays: 2:30-3:45 pm, other times on request.

WEDDINGS

Celebrated on Fridays (5:00 pm and 6:30 pm) and on Saturdays (10:00 am, 12 noon, and 2:00 pm). Either the bride or the groom must be a parishioner.

Marriage Preparation – Engaged couples should call the Parish Office at least six months before their wedding to make an appointment with a priest.

MINISTRY TO SICK, HOSPITALIZED, AND SHUT-INS

Sick calls and emergencies – anytime day or night. Call 688-5678.

Please call the Parish Office to arrange to receive Holy Communion at home or to report the hospitalization of a parishioner.

Anointing of the Sick – This Sacrament is administered the first Saturday of each month immediately following the 5:30 pm Mass.

Prayer and Devotion

PERPETUAL ADORATION

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration in our Adoration Chapel 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. New adorers are always welcome. Scheduled adorers commit to one hour a week in front of the Blessed Sacrament, most often with at least one prayer partner. If you cannot make your scheduled hour of adoration, please arrange for a substitute. If you require help, call your hourly captain. For information, call Kathy at 759-7149 or Barbara at 634-7478.

PRAYER

- The **Rosary** is prayed publicly at the following times:
Monday-Saturday, 8:30 am, Church; Monday-Friday, 12:30 pm, Church;
Saturday 12 noon, Grotto or Church (Rosary For Our Country)
- Pray the Saturday Rosary at your convenience with our recording online, which can be found at www.stgregs.org/mass-schedule
- **Lectio Divina (Word of God)** – Wednesdays, 9:00-10:00 am, Gathering Room 2.

Our Mission

St. Gregory the Great Parish, a large and diverse Faith Community, affirms the presence of Christ in the Eucharist and among us. We sustain our vitality through shared experiences of prayer, sacrament, liturgy, and service. We dedicate ourselves to being a vital part of the Church in the Diocese of Buffalo by maintaining and expanding our:

- *Spiritual focus*
- *Knowledge and understanding of our Faith and our Church*
- *Spirit of welcome and reconciliation*
- *Compassion and concern for those in need*
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