



# St. Gregory the Great

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

200 St. Gregory Court • Williamsville, NY 14221 • (716) 688-5678

November 2022

Dear Parishioner,

During the pandemic, we were called to isolate from one another for the safety of others. This has revealed our need to be together. **This year we have fully resumed parish life through many events to offer fellowship, form our faith, fundraise to support our mission, and serve those in our community.** It has been wonderful to see so many of you! It is our hope and prayer that we will see even more of you at Masses, especially as the holiday season draws near. We have much to be grateful for. What better way to give thanks to God than to be fed by His Word and the Eucharist!

**Soon, you will receive our Annual Report for the fiscal year of September 1, 2021, to August 31, 2022.** Unfortunately, it was a deficit year for us. This was primarily due to people not returning to Mass as the pandemic restrictions were lifted and thus not utilizing envelopes or online donations. As a parish, we also continued to have COVID-related expenses due to regulations we had to follow in the school. The government aid that helped with these costs has expired. We also no longer had the generosity of those around the country who made significant contributions as a 'thank you' to our online presence during lockdown.

**Since our last Capital Fund Drive in 2019, many necessary projects have been completed, including, but not limited to:**

- Concrete sidewalk repairs
- Parking lot milled, resurface, sealing and striping
- Replacement of the original locks in the Church, Ministry Center, and School (which no longer worked properly)
- Replacement of hot water tanks
- Plaster repairs and painting
- Installation of rooftop HVAC units
- Replacement of Rectory roof
- Sewer work to replace original clay pipes.

For those who are homeowners, you can well imagine the cost of just a few of these items. The total cost for capital projects in 2020-2021 was **\$842,437**, and in 2021-2022, it was **\$367,866**.

**In 2022-2023, additional projects will be paramount,** to avoid far more costly repairs down the road. These projects include and are not limited to:

- Brick pointing and masonry repairs to all buildings
- Wall repairs behind the Blessed Mother in the Church
- Completing the concrete work in front of the Ministry Center
- Window repairs in the Rectory
- Chimney repairs
- Replacement of School boilers
- Replacement of School roof

Our current buildings range from 25-60 years old, and we are approaching close to \$1,000,000 in capital projects/improvements.

**After consulting with the Finance Council, Buildings and Grounds Committee, and Parish Staff, we are inviting you to participate in our 2022-2023 Capital Fund Drive.**

\*Please note the corrected sentence from the original letter mailed 11/8/22.

**Please know that the decision to hold this drive was not taken lightly, as we know the world is experiencing economic challenges. Please prayerfully consider what you can do at this time as a sacrificial offering.** All donations are welcome. Your donation to the Capital Fund will be included on your year-end contribution statement. \* You may choose to make your donation using your credit card on the parish website, or by mail to the Parish Office. Please make checks payable to St. Gregory the Great and include "Capital Fund Drive" on the memo line. Checks may be mailed to the Parish Office, dropped in the collection baskets or in the secure drop box in the office vestibule. Be sure to put ATTN: Capital Fund Drive on the outside of the envelope. Please note donations to the Capital Fund are used only for St. Gregory the Great Parish capital repairs and improvements and will not be used for general operations or programming.\*

The goal of this drive is to strengthen our infrastructure for the future ministry of the Church here in Williamsville. We are thankful for the myriad ways that the Gospel is lived by your generosity of time, talent, and treasure in building up the Body of Christ as we serve and love the Lord.

Be assured of our prayers and thanks for you and your family's kindness, especially as we celebrate Advent and Christmas. May God bless you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Leon J. Biernat  
Pastor

Julie Gajewski  
Director of Advancement



**St. Gregory the Great**  
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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# CAPITAL FUND DRIVE

**Yes!** I would like to help St. Gregory the Great strengthen infrastructure for future ministry.

You may make your donation using your credit card at [stgregs.org](http://stgregs.org) -OR- kindly return this form with a check, payable to St. Gregory the Great, and include "Capital Fund Drive" on the memo line. Checks may be mailed to the Parish Office, placed in the collection baskets, or dropped in the secure drop box in the Office Vestibule. Please put "*ATTN: Capital Fund Drive*" on the outside of the envelope. Please note donations to the Capital Fund are used only for St. Gregory the Great Parish capital repairs and improvements and will not be used for general operations or programming. \*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ ENV. # (IF APPLICABLE): \_\_\_\_\_

\$1,000     \$500     \$250     \$100     OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

*St. Gregory the Great Church is a 501(c)(3) organization.  
Your tax-deductible donation will be included on your year-end contribution statement.*

*Thank you! With this donation we will be able to continue to bring people closer to Christ through prayer, worship, and service.*

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