

SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT PARISH

PARISH COMMUNITY LIVING
THE GOSPEL . . .

~ IN FAITH
~ IN WORSHIP
~ IN SERVICE

December 28 & 29, 2019
The Holy Family



MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

My Dear Parish Family,

Merry Christmas! As we joyfully celebrate this Sunday we celebrate Christmas, and within the Octave of Christmas we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. This feast reminds us of the central reality of God's plan for us. God wants us to be a family.

It is very easy to see God as "above" us, not only in the heavens, but above us in power, majesty and glory. Certainly God is above us. God is our Creator and as our Creator He eagerly desires a relationship with His created. We need to see our entire experience of God as "family." The Trinity is a unity, a family if you will, of three persons in one God. The Trinity is a unity of perfect intimacy. Today's Feast of the Holy Family is an opportunity to see the intimacy of Jesus, Mary and Joseph as a family and to see the intimacy that each of them possessed with God the Father.

Joseph is intimate with God the Father. Joseph was always attentive to the messages God sent to him, usually through an angel. Joseph heard the words and trusted in them: "Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife." Joseph was a faithful disciple of Jesus, as he was intimate to know and understand the promptings of God the Father, and courageous enough to live his discipleship. Mary, the first of all disciples of her Son, Jesus, also heard the words and trusted in them: "Do not be afraid Mary, you have found favor with God. You will conceive and bear a Son and name him Jesus."

Mary, as the first disciple of Jesus, was intimate to know and understand God's will and Mary "treasured" and "pondered" all of these messages. Mary was contemplative and certainly a woman of meditation. Jesus, part of the Trinity, often went alone to pray, or to be intimate with His Father. Jesus drew the Apostles together in a brotherhood of intimacy and revealed His mission of salvation and identity as Savior and Messiah to them. The Apostles in turn, after Pentecost, formed the Church as a family to be the intimate "Body of Christ" in the world today. Jesus and His Church established the Sacrament of Marriage, to consecrate the love of husband and wife, and within the power of that bond of love, to be intimate with each other and with God as His co-creators in the power to create new life in intimacy and love. Marriage and family life is a primary way to understand the mind of God. To understand our Creator, we must understand and experience what God created. The created reveal the mind of the Creator.

Humility is the key to the spiritual life. I will be bold enough to state that if a person is not humble, in every fashion, they will not mature in the spiritual life. Jesus was humble. Jesus humbled himself to become a man like us in every way but sin. Jesus was humble in His human life as he was obedient to Mary and Joseph. We see the humility of Joseph in that he does not even have one speaking line in the Gospels, and is always changing his own mind and plans to conform to God's plan. **(Pastor's Article Continued on Page 2)**

PARISH SOCIAL/ NEW PARISHIONER WELCOME

All Parishioners, including new families, are invited to join us on **January 12** for coffee, juice and donuts in Gathering Room 1 after 9:30 am Mass. If you wish to join the Parish, you may register at this time.

PARISH CLOSINGS AND MASSES

All Parish Offices will be closed on Wednesday, January 1, and Thursday, January 2. We will resume normal hours on Friday, January 3.

Tuesday, January 31, is a Holy Day of obligation for The Holy Family. We will have our normal daily Masses at 7:00 am, 8:00 am and 12:00 noon. **The vigil Mass is at 5:30 pm for the Holy Day.**

Tuesday, January 1, Masses are 8:00 am, 10:00 am and 12:00 noon.

(Pastor's Article Continued)

Mary's humility is seen in her words, "Let it be done to me according to your word" at the moment of the Annunciation. Mary's humility is clear again at the Visitation when she, in her own need, goes to serve her cousin Elizabeth who is pregnant with John the Baptizer. Elizabeth's greeting of Mary, "Who am I that the Mother of my Lord should come to me?" prompts Mary's humility again with her beautiful Magnificat "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my Spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant." Mary is not filled with ego or pride as she is greeted by Elizabeth. Instead, in humility, she points to her calling to carry the child in her womb, as God's great gift to her.

This Feast of the Holy Family is our opportunity to examine our own experience of family life. This is the time to reflect on our own call of intimacy. Husbands and wives are called to greatest intimacy. If you are married, are you allowing your spouse to truly know every facet of who you are as a person? Are you able, as a married couple, to pray with each other and be intimate with God in conjugal (marital) prayer? In order to truly discover and take joy in the gift of marriage, married couples must pray with each other and for each other daily. This prayer will unlock the door to a deep level of intimacy with the Father and each other. It is in the power of that intimacy that not only is human life created, but it is within that power that parents derive the wisdom, knowledge and energy to truly be intimate with their children and help their children discover the mystery of who they are as a "son" or "daughter" of God. Today we define ourselves in many ways, but often neglect to define ourselves in the most important manner; that being, as a son or daughter of Christ, forming a part of the Body of Christ. Parents, in their intimacy with their children, are to lead their children to discover that they are God's son or daughter and called to live fully as His disciple. Children are to trust, and be intimate with their parents, to reveal all of what they question or wish to understand so that their parents will be best able to help them. If you are a child or teenager or young adult, do you trust your parents with your life and questions in a bond of intimacy? Like Mary, treasure and ponder these questions in your heart.

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

PARKING LOT CONCERNS

It has been brought to our attention by a member of the Town of Amherst Traffic Safety Board that we have vehicles blocking the aprons to our parking lots, residential driveways, sidewalks and spaces between our handicap parking. We kindly ask all our parishioners to please park in our designated parking spots to allow easy access for emergency vehicles if needed and to ensure that you do not receive a ticket in the future.

COME LET US ADORE HIM

This past summer, the Pew Research Center shared the results of a survey that indicates only one-third of U.S. Catholics (31%) believe that "during Mass, the bread and wine actually become the body and blood of Jesus." If you are interested to learn more about what we truly believe as Catholics or how to gently explain why we believe what we believe about the Eucharist to others, join us either Monday, December 30, at 6:30 pm or Thursday, January 2, at 12:30 pm, in the Church. Please bring your Bible. "If we really understood the Mass, we would die of joy." – St. Jean Vianney.



St. Gregory the Great Parish is excited to launch "FIAT", a monthly Eucharist Conference. Please join us for an evening of adoration, Faith-filled presentations, powerful music, and prayer ministry. Come with an open heart and mind. Like Mary who said yes to the will of God, be ready for Christ to become incarnate in your life. FIAT is open to everyone and will take place the second weekend of the month in the Church.

FIRST FIAT—January 11 at 7:00 pm

UPCOMING: February 8 and March 7

STAY CONNECTED TO ST. GREG'S

Quick access to the Bulletin; learn about closings, cancellations and updates within the Parish, School, Family Faith Formation or Youth Ministry.

To download Parish App:

IPHONE USERS TEXT: ParishApp1 to 555888

ANDROID USERS TEXT: ParishApp2 to 555888

VISIT YOUR APP STORE: Search WeConnect, Parish App, look for the blue icon above and follow the prompts. See the back of the Bulletin to learn all the ways you can follow St. Greg's on social media.

St. Gregory the Great School

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

God of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just:
You gave your only Son
to save us by the blood of his cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,
join to your own suffering the pain of
all who have been hurt in body, mind,
and spirit by those who betrayed the
trust placed in them.

Hear our cries as we agonize
over the harm done to our brothers and
sisters.

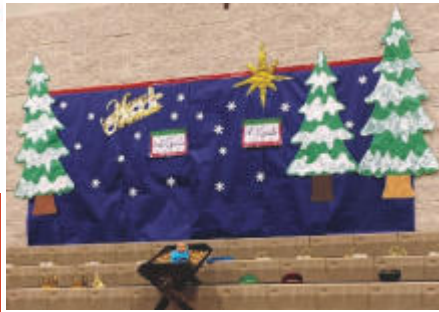
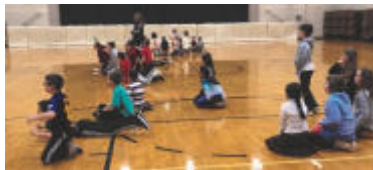
Breathe wisdom into our prayers,
soothe restless hearts with hope,
steady shaken spirits with faith:
Show us the way to justice and whole-
ness, enlightened by truth and enfolded
in your mercy.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform our brokenness.
Grant us courage and wisdom, humility
and grace, so that we may act with jus-
tice and find peace in you.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

GRADE 5 ADVENT RETREAT

Grade 5 spent the day playing some "Minute to Win It" games to break the ice, learned about the meaning of Advent, reflected on Advent in group discussions, and played Advent/Christmas Pictionary. After lunch the students were able to create cards for those in their lives that have shown them the love of Christ. The day was concluded with a discussion led by Seminarian Joe to prepare students for Reconciliation which we will be participating in tomorrow.



THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT STUDENT REFLECTION

Students in grades K-3 from St. Gregory the Great School recently performed the annual Christmas pageant. These elementary students sang, read, and acted out the birth

of Jesus. Under the direction of St. Greg's Music Teacher, Mrs. Vullo, the students' efforts and contributions were a success. The production was presented to parents and students' families on December 13th in the Ministry Center. This presentation is always one of the lasting memories of students who attended St. Greg's. Great job to all who participated!

~Sofia Miner, Grade 8





MEAT RAFFLE

to benefit

St. Gregory the Great School

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2020

6 PM DOORS OPEN

7 PM FIRST SPIN

ST. GREG'S MINISTRY CENTER



TICKETS

\$8 pp, must be 21.

Includes: pizza, pop, wine, unlimited beer, and Chance to Win 'Cooler of Meat'.

No outside alcohol. Bring snacks. Split Clubs and 50/50 Raffle.

Order Form (Checks payable to: St. Greg's HSA)

Name _____

Email _____

Tickets _____ Reserve Table _____

Amount Enclosed _____ Check # _____

Submit form and payment to School Office: MEAT RAFFLE.
Paid Tickets will be mailed to address on check.
Questions: MeatRaffleTime@gmail.com

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

The FFF Office close starting December 21, and reopen on Monday, January 6.

FFF Upcoming Events and Information:

Christmas Break: There are **NO** Classes from December 16 - January 4, 2020.

CLASSES RESUME ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Generations of Faith Sessions A and B:

Sunday, January 5

Monday Classes: January 6

Generations of Faith Session C:

Thursday, January 9

Saturday Classes: January 11



Generations of Faith had a Christmas Gift Collection for the children of School 33 – thank you for your generosity!



Brian Ruh discussed “Celebrating Christmas with non-practicing friends and family” at our December Coffee Break with God (pictured above). **SAVE THE DATE:** Join us in the School Art Room from 9:15 - 10:15 am on February 1, 2020 for the next session, when we will have a special panel of speakers who will discuss issues that relate to Single Parenting, Co-Parenting, Blended Families and Married Couples.

www.stgregs.org/familyfaithformation

MOMS Visit Assisi & Rome, Italy

MAY 13-21 2020

Visit: Assisi, Italy- the birthplace of St. Francis and St. Clare. Rome, Italy- participate in a Papal audience. Loreto, Italy -Basilica of the Holy House/ Marian Shrine....and much more.

Our next gathering is WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, AT 7:00 PM AT ST. GREGORY THE GREAT IN GATHERING ROOM 1.

The MOMS Assisi/Rome Retreat will allow you the opportunity to reconnect, rebuild and reset your relationship with God, the Blessed Mother, the Saints and the Catholic Church. The retreat will also help us to rebuild our spiritual strength and grow stronger together as Catholic women. ***Msgr. Zapfel from St. Leo's will be our spiritual director during the retreat.***

Your life will be enriched and transformed through participation, prayer, Eucharistic celebrations, historical visits and lectures, great food and fellowship. Service will also be a part of our retreat. We will incorporate works of mercy with the Sisters of St. Francis at Stella Niagara. We will have regular gatherings until May 2020 to prepare for the retreat. We will journey as friends. All are welcome. Spots are limited.

For more information contact Nadine Bargnes at 830-8530 or ngbargnes@aol.com.

CATECHIST'S CORNER

Dear Lord,

As we leave 2019 behind,
whether it was a year of joy and blessings
or a year with trials and difficulties,
we give You thanks for Your
infinite love and mercy.

May we always remember that You are with us,
even when life gets busy or
when we are faced with challenges.
We are thankful to You in all things.

Grant us the blessing of
a fresh starts and new beginnings.
May we glorify You in our lives this new year.
Amen.

Wishing you a Blessed and Happy New Year!!

-from all of us at Family Faith Formation

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

CONFIRMATION 2020

▪ **Reminder: Sponsor/Candidate Sessions** are being held on January 12, from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm and on January 19, from 1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm in the School Gym and Cafeteria. **Confirmation candidates and sponsors:** Please remember to attend the ONE session you chose to attend and bring your **Sponsor/Candidate Conversation questions**. Candidates: please also bring your orange **Faith in Action booklets** (service hours booklet).

FIRST PENANCE 2020

▪ **Grade 2 Parents, please attend ONE of the following:**
First Penance Parent Workshops in the School Cafeteria):
Wednesday, January 8, from 7:00-8:00 pm, **OR** on Saturday, January 11, from 9:15 - 10:15 am .
▪ **First Penance Mass of Enrollment** is on Sunday, January 12, at 9:30 am in Church. Please attend with your child.

YOUTH MINISTRY

SGYM³ Middle School Mayhem was an extreme success last weekend. This is an overnight lockin for Grades 5- 8. Approximately 70 youth participated in games, enjoyed food, attended Midnight Mass celebrated by Fr. Leon, had an ice cream social which included decorating t-shirts, and watched a movie.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION OFFERINGS FOR 2020

ALL HEARTS AFIRE PROGRAM

33 Days to Merciful Love by Fr. Michael E. Gaitley, MIC

COURSE OVERVIEW: Fr. Michael Gaitley brings us to a fuller understanding of Divine Mercy with the help of one of the most popular Saints of the twentieth century and Doctor of the Church, St. Therese of Lisieux. This is a retreat for all “little souls” who want to deepen their personal relationship with Jesus Christ. St. Therese’s consecration to Divine Mercy is the culmination of her whole spiritual teaching on “the Little Way.” How the Lord gives this amazing gift of mercy, how we can receive it, and what all this means will be the topic of this retreat.

ALL ARE WELCOME; previous participation in Hearts Afire, Parish-based programs for the New Evangelization, is not necessary.

To sign-up please call Linda Brennan by **January 13** at 632-4264.

LEAD BY: Christine Schober, Sharon Sans, Linda Brennan

COST: \$35 includes book and workbook

LOCATION: MC 2

TIME: 6:30- 8:30 pm

DAY/DATES: Wednesdays, January 22, 29 and February 5,12,19,26.

BROWN BAG LENTEN SERIES

Fr. Moses will be hosting discussion groups after the noon Masses on March 10, 17, 24 and 31 in Gathering Room 1, on the topic of Praying during Lent. All are welcome to attend and you do not need to register. More information to come.

MEET THE SAINTS DISCUSSION GROUP

We will start a monthly discussion group called Meet the Saints. These discussions will be based around “The Pivotal Players” book by Bishop Barron. The first Saint for discussion is St. Therese.

DATES: 1/16, 2/20, 3/19, 4/23, 5/21.

TIME: 7:00 to 8:30 pm

LOCATION: School Science Room

There is no fee to join. All are welcome to attend. You can come to any and all sessions you choose.

Please contact Arelene Meyerhofer at ameyerhofer@verizon.net 430-5575.

“For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy.”— *St. Therese of Lisieux*

OUR LADY OF BLACK ROCK CHRISTMAS DRESS AND SWEATER COLLECTION

This project was initiated by St Greg's School 4 years ago. The purpose is to help the girls find a dress and the boys find a sweater, to wear to their Christmas pageant. Generous parents donate the clothes their children have outgrown. The clothes are beautiful and are appreciated by children who could never afford to purchase.



St Greg's was well represented this year! School students Mary Kate Christ and Tabitha Swiatek did an amazing job helping the little girls try on dresses until they found the perfect one! Kathy Benson was busy consulting with each little girl to see if her outfit needed a little extra “bling!” Linda Kubus and Kelly Wischerath assisted the children with finding a sweater to match their sleeveless dress and warm tights. It was a wonderful scene!!

COUPLE FACTS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW:

- ◊ Assumption Parish is a sister Parish of St .Greg's. Our lady of Black Rock is a regional school housed in the former Assumption school.
- ◊ Fr Leon grew up in Assumption Parish and attended the grade school
- ◊ Tabitha Swiatek (Student Grade 7volunteer) was baptized at Assumption!



ST. GREG'S SCHOOL TURNS 60!!!

St. Gregory the Great School is celebrating 60 years in 2020. In an effort to update our records, if you are a St. Greg's Alum please complete the form below with your contact information. You can return the form to

the Parish or School Office or put in next weeks collection. You can also email alumni@stgregs.org.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE PLANNING COMMITTEE THE NEXT MEETING IS JANUARY 12 AT 9:00 AM IN GATHERING ROOM 1. IF YOU CAN NOT MAKE THE MEETING BUT WANT TO BE PART OF THE COMMITTEE, PELASE EMAIL LINDA DOHN (WAGNER) AT ALUMNI@STGREGS.ORG

NAME: _____

MAIDEN NAME (IF APPLICABLE): _____

YEAR GRADUATED: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____



THANK YOU TO ALL THE FAMILIES FOR YOUR DONATIONS AND THANK YOU TO ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED. YOU TRULY MADE A DIFFERNCE IN THE LIVES OF THE CHILDREN AT OUR LADY OF ROCK!





Merry Christmas! “And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born and she gave birth to her child, a son. She wrapped him

in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.” Luke 2:6-7
The Diocese of Buffalo reaches out to expectant mothers via:

The St. Gianna Molla Pregnancy Outreach Center: The center follows the example of St. Gianna Molla in respecting, protecting and cherishing all human life as a precious gift from God. The center serves life by providing material, emotional and spiritual support to single mothers and young families in need, from pregnancy through the first years of life. Donations of diapers, new/gently used baby items, and monetary gifts are always needed and much appreciated. Volunteer opportunities are also available.

The Mother Teresa Home: The pastoral mission of the Mother Teresa Home is to promote safety, stability and well-being for people who have experienced or been exposed to pressure related to their pregnancy. The Mother Teresa Home will achieve this through providing programs that provide shelter, community service, and education referral services for all mothers in need.

If you would like to help either effort, call 847-2205 or go to www.buffalodiocese.org/pro-life

Dear Lord Jesus...inspire us to see You in EVERY unborn child.



Adult Choir rehearsals will resume on Tuesday, January 7, from 7:30 to 9:00 pm in Gathering Room 2.

Parish Children’s Choir rehearsals will resume on Tuesday, January 7, in Gathering Room 2 from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. This one rehearsal is to prepare them to sing on Sunday, January 12, at the 9:30 am Family Mass.

Questions? Contact Nancy Erdman at NErdman@stgregs.org or call 688-5678, Ext. 308.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adorers are needed for all times and days. Please call Kathy at 759-7149 or Barbara at 634-7478 with a time that is convenient for you.

Please obtain a substitute if you are not able to attend Adoration at your scheduled hour. The Blessed Sacrament cannot be left alone. Please ask a friend or relative to sub for your scheduled adoration hour if you are going to be away anytime during the holiday season. It is a way to evangelize and introduce others to our Adoration Chapel. Thank you.

Our Adoration Chapel is in need of the following scheduled Adorers:

- ◆ MONDAYS 2:00 - 3:00 am
- ◆ WEDNESDAYS 9:00-10:00 pm
- ◆ THURSDAYS 2:00- 3:00 am
- ◆ SATURDAYS 10:00-11:00 pm

OUR CHAPEL IS OPEN 24 HOURS, 7 DAYS A WEEK.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW COUNCIL CHAMPIONSHIP



All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in St Gregory’s Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship in the **Ministry Center Gym** on Saturday, January 18, from 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

Participation is free. Contests are grouped by age and gender. Winners are determined by best of 15 free throws. Participants are required to furnish date of birth (copy or original birth certificate/passport/etc.). Competition based on age on January 1, 2020. Parental/guardian consent forms are available at event.

All participants receive recognition. Winners receive special certificates and patches. Winners are invited to the District Championship on February 8, with an opportunity to keep advancing to the State Championship.

Questions or requests for consent forms can be directed to Jim at 716-481-0986. Call to make arrangements if a player can’t make start time or needs to leave early.



MINISTRY UPDATES

SENIOR CITIZENS

MONTHLY MEETING: January 13, will continue the speakers series. Karen Wielinski, local author, will present. Karen and her husband were in their home in Clarence, New York on February 12, 2009 when an airplane crashed into it, killing her husband. All passengers on the plane were also killed. To honor her husband Karen has spent many hours along with other victims of that horrific accident changing rules and regulations for the safety of pilots as well as passengers. Please join our group in the Ministry Center if you are 55 or older at 1:00 pm.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTHLY MEETING

The Knights of Columbus monthly officer meeting is December 30 at 7:00 in the Ministry Center.

EVENING PRAYER "VESPERS"

Join us for Evening Prayer every Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the Church. Vespers, also called Evening Prayer, gives thanks for the day just past and makes an evening sacrifice of praise to God. For information contact Jeff Criden at 207-4878.

Our door is always open. If you have questions about the Catholic Faith, we can help you find answers. Email Jerry Peer at gpeer@verizon.net.



ADULT MISSION TRIP – JULY 2020

ADULT MISSION TRIP – JULY 2020

The smallest little action can explode into a lifetime of love.
We will be taking a group of adults ages 21 and over to a Mustard Seed community in Moneague, Jamaica from July 18-25, 2020. If you are interested, please plan on attending an informational meeting on Wednesday, January 8, at 6:30 pm in Gathering Room 2. Can't make the meeting? Look for mission trip participants in the vestibules after all Masses January 11 and 12 or contact Elizabeth Astridge at stgregsmissiontrip@gmail.com.

GRIEF AND LOSS BEREAVEMENT MEETING

You are invited to join the next Grief & Loss meeting on January 8 at 6:30 pm in Gathering Room 1. All are welcome. You do not need to be a parishioner.

PARISH ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 29

1:30 pm Baptisms (*Church*)

Monday, December 30

6:00 pm SWAT (*MC Basement*)

6:30 pm Presentation on the Eucharist "Come Let Us Adore Him" (*Church*)

Tuesday, December 31

Wednesday, January 1 - Parish Office Closed

Thursday, January 2 - Parish Office Closed

10:00 am MOM's Playgroup (*MC Gym*)

12:30 pm Presentation on the Eucharist "Come Let Us Adore Him" (*Church*)

6:30 pm St. Vincent De Paul Mtg. (*GR 1*)

Friday, January 3

Saturday, January 4

9:00 am Catechist Training (*School*)

10:30 am Respite for Caregivers (*GR 1 & 2*)

3:45 pm Chopin's Singing Society (*prelude to 4 pm mass Church*)

Sunday, January 5

10:30 am Generations of Faith A & B (*School*)

1:30 pm Baptisms (*Church*)

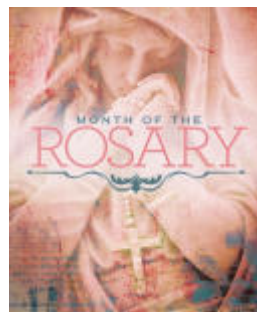
MANY THANKS!

The Ladies of Charity would like to express our thanks to all those who assisted us with replacing the Breaking Bread books in the church. Many hands made light work and we are most appreciative of your kindness.

MOMS PLAY GROUP

Moms and tots, join us for fellowship and fun Thursday, January 2, from 10:00 am-noon in the Ministry Center Gym! Questions contact fanony27@gmail.com.

UPCOMING PLAYDATES: 2/6, 3/5, 4/2, 5/7



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE ROSARY

The Rosary is one of the most important, meritorious and powerful prayers one can pray. Please consider praying the Rosary after the 8:00 am and 12:00 pm Masses. These prayers "transform" our families, our community, our country and the world in a positive way! Also, on every Saturday, at 12:00 noon, the Rosary for our Country is recited, including an announcement for each state plus the Divine Mercy. In good weather in the Grotto and in inclement weather in the Church. Bring a folding chair, sing *Ava Maria* and *God Bless America* after reciting a powerful prayer for our Country.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 28- The Holy Innocents

8:00 am Donald Henry by Family

Vigil Masses

4:00 pm Reno Ellero by Family

5:30 pm Mary R. Schott by Judy & Tony Picone
Michael J. Wrobel by Mother & Sisters

Sunday, December 29- Feast of the Holy Family

8:00 am Duncan Driscoll Finigan by Pat Phelan
& Laila Abdelmessih

Dr. Rocco C. Venuto by Dr. & Mrs.
John Menchini

9:30 am Angela Scrivani by Ralph & Rose Pawlak

11:00 am Florence Sodus by Douglas & Mary
Bolton

Frank Deni by Jay & Amy Roeder

12:30 pm Mary Ann Rizzo by Ralph Mauro Family

Luke Francis O'Connor by Joanne
Werner

1:30 pm Baptisms

4:30 pm Michael Smith by Terry & Family
Werner

1:30 pm Baptisms

4:30 pm Michael Smith by Terry & Family

Monday, December 30

7:00 am Sophia Sudyn by Marylou Daigler &
Family

Patrick Moran by Betty Moran

8:00 am Sylvia Shettler by Terry & Family

12:00 pm Grace Noelle Shick by
Melody Tronolone

Tuesday, December 31- New Year's Eve

7:00 am William Bender by Jim & Lois Helferty
Soledad Yap by Yu Family

8:00 am Caitlin Henderson by Fr. Tom Mahoney
Arvella Schrameck by Bill & Kathy

Schrameck

12:00 pm Marge Schott by Anthony & Judy Picone

Vigil Mass

5:30 pm Kathleen A. Haley (Anniversary) by
Family

Wednesday, January 1- Mary, The Holy Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

8:00 am Lavern Francis Fassl (Birthday) by Wife,
Maureen

Dominic & Helen Pascale by Daughter,
Donna

10:00 am Rae Wyatt by Brother & Family

12:00 pm Marchiori Family by Lee Zak

Thursday, January 2- St. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

7:00 am Parishioners of St. Gregory the Great

8:00 am Milo & Virginia Faley by Dawn & Sam
Curazzato

12:00pm John & Patricia Cusack by Konder
Family

Friday, January 3- The Most Holy Name of Jesus

7:00 am Dawn Curazzato (Living) (21st Anniv. of
Ladies of the Lord) by Joyce Santoro

8:00 am Andres Tan by Patricia Tan & Family

12:00 pm Dottie Hoffman by Dad, Julie, Alan,
A.J. & Stephen

Saturday, January 4- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:00 am Wayne Bundy by St. Greg's Memory
Care Respite

Vigil Masses

4:00 pm Joseph Palka by Wife, Judi
Roy & Joanne Sautter by Craig & Pam
Sautter

5:30pm James & Andrew DeMario by Lavia A.
Pegina & Family

Sunday, January 5- The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 am Frank Fechter & Members of Fechter
Family by Bill & Lee Grunert

9:30 am Anthony F. Picone by Anthony & Judy
Picone

11:00 am Andrew John Sobczyk by Mom,Dad,
Amanda, & Family

Arlene Nuwer by Zappa Family
12:30 pm Bernard & Sophie Balcerak by Daughter,
Christine

Antonina & Jerzy Gronski by Krzyzanski
Family

4:30 pm Ruth Pyrce by Julicher Family

DECEASED
John G. Sciolino

HOST REMEMBRANCE
Frank R. Papa by Theresa & Children

PARISH OFFICE

200 St. Gregory Court; 688-5678 Fax: 688-2315

PASTOR

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

PAROCHIAL VICARS

Msgr. Thomas Maloney (305);

FatherThomas@stgregs.org

Fr. Paul S. Cygan (336); pcygan@stgregs.org

Fr. Moses Ikuelogbon (310); FrMoses@stgregs.org

PERMANENT DEACONS

Deacon Michael G. Bochiechio

Deacon Paul Walter; PWalter@stgregs.org

PASTORAL YEAR SEMINARIAN

Joseph Tokasz jtokasz@stgregs.org

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Sr. Shawn Czyzycki (335); sczyzycki@stgregs.org

DIRECTOR OF EVANGELIZATION

Brian Ruh (313); bruh@stgregs.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Nancy Erdman (308); nerdman@stgregs.org

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Michael Cygan (340) mcygan@stgregs.org

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Marisa Piazza (303); mpiazza@stgregs.org

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Adam Jarosz - College & Young Adult (316);

ajarosz@stgregs.org

Nicole Janecek - Middle School (341);

njanecek@stgregs.org

PARISH NURSE

Lee Zack - (339); lzack@stgregs.org

TRUSTEES: Christie Thein, Thomas Vacanti

SCHOOL OFFICE

250 St. Gregory Court 688-5323 Fax: 688-6629

PRINCIPAL

Julie Gajewski (350); jgajewski@stgregs.org

SCHOOL BOARD - schoolboard@stgregs.org

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

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

250 St. Gregory Court 688-5760 Fax: 639-8251

Office Hours are Monday - Friday from 9:00 am -

2:00 pm and when classes are in session.

DIRECTOR

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:30 am - 4:00 pm

SATURDAY

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

SUNDAY - CLOSED

FORMED

The best Catholic Content. All in one place. St.

Gregory the Great Parish code: **D7B6CQ**

FORMED now has a mobile app! You can sign

up for a free subscription to FORMED.org with

great movies, audios, ebooks, and Bible studies. Go

to www.FORMED.org. Enter parish access code

7B6CQ in the box and enjoy!

MASS SCHEDULE

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

SATURDAY: 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm

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

HOLY DAYS: As listed in the Bulletin.

For those who are unable to join us, all Masses can be viewed on our website.

CATHOLIC STORE AND CAFE

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 every Sunday after the 12:30 pm Mass, 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. 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.

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 – Administered the first Saturday of each month immediately following the 5:30 pm Mass.

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*
- ◇ *Generous sharing of our God-given talents and resources*

FOLLOW ST. GREGORY THE GREAT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Receive daily spiritual quotes, learn about closings, cancellations and updates within the Parish, School, Family Faith Formation or Youth Ministry.

To download Parish App:

IPHONE USERS TEXT: ParishApp1 to 555888

ANDROID USERS TEXT: ParishApp2 to 555888

VISIT YOUR APP STORE: Search WeConnect, Parish App, look for the blue icon above and follow the prompts.



- ◇ Follow St. Gregory the Great Parish, School, Family Faith Formation and Youth Ministry on Facebook!
- ◇ Follow the Parish on Twitter @StGregsBuffalo
- ◇ Follow Youth Ministry on Twitter, and Instragram @stgregsyoungadults





AMIGONE FUNERAL HOME, INC.

2600 Sheridan Drive, Tonawanda 836-6500
5200 Sheridan Drive, Amherst 631-9000

Why Pre-Plan?

Call us today for a free consultation.



B&C UNITED HOME CARE
6400 Sheridan Dr., Ste 116
Williamsville, NY 14221
716-633-7400
Our goal is to give personalized care for each family

HUNT HUNT Real Estate ERA
5570 Main Street
Williamsville, NY 14221
Beverly Costanzo
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson
cell: (716) 868-9304 • ofc (716) 633-0300
beverly.costanzo@huntrealestate.com
HUNTREALESTATE.COM

Pella
Call me today for a FREE in-home consultation!
Frank Vito
Sales Representative
716-341-7393
fvito@pellabuffalo.com

Town & Village PEDIATRICS Pediatric care for children and young adults
New Patients Welcome
6044 Main St., Suite 100, Williamsville
Office Hours by appointment 633-6988

Christopher Kicinski, CPA, CFP®
PARTNER, INVESTMENT ADVISOR
p. 716.852.0279 x308
ckicinski@sandhill-im.com
Parishioner,
School Board Member

LB Orthodontics
Braces and Invisalign
Call for a FREE Consult
Dr. Bevilacqua, Parishioner & School Parent
East Amherst • 716-689-0313

This Space is Available

UPGRADE TO A **VIBRANT ad**
Contact us for details • 800-477-4574

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT SCHOOL
- Early Childhood Programs -
PK 3 & 4, Early Kindergarten and Kindergarten
Partnering Faith with Education. Faith-filled, Joyful Learning.
200 St. Gregory Court • Williamsville, NY
716-688-5323

RIGHT PLACE. RIGHT CARE.
Rehab • Skilled Nursing
689-6681
www.elderwood.com

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME
ADVERTISE YOUR **BUSINESS HERE**
Contact **Chris Reeves** to place an ad today!
creeves@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6206

Elderwood at WILLIAMSVILLE

THE ORIGINAL PANCAKE HOUSE
(716) 674-3344
3019 Union Road
Orchard Park, NY 14127
Serving Breakfast
Lunch & Dinner

JOE BASIL CHEVROLET
\$1,000 more for your TRADE
683-6800
JOEBASILCHEVROLET.COM

PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE
MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM
\$29.95/MO BILLED QUARTERLY
CALL NOW!
1.877.801.7772

Harbortown Financial Group
Patrick DeNisco • 716-276-7605
Retirement Planning • Asset Management Platforms
Life Insurance • Estate Transfer Strategies

Legarreta Eye Center
Medical-Surgical-Optical
Eye Exams/Cataracts/Glaucoma/Dry Eye
Contacts/Visit our ultimate eyewear shop
Cheektowaga • 668-3030 Lockport • 433-0091
Williamsville • 633-2203 • www.legarretaeyecenter.com

Tonawanda Pediatrics
3950 E. Robinson Rd. • West Amherst
691-3400
Transit Meadow Pediatrics
6049 Transit Rd, Suite 101 • E. Amherst
691-4311
Pediatrician on call 24/7/365
www.tonawandapediatrics.com

NETH & SON, INC.
Celebrating Over 45 years in Business
• Roofing • Windows
685-3539
Licensed & Insured
www.nethandson.com

DAVE SMITH Ford
4045 Transit Rd., Williamsville
(716) 634-2000 • davesmithford.net
Parishioner Owned

catholicmatch New York
CatholicMatch.com/NY

Let HEAP help you with your heating bills.
national fuel
HEAPhelps.com

Sean Patrick's
Banquets • Private Parties
3480 Millersport • 636-1709
Sean & Kim Lillis - Parishioners

FREE AD DESIGN WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE.
- 800-477-4574 -

LET US PLACE YOUR AD HERE.

Made Clean
THE QUEEN OF CLEAN
639-7775
www.made-clean.com

WE'RE HIRING AD SALES EXECUTIVES
• Full Time Position with Benefits
• Sales Experience Preferred
• Paid Training
• Overnight Travel Required
• Expense Reimbursement
CONTACT US AT: careers@4LPi.com
www.4LPi.com/careers

See What's in Store!
JEWELRY • ROSARIES • BOOKS AND MORE
www.parishstore.com

SPREAD THE WORD
A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters
SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

HELP PROTECT YOUR FAMILY
CALL NOW! 1-888-331-6501
AUTHORIZED DEALER
HOME SECURITY TEAM

Anthony M. Laforana DDS FAGD
Family & Cosmetic Dentistry
Sleep Apnea & Snoring treatment provided
Personalized care in a professional environment
1660 Hopkins Rd., Getzville, NY
716-689-7713

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE

SPREAD THE WORD
A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters
SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Compassionate Care. Proven Results.
Venous Institute of Buffalo
Dr. Michael Vasquez, MD, Parishioner
Advanced Treatment of
Legs, Veins & Venous Disease
4927 Main St., Amherst
716-877-7000

DANDELION'S RESTAURANT
Gregory T. Maghran - Owner
1340 North Forest
at Corvette Plaza, Williamsville
(716) 688-0203

TESMER BUILDERS INC. (716) 689-8440
8898 Transit Rd.
E. Amherst, NY
Lower Your Real Estate Taxes
Build your New Home in Spaulding Green
www.tesmer.com • info@tesmer.com

FREDDIE'S PLUMBING SERVICE INC.
Residential Installations and Repairs
Back Up Sump Pump Specialist
Serving WNY Since 1909
FRED CLABO 631-5513 or 895-3614
freddiesplumbing.com

TESMER BUILDERS INC. (716) 689-8440
8898 Transit Rd.
E. Amherst, NY
Lower Your Real Estate Taxes
Build your New Home in Spaulding Green
www.tesmer.com • info@tesmer.com



Honoring Over 129 Years of Faith, Family and Friends Pre-Planning • Medicaid Needs • Cremation A Million Questions? One Answer.

THE DIETRICH FUNERAL HOME, INC.

2480 Kensington Ave., Amherst, NY 14226 • 839-2818 • www.TheDietrichFuneralHome.com



SALVATORE'S
Events & Catering

We want to help you make beautiful memories with wonderful events!

Baptisms, First Communion, Weddings, Celebrations of Life and more!

www.salvatores.net
716-635-9000

No one enjoys sitting home alone.

Mar-Bon
social club

The first social club exclusively for seniors in WNY.

CONTACT LAURIE POPE-GRECO
716-406-4577

Make it a **Wonderful** day

POPE
LAW FIRM, PLLC

17 Beresford Ct., Ste. 5 - Williamsville, NY
716-634-3320
www.lawonly.com

SCHAEFER ELECTRIC, INC.
Commercial & Residential
Licensed - Fully Insured
Service Changes Our Specialty

Brian Schaefer (Parishioner)
689-3839

When you're thinking of moving...call

Joe Sorrentino
Licensed Real Estate Broker
The Name You Know and Trust! ®

716-998-5637

716 SOLD Real Estate

St Greg's Parishioner Since 1991

FAMILY MEDICAL PHARMACY

"Where We Treat You Like Family"

Adjacent to Dash's at Hopkins & Klein
Ph: 568-0800

Michael Rossi, R.Ph - Parishioner
Dennis Galluzzo, R.Ph

PERNA, DENGLER, ROBERTS FUNERAL HOME
Honoring Memories, Celebrating Lives

1671 Maple Rd, Williamsville NY | 632.8200 | DenglerRobertsPernaFuneral.com

MIKE "SARGE" SHOWALTER
WELCOMES YOU TO
LIA HONDA WILLIAMSVILLE
4891 TRANSIT RD

NEW HONDA'S - USED CARS
MSHOWALTER@LIACARS.COM
716-622-0607
MARINE CORPS VETERAN PARISHIONER

www.wizardgoesgreen.com
716-694-8524

REIMER
Heating, Plumbing, & Air Conditioning

Serving All of WNY

\$39 For All Heating, Cooling & Plumbing Service
Calls for All St. Greg's Parishioners Day or Night

JOSEPH CATUZZA, Usher/Parishioner

FREE AD DESIGN
WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE.
- 800-477-4574 -

Register Now!
Before & After School Programs

- Homework Help
- Academic Programming
- Art, Science, Sports, Snacks
- Day Camp & Summer Camp Programs

www.LE3-Inc.Org • Ellie- 716-430-9322

FirstLight
HOME CARE

www.eastbuffalo.firstlighthomecare.com

Why not live at home?
634-CARE (2273)

LACROSS MONUMENTS

2609 GENESEE ST. • 896-4654

MONUMENTS • MARKERS • GRANITE VASES
CEMETERY LETTERING • STATUARY • PLAQUES
GRANITE BENCHES • SHRINES • WALKWAYS

Stovroff & Taylor
Realtors

Ask For **Linda Dohn**
For All Your Real Estate Needs.
716-432-1130

Will donate 20% of my commission to the Parish.
Original Parishioner/ Licensed Sales Agent

The ROCK
KITCHEN & BAR
AN AMERICAN TREASURE BUILT IN 1909

SUNDAY BRUNCH
10:30am - 1pm
with 1 hour \$5 Bottomless Bloody Marys & Mimosas.
Kids Night Every Wednesday

6261 Transit Rd, East Amherst, NY
(716) 688-7625 rockkitchenandbar.com

gotTRASH™
"We're Local!"

Trusted Junk and Debris Removal
Residential/Commercial Cleanouts
Demolition Projects
Full Dumpster Service

TEXT or CALL: 716-800-2000
gottrashusa.com

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE

Park Creek Senior Living Community

Assisted Living • Affordable Memory Care
Park-like setting: Amherst State Park
Beautiful full-sized chapel with daily services
410 Mill Street • Williamsville, NY
Jane Nogowski 716-632-3000

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Contact **Chris Reeves** to place an ad today!
creeves@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6206

Buffalo Medical Group

JoAnne L. Cobler, M.D.
Cardiologist & Parishioner

Certain Advice for Uncertain Times

- Personal Financial Planning
- Tax Planning Strategies • IRAs/Mutual Funds

Mark C. Massaro, MBA, CRPC
— Parishioner —
17 Limestone, Suite 8 • Williamsville, NY 14221
Office: 626-6750

The Personal Advisors of **Ameriprise Financial**

greenviewteam.com

8600 Roll Rd. Clarence Center, NY 14032
(716) 741-8468
Call today for a free estimate!

Spring Services Include...

- Weekly Lawn Cutting
- 5 - Step Fertilizer Treatment
- Spring Landscape Clean-up
- Monthly Landscape Maintenance
- Irrigation System Maintenance
- Exterior Home Detailing

Family owned and operated for over 30 years!

Follow the team!
Instagram Facebook

New customers save 5% on our services.
Just mention this ad!

Church of St. Gregory the Great
https://stgregs.weshareonline.org

ONLINE GIVING
By WeShare

Heathwood
ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE
care without compromise

www.heathwoodassistedliving.com
716-688-0111 Gary Henry, Parishioner

Margaret A. Novotny, MD
Elizabeth D. Kermis, DO, Parishioner
Molly A. Sheron, CNM/NP

Women's Wellness Associates
OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

6162 Transit Rd., East Amherst
(716) 810-9718 | www.womanswellnessobgyn.com