

SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT

PARISH COMMUNITY

LIVING THE GOSPEL . . .

~ IN FAITH

~ IN WORSHIP

~ IN SERVICE



Second Sunday of Lent

February 24 & 25, 2018

From the Desk of the Pastor

My dear parish family,

I suppose we all have our little (or not so little) idiosyncrasies that make us unique. As you will all agree, I have several of these little traits – no comments from anyone please!!!

One of my little idiosyncrasies is that I actually read the instructions on “over the counter” medications. Thankfully, I do not often need an aspirin or cold medication, but if I do, I read the labels on the boxes and bottles. One common line that I see is something to the effect that if you use this product for more than seven days (or some number) consult your physician, as there may be a more serious problem. Let’s take that thought to our current situation in the country and world.

On Monday night I was finally able to put away my Christmas decorations. I thought since it was Lent it was about time. As I worked on my project I had the evening news on the television. I rarely get to see the national news at 6:30pm. I watched the CBS national news and met there several students from Florida who have taken the tragedy they survived and have become activists for change. As you know, I have spent the majority of my life as a priest working with our youth and I take great joy in their enthusiasm and efforts. I applaud these young people who, in the midst of tragedy, are not idling in neutral, but forging forward for change. One very articulate young lady was calling for gun control laws and she stated that she knows that the issue is larger than that. I agree with her. I believe it was also the same young lady who said they have the right to life. Again, I agree! It was also stated by one of the young men that they have the right to go to school without worrying about being shot and that it is their job to be educated. Again, a true statement! I think the nation applauds and agrees with these teens.

If you use this product for more than seven days, consult your physician because there may be a more serious problem. How many school shootings do we need before we realize there is a serious problem? (continued on page 2)

FISH FRY FRIDAYS

Dine-in or Drive-up!

Fried Fish or Breaded Shrimp dinner: macaroni salad, cole slaw, roll and butter.

Baked Fish dinner: rice, green beans, roll and butter. Drinks and homemade desserts are also included!

Pizza will be available for \$1.00 per slice.

Join us every Friday during Lent (except Good Friday) from 4:00-7:00 pm in our School Gym.

Advance tickets can be purchased for \$10.00 per person in all Parish Offices, Catholic Store and Café. Tickets at the door are \$11.00.



Father Tom gave a Baptism demonstration to St. Greg’s 5th Graders that included all signs and symbols of the Sacrament of Christian Initiation.

Post-Dyngus Day Dinner Dance

Join St. Greg’s for our Post Dyngus Day Dinner Dance! This event includes dinner from area-renowned Nowak Catering, a fully stocked bar, and homemade desserts. Live music will be performed by local favorite The Buffalo Touch Polka Band. There will be free polka dancing lessons, given by a certified instructor, for all those in attendance. Throughout the evening, try your luck at our basket raffle and our 50/50 raffle. This event is for those 21 and over; tickets are pre-sale only. Doors open at 5:00pm, dinner is at 6:00pm and dancing begins at 7:00pm. If interested, call: 688-3578 or email: stgregspost-dyngusday@gmail.com



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon. Feb. 26: Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38
Tues. Feb. 27: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12
Wed. Feb. 28: Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28
Thurs. March 1: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31
Fri. March 2: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46
Sat. March 3: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
Sun. March 4: Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

The assurance of faith

Reading I Genesis 22:1-2, 9, 10-13, 15-18 (the testing of Abraham)
Reading II Romans 8:31-34 (God's love for humanity)
Gospel Mark 9:2-10 (Jesus transfigured)
Passage Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." (Mark 9:5)

Adult: *How deeply do you believe that since God is for you, no one can destroy you?*

Child: *What would you like to ask God to do for you and your family?*

VOCATION VIEW

On Mount Tabor Jesus revealed a glimpse of His glory, not to show off, but to express His desire to share His glory with us. Christ also calls some of us in special ways to show His followers how to live for this glory. 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!



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.

From the Desk of the Pastor

(cont'd from page 1)

On a different topic, how many more lower grade levels in elementary schools do we need to go before we realize we have a morality problem? It seems that each year the studies that I read reduce the age that our children, not teenagers or pre-teens, but children, are exposed to and developing addictions to internet pornography, and using cellular devices to put information about themselves or photographs of themselves into cyberspace. On yet another topic, how many more states and countries will need to legalize physician-assisted suicide before we realize we have a problem? It is interesting that the laws discussed are using "suicide" which is a term for intentional death. My list can go on and on, but I believe the point is made... if the condition goes on for more than seven days, consult your physician, as a more serious issue may exist: I believe a more serious issue exists and we need to consult The Physician.

Lent calls us to really consult "The Physician" – our Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The moral issues of sexuality and human life are in no way isolated issues. It appears we keep trying to treat each issue as isolated from the other. These issues tie together because a more serious issue does exist, which is a return to the understanding that we are sons and daughters of God. The issue is realizing that we are created and that our Creator has a right to give us instructions for life. Perhaps the reason why our culture has so many issues today is the fact that we have forgotten the fundamental definition of "who I am" resides in being a son or daughter of God. We have confused our identity. Too often today we identify ourselves with orientation, gender, pro-life, pro-choice and more... when the real identity is to see ourselves as a son or daughter of God. When we get to this deeper issue then we will be able to cure the many, many symptoms of confusion, division, violence and abuse which exist. Do you see that the deeper issue is to live each day knowing that you are a son or daughter of God? That is your/our/my identity and we need to return to that fundamental belief.

This Lent please reflect on the core of who you are and how you define yourself. If your answer is anything other than being a son or daughter of God or a member of the Body of Christ, I humbly request you to reconsider your definition of self. We not only need to do this for ourselves, but we also need to teach this to the next generation. This will treat the real problem and not simply medicate the symptoms.

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

Youth & Young Adult Ministry

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

Check out our brand-new Youth Ministry & Young Adult Ministry website at www.stgregsym.org.

Middle School

Edge Nights: March 1, 8, 15; 6:30 - 8:30pm

High School

Life Teen: February 25; March 11, 18;
5:30- 7:30pm

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!

Youth Adult Ministry (18 - 30's-ish)

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. Plus, follow us on our new Instagram account just for this age group for fresh content!

Daily Mass – 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.

Exodus90 – We're going through Lent and continuing to Pentecost with a group of brave men to build discipline through asceticism and prayer with a rigorous 90 day cleanse of body and soul. Stay tuned for a second round this summer.

DIVINE MERCY CELEBRATION

Our Divine Mercy celebration will be on Sunday, April 8, in the Church from 2:00 - 3:00pm, with the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet being prayed, along with readings from St. Faustina's Diary. There will be a reception with refreshments to follow in the Gathering Room provided by The Ladies of the Lord & Disciples of Divine Mercy.

Our Lord made an awesome promise to St. Faustina saying that those who go to confession and receive Holy Communion at Mass on Divine Mercy Sunday shall obtain COMPLETE FORGIVENESS OF SIN AND PUNISHMENT! The Divine Floodgates of Grace are opened wide and we receive great graces by just looking upon the Divine Mercy picture!

In his encyclical "Rich in Mercy," St. Pope John Paul II said, "Mercy must become the mission of the Church and her people", making it our 'right' and our 'duty' to proclaim God's Mercy to ALL people. By this means many souls will be saved. He made the message of Mercy his special task during his pontificate.

All are welcome to join us in this meaningful, prayerful celebration. Come and be fed spiritually and physically.

St. Gregory the Great Faith Community

Journey Home With Us This Lent!

Fish Fry Fridays –

Join us for Food & Fellowship

Every Friday night during Lent (except Good Friday)
4:00 - 7:00 pm in the School Cafeteria

Come and Pray the

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday, March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30
at 7:00 pm in the Church

Also, March 2 & 23 with the School children at
1:20pm in the Church

Holy Hour for Vocations

Every Friday at 7:30 pm in the Church
after the Stations of the Cross

Parish Lenten Retreat

Fr. Duke Zajac will lead us in our Lenten Retreat that will be a three-day Healing Mission.
March 12-14: 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm in the Church

Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with us

Parish Penance Service:
Thursday, March 1, at 7:00 pm in the Church

Join us for Liturgy of the Hours

Morning Prayer (Lauds) on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday: 9:00 am in the Church
Evening Prayer (Vespers) every Tuesday evening
at 6:30 pm in the Church

Friday Lenten Series

Fridays, March 2, 9, 16, 23:
12:30 – 1:30 pm in the Gathering Room

Family Faith Formation

Children's Lenten Pageant

Saturday, March 17: 9:15 am in the School Gym

The Light is On - Confessions

Every Wednesday during Lent, 5:00 - 7:00pm
in the Church

Divine Mercy Chaplet Novena

April 3 - 6 after 12:00 noon Mass &
April 17 after 8:00am Mass
A Man for All Seasons, inspiring talks
by Bishop Fulton Sheen

LENT 2018

Friday Lenten Series

March 2, 9, 16, 23; 12:00 - 2:00pm

March 2 - Come Follow Me

This compelling Biblical drama is based on the life of the Apostle Peter. "Come Follow Me" traces Peter's rocky journey from the day he first heard Jesus call his name to the post-resurrection conversation in which Jesus charges Peter to "feed my sheep." This short film beautifully captures Peter's transformation from fearful denier to bold leader of the early Church. "Come Follow Me" is designed to be an encouragement to believers and a resource that can be used to introduce others to Jesus' message.

Attending the Friday Lenten Series?

Pre-order lunch from the St. Greg's Café.
Call ahead of time to 276-6915.

Parish Lenten Retreat

Please join us for our Parish Lenten Retreat on Monday, March 12, Tuesday, March 13, and Wednesday, March 14.

Our retreat will be led by Father Richard "Duke" Zajac. The retreat will be offered twice each day; once at 12:00 noon and again at 7:00pm. The Celebration of the Eucharist will be included in all sessions. Fr. Duke has been involved in healing ministry for 33 years, chiefly as Staff Chaplain at Sisters Hospital.

CATHOLIC STORE LENTEN OFFERINGS

Stop in to pick up some spiritual reading for Lent! We have a variety of suggested books, from daily prayers to inspirational books, to help make Lent a prayerful, holy time.

The Light is On - Confessions

Every Wednesday during Lent from 5:00 - 7:00pm in the Church we will be offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In addition, the Parish Lenten Penance Service will be held on Tuesday, March 1, at 7:00pm.

CAFÉ LENTEN MENU

Continuing on Wednesdays and Fridays through Lent, the Café will be serving pierogis (cheese, potato, and sauerkraut), meatless soups, grilled cheese and meatless paninis. We invite you to stop by during Lent and enjoy our pierogis and other Lenten specials with your family, friends and fellow parishioners.

The St. Greg's Café is still your number one spot for breakfast and lunch, open daily (except Mondays)! Don't forget to join us on Wednesday evenings for Pizza Night!

FISH FRY FRIDAYS

All are welcome to our Dine-in or Drive-up Fish Fry Fridays during Lent! Fried Fish or Breaded Shrimp dinner includes macaroni salad, cole slaw, roll and butter. Baked Fish dinner includes rice, green beans, roll and butter. Drinks and homemade desserts are also included! Pizza will be available for \$1.00 per slice. Join us March 2, 9, 16 & 23 from 4:00-7:00 pm in our School Gym. Advance tickets can be purchased for \$10.00 per person in all Parish Offices, Catholic Store and Café. Tickets at the door are \$11.00. For more information please call the Parish Office at 688-5678.

Please help support the St. Greg's band program by purchasing a candy bar (or two!) at any of the Lenten Fish Fries! Miss Villa, parents, and students will be there from 4:00-7:00pm each Friday during Lent - our delicious Niagara Chocolate candy bars are just \$1 apiece and all proceeds go towards the band participating in major festivals. Thank you in advance for your support!

The Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet

April 3 - 6 after 12:00 noon Mass and April 7 after the 8:00am Mass. *A Man for All Seasons* ~ Inspiring talks by Bishop Fulton Sheen

Northern Vicariate Lecture Series

Different ways we encounter Mary –

Mary and the Infancy Narrative of St. Luke's Gospel

The second session of the Lenten Lecture Series will be held on Monday, February 26, at 7:30pm in Blessed Sacrament Church, 263 Claremont Ave., Buffalo, NY. Rev. Robert Mock will speak on how we experience and learn about Mary through the Infancy Narrative of St. Luke. Come and bring a friend! Refreshments served! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @necvicariate

SEVEN CHURCHES BUS TRIP

Holy Thursday, March 29, we will have a bus trip pilgrimage to visit seven churches. The bus will leave promptly at 8:30 pm following the 7:00 pm Mass. Cost is \$5.00 per person and \$12.00 per family. Please complete this slip and return with enclosed check/cash to Jo Pierino by way of mail or collection by **Friday, March 23**.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Number Attending: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Can you help us for a "brief" moment ...Diaper Drive Fundraiser!

Our Jamaica Mission Trip team needs your help! We are collecting money to help Mustard Seed Communities purchase diapers for their residents. The majority of their residents use diapers, so they are essential at all of the communities, from infants to adult size. Diapers are very costly and are an item they are grateful to receive in kind. Mustard Seed currently has a partnership with ISOH/Impact that allows them to ship and receive a container of 60,000 diapers for a donation of \$1,650. This partnership makes diapers less than 2.5 cents per piece, a price that makes this the most effective way to send diapers to their communities.

Every little bit counts! Please pick up an envelope in the vestibule of the Church or at the Parish Office and drop the envelope in the collection or at the Parish Office. Cash or checks will be accepted and can be made payable to **St. Gregory the Great**, Attn: Jamaica Mission Diaper Drive. We will be running the fundraiser through Lent and our goal is to send enough money to ship two containers worth of diapers. Questions? Email Elizabeth Astridge at stgregsmissiontrip@gmail.com. Thank you!!!!

Young Adult Women's Bible Study Attention Women Ages 18-30s!

Pam Distefano will be leading our first YA Women's Bible Study. Come and join other young adult women every Wednesday evening during Lent through the "Healing the father wound" series. We will gather at 7:00pm in Sr. Maureen's room in the Ministry Center. Great way to make friends and go deeper in faith!

Catechist's Corner

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

"Family Faith Formation is more than a subject to be taught... it is an invitation to a way of life."

- Joe Paprocki



From a Junior high student:

"She takes the time after our lesson to explain how to be the best person we can be and how to be kind to others and ourselves (F.R.I.E.N.D.)."



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.

Family Faith Formation

FFF Office hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm,
and when classes are in session.

FFF Calendar of Upcoming Events :

Fish Fry Fridays: Pre-Sale Tickets are \$10 per person (\$11 at the door) and are available for sale in the Family Faith Formation Office, Monday - Friday from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm and when classes are in session. Tickets are good for any of the following Friday dates: March 2, 9, 16 & 23. **FFF is sponsoring the March 9 Fish Fry, so please be sure to come and support us!!** Dine-in or Take out!

Bakers and Adult Helpers Needed: FFF is sponsoring the Fish Fry on March 9 and we will be needing adult volunteers and bakers to bring (precut/individually wrapped) desserts. If you can help, please email pgilbert@stgregs.org or call the office at 688-5760 for more information. Thank you!!

Sunday, March 4

10:30 am Generations of Faith (GOF) Session A
12:30 pm Generations of Faith (GOF) Session B
(School Gym, Cafeteria & Classrooms)

Thursday, March 8

6:15 pm Generations of Faith (GOF) Session C
(School Gym, Cafeteria & Classrooms)



FFF Fifth Graders let their moms know how much they are loved and appreciated!



Moms' Valentine Tea:

Gr 5 FFF Students and their moms shared a special Valentine Tea and Prayer Service





Respect Life

Immediate Action Needed!! Bishop Richard Malone urges everyone to speak out against pending legislation in New York that will further diminish the rights of the unborn.

“On January 16, 2018, Governor Cuomo introduced his budget bill, S.7511. In the bill, he included an abortion expansion proposal. **If the budget passes, virtually all limitations on abortion will be lifted.** This is particularly dangerous, because the law requires a budget to be passed by April 1. The Governor’s bill would align New York with the most liberal abortion laws in the world.

- The bill would remove our current law’s limit and allow abortions after 24 weeks, well after the point where a fetus can experience pain.
- 5-10% of babies are born alive after a late-term abortion procedure. This bill would eliminate the law that requires that a baby born alive after an abortion be given adequate health care.
- This bill would permit non-doctors to do abortions – the state government could grant a license to perform abortions to anyone.
- The bill would eliminate all criminal penalties for abortions—if an abortion was against a mother’s will (involuntary or coerced), or if an unborn child is deliberately targeted for an act of violence, it could not be prosecuted.

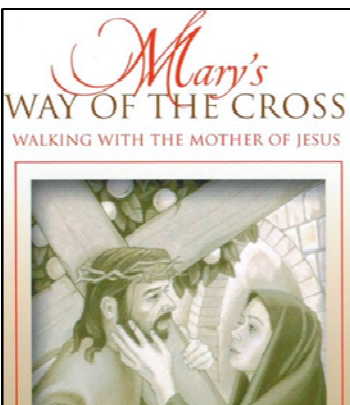
Despite more and more states enacting sensible limitations on abortions, New York State is doing the opposite. *Please reach out to your State Senator to oppose this bill* and encourage your family and friends to do the same.

The Action Center of the New York State Catholic Conference has made it very easy to oppose this proposal through their website. **Go to: www.nyscatholic.org and click on the “Take Action Now” tab. Look for the link, “Oppose Abortion Expansion in State Budget.”**

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. We must do everything we can before April 1.”

Next MOMS:

Stations of the Cross, Mary’s Way



Bring your children to experience this devotion with Mary as our **FEARLESS** Mother of Sorrows as she accompanies her Son up Calvary’s Hill to the foot of the crucifixion. Interested in sharing a reading with your child? Contact stgregsmoms@gmail.com

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



Follow St. Greg’s on Social Media & your Smartphone



- Like us on Facebook at St. Gregory the Great
- Follow us on Twitter @StGregsBuffalo

Senior Citizens

For travel reservations/information, call Nancy at 631-5313
March 12 - St. Patrick Luncheon, Sean Patrick's, 1:00 pm. \$20/member & \$25/guest. Choice of Corned Beef, Vegetable Lasagna or Chicken Marsala. Mail check and meal choice to Dolores Mason at St. Gregory’s by March 4.

March 20 - Seneca Niagara Casino trip. \$23 per person. Bus departs St. Gregory’s at 9:00am and returns at 4:00pm.

April 10, *Del LAGO* Casino, \$26 per person, \$25/Slot Dollars and lunch buffet. **Payment due with reservation.** Bus departs Ministry Center at 8:00 am, returns 6:00 pm. Valid Government Photo ID required.

April 22-27, 2018 Savannah, GA & Charleston, SC (Cancelled)

LADIES OF CHARITY

Monthly meeting will be on Monday, February 26, at 1:00pm in the Café. This month’s aid is directed to the traditional Easter Basket recipients. Our next day of service at the Thrift Store is Monday, March 5. Please call Marge at 688-5954 if interested. New members are always welcome at our meetings.

LADIES OF THE LORD...

... meeting Thursday, March 8, 7:00 pm, in the Gathering Room. Our meeting will be a "Prayer & Share." Come ready to share a prayer experience or how the saints we picked for the year at our last meeting may have impacted our life. February Birthdays, please bring a treat to share for our Fellowship table. All are welcome.

Sacramental Information

The Sacrament of First Penance will be held on Tuesday, March 6, at 6:30pm in the Church.

Confirmation Interviews will be held on March 3 from 8:30 am - 2:00 pm in the School Cafeteria and on March 5 from 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm in the School Gym.

Confirmation Rehearsal:

This year, there will be only ONE Confirmation Rehearsal, on Tuesday, April 10, at 6:30 pm in the Church. Confirmation Rehearsal should be attended by the candidate and their sponsor. A parent can stand in for out-of-town sponsors so that they can provide direction for the sponsor prior to Confirmation night.

2018 Confirmation Dates have been scheduled as follows: 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.

Update Your Parishioner Records

If you have recently married please contact the Parish Office to update your records. This will be very important if you ever need to request a letter to become a Godparent in the Church.

In addition, if you have moved or changed parishes please update your records. Again, this is important in the process of becoming a Godparent.



Music Ministry

Rehearsals

Children Choir (Grades 2-8)

4:30 - 5:30 pm, Tues., Feb. 27, in GR 2

The children will be singing at the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday, March 25.

Adult Choir for 11:00 am Mass

7:30 pm, Thursday, March 1, in GR 2

Easter Triduum Choir

7:00 - 9:00 pm, Tuesdays, February 27

and March 6, 20 & 27, in GR 2

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

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

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Enjoy a free subscription to FORMED.org with great movies, audios, ebooks, Bible studies and more. Go to www.FORMED.org. Type our parish access code **D7B6CQ** in the box. Start watching, listening and reading. We hope you and your family enjoy this free subscription and grow in faith with FORMED.

St. Gregory's Home School Association 1500 Club Raffle Ticket Request – April 14, 2018 (Drop in collection basket or to the Parish Office)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone number: _____

Number of tickets requested (\$50 each, admits 2 over age 21): _____

Amount enclosed: _____

School family's name, if different than above: _____

If you have additional questions, please contact the event co-chairs: JoAnne Mroziak (631-3393); Nora Weil (632-2271); Donna Buckmaster (868-6374) or email 1500club@stgregs.org.

Your official ticket will be sent to the address listed on the request form by return mail. Thank you for supporting us to make this major fundraiser a great success. Don't miss out on your chance to win one of the great prizes. May God continue to bless you for your generosity!

Parish Activity Calendar

Sunday, February 25

- 11:30 am RCIA Sunday Dismissal Discussion (GR 1)
- 5:30 pm Youth Ministry Life Teen (MC Gym)

Monday, February 26

- 1:00 pm Ladies of Charity Meeting (MC Café)
- 6:30 pm 33 Days to Merciful Love Bible Study (MC Café)
- 7:00 pm Knights of Columbus Officers Business Meeting (MC 3)
- 7:00 pm Food Shuttle Board Meeting (GR 2)
- 7:00 pm Little Rock Bible Study (MC 2)

Tuesday, February 27

- 5:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Church)
- 6:30 pm Evening Prayer (Crying Room)
- 6:30 pm Boy Scouts Cub Scout Pack Meeting (School Gym/Caf)
- 6:30 pm Boy Scouts Troop 440 Unit Meeting (MC Gym)
- 7:30 pm Boy Scouts Troop 440 Meeting (MC Gym)

Wednesday, February 28

- 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry (MC Gym)
- 5:00 pm The Light Is On Confessions (Church)
- 6:30 pm Children's Catechumenate (School Art Room)
- 7:00 pm RCIA Presentation/Discussion (Room 702)

Thursday, March 1

- 2:30 pm Girl Scouts Daisy Troop Meeting (GR 1)
- 4:00 pm Building & Grounds Meeting (GR 1)
- 6:30 pm Youth Ministry Edge (MC Gym)
- 6:30 pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting (GR 1)
- 7:00 pm Parish Lenten Penance Service (Church)

Friday March 2

- 1:20 pm School Stations of the Cross (Church)
- 4:00 pm Parish Fish Fry (School Gym & Caf)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Religious Emblem Meeting (MC 2)
- 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross & Holy Hour (Church)

Saturday, March 3

- 9:15 am "Coffee Break with God" (School Art Room)
- 10:00 am Adult Confirmation Session (GR 1)
- 10:00 am Health Ministry Respite for Caregivers (GR 1&2)

Sunday, March 4

- 11:30 am RCIA Sunday Dismissal Discussion (GR 1)

You are cordially invited to a **Coffee Break with God**

on March 3 from 9:15 am - 10:15 am

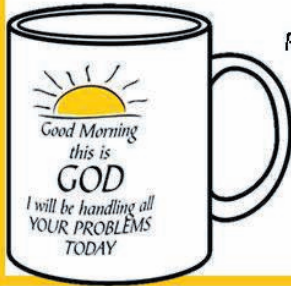
in the School Art Room for,

"Prayer Spaces in the Home"

by special speaker, Gina Cutrona

There's a craft to make and take home :)

So don't miss out!



*Relax, grab a cup of coffee,
unwind from your week
and get a refill on
your spirituality!*

Baby sitting is available upon request. Please call the FFF Office (688-5760) by 12noon on March 2.

"SPIRITUAL SPINS & GRINS" FROM FR. FRANCIS

The Cross ... The Paradox of Faith

"Paradox" is a statement or proposition seemingly self-contradictory or absurd, in reality expressing a possible truth.

Regarding the Cross: what seems to be a moment of humiliation and indignity is in fact an outpouring of divine love of all humanity. Love is the only reason Jesus forgives the unforgivable and accepts the unacceptable shame of crucifixion.

Love turns despair and rejection into hope and glory.

This is the work of the Lord and it can be our work as well.

Out of Parish

Looking for a Weekday Evening Mass During Lent?

Lent is a time of deepening our spiritual life through prayer. To help guide you on your Lenten journey Our Lady of Pompeii is adding a 6:30pm Mass Monday through Friday throughout Lent, concluding on Wednesday, March 28. Our Lady of Pompeii is located at 158 Laverack Ave. Lancaster, NY 14086.

Mass Schedule

Saturday, February 24

Vigil Masses

- 4:00 pm Nicolò Pierro by Family
Jennifer Wilson
by Eugene & Pia O'Connor
- 5:30 pm Sharon Sperduto by Joyce Santora

Sunday, February 25 – Second Sunday of Lent

- 8:00 am David Starks by Elizabeth Starks & Family
- 9:30 am Agnes Trippe by Kelly & Mazza Families
Mary Jane Luhr by Hendler Girls
- 11:00 am Daniel Kay by Elaine Kay
Ronald Traina by Christi & Brian Carroll
- 12:30 pm Terry Dean by Herman Rodenberg
Bill Liscavage by Wife, Bianca
- 1:30 pm Baptisms
- 4:30 pm Gerri De Lac by Family

Monday, February 26

- 7:00 am Parishioners of St. Gregory's
Thomas J. Comer, Jr.
by Tom & Shelly Reidy
- 8:00 am Mark Czarnecki by Friend, Elizabeth
- 12:00 pm Dolores Kuhn (birth) by Jack Kuhn
Deceased Members of Hertel Family
by Jeanne Hertel

Tuesday, February 27

- 7:00 am William D. McCarthy (anniv)
by Christ Family
- Mary Joan Christ by Christ Family
- 8:00 am Frank Scarcella by Kathy Summers
- 12:00 pm Mary Manaher by Judy Strubel
Robert Gialombardo
by Tony & Pamela Distefano

Wednesday, February 28

- 7:00 am Joan Mahoney by Fr. Tom Mahoney
Celina M. Bojarczuk by Bill & Anna Foy
- 8:00 am Holy Souls in Purgatory by Barbara Pelosi
- 12:00 pm Alexander Bene, Jr. by Richard Bene
Kevin P. McGivney (birth)
by Kate & Dave Gordon

Thursday, March 1

- 7:00 am Anthony J. Maritato (birth)
by Wife & Children
- 8:00 am Mary Anne Lonsbery by Family
- (School Mass)** Thomas Comer
by St. Gregory the Great School
- 12:00 pm Peter Campanella
by Joyce Santora & Family
Ralph Barbalato by Dawne Vullo

Friday, March 2

- 7:00 am John & Joyce Ambrosoli by Estate
Edward J. & Natalie F. Mack by Estate
- 8:00 am Denise Thibeault
by Kevin & Michelle Burns
- 12:00 pm Matilda Prazmark by Daughter
Mary Manaher by Carol Monafo

Saturday, March 3

- 8:00 am Andrew Roberts by Neil, Dad & Becky
Ricky & Irene Ilustre (living) anniversary
by Ron, Rose Marie, Ronald Canestro

Vigil Masses

- 4:00 pm Eileen Streicher by Streicher Family
John LaLonde by Nick Buscarino
- 5:30 pm Jim & Louise McPartlan by Family
Deacon Michael Bochiechio (living)
by St Gregory's Knights
of Columbus Council 14682

Sunday, March 4 – Third Sunday of Lent

- 8:00 am Diantha Fiegl by Beth & Dave Courtney
- 9:30 am Tannie R. Gorino
by Frank & Dauria Cardarella
Theresa Caito by Sal LaRusso Family
- 11:00 am Thomas McMullen by Dave & Meg King
George Zigrossi by Antoinette Pope
- 12:30 pm Natalie & Henry Noworyta
by Marcia & Jerry Piskorowski
Jim Daly by Paul & Catherine Beiter
- 4:30 pm Ruth Buettner by Hartigan Family

DECEASED

Dolores E. Gleason

"GRIEF MATTERS"

You are invited to join us for the next Grief & Loss meeting on Wednesday, March 7, at 6:30 pm in Gathering Room 1. Many people struggle with their prayer life and relationship with God during times of grief or loss. This presentation will offer insight on how our God is present to us in the midst of our pain. All are welcome. You do not need to be a St. Gregory parishioner.

PRAYER CHAIN

Did you know that St. Gregory's has had a Prayer Chain for 30 years, with approximately 80 members who will pray for your intentions? You may call the parish office at 688-5678 to place a name on the prayer chain list and your intention will be remembered for 30 days. *"Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you will receive it, and you will!"* (Mark 11:24)

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www.stgregs.org

PARISH OFFICE

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

PASTOR

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PAROCHIAL VICARS

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Msgr. Thomas Maloney (305);

FatherThomas@stgregs.org

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Deacon Peter Donnelly; pdonnelly@stgregs.org

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Daniel A. Victoor (308); dvictoor@stgregs.org

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ajarosz@stgregs.org

Nicole Janecek - Middle School (341);

njanecek@stgregs.org

Richard Patti - High School (338); rpatti@stgregs.org

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

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PRINCIPAL

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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

DIRECTOR

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

Moving In? Moving Out?

Please contact us to register, or inform us of your departure.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

8:30 am - 8:00 pm

FRIDAY 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

SATURDAY 9:00 am - 4:00 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*
- *Generous sharing of our God-given talents and resources*



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