

SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT PARISH

PARISH COMMUNITY LIVING
THE GOSPEL . . .

~ IN FAITH
~ IN WORSHIP
~ IN SERVICE

September 21 & 22, 2019
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time



MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

My Dear Parish Family,

As we continue to process all that is going on in our Church, I would first like to thank the many parishioners who took the time to email me or speak with me about my article in last weekend's bulletin. It was gratifying to know that so many parishioners agreed with my reflections. I also apologize to those who I have not been able to talk with about this crisis. Please know that daily I have many emails and requests to meet and discuss the issues of the Diocese. I am doing my best to respond to all.

It is important for us to know each other's thoughts. It is important for you to know my thoughts as I serve as your pastor. It is evident that we all have in common the fact that we have many valid feelings and emotions including anger, frustration, disappointment and many questions that remain unanswered. Our media driven society today, with instant news coverage, has conditioned us to want to know every detail instantly. I believe this has complicated our frustrations simply because some questions cannot be answered because of confidential laws.

We need to realize that we will never compensate a victim of child sexual abuse. There is nothing that can ever correct that wrong. The suffering of our brothers and sisters can never be fully understood by those of us who were spared that suffering. We need to pray daily for our brothers and sisters who have suffered so greatly – we pray for their healing. A couple weeks ago there was a news report on *Spectrum TV* news which featured an interview of two adult men who were victims of child sexual abuse in the Syracuse, NY Diocese. These men gave wise advice. They said that they are not suing the Diocese because no dollar amount will compensate their suffering. The one gentleman stated that he had thirty Masses offered for the repose of the priest who victimized him. Both gentlemen called for forgiveness to be the only way to move forward in their lives. A beautiful and truthful message!

I would like to suggest that we are all victims in the ripple effect. Again, we cannot begin to compare directly with those who were so tragically abused, but we are all victims, in a lesser degree, as we live in this aftermath and its many complexities. I urge you, as I urge myself, not to let the victimizers win. I have often told you that there is no such thing as a private sin. Every sin, as private as we may think it is, affects other people. These egregious sins are now victimizing all of us. These sins have victimized all whose faith has been shaken, who no longer wish to come to Mass or to celebrate faith. Please remember to place your faith in Jesus Christ and not in any human person.

As I grew up my parents taught me that it did not matter if we liked or disliked our parish priest, what mattered was the fact that he was ordained to give us the Eucharist. Today, we establish a closer relationship with the person of the priest. On one hand this is good because priests are people too and we need good friendships, but this can be a problem if that friendship leads us to fail to recognize that the priest's personality is not most important; it is his connection for us to Jesus that is most important. Some who were tied to a great personality have become victims of this crisis because they have tied themselves to the person of the priest rather than to the person of Jesus Christ who the priest sacramentally represents.

Our ministries today are being victimized by these crimes. Almost daily I receive a note or e-mail from someone who no longer wishes to support our parish because of this crisis. I understand the anger and frustration. As humans, we seem to want some physical sign to show our disappointment and hurt. I accept the fact that many have chosen to stop personally supporting and financially supporting our parish because of this crisis. I urge you to prayerfully reconsider as this is furthering the effect of the sin of the priests who perpetrated these crimes.

(Continued on Page 2)

(Pastor's Continued)

Their sins are now affecting the way you think and your responses to withdraw are affecting our current ministries. Each ministry in our parish decreased its budget by twenty percent. Our school tuition increased by ten percent which caused a decline in enrollment as many families cannot sustain that sharp of an increase. I pray that those who have stepped away from serving our parish either because of this crisis or other issues and those who have stopped financially supporting us, will reconsider the long-term effects of that decision.

I wish to reassure you that your Sunday collection primarily supports St. Greg's – period. Each parish does pay an assessment to the Diocese which allows the Diocese to function. The parish assessments are not paying out claims to those who were abused. Primarily insurance will be handling these claims and other assets of the Diocese. Our current assessments really go to paying the salaries and affording the ministries that our Diocese offers (i.e.: youth department, vocations, marriage preparation, annulments, multi-cultural ministries and more).

Finally, I humbly ask you to please pray for our Bishop. It is under his watch that we are discovering the many decades of abuse at once. I believe we need to pray for him twice as much as we are scrutinizing him. The Catholic Church is not alone, the news media is now revealing the same child sexual abuse issues in many school districts, Scouting and other agencies that serve youth. I am not justifying any wrongdoing, nor am I trying to say "we are not as bad as them." I simply ask you to consider that maybe our Bishop is doing the best that he can do, to address the daily concerns from this crisis. I do not believe him to be an evil man nor an incompetent individual. I simply ask that we pray for him. May God bless you, our Mother Mary watch over you and St. Gregory the Great intercede for you, always.

ST. GREG'S CAFÉ
PIZZA NIGHT!

Working late at the office and don't want to cook? Stop by our Café every Wednesday night for our Specialty Pizza Night from 5:30 - 7:30 pm.

DON'T HAVE TIME FOR BREAKFAST?
Stop in the St. Greg's Café and let us cook for you. Enjoy egg sandwiches, pastries, bagels and Fair Trade organic coffee.

FORGOT YOUR LUNCH ?
Join us for soup, salads, paninis and delicious sandwiches, or take it back to your office!

2019-2020 Family Mass Schedule

We are excited to announce starting September 29, there will be monthly Family Mass at 9:30 am. At these Masses, the children will not be dismissed but rather encouraged to participate in any way they can. The Mass will be family centric including child-friendly homilies.

The School Children's Choir and the Parish Children's Choir will combine to provide all the music at these Masses. If you have children who would like to sing in either choir, please contact:

- Nancy Erdman—nerdman@stgregs.org—688-5678 Ext. 308 (School Children Choir)
- Debbie Lombardo—childrenschoir@stgregs.org (Parish Children's Choir)

Starting at the October 27, 9:30 Mass, we are encouraging families to participate in the Masses by being Greeters, Lectors and/or Ushers. If your family is interested, contact Marisa Piazza at mpiazza@stgregs.org or 688-5678, ext. 303 to learn more today!



- Sunday, September 29th, 2019**
- Sunday, October 27th, 2019**
- Sunday, November 24th, 2019**
- Wednesday, December 25th, 2019**
- Sunday, January 12th, 2020**
- Sunday, February 9th, 2020**
- Sunday, March 15th, 2020**
- Sunday, April 5th, 2020**
- Sunday, May 10th, 2020**
- Sunday, June 21st, 2020**



THINKING OF BECOMING CATHOLIC?

No immediate commitment, bring your questions. You will find our RCIA Team friendly and welcoming. Sessions of Inquiry continue on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in School classroom 802. For more info contact Jerry at gpeer@verizon.net or call the Parish Office.



St. Gregory the Great School

THOUGHTS FROM A VETERAN TEACHER

My name is Eric Hillebrand and I have been a teacher at St. Greg's for over twenty years. Why so long? Because, St. Greg's is a Faith-filled Community. I'd like to explain what that means to me. Having just gone through a Faculty Retreat, where we prayed the Rosary together, I thought I might use the Mysteries as a framework.

First, how has this community reacted to times of sorrow for my family and me? My mom died during the school year a few years back. My colleagues could not have been more caring or concerned. The administration helped with time off and coverage. My family received many cards, dinners, and offers of help. At my mom's funeral many faculty members, parents, and almost the entire Eighth Grade attended (which I teach). Last Spring I found out I would undergo some serious surgery over the summer. Again the support was amazing! Prayers, well wishes, and kind words flooded in. My class made an extra-large card, there was an Intention for me at the Graduation Mass, and a special prayer for me at the end-of-the-year luncheon. Since we are a parish, I was able to see Fr. Leon for an Anointing of the Sick. All the priests, faculty, and many of the students were praying for me. Sorrowful or anxious times

are often when community is most important!

This is also a joyful community. Teachers and students get to share many traditions, such as May Crowning, the class trip, Walkathon, and the Graduation Mass. The whole school shares in the Sacraments of First Communion and Reconciliation. It is wonderful to join faith and school tradition together. The staff also enjoys fellowship. There are Happy Hours, holiday parties, and a daily sense of being a team with the same goals. We as a faculty also get to share the joy of our co-workers weddings, new births, and other personal life changes.



Sorrowful; Joyful, that leaves the Glorious Mysteries. Well, I feel that being part of this Faith-filled Community is glorious! I wanted to focus on the school community, so I did not mention the Parish community. So many ministries, so many activities, so many great people. Faith and support? St. Greg's shares over two thousand years of Catholic tradition. Weddings, funerals, retreats, and Mass are all part of this tradition. Fun? The parish has the Great Race and the Dinner Auction, just to name two exciting events.

Why have I worked here for twenty years? The faculty, administration, the students, the families, the clergy—and the Faith-filled community!

MESSAGE FROM ST. GREGORY THE GREAT SCHOOL BOARD

St. Gregory the Great wrote, "You don't climb a mountain in leaps and bounds, but by taking it slowly." HOPE is the power that gives a person the confidence to stop and try.



Those words are the underlying mantra and the driving force behind the members of the Board of Education at St. Gregory the Great School. As we begin the new year for our children, our faculty, our families and ultimately for our Parish, we believe in fostering a renewed hope and positive collaboration by sharing our mission and vision with our Parish and our School.

St. Gregory the Great School fosters a caring Catholic Identity which fosters a Faith community and an enriching curriculum. As a result, each student will be prepared to take on a faith-filled role as a disciple of God within our society.

The members of our Board who tirelessly share their time, talents, and love for our School and Parish include: Fr. Leon Biernat, Christie Thein, Tom Vacanti, Fr. Paul Cygan, Julie Gajewski, Melissa Deakin, Teri Donner, Mary Beth Pfeiffer, Jim Roland, Mark Higgins, Chris Kicinski, Rory Reichenberg and Kathy Benson.

If you have any comments or concerns please contact us at schoolboard@stgregs.org We ask at this time that you pray for a successful year for our Lord's special children and their education.

In Faith and Hope,
The School Board of St. Gregory the Great

ST. GREG'S SCHOOL JOB POSTING

The School is seeking an enthusiastic Pre-K 4 long term substitute Teacher to guide a classroom of young children in a variety of educational activities, including arts and crafts, free play, storytelling, and class outings. The primary responsibility is to teach them the fundamental concepts they need to know for kindergarten, such as identifying numbers and letters, socializing well with others, and working effectively in a classroom structure. For the full description please see the school website at www.stgregschool.org. Please submit resume and cover letter by Monday, September 30 to msodaro@stgregs.org.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

FFF Upcoming Events and Information:

September's FFF Outreach is collecting school supplies; We are collecting school supplies for under-privileged children. Please remind your child to bring school supplies to class if you plan to make a donation. Thank you so much!

Saturday, September 21

9:00 am FFF Board Meeting (School Art Room)

Monday, September 23

4:30 pm Grade 1 Family Celebration (Classroom)
Families are invited to join their First Grader!

Saturday, September 28

9:00 am Grade 1 Family Celebration (Classroom)
Families are invited to join their First Grader!

Save the Date for First Friday Club: All Disciple Camp students and their friends (Gr 5-8) are invited to our **First Friday Club** on **Friday, October 4**, from 7:00 – 9:00 pm in the School Gym and Cafeteria.

Rosary Club (for Grades 5-8) begins on Monday, **October 7**, from 6:15 - 7:15 pm in the School Cafeteria. Learn to make Rosaries. **Rosary Club** meets on Mondays except when there are no classes due to holidays (eg. Columbus Day, Christmas break, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, etc). Hours attended count towards ministry hours as Rosaries made are given to new parishioners, distributed on Ash Wednesday, etc.

FFF Website: Check our site throughout the year www.stgregs.org/familyfaithformation for schedule changes, special updates and information! For your convenience, the **2019 – 2020 FFF Program Calendar** is posted, as well as links to **Class Schedules** and more!

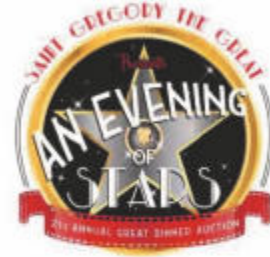


Thank you to all the Bills fans who came to the Bills Game Day Party! Your support made it a great success and fun was had by all! Everyone enjoyed the Chiavetta dinners, pizza, raffles and of course, the WIN! Way to Go Bills! Thank you to all the FFF Board members who worked so hard to organize this special event, especially Dan Golden, Lisa Batt, Ray and Jennifer Geska, Carly Klein, Jeanne Kasprovicz, Tina La Mendola, Christa Meer and Nora Weil.

St. Gregory the Great 21st Annual Great Dinner Auction Saturday November 2nd, 2019

Honoring recipients of the
Cornerstone Award

Joseph Couche
Rosemary Spano



Dinner Auction Sponsorship Opportunities

Table Sponsorships

includes seating for 10

The Producer \$3,500

The Director \$2,500

The Spotlight \$1,500

Please see website for description of sponsorship tables

More Sponsorship & Advertising Opportunities

Bid Sheets	\$1,200
Favors	\$1,200
Valet Parking	\$1,100
Wine/Gift Pull	\$ 600
Gym Banner	\$ 600
Golden Raffle	\$ 600
Photo Booth	\$ 600

Catalog Advertising

Inside Front Cover 4/C	\$ 750
Inside Back Cover 4/C	\$750
Full Page B/W	\$400
Half Page B/W	\$250
¼ Page B/W	\$150
Business Card AD	\$ 95

\$25 Shout Out to Cornerstone Honorees
Acknowledge these honorees in the dinner program
(3-4 short lines of appreciation)

If you are interested please contact
Cindy Reitebach in the auction office at
688-5678 ext 337 or dinnerauction@gmail.com

MOMS 2019-2020

THE YEAR OF
HEALING WITH MARY,
MOTHER OF THE
CHURCH

Spiritual Motherhood
continues into the
Year of Healing

MOMS Mass Mobs
MOMS Meals
Free Babysitting

www.stgregsmoms.org



SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Confirmation 2020 Candidates: There are only a few spots remaining in our **September 27 Retreat**. If you would like to attend, please call the FFF office (688-5760). Our last retreat will be held on Saturday, **November 23**. Attendance is mandatory in order to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation**. We look forward to seeing you and your family at the **Mass of Enrollment** on Sunday, October 20 at 4:30 pm. **Pot Luck Dinner** to follow in the School Cafeteria.

Any questions, please contact Catherine Wadhams at cwadhams@stgregs.org or call 688-5760.

Sacrament
of CONFIRMATION

PRAYER WARRIORS WANTED

We are entertaining the idea of forming prayer teams to pray with parishioners after designated Masses over the weekend. We humbly ask for those interested to prayerfully discern this invitation. If you believe the Lord is calling you to consider this ministry, please contact Brian Ruh at 688 – 5678 ext 313 or at bruh@stgregs.org



SAVE THE DATE

21ST Annual Great Dinner Auction
An Evening of Stars
Saturday, November 2, 2019
Salvatore's Italian Gardens

Always wanted to donate an item to the Auction but did not know how or

what? In the back foyer of the Church there is a wish tree with donation gift card wishes on it. Take one and drop off your donation to the Parish Office. We appreciate any donations. **OR**

Join our Virtual Gift-Gathering Party

Go to https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/20F1XK7J97G95?ref=wl_share or send an email to dinnerauction@gmail.com and we will send you the link. See all the great items you can donate to the Auction and they will be delivered right to St. Greg's.

Car Raffle tickets will be available after selected Masses in September and October and are available in the Parish Office. Tickets are \$20. Win \$10,000 towards the car of your choice from our select family of dealerships, or \$8,000 cash!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Youth and Adults Volunteers: If you would like to help out selling car raffle tickets in September or October after weekend Masses or at the Auction, please contact Katie Hufnagel at mckm6174@yahoo.com

If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Reitebach, St. Gregory's Auction Coordinator, at 688-5678 x 337 or dinnerauction@gmail.com.

MOMS, COME CELEBRATE BACK TO SCHOOL WITH A ST. GREGORY THE GREAT GIFT-GATHERING EVENT TO BENEFIT THE 2019 GREAT DINNER AUCTION

JOIN US FOR A SHOPPING PARTY AT
TONY WALKER & CO ON OCTOBER 10!

Shopping will begin at 5:00 pm and end at 8:00 pm. Guests will receive 20% off their Tony Walker purchases. Enjoy cocktails and appetizers from Giancarlo's.

PLEASE RSVP TO NICOLE SCHMIDT AT 479-0209.

The Auction Committee has requested Tony Walker and Co and Amazon gifts, in any denomination, although all gifts and monetary donations are appreciated. If you have already attended a gift-gathering party, please do not feel obligated to bring a gift!

—SAVE THE DATE—

WOMEN'S ENRICHMENT

A Ministry of St. Gregory the Great presents: A Day of Spiritual Renewal

*“The Ordinary IS Extraordinary;
Our God-Given Gifts”*

“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” - Matthew 5:14-16



**Featuring Special Guest Speaker
Kimberly Cook, M.A.T.S.**

**Writer, Podcaster, and Catholic Apologist
and**

Music by Nancy Erdman

DATE: Saturday, October 5, from 10:00 am - 2:30 pm (9:45 arrival).

LOCATION: St. Gregory the Great Ministry Center, 220 St. Gregory Ct. Williamsville, NY 14221

REGISTRATION COST: \$35*

*Includes catered buffet lunch, desserts, morning and afternoon refreshments .

Prior registration is required as seating is limited.

You may register one of three ways: mail the slip below, or place the slip in the basket at Mass, or register online www.tinyurl.com/WEjoy

Register NO LATER THAN September 30!!!

Make checks payable to St. Gregory the Great. Write “Women’s Enrichment Day” in the memo.

For more information contact Joycelyn (Joy) Bila 834-0128 or jbila@hotmail.com

_____ I will attend the Women’s Enrichment Day of Spiritual Renewal on October 5.

Name _____ P

hone _____

Address _____

Email _____ Check # _____

BRAVE II

Fall Young Adult Retreat

*Allegany State Park
Camp Turner*

NOVEMBER 8-10

18-30somethings invited for this overnight experience and recharge to **BRAVE** the world

Details & Registration
stgregsym.org/events/ya-retreat-brave-ii



Questions Contact Adam Jarosz
ajarosz@stgregs.org - 688-3578

HEALING FROM SEPARATION/ DIVORCE

St. Greg’s will be hosting a 3 part series for those who have been affected by Separation and/or Divorce. Dan Lawson will be back at St. Greg’s to offer a 3 day program starting October 15-17. There will also be a Healing Mass on Thursday, October 17th . Save the date— more information to come soon!

NEW APP FOR ST. GREG’S

DOWNLOAD OUR NEW APP TODAY! WeCONNECT PARISH

⇒ **Bulletin Daily Readings**

⇒ **Online Giving**

⇒ **Calendar**

⇒ **Subscribe to Parish Notifications**



To download:

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. Contact Marisa Piazza at the Parish Business Office at mpiazza@stgregs.org with questions.



**LIFE CHAIN
OCTOBER 6, 2019
SAVE THE DATE!**

Life Chain 2019- Save the Date! On Sunday, October 6, the annual Life Chain will be held from 2:00 - 3:00 pm along Niagara Falls Boulevard. Fr. Leon and the Respect Life Committee invite you to join hundreds of others in a silent, prayerful, peaceful demonstration expressing our Catholic commitment to the dignity of all human life, especially the unborn. **Our group will gather at the corner of Maple and Niagara Falls Boulevard, both in front of and across from the Boulevard Mall.**

****You may drive yourself or take advantage of round-trip bus transportation leaving from St. Gregory's Church at 1:30 pm. Following the Life Chain, we will have a pizza reception in the Ministry Center. To sign up for the reception and/or reserve a seat on the bus, PLEASE return the form below in the weekend collection or to Jo Pierino in the Parish Office (688-5678) by Tuesday, October 1.**

Over 3000 babies are killed by abortion EVERY DAY in the US. Millions of women, men, and their families are suffering from the aftermath of abortion. Won't you consider being a witness for your Faith and join us? **"Defend the unborn against abortion even if they persecute you, calumniate you, set traps for you, take you to court or kill you." -- Pope Francis**

LIFE CHAIN 2019

Name (s): _____

Phone: _____

Number of people riding on the bus: _____

Number of people attending the pizza reception in Ministry Center: _____

"40 Days for Life" begins September 25 and continues through November 3. Buffalo's 40 Days for Life group holds a peaceful prayer vigil at the Buffalo Women Services clinic at 2500 Main St. from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm each day during the campaign.

For more information or to sign up for an hour, go to www.40daysforlife.com/buffalo or contact Debbie at (716) 912-2323.

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.

**MASS CELEBRATIONS
IN AMHERST**

Our Amherst community is blessed by many faithful Catholics who participate in the Sunday Eucharist at five churches: Saint Benedict, Christ the King, Saint Gregory the Great, Saint Leo the Great and Saints Peter and Paul. Each of these Parishes is less than 2 miles from their neighbor.

At a recent meeting, we Pastors of these Parishes all shared our difficulty in providing priests, music ministers and liturgical ministers to sustain the current Mass schedules in Amherst. Four of the five parishes now have only one priest and the availability of priests for weekend and/or emergency assistance is severely diminished. Furthermore, studying the Mass schedule survey conducted by the Diocese in Spring 2018, we observed that there was often a replication of Masses at the same time resulting in more than half empty worship spaces.

As Pastors our fervent desire is to provide vibrant celebrations of the Eucharist and to offer a variety of opportunities for Mass that can be sustained within the Amherst community. To achieve this we have agreed to work together on coordinating our Mass schedules to provide a sustainable variety of opportunities for the Sunday Eucharist without needless duplication. We will be reaching out to lay leaders in our community for their input.

We believe that if each Parish reduces the number of Sunday masses by one, and creates Mass schedules that accommodate individual Parish Ministerial needs without duplicating neighboring schedules, we will be able to sustain a variety of Mass opportunities for our Amherst community.

- Rev. Robert Mock • St. Benedict
- Msgr. Paul Litwin • Christ the King
- Rev. Leon Biernat • St. Gregory the Great
- Msgr. Robert Zapfel • St. Leo the Great and
- Rev. Jerome Kopec • SS. Peter and Paul

**MOMS ASSISI/ROME RETREAT MAY
2020**

You are invited to participate in a women's spiritual retreat to Assisi and Rome May 13-21, 2020. This retreat offers you an opportunity to deepen your personal relationship with God through visits to the major sanctuaries of SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi. The retreat will be led by Monsignor Zapfel and Fr. John Cella OFM. **INFORMATION MEETING:** Wednesday, September 25, 7:00 pm in Gathering Room 1. Please contact Nadine Bargnes with any questions 830-8530 or ngbargnes@aol.com



MINISTRY UPDATES

LADIES OF CHARITY

Monthly meeting will be on Monday, September 23, at 1:00 pm in the Café. The next day of service at the Thrift Store is Monday, October 7. Please call Marge at 688-5954 if interested. New members are always welcome.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Anyone over the age of 50 is invited to attend the October 21 meeting in MC Gym at 1:00pm. The guest speaker will be Fr. Moses Ikuelogbon. He will talk on subjects of his childhood, his calling to the priesthood and his roll at St. Gregory the Great Parish. No RSVP needed.

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. Thank you.**

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

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

INVITATION TO PERPETUAL EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

OUR CHAPEL IS OPEN 24 HOURS, 7 DAYS A WEEK.
Could you not watch one hour with Me?

_____ Yes, I am willing to spend one hour once a week with Jesus, Who is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.

This is the day and time I prefer:

Day _____
 Hour _____
 Name _____
 Telephone _____
 Email _____

Contacts:

Barb, 634-7478, bpelosi@verizon.net
 Kathy, 759-7149, srkatleen@yahoo.com

PARISH ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Sunday, September 22

- 1:30 pm Baptisms
- 3:15 pm Worship Ensemble Rehearsal (*Church*)
- 5:30 pm Life Teen (*MC foyer, gym, basement, Café*)

Monday, September 23

- 8:00 am Confirmation Retreat (*MC*)
- 7:00 pm KOC Leadership Mtg. (*MC 2*)

Tuesday, September 24

- 4:30 pm School Choir Practice (*GR 2*)
- 6:00 pm IGNITE (*MC Gym, Foyer, Basement*)
- 7:30 pm BSA Troop 444 Mtg. (*MC Gym*)
- 7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal (*GR 2*)
- 6:45 pm BSA Cub Scout Pack 440 Mtg. (*School Cafeteria/Gym*)

Wednesday, September 25

- 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry (*MC Gym*)
- 7:00 pm MOMS Retreat Planning Mtg. (*GR1*)
- 7:00 pm RCIA (*School Classroom #802*)
- 7:00 pm SWAT (*MC Basement*)

Thursday, September 26

- 6:30 pm EDGE (*MC Foyer, Gym, Basement*)
- 6:30 pm One Way Home Rehearsal (*Church*)
- 7:00 pm Bible Timeline Class (*School Music Room*)

Friday, September 27

- 6:00 pm Scouts Religious Emblems (*MC 2*)
- 7:00 pm ULTIMATE (*MC Gym, Foyer, Basement*)

Saturday, September 28

- 4:00 pm Full Of Grace (*GR 2*)

Sunday, September 29

- 1:30 pm Baptisms
- 3:15 pm Worship Ensemble Rehearsal (*Church*)
- 5:30 pm Life Teen (*MC foyer, gym, basement, Café*)

CATECHIST CORNER

“Give Me One Good Reason I Should Consider Serving as a Catechist”: What a Catechist has to say: “In 1 Peter 4:10, it’s written that God has given us talents to be used and to use them well. Being a Catechist is a way for us to serve God, and what a joy this is! It completes me in knowing that I am bringing His little ones closer to Him through my role.” - Janice Stefancik, *Give Me One Good Reason I Should Consider Serving as a Catechist*, Joe Paprocki’s Catechist Journey, <https://catechistsjourney.loyolapress.com/2016/05/good-reason-to-consider-serving-as-a-catechist/>

Links to the **Diocesan Catechist Formation Brochure** and other information can be found on our website; go to www.stgregs.org/catechist-information/

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 21

Vigil Masses

- 4:00 pm Anne G. Wittig (Wedding Anniversary)
by Husband, Roger
Lorraine Wojtowicz by Gail Wojtowicz
- 5:30 pm Alois Zygmund Wienckowski
by Carol & Russell Monafa

Sunday, September 22– 25th Sunday Ordinary Time

- 8:00 am Vivienne Schifferli (Anniversary)
by Robert & Michelle Schifferli
Alice Smyczynski
by Mr. & Mrs. James Smyczynski
- 9:30 am Dennis Zion (Birthday) by Sandra Zion
- 11:00 am Josephine Caldiero by Children
Dominic Zigrossi by Antoniette Pope
- 12:30 pm Carl Cammilleri by Mom, Dad, & Family
Aldo Narduzzo (Anniversary)
by Irma & Family
- 1:30 pm Baptisms
- 4:30 pm Donald Guerra by Wife & Children

Monday, September 23- St. Pius of Pietrelcina

- 7:00 am Robert Rauh
by Family Medical Pharmacy
- 8:00 am Deceased Members of the Pelosi
& Brevorka Family by Barbara Pelosi
- 12:00 pm Helen Heim by Joanne & Gil
Patricia Vigneron
by John & Marguerite Stonesifer

Tuesday, September 24

- 7:00 am John Tronolone by Family
- 8:00 am Rita Gallagher by Mike & Kathy Deakin
- 12:00 pm Josephine Rossi
by Cheryl, Mike, & Giovanna Rossi
George J. Strubel by Wife, Judy

Wednesday, September 25

- 7:00 am Josephine Di Cristofaro
by Di Bacco Family
- 8:00 am Anne Roberts by Rob & Becky
Patricia Vigeron by Shirley & John Allen
- 12:00 pm Donald Held
by Wife, Mary Ann & Family
Michael John Tedesco Jr.
by Aunt Michele Tedesco

Thursday, September 26– Sts. Cosmos & Damian

- 7:00 am Margaret Daniels by Anne Bielinski
- 8:00 am Jean Kozy by Janet Trinkwalder
(School Mass)
- 12:00 pm Donna Spellman
by Ron & Kathy Benson
Sharon Strom by Hartigan Family

Friday, September 27– St. Vincent de Paul

- 7:00 am John & Joyce Ambrosoli by Estate
- 8:00 am Peter DelBel
by Staff & Volunteers of St. Greg's Store
- 12:00 pm Michael J. Braun
by Mom, Joan Maddigan
Anthony & Marie Vetrano
by Felix & Yvonne Lobaki

Saturday, September 28– St. Wencelaus, Lawrence & Companions

- 8:00 am Parishioners of St. Gregory the Great
Russell Vilardo (Birthday) by Estate

Vigil Masses

- 4:00 pm Alice Godechowiak (Birthday)
By Daughter, Carolyn Romanowski
- 5:30 pm Lillian Smoter (Birthday) by Family
Anthony & Marie Vetrano
(Wedding Anniversary) by Family

Sunday, September 29– 26th Sunday Ordinary Time

- 8:00 am Francis Gallagher
by Mike & Kathy Deakin
- 9:30 am John & Victoria Di Salvo
by Casola Family
Eileen O'Grady by The Hendler Girls
- 11:00 am Nancy H. Dillon by Dillon Family
Elizabeth J. Diemerg by Judy Strubel
- 12:30 pm Family Cousins by Christine Balcerek
Helen Kilinskas by Bill Kilinskas
- 1:30 pm Baptisms
- 4:30 pm Thomas & Connie Gennaro
by Son, Rosario

HOST, WINE AND CANDLE REMEMBRANCE

We have openings to have a remembrance for your family members with our host, wine, and candle offerings. Host offering is \$55, wine offering is \$40 and candle offering is \$35 for the week. Please come to the Parish Office to reserve this special remembrance. The names of your loved ones will be listed in the Bulletin for the week.

DECEASED

Victor Cannarozzo Jr.
Marie L. Maritato
Fredrick R. Napierala

SANCTUARY CANDLE OFFERING

Jean Kozy by Janet Trinkwalder

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

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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.

PRAYER

- The Rosary is prayed at the following times: Monday-Saturday, 8:30 and 12:30 pm, Church; Saturday 12 noon, Grotto or Church (Rosary For Our Country)
- Pray the Rosary at your convenience with our recording online, at www.stgregs.org/mass-schedule

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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