

SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT

*Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5 & 6, 2018*



From The Desk of the Pastor

My dear parish family, as we come near the end of the Easter Season, we are so blessed to be celebrating First Holy Communion for our Third Grade children this coming weekend. Congratulations to all of our children and their parents as we gather to celebrate this awesome moment. Thank you also to all of our parents who have taken their role to be the first teachers of their children in the way of faith and to bring their children to this great moment. Congratulations and God's blessings.

I wish to share with you the many positive elements in our parish family, especially since I shared some of the challenges facing us in last week's Bulletin. First, our school is strong and doing very well. We continue to be open for enrollment for next year and encourage everyone to consider a Catholic Education here at St. Gregory the Great School. We just had an awesome Eighth Grade day of recollection as well as the Eighth Grade class day which focused on honoring our Blessed Mother Mary and the crowning of her statue. The Eighth Graders will be going on their class trip to Boston in another week.

Our Youth Ministry continues to grow. We are so pleased that about two dozen teens participated in the High-School Life Teen weekend retreat a couple weekends ago and about three dozen teens participated in the Edge retreat this weekend. Recently we had 29 young adults turn out for a night we hosted at the Anchor Bar with our newly formed Young-Adult Ministry. It is fair to say that we have over two hundred teens involved in both the Edge and Life Teen Youth Ministry programs. That is an excellent number of young people. The group is vibrant and alive! It is awesome to see such a great response to our college and young-adult ministry program in so short a time period. Finally, we had an awesome response to the teen-girl's retreat day this past Saturday, coordinated by Lori Hogg.

Easter was a great moment to see the strength of our RCIA process. We celebrated four Baptisms and received three- previously Baptized in other Christian faiths to the Catholic Church. We also Confirmed eight adults in addition to those received into the Church. We also celebrated 110 First Holy Communions. The RCIA is a sign of the strength of the parish and of the Church as a whole. Our newly initiated are a strong sign to us of the life of the Church as they desire to become part of the life of our faith and parish community.

There are many signs of strength in our parish and diocese during these difficult times. Although our Church continues to suffer the effects of the clergy abuse from the past, and although our parish and diocese has fewer active and practicing Catholics than before, the church is strong. I am reminded of a former Archbishop of Ottawa who was legendary for greeting you with a hand-crushing handshake. His handshake probably could have crushed your bones into a fine powder as he was so strong. As he strongly shook your hand, he greeted you and said: "The Church is still strong." Yes, even though there may be a decline in the number of people actively celebrating the Sacraments, and a decline in the number of those who wish to actively live the faith we profess, the church is still strong in you and me. (continued on page2)

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD: MAY 10

This is a Holy Day of Obligation.

**Masses are: May 9, Vigil Mass at 7:00pm;
May 10, at 7:00am, 8:00am, 12:00 noon & 7:00pm.**

PARISH SOCIAL/ NEW PARISHIONER WELCOME

All parishioners, including new families, are invited to join us today for coffee, juice and donuts, after 9:30am Mass, in the Gathering Rooms.



First Communion Gifts

Our Parish First Communions will be celebrated on Saturday, May 12. Please visit our Catholic Store to purchase a gift. There are many beautiful medals and Rosaries, along with prayer books and pins to commemorate this special day.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon. May 7: Acts of the Apostles 16:11-15; John 15:26-16:4a
Tues. May 8: Acts of the Apostles 16:22-34; John 16:5-11
Wed. May 9: Acts of the Apostles 17:15, 22-18:1; John 16:11-15
Thurs. May 10: Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11 (58B); Ephesians 1:17-23; Mark 16:15-20
Fri. May 11: Acts of the Apostles 18:9-18; John 16:20-23
Sat. May 12: Acts of the Apostles 18:23-28; John: 16:23b-28
Sun. May 13: Acts of the Apostles 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26 (60B); 1 John 4:11-16; John 17:11b-19

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Love of your neighbor

Reading I Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 (Peter in Caesarea)
Reading II 1 John 4:7-10 (God's love and ours)
Gospel John 15:9-17 (a disciples love)
Passage Jesus said, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." (John 15:12)

Adult: *How is love of others connected to love for God?*

Child: *Who needs Jesus' love this week? How can you show them His love?*

VOCATION VIEW

Faithful discipleship of Christ has tremendous rewards both in this life and in eternal life. How is Christ calling you to inspire discipleship among His children? If God is calling you to a Church vocation call Fr. Andrew Lauricella at 716-847-5535. You can also check out the "Priest of the Month" stories on our website – www.buffalovocations.org!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES PARISH UPDATE:

\$572,299.37 COLLECTED, 80% OF OUR GOAL

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

COLLECTION FOR LATIN AMERICA

The combined collection next weekend, May 12 & 13, will include the Church in Latin America. This is an opportunity to share your Faith with the people of Latin America and the Caribbean. Your generosity is invaluable to fund catechesis, youth ministry programs and education for seminarians, religious and lay leaders. Thank you!

From the Desk of the Pastor (cont'd from pg. 1)

The greatest challenges we have right now are not any of those I have mentioned above or in last weekend's article. The greatest challenge we have is continuing to live an authentic faith and not just be "Catholic" in name. I often meet individuals who feel that they no longer come to church, either at St. Greg's or in general, because they feel they are "good" people and although they do not believe in many of the teachings of the Church, they consider themselves to be "good" Catholics. This is a dangerous thought process.

In Mk 10:17 Jesus is asked by a young man what he must do to share in eternal life? In Mk 10:18 Jesus replies by asking "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone" Jesus then goes on to instruct the young man to follow the commandments and when the young man replies that he has done this, Jesus tells him that if he wants to be perfect to go and sell what he has and give it to the poor and then to follow after Him.

What makes someone a "good" Catholic? That is a difficult question to answer, but my understanding of a "good" Catholic is to be a person who strives to trust, believe and live to the best of their ability the truth of the Catholic Church's teachings. We all fail and sin, but a "good" Catholic is one who realizes that the Church is correct and the Gospel of Jesus is correct and when we fall short it is the person who needs to change, and not the Church that needs to change to conform to the person. A "good" Catholic does fall short and sin, but that same "good" Catholic picks him (her) self up and plows forward with renewed hope and energy to live the truth regardless of its hard work or cost. A "good" Catholic lives in the church that we know today with the teachings we have. They do not live in a church that they think should be, with teachings that need to be changed. Our Church has seen many changes in 2000 years, but the truth has never changed in faith and morals. The "good" Catholic strives to live the total truth of faith and morals as we know them and not simply pick and choose which ones to follow.

Next week I will develop this understanding of "good" further. For now, be filled with hope even though we have some challenges in our Faith and Church. May God bless you, our Mother Mary watch over you and St. Gregory the Great intercede for you, always.

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Ladies of The Lord...

... will meet Thursday, May 10, 7:00 pm, in the Gathering Rooms to say the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. Come and see how the Holy Spirit directs us in our lives. All are welcome.

Interested in Becoming a Eucharistic Minister?

We are currently in need of more Eucharistic Ministers for weekend Masses. If you have ever considered this wonderful ministry and would like to participate more in Mass, please call Jo Pierino in the Parish Office, 688-5678.

Women's Enrichment News

Women's Enrichment has taken a hiatus from our annual spring Women's Day of Spiritual Renewal. We will miss seeing you, but mark your calendars for Saturday, September 22, when we return with a day filled with the Holy Spirit as presented to us by our very special guest speaker-Trish Short, Grammy award winner and singer of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. You won't want to miss this inspiring speaker and the awesome event we have planned. Don't forget to mark your calendars!

St. Greg's Great Race

St. Gregory's 23rd Annual Great Race will be held Friday, June 15 at 7:00pm. Register online at www.stgregs.org/greatrace. There are no paper registrations; online registration only. An after-race party will be held in the parking lot next to the Ministry Center and Hit-n-Run will be the featured entertainment. Anyone interested in volunteering please contact Kevin Ryan kpryan21@yahoo.com. If you have any problems registering please contact Cheryl Bertovich at cbertovich1@gmail.com.



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 **Monday, 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.

St. Greg's Café

DON'T HAVE TIME TO MAKE LUNCH?

Stop in the St. Greg's Café and let us cook for you. Enjoy delicious paninis and homemade soups!

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 - 7:30pm.

ALL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Share your love of the Eucharist with our homebound parishioners. We have parishioners who cannot join us for Mass and desire to receive Communion on Sundays. Please pray about and consider a ministry of bringing the Eucharist once a month to 4 or 5 of our homebound parishioners. Contact Catie Wagner at 688-5678 or cwagner@stgregs.org

MEN OF GOD

Men of God (MOG) is a Spirituality Group for Men 21 years and over that meets monthly for fellowship, praying the Rosary, and group discussion. Our next meeting is on **Wednesday, May 16 , from 7:00-9:00 pm in Gathering Room 2.** Please bring a friend, a brother, a dad, an uncle or cousin for this special night. For more information, contact Ray Geska at 541-8345 or raygeska@yahoo.com, or Jeff Criden at 207-4878 or jeffrcrd@aol.com.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

If you have a loved one or a friend who is going through a tough time, think about giving her/him a prayer shawl. Warm and comforting, made in prayer and blessed by Father Tom, shawls are available in the Parish office at no cost. Also available are blankets for very sick babies and children. Smaller and larger blankets have been made to accommodate children of all ages. A gift of love is the best gift of all to someone who is suffering from pain or loss.

Catechist's Corner

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



"A teacher affects the universe, a catechist affects eternity." - Unknown

From a Junior- High student:

"Thank you Mrs. O'Brien for teaching us about the Bible and making it fun!"

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**.

Great Dinner Auction General Meeting

Thursday, May 10, at 9:00am *after the 8:00am Children's Mass* Ministry Center Conference Rm MC3

Please join us to learn how you can get involved with our largest event of the year!

Closed For Mother's Day

The St. Greg's Café will be closed Saturday and Sunday, May 12 and 13. The Catholic Store will be closed Sunday, May 13, in observance of Mother's Day.

Pilgrim Virgin Statue

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

Senior Citizens

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

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

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

July 11, *Southern Tier Treasures*, Tour to Olean, \$77 per person, tour of The Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, lunch at The Old Library Inn & visit Cutco's Visitor Center. Bus departs Ministry Center 10:00 am, returning at 7:00 pm. If interested, let us know to secure reservations. For travel reservations/information, call Nancy at 631-5313.



ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

for Fifth Grade and up

Calling all those interested in altar serving

Training for new altar servers with Fr. Tom will be held in the Church on **Saturday, May 19, from 1:00 - 1:30 pm.**

For Parents: There is a brief meeting for parents (same date and time) with Nora Weil (coordinator) to review expectations, dress code and other important information about Altar Server Ministry. Any questions, please email Nora Weil at momtojcrew@gmail.com.



Celebrate your Faith Answer His call

Respect Life



Save the Date! During Mother's Day weekend, May 12 and 13, the Respect Life Committee will sponsor a Diaper and New Infant Clothing drive to benefit the St. Gianna Molla Pregnancy Care Outreach Center. They need:

***Disposable Diapers (All Sizes) and Wipes**

***Lotions and Bath Products**

***Baby Formula**

***New or Gently Used Infant Clothing Items**

Items should be placed in the container inside the main entrance to the Church.

Please Note: Donations are limited to the items on this list. Due to federal and state safety regulations, we CAN NOT accept used baby furniture, car seats, or toys. Those wishing to make a monetary donation may do so online at buffalodiocese.org/pro-life or by mail to the Diocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities, 795 Main Street, Buffalo, 14203. Make checks payable to "Diocese of Buffalo Office of Pro-Life Activities."

Your contributions do so much to give others hope and promote a culture of life. Thank you for your generosity!

"Nothing we do to defend the human person, no matter how small, is ever unfruitful or forgotten. Our actions touch other lives and move other hearts in ways we can never fully understand in this world. Don't ever underestimate the beauty and power of the witness you give in your pro-life work." --Archbishop Charles Chaput

HOPE IN THE DARKNESS:

A Catholic Community Workshop for teens and their parents

For those interested in effective ways to improve their lives at home, school, and work. If you want optimal mental health for yourself, family, or child, this workshop is for you! We are partnering up with Dan Lawson LMHC and other parishes to put on this event June 6 at Nativity BVM in the school cafeteria from 7:00-8:30pm. Free to attend but space is limited, please RSVP to Adam at 688-5678.

Pancreatic Cancer Action Meeting

Wednesday, May 9, at 7:00pm at St. Gregory the Great in the Gathering Rooms. Please RSVP to Lynne Jakubowski at LJakubowski@pancanvolnteer.org.

"SPIRITUAL SPINS & GRINS"

Clara: My pastor is so good he can talk on any subject for an hour. Sarah: That's nothing! My pastor can talk for an hour without a subject! [Ibid.]

HOUSEHOLD GOODS COLLECTION

Sunday, May 20, 9:00am - 5:00pm

Urgently needed are lamps, drapes, curtains of all sizes, towels, blankets, bedding, NEW pillows, dishes, pots and pans, cooking and eating utensils, small working appliances such as coffee makers, toasters, hot plates, electric fry pans, microwaves, etc. All household items will be donated to needy families as identified by Catholic Charities and distributed by Ladies of Charity Diocesan "Fresh Start program." The collection is being held at the St. Vincent de Paul white house (behind the school). Tax receipts will be available. Thank you for your support. Any questions please call Judy Huber at 688-8170.

Parish Mission

A Parish Mission is a time in a parish community when the community gathers together to gain further insight into a faith filled life. It is a time for graces and renewal of the parish through services and talks filled with stories, examples and meaning.

This past year, several people have asked if it would be possible to have a Lenten Mission instead of Summer Mission. So after some thought and discussion with the mission committee and also realizing that Father Leon will be on sabbatical this summer, it was agreed upon that we would forgo the Summer Mission 2018 and move the Mission to Lent 2019.

The mission committee is very excited to have the time to coordinate an outstanding mission for Lent 2019. As we moved forward more information will be printed in the Bulletin.

Leaving Religious Items in the Church

Please do not leave items or religious novena pamphlets in the Church. Every item left out for parishioners needs to be approved by the Parish Office. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

MOTHER'S DAY NOVENA CARDS

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

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:

2018-2019 FFF Registration Schedule:

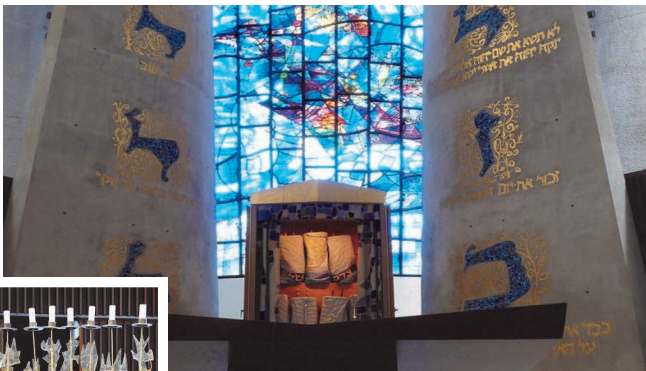
High -School Summer Program (formerly SPLASH)

Class dates: June 25 - 29, 9:00 am- 4 :00pm. For program details, go to www.stgregs.org/summerhighschool/
Registration dates for the HS Summer Program:

- **Incoming Gr 10** (Current Gr 9 students)
Register **In Person** on Tuesday, May 15, at 7:00 pm **OR** on Saturday, May 19, at 10:30 am in the School Cafeteria.
- **Incoming Gr 9** (Current Gr 8 students)
Register **In Person** on Thursday, May 17, at 7:00 pm **OR** on Saturday, May 19, at 9:00 am in the School Cafeteria.

Generations of Faith (Monthly FFF Program, Gr 1-10)
Registration for All Sessions (A, B and C) is on Monday, May 21, at 7:00 pm. **Online Registration Only.** Each session will close at 50 Families. For program details, go to www.stgregs.org/generations-faith/

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



Sixth Graders went on a field trip to Temple Beth Zion, to learn about the faith that Jesus practiced.



St. Greg's School

OPEN REGISTRATION - GRADES K-8

Have you thought about providing your children with a faith-filled education opportunity? St. Gregory the Great School offers a strong spiritual and academic program forming disciples for the future.

We are currently opening registration for the 2018-19 school year. Call the school at 688-5323 for a private tour.

Download the St. Gregory the Great Mobile App!!!

Take St. Gregory's wherever you go. The mobile app provides you with daily readings, the weekly Bulletin and over 40 different prayers! We will also send you inspirational messages every day.

To download the app follow these simple steps:

- 1) Visit the App Store or Play Store;
- 2) Search "St. Gregory the Great";
- 3) Download the mobile app!;
- 4) Allow St. Gregory's to send you notifications

Sacramental Information

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

Please attend the appropriate **Parent Meetings to Register for Confirmation 2019 and 2020:**

- **Incoming Gr 10** (Current Gr 9 students)
Register **In Person** on Tuesday, May 15, at 7:00 pm **OR** on Saturday, May 19, at 10:30 am, in the School Cafeteria.
- **Incoming Gr 9** (Current Gr 8 students)
Register **In Person** on Thursday, May 17, at 7:00 pm **OR** on Saturday, May 19, at 9:00 am, in the School Cafeteria.

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

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

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

Youth & Young Adult Ministry

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

High School

Life Teen: May 6; 5:30 - 7:30pm

SWAT Team: May 8, 15, 22, 29; 7:00 - 8:30pm

Young Adult Ministry (18 - 30something)

Oasis Magazine and website: Sign up for the online magazine for young adults both home and away for original content to keep you fresh. Take a look at the website (stgregsYM.org) or follow us on Instagram [@stgregsyoungadults](https://www.instagram.com/stgregsyoungadults) for events and gatherings.

Exodus 90: Our Exodus 90 test group is nearing our 90th day on Pentecost. What a fulfilling journey, with our group of men who have building spiritual and physical discipline since the start of Lent. Please pray for us as we come to the end of our experience. Already looking at running the next one in Lent, get ready men!

College Summer Lineup:

Summer Kick Off – June 1 7pm-9pm:

Get ready for an awesome start to summer! We're shoring up the details but save the date for this summer blast as we celebrate classes being done and over!

Summer Nights - Monday's in June, 7pm in the Cafe:

Come and show up for outdoor fun here on campus, we'll be eating hot dogs and marshmallows around a bon fire, throwing a Frisbee.

Summer Closeout Party: Aug 4, 7-9pm:

Let's end summer right and send you back to college with goodies! Food, give aways, and a send off blessing!

College Life returns this fall: We'll be back to break open the faith and build community in a big way. We're revamping College Life for this fall and will be open to all college students nearby. Stay tuned for dates!

Young Adult Summer Lineup:

Trivia Night: May 21 6:30pm-8:30pm

Not to worry if you missed out on our first trivia night, our follow up is on its way. Come and meet someone new over wings and trivia at the Anchor Bar on Maple! Bring a friend!

Softball League: We're in the midst of starting our softball team to represent our parish. We have a full roster already but we'll be keeping you up to date on how the season goes

Mass and Lunch: Wednesdays at 12:00pm

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



Music Ministry

Rehearsals

Children Choir (Grades 2-8)

Tuesday, May 8 at 4:30pm

The children will be singing at the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday, May 13.

Adult Choir for the 11:00am Sunday Mass

Tuesday, May 8 at 7:30pm 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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- Like us on Facebook at St. Gregory the Great
- Follow us on Twitter @StGregsBuffalo
- Download the St. Greg's Mobile App. Search St. Gregory the Great and enjoy daily spiritual quotes

MOMS 16th Annual Personal- "Tea"
Friday, May 18th 9:00am-11:00am



Join us for
MOMS TEA
featuring
the gifted & blessed
Gretchen Harris
Catholic wife,
Mother and
National
singer/songwriter
recording artist
&
Pro-Life speaker
Free
childcare
by
reservation

St. Greg's Gathering Room
This event is free
by reservation at
stgregsmoms@gmail.com ltmacnamara@gmail.com

St. Gregory the Great 200 St. Gregory Court Williamsville, NY 14221 Phone: 688-5678
Follow MOMS on Facebook

Out of Parish

Celebrating Memorial Day at a Catholic Cemetery...

...is truly a mixture of flags and wreaths and tributes and taps. Join us as we honor those who have served our country in the military at one of our Memorial Day Masses. On Saturday, May 26, at 10:00am, Masses will be held at the following cemeteries: Mount Olivet in Kenmore, Holy Cross in Lackawanna, Gate of Heaven in Lewiston, and Holy Sepulchre in Cheektowaga. On Monday, May 28, at 10:00am, Masses will be held at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Lockport and St. Adalbert Cemetery in Lancaster. Honoring all those buried in the cemetery is the focus of our Eucharistic celebrations and our voiced intercessions. For more information, please call 716-873-6500.

The Future of the Catholic Church

What will the Catholic Church look like in twenty years? Join the conversation on Wednesday, June 20 at 7:00 pm, as Catholics of distinction speak about their vision of The Future of the Catholic Church. Panelists include Most Rev. Richard J. Malone, Bishop of Buffalo; Sister Denise A. Roche, GNSH, former President of D'Youville College, Dr. Anthony Pivarunas, an OBGYN, husband and father; and Rev. James Vacco, OFM, faculty member at St. Bonaventure University. Rev. Msgr. Robert E. Zapfel, S.T.D., pastor of St. Leo the Great Parish, will moderate the panel discussion followed by light refreshments. Event is free with free childcare upon request by June 15., please contact Dawn at 835-8905x12.

Voices of Mercy

St. Margaret Parish will host St. Luke's Mission Voices of Mercy on May 23 at St. Margaret, 1395 Hertel Ave., Buffalo. The group will be singing their Festival of Prayer from 6:30-7:30 pm. A free will offering may be made to benefit St. Luke's. Refreshments will be served following the concert in the rectory adjoining the church. Please contact Diane at 716-876-5318 or Sue Neubecker at 716-876-2623.

"How Do We Deal With...A Loved One Who Leaves the Church?"

Local author and speaker Lorene Hanley Duquin will discuss why people leave the church, why they come back, and what we can do to encourage them to return to the faith. This session will take place on Tuesday, June 5 at 7 pm at St. John Paul II Parish Community Room, 2052 Lakewood Rd., Lake View. This will be a one hour presentation with Q&A to follow. No reservation required. Light refreshments will be available.

"The Gifted Gift – Our Call to Be the Gift of Mercy and Compassion."

Carrie Ford Family Ministries Christian Concert and Indoor Picnic on Monday, May 14 at Our Lady of Pompeii Ministry Center, 129 Laverack St., Lancaster. Music, scripture, prayer and an update on the Family's June Family Mission Trip to Peru. RSVP to 716-683-6522. A free will offering will help support the family's mission trip.

Parish Activity Calendar

Sunday, May 6

- 9:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word (Church)
- 10:30 am Parishioner Social (GR 1)
- 5:30 pm Youth Ministry Life Teen
(MC Gym/Youth Room)

Monday, April 7

- 10:30 am Senior Board Meeting (MC 1)
- 6:00 pm Knights of Columbus Council Meeting
(GR 1&2)
- 6:30 pm American Heritage Girls Meeting
(School Caf/Gym)

Tuesday, May 8

- 1:30 pm Girl Scouts Meeting (GR 2)
- 6:30 pm Evening Prayer (Crying Room)
- 6:45 pm Boy Scouts Bear Den Cub Scouts Meeting
(School Art Room)
- 7:00 pm Youth Ministry S.W.A.T. (MC Basement)
- 7:30 pm Boy Scouts Troop 440 Meeting (MC Gym)

Wednesday, May 9

- 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry (MC Gym)
- 7:00 pm H.S.A Meeting (GR 1)

Thursday, May 10

- 9:00 am Great Dinner Auction Meeting (MC 3)
- 2:15 pm Girl Scouts Brownie Meeting (GR 1)
- 7:00 pm Ladies of the Lord Meeting (GR 1&2)

Friday, May 11

- 7:00 pm Youth Ministry XLT (Church)

Saturday, May 12

- 9:30 am First Communion
- 11:00 am First Communion

Sunday, May 13

- 9:30 am Family Mass

Marriage Moment

On May 10, Christians celebrate Jesus' Ascension into Heaven 40 days after Easter. But what does it mean to ascend into Heaven? What does it mean to watch a beloved spouse leave for another life after death? These are heavy things to ponder. Talk with your beloved about what you believe about the afterlife.

Parenting Perspective

This is Screen Free Week. Take the opportunity to unplug for a day or more. Ask your family if they are willing to free themselves of digital devices (with the exception of work or school) for one full day or week. Experiment with other ways of entertainment.

Mass Schedule

Saturday, May 5

Vigil Masses

- 4:00 pm George Sasse (anniv) by Daughter
Robert J. Daigler (birth)
by Mary Lou Daigler
- 5:30 pm Mary Joan Christ by Mary Kate Vivacqua
Jim & Louise McPartlan by Family

Sunday, May 6 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 am Margaret Christopher by Mary Christopher
- 9:30 am Vittorio Reppucci by Family
Francis Balkin by Richard & Donna Suchan
- 11:00 am Lucille Cullen by Betsy & Jim O'Brien
Patricia & Frank Palczak by Alfasso Family
- 12:30 pm Vittorio DiSalvo & Dominic Casola
by Casola Family
- 4:30 pm Donald J. Collins II
by Francine & Frank Wimble
Devin Waring by Joyce Santora & Family

Monday, May 7

- 7:00 am Parishioners of St. Gregory's
- 8:00 am Vincent & Theresa Doktor
by Matt & Kelly Doktor
Charles Donner by Florence Niziol
- 12:00 pm Rose L. Reinacher
by Mr. & Mrs. William Delnicki
Ladies of the Lord by Dawn Curazzato

Tuesday, May 8

- 7:00 am Mary Ellen Cleary by Goergen Family
- 8:00 am Rose Hoelscher by Bob & Barbara Klocke
Gustina & Wittig Families
by Roger J. Wittig
- 12:00 pm Deceased Members of Hertel Family
by Jeanne Hertel
Ronca & Deinhart Families
by Barbara Ronca

Wednesday, May 9

- 7:00 am Patrick J. Gallagher by Bill & Linda Dohn
- 8:00 am Nelson DiPasquale
by Marilyn & Joseph Di Vincenzo
Michaeleene Stasio by Mary Burgio
& Barb Crage
- 12:00 pm Sadie, Joe & Barbara Saletta
by Margo Doughty
Irineo Gutierrez by Florentina Gutierrez

Vigil Mass

- 7:00 pm John S. Antonucci by Irma Narduzzo

Thursday, May 10– Ascension of the Lord

- 7:00 am Barbara Voigt by Ed Rajewski
- 8:00 am Alice Welsh by Mike & Kathy Deakin
(School Mass) Ralph Dirlam (anniv) by Danison Family
- 12:00 pm Joseph & Mary Messmer by Family
Teresa Yezzi (anniv) by Family
- 7:00 pm Jennifer Uhl by Larry & Midge Struzik

Friday, May 11

- 7:00 am John & Joyce Ambrosoli by Estate
- 8:00 am Eleanor Mahoney by Fr. Tom Mahoney
Michael Varbanov by Ann Stayer
- 12:00 pm Linda Grandits by Grandits Family
John F. Donahue by Bartels Family

Saturday, May 12

- 8:00 am Thomas Bender by Alice Bender
Ronald Santora by Children
& Grandchildren
- 9:30 am **First Communion**
Holy Souls in Purgatory by Barbara Pelosi
- 11:00 am **First Communion**
Charles Drumm by Priests & Staff
of St. Gregory's

Vigil Masses

- 4:00 pm Anthony & Mary Cosentino
by Pam Pantano
- 5:30 pm Eleanore Lis by Family
Richard Parnell by Parnell & Pilecki
Families

Sunday, May 13 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 am Sophie Biernat by Son, Fr. Leon Biernat
- 9:30 am Gertrud Diakun by Rose, Kevin
& Anne Yogi
Thomas Shanahan by Wife & Family
- 11:00 am Paul Cannamela by Lucille Cannamela
Boniface Pope by Wife, Mary & Daughters
Sophie & Bernard Balcerek by Daughter,
Christine
- 12:30 pm Mothers' Day Novena
for All Mothers, Living & Deceased
Baptisms
- 1:30 pm Gerri De Lac by Sons & Grandchildren

DECEASED

Marian A. Cannon
Charles Drumm
Richard J. Hacker
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Moving In? Moving Out?

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PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:30 am - 4:00 pm

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Mass Schedule

SATURDAY: 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm

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

HOLY DAYS: As listed in the Bulletin.

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

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

Catholic Store & Café

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

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

Sacraments

BAPTISM

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

PENANCE (CONFESSIONS)

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

WEDDINGS

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

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

MINISTRY TO SICK, HOSPITALIZED, AND SHUT-INS

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

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

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

Prayer and Devotion

PERPETUAL ADORATION

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

PRAYER

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

Our Mission

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

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