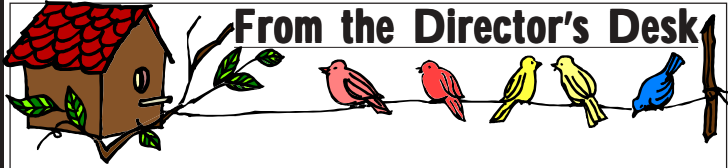


# ST. GREGORY THE GREAT FAMILY FAITH FORMATION



[www.stgregs.org/reled.php](http://www.stgregs.org/reled.php)

Spring/Summer 2010



## From the Director's Desk

Dear Parents,

We know that you feel a tremendous burden to try to raise your children in the faith. We know you take seriously your responsibility to teach your children about God, the Sacraments, the Church and its tradition. We want you to know that **YOU ARE NOT ALONE!** Your Family Faith Formation staff supports you in this responsibility. We too feel that your children are entrusted to us. We support you in your role as the primary teachers of your children. Children are best able to integrate the meaning of religious truth into their lives when parents support instruction by regular attendance at Mass.

**Registrations for 2010-11:** Registration forms are currently in the process of being put online and should be available at the end of April **NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE MAILED!**

**Registration is on a first come basis!**

**Teachers** - If you would be interested in teaching next year, please contact Joan Rischmiller at 688-5760.

**Room Parents** - We would like to have a room parent for each class in the Fall (preschool-gr. 8). A room parent is occasionally called upon to help the teacher for special projects, call other parents to help, or make reminder calls to parents for special events. Please consider helping us.

**Students with Excessive Absences** - All missed work needs to be made up before a student will advance to the next grade level.

**Parish PreSchool** - An optional program for 3, 4 & 5 year olds held in the school on Saturdays at 9:00 am. Students are placed in classes by age. Our teachers are trained and have completed the basic certification requirement by the Diocese of Buffalo.

### FALL CLASSES BEGIN AS FOLLOWS:

- Sunday, Sept. 12 - "Generations of Faith" A
- Monday, Sept. 13 - Grades 5 - 8
- Wednesday, Sept. 15 - Grades 1 - 8
- Thursday, Sept. 16 - "Generations of Faith" B
- Saturday, Sept. 18 - Little Cherubs Pre-School  
- Grades 1 - 5

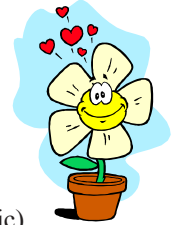


## Parish May Crowning

Sunday, May 2nd, 2010  
during 9:30 a.m. Mass in the Church.

### A Note Of Thanks To Our Teachers:

Thank you to all our teachers and substitute teachers. We are blessed to have such wonderful teachers who are so dedicated. We would not be able to religiously educate our children without you!! The alternate Wednesday, Grades 1-4 classes were successful thanks to parents who pitched in and volunteered to teach our little ones. Thanks to all of the adults who so generously gave of their time and talents: parents who served as substitute teachers, room parents, chaperones and helping hands for our various events. We would also like to acknowledge Mrs. Beverly Polowy (Eucharistic Adoration), Tammie Schiavone and Sharon Fancher, (Rosary Club) and Mr. Michael Mann (Jr. St. Vincent de Paul), who regularly met with our students for their ministries. Thanks to all of you for creating such a wonderful community within our Family Faith Formation ministry!



Special thanks also goes out to Jeff Criden for his leadership of our 6th Grade Seder Meals and for the Christmas & Easter Pageants, and Consuela DeLosSantos (Music) for her work on the Pageant.

There will be **no Family Faith Formation classes** from Saturday, April 3rd through Wednesday, April 7th for Easter and from Saturday, April 17th through Sunday, April 25th for the Spring break. The Family Faith Formation Office will be closed April 1st through 5th and April 17th through 25th as well.

**The final class for Monday, Gr. 5-8 is April 26th and Wednesday, Gr 1-8 is April 28th.**

### REQUIRED GRADE 8 MEETING

*High School Information Session  
Grade 8 & 9 Parents AND Students  
in the Gathering Rooms*

Saturday, April 10th, 2010  
at 9:00 am for Grade 8 and  
10:00 am for Grade 9.

If a 2010-11 8th grade student wants to begin service this summer, return your Service Application to the Family Faith Formation Office for approval **BEFORE** you begin service.



### CONFIRMATION DATES

for St. Gregory's Parish have been set for  
**Tuesday, May 18th, 2010 at 7:00 pm &  
Wednesday, May 19th, 2010 at 7:00 pm**

## IMPORTANT SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

### First Communion

**First Communion Retreat:**

Saturday, May 1st - 9:00 am-12:00 Noon - Church/School & Gathering Rms

**First Communion:**

Saturday, May 8th - 10:00 am, 12:00 noon or 2:00 pm

### Confirmation

**Confirmation Interviews:**

March 27th - 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in Gathering Rooms 1 & 2

**Confirmation Rehearsal/Reconciliation:**

Group 1: Tuesday, May 4th - 7:00 pm - Church  
 Group 2: Wednesday, May 5th - 7:00 pm - Church

## Confirmation Dates

for St. Gregory's Parish have been set for  
**Tuesday, May 18th, 2010 at 7:00 pm**  
 and  
**Wednesday, May 19th, 2010 at 7:00 pm**

Those whose last name begins with the letter A-J are in Group A and are scheduled to be Confirmed on Tuesday, May 18th at 7:00 pm. Those whose last name begins with the letter K-Z are in Group B and are scheduled to be Confirmed on Wednesday, May 19th at 7:00 pm.

### St. Gregory the Great **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)**



**July 12 - 16, 2010**  
**9:00 AM - 12 NOON**  
 Ages 3 1/2 by July 1  
 Students entering Grade 5  
 (10-11 school year)

Five great days of Bible stories, storytelling, crafts, music, skits, drama and refreshments. All students must be at least 3 years old by 12/31/09. If you would like your child placed in a class with his/her friend, registrations for both children must be turned in at the same time. There will be no classroom changes or refunds on or after the first day of VBS. Children do not have to be members of St. Gregory's parish to attend VBS. The fee is \$30.00 per student (\$90.00 family rate of 3 or more). Any questions, please call Joan Rischmiller, at 688-5760, ext. 358.



### FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION FLOWERS:

Anyone wishing to donate **flowers for First Communion and Confirmation** in memory of a loved one, should send their donation to the Family Faith Formation office by Friday, **April 23rd** in order to have the names placed in the program.



Please indicate how you would like the names to be listed in the program: for example: "Mr. Joseph Smith by granddaughter Mary" or "Mr. & Mrs. Bill Brown by the Brown Family".



### **Vocation Contest Winners**

The following children's entries were chosen to represent the Family Faith Formation of St. Gregory's in the Diocesan Vocation Contest. Good luck to them all!

- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Grade 1: Julia Tufillaro | Grade 5: Christina Tufillaro |
| Grade 2: Grace D'Angelo  | Grade 6: Daniel Guercio      |
| Grade 3: Edward Trevino  | Grade 7: Laura Piazza        |
| Grade 4: Sarah Meyer     | Grade 8: Alexis Caci         |

## Easter Break

There will be **no Family Faith Formation classes** from Saturday, April 3rd through Wednesday, April 7th for the Easter break. Classes resume April 10th. The FFF Office will be closed April 1st through 5th.



## Spring Break



There will be **no Family Faith Formation classes** from Saturday, April 17th through Sunday, April 25th for the Spring break. Classes resume April 26th. The FFF Office will be closed during this time as well.

St. Gregory the Great's

## Disciples' Camp

(2010-11 School Year)

A weeklong camp program for Grades 6-8 that takes the place of the weekly traditional program.



August 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
 Monday thru Friday - 9 am - 4 pm

## **S.P.L.A.S.H.**



Grades 9 & 10 Public High School Students  
 June 28th through July 2nd  
 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

## Preschool

Our last class was Sunday, March 21st. A reception for the 5 year olds was held in the school cafeteria on Sunday, March 21st and the 5 year olds received diplomas and special guardian angel medals and a special gift for mom and dad!

Thank you to all parent volunteers who've been so generous with their time. Thank you for our wonderful and caring teachers and aides. We could not do it without you!

Pass the word to family and friends to come join us next year. when we will be changing to Saturday mornings.

Have a fun and safe summer!

## Jessica Buchheit



## Grades 1 - 4

## Kathy Tuffillaro

**Grade 1** - Students will finish the year with a family celebration during class time on Saturday, April 10th or Wednesday, April 28th.

**Grade 2** - All students will have a final lesson on the church year. They will make a fun craft and will all receive special yearbooks at the last class.

**Grade 3** - Students will conclude the year with a lesson about peace. The First Communion retreat will be held on Saturday, May 1st in the school and the church from 9 am to 12 noon.

**Please bring completed banners and picture orders that day.**

**Grade 4** - Students will wrap up Grade 4 with a lesson on the Eucharist.

Thank you to all our parent volunteers! You enrich our program and make everything run so smoothly. Thank you to our classroom aides who gave their time and hearts to help the teachers and children. Thank you to our teachers who so generously shared their faith and love of God with the children of our parish.

Wishing everyone an enjoyable and blessed summer vacation!

## Grades 5-8

## Megan Looney

Christ said, "Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40). The 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> graders were certainly Christ for others this year. They served in many ways, including:

**Raising over \$990** for the Nicaragua Mission by participating in the annual car wash. They used this money to buy a cow for a children's home in Nicaragua which services children who are abandoned or abused and come to live there. We also used the money to buy a pig for the Home of Pequenos Hermanos (little Brothers/Sister). The remaining money went to a family who needed some medical care. It helped pay for their medical expenses, bought them a cow and a pig, and was used to send their 2 children to school for the next three years. Ann Marie Zon, a missionary for Nicaragua, writes "your caring has done much to bring happiness - to bring help and hope into the lives of others. God bless you most lovingly~"

**Collecting food and clothing** for the Nicaragua Mission.

**Donating non-perishable food** for Thanksgiving Food Baskets for the Buffalo City Food Pantries.

**Providing Christmas gifts** to the less fortunate throughout the city of Buffalo and for other families in need.

**Made rosaries** for new parishioners, for newly engaged couples in our marriage prep program, for the adoration chapel, for missionaries to deliver to the Phillipines and for a prison ministry. A BIG thank you goes to Tammie Schiavone, Melany Sheedy and countless others who donated their time and talents to this rosary ministry.

**Donated baseball caps and school supplies** to a mission in the Phillipines.

**Collected over \$1,330** for Catholic Charities through the proceeds from our "Bowling for Catholic Charities" and our pizza party.

**Made Thanksgiving and Easter Placemats** for the elderly in our local nursing homes.

**Made Christmas cards** for the soldiers in Iraq.

The learners also participated in field trips to Our Lady of Victory Basilica, Temple Beth Zion, St. Louis Church, and St. John Maron Church. The attended a Teaching Mass given by Father Paul, Advent and Lenten Penance Services, and Stations of the Cross. They also began each week with a decade of the rosary and prayed for many who needed our prayers.

We were very blessed this year to have Maria Coppola, our Junior High Youth Minister present Morality Workshops to our 6th, 7th and 8th grade learners and to Cathy Mobarek-Miller (from the Amherst Youth Board) and the Amherst Youth Consortium present our Fifth Grade Morality Workshop on Bullying.

Thank you to all of our room parents who helped make countless phone calls throughout the year. When truly appreciate all of your help. I also want to thank Beverly Polowy, who for the past several years has taken each of our learners to the Adoration Chapel. She has spent many hours here making sure that each child has a chance to take part in this beautiful ministry. Last, I need to acknowledge our wonderful team of Catechists, who tirelessly give of their time and their talents. The love of their Catholic faith and their dedication to teaching the young of our parish is immeasurable.

We wish you and your families a blessed summer. May you continue to grow in your faith and may you always keep Christ at the center of your life. May God bless you and yours!!

## High School

## Jenny Golinski

Current 9<sup>th</sup> Grade student are reminded to complete their service if they have not already done so. A minimum of 10 hours service is required **before** registering for Confirmation preparation classes.

9<sup>th</sup> Grade students and parents should plan to attend a meeting about Confirmation 2010 on April 10th at 10:15 am in the Gathering Room.

All 8th grade parents and students are reminded to attend the High School Information session scheduled for April 10th. Parents are encouraged to attend this presentation to clarify any questions or concerns they may have regarding this program. The classes, curriculum, service, and moral issues talks will be explained. The meeting is scheduled at 9:00 am in the Gathering Rooms.

**SPLASH** program - High school Level I and Level II students now have an option to attend a 1 week summer Faith Formation program. Please see our website for more details

Also available for Fall 2010, Level I & II high school program will be offered in the Generations of Faith program.

## Generations of Faith

## Joan Rischmiller

Our final Generations of Faith Session for A families will be on Sunday, April 11 after the 9:30am Mass and for Session B families on Thursday, April 15 from 6:15-7:45 pm. Our theme is the Seventh, Eight & Tenth Commandments - Being Truthful and and our outreach for April will be children's Sunday Best and First Communion clothes for Nicaraguan Missions. Our speaker will be Sean Fleming.

Eighth Grade parents don't forget the High School Information Night on Saturday, April 10th at 9:00 am in the Gathering Room. There will be a meeting for Ninth Grade parents at 10:00 am in the Gathering Room as well. See front page of this Newsletter for more details.

God Bless you all. Have a wonderful summer!

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

# APRIL 2010

**THEME:** Seventh Commandment: "You shall not steal"  
 Eighth Commandment: "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor"  
 Tenth Commandment: "You shall not covet your neighbor's goods"

**OUTREACH:** Childrens First Communion &  
 Easter Clothes

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				<b>1</b> HOLY THURSDAY	<b>2</b> GOOD FRIDAY	<b>3</b> HOLY SATURDAY No Sessions
<b>4</b> EASTER SUNDAY No Sessions	<b>5</b> No Sessions	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> No Sessions	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Disciples' Camp First Friday Club 7-9 pm gym/cafe	<b>10</b> Gr. 1-5 Sessions 9-10:30am & 11:15-12:45pm  Grade 1 Family Celebration FFF Board - 11:15am
<b>11</b> Generations of Faith Session A - 9:30am-Mass 10:30am-12:00pm	<b>12</b> Gr. 5-8 Sessions 7-8:30pm-Classrms. Grades 5-8 Mass	<b>13</b> AFF Mtg 7:00-8:30 pm FFF Office	<b>14</b> Gr. 1-4 Sessions 6:30-7:45pm Gr. 5-8 Sessions 7-8:30pm-Classrms. Grades 5-8 Mass	<b>15</b> Generations of Faith Session B 6:00-7:45pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> No Sessions
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
----- NO SESSIONS - SPRING RECESS -----						
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Gr. 5-8 Sessions 7-8:30pm-Classrms.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Gr. 1-4 Sessions 6:30-7:45pm Gr. 5-8 Sessions 7:00-8:30pm  Grade 1 Family Celebration	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	