

# SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT

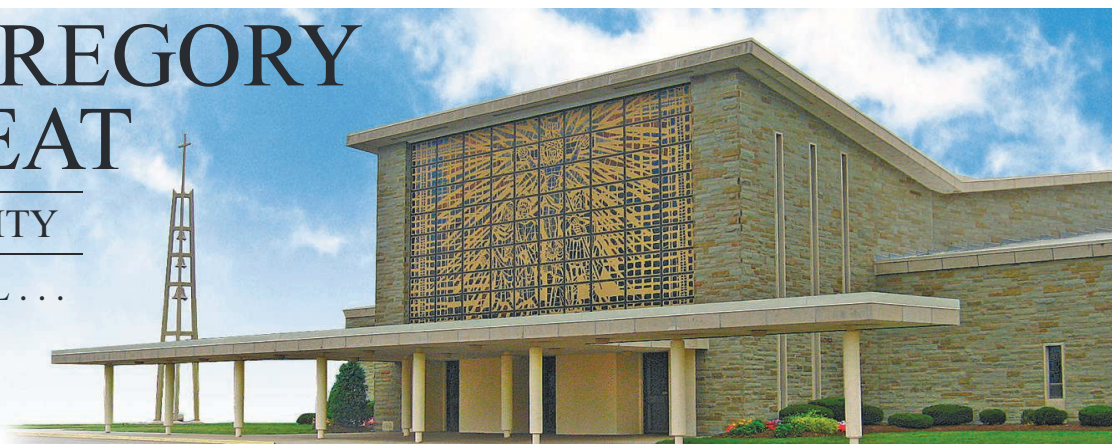
PARISH COMMUNITY

LIVING THE GOSPEL . . .

~ IN FAITH

~ IN WORSHIP

~ IN SERVICE



*Third Sunday of Lent*

*March 03 & 04, 2018*

## From the Desk of the Pastor

My dear parish family,

As we celebrate this Third Sunday of Lent, we are really in the heart and center of Lent. How are you doing? It can be around this time that we grow a little discouraged with our Lenten disciplines, and it can also be around this time that we can become even more challenged in remaining faithful and focused on our Lenten commitments. Stay the course! If you are remaining focused and strong; God bless you and your stamina. If you are starting to waiver a little; allow this message and this Sunday to be the "shot in the arm" that you need to move forward. If you have failed in some of your attempts this Lent; do not be defeated or discouraged, but rather pick yourself up and begin anew.

I have often wondered as I prayed the Stations of the Cross why we have three stations dedicated to Jesus' falling. Why did Jesus fall three times carrying the cross? Jesus was fully divine. He did not need to fall carrying the cross. We hear Jesus' prayer in the Garden that the "hour" might pass by Him. He prayed: "Abba, Father, all things are possible to you. Take this cup away from me, but not what I will, but what you will." I would believe that Jesus, being fully human and fully divine understood the excruciating suffering He was about to endure, but He also knew He must follow the will of the Father.

Why did Jesus fall three times? I believe that He fell three times to teach us in our humanity we will all fall, and probably fall multiple times. I believe He also taught us that when we fall from the weight of our sins or the weight of the burden of the sufferings of this world, we also must continually get up and continue to move forward in faith. This Lent, if you have fallen, do not be discouraged and disappointed, but get up and continue on your way. How are you doing?

One of the disciplines of Lent is that of almsgiving or charity. I am often questioned by people trying to discern the proper level of charity. How much am I to give? In scripture we are told to give the first fruits of our labor back to the Lord. We also understand we are to give the first ten percent of what we have to God. In the Gospel we honor the poor widow who gave the few coins as giving more than anyone else to the Temple treasury, because the others gave from their surplus wealth, and she gave all she had to live on – she gave from her own need. We also remember the unnamed wealthy man who did not attend to Lazarus the beggar at the gate of his home. (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.

## Six Things To Know About Fr. Richard (Duke) Zajac

1. He has been chaplain at Sisters Hospital for 35 years.
2. No priest in our Diocese knows more about praying for health and healing.
3. No priest in our Diocese spends more time preparing for homilies.
4. He has published four volumes of his homilies.
5. In 2007, he was inducted into the Western New York Baseball Hall of Fame.
6. **He will conduct our Parish Healing Mission, March 12 - March 14, with identical services at 12:00 noon and 7:00pm.**

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Mon. March 5:** 2 Kings 5:1-15b; Luke 4:24-30  
**Tues. March 6:** Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35  
**Wed. March 7:** Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19  
**Thurs. March 8:** Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23  
**Fri. March 9:** Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34  
**Sat. March 10:** Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14  
**Sun. March 11:** 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23 (32B); Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21

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## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### Trust and doubt

**Reading I** Exodus 20:1-17 (the ten commandments)  
**Reading II** 1 Corinthians 1:22-25 (the wisdom and folly of the cross)  
**Gospel Passage** John 2:13-25 (cleansing of the temple)  
For Jews demanded signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles. (1 Corinthians 1:22-23)

**Adult:** *When has the message of the cross seemed absurd to you, and when have you seen its wisdom?*  
**Child:** *What puzzles you in the Gospel stories? Which story makes you the most hopeful?*

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## VOCATION VIEW

Jesus was outraged when He saw the Temple, the most sacred place and intended for prayer, being used rather as a marketplace. Jesus' heart was also broken because He knew that the people's irreverence meant they had lost sight of His Father's goodness. How is Jesus asking you to help restore reverence and appreciation for God? 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](http://www.buffalovocations.org)!

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## PARISH SOCIAL/ NEW PARISHIONER WELCOME

All parishioners, including new families, are invited to join us for coffee, juice and donuts next Sunday, March 11, after 9:30am Mass, in the Gathering Rooms.

### 2018 EASTER MEMORIAL DONATIONS

To buy flowers to decorate the Church for Easter. Memorials will be acknowledged in the Bulletin.

PLEASE PRINT:

Donor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial donation in memory of:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

Return order form, with checks payable to St. Gregory's, to the Parish Office or drop in the collection basket.

## From the Desk of the Pastor

(cont'd from page 1) What will be your commitment to charity this Lent and, in particular, your commitment to Catholic Charities?

The needs are ever-growing in Western New York - the needs for individual and family counseling; the needs of the community in the midst of the opioid crisis; the needs for emergency shelter and food and clothing. There are great needs for refugees who have come to Western New York to begin a new life or be here for a short time before they move to where they hope they will find a new and permanent home. There is great need for job training and assistance to find work. Catholic Charities addresses all these things and much more.

This year I am asking all of us, myself included, to reflect on our call of almsgiving. It was the poor widow who was exalted as giving the most, rather than those who simply gave from their surplus wealth and probably didn't even realize any change in lifestyle because of their gift. Which person do you want to be? This is a great question for us to answer this Lent.

At St. Gregory's, only about one-third of our parishioners donate to Catholic Charities. For those who are the regular donors - I thank you from the depth of my heart and I pray you consider increasing your sacrifice for Catholic Charities this year. For those who once gave and for whatever reason have stopped - I ask you to prayerfully consider returning Catholic Charities to your charitable giving. Finally, there are many among us who have never given to Catholic Charities and become part of the many faces of the Body of Christ collectively giving to assist other many faces of the Body of Christ. We have countless faces known completely to God helping countless other faces also known completely to God. As we hear in scripture: "When giving alms, do not let your right hand know what your left hand is doing." I invite everyone to be counted among those who are willing to sacrifice, not just give from surplus, but to sacrifice for those in greater need. Permit me a simple example: if you have the habit of stopping daily to buy that morning cup of coffee (and I know how important it is - I too love my coffee first thing in the morning), can you consider giving an equal amount to Catholic Charities this year as you spend on coffee during the season of Lent or the seasons of Lent and Easter or even what you may spend during the entire year? Sacrifice for another person, especially one who cannot repay you or even thank you directly, is a great grace.

I hope you consider your focus of Lent, and within that focus your commitment this year to Catholic Charities. May God bless you, our Mother Mary watch over you and St. Gregory the Great intercede for you, always.

## 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](mailto:ameyerhofer@stgregs.org) or call 688-5760.

## 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.



## Music Ministry

### Rehearsals

#### Children Choir (Grades 2-8)

4:30 - 5:30 pm, Tues., March 6, 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 8, in GR 2

#### Easter Triduum Choir

7:00 - 9:00 pm, Tuesdays, March 6, 20 and 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



## 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.

## 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](mailto: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!



## **Youth & Young Adult Ministry**

Adam Jarosz: [ajarosz@stgregs.org](mailto:ajarosz@stgregs.org); Nicole Janeczek: [njaneczek@stgregs.org](mailto:njaneczek@stgregs.org); Richard Patti: [rpatti@stgregs.org](mailto:rpatti@stgregs.org)  
~ 688-3578

Check out our brand-new Youth Ministry & Young Adult Ministry website at [www.stgregsym.org](http://www.stgregsym.org).

### **Middle School**

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

### **High School**

Life Teen: 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 9, 16, 23 & 30  
at 7:00 pm in the Church

Also, March 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

### **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 9, 16, 23:  
12:30 – 2:00 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 9, 16, 23; 12:30 - 2:00pm, Gathering Rooms

### March 9 - Purgatory: The Forgotten Church

Is Purgatory real? Could the afterlife require suffering? Can the living help alleviate the anguish of the dead? This ground-breaking documentary investigates these compelling life after death questions through spiritual, scientific and cultural perspectives. Now for the first time top scholars, scientists, historians and Church leaders revisit age-old questions and embark on a spiritual quest to unlock the controversy and consolation of Purgatory: The Forgotten Church.

## 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 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 –

Praying with Mary through Art

Deacon Greg Feary will speak for the third session of the Lenten Lecture Series about how we can experience Mary through prayer and Praying with Mary through Art. The lecture will be on Monday, March 5, at 7:30pm at Infant of Prague Church, 921 Cleveland Dr., Cheektowaga, NY 14225. No cost! No reservations required! 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.

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](mailto:stgregsmissiontrip@gmail.com). Thank you!!!!

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### St. Greg's Playgroup

All moms and tots (ages birth through 5) are invited to join the St. Greg's Playgroup **Friday, March 9**, from 10:00 am to noon in the Ministry Center playroom. For information, contact Julie Stenz at [juliette.stenz@gmail.com](mailto:juliette.stenz@gmail.com).

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### Senior Citizens

**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 free 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)**

For travel reservations/information, call Nancy at 631-5313.

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### Post-Dyngus Day Dinner Dance

Join St. Greg's for our Post Dyngus Day Dinner Dance on Saturday, April 7! 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: [stgregspostdyngusday@gmail.com](mailto:stgregspostdyngusday@gmail.com)



## 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 9:00am - 2:00pm and when classes are in session. Tickets are good for any of the following Friday dates: March 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, email [pgilbert@stgregs.org](mailto:pgilbert@stgregs.org) or call the office at 688-5760 for information. Thank you!!

### Thursday, March 8

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





## **Respect Life**

**Project Rachel:** If you or someone you know is struggling with the aftermath of an abortion, there is help. Project Rachel is a network that includes priests, mental health professionals and others who provide one-on-one assistance to those in need of healing. A local Project Rachel program is offered through the Diocese of Buffalo. You will receive free, non-judgmental, confidential information by calling our hotline at **716-847-2211**.

From the Diocesan website: "This [Project Rachel] experience, like the Sacrament it includes, is sensitive, private and confidential... The Project Rachel journey to wholeness helps you cope with the past through the eyes of faith, opens you to receive forgiveness and the healing grace of God, and allows you to be at peace with yourself, your unborn child, your family, your Church and God.

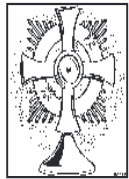
Men, too, suffer greatly in the aftermath of abortion. They are fathers who lost a child. They can also find understanding, forgiveness, healing and wholeness through the Church's ministry of Project Rachel.

To begin your journey to forgiveness and reconciliation, we encourage you to call or write for private counseling. We also provide counseling and services for those who have suffered a miscarriage, stillborn or death of a very young child.

*There is hope after an abortion.* It's normal to grieve a pregnancy loss, including the loss of a child by abortion. It can form a hole in one's heart, a hole so deep that sometimes it seems nothing can fill the empty spaces. We care. Let us help you."

**"God is always waiting for us, He never grows tired. Jesus shows us this merciful patience of God so that we can regain confidence and hope — always!"**

**—Pope Francis**



## **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.

## **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

### **Cougars Corner**

Greetings St. Greg's Parishioners,

Easter seems so far away, yet so close at the same time. Lent is a time of preparation of prayer and fasting in observance of the great sacrifice our Lord and Savior did for us. In teaching the young people the importance of the season, I also emphasize the importance of attending Mass. I often observe how packed the Church is at Easter and wonder why it isn't the same way during the off-season. I tell my students on a regular basis the importance of going to Mass, and as Catholics it is our obligation to go to church on a regular basis.

One of my projects for this Lent season for both 7th and 8th Graders is to go to Mass and journal about their experience. As you might understand, many students oppose this and often find ways not to do it. I have a story to tell about a young lady from a couple of years ago who was so against this project that she became defiant in class. I explained to her that it was an assignment and she had to figure out how she was going to complete it. Luckily, her parents were on board and took her to church regularly. After Easter was over and we were back in school, she handed the journal in. I was very reluctant to read this journal as I expected to read how bad her experience was and how much she disliked going to church. As it was time to read her journal, I was surprised to find that she not only reflected on what the priest was saying in his homily, but also how she could relate to what the Gospel was telling her. On the last page of her journal she thanked me for following through with her and explained how she gained more respect for the Mass through this project.

I wanted to share this success story because I am encouraging you to not just attend Mass, but to openly talk about it with your family or friends. This year the 7th and 8th Graders are doing the same. If you see a student from St. Greg's School or see a young person taking notes in church, talk to them about it. I would love to read in their journals how a parishioner walked up to them and talked to them about the Mass. We have to instill this piece of Catholic identity in our young people that Mass is so very important to our spirituality.

James Ornella, Religion Teacher



## "SPIRITUAL SPINS & GRINS"

### THE FIVE HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE "PRAYERS"

People interviewed for Jim Castelli's book "How I Pray" suggest these ways to improve your capacity for reflection, whether or not you call it prayer.

- Take a few minutes early in the morning to clear your thoughts and set a goal and priorities for the day. If you exercise regularly, this is a great time to reflect as well.
- Use cues throughout the day to remind yourself that there is a dimension to life beyond racing from chore to chore, deadline to deadline, crisis to crisis. Archbishop Rembert Weakland (of Milwaukee) said he prays every time he opens the refrigerator or car door.
- Take a few seconds to reflect before any confrontation. Regrouping can help us say the right thing, or – often and more important – avoid saying the wrong thing.
- Do some reading that helps you think about your values, priorities, beliefs and ways to live better. This may mean the Bible, or spiritual readings. The important thing is to stimulate reflection.
- Make notes. Jotting down a thought or two can help you retain ideas, insights and goals that come in a flash during reflection, and then often slip away.

## Catechist's Corner

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

"If you don't teach our children to follow Christ, the world may teach them not to."

- Unknown



### From a Junior high student:

Mrs. Patty is nice because she gives us faith bucks when we are nice and answer a question right. Also, she is funny.



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.

## Parenting Perspective

How do you and your children pray? Is it memorized, spontaneous, short, frequent, irregular? Talk together about your favorite style of prayer. Do it! Family quiz: Do you know where Surinam is and what it has to do with prayer? <https://worlddayofprayer.net/about.html>.

## Parish Activity Calendar

### Sunday, March 4

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

### Monday, March 5

10:30 am Senior Citizens Board Meeting (MC 1)

6:00 pm Knights of Columbus Council Meeting (GR 1&2)

6:30 pm 33 Days to Merciful Love Bible Study (MC Café)

6:30 pm American Heritage Girls Meeting (MC Basement/Youth Room)

7:00 pm Little Rock Bible Study (MC 2)

### Tuesday, March 6

1:30 pm Girl Scouts Meeting (GR 1)

6:30 pm Evening Prayer (Crying Room)

6:30 pm Boy Scouts Troop 440 Unit Meeting (MC Gym)

6:45 pm Bear Den Cub Scouts Mtg. (School Art Room)

7:00 pm Parish Council Meeting (MC Café)

7:00 pm Knights of Columbus Budget Meeting (MC 3)

7:00 pm Youth Ministry S.W.A.T (MC Basement)

7:30 pm Baptism Class (MC 2)

7:30 pm Boy Scouts Troop 440 Meeting (MC Gym)

### Wednesday, March 7

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)

6:30 pm Grief & Loss Meeting (GR 1)

7:00 pm Youth Ministry Adult Women's Bible Study (MC 2)

7:00 pm RCIA Presentation/Discussion (Room 702)

7:00 pm H.S.A. Meeting (GR 2)

### Thursday, March 8

2:15 pm Girl Scouts Brownie (GR 1)

6:30 pm Youth Ministry Edge (MC Gym)

7:00 pm Ladies of the Lord Meeting (GR 1)

### Friday, March 9

9:30 am Children's Playgroup (MC Basement)

1:30 pm Friday Lenten Series (GR 1&2)

1:20 pm School Stations of the Cross (Church)

4:00 pm Parish Fish Fry (School Gym & Caf)

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross & Holy Hour (Church)

7:00 pm Youth Ministry XLT (Church)

### Saturday, March 10

9:00 am Family Faith Formation Board Meeting (MC 1)

10:00 am Adult Confirmation Session (GR 1)

10:00 am Women's Enrichment Coordinators Meeting (MC 2)

### Sunday, March 11

10:30 am Parishioner Social (GR 1)

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

5:30 pm Youth Ministry Life Teen (MC Gym/Cafe/Youth Room)



## Mass Schedule

### **Saturday, March 3**

#### **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)  
birthday by St Gregory's Knights of  
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

### **Monday, March 5**

- 7:00 am Parishioners of St. Gregory's
- 8:00 am Genevieve Garbutt  
by Dean & Nancy Woodrich  
Barbara Lau & Eddie Pou  
by Shirley & Arthur Chan
- 12:00 pm Rita Biondo by Marge Stanley  
Mrs. Florence Raccine  
by Tony & Pamela Distefano

### **Tuesday, March 6**

- 7:00 am John Tronolone by Family  
David Ryan by Lisa Wardynski
- 8:00 am Michael Brady by William Gilmartin
- 12:00 pm Hazel Smith by E. Pitt Smith  
Justin Volpe by Joyce Santora & Family

### **Wednesday, March 7**

- 7:00 am Warren Matthews by Nigam Family
- 8:00 am Vito Anastasia (anniv)  
by Michael Anastasia  
Merrilyn Nelligan by Kate & Tom Casey
- 12:00 pm Bob Farrington by Judy Strubel  
Paul A. Martino by A. Todaro & P. Rapp

### **Thursday, March 8**

- 7:00 am Virginia Tracey by Priests of St. Gregory's  
John & Joyce Ambrosoli by Estate
- 8:00 am Francesco Esposito by Miner Family  
**(School Mass)**
- 12:00 pm Richard Hertel II by Jeanne Hertel  
Thomas J. Comer, Jr.  
by Norma Dowd & Family

### **Friday, March 9**

- 7:00 am John & Joyce Ambrosoli by Estate
- 8:00 am Jerry & Joy Leet by Sue Thomas  
Raymond Artin  
by Barbara & Bill Collins
- 12:00 pm Charlie Donner (anniv)  
by Wife, Terri, & Family  
Phyllis DiGiore  
by Joyce Santora & Family

### **Saturday, March 10**

- 8:00 am Richard Romanowski by Estate  
Phyllis DiGiore  
by St. Gregory's Senior Citizens

#### **Vigil Masses**

- 4:00 pm Blasé Thurston (birth) by Family  
John LaLonde by Jomarie Buscarino
- 5:30 pm James M. Buckley by O'Haire Family

### **Sunday, March 11 – Fourth Sunday of Lent**

- 8:00 am Chester Stepien  
by Ronald & Rose Marie Canestro
- 9:30 am Judy C. Beecher by Gaulin Family  
Michael Polowy  
by Nick & Nicole Giammusso
- 11:00 am Marion Rauh (birth)  
by Robert Rauh Family  
Jennifer Wilson & Marcia Gerace  
by Gerace Family
- 12:30 pm Peter & Anna DiSalvo  
by Rosalia Montagna  
Donna Mergenhagen  
by Stephanie DeMartino
- 1:30 pm Baptisms
- 4:30 pm Billy Hartigan by Tom & Dianne Higgins

### **DECEASED**

Elizabeth J. Catarella  
Dolores E. Gleason  
Mary J. Opiela  
Antonio Peruzzi

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### **"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.

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Deacon Peter Donnelly; pdonnelly@stgregs.org

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Nicole Janecek - Middle School (341);

njanecek@stgregs.org

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

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**PRINCIPAL**

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

\*\*\*\*\*

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**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](http://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](http://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*
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