

SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT

*Palm Sunday of the
Passion of the Lord
March 24 & 25, 2018*



From the Desk of the Pastor

My dear parish family, as you know, the Diocese of Buffalo has been the lead story in The News for a few weeks now. We need to pray daily for our good Bishop, Bishop Malone, as he shepherds us through this crisis. We need to certainly pray for anyone who has been abused by anyone, but especially by a trusted member of the clergy. We need to pray for those who have injured others; we pray for their healing and reconciliation. We also pray for an understanding that we are dealing with a very human problem that affects many facets of our communities, from public and private schools to athletic leagues and even within family relationships. This very human problem, a societal problem, has also touched our Church. The Church is part of society. We have a divine founder and purpose, but where there are human beings, there will be problems. We should expect the highest from our clergy, but we also must remember the humanity involved. May we not lose sight of that in these difficult times. We are dealing with a human issue that has also affected our Church and we are not dealing with a specific issue that is only within the Church.

Having stated the above, it is important not to let the headline news eclipse the central mysteries of our faith. Today we begin the most solemn week of our Church year and probably the most important time to be together as a parish family. The liturgical events of Holy Week, and most significantly those of the Sacred Triduum, define who we are as the Body of Christ and give meaning, purpose and identity to our life as a parish community.

As we celebrate this Palm Sunday we again begin with the joy and triumph of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, and move to the solemn reality of His Passion and Death as we read the Passion Narrative. We are called to identify the joy in our life and triumph as we see the areas of our lives that are fulfilled because we have joined our life to Christ and not to the secular world. Our call as the Body of Christ in the world today is to continually "die to self" in order to "rise with Christ" and live in His joy, triumph and light. Although there is an emotional dimension to our faith, our joy and triumph is not emotional, but rooted in conviction of mind, heart and soul. Our faith is not a passing emotion, but the decision to love Jesus Christ and to serve Him by serving others in His name. (cont'd on page 2)

Easter Triduum Schedule

Reminder: there are no regular daily Masses celebrated during the Triduum

Holy Thursday: March 29

- 9:00 am – Morning Prayer
- 5:00 pm – Parish Shared Supper, Ministry Center
- 7:00 pm – Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
- 8:30 pm – Seven Churches bus trip
- Adoration until midnight in the Gathering Rooms

Good Friday: March 30

- 9:00 am – Morning Prayer
- 12:00 noon – Seven Last Words of Christ
- 3:00 pm – Celebration of the Lord's Passion
- 7:00 pm – Living Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday: March 31

- 9:00 am – Morning Prayer
- 12:00 noon – Blessing of Easter Baskets
- 7:00 pm – Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday: March 1

Masses at: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am & 12:30pm

***There is NO 4:30pm Mass on Easter Sunday**

Parish Office Closed

All Parish Offices will be closed from Good Friday, March 30, through Easter Monday, April 2. We will reopen on Tuesday, April 3. There will be one Mass only on Monday, April 2, at 8:00am.

Adoration Chapel

The Adoration Chapel will be closed from Holy Thursday, March 29, at 9:00am through Easter Monday, April 2, at 8:30am. We wish all of you a happy and blessed Easter.

Good Friday Collection

A Pontifical Collection - Pope Francis has asked our parish to support Christians in the Holy Land. Through the Good Friday collection, join Christians around the world to stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. When you contribute to the Good Friday collection, you become an instrument of peace in a troubled land. For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-Friday.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon. March 26: Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11
Tues. March 27: Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38
Wed. March 28: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25
Thurs. March 29: Exodus 12:1-8,11-14 (39ABC); 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15
Fri. March 30: Isaiah 52:13-53:12 (40 ABC); Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42
Sat. March 31: Genesis 1:1-2:2; Genesis 22:1-18; Mark 16:1-7 (41B)
Sun. April 1: Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43 (42ABC); Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY

Surrender to God's will

Procession Mark 11:1-10 (entry into Jerusalem) or John 12:12-16
Reading I Isaiah 50:4-7 (salvation only through the Lord's servant)
Reading II Philippians 2:6-11 (imitating Christ's humility)
Gospel Passage Mark 14:1-15:47 (the passion of Jesus)
Jesus said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want."
(Mark 14:36)

Adult: *When have you found it hardest to accept God's will? What enabled you to accept it?*

Child: *When is it hardest for your to obey?*

VOCATION VIEW

Today is called Passion Sunday because our Lord's love for us is so passionate that it remained unhindered by harsh mockery and a painful death on a cross. How passionate is your love for God? If He readily took up the Cross for us, how ready are you to respond to His calling? 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

This is the second weekend of Appeal Week 2018! Now is the perfect time to show love for your neighbors in your community and make a donation if you haven't done so already. Every day Catholic Charities is helping those most in need, and your donation continues that reality for so many across the Diocese of Buffalo's eight counties. Our services protected, strengthened and empowered the lives of nearly 153,000 people last year. Your gift makes that power of love known. Call 716-218-1400 or visit <http://www.ccwny.org/donation> and contribute to our 2018 Appeal. Join us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. "Love your neighbor." Gal. 5:14.

From the Desk of the Pastor

(cont'd from page 1) On Holy Tuesday we celebrate the Chrism Mass at 7:00pm at St. Joseph Cathedral on Franklin Street in Downtown Buffalo. All are welcome to come to this joyous Mass where all the Priests of the Diocese gather with Bishop Malone and renew our priestly promises of Ordination. It is also the Mass where our Bishop will bless the Holy Oils to be used in this coming year. He will bless the Oil of the Catechumenate for those to be Baptized, the Oil of Sacred Chrism for those to be Baptized or Confirmed or to be Ordained a Priest, and the Oil of the Sick for the anointing of those in need of healing or are near life's end. This is an awesome celebration filled with great prayer, hope and joy.

Holy Thursday we celebrate the 7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper which begins really one liturgy that spans three days. In this first part we mark the institution of the Eucharist and Priesthood by Jesus, as well as our call to serve in His name. This call is made real to us as we recall Jesus' washing of His apostles' feet and relive that call as the priests will wash the feet of twelve parishioners.

Good Friday is the second part of this three-day celebration. This is the most solemn day of the liturgical year. We will celebrate the Seven Last Words of Christ at 12:00noon and the traditional Good Friday Passion Service at 3:00pm. On Good Friday night our teenagers will act out the Stations of the Cross in Church at 7:00pm. We will reflect on our call to die with Christ in the world today.

Finally, Holy Saturday is the Great Easter Vigil – the highlight and final part of our three-day liturgy. We begin in darkness and bless the new fire and the new Paschal Candle. The Light of Christ is brought into the Church for all to share and in just moments the Church is glowing with each of our individual candles burning as we receive the Light of Christ from the Paschal Candle. Please come to listen to the story of salvation, to witness Christ's Resurrection, and joyfully celebrate with our Brothers and Sisters who will be Baptized, received into the Church, Confirmed and receive Holy Communion for the first time. This year's Vigil will begin at 7:00pm with our hope that many more will come to celebrate this central element of our faith.

I urge you to really make this week "Holy." Use this week for simplicity in diet, entertainment and life in general. Allow yourself the luxury of quiet. Perhaps turn off the cell phone and cancel non-essential activities in order to better focus on the Sacred Triduum. Be willing to join your life more intimately with Christ's life and emerge with a better experience and understanding of the meaning of Easter and our relationship with Jesus.

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

1500 CLUB RAFFLE

Prizes totaling \$37,500 awarded!

Don't miss out on your chance to win **one or more of the remaining 236 cash prizes** including the **Grand Prize of \$10,000!**

Chances of winning are approximately 1 in 6!

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: _____

(Your official ticket will be sent to the address listed above by return mail. Checks payable to St. Gregory the Great)

Join us in the Ministry Center on Saturday, April 14, from 6:30 – 9:00pm for the Grand Drawing Celebration!
Each ticket purchased admits two adults over 21 for an evening of food, drinks and fun, but...

Winners Need Not Be Present to Win.

Your participation helps our largest HSA-sponsored event support our Catholic school.

May God continue to bless you for your generosity.

Questions? Email: 1500club@stgregs.org

Early-Bird 1500 Club Raffle Winners

Winners from the March 14 Drawing

\$500 - # 242

\$350 - # 434

\$250 - # 546

\$100 - # 809

\$50 - # 491

Easter Eggs & The Passion of Christ

How can you relate Easter Eggs to the Passion of Jesus Christ? These five items will help:

- 1) A piece of purple cloth or tissue - - > The Robe
- 2) A thorn (1/2 of a toothpick) - - > Crown
- 3) A piece of wood - - > The Cross
- 4) A nail - - > Jesus' hands and feet
- 5) An empty egg - - > Jesus' Resurrection

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 in the Parish Office by **Monday, March 26**.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Number Attending: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

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.

Sacramental Information

2018 Confirmation Rehearsal -

This year, there will be only ONE **Confirmation Rehearsal**, to be held on Tuesday, April 10, at 6:30pm 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 -

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 call 688-5760 or email at ameyerhofer@stgregs.org

Men's Golf League

The Men's Golf League is looking for both full-time team members as well as substitutes for the Wednesday evening league. You don't have to be a great golfer – just a good guy looking to share in some fun and relaxation with the group. For information call Mike Bender at 689-0510.

"ST. GREGORY TWELVE" NOMINATIONS

Each year we recognize and express our appreciation of twelve individuals, couples or families who have contributed to our parish life and ministries. If you know of parishioners whose voluntary efforts have enhanced our Parish Community, please nominate them for this award which will be acknowledged at Mass on May 20. We look forward to having the opportunity to honor many in our Parish who unselfishly donate their time/abilities to fulfill our Parish Mission. Nomination forms are available in the Parish Office, to be returned to Jo by Friday, April 13.



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 as well!. Try your luck at our basket raffle and our 50/50 raffle. This event is for those 21 and over. Doors open at 5:00pm, dinner is at 6:00pm and dancing begins at 7:00pm. Tickets are pre-sale only for \$25/person and can be purchased at the Parish Office. For more info., call: 688-3578 or email: stgregspostdyngusday@gmail.com



*Jesus of Nazareth
Cordially invites you to share
In the celebration of His Last Supper
On Holy Thursday, March 29,
At 5:00 pm in the Ministry Center*

In keeping with the spirit of the First Holy Thursday when Our Lord gathered His community of followers to share in the Passover meal, St. Gregory's Social/Hospitality Committee invites all parishioners to participate in our annual potluck "Shared Supper." *We will provide* salads, rolls, beverages, desserts and serving utensils. Please plan to bring a dish to feed your family and 6 others (suggestions: sliced meats, pasta dishes, potatoes, vegetables, casseroles, etc.) in **ready-to-serve, disposable containers only**, to allow volunteers to attend Mass. To facilitate our planning and assure you of a seat please RSVP to: Roe Spano 689-6224 by **Monday, March 26.**

Diaper Drive - \$1000 Away From Our Goal!

We have raised \$2300 of our \$3300 goal to send two containers worth of diapers to Mustard Seed Communities. That's 120,000 diapers worth! Please consider donating this lent! 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. Questions? Email Liz at stgregsmissiontrip@gmail.com.

"SPIRITUAL SPINS & GRINS"

Talents are best nurtured in solitude; character is best formed in the stormy billows of the world.

[Goethe]



Music Ministry

Rehearsals



Children Choir (Grades 2-8)

4:30 - 5:30 pm, Tues., March 27, in GR 2
The children will be singing
at the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday, April 22.

Easter Triduum Choir

7:00 - 9:00 pm, Tuesday, March 27, in Church

For more information about the various ensembles, please check the Music Ministry page on the parish website, or contact Daniel Victor at 688-5678, ext. 308

Young Women's Conference: "Be Purely You"

All girls Grades 8 - 12 are welcome to join us for a fun-filled day of inspiring workshops! Learn about colors and fashion styles that make you look and feel your best; discover your unique and special gifts as a daughter of the King; learn to recognize the strength of authentic femininity!

Saturday, April 28, 8:00am – 3:00 pm at St. Gregory the Great Parish Ministry Center. Register online at www.stgregs.org, \$20 before April 22 or \$25 at the door. Registration fee includes a delicious and nutritious lunch provided by Core Life Eatery. For more information, call Lori at 716-866-2373.

Join In A Parish-Wide Prayer Effort: [The Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet](#)

Begins on Good Friday, March 30, and concludes on Saturday, April 7.

A Spiritual Work of Mercy: Pray for the living and the dead

Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet pamphlets available in the back of Church.

This novena can be said privately as an individual or with a group in your family or at the parish organized times listed below. Jesus specifically asked that the chaplet be recited as a novena, especially on the nine days before Divine Mercy Sunday. Combining the chaplet and daily novena prayers given to St. Faustina by our Lord is a powerful work of mercy. Each day's prayers were dictated by our Lord to St. Faustina concerning particular groups of people He wanted to experience His mercy. By the end of the novena we will have prayed for the entire world. Jesus promised, **"By this Novena I will grant every possible grace to souls"** (796).

Organized Prayer times in Church:

3/30 Good Friday: after 9:00am morning prayers;

3/31 Holy Saturday: after 9:00am morning prayers

4/1 Easter Sunday: please continue novena on your own

4/2 Monday through 4/16 Friday: after 7:00am Mass & after 8:00am Mass and Rosary *Only one Mass on April 2 at 8:00am

4/7 Saturday: before 8:00am Mass and after 8:00am Mass and Rosary

Organized Prayer times in Gathering Room:

The Novena and Chaplet will be prayed followed by a 25 minute DVD presentation entitled *"A Man for All Seasons."* These presentations feature inspiring talks by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen. His compassion and insight have made his words endure the test of time.

4/3 Tuesday through 4/6 Friday: after 12:00 noon Mass in GR 2; 4/7 Saturday: after the 8:00am Mass in MC Room 2

LENT 2018

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

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.

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!

Family Faith Formation

Open Monday - Friday, 9:00am - 2:00 pm and during classes.

FFF Calendar of Upcoming Events:

A Very Special Thank you to all of the bakers and volunteers who made our March 9 Fish Fry a great success. We couldn't have done it without you! God Bless you always.

NO Classes: Saturday, March 24 - Sunday, April 8
Classes resume on Monday, April 9

A Very Special Thank You to all of our Saturday Class students for their outstanding participation in our Easter Pageant on March 17. Thank you parents and catechists for all of your help, and to Jeff Criden, our Director, and Stacie Durnford, Music Director, for a wonderful pageant!

2018-2019 FFF Registration Schedule:

For FFF Registration, go to www.stgregs.org/register-now/

Find the program of your choice and depending on the program, you can download a form to bring to the meeting, OR you will see a link to register online. Links will be live on the dates as per the registration schedule.

High-School Summer Program (formerly SPLASH)

Class dates: June 25 - 29, 9:00am - 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 7:00pm **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 7:00pm **OR** on Saturday, May 19, at 9:00am in the School Cafeteria.

Generations of Faith (Monthly FFF Program, Gr 1-10)

Registration for All Sessions (A, B and C) begins on Monday, May 21, 2018 at 7:00pm. **Online Registration Only.** Each session will close at 50 Families. For program details, go to www.stgregs.org/generations-faith/

Disciple Camp (Summer FFF Program, Gr 5-8)

Register **In Person Only** (parent and student must attend) in the School Cafeteria on Saturday, June 2, at 9:00am **OR** on Monday, June 11, at 7:00pm. Meetings and registration will last approx. 35 minutes. For program details and Registration form go to www.stgregs.org/disciple-camp-5/

Weekly FFF Program (Gr 1-10)

Registration begins on Wednesday, June 1. Register Online or In Person. For program details, go to www.stgregs.org/program-options/ then select your child's grade level.

Little Cherubs (Preschool, Ages 3 - 5)

Weekly Program, September 2018 - April 2019. Registration begins on Wednesday, June 1. Register Online or In Person. For details, go to www.stgregs.org/pre-school/

Vacation Bible School (Pre K* - Gr 4 in Sept 2018)

*child must be 3 years old by Dec. 2017 - Registration begins on Monday, May 14, and closes on June 22. Register Online or In Person: www.stgregs.org/vacation-bible-school/

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

Physical Education

By Olivia Ehimare and Krissy Klein

Physical Education is a favorite class at St. Greg's. The students are very athletic and enjoy sports very much. Physical Education teaches the students at St. Greg's about teamwork and having fun with friends and classmates. At St. Greg's, students play many different sports such as yuki ball, basketball and handball. However, dodgeball is definitely a school favorite. Students enjoy playing it and they have an amazing time. Right now, the students are in their hockey unit and they are learning the basics of the sport. The students are learning and practicing how to hold the stick correctly and how to play the right way. In a couple of days, they will start playing games against one another. Our teachers, Mr. Feigl and Mrs. Perna, teach the students the importance of physical education, which is working together, not just winning.

Catechist's Corner

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

"Volunteer Catechists are not paid; not because they are worthless, but because they are **PRICELESS!**"

- unknown

From a Junior high student:

"...Thank you for teaching us to be true disciples of God."



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**.

Senior Citizens

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.

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

MOMS: Meet the Catholic Doctors!

Friday, April 20, 9:00 - 11:00am in the Gathering Rooms.
All moms welcome to attend this exciting question & answer panel discussion of four moms who are local Catholic pediatricians. Never been to MOMS? Now is a great time to join us. Come as you are. Free childcare by reservation only. Email ltmacnamara@gmail.com for childcare. Any questions about MOMS email stgregsmoms@gmail.com.

Youth & Young Adult Ministry

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

Middle-School and High-School Concert Opportunity: April 5 at 7:00pm

Matt Maher and Christ Tomlin, two of the most prolific Christian Worship leaders of the past decade, are stopping in Rochester as part of their Worship Night in America Tour! We have managed to secure tickets for this can't-miss musical event! If you are interested in joining us for a fantastic evening of praise and worship, contact Richard or Nicole! Tickets are in limited supply, so let us know soon if you are interested in attending!

Middle School

Edge Nights: April 12, 19, 26; 6:30 - 8:30pm

Middle-School Retreat, May 4-6

We are returning to Camp Turner for our second-ever Middle-School Retreat! Join us for an unforgettable weekend of fun, friends and faith! Spots are limited so contact Nicole ASAP to reserve your spot for the Middle-School event of the year!

High School

Life Teen: March 25, April 8, 22; 5:30 - 7:30pm

High-School Retreat: April 13-15

It's finally here! The annual High-School retreat! This year we're going to Camp Hickory Hill, complete with a game room, gym and a rock wall for anyone feeling especially adventurous! Book your spot today for the weekend of a lifetime!

SWAT Team: March 27; 7:00 - 8:30pm

Spiritual Weapons And Tactics team is our new prayer group that will meet every Tuesday in the Ministry Center Basement. This group is open to all high-schoolers. If you are looking for something that will help you dive deeper into your faith this is for you! Snacks will be provided.

Young Adult Ministry (18 - 30something)

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!

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

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.

Women's Bible Study: Wednesdays at 7:00pm

Our groundbreaking new Women's Bible Study meets every Wednesday at 7:00pm in Sr. Maureen's Room (upstairs) in the Ministry Center. If you are looking for a dynamic community of Catholic women living the Faith, this is the place for you!

Trivia Night: April 9 at 6:30 - 8:30pm

Looking for a fun night out on the town with a great community of young adults? Join us at the Anchor Bar on Maple Road for Trivia Night! No matter your level of trivia expertise, this promises to be a fantastic night!



Respect Life

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

“On January 16, 2018, Governor Cuomo introduced his budget bill, S.7511. In the bill, he included an abortion expansion proposal. **If the budget passes, virtually all limitations on abortion will be lifted.** This is particularly dangerous, because the law requires a budget to be passed by April 1.

The Governor’s bill would align New York with the most liberal abortion laws in the world.

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

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

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

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

Parish Activity Calendar

Sunday, March 25

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

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

Monday, March 26

6:30 pm American Heritage Girls Meeting (GR 1&2)

Tuesday, March 27

6:30 pm Evening Prayer (Crying Room)

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

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

Wednesday, March 28

10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry (MC Gym)

5:00 pm The Light Is On Confessions (Church)

6:00 pm Knights of Columbus 1st & 2nd Degree Ceremony (GR 1&2)

7:00 pm RCIA Rehearsal for Easter Vigil (Church)

Thursday, March 29

9:00 am – Morning Prayer

5:00 pm – Parish Shared Supper, Ministry Center

7:00 pm – Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper

8:30 pm – Seven Churches bus trip

Adoration until midnight in the Gathering Rooms

Friday March 30

9:00 am – Morning Prayer

12:00 noon – Seven Last Words of Christ

3:00 pm – Celebration of the Lord’s Passion

7:00 pm – Living Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 31

9:00 am – Morning Prayer

12:00 noon – Blessing of Easter Baskets

7:00 pm – Easter Vigil Mass

Sunday, April 1 - Easter Sunday

Masses at: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am & 12:30pm

There is NO 4:30pm Mass on Easter Sunday

Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration

St. Gregory’s is holding its 10th Divine Mercy celebration on April 8 from 2:00-3:00 pm, in Church, with Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, music and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. A reception with refreshments will follow in the Gathering Room by The Ladies of the Lord/Disciples of Divine Mercy.

Our Lord made an awesome promise to St. Faustina. He said those who would go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment and the divine floodgates of Grace will be opened wide. We receive great graces by just “looking” upon the Divine Mercy Picture which we have in our Church.

In Pope John Paul II’s encyclical, “Rich in Mercy,” he said, “Mercy must become the mission of the Church and her people, especially in these times, making it our right and duty to proclaim God’s Mercy to ALL People. By doing 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 powerful, prayerful celebration of God’s Mercy.

Mass Schedule

Saturday, March 24

Vigil Masses

- 4:00 pm John Duffy by Ed & Judy Kisailus
Hillary White by Patricia Edinger
5:30 pm Barbara Viscogliosi by Donna Matisko

Sunday, March 25 –

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

- 8:00 am John DiPasquale by Mrs. Rose Mary
DiPasquale & Son, Jay
9:30 am John E. King by Wife & Family
Jim Daly by Joanne Zaccaria & Family
11:00 am Irineo Gutierrez by Florentina Gutierrez
Thomas F. Creenan
by Eileen & Charles Lestition
12:30 pm Fred Riccio by Dr. & Mrs. Franz Glasauer
1:30 pm Baptisms
4:30 pm Salvatore Insalaco by Family
Gerri De Lac by Family

Monday, March 26

- 7:00 am Parishioners of St. Gregory's
Pat Guenther
by Paul Waas & Gretchen Seibert
8:00 am Hazel Smith by E. Pitt Smith
12:00 pm Richard J. Levea by Wife
Gloria Lynch
by St. Gregory's 12:00 Noon Rosary Group

Tuesday, March 27

- 7:00 am Devin J. Waring by Jim & Judy Huber
8:00 am Alice Grzechowiak (anniv)
by Daughter, Carolyn
Charles Schaus by Joan King
12:00 pm Lorraine I. McGivney (birth)
by Kate & Dave Gordon
Edward & Victoria Bruch
by Carl & Deborah Bucki

Wednesday, March 28

- 7:00 am John & Joyce Ambrosoli by Estate
Elizabeth Wagner (birth)
by Linda & Bill Dohn
8:00 am Anthony Tufillaro by Wife & Children
12:00 pm Nicholas & Scott Willett
by Erin O'Connor & Grandmother
Anthony Chen by Shirley & Arthur Chen

Thursday, March 29 – Holy Thursday

- 9:00 am Morning Prayer
7:00 pm **Mass of the Lord's Supper**
Lucille Cullen by Sister, Mary Ann Held
Msgrs. McNamera & Wright
by Rosemary Spano
Rose Hoelscher
by Joyce Santora & Family

Friday, March 30 – Good Friday

- 9:00 am Morning Prayer
12:00 pm Seven Last Words of Christ
3:00 pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
7:00 pm Living Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 31 – Holy Saturday

- 9:00 am Morning Prayer
12:00 pm Blessing of Food Baskets

Easter Vigil

- 7:00 pm Leon & Sophie Biernat
by Son, Fr. Leon Biernat
Lembo & Mason Families
by Dolores Mason & Family
Michael & Rose Ferraro
by Joe & Jennifer Ferraro

Sunday, April 1- Easter Sunday

- 8:00 am Joseph & Ruth Gentile by Gentile Family
9:30 am Charles R. Foy, Jr. by Bill & Anna Foy
George Rodgers
by Maria & Anthony Leone
11:00 am William J. Steffan by Robert Rauh Family
Carmela Ciotta by Jane Ciotta-Wheeler
12:30 pm Gerri De Lac by Family
Oliver Florea by Bill Kilinskas

***** There will be no 4:30 pm Mass
on Easter Sunday *****

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Richard H. Miller
David Sorci

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"SEVEN LESSONS OF LOSS"

You are invited to join us for the next Grief & Loss meeting on Wednesday, April 4, 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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www.stgregs.org

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Fr. Leon J. Biernat, Chairman; lbiernat@stgregs.org

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DIRECTOR

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* * * * *

Moving In? Moving Out?

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

8:30 am - 8:00 pm

FRIDAY 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

SATURDAY 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Mass Schedule

SATURDAY: 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm

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

HOLY DAYS: As listed in the Bulletin.

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

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

Catholic Store & Café

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

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

Sacraments

BAPTISM

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

PENANCE (CONFESSIONS)

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

WEDDINGS

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

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

MINISTRY TO SICK, HOSPITALIZED, AND SHUT-INS

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

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

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

Prayer and Devotion

PERPETUAL ADORATION

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

PRAYER

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

Our Mission

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

- *Spiritual focus*
- *Knowledge and understanding of our Faith and our Church*
- *Spirit of welcome and reconciliation*
- *Compassion and concern for those in need*
- *Generous sharing of our God-given talents and resources*



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