

SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT PARISH

PARISH COMMUNITY LIVING
THE GOSPEL . . .

~ IN FAITH
~ IN WORSHIP
~ IN SERVICE

November 30 & December 1, 2019

First Sunday of Advent



ADVENT MESSAGE FROM FR. PAUL

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We have just entered into the holy time of Advent. As we light the first violet candle in the Advent wreath, I'm sure that there is a lot on our minds.

'Prepare' would be the operative word. There are so many things that we are preparing: We

are preparing for the busy-ness of the Christmas season; we are preparing the house with lights, Christmas tree and ornaments; we are preparing gifts for all those whom we love; we are preparing to entertain all the guests coming over; we are preparing all the delicious Christmas food; and we are preparing for the wonder of the newborn Savior in the manger, Jesus who loved us so much He became one of us.

This Advent season is all about preparation as well! Certainly, we are preparing to worthily celebrate the anniversary of the Lord's coming into the world as the incarnate God of love on Christmas day. But we are also preparing to make ourselves ready for Jesus to come again in victory at the end of time. During Advent, all of our Scriptural readings and music during Mass reflect that God will come again and that we have to have our eyes focused on the promises of an eternal life of joy with our Heavenly Father.

Just as we prepare our families and house for the Christmas season, so we must also prepare our souls for the coming of Christ. This should not fill us with fear or anxiety about the future, but should fill us with hope. The Church sings in the Advent season, "*Maranatha!* Come Lord Jesus!" or "O come, O come *Emmanuel!*"

Your Lord is near *Emmanuel!*" We wait in joyful hope and expectation for the coming of our Lord Jesus when He comes in glory.

During Advent, the priest and the deacon wear violet vestments which stand for penitence. Although it is not of the same caliber as Lenten penitence, this season of Advent calls us to look deeply into our own souls and ask the Lord where we need to change, convert, repent and become more the image and likeness of God that He wants us to be. This means that we should be fasting and almsgiving, giving of ourselves to others, and becoming more selfless.

This may seem like a tall order. "Forgive me if what follows is a bit trite, but I'm just overcome with the spirit of the season!) I am reminded of Charles Dicken's classic "A Christmas Carol." Towards the end of the story, Ebenezer Scrooge is overwhelmed with despair because he had seen how he had lived his life selfishly. As the ghost of Christmas yet to come shows him his own headstone, Ebenezer exclaims, "Oh, tell me I may sponge away the writing on that stone!" Thankfully, we all know how the story ends! But this part does offer a good lesson for all of us during this Advent season: that we need to prepare for Christ who will come again. We do that by allowing God to mold us and change our hearts to be more like His and, as Ebenezer Scrooge learned, to be less selfish and more giving because that is what gives true happiness.

May you all have a blessed Advent season as you prepare for the coming of Christ as a newborn baby at Christmas time and also when He comes again in glory. Come Lord Jesus! Amen.

PARISH SOCIAL/ NEW PARISHIONER WELCOME

All Parishioners, including new families, are invited to join us on **December 8** for coffee, juice and donuts in Gathering Room 1 after 9:30 am Mass. If you wish to join the Parish, you may register at this time.

ADVENT

NIGHT OF RECOLLECTION

"Prepare your hearts...
Prepare the Church...
for the coming of Christ
and His kingdom."

6:30 pm:

- Opening
- Presentation
- Exposition / Reflection
- Eucharistic Procecion

8:30-9:30 pm:

Prayer Ministry
[In Church]

And Refreshments
[In Gathering Room]

St. Gregory the Great Parish

December 5th, 6:30-9:30 pm

DAILY ADVENT REFLECTIONS

Every day during Advent, you can receive an email with a short video from Dynamic Catholic. This is a great way for you to intentionally slow down and prepare your hearts and minds for an amazing Christmas. It's free and easy to sign up. Did we mention, free?

- 1) Google, "bestadventever.com"
- 2) Click on "Best Advent Ever / Advent Reflections 2019 / Dynamic Catholic". You will be redirected to the Home Page.
- 3) Scroll down and click on the blue "Sign Me Up!"
- 4) Complete the requested information.

MEMORIALIZE THE NATIVITY SET

A few years ago St. Greg's purchased a second Nativity set to display in the Church during the Christmas Season. We now have one for the MC and one for the Church. This year we would like to memorialize both sets including the stable for the Church. If you are interested in having a piece or pieces memorialized, please contact Marisa Piazza in the Parish Office at mpiazza@stgregs.org or 688-5678 ext. 303 by December 4.

HOLY FAMILY - \$600 EACH

Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph

ANIMALS - \$300 EACH

Camel, Donkey, Lamb, Cow

ADDITIONAL STATUES

Shepherd \$350

Angel \$500

Wise Man #1, #2, or #3 \$500 each

ADDITIONAL NATIVITY VILLAGER'S: \$250 EACH

STABLE \$2000 (one stable only)



St. Gregory the Great School

STUDENT REFLECTION

BY EKENE EZENWA



The end of October and beginning of November brought many things with it, one of them being the end of the St. Greg's swim team season. The team won all of their meets this year and finished the season with a phenomenal performance at championships. During the season, multiple records were broken by Peter Peyser (7th) and another was broken by Bella Ryan (6th). Other people who improved and helped the team during the season were the Eighth Graders: Ekene Ezenwa, Amelia Wands, Joshua Mancini, MaryKathleen Christ, Joseph Piwko, and Jeana Piwko. They brought an example of team spirit, grit, responsibility, fun, and most importantly, faith, to the swim team. If you asked one of them what they liked about the swim team, they would talk about self-improvement, being a role model, learning from and about yourself and others, and other good qualities many students and teachers from St. Greg's exemplify every day. Everyone will miss all of the Eighth Graders dearly as they leave the swim team and, eventually, St. Greg's. Good luck to the swim team in their next season!

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION—SWIMMING

Sunday, November 10, was another amazing championship day; every swimmer should be proud of their accomplishments! There were also lots of personal best times. Here are a few swimmers who placed in the top three of their championship events:

8 & UNDER DIVISION:

Eleanor Wands placed 2nd in the 25 yard Breaststroke

9 & 10 DIVISION:

Isabella Ryan placed 1st in the 100 yard Freestyle and 1st in the 100 yard IM

The IM Relay placed 2nd, that relay consisted of:

- Alessandro Mancini
- Uche Ezenwa
- Isabella Ryan
- Luke Cloen

The Free Relay placed 1st, that relay consisted of:

- Luke Cloen
- Nicholas Dellamea
- Alessandro Mancini
- Isabella Ryan

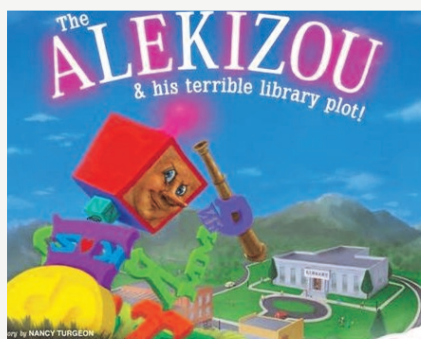
11 & OVER DIVISION

Peter Peyser placed 1st in the 50 yard Freestyle and 200 yard IM. Peter also broke his own School record, lowering the 50 yard Freestyle to 25.20. Amelia Wands placed 2nd in the 50 yard Breaststroke.

The Free Relay placed 2nd, that relay consisted of:

- Joshua Mancini
- Molly Fulco
- Amelia Wands
- Peter Peyser

Congratulations once again to all the swimmers!



AUTHOR VISIT

Nancy Turgeon (author) visited the first grade classrooms to share with them her story, *The Alekizou: and His Terrible Library Plot!* The author came up with this idea for a story when she was in second grade and shared with the first grade classes on how she was able to publish what was once just an idea. The book teaches readers the importance of learning vowels and their sounds to help us become better readers!

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

FFF Upcoming Events and Information:

December FFF Outreach: Christmas Gift Collection

December Dates for Generations of Faith:

Session A Sunday, December 1, after the 9:30 am Mass

Session B Sunday, December 1, 12:30 - 2:00 pm.

Session C Thursday, December 5, 6:15 - 7:45 pm

First Friday Club: Disciple Camp students (Grades 5-8) are invited to the next meeting on December 6 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm in the School Cafeteria.



Congratulations, Adreanne Lippa, for winning the Family Movie Night Gift Basket. Thanks for participating by selling Car Raffle Tickets!



We challenged families to bring in snack cracker packets; for every 20 packets, we placed a candy-corn in our jar. Thank you to all of you who donated in October. Thanks to you, we collected over 1564 packets of snack crackers for Peaceprints Ministry. Thank you all!



FIVE WAYS TO BE A GOOD HOST

The holidays are approaching and these five fabulous tips not only work for your family at home but for your family at church!

- 1) **Invitation.** Invite your family and friends back home, to Mass. Include necessary information like the date, the time(s) and the location of St Greg's Thanksgiving and Christmas Masses.
- 2) **Be welcoming and attentive.** Make sure guests are greeted warmly and made to feel welcome.
- 3) **Be flexible and gracious.** Somebody is sitting in your seat. Some guests may be unaware of protocol. Exhausted kids are crying and loud. Be gracious; no polite host would ever intentionally make their guests feel unwelcome.
- 4) **Set the example.** We want our guests to be put at ease. It's our job to gently show our guests when we stand, sit and kneel. Introduce new family and friends to each other, do not exclude anyone.
- 5) **Be appreciative.** Let people know how good it was to see them and thank them for coming.

Catechist Corner



Dear Catechists,

On this Thanksgiving weekend, we would like to express our heartfelt appreciation for the time, energy and love that you put into teaching our youth; thank you for passing our Catholic faith to a new generation of disciples! May God Bless you and yours on Thanksgiving and throughout this year!

From all of us at Family Faith Formation

SO Thankful
for YOU!

ST. GREG'S CAFÉ

PIZZA NIGHT!

Need dinner for Family Fun Night? Working late at the office and don't want to cook? Need to schedule a meeting over the dinner hour? Stop by our Café every Wednesday night for our Specialty Pizza Night from 5:30 - 7:30 pm.

DON'T HAVE TIME FOR BREAKFAST?

Stop in the St. Greg's Café and let us cook for you. Enjoy egg sandwiches, pastries, bagels and Fair Trade organic coffee.

FORGOT YOUR LUNCH ?

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

STAY CONNECTED TO ST. GREG'S THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

Quick access to the Bulletin, learn about closings, cancellations and updates within the Parish, School, Family Faith Formation or Youth Ministry.

To download Parish App:

IPHONE USERS TEXT: ParishApp1 to 555888

ANDROID USERS TEXT: ParishApp2 to 555888



VISIT YOUR APP STORE: Search WeConnect, Parish App, look for the blue icon above and follow the prompts. See the back of the Bulletin to learn all the ways you can follow St. Greg's on social media.



Christmas rehearsals for Christmas Eve Midnight Mass will resume on Tuesday, December 3, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm with the regular Adult choir rehearsal from 8:00 to 9:00 pm. The Children's Choir rehearsals will also resume on Tuesday, Dec. 3, at 4:30 pm. Questions? Please email Nancy Erdman at NErdman@stgregs.org or call 688-5678 Ext. 308.

AUG 2

SAVE THE DATE

2020

ST. GREG'S 60TH
ALUMNI EVENT

ST. GREG'S SCHOOL TURNS 60!!!



St. Gregory the Great School is celebrating 60 years in 2020. In an effort to update our records, if you are a St. Greg's Alum please complete the form below with your contact information. You can return the form to the Parish or School Office or put in next weeks collection. You can also

email alumni@stgregs.org.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CPLANNING COMMITTEE THE NEXT MEETING IS DECEMBER 12 AT 9:00 AM IN GATHERING ROOM 1. IF YOU CAN NOT MAKE THE MEETING BUT WANT TO BE PART OF THE COMMITTEE, PELASE EMAIL LINDA DOHN (WAGNER) AT ALUMNI@STGREGS.ORG

NAME: _____

MAIDEN NAME (IF APPLICABLE): _____

YEAR GRADAUTED: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

CLASSROOM DEDICATIONS AVAILABLE

We have classroom dedications available to purchase for \$350 for the remainder of the school year. This year only, those who sponsor a classroom will choose the Patron Saint to dedicate for that room. The Saint will be continued each yeat for future sponsors. If you are interested in purchasing a dedication, please contact Cindy Reitebach at dinnerauction@stgregs.org

—SAVE THE DATE—

You're
INVITED

Coffee Breaks with God

Join us on Saturday, December 7
from 9:15 am to 10:15 am
in the School Art Room.

Baby sitting is available upon request. Call the FFF Office (688-5760) by 12 noon on December 5 to arrange babysitting.



December speaker Brian Ruh will discuss "Celebrating Christmas with non-practicing friends and family."

Then, join us for more **Coffee Breaks with God** on Feb. 1 and Mar. 7.

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL

Kairos Prison Ministry International is holding their December Kairos Retreat at Wende CF from December 5th through December 8th, and your support is greatly needed. We need packages of cookies. They must be store-bought. They can not be in "resealable" packaging. Cookies can not contain any type of liqueur (chocolate or vanilla) and cannot have raisins or powdered sugar on them. Aldi's has great prices and a good variety of packaged cookies. Fourthly, we need decorated placemats (11" X 17"). Placemats should be colorfully decorated with a little message of encouragement. Please use colored pencils, crayons, or markers. Stickers, glitter, and things like that cannot be used. If made by a child they can have the child's first name only and their age. Fifthly, we could use financial donations. The weekend costs approximately \$1,500 to put on. Please make all checks out to KPMI and write Wende #65 on the memo line.

Checks can be mailed to:

Kairos Prison Ministry International
P.O. Box 194
Williamsville, NY 14231-0194

Lastly, you can attend the Kairos Holy Hour at Harvest House on Saturday, December 7, from 12:00 - 2:00 pm. There will be a lunch at noon followed by a Holy Hour which will include a guest speaker, singing, the reading of a letter from the K 65 leader, Jack Thoman, and a free-will offering.

For more information call Mark Duguay at 716-208-4706. He can answer any general questions about Kairos or give you information on how to become a Kairos Volunteer. Volunteers can work inside the prison or on the outside support team.

St. Gregory the Great Parish is excited to launch "FIAT", a monthly Eucharist Conference. Please join us for an evening of adoration, faith-filled presentations, powerful music, and prayer ministry. Come with an open heart and mind. Like Mary who says yes to the will of God, be ready for Christ to become incarnate in your life. FIAT is open to everyone and will take place from 7:00 to 9:00 pm on the 2nd weekend of the month, in the Church.



FIAT

Eucharistic Conference

January 11th
February 8th
March 7th



PLEASE JOIN US! The 30th Annual National Night of Prayer for Life will take place on **Sunday, December 8, beginning approximately**

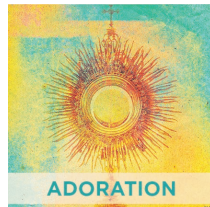
6:00 pm and continuing until 10:00 pm. The prayers will be offered in the Church beginning with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The Rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet will be recited on the hour. Members of surrounding parishes also will be joining us.

This event honors the Feasts of the Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8) and the Apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe to Juan Diego (Dec 9). Everyone is invited to participate, as we ask Our Blessed Mother, under her title Our Lady of Guadalupe, to protect ALL Life, especially our unborn brothers and sisters, defend the Church and its faithful, restore religious freedom, and protect the family. May we make reparation for all the lives lost in this nation to abortion and pray that parents may be conscious of their calling as they share in God's creative power. We also pray that those who have acted against human life experience forgiveness.

Let us bow down in UNISON across the nation before the Blessed Sacrament in Adoration and Reparation for the sins against the lives of our innocent unborn and helpless ones.

You may come for any part or for all four hours or join us via the web at www.stgregs.org.

"If my people... humble themselves and pray, and seek my presence and turn from their evil ways, I will hear them from heaven and pardon their sins and REVIVE THEIR LAND" —2 Chronicles 7:12



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adorers are needed for all times and days. Please call Kathy at 759-7149 or Barbara at 634-7478 with a time that is convenient for you.

Please obtain a substitute if you are not able to attend Adoration at your scheduled hour. The Blessed Sacrament cannot be left alone. Please ask a friend or relative to sub for your scheduled adoration hour if you are going to be away anytime during the holiday season. It is a way to evangelize and introduce others to our adoration chapel. Thank you.

****Substitute adorers are needed for Sunday mornings 4:00 AM - 6:00 AM during the months of January and February 2020.**

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

- ◆ MONDAYS 2:00 - 3:00 am
- ◆ WEDNESDAYS 9:00-10:00 pm
- ◆ THURSDAYS 2:00- 3:00 am
- ◆ THURSDAYS 5:00-6:00 am
- ◆ SATURDAYS 10:00-11:00 pm

OUR CHAPEL IS OPEN 24 HOURS, 7 DAYS A WEEK.

MARCH FOR LIFE 2020

Fr. Paul Cygan is hoping to lead a group of St. Gregory's parishioners at this year's March for Life in Washington, DC. Contact him for more information at pcygan@stgregs.org. There are information/registration brochures at the entrances to the church. Please consider being a part of this very important witness to the sanctity of Life!!

2019 Christmas Gift Collection

Christmas Gift Tags will be hung on a Christmas Tree in the front vestibule and placed in baskets near the exits of the Church.

This Christmas season, we ask you to open your hearts, take a gift tag from our tree or from the baskets found near the Church exits, and provide a **new** Christmas gift or gift card for the needy person listed. Socks, sweats, hats and mittens are always welcomed. Gift cards from Walmart, TARGET or TOPS Market are also greatly appreciated. **Please return the wrapped gift or gift card (with tag attached) to the Gathering Rooms on Saturday, December 14, from 3:30-7:00 pm and Sunday, December 15, from 7:30 am -12:00 noon (no later than 12:00 noon please as the delivery of gifts begins promptly at 1:00 pm).**



PLEASE DO NOT leave gifts in the Church foyer!

This ministry began in December of 1975 and about 1300 people have been helped each year. Last year, over 3,000 gifts were collected and delivered. Each tag is for a specific person. Once a tag is taken from the tree, we are counting on a gift for that individual.

TIP: Before you shop, take photo of the gift tag so you have the information with you, and leave the tag at home so it doesn't get lost.

Of His Fullness we have all had a share ...love following upon love. John 1:14,16



MINISTRY UPDATES

LADIES OF CHARITY

We will have our 'Regular' meeting on December 12 in the Gathering Rooms at 7:00 pm. Please bring cookies for our Fellowship table on that date.

Our Christmas party is December 14 at Brookfield Country Club beginning at 11:00 am with a Chinese auction and 50/50 split. All checks for the Charity donations and Christmas party must be in by December. 1.

SENIOR CITIZENS

December 16 is our Annual Christmas Luncheon at Russell's Steak House. The cost for members is \$33.00 and \$35.00 for a guest prior to December 9. Lunch will be served at 1:00 pm. Please sign up and bring payment to our next meeting. Anyone over 55 years of age may attend.

EVENING PRAYER "VESPERS"

Join us for Evening Prayer every Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the Church. Vespers, also called Evening Prayer, gives thanks for the day just past and makes an evening sacrifice of praise to God. For information contact Jeff Criden at 207-4878.

GRIEF AND LOSS BEREAVEMENT MEETING

You are invited to join us for our next meeting on December 4 at 6:30 pm in Gathering room 1. The topic is *Self-Care During the Holidays*. You don't need to be a parishioner. All are welcome!

MOMS PLAYGROUP

Moms and tots, join us for fellowship and fun Thursday, December 5th, from 10:00 am-noon in the Ministry Center basement playroom. Questions contact fanony27@gmail.com.

Upcoming playdates: January 1, February 6 and March 3.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

We invite young parishioners interested in joining the Altar Server Ministry to an upcoming training session. Children in Grade 4 and older can attend the training either on Wednesday, December 4, from 6:30 - 7:30 pm or Saturday, December 7, from 12 noon - 1:00 pm. Please contact Nora Weil at momtojcrew@gmail.com with any questions.

PARISH ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 1

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

Monday, December 2

- 6:00 pm SWAT (*MC Basement*)
- 7:00 pm Coaches/Leaders Meeting (*MC 3*)
- 7:30 pm KOC Monthly Mtg. (*GR 1 & 2*)

Tuesday, December 3

- 4:30 pm Parish Children's Choir Practice (*GR 2*)
- 6:30 pm Troop 440 Patrol Leader Council Mtg. (*MC 3*)
- 7:00 pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal (*GR 2*)
- 7:00 pm Pastor's Executive Council (*MC Café*)
- 7:30 pm BSA Troop 444 Mtg. (*MC Gym*)
- 8:00 pm (11:00 Mass) Adult Choir Rehearsal (*GR 2*)

Wednesday, December 4

- 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry (*MC Gym*)
- 6:30 pm Grief & Loss Monthly Mtg. (*GR 1*)
- 7:00 pm RCIA (*School Classroom #802*)

Thursday, December 5

- 10:00 am MOMS Playgroup (*MC Basement*)
- 6:30 pm SVDP Meeting (*MC 2*)
- 6:30 pm EDGE (*MC Gym, Foyer, Basement*)

Friday, December 6

- 3:00 pm Scouts Retreat (*MC 2 & MC Gym*)
- 5:30 pm American Heritage Girls (*GR 1&2*)

Saturday, December 7

- 10:30 am Respite for Caregivers (*GR 1&2*)

Sunday, December 8

- 10:30 am New Parishioner Social (*GR 1*)
- 1:30 pm Baptisms
- 3:15 pm Worship Ensemble Rehearsal (*Church*)
- 5:30 pm Life Teen (*MC foyer, gym, basement, Café*)

ADULT MISSION TRIP – JULY 2020

*THE SMALLEST LITTLE ACTION CAN EXPLODE INTO
A LIFETIME OF LOVE.*

We will be taking a group of adults ages 21 and over to a Mustard Seed community in Moneague, Jamaica, from July 18-25, 2020. If you are interested, please plan on attending an informational meeting on Wednesday, January 8, at 6:30 pm in Gathering Room 2. Can't make the meeting? Look for mission trip participants in the vestibules after all Masses January 11 and 12, or contact Elizabeth Astridge at stgregsmissiontrip@gmail.com.

Looking to give to a worthy cause this Christmas? Please consider donating to our Mission Trip Ministry! Go to www.stgregs.org, click on "donate now" and follow the link to our Mission Trip Donation page. Thank you for your generosity!

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 30– Vigil Masses

- 4:00 pm Howard Estes by Mom
Jeny & Margaret Burns by Burns Family
- 5:30 pm David C. Haumesser by Linda, Len,
Anne, & Jeffrey Froustet

Sunday, December 1– First Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 am William Bender by Jim & Lois Helferty
Jim & Louise MCPartlan by Family
- 9:30 am Domenick & Rose Nati
by Richard & Donna Suchan
Stanley Smyczynski
by Mr. & Mrs. James Smyczynski
- 11:00 am Thomas J. Santa Lucia
by Thomas & Dolores Santa Lucia
Jeffrey Mruk (Birthday)
by Norbert Mruk Family
- 12:30 pm Nick Iannarelli
by Nadine & Vince Bargnes
- 1:30 pm Baptisms
- 4:30 pm Yap Tian Su by Yu Family

Monday, December 2

- 7:00 am Daniel Wesolowski by Jane wolf
- 8:00 am Holy Souls in Purgatory
by Barbara Pelosi
- 12:00 pm Rev. Ron Mierzwa by Marie Brewer
Carolyn S. Ruffino by Joan V. Spinley

Tuesday, December 3– St. Francis Xavier

- 7:00 am John Culkin by Joanne & Family
- 8:00 am Frank Papa by Bill & Meg Guinigundo
- 12:00 pm Donna L. Fiorella by Cole &
Francine McCarthy

Wednesday, December 4– St. John Damascene

- 7:00 am Leonard Ruminski
By Christopher S. Ruminski Family
- 8:00 am Dottie Hoffman by Dad, Julie, Alan,
A.J. & Stephen
- 12:00 pm Parishioners of St. Gregory the Great

DECEASED

Evelyn Esguerra

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second collection for the Archdiocese for Military Services on November 30 and December 1.

Thursday, December 5

- 7:00 am Edmund Mayer by Linda Dohn
Russell Vilardo by Estate
- 8:00 am Edward J. & Natalie F. Mack by Estate
(School Mass)
- 12:00 pm Patrick Story by Rossi Family

Friday, December 6– St. Nicholas

- 7:00 am James Creed by Fr. Tom Mahoney
- 8:00 am Nicholas Iannarelli by Laura Benedetti
Clara Tan by Patricia Tan & Family
- 12:00 pm Robert Farrington (Birthday)
by Elaine Farrington & Family

Saturday, December 7– St. Ambrose

- 8:00 am Donald Cronin (Birthday)
by Wife, Donna
Andrew Roberts by Neil, Dad, & Becky
- 4:00 pm Lorraine & Henry Wojtowicz
by Gail Wojtowicz
- 5:30 pm Rose & Earl Rinaldo
by Rinaldo & Brand Families
Joanne West by West & Brand Families

Sunday, December 8– Second Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 am Ginger Kothen by Mary Nigam
- 9:30 am Norman Wittig by, Son, Roger
- 11:00 am Ann Marie Bne by Richard Bene
Dorothy M. Olejniczak
by Olejniczak Family & Friends
- 12:30 pm Dr. Marcos B. Gallego (Anniversary)
by Family
Candace Sanders by Capozzi Family
- 1:30 pm Baptisms
- 4:30 pm Gerri De Lac by Son, Eric De Lac
Concepcion Endab by Yu Family



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE ROSARY

The Rosary is one of the most important, meritorious and powerful prayers one can pray. Please consider praying the Rosary after the 8:00 am and 12:00 pm Masses. These prayers “transform” our families, our community, our country and the world in a positive way! Also, on every Saturday, at 12:00 noon, the Rosary for our Country is recited, including an announcement for each state plus the Divine Mercy. In good weather in the Grotto and in inclement weather in the Church. Bring a folding chair, sing Ava Maria and God Bless America after reciting a powerful prayer for our Country.

St. Gregory the Great ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH OFFICE

200 St. Gregory Court; 688-5678 Fax: 688-2315

PASTOR

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

PAROCHIAL VICARS

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FatherThomas@stgregs.org

Fr. Paul S. Cygan (336); pcygan@stgregs.org

Fr. Moses Ikuelogbon (310); FrMoses@stgregs.org

PERMANENT DEACONS

Deacon Michael G. Bochiechio

Deacon Paul Walter; PWalter@stgregs.org

PASTORAL YEAR SEMINARIAN

Joseph Tokasz jtokasz@stgregs.org

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Sr. Shawn Czyzycki (335); sczyzycki@stgregs.org

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Michael Cygan (340) mcygan@stgregs.org

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Marisa Piazza (303); mpiazza@stgregs.org

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Adam Jarosz - College & Young Adult (316);

ajarosz@stgregs.org

Nicole Janecek - Middle School (341);

njanecek@stgregs.org

PARISH NURSE

Lee Zack - (339); lzack@stgregs.org

TRUSTEES: Christie Thein, Thomas Vacanti

SCHOOL OFFICE

250 St. Gregory Court 688-5323 Fax: 688-6629

PRINCIPAL

Julie Gajewski (350); jgajewski@stgregs.org

SCHOOL BOARD - schoolboard@stgregs.org

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

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

250 St. Gregory Court 688-5760 Fax: 639-8251

Office Hours are Monday - Friday from 9:00 am -

2:00 pm and when classes are in session.

DIRECTOR

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:30 am - 4:00 pm

SATURDAY

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

SUNDAY - CLOSED

FORMED

The best Catholic Content. All in one place. St.

Gregory the Great Parish code: **D7B6CQ**

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MASS SCHEDULE

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

SATURDAY: 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm

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

HOLY DAYS: As listed in the Bulletin.

For those who are unable to join us, all Masses can be viewed on our website.

CATHOLIC STORE AND CAFE

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

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

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated every Sunday after the 12:30 pm Mass, ceremony only. All parents desiring Baptism for their child are asked to attend the Pre-Baptismal class at least two months prior to the Baptism. The class is held the first Tuesday of each month, 7:30 pm, in the Ministry Center, Room 2. Call Jo at 688-5678 to register.

PENANCE (CONFESSIONS)

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

WEDDINGS

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

MINISTRY TO SICK, HOSPITALIZED, AND SHUT-INS Sick calls and emergencies – anytime day or night. Call 688-5678. Please call the Parish Office to arrange to receive Holy Communion at home or to report the hospitalization of a parishioner.

Anointing of the Sick – Administered the first Saturday of each month immediately following the 5:30 pm Mass.

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*

FOLLOW ST. GREGORY THE GREAT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Receive daily spiritual quotes, learn about closings, cancellations and updates within the Parish, School, Family Faith Formation or Youth Ministry.

To download Parish App:

IPHONE USERS TEXT: ParishApp1 to 555888

ANDROID USERS TEXT: ParishApp2 to 555888

VISIT YOUR APP STORE: Search WeConnect, Parish App, look for the blue icon above and follow the prompts.



- ◇ Follow St. Gregory the Great Parish, School, Family Faith Formation and Youth Ministry on Facebook!
- ◇ Follow the Parish on Twitter @StGregsBuffalo
- ◇ Follow Youth Ministry on Twitter, and Instragram @stgregsyongadults

