

# SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT PARISH

Spirit and Life Newsletter

Fall 2019

## *Learning about our New Priest — Fr. Moses Ikuelogbon*

*By MK Hartigan and Bella Judge*

*When did you arrive in the United States and what is the best thing you have discovered in Buffalo so far?*

“I arrived September 22, 2013 and spent my first three weeks in a program in Washington, D.C. Then I came to Buffalo and joined the Diocese of Buffalo in 2014. My favorite discoveries in Buffalo so far consist of Buffalo wings, the Maid of the Mist at Niagara Falls, and the various restaurants in Buffalo.”

*What were the factors that led you to pursue the priesthood in Buffalo?*

“There are a lot of priests in the western part of Nigeria, where I come from. A parish like St. Gregory’s would have at least six priests there. When I was in my second year of theology back home, we were enrolled in a course known as Missionary Enterprise in Africa. The course taught how the missionaries came to evangelize the Nigerians, especially those living in western parts of Nigeria. I learned that the missionaries, primarily Irish missionaries, came to Nigeria after being ordained at 24 or 25 years old. I’m a priest here today because they passed the faith down there. America had a shortage of vocations, and since most of us could speak and understand English, we decided to help in the missions abroad. Some went to Germany or Italy, but I thought: ‘Moses, you can speak English, you can either go to England, Australia or America.’ So, I chose America. There were already a few seminarians at Christ the King Seminary and they said, ‘Okay, let’s talk to the Vocations Director, Father Walter Szczesny.’ That’s why I settled in Buffalo.”



MK Hartigan and Bella Judge interview Father Moses while enjoying an ice cream cone at Anderson’s!

*What is your family like?*

“I’m one of seven children. I have four older sisters and two younger brothers. So, I am number five. Unfortunately we lost one of my sisters to the cold hands of death in 2007. I’m from a very devout family. In my early life, my dad would jingle his bell at 5:30 am for morning prayer. Once my dad jingled the bell everybody had to come out. Reciting the family prayer has become part of me. All of my siblings are wonderful and accomplished in their own ways. My baby brother has a degree from the Nautical School of Science, and my immediate younger brother graduated as a civil engineer. My elder sisters are all married. One has a Master’s degree, another has a business degree, and the third has a diploma in hair styling. I’m a family oriented person. I love family systems- our family system: the father, the mother, and the children. And as you know, the family that prays together, lives together happily. So the source of my joy and my happiness comes first from my family.”

## *When did you know that you wanted to become a priest? Did someone inspire you to become a priest?*

“I would say I was about nine or ten years old, after my First Holy Communion. I was serving Mass as an altar server, and I was drawn to the Sanctuary. From the age of three or four, my Dad would grab my hand and we would go to morning Mass. I was really inspired by the priests in my home parish back in Nigeria and gradually, the zeal to become a priest increased. It was first an attraction but gradually, I was drawn to the altar at the Sanctuary, and here we are! Yes, many of the priests back home inspired me. My pastor would take me to nursing homes and hospitals to visit the sick. The way he celebrated Mass and administered the Sacrament of the Sick to the people really endeared my heart and drew me closer to God. Also, parish seminarians would come home and tell us about the seminary. Once I finished high school, I had the intention of going to college to study mechanical engineering or medicine. At the same time, the desire to be a priest was burning deep in my heart as well. I applied to both the seminary and college, praying to God before the Blessed Sacrament that whichever admission came first I would accept. The admission to the seminary came first! I love the priesthood!”

## *How does life in the United States differ from life overseas in your opinion?*

“My first culture shock was when I realized Americans look directly at a person’s face when they are speaking to them. In Nigeria, you do not look into the eyes of your parents when they speak to you. Second was the weather. My first winter in 2013 wasn’t that bizarre. However, the November 2014 snowstorm was crazy. My sister called from Nigeria after seeing the reports on CNN, and I let her know that I was okay. So after experiencing the snowstorm, I think I’m good to go! Also, my palate is changing now that I’ve been here for five years. I went home in 2017 and my Mom made one of my favorite meals, but it was too spicy for me! My Mom wanted to know what the Americans did to me! I’ve learned how to eat American food: pizza, pasta, tuna casserole and a lot of things. I think life in Buffalo is wonderful.”



## *What activities do you like to participate in outside of the priesthood? What hobbies do you have?*

“I’m very athletic. I used to play soccer very well until I broke my wrist and said: ‘Moses, you need this wrist to lift the Precious Body and Blood of Christ,’ so I switched to tennis. Father Paul plays good tennis. We played tennis at the seminary. Father Leon is trying to win me over to play racquetball, so maybe I will learn to play that. I also like to run so I go to Ellicott Creek Park for a jog. You’ve got to have quick feet!”



## *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.

- ◇ Download the St. Gregory the Great Parish Mobile App.
  - ◇ Iphone Users Text: *ParishApp1* to 555888, Andriod Users Text: *ParishApp2* to 555888, follow 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 Instagram @stgregsyouth @stgregsyounadults



## *Celebrating the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)*



Anyone who is considering joining the Catholic Faith is welcome to take part in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). This is the spiritual journey through which adults discern becoming full, active, participating members of the Catholic Church. During this RCIA process, interested persons attend weekly meetings where the team helps them to grow in their relationship with God, become familiar with Catholic teachings and practices, get acquainted with people in the Parish, and get involved in service within the Parish. The RCIA team assists people in their decision to become Catholic, as well as Catholics who wish to be renewed and updated in their Faith. Contact Jerry Peer at 861-5497 or [gpeer@verizon.net](mailto:gpeer@verizon.net)



### *Adult Faith Formation Programs - Fall 2019*

Adult Faith Formation (AFF) meets on a monthly basis and is dedicated to helping Catholics grow in their understanding of Faith and in their personal relationship with God. This ministry sponsors Catholic speakers, retreats, Bible studies, lecture series, liturgical celebrations, spiritual reading resources, and evangelization initiatives. Through this ministry Parishioners are enriched in their understanding of the Catholic Faith, the teachings of the Catholic Church, and current issues relating to our Faith.

**EVANGELIZATION** is another important part of this ministry, which helps Parishioners to recognize their role as evangelizers in the world and how they can welcome, invite, reach out, and share their Faith with others. The primary goal is to reach out to those who have been away from the Church, are not regular attendees, or perhaps have never felt welcomed into a Faith community. This ministry seeks to empower our Parish to be a vibrant spiritual community that welcomes all those who have been hurt by life, and are seeking a Faith community where they can ask their questions and live out their faith.

St. Greg's Parish is excited to announce the Adult Faith Formation opportunities that are available for Fall 2019! See the information below:

- ◇ Bible Study: *Wisdom*, An Eight-Part Bible Study Featuring Jeff Cavins. "*Wisdom is seeing with God's eyes.*"— Pope Francis. This program will run two times a week for eight weeks, Thursday nights at 7:00 pm and Friday mornings at 9:00 am.
  1. You can register online via the St. Greg's website and select "Donate Now" at the top right of the homepage.  
**OR**
  2. Type in <https://tinyurl.com/y35uvjr6> to your web browser and you will be redirected to the registration page  
**OR**
  3. By phone or e-mail to Arlene Meyerhofer 430-5575 or [ameyerhofer@verizon.net](mailto:ameyerhofer@verizon.net)
- ◇ Brown Bag Lunches: *A Biblical Work through the Mass* by Fr. Paul Cygan, running for six weeks, starting Friday, Sept 13 at 1:00 PM. To learn more and register contact Fr. Paul at [pcygan@stgregs.org](mailto:pcygan@stgregs.org) or 688-5678.

## ***Brian Ruh joins the Parish Staff as Director of Evangelization***

Father Leon has announced the appointment of Brian Ruh as St. Greg's new Director of Evangelization. "This is a significant step forward in our parish's mission to reach out to uninvolved Catholics and to deepen the faith life of the people who are already attending regularly", he said. "Brian brings a rich blend of education and practical experience in ministry to this new position".

Brian is a 1986 graduate of East Aurora High School, and earned a B.A. degree in psychology from Geneseo in 1990. He began working at Baker Hall as a mental health specialist. "I loved working with teenage boys who needed special attention", Brian recalls. "It was a rewarding ministry".

In 1995, he became Youth Minister at St. Amelia Church in Tonawanda, working closely with Father Leon, who was Parochial Vicar there at that time. Brian was awarded a Master's degree in Pastoral Ministry, from Christ the King Seminary in 1997. From 2000 to 2004, he was the Campus Minister at St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, then returned to St. Amelia's to take up the work of youth ministry again. Since 2006, he has been a Pastoral Associate at that parish, working in liturgy and adult education.

"I am thrilled to be joining the ministerial team at St. Greg's", he told *Spirit and Life*. "My goal is to build upon and advance the work of the parish Evangelization Committee".

Part of Brian's ministry will be to contact people who are registered in our parish, but who have not been active. Father Leon notes that about one-third of the registered people in any given parish fall into the category of "inactive". He has asked Brian "to reach out and meet these families or individuals one by one to discern why they no longer celebrate our faith, and invite them back".

Brian and his wife Patricia have four daughters. Emily and Eden attend Niagara University, and Monica and Katie are students at Mount Saint Mary Academy in Kenmore.

## ***Volunteers Call on New Neighbors to Welcome Them***

Volunteers from St. Greg's Evangelization Committee have begun calling on people who recently moved in our neighborhood. Three two-person teams are at work, often on Saturday mornings, visiting newcomers and presenting them with a "Welcome Wagon" kit. The kit contains a book and a CD on religious topics, copies of the parish bulletin and *Spirit and Life* and other "goodies".

Joe Dispenza and Shirley Mariathan reported on their visits at a recent committee meeting. "Going door to door finally has value and meaning", Joe said. "It is a joy to welcome newcomers to our neighborhood and our wonderful parish".

"It has been a wonderful experience to get out into the community and welcome new neighbors", Shirley pointed out. "People were warm, friendly, and appreciative.

About 20 parties move into our parish boundaries each month. Presently the teams are visiting people who moved in since March.



**EVANGELIZATION**  
Update on the Welcome Wagon

## *What does Mission mean at St. Greg's?*

Mission is a faith-filled opportunity that engages present and past participants with speakers, liturgies and fellowship. The speakers are passionate in the way they share stories and information, that can encourage participants to reflect on their faith. The liturgies are heart-opening, mind-opening and help build a deeper relationship and understanding to our faith. Mission creates a sense of fellowship and community that inspires you to become more involved in the ministries of our Parish. Mission isn't about just "making mission", but being part of a team that can open your heart and mind to the possibilities to make dynamic changes in your faith and community.



**Participants in July's Mission 37**

Mission is looking to connect with all past and future participants. Please email [missionretreat@stgregs.org](mailto:missionretreat@stgregs.org) today to learn more about how you can become involved. Join us for our "8th Night" Reunion on September 13! Please email [Missionretreat@stgregs.org](mailto:Missionretreat@stgregs.org) for more information and to RSVP!

"Mission came for me, at a time when my life was and is in the midst of a storm. I was hoping to gain strength as well as to strengthen my trust in Jesus. Mission did exactly this for me. It was reinforced to me that Jesus is right here with us, holding our hands, carrying us, and guiding us through the storms in our lives. Even though we cannot see HIM. HE is right there getting us through. Mission helped me to lean on Jesus even more to gain inner peace." ~Karen, Mission 37

"Mission XXXVII changed my life. God is so awesome and so peaceful at the same time and I know that my prayer and faith life has been re-energized and a spark has been re-lit in my heart. It gives me great peace and joy knowing that I am able to reach out to not only friends but family in this Mission Team. I have hope again. We all witnessed and experienced a slice of what heaven is like." ~Liz, Mission 37

"Mission to us was like the feeling you get when looking at freshly cut, lush, green lawn that is now symmetrical and perfectly trimmed! When we allowed ourselves to look at our spirit in the context of Mission week, with all of the beautifully planned activities, it was absolutely amazing!" ~Peter & Sue, Mission 37

"My next door neighbor told me about Mission. She and her daughter had made Mission and were so enthused about it that it sparked an interest for me. I did not know if it would be possible for me to attend because my husband was having serious health problems. But I felt CALLED to make Mission wondering why and for what the Lord was calling me. My husbands problems were calmed and I was able to attend. I especially loved the liturgies and was truly refreshed in faith through the process." ~Carol, Mission 37

## *St. Greg's Students Raise \$7800 to Provide Water for African Village*

Fifth graders at St. Gregory the Great School in Williamsville read Linda Sue Park's book, *A Long Walk to Water* (ISBN 978-0-547-57731). The book is fiction, but based on fact. Nya is a young girl living in a waterless village in South Sudan. She has to walk a long distance several times a day in order to get water for her family. Perseverance and working toward and attaining goals are the central themes. After reading the book, the students had a discussion with their teacher, Julie Rappold, about what they could do to help people like Nya, who lack ready access to water.

They became aware of an enterprise called "Water for South Sudan" that drills wells in that country. They learned they would need to raise \$7800 to pay for the well, and they decided to go for it. They used letter-writing skills learned in English class to craft personal letters to friends and family members, and business letters to companies, asking for their support. They developed and presented a power point presentation for parishioners. They organized a school-wide "Walk for Water" in which students did a one-mile trek while carrying water jugs, after soliciting sponsors.

It took a year and a half, but they crossed the finish line this past spring, and on May 24 got thrilling news from the well drillers:

"From our team in South Sudan, we are excited to inform you that the well you sponsored has been drilled. We hope you are as inspired by this as we are. Thank you for helping us provide clean water and countless opportunities for communities in South Sudan."

Miss Rappold beams with pride in her students. "Their amazing effort and hard work on this campaign helped achieve our goal, and made a difference for the people of South Sudan", she notes. St. Gregory School Principal Julie Gajewski agrees. "I am thrilled that our school is developing compassionate leaders who are disciples of Christ, not just in name, but in fact, by literally giving drink to the thirsty."



**St. Gregory  
the Great  
School**

# Women's Enrichment

A Ministry of St. Gregory the Great R.C. Church

Presents A Day of Spiritual Renewal

## “The Ordinary IS Extraordinary, Our God-Given Gifts”

*“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:14-16*

FEATURING SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

## KIMBERLY COOK, M.A.T.S.

WRITER, PODCASTER, AND CATHOLIC APOLOGIST

Music provided by Nancy Erdman

**Saturday, October 5, 2019**

**10:00 am until 2:30 pm (9:45 arrival)**

**St. Gregory the Great Ministry Center**

**220 St. Gregory Ct.**

**Williamsville, NY 14221**

**Registration \*\$35**

**\*Includes catered buffet lunch, desserts, morning and afternoon refreshments**

**Prior registration is required, and seating is limited.** You may register one of three ways: mail the slip below, place the slip in the basket at mass or register online using this link: [www.tinyurl.com/WEjoy](http://www.tinyurl.com/WEjoy) **NO LATER THAN September 30<sup>th</sup>**. Make checks payable to St. Gregory the Great, Write “Women’s Enrichment Day” in the memo. For more information contact Joycelyn (Joy) Bila at 834-0128 or [jbila@hotmail.com](mailto:jbila@hotmail.com)

I will attend the Women’s Enrichment Day of Spiritual Renewal on October 5, 2019

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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Email \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_

## Great Dinner Auction to be Held on November 2nd

You Are Invited to The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Great Dinner Auction  
 “An Evening of Stars”

**Date:** Saturday, November 2, 5:30 pm

**Location:** Salvatore’s Italian Gardens

**Cost:** \$110 Per Person

Join us on November 2 at Salvatore’s Italian Gardens for a spectacular dinner event with a silent and live auction. It will be a great evening of cocktails, hors d’oeuvres and a grand silent auction beginning at 6:00 pm. A gala dinner follows with a Live Auction, live music and entertainment. The Auction benefits our entire parish family. We hope you will be a part of making it a success!

This year we honor Joseph Couche and Rosemary Spano on our “Wall of Fame” honor at the parish. This is the St. Gregory the Great Cornerstone Award. In their giving of time, talent and treasure to our parish, they become the “cornerstone” in our church today. We will honor them at this event.

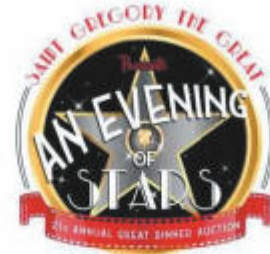
Check out our great auction items online at: <http://stgregthegreat.maestroweb.com/>

If you have any questions or would like to purchase a ticket to the event, please contact the Parish Business Office or Auction Office (688-5678 x 337 or email us at [dinnerauction@gmail.com](mailto:dinnerauction@gmail.com)).



### St. Gregory the Great 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Great Dinner Auction Saturday November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

Honoring recipients of the  
 Cornerstone Award  
 Joseph Couche  
 Rosemary Spano



#### Dinner Auction Sponsorship Opportunities

##### Table Sponsorships

*includes seating for 10*

The Producer \$3,500

The Director \$2,500

The Spotlight \$1,500

*Please see website for description of sponsorship tables*

##### More Sponsorship & Advertising Opportunities

Bid Sheets \$1,200

Favors \$1,200

Valet Parking \$1,100

Wine/Gift Pull \$ 600

Gym Banner \$ 600

Golden Raffle \$ 600

Photo Booth \$ 600

##### Catalog Advertising

Inside Front Cover 4/C \$ 750

Inside Back Cover 4/C \$750

Full Page B/W \$400

Half Page B/W \$250

¼ Page B/W \$150

Business Card AD \$ 95

\$25 Shout Out to Cornerstone Honorees  
 Acknowledge these honorees in the dinner program  
 (3-4 short lines of appreciation)

If you are interested please contact  
 Cindy Reitebach in the auction office at  
 688-5678 ext 337 or [dinnerauction@gmail.com](mailto:dinnerauction@gmail.com)



*Where are they now?*  
*St. Greg's 2019 Grade 8 Graduates*

Last Name	First Name	School	Last Name	First Name	School
Ackerman	Evelyn	SHA	Luzon-Sax	Conner	SJCI
Allen	Amanda	SHA	Marchese	Brandon	out of state
Anain	Michael	CHS	Martin	Mary Margaret	NARDIN
Basile	Phillip	W. EAST	May	Caroline	NICHOLS
Brannen	Alexandrea	NICHOLS	McFarlane	Payton	SHA
Cercone	Catarina	NARDIN	Mercure	Annabelle	SHA
Cotter	Edward	GOW	Mundie	Evan	SJCI
DenHaese	Mia	NARDIN	Murphy	Jacob	SJCI
Domino	Gabriel	SJCI	Myszka	Natalie	NARDIN
Eberhard	Michael	SJCI	Nitsche	Haley	SHA
Ezenwa	Kelechi	SHA	O'Donnell	Morgan	SHA
Fay	William	SJCI	Peyser	Daniel	CHS
Filk	Kristin	NARDIN	Ratchuk	Carly	SHA
Gallagher	Maeve	W. SOUTH	Reichenberg	Jonah	SFHS
Gallagher	Mia	W. SOUTH	Richardson	Maxine	SHA
Garcia	Peter	SFHS	Rosenecker	Michael	SJCI
Grable	John	SJCI	Rubino	Andrew	CHS
Greco	Samuel	SJCI	Scimia	Mary	NARDIN
Gruttadauria	Jack	SJCI	Smith	Summer	NARDIN
James	Jocelyn	NARDIN	Smith	Jack	CHS
Joseph	Ashton	CHS	Stamm	Molly	NARDIN
Judge	Luke	SJCI	Straeck	Caleb	W. NORTH
Kraus	Katherine	NARDIN	Taft	Elizabeth	SHA
Kurzdorfer	Janina	SHA	Tefera	Ruth	W. NORTH
Langl	Evan	W. SOUTH	Vaccaro	Vanessa	NARDIN
Ledesma	Emily	NARDIN	Wehr	Mercedes	SHA
Lee	Christian	SJCI	Welsh	Daniel	CHS
Lennon	Briege	SHA	Wesolowski	Stephen	CHS
Leonard	Nathaniel	CHS	Wheeler	Maria	SHA
Leone	Gianna	SHA	Whissel	Sophia	SHA
Lupas	Isabella	W. SOUTH	Wood	Ashley	SHA

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## *Youth and Young Adult Ministry Brave II Coming Fall 2019!*

*By Adam Jarosz*

**BRAVE II**

Fall Young Adult Retreat

*Allegany State Park  
Camp Turner*

NOVEMBER 8-10

18-30somethings invited for  
this overnight experience and  
recharge to **BRAVE** the world

Details & Registration  
[stgregsym.org/events/ya-retreat-brave-ii](http://stgregsym.org/events/ya-retreat-brave-ii)

SG **YM**<sup>3</sup> Questions Contact Adam Jarosz  
[ajarosz@stgregs.org](mailto:ajarosz@stgregs.org) - 688-3578

Our mission, “To lead people to Christ with authentic holiness and radical hospitality,” is more relevant today than ever. With so much news and distraction from who we are as a Church, it has been imperative to create a culture where people come home to Jesus. We take this mindset into Youth & Young Adult Ministry by developing a faithful and fearless community that inspires word of mouth invitation. While challenges exist in the Church and world today, we are not embarrassed to be Catholic and work to make sure the beauty of the Faith shines bright. Saints are created and called in times like this.

Young Adult Ministry has been growing beyond where I thought we would be now. Our team has been focused on building relationships and great nights with Amped. We are now attracting 40-50 participants an event. We’ve had two powerful retreats this year, Brave and Flourish, which has proven to be fertile ground in evangelization. Brave II is coming this November and looks to be our strongest event yet. We’re already looking forward to our third run of Exodus 90, developing Faith and discipline in men to be better for the Lord and the world. For our ladies, a new Women’s Community is taking root and promises a fresh take on the faithful, feminine heart.



### *St. Greg’s Launches New Parish App*

St. Gregory the Great is always looking for ways to enhance the way we communicate with Parishioners. We are excited to announce a re-launch of our old Parish App. The new app has

- Bulletin - View our most recent Bulletin the moment it is available online.
- Daily Readings - Follow the daily readings at home or during Mass.
- Online Giving - Manage your online giving account.
- Calendar - View upcoming events.
- School, FF and YM - Quick access to the each Ministry’s websites.

One of the best features is the ability to sign up for Parish Notifications. This allows us to send notifications in case of emergency for closings, updates and so much more!

**To download:** IPHONE USERS TEXT: ParishApp1 to 555888, ANDROID USERS TEXT: ParishApp2 to 555888, look for the icon above and follow the prompts. Contact Marisa Piazza at the Parish Business Office at [mpiazza@stgregs.org](mailto:mpiazza@stgregs.org) with questions.



## *Disciple Camp Provides a Variety of Enriching Experiences*

Enterprising young people took advantage of their summer vacation from school by taking part in “camps”. There is Soccer camp for those who aspire to the next Lionel Messi, Football camp for those who hope one day to play in the NFL, and Hockey camp for Patrick Kane wannabes. These camps help boys and girls get better at their game.

St. Gregory’s Disciple Camp aims at helping participants to become better at following Jesus. This summer some sixty young parishioners in grades five through eight took part in the camp for five days in July. The camp includes the full religion curriculum for each grade, as established by the diocese, but also lots of special and enriching experiences. Children learned about Eucharistic Adoration and had a chance to experience time in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. They visited the parish Lourdes shrine, where they learned about St. Bernadette’s apparitions and prayed the rosary. They ran a car wash to benefit the Doktor family, who will soon become missionaries in a foreign land. For their Outreach projects, Disciple Camp students collected \$423 for Catholic Charities and collected kid--friendly “meals in a can” for St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry.



Disciple campers wash cars to benefit a missionary family.



Fifth graders Sal Tomasello, Cameron Durnford, and Elisa Prelewicz at Eucharistic Adoration.

## *Children’s Envelopes*

Many years ago Msgr. Wright began a giving program for our Parish children. He believed it was important to instill in our young parishioners, the future of our Faith, with the importance of giving to their parish and their community. Since its inception, each year every child in our School and Family Faith Formation program receive contributions envelopes with the intent that half of what is given in these envelopes would stay in our Parish and half would go to charities directly helping children. Every week a small stack of the children’s envelopes are placed in the collection basket with their parents’ contributions. The children’s are counted and tallied separately. Over the years the children of St. Gregory the Great Parish have donated over \$22,000 to charities including Children’s Hospital, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Variety Club of Buffalo, Camp Good Days and Special Times, Catholic Charities, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Sisters Hospital, CF Foundation, Miracle League of Grand Island and WNY, and St. Jude’s Research Hospital.



As the new school year begins and your children bring home their envelopes for the new year, please discuss with them their significance and how every little bit helps their Parish and their community.

**PLEASE DELIVER BY SEPTEMBER 15**

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Spirit & Life

Fall 2019



- Catholic Marriage Workshop - Sept. 11
- Brown Bag Lunch: A Biblical Work through the Mass - Sept. 13 (6 weekly sessions)
- FFF and Great Auction: Buffalo Bills Family Day - Sept. 15
- SVDP - Furniture Drive - Sept 21, Oct. 5, Nov. 2 and 15
- Healing from Divorce/Separation - Oct. 15-17
- Flu Shot Clinic - Oct. 12 and 13
- SVDP - Food Drive - Oct. 25 and 26
- Great Dinner Auction - Nov. 2
- Grief and Loss Remembrance Mass - Nov. 6
- Brave II - Nov. 8-11
- KOC - Pancake Breakfast - Nov. 17
- Annulment Workshop - Nov. 23
- Craft Show - Nov. 29 and 30
- Advent Night of Recollection - Music Event - Dec. 5
- National Night of Prayer for Life - Dec. 8
- Parish Advent Penance Service - Dec. 10
- Living Nativity - Dec. 26 and 27
- H.S.A. School Meat Raffle - Jan. 31
- Eucharistic Adoration 18th Anniversary Mass - Feb. 2
- Parish Lenten Retreat - March 2, 3 and 4
- Scout Sunday Mass - March 8
- MOMS Lenten Stations of the Cross - March 20