Saint Gregory the Great Catholic Church

Parish Office: 651.674.4056 Formation Office: 651.674.7382
Parish Office/Bulletin email: info@stgregorynb.org
Formation Office email: education@stgregorynb.org
www.stgregorynb.org

Sunday Masses

Saturday
5:00 pm Vigil

Sunday
9:30 am
Rosary at 9:00 am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday & Thursday
10:00 am

Wednesday & Friday
9:00 am

Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help on Wednesday at 8:40 am

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday 10:30 am - 6:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 4:00 pm

Clergy

Pastor:
Fr. Shane Stoppel-Wasinger
Deacon Kevin Downie

Assisting Priests:
Fr. Chuck Brambilla
Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald
Fr. Bob Nygaard

Parish Staff

Faith Formation: Joan Hetherington, Claire Kind, Shawn Yerges
Mission Trip Coordinator: Vince Hendren
Music Director: Cathie Hendren
Bookkeeper: June Cierzan
Admin Asst: Barb Schleicher

Congratulations 1st Holy Communicants!

May you feel the presence of the Lord now and forever as your receive Him at your First Holy Communion.

Sunday, April 18, 2021
EmileeDeterman
Alissa Sjodahl

Sunday, April 25, 2021
Aiden Dick
Hunter Kovarik
Cameron Long

May 9 | 6th Sunday of Easter
May 16 | The Ascension of the Lord

If you or a loved one would like your name included on the Prayer Chain, the Sunday Prayers of the Faithful and/or the bulletin contact the Parish office. Permission from the individual must be given before we can list their name in the Prayers of the Faithful or the bulletin.

Prayer, at its heart, is an act of faith, asking God to step in and believing that He is willing and able to listen to us. There is no prayer intention too large or too small, you can ask for God's help with every need.

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Almighty God, we lift up all those who are facing illness today. We ask that you would bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of Your love. Amen.

Continued prayers for: Betty Stoffel, David Nieve, Todd Olund, Brian Hoppe, Richard McCargar, Theresa Contras, Jim Kelly, Shayna Evans, Ron Schleicher, Maxine Gelbmann, Jennifer Millsap, Jeanette Krueger, Don & Vivian DeMuth, Amy Forkner, Rosemary Morrison, Vivian Olson, John Maksymkiw

Readings for the week of May 9, 2021
Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17
Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 & 9/Jn 15:26—16:4
Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11
Wed: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15
Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3-4/Jn 16:16-20
Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20
Friday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Jn 15:9-17
Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28

Readings for the week of May 16, 2021
Sunday: Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20
Seventh Sunday of Easter: Acts 1:15-17,20, 20-26/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19
Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21/Jn 17:1-11
Wed: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30, 33-35, 35-36/Jn 17:11-19
Thurs: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2 & 5, 7-8, 9-10/Jn 17:20-26
Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20/Jn 21:15-19
Saturday: Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 & 7/Jn 21:20-25
Next Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29,/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

BLESSED DOM JUSTO TAKAYAMA

Takayama Ukon was born in approximately the year 1552 in Haibara, Yamato, Japan. He was the eldest son of Takayama Tomoteru, who was the lord (daimyō) of Sawa Castle and was a retainer of Matsunaga Hisahide. Takayama Hikogorō was an educated and cultured man. He was regarded as "a great general, ingenious strategist, master of the tea ceremony, a harmonious personality and above all a Saintly Christian." He was dedicated to his faith and even gave up his position as a daimyō as a result.

His childhood name was Hikogorō and his coming of age name was Shigetomo. His father Takayama Tomoteru became a Christian in 1564. Both father and son were baptized by the Jesuit missionary Gaspar di Lella. The then twelve year old Hikogorō taking Justin Martyr as his patron became known as Justus Ukon Takayama (or in the West, as Dom Justo Takayama).

As he continued his training and studies, Takayama's enthusiasm for the faith waned until he was about twenty years old, when he became a fervent evangelizer. The family's exalted position in feudal Japan gave them control over vast lands and armies. Dom Justo served as feudal governor of Takatsuki from age 21, and later as governor of Akashi. This made it possible for them to give assistance to Jesuit missionaries as they expanded their reach into the country. Conversions brought about through the help of Dom Justo are believed to number in the tens of thousands during an era in which the oppressive regime of the chancellor Toyotomi Hideyoshi was bearing down on Catholic Christians.

Problems began to arise in 1565 when Matsunaga Hisahide assassinated the shogun Ashikaga Yoshiteru, which led to a war within the province of Yamato with the Miyoshi clan. During the feud, Sawa Castle was lost, causing the Takayama clan to flee and ended up in the service of Oda Nobunaga while serving under Wada Koremasa in 1568.

As an era of dramatic persecution of Christians grew, Toyotomi demanded of Dom Justo a complete renunciation of either his faith or his fiefdom. The samurai chose to renounce his fiefdom, walking away from worldly power and voluntarily embracing poverty over obedience to a despot.

He lived under the protection of friends and allies for several decades, but in 1614, when Toyotomi's successor prohibited the Christian faith outright, Dom Justo left Japan from Nagasaki, leading 300 Catholics into exile in the city of Manila in the Philippines so they could again practice their faith. He died there, forty days later while praying the Rosary, the only daimyō to be buried on Philippine soil. Witnesses testified that the persecutions he had suffered in Japan had brought about his early demise.

In 1775, Saint Alphonsus Ligouri, having studied the life and death of Dom Justo and all available papers at the time, concluded "Since Takayama died in exile because of the weaknesses caused by the maltreatments he suffered in his homeland, the process is that of a martyr."

The 2017 beatification of Dom Justo was the fifth Japanese beatification ceremony since the Twenty-Six Martyrs of Japan were beatified in 1627.

Article courtesy of Bob Rawson Guest Writer

PARISH NEWS

THANK YOU:
Many thanks to all who donated to our **rummage sale** on May 1. A total of $1,920.00 was brought in. These funds will be used for our youth mission trip this summer. Thank you!

BRINGING UP GIFTS AT MASS:
Starting in the near future, we will resume bringing up the gifts of bread and wine at our weekend Masses. We are able to now do this safely since a parishioner has custom-made a cover for the ciborium. A ciborium is the name of the plate we use to distribute the Body of Christ during Holy Communion.

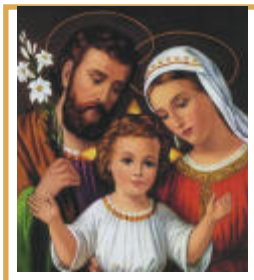
DIOCESE OF COLORADO SPRINGS:
Please keep Bishop-Elect James "Jim" Golka, who was appointed the new bishop of the Diocese of Colorado Springs on April 30. He is currently a priest of the Diocese of Grand Island, NE serving as the vicar general and rector at the Cathedral of Saint Mary in Grand Island. Bishop-Elect Jim is a Saint Paul Seminary classmate of Fr. Shane and the first of their class to have a bishop.

WE NEED YOUR PHOTOS!
We are looking for past and recent pictures of St. Gregory for any and all parish life including Booya, Fall Festival, Summer Festival, Knights of Columbus, Graduation, First Communion, Baptisms, Coffee Sunday and Fellowship, Fr. Shane, Mary and Martha Group, ect. Send your photos to Webmaster@stgregorynb.org **in a Jpg format** so we can crop if needed. These would be uploaded to the new website so we would like to get them as soon as possible. Also, there will be a "Memorial" section where we can upload a photo and include 40 words or less about the deceased. Memorial should have the first and last name, age and they would have been a parishioner of St. Gregs.

YOUTH ALTAR SERVERS RETURNING
we plan to have youth altar servers again at each weekend Mass starting June 1. A letter was sent out to all current youth altar servers. This past week.

NEW ALTAR SERVERS. All interested youth from the end of third grade through high school, who would like to start serving at Saturday or Sunday Mass, please contact the parish office or Father Shane at Shaneow02@aol.com. Depending on how many youth are interested in serving, a group or individual training session will take place either in late May or early June. Also, if your'e an adult and would like to serve, please contact Father Shane.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE
We will be preparing the Liturgical Ministry Schedule for June, July, August and the first weekend in September, which is Labor Day Weekend.. Please send the dates you do **not want to be scheduled** to info@stgregorynb.org by Tuesday, May 18th in order to have your requests honored.



SYNOD PRAYER INTENTION

May Synod Prayer Intention:
Young Husband of Mary
That as St. Joseph dedicated his youthful energy to caring for Jesus and Mary,
we would dedicate ours to the formation of youth and young adults in and for a Church that is always young, we pray to the Lord.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

St. Gregory's will have an opening for a bookkeeper this summer.
If you or someone you know has bookkeeping experience and would like to work part time, generally one day per week.
Please contact Fr. Shane in the parish office.

Envelope, Plate, and eGiving Weekly Collection	
Weekly Goal	$4,610
Collected for April 25	$4,494 (+/-) $(116)
Collected for May 2	$5,440 (+/-) $830
YTD Weekly Goal and Collection	
YTD Goal	$198,230
Actual Collected	$194,601
Actual Collected Plus/Minus	$(3,629)
May Monthly Utility Goal and Collection	
Goal	$835
Actual	$260
Plus—Minus	$(575)
May Monthly MDR Goal/Collection	
Goal	$1,000
Actual	$5605
Plus—Minus	$(440)

April 2nd Collection: Catholic Home Mission $723
Rummage Sale for Mission Trip: $1,596.70
Thank you for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, May 11
10:00 a.m. †Annie Stoppel
Wednesday, May 12
St. Nerreus and Achilleus
9:00 a.m. Open
Thursday, May 13
Our Lady of Fatima
10:00 a.m. Open
Friday, May 14
St. Mattias
9:00 a.m. Open
Saturday, May 15
St. Isidore
5:00 p.m. Open
Sunday, May 16
The Ascension of the Lord
9:30 a.m. Open
Tuesday, May 18
St. John I
10:00 a.m. †Sonny Stoppel
Wednesday, May 19
9:00 a.m. Open
Thursday, May 20
St. Bernardine of Siena
10:00 a.m. Margaret Rose Sittard Reilly & Family
Friday, May 21
St. Christopher Magallanes
9:00 a.m. Open
Saturday, May 22
St. Rita of Cascia
5:00 p.m. Daniel Josiah Rickard—Healing
Sunday, May 23
Pentecost Sunday
9:30 a.m. The Parish

May 15 & 16 Celebrants		
Fr. Fitzgerald	St. Gregory	5:00 p.m.
Fr. Shane/Dea Kevin	Sacred Heart	9:00 a.m.
Fr. Fitzgerald	St. Gregory	9:30 a.m.
May 22 & 23 Celebrants		
Fr. Fitzgerald	St. Gregory	5:00 p.m.
Fr. Nygaard	Sacred Heart	9:00 a.m.
Fr. Fitzgerald/Dea Kevin	St. Gregory	9:30 a.m.

CALENDAR

Tuesday, May 11
10:00 a.m. Mass—Church
7:00 p.m. NA Meeting—Parish Hall

Wednesday, May 12
8:45 a.m. Devotion to Our Lady Of Perpetual Help—Church
9:00 a.m. Mass—Church

Thursday, May 13
10::00 a.m. Mass—Church
10:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration—Church

Friday, May 14
9:00 a.m. Mass—Church

Saturday, May 15
4:00 p.m. Reconciliation—Confessional
5:00 p.m. Mass—Church

Sunday, May 16
9:00 a.m. Rosary—Church
9:30 a.m. Mass—Church

Tuesday, May 18
10:00 a.m Mass—Church
7:00 p.m. NA Meeting—Parish Hall

Wednesday, May 19
8:45 a.m. Devotion to Our Lady Of Perpetual Help—Church
9:00 a.m. Mass—Church

Thursday, May 20
10:00 a.m. Mass—Church
10:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration—Church

Friday, May 21
9:00 a.m. Mass—Church

Saturday, May 22
4:00 p.m. Reconciliation—Confessional
5:00 p.m. Mass—Church

Sunday, May 23
9:00 a.m. Rosary—Church
9:30 a.m. Mass—Church

PENTECOST SUNDAY

May 22 & 23 we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost and the closing of the Easter Season! Please consider wearing red to Mass this weekend.

After Pentecost, we celebrate three solemnities of the Lord: the feast of the Most Holy Trinity, May 29 & 30; the feast of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, also known as Corpus Christi on June 5 & 6; and finally, the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 11.

Each of these liturgical feasts brings to light a perspective that enables us to embrace the entire scope of the mystery of the Christian faith: respectively, the reality of God as One and Triune, the sacrament of the Eucharist, and the divine and human center of the Person of Christ. These are in truth the various aspects of the one mystery of salvation, which, in a certain way, sums up the whole itinerary of Jesus' revelation, from the incarnation to the death and resurrection, up to the ascension and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Excerpt taken from Holy Days: Meditations on the Feasts, Fasts, and Other Solemnities of the Church.
By Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

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