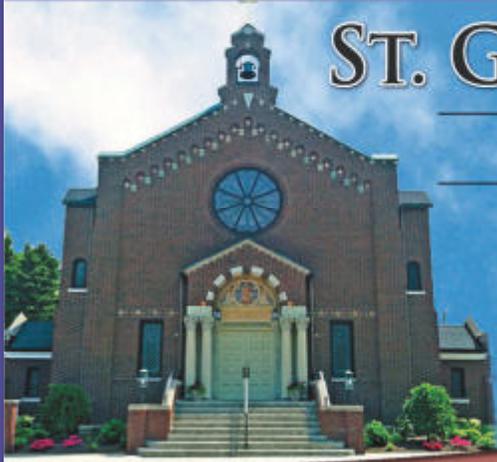


48 SOUTH PEARL STREET • NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428

ST. GREGORY THAUMATURGUS

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



PARISH OFFICE: 136 W. MAIN ST. • NORTH EAST, PA 16428

Parish Office Phone: 814-725-9691 • Fax: 814-725-1225

Website: www.stgregoryparish.info • Email: stgregs@roadrunner.com

School Phone: 814-725-4571 • Cemetery Phone: 814-725-9691

OFFICE HOURS: Monday–Thursday: 9AM–3PM; Friday: 9AM–Noon

MASS SCHEDULE

Winter

Saturday.....5:00 PM
Sunday....7:30, 9:00 & Noon

Weekday

Mon., Tues. Wed. & Fri.: 8:00 AM
at St. Gregory Church
Thursday....12:10 PM at St. Gregory
Church

*Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion
following the 8:00 AM Mass on
Wednesday*

STAFF

Pastor, Rev. Thomas Brooks

*Permanent Deacon,
Rev. Mr. Richard Winschel,*

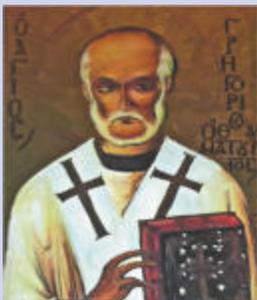
Pastoral Minister, Cindy Riefstahl

Faith Formation Leader, Jennifer Humes

Administrative Assistant, Patti Prindle

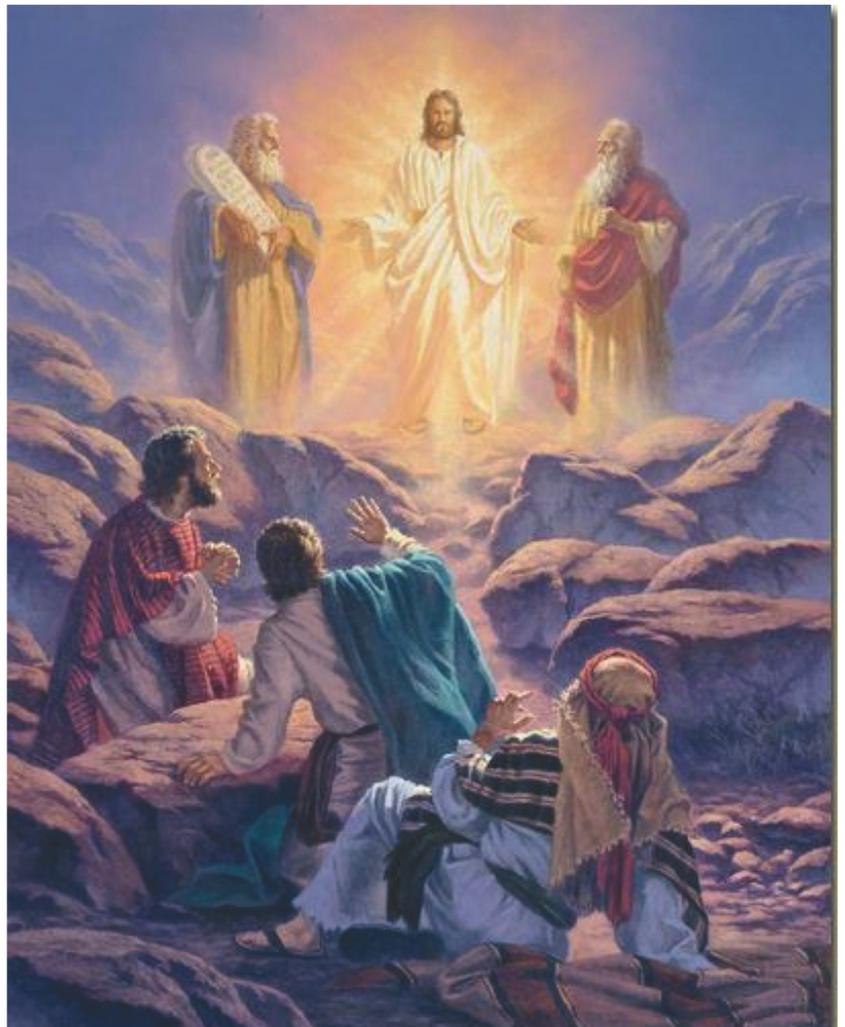
Director of Sacred Music, Corey Spacht

*School Principal Team: Ms. Allissa
Bowman, Mrs. Amy Kloss, Ms. Nancy
Pierce*



St. Gregory Thaumaturgus, Wonder-Worker, inspire us to a more lively faith, hope and charity through prayer, love for God and generous service to God's people. Amen!

FEBRUARY 28, 2021



2nd Sunday of Lent

“Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them.” Mk 9:2-3

*A Welcoming Family Of Faith
In The Heart Of
North East, Pennsylvania*



*Celebrating Our 145th Anniversary
As A Parish Family And The
95th Anniversary Of Our Church*

SACRAMENT INFORMATION

Baptism – A baptism preparation session is required of all parents wishing to have their child(ren) baptized. Parents must pre-register for the session. Baptisms are celebrated during Mass, following the last Mass on Sunday, or by special arrangement. Please schedule by calling the Parish Office.

First Reconciliation/Eucharist – Children entering the 2nd & 3rd grades and who are active in the Faith Formation process (including St. Gregory Parish School children) are eligible to enter the sacramental preparation sessions. Sacraments are celebrated in late winter and spring.

Confirmation – High School youth who are entering the 11th grade and who are active in the Faith Formation process or attend a Catholic High School are eligible to enter the Confirmation preparation program. Sessions begin in the fall and Confirmation is celebrated in the spring.

Matrimony – Call the Parish Office at least 6 months prior to the anticipated wedding date. Church date and arrangements should precede all other wedding plans.

Anointing of the Sick – The Sacrament is available to all those who are seriously ill or advanced in age. Please call the Parish Office to request a visit by the priest.

Reconciliation – The sacrament is celebrated weekly on Saturday from 4:00 – 4:30 PM, or by request. There are two multi-parish celebrations during Advent and Lent.

PARISHIONER INFORMATION

We are a welcoming Family of Faith who rejoice in God's many blessings! All members of the Parish receive envelopes and parish mailings. St. Gregory Parish is a Sacrificial Giving Parish, committed to serving the Lord through use of God-given time, talent and treasure. Please use the membership form in the bulletin or visit the Parish Office to register.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children ages 4-10 are invited to participate in a special Liturgy of the Word during the 9:00 AM Sunday Mass.

BULLETIN INFORMATION

Groups or individuals wishing to have information published in the bulletin are asked to submit the information in writing, by e-mail or by phone call by Monday at 1:00 PM.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Interested in the Catholic Faith? Desire to receive the Sacraments you missed like Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation? The R.C.I.A. process is meant for you! Please call the Parish Office for more information.

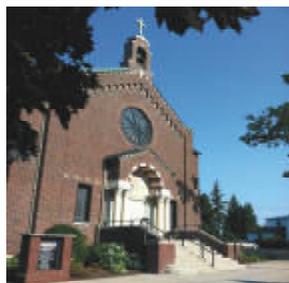
PRAYER LINE

Add your request for prayer by calling Rosemary Repko at 814-602-6271

THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

Including the office for The Protection Of Children and Youth
<http://www.eriecd.org/protectyouth.htm>

Saint Gregory Thaumaturgus Parish At A Glance...



St. Gregory Church
48 South Pearl St. 814-725-9691
Pastor, Rev. Thomas Brooks

Permanent Deacon,
Rev. Mr. Richard Winschel



**St. Gregory Parish Office
and Our Mother of
Perpetual Help Chapel**
136 W. Main St.
814-725-9691
Fax 814-725-1225
www.stgregoryparish.info
stgregs@roadrunner.com



St. Gregory Parish School
140 W. Main St.
814-725-4571
Fax 814-725-4572
gregory1@stgregs.net
www.stgregs.net



St. Gregory Cemetery
West Main St. & Brickyard Rd
814-725-9691

Dear Members and Friends of the St. Gregory Parish Family,

As we celebrate this Lenten Season together, friends, it seems to me that there is a lot less emphasis these days on “*fasting from*,” and “*offering up*,” particular foods than there used to be in the past. I can’t speak for everyone, of course, so please feel free to agree or disagree with that observation. It’s my recollection that there were no candy bars allowed, no desserts to be enjoyed, and no soft drinks to be gulped down until Easter Sunday finally arrived. Lent seemed to last forever, but there was no greater happiness to be found than discovering that first Easter Basket and enjoying its sugary contents! Surely “*heaven*” must be a place just filled from end to end with such amazing chocolate treats!

While perhaps not as severe as we may recall from the past, fasting and sacrifice still hold an important place in our observance of Lent and Catholic culture. Through sacrifice and self-deprivation we unite ourselves with Jesus, His journey to Calvary, and the death He endured on the cross. Our offerings keep us mindful of all He suffered out of love for us. Also, those pleasures we “*offer up*” surely keep us mindful of God’s benevolence and the gratitude we should have and express for so many wonderful gifts. The old adage that “*absence makes the heart grow fonder*” can easily apply as we fast, offer up, and sacrifice during this Lenten Season. Easter truly becomes an even greater day of thanks and celebration as we “*rise up*” from our sacrifices to share in the joy of the resurrection!

That being said, we need to recall that the idea of “*fasting*” not only applies to foods and beverages when it comes to Lent and true sacrifice. On the Friday following Ash Wednesday, God’s Word to us from the Prophet Isaiah clearly addressed the issue of fasting from food. Noting the people’s hypocrisy, that they would fast from food but fail in charity, the Prophet speaks to them in the Lord’s name: “*This is the fasting that I wish – releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke; sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own.*” (Isaiah 58, 6-7) You see, friends, God’s Word never suggests that we should stop fasting or doing our best to offer appropriate sacrifices, rather, we are reminded of the importance of also “*fasting*” from any kind of selfishness or whatever would keep us from sharing God’s love and kindness with our sisters and brothers.

Actually, friends, there are all kinds of things that we could “*fast from*” during the Lenten Season as we do our best to live more like our Lord. How about “*fasting*” from jealousy in favor of being more grateful for what we do have? How about doing our best to point out the positive in people and “*fasting*” from the negative that brings everyone down? Could we possibly be less judgmental and “*fast*” from being so quick to point out the faults of others, realizing how loving and forgiving God has been to us? Could we proclaim a “*fast*” from the self-pity that can consume us and focus more on encouraging and uplifting others?

These few examples of alternative “*fasting*” are not meant to replace or diminish the traditional sacrifices we “*offer up*” for Lent, rather, they are shared to remind us of the balance that is part of our spiritual lives. Like the beams that make up the cross, we “*raise up*” our offerings to the Lord, and, at the same time, we “*reach out*” in love and kindness to those around us. As Isaiah reminds us, in the same passage, when we unite both our sacrifices to the Lord and the sacrifices made for the benefit of others: “*Then your light shall break forth like the dawn.*” (Isaiah 58,8) That’s what our forthcoming Easter is, isn’t it, friends? Easter is a celebration of the Light! The recognition that the risen Jesus is the Light of the world and that we have done our best to live as a people of the Light!

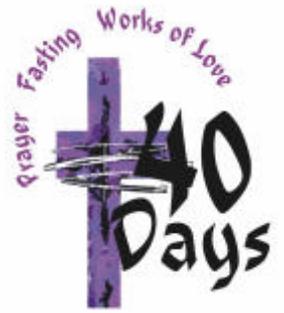
Every year, on the Second Sunday of Lent, we hear the Gospel account of what we refer to as “*the transfiguration*.” Matthew, Mark and Luke all share this amazing revelation of Jesus’ identity, how His clothes become “*dazzling white*,” and how blessed they feel to share in such an awesome experience. Why is this particular biblical episode so important that we hear it recalled each and every Lent? Because it reminds us of our destiny! Because it reminds us of our call and Christian responsibility! Because we need to identify with those disciples of Jesus who were commissioned to recognize Him as the “*Light*” and to leave that mountaintop to get out and share the Good News with others!



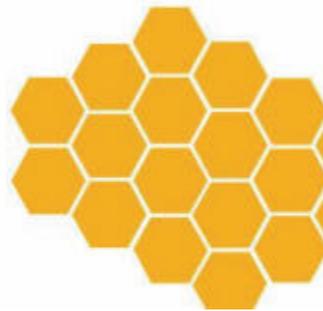
St. Peter Chrysologus, an early Bishop of the Church, offers the following thought on fasting for our further reflection: "Prayer, mercy and fasting – These three are one, and they give life to each other. Fasting is the soul of prayer; mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. Let no one try to separate them; they cannot be separated. If you have only one of them or not all together, you have nothing. So, if you pray, fast; if you fast, show mercy; if you want your petition to be heard, hear the petition of others. When you fast, see the fasting of others. If you hope for mercy, show mercy. If you look for kindness, show kindness. If you want to receive, give." (Sermons of St. Peter Chrysologus)

I leave you with that solid advice, friends, and wish you a most blessed continuation of our Lenten Season. May God's peace remain with you and yours!

Fr. Tom



The Sixth Annual
1:38 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
MARCH 20, 2021



THE SPEAKERS



CARALYN COLLAR
Writer and speaker for
BeautyBeyondBones blog



ALYSSA BORMES
Catholic educator, author, speaker
and radio host on *Catholic Kaleidoscope*

St. Gregory Church will be a satellite location for this event.
Saturday, March 20, 2021 from 8:00 AM-Noon, Mass at 8:00 AM, Speakers at 9:00 AM, with Reconciliation to wrap up the morning.

This year we welcome you to be a part of our conference at no charge. However, we would greatly appreciate any donation you can make toward the expenses incurred to sponsor the conference.

Register at www.138women.com or 814/455-7364

"AS LENT IS THE TIME FOR GREATER LOVE,
LISTEN TO JESUS' THIRST...
'REPENT AND BELIEVE' JESUS TELLS US.
WHAT ARE WE TO REPENT?
OUR INDIFFERENCE, OUR HARDNESS OF HEART.
WHAT ARE WE TO BELIEVE?
JESUS THIRSTS EVEN NOW,
IN YOUR HEART AND IN THE POOR --
HE KNOWS YOUR WEAKNESS.
HE WANTS ONLY YOUR LOVE,
WANTS ONLY THE CHANCE TO LOVE YOU."

~ BLESSED TERESA OF CALCUTTA



Faith Formation

February

Feb. 28th: Grades 2-8 parent formation at home

Feb. 28th Grades 9 & 10:Zoom

Feb. 28th: Confirmation Class will ZOOM
For questions contact Jen Humes at 814-450-6533
or email her at jhumes@roadrunner.com

What is going on with our Youth???

As we approach the last few months of our Faith Formation classes so much is going on!! We have First Reconciliation planned for April 11 and First Communion scheduled for May 2. With this we will have parent meetings, and special Sacrament classes.

Confirmation will be March 25 with a retreat on March 14, all prayers welcome!

Service is always at the top of our list and our Faith Formation families will be donating essential times for those in need from now until St. Patrick's Day. If you would like to donate, please contact Jen Humes at 450-6533 or jhumes@roadrunner.com.



Lenten Dinners

Holy Trinity

Fish/Pierogi/Potato Pancake Dinners

Take Out Only

Friday, March 12

Serving from 4-7 PM

St. Stanislaus Parish

Fish & Pierogi Dinners

Take Out Only

Fridays, March 5 & 19

Serving from 4-7 PM

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Fish & Pierogi Dinners

Drive Thru Only

Fridays, March 12 & 26

Must be Preordered & Prepaid

Go to www.olmc-erie.org

Serving from 4-7 PM

Coming or Going?

On the way home from the Ash Wednesday service, a young boy asked his mother, "Is it true that we are made of dust?"

"Yes, darling."

"And do we go back to dust again when we die?"

"Yes, dear."

"Wow!" said the boy. "When I said my prayers last night and looked under the bed, I found someone who is either coming or going!"

A Family Perspective

The apostles thought they knew Jesus, but when he changed in front of them at the Transfiguration, they were "afraid." In families, we cannot freeze relationships because change and growth are inevitable. Children grow up, parents grow old and spouses change. Transfigurations are all around us and within us. Relationships can only grow when we embrace the new and let go of the old.



CSA 2021



First goal: \$60,000.00
Parish Goal: \$120,000.00

Great News! We now have \$60,815.00 pledged towards the annual CSA.

That means every dollar now raised can go towards our very important heating and roof repair!

It takes all of us, working together, to achieve success!

Thank you and God bless you for doing the best you can as part of the Parish Family!

Families Pledged: 93
Amount Pledged: \$60,815.00
Paid to date: \$40,090.00



Katharine Drexel was an American heiress, philanthropist, religious sister, educator, and founder.

She was canonized by the Roman Catholic Church in 2000; her feast day is celebrated on March 3.

She was the second American to be canonized as a saint and the

first one born a U.S. citizen. She was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 2011.



Many thanks for the recent gift to the St. Gregory Thaumaturgus Parish School Endowment Fund:

**In loving memory of
Audrey (Geraci) Rodgers**

from Mary Triana, Betty Artise, Rosan Adkins,
Patty & Kim Spisak

Your gifts; current, planned, or deferred; are greatly appreciated!



MONDAY, March 1

8:00 AM– Dorothy Demmick-Allen & Mary Demmick

TUESDAY, March 2

8:00 AM– Ann Coletta– Ralph & Diana Eades

WEDNESDAY, March 3

8:00 AM –Elaine Nejman– Mary Tirak

THURSDAY, March 4

12:10 PM– Rosemary Winschel– Ron & Marty Morris

FRIDAY, March 5

8:00 AM– Jeremy Byrnes– Timothy Byrnes Family

SATURDAY, March 6

9:00 AM– Intentions of the Blessed Mother

5:00 PM– Marshall Hawk Wilson–Joe Gullo

SUNDAY, March 7

7:30 AM–Ralph Lamb–Wife Jeanne & family

9:00 AM–Parishioners Living & Deceased

Noon– Dee Gray–Chuck & Mary Guzowski

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

February 20/21, 2021

Envelopes Mailed.....	596
Regular Envelopes Used	85
Amount in Adult's Envelopes.....	\$5,997.00
Loose.....	\$39.00
Building Maintenance	\$265.00
Electronic Giving	\$458.30
TOTAL\$6,759.30
Fiscal year-to-date offertory collection.....	\$265,574.14
Fiscal year-to-date offertory budget.....	\$261,538.54



The Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary will be prayed on Thursday, at 11:45 AM, prior to the Mass.



Stations of the Cross will follow the 8:00 AM Mass on Friday, March 5th.



The SANCTUARY LAMP is burning this week in honor of **The Blessed Sacrament** and in memory of **Paul Elchynski** from his wife



First Friday
The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for adoration after the 8:00 AM Mass on Friday, March 5th, until noon.



First Saturday, March 5th
Confessions begin at 8:00 AM
Mass at 9:00 AM
Masks and social distancing required.

Please remember our deceased in your prayers...

Marilynn Brown; Msgr. Henry Schauerman; Michelle Marie Ripley; Ruth Ann Keeley (mother of Dan Keeley)

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.

Confessions will be heard on Saturday from 4:00-4:30 PM in the sacristy.

Please remember masks, covering nose and mouth, are required at all times when in church and remember to maintain social distancing.

St. Gregory Church Membership Form (Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to Parish Office)

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

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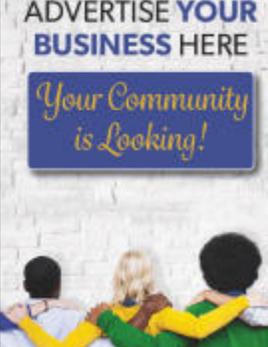


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