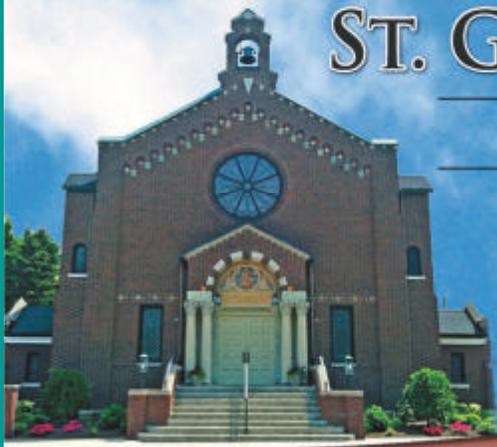


48 SOUTH PEARL STREET • NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428

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,

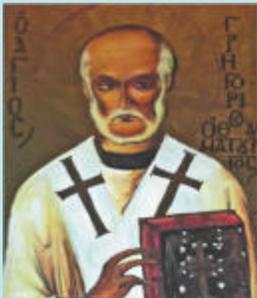
Pastoral Minister, Cindy Riefstahl

Faith Formation Leader, Jennifer Humes

Administrative Assistant, Patti Prindle

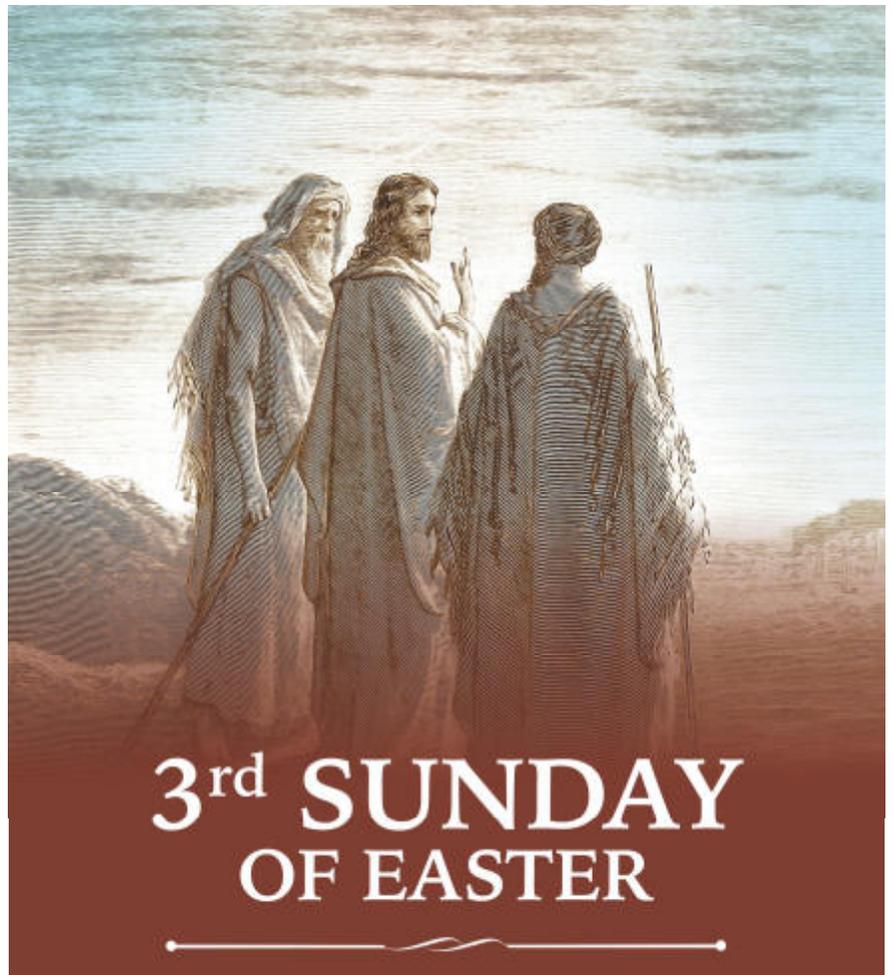
Director of Sacred Music, Corey Spacht

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!

APRIL 18, 2021



“Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And he said to them, ‘Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.’”
Lk 24:45-48

*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.

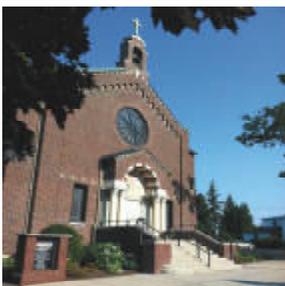
PRAYER LINE

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,

Our very recent celebration of First Reconciliation led me to a recollection of a retreat experience held for a class of young people preparing to receive the same Sacrament. A part of that retreat was a skit. If you can imagine it, there was this little fellow on one end of the stage with a large backpack strapped over his shoulders. As he made his way across the stage, he began picking up stones and putting them in his backpack. With each stone the backpack became heavier and heavier until he could barely lift it up or carry it! Hunched over from the weight of the backpack filled with stones, he struggled along until he finally made it to the other end of the stage. Once there, a classmate emerged who was dressed in a bright white altar server's robe. With a smile, he began taking the stones out of the backpack until it was empty and no longer a burden to carry. They both smiled, shook hands, and walked off the stage together.

The stones, of course, represent all of the sins that a person commits throughout the course of some portion of life's journey. One by one they add up; they accumulate until they become a burden that is difficult to bear. Then, along comes Jesus! Jesus is so loving! Jesus is so forgiving! Jesus wants to take out those stones and free the sinner from the burden that they have become. Jesus' desire is to restore friendship and to allow a person to experience the joy that comes from the healing Sacrament of Reconciliation. Of course, this was explained in great detail to the young people on retreat, including some specific sins that the stones might represent.

No doubt about it, my friends, our sins are a burden that we carry around with us. St. Paul is very clear about this when he encourages us to *"rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus."* (Hebrews 12, 1-2) That is one of the reasons that the Lord gives us the wonderful Sacrament of Reconciliation; to free us from sin so that we can continue life's journey with greater joy in love and service. Praise our God for the wonderful opportunities He offers us to celebrate the gift of complete forgiveness and the encouragement that comes from a new beginning!

As I seize this opportunity to congratulate the First Reconciliation Class of 2021, I would also like to encourage all of you to consider looking for some opportunity to share in this wonderful Sacrament. I realize that during this ongoing time of pandemic the opportunities to celebrate Reconciliation have been more limited than in the past. That being said, the Sacrament is still offered each and every Saturday afternoon from 4:00PM through 4:30PM in the Sacristy. Actually, I'm usually well prepared by 3:45PM in order to accommodate as many people as possible. All confessions are *"behind the screen,"* and the area is always thoroughly cleaned prior to the celebration of the Sacrament. I am more than willing to provide additional opportunities for Reconciliation, as was done during the Lenten Season, if there are those who would like to take advantage of them. And, if you feel more comfortable going to confession elsewhere, most parishes have their confession times posted in their parish bulletin and/or online. We also have the additional blessing of Fr. Jerry Priscaro being available for confession from 8:00AM through 8:30AM, prior to the First Saturday Mass.



The Catechism of the Catholic Church, my friends, offers a very comprehensive presentation on the Sacrament of Reconciliation. A part of that presentation presumes that we are familiar with the Parable of the Prodigal Son from the Gospel of St. Luke, Chapter 15. It is the last of three consecutive parables that Jesus offers to help describe the ultimate goal of Reconciliation. The following comes from the Catechism as a reminder of the great beauty associated with Reconciliation: *"the father's generous welcome; the father's joy – all these are characteristic of the process of conversion. The beautiful robe, the ring and the festive banquet are symbols of that new life – pure, worthy, and joyful – of anyone who returns to God and to the bosom of his family, which is the Church. Only the heart of Christ who knows the depths of His Father's love could reveal to us the abyss of His mercy in so simple and beautiful a way."* (CCC 1439)

Yes, my friends, the journey can often be challenging. However, we can always maintain confidence in our merciful God, our loving Savior; always present to welcome us, renew us, and relieve us from the burdens that weigh us down. Why not lighten the load, free yourself, and find renewed joy as we journey forward?!

May God bless you, one and all, as we continue this wonderful Easter Season and rejoice in the Sacraments that are continual reminders of the Lord's love and presence in our lives.

Fr. Tom



Meeting on Wednesday, April 21st, in the Parish Family Room (lower-level of the Church.) The Rosary will be prayed at 6:40 PM with the meeting to follow at 7:00 PM.

Faith Formation

April 18th: Grades 9 & 10:Zoom

April 18th: Grades 2-8 parent formation at home

April 25th: Last class. Watch for more information.

For questions contact Jen Humes at 814-450-6533 or email her at jhumes@roadrunner.com



CRUSADE FOR KIDS AUCTION

Saint Gregory School hosts an annual live auction every year in the spring. This event serves as the school's major fundraiser. Last year, due to circumstances, we held an online auction in August.

This year the plan is to hold an online auction the week of **April 26th – May 2nd**.

Additional details regarding viewing and logging on to the auction will be published closer to the date of the auction. Thank you, in advance, for any help that you are able to offer to St. Gregory Parish School.

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Child Abuse Prevention Month: The “Creating A Safe Environment” training program is an integral component to the prevention effort in our diocese. The mandated program trains employees and volunteers in the warning signs of abuse and how to report suspected abuse of a minor. Since 2003 over 60,000 adults in the diocese have received the training to recognize and report child abuse. With the help of the safe environment training program, the faithful are guided and educated about the responsibility to keep God's children protected and safe. Visit <https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/> to take the training program or learn what is required for employees and volunteers to work with children in diocesan parishes/schools/agencies.

Readings for the week of April 18th, 2021

Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 [1ab]/Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51—8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab [6a]/Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a [1]/Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 [1]/Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12]/Jn 6:60-69

Next Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 [22]/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

Celebration Of Baptism

We welcome **Mira Marie Sholtis** into the One Holy Catholic Church by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Mira's parents are Michael & Jenny (Ore) Sholtis and her godparents are Jeremy and Meghan Ore. Congratulations and God Bless!





Volunteer Opportunity
Human Services Secretary
 North East Service Unit

Responsibilities:

- Meet with people in need to determine eligibility for assistance (emergency shelter, food, rent and utility assistance, etc.).
- Write vouchers and coordinate with treasurer for payment of assistance services.

Requirements:

- A heart of compassion for people in need
- Wisdom and discernment

Time Commitment:

- Apx. 2 hours per month, depending on client requests

Contact:

Rev. Stephen Pasquale, Chair
 chair@salvationarmy.us
 (814) 580-1000

DOING THE MOST GOODSM

Parishioners Steve and Char Eidell accept our donation to the North East Food Pantry.

This portion of the annual Rice Bowl Collection totaled \$1,503.25, and represents your kind and generous consideration of the needy of our community. An equal amount will be forwarded to Catholic Relief Services for the less fortunate beyond our borders.

Thank you and God bless you!



Congratulations
 First Reconciliation Class Of 2021

Eva Aspden

Lucas Aulenbacher

Charlotte Babcock

Rex Dunlavey

Riddick Dunn

Charlotte Hinkernell

Lorin Hull

Eva Malesiewski

Holden Migliaccio

Jase Mitchell

GraceAnn Reed

Logan Rizzo

Aiden Shallop

Cala Triana

Earth Day was founded in 1970 as a day of education about environmental issues, and Earth Day 2021 will occur on Thursday, April 22—the holiday's 51st anniversary. The holiday is now a global celebration.

"Creation is a gift, it is a wonderful gift that God has given us, so that we care for it and we use it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude."

Pope Francis



A Family Perspective

The apostles were afraid of Jesus until he ate with them and they touched him. In your family, the ordinary acts of eating together, touching, embracing not only confirm our love for each other, but also celebrate God's presence in your family. These 'ordinary' moments contain the 'Extraordinary.'



Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy and Meghan Ore celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, April 11th. Congratulations!

WITHOUT GOD
our week would be
SINDAY
MOURNDAY
TEARSDAY
WASTEDAY
THIRSTDAY
FIGHTDAY
SHATTERDAY
7days without God
makes **ONEWEAK**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In 2007, the Diocese of Erie established the Good Shepherd Collection so that parishioners can show their appreciation and love for their priests – those already retired and those who will follow them in the years to come.

In our parishes countless lives have changed because of these good and holy priests. They were with us every step of the way, celebrating baptisms, witnessing marriage vows and presiding at the funerals of loved ones. Now it is our turn to help those priests who have ministered to our spiritual needs. As the number of retired priests increases, so does the challenge and responsibility to care for them. Although they may be “retired,” many remain active, providing sacramental ministry in parishes.

The response to the annual Good Shepherd Collection has been one of overwhelming generosity by you, the people of the Diocese! It tells me that you love these priests who have devoted their entire priesthood to God and to you. The Good Shepherd Collection provides for them in their retirement years. The income generated from this annual collection assists with needed funds toward their care and health related expenses and revenue for the Retirement Pension Plan for them and the priests who serve you now.

Contributions for the “Good Shepherd Collection” can be made the weekend of April 24- 25 at your parish, or online anytime at: www.ErieRCD.org. Every contribution is greatly appreciated and will make a difference in the lives of our priests. This collection should not be confused with the Retirement Fund for Religious, which is taken in December for sisters, brothers and priests belonging to religious orders. That collection does not benefit our diocesan priests.

Please pray for all the priests of our Diocese on Good Shepherd Sunday. May we be blessed with more seminarians willing to respond to the call of the Lord to priesthood. Our priests join me in thanking you for your kindness and generosity, especially toward our retired priests through this annual Good Shepherd Collection.

May the joy of the Risen Christ fill your hearts and homes this Easter Season.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Lawrence T. Persico

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie



MONDAY, April 19

8:00 AM– Ann Coletta-Agnes Kirsch

TUESDAY, April 20

8:00 AM– Jeremy Byrnes– Timothy Byrnes Family

WEDNESDAY, April 21

8:00 AM –Joe & Margaret Rusynk– Ron Morris Family

THURSDAY, April 22

12:10 PM– Patty Scouten-Mitzi Keough

FRIDAY, April 23

8:00 AM –Francis & Veronica Reynolds– Joe & Lisa Reynolds & Family

SATURDAY, April 24

5:00 PM– Parishioners Living & Deceased

SUNDAY, April 25

7:30 AM-Kathleen Lander-Joe & Tamie Lander

9:00 AM-Rosemary Winschel– Deacon John & Mrs. Tammie Mang

Noon– Sam Ciminnisi– Ron Morris Family

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

April 10/11, 2021

Envelopes Mailed	596
Regular Envelopes Used.....	103
Amount in Adult's Envelopes	\$7,277.00
Loose	\$308.00
Building Maintenance	\$162.00
Easter	\$150.00
Electronic Giving	\$603.30
TOTAL	\$8,500.30
Fiscal year-to-date offertory collection.....	\$326,233.24
Fiscal year-to-date offertory budget.....	\$315,384.71



 Looking ahead...
The Summer Mass Schedule begins
Sunday, May 2, 2021.
The last Mass of the day will change
from noon to **11:00 AM.**

 **First Holy Communion will be celebrated Sunday, May 2nd, at 1:30 PM.**
Please pray for our children on their special day!

 The SANCTUARY LAMP is burning this week in honor of
The Blessed Sacrament
and in memory of
Mary Malta
by
Daughter Jo

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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