

DECEMBER 25/26, 2021 CHRISTMAS AND THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



"Mary gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger." (Luke 2,7)

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



Celebrating Our 146th Anniversary As A Parish Family And The 96th 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.eriercd.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,

"*Merry Christmas*" to each one of you and to all of you! May God bless you with happiness and peace as we celebrate both Christmas and the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph! It's certainly a joy-filled weekend as we prayerfully consider the birth of our Lord and Savior as well as His call to live as a "*Holy Family*" in the world today.

The key to living as a "*Holy Family*," my friends, comes to us from the Gospel proclaimed on Christmas Eve. Having journeyed to Bethlehem, and finding no room in the inn, Mary and Joseph make their way to a nearby stable. There, St. Luke tells us, "*Mary gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger.*" (Luke 2,7) Recalling that scene, and the wonderful way that Mary and Joseph embraced God's "*Love-Gift*" to the waiting world, we are reminded that we are to welcome Jesus with the same eagerness and joy. That Jesus was not only born once, many years ago, but is continually reborn in those who wrap Him in the "*swaddling clothes*" of their minds and hearts. If we welcome Jesus in this way, really take Him into our lives, then we are bound to more closely imitate Him and live as part of a "*Holy Family*."

As you are probably well aware, we pray the different "Mysteries" of the rosary on different days of the week. Sunday and Wednesday are the days dedicated to the "Glorious Mysteries." Tuesday and Friday are set aside for us to consider the "Sorrowful Mysteries." In the year 2002, St. John Paul II introduced us to the "Luminous Mysteries," or the "Mysteries of Light," to be prayed on Thursday. That leaves Monday and Saturday, both offering the opportunity to reflect on the "Joyful Mysteries." Since Christmas falls on a Saturday this year, we are provided with an "extra special" occasion to consider these "Joyful Mysteries" that include "the Incarnation," the birth of the very Son of God!

As you consider making the rosary part of your Christmas Prayer, please think about the many ways that these episodes, both preceding and following Jesus' birth, relate to our own lives as God's faithful people.

The "Annunciation" – Making Mary's "Yes" personal as we welcome Jesus into our lives and do our best to follow His example in practical ways each and every day.

The "*Visitation*" – Offering a "Merry Christmas," bringing the joy of Jesus to all those we visit and all of those who come to visit us, particularly during this festive holiday season.

The "*Nativity*" – Recognizing and celebrating the great gift of life and doing our best to pray for and work towards the protection of all life from the first moment of conception through natural death.

The "*Presentation in the Temple*" – Rejoicing in that great day we were brought to the font for Baptism, became a child of God, a brother or sister in Christ, and were welcomed into the Family of Faith. Encouraging the unbaptized to come to faith so that they might experience a similar joy.



The "Finding in the Temple" – Inviting people to worship with us, welcoming back those who have fallen away, reminding them of God's unconditional love and acceptance no matter what the circumstances.

That's what is so very important about our prayer of the Rosary, isn't it, friends? Yes, thinking about how each particular episode relates to Jesus in His own time and place. And, yes, considering our own participation in each "*Mystery*" as we do our best to grow in faith, hope and charity. Please be assured that my prayer of the Rosary this Christmas will be in gratitude to God for the birth of our Savior and in thanksgiving for all of you and the wonderful ways you reflect God's love as a Family of Faith. Certainly, I will also be remembering all of those who are included in our list of flower memorials and all of those who are now praying for us from their place with God. The church is always so beautifully decorated for the Christmas Season and is, in a way, a foreshadowing of the beauty of heaven!

One Christmas Eve, Pope Francis seized the opportunity to speak on the mystery of the Incarnation and living out the joy of Christmas. Noting that "*Bethlehem*" literally means "*house of bread*," the Holy Father noted that, "*At Christmas, we on earth receive Jesus, the bread from heaven – we discover that the life of God can enter into our hearts and dwell there.*" (December 24, 2018) May God bless each and all of us as we do our best to welcome Jesus, embrace Jesus, and live out our identity as "*Christian*," a member of His beloved "*Holy Family.*" Enjoy your day, the weekend, this wonderful Christmas Season!

Fr. Tom

Merry Christmas!

God bless you and thank you for your most generous donations toward the environment at St. Gregory Church. Your thoughtful gifts provide for beauty during the Christmas Season and well beyond. Please pray for the following donors, those being remembered, and those being honored:

In Memory Of

Charles P. Ollinger; Ann Coletta from Mr. & Mrs. Randy Rossman Barbara O'Leary from Dr. Robert O'Leary Deceased Members of the Cooper Family from Jack & Marlene Cooper Mary Malta; Trippi Family from Josephine Malta

Michael Mercurio; The Austin Family from Susan Mercurio Frank & Catherine Concilla; Vincent & Mary Abata; Joseph & Mary Gagliano; Casey & Lucy Laskowski; Buel & Ruby Thornton from Mr. & Mrs. David Thornton Bernie Duda; Mr. & Mrs Leon Duda; Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Otto from Marianne Duda Kathy Scepura from Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Montefiori Dale L. & Norine Carll; David M. Rafferty; Mary Ann Boyd; Deceased members of the Kluck & Carll Families from Marcia Grafius

Smoky & Mary Concilla; William Semelka; Tony & Louise Chriest from Mrs. Roseann Semelka Canella & Scrimenti Families from Fran Canella Ted & Eleanore Miller; Michael & Patrick Miller; Colleen Miller Pagan from Michelle, Maureen, Cathy & Kelly

Jerry Kirschner from Wife Hazel Kirschner Acy Evans; Floyd Piazza from Mrs. Fran Evans Jerry Rettger; Mr. & Mrs. George Sontag; Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Rettger from Mrs. Marilin Rettger

Keeley, Daley, Muscarella, Sherrange Families from Mr. & Mrs. Dan Keeley *Harold & Patricia Goetz; Charles & Marjorie Sceiford* from Mr. & Mrs. William Goetz *Deceased Family Members* from Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Hitz

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Otto; Mr. George Aulenbacher; Bill Aulenbacher, Jr. from Mr. & Mrs. William Aulenbacher Anthony & Josephine Newara; Joseph & Elizabeth Buscemi; Carol Freeman; Darlene Newara from Mr. & Mrs. Carl Newara Lichvar & Ciris Families from Barry & Joyce Lichvar Robert B. Riefstahl from Mrs. Cindy Riefstahl Michael Coughlin from Judy Coughlin Nancy J. Sucha; Jim & Lori Barnes from Mr. George Sucha

Jessie & Jacob Scotch, Sr.; Carl Triana; Frances Triana from Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Scotch, Jr. *John & Genevieve Hughes* from Mr. James Hughes *Gary & Vivian Dumond; Scott McFeely, Sr.* from Mr. & Mrs. Scott McFeely

John Chimera from Mr. & Mrs. David Cihon Sophia & Francis Stankavich; Margaret & Frank Macko from Mr. & Mrs. Robert Macko Edward & Genevieve Moloney; Cushman & Edna Triana; Donald Triana from Mrs. Mary Triana Frank Artise; Artise Fanmily from Mrs. Betty Artise Charles & Josephine Dilimone from Charlotte Dilimone The Grant Family from Mrs. Kathryn Grant

Mary, Archie & Robert Doyle; Captain Patrick Doyle, Jr.; Mari Doyle-King from Maureen & Harry Grattto Frank Artise; Carolyn Anderson-Rexford from Rosan & Steve Adkins Brian Hunter; Fink, Baran & Kaufmann Families from Mr. & Mrs. Tony Baran Robert J. Brim from Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Bogart Christopher, Rita, Chester Dudzinski from Lynn Mathieu Sam C. Rizzo, Sr.; Sadie Rizzo; Rizzo & Malesiewski Families from Mary Lou Malesiewski Frank Osborne Family from Mrs. Loretta Alford



Bob Kowalewski from Mrs. Joan Kowalewski
Clem & Millie Herrmann; Gust & Kay Straneva from Mr. & Mrs. Gary Straneva
Pete & Rose Buscemi from Cheryl, Peter, Jonathan & Gregory Buscemi
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph F. Schaff; Marilyn Abata from Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Schaff
Clifford & Sophie Loesch; Olive & Tony Siciliano; Richard Siciliano from Mr. & Mrs. Robert Loesch

Richard & Rose Blose; Paul, Kathleen & Edward Lander from Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Lander Norbert & Niehla Kisegy from Mr. & Mrs. Steven LaFuria Ring Family; O'Leary Family; Wilson Family from Mrs. Patricia Ring Stan & Clara Markiewicz; Anna & Albert Wehan from Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Markiewicz Donald Keough; Mr. & Mrs. William Keough; Mr. & Mrs. Daniel McGaughey from Mrs. Margaret Keough

Eastbourn & Boslet Families from Mrs. Chris Eastbourn *Donald C. Wilkinson, III* from mom Lorraine Wilkinson *Johnny Buscemi* from Wife Cheryl & Sons Peter, Jonathan & Gregory *Rosemary Winschel* from Husband & Family

Barbara Bessetti from husband Art Bessetti
Mr. & Mrs. Martin OBrien from Mr. David OBrien
Bresney Family from Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Reynolds
Elsie Bennardo; Bobby Triana; James Sinclair; Joseph (Bill) Triana from Andrew & Theresa Bennardo, Jr.

Walter & Margaret Mathews from Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hawkins *Stempka & Matheis Families* from Steve & Pattie Stempka *Alex Beno; Jim Triana; Brother Tom Kuhn, CSsR* from Mrs. Patricia Triana

Paul Elchynski from Mrs. Bernardine Elchynski *Henry & Ivah Cyranowski* from Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cyranowski *Jared Bifulco* from John, Nancy & Julia Bifulco *William Aulenbacher, Jr.* from Son Alex & Wife Marlene Aulenbacher *Mary Ann Boyd; Norine Carll* from Mr. & Mrs. Troy Hassenplug



John T. Narby, Jr.; Eugene & Joan Pembroke; Charles & Betty Spacht from Mrs. Anne Narby Joseph & Rose Adamczyk; Robert & Dorothy Repko; Draszkiewicz & Gregorzewski Families from Mrs. Rose Repko Bill & Helen Braum; Helen, Charles & Marjorie Sceiford; Theresa Brennan; Mildred Vigler from Mr. & Mrs. John Sceiford

Margaret & Shadow Piazza; Connie & Stan Malesiewski from Tom & Kathy Malesiewski David & Helen Cubitt; Donald J. Triana; Dave Litz from Tom & Shelley Triana Leo & Mary Skarzenski from Mrs. Edward Fisher Leo Zaborowski from Ruth & Jackson Zaborowski Melvin & Kathryn Davis; Ed & Delia Pfadt; Bill Pfadt; Jim Pfadt; Richard Davis from Mrs. Julie Pfadt

Kimberly Hare; Mary Wilkinson from Mr. & Mrs. Michael Wilkinson George Eidell; Ivan & Irene Hoyt; Sue Hoyt from Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Eidell Myron & Jean Kloss; George & Viola Dunkle; Joseph M. Kloss; Marge Ferko Green from Mrs. Marian Dunkle

Blanche Purol; Mary Laemmerhirt from Mr. & Mrs. Roy Laemmerhirt Deceased James & Ann Sheridan Family; William Murray Family & Kreider Familiy from Mrs. Ann Kreider Don & Loretta Beardsley; Jack & Georgia Bronson; Sam & Clara Spatazza from Mr. & Mrs. Greg Beardsley William Semelka; Smoky & Mary Concilla; Troy Eades from Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Eades Deceased Members of the St. Gregory Parish Family from Fr. Tom Brooks Mr. & Mrs. John Montgomery; Michael Montgomery; Mr. & Mrs. Don Hubert; Deceased Members of Lawrence Family from Mr. & Mrs. Peter Lawrence

Don & Mary Wilkinson, Sr. from Daughter-in-law Lori Mary, Patrick & Mike Doyle; Archie & Mary Doyle; Lucy & Mark Nichols from Joe & Barb Doyle Don Mulson from Wife Joan Charles & Mary Martina; Bill & Vista Mulson from Joan Mulson John T. Narby, Jr.; Eugene & Joan Pembroke; Betty & Charles Spacht from Mrs. Anne Narby Jim & Rose Concilla; Jim & Dorothy Nearhoof; Ann & Clif Carlin; Joe & Josie Gervase; Alice Valone; Patricia Licata from Mr. & Mrs. James Concilla Charles P. Ollinger; Rev. John Kuzilla; Michael & Veronica Kuzilla; Carl & Mildred Ollinger; Andy & Mike Kuzilla from Mrs. Mary Ollinger

Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Hess; Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Post, Sr.; Carol Hess; Mr. & Mrs. Alton Huntley; Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Post, Jr. from Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hess

Rizzo Family; Sanfratello Family; Locke Family; Eastman Family from Mr. & Mrs. Carl Rizzo Denny & Jeanne White; Patti Kirschner from Dean Kirschner & Family Mr. & Mrs. Steve Wasiesky; Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kitts; Mrs. Roberta Kitts from Mrs. Sandra Kitts Bob & Louise Duffield; John & Edith Beckes; Bill, Judy & Jo Ann from Mr. & Mrs. George Beckes Joseph Wisniewski from wife Geraldine and children David, Patrick, Darlene Frank Cerrie; Patricia Betts; Andy Baker from Mrs. Janice Cerrie & Family

In Honor Of:

Mrs. Dorothy Cote, from Mr. & Mrs. William Aulenbacher *The Beckes Children*, from Mr. & Mrs. George Beckes *Mary Ollinger* from Mr. & Mrs. Randy Rossman *The St. Gregory Thaumaturgus Parish Family* from Fr. Thomas Brooks

Frances Eidell from Mr. & Mrs. Steven Eidell *Amy Federici* from Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Montefiori *Mary Triana* from Tom & Shelley Triana

Donors:

Mr. John Piazza Rosemary Born Mrs. Janet Bucheral Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Doty Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Kownacki Gina Furey Mr. & Mrs. Frank Mehler Darlene Thornton Theresa Sculley Mr. & Mrs. James Bahm Mrs. Lori Hickernell Mr. & Mrs. David McIntyre Mr. Charles Downing Mr. & Mrs. Mark Urban Mr. & Mrs. Paul Komorowski Dr. & Mrs. John Dudzinski



Christmas Blessings!



CHRISTMAS / THE HOLY FAMILY



FRIDAY, December 24, Christmas Eve 4:00 PM – Ann Coletta– Charles M. Ollinger

9:00 PM –Sam Rizzo, Sr., Sadie Rizzo-Whitaker & Ava Malesiewski– Family

SATURDAY, December 25, Christmas day 8:00 AM– Robert Kowalewski– Family

10:00 AM-Carmela M. Tramantana-Family

*5:00 PM-Parishioners Living and Deceased *For either Christmas or to fulfill the Sunday obligation, but not for both

SUNDAY, December 26 7:30 AM-Paul Hitchcock-The Carll Family

9:00 AM-Jenne Mobilia-Millie DiOrenzo

Noon - Robert Riefstahl-Sam & Ann Filutze

MONDAY, December 27 8:00 AM-Louis & Grace Newara– John Piazza

TUESDAY, December 28 8:00 AM– Albert & Anna Kluck-Carll Family

WEDNESDAY, December 29 8:00 AM – Captain Patrick Doyle, Jr.– Aunt Maureen & Uncle Harry Gratto

THURSDAY, December 30 12:10 PM– Laura Zielinski-Mary Demmick

FRIDAY, December 31, New Year's Eve 5:00 PM –Ruth Ann Keeley– Dan & Ann Keeley & Dan & Judy Joslin

SATURDAY, January 1, New Year's Day

10:00 AM-All Parishioners Living & Deceased

5:00 PM-Charles Piazza-His brother John Piazza

SUNDAY, January 2

7:30 AM-Carolyn Anderson-Rexford-Marcia Grafius 9:00 AM-Paul Hitchcock-Bob & Penny Hitchcock Noon – Mark Walter-The Ganzer Family

Confessions will be heard on Saturday, January 1st, from 4:00-4:30 PM

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Due to the early transmittal date for the bulletin, the Parish financial data for the weekend of December 18/19 is not available.



The last of our banners says it all — "Christ"!

He is "Emmanuel," "God with us," the fulfillment of our hopes and dreams! *Merry Christmas!*

The Parish Office will be closed Monday, December 27th and Friday, December 31st



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

Name____

Phone____

□ New Registration

□ Change of Address

□ Moving out of Parish

□ Want Envelopes

Address_

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