

48 SOUTH PEARL STREET • NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428

# ST. GREGORY THAUMATURGUS

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

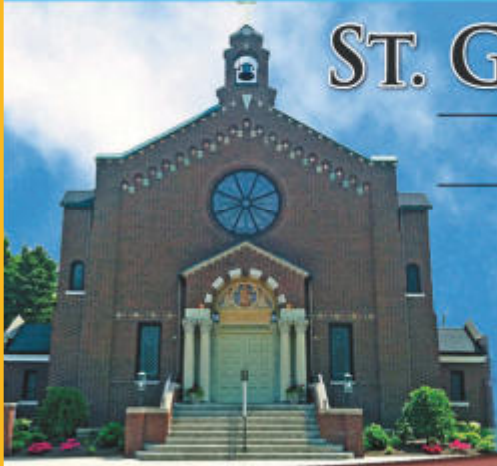
PARISH OFFICE: 136 W. MAIN ST. • NORTH EAST, PA 16428

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

Website: [www.stgregoryparish.info](http://www.stgregoryparish.info) • Email: [stgregs@roadrunner.com](mailto:stgregs@roadrunner.com)

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

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



## MASS SCHEDULE

### Fall/Winter

Saturday.....5:00 PM

Sunday....7:30, 9:00 & Noon

### Weekday

Mon., Tues. Wed. & Fri.: 8:00 AM

Thursday....12:10 PM

*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,*

*Transitional Deacon,  
Rev. Mr. Nicholas Fratus*

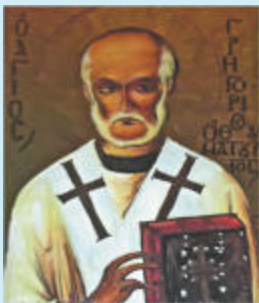
*Pastoral Minister, Cindy Riefstahl*

*Faith Formation Leader, Jennifer Humes*

*Administrative Assistant, Patti Prindle*

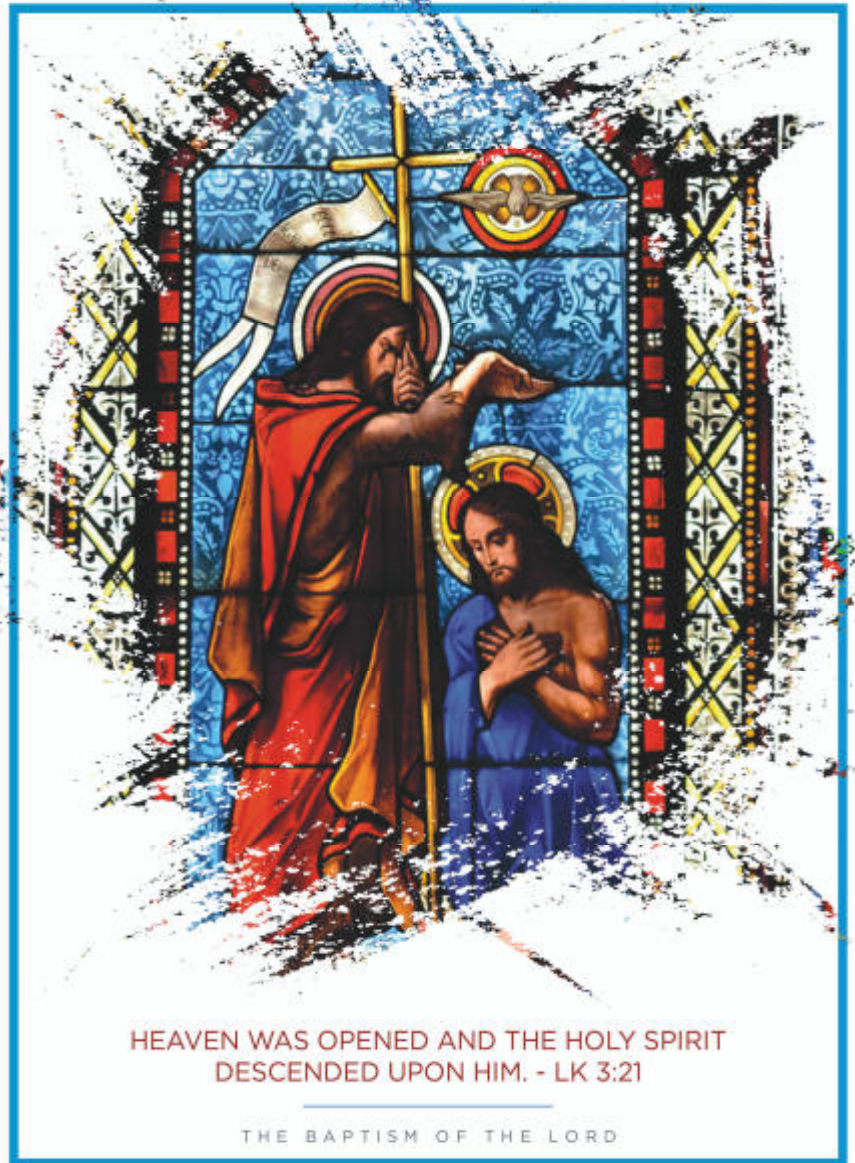
*Director of Sacred Music, Corey Spacht*

*School Principal Team:, 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!

## JANUARY 9, 2022



HEAVEN WAS OPENED AND THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DESCENDED UPON HIM. - LK 3:21

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1986, 1970 CEB. ©LH

*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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.stgregoryparish.info)  
[stgregs@roadrunner.com](mailto:stgregs@roadrunner.com)



**St. Gregory Parish School**  
140 W. Main St.  
814-725-4571  
Fax 814-725-4572  
[gregory1@stgregs.net](mailto:gregory1@stgregs.net)  
[www.stgregs.net](http://www.stgregs.net)



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

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

Even though the Christmas Season officially concludes today, as we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, I'd like to turn the calendar back to Christmas Eve for just a moment. It was then, at the Mass, that we heard how the angels announced the glad tidings of Jesus' birth into the world. Can you imagine being one of those shepherds, out tending your flock, when the angel appeared and said to them: *"Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ the Lord."* (Luke 2,10-11) What an amazing revelation! That Jesus, born into this world is none other than *"Christ and Lord,"* the *"anointed One"* who is destined to save all people from sin and death! It's no wonder that the shepherds were both *"fearful,"* and yet bound and determined to go to Bethlehem to witness this incredible event!

Again, friends, today we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. It's speculated that thirty years have now passed since Jesus' birth, and that He is about to enter into His public ministry. The connection between this episode in Jesus' life and His birth is yet another proclamation! This time, however, it's not from the angels, it's the very voice of God! The heavens open, the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus, and a voice from heaven announces: *"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."* (Luke 3,22) Today, you see, is not only a celebration of a singular event in Jesus' life; it is a reminder of His identity! That Jesus was born into the world to redeem the world, to save us all from sin and death! Jesus was born, baptized, lived, suffered, died and rose to offer us both a pattern for our own lives and the promise of eternal life with Him in the Kingdom!

As we consider the beauty of the Christmas Season, and today's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we are clearly invited to consider our own births and baptisms as well. Most of us know exactly when our birthday will be and anticipate it as a day of celebrating another year of life here with family and friends. How many of us, do you think, know the date of our *"rebirth"* in Christ, our baptism, with the same exactitude? Yet that is the special day that we were freed from original sin, pronounced *"a child of God,"* and welcomed into the Family of Faith as another *"brother or sister in Christ,"* and heir with Jesus to the Kingdom of God!



This description of our new identity is really made clear to us, friends, in the anointing with the Sacred Chrism that takes place as part of the baptismal ritual. Applying the oil on the child's forehead, in the sign of the cross, the celebrant says: *"God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into His holy people. He now anoints you with the Chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet, and King, so may you live always as a member of His body, sharing everlasting life. Amen."* (The Baptismal Ritual) Yes, the day of our baptism is truly a great time to be recalled as that special occasion when we were promised life beyond this life, no matter how many years we happen to be given here.

That being said, the words of the ritual also remind us that along with *"a promise,"* there is *"an obligation"* attached to the Sacrament of Baptism as well – that we will do our best to live in imitation of Christ! Yes, that we will make every effort to take on those sacred responsibilities that are attached to the signing with the Sacred Chrism. To be *"Priest,"* doing our best to live a good and holy life. To be *"Prophet,"* sharing the Good News with our sisters and brothers. To be *"King,"* sharing our gifts of time, talent and treasure in generous service.

Yes, my friends, the Christmas Season has come to an end and, by the late afternoon of today, the church environment will be transformed to reflect the weeks of *"Ordinary Time"* ahead until Ash Wednesday and our entry into Lent. I join you in thanking Cindy Riefstahl for the many weeks of planning and preparation that went into making our Christmas Season so very beautiful, as well all those who assisted in any way. That certainly includes all of those who will help to pack, move and store all of the Christmas items today. While the décor will change, it's important that we hold on to the underlying message that the beauty of the Christmas Season is meant to reflect! The revelation of the feasts we've been celebrating, including the Baptism of the Lord, is that Christmas is to be kept alive in our hearts. As I mentioned on New Year's Day, that's why Mary is such a perfect model for all of us – because she *"kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart."* (Luke 2,19) Yes, the environment may change, the seasons as well, but the spirit of Christmas lives on in those who recognize, accept and embrace Jesus as their Savior and do their best to share His love all the year long.

Peace, joy and God's blessing as you do your best to live out the spirit of Christmas and your baptismal commitment now and always!

*Fr. Tom*

**The Eucharistic Rosary** will be prayed on Monday, January 10th, at 11:00 AM in the Our Mother of Perpetual Help Chapel in the Parish Office Complex. All are welcome.

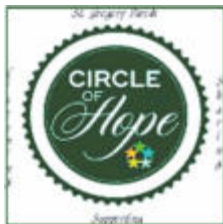


The Wonder-Workers will meet on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at 6:30 PM Mass in the Parish Family Room (lower-level of the Church)

*Please remember our deceased in your prayers...*

**Matthew Bostwick; John Hoderny;  
Sr. Laura Vallimont, O.S.B.**

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.*



### **Circle of Hope Grief Support Meeting**

*Blessed are they  
who mourn for  
they shall be comforted.*

**When: Thursday, January 13, 2022** following the 12:10 PM Mass

**Where:** St. Gregory Parish Family Room (Lower Level)



Many thanks for the recent gifts to the St. Gregory Thaumaturgus Parish Perpetual Endowment Fund:  
**In loving memory of**

**William "Bill" Witkowski**  
from

**Martha Hilbert; Career Concepts;  
Mary & Arthur Lindquist, Jr.;  
Robert & Carol Zukowski;  
Michael & Mary Biedrzycki**



**Sessions for grades K-8 at St. Gregory School on:**

**January 9, 16, 23**

**Class time is 10:20-11:15 AM**

**January 30**

**Parent/Family Session at home and attend Mass**

**Sessions for grades 9 & 10 in the lower-level of the Church on:**

**January 23**

**Class time is 10:15-11:30 AM**

**January 30**

**no class, attend Mass**

### **Confirmation Sessions:**

**January 16, 23**

Confirmation Class meets in the Parish Family Room (lower level of the Church) from 1:00-2:30 PM

For more information or if you any concerns call Jen Humes at 814-450-6533 or email at [jhumes@roadrunner.com](mailto:jhumes@roadrunner.com)

**Choir Rehearsal** Thursday,  
January 13, 2022 at 7:15 PM.





# St. Gregory 9th Annual CASH BASH February 5, 2022

**Progressive Raffle broadcast live on**  
*[https://www.facebook.com/St. GregoryThaumaturgus/](https://www.facebook.com/St.GregoryThaumaturgus/)*

**One ticket enters the ticket holder into ALL 16 cash prize drawings!**

**Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25 and are available for purchase after all Masses throughout January or at the Parish Office until February 2nd**

	<b>St. Gregory's 2022 Virtual Cash Bash</b>	
<b>Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup></b>		
<small>Progressive Raffle will be broadcast live on <a href="https://www.facebook.com/StGregoryThaumaturgus/">https://www.facebook.com/StGregoryThaumaturgus/</a></small>		
<b>Your ticket enters you in for 16 Cash Drawings!</b>		
<b>\$10 per ticket / \$25 for 3 tickets</b>		
<b>#001</b>		
Name _____	Address _____	Phone _____
		Ticket #001

## **Drawing Schedule**

<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>\$25</b>	<b>7:50pm</b>	<b>\$100</b>
<b>6:40pm</b>	<b>\$25</b>	<b>8:00pm</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<b>6:50pm</b>	<b>\$25</b>	<b>8:10pm</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>\$50</b>	<b>8:20pm</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<b>7:10pm</b>	<b>\$50</b>	<b>8:30pm</b>	<b>\$200</b>
<b>7:20pm</b>	<b>\$50</b>	<b>8:40pm</b>	<b>\$300</b>
<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>8:50pm</b>	<b>\$400</b>
<b>7:40pm</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>9:00pm</b>	<b>\$500</b>

Our Knights of Columbus Council sports raffle calendars are still available to purchase for \$40 at the parish office or from any Knight. The calendar provides the winner with a daily chance to win sports equipment or cash for 6 months! Each calendar has 4 FOUR DIGIT NUMBERS, and the winning number is based on the evening draw of the PA Big Four. The calendar runs for 6 months starting January 1 and ending on June 30th.



## Christmas 2021



Many thanks to Cindy Riefstahl for the many weeks of planning and preparation that went into creating a truly beautiful Christmas environment for all to enjoy. Thanks, as well, to all those who assisted in this endeavor in any way. Pope Francis reminds us that “the beauty of Christmas shines through in the sharing of small gestures of concrete love.” (*Christmas Concert at the Vatican, 2021*)

May the beauty of the Christmas Season at St. Gregory inspire us to be even more generous in our encouragement of and kindness to one another!



**SATURDAY, January 8**

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

**SUNDAY, January 9**

7:30 AM-Sam & Marie Chimera-Daughter

9:00 AM-Rosaria Ardillo Dodd-Rosaria Hitchcock & Mary Jo Newara

Noon – Parishioners Living & Deceased

**MONDAY, January 10**

8:00 AM-Gordon Maas– Steve & Pattie Stempka

**TUESDAY, January 11**

8:00 AM– Jack Hansen-Moffat Family

**WEDNESDAY, January 12**

8:00 AM –Jeremy Byrnes– Timothy Byrnes Family

**THURSDAY, January 13**

12:10 PM– Patty Scouten-Mitzi Keough

**FRIDAY, January 14**

8:00 AM –Philip Hordursky– St. Gregory Prayer Line

**SATURDAY, January 15**


5:00 PM-Dave Sceiford-John & Mary Ann Sceiford

**SUNDAY, January 16**

7:30 AM-Parishioners Living & Deceased

9:00 AM-Robert Fink– Knights of Columbus Council 4262

Noon – Mark Walter-The Ganzer Family



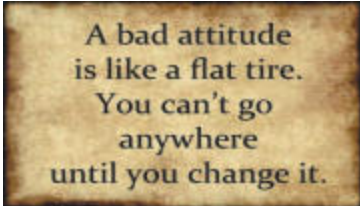
The SANCTUARY LAMP is burning this week in honor of  
**The Blessed Sacrament**  
 and in memory of  
**Robert Kowalewski**  
 by Family

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION	
<b>December 26, 2021</b>	
Envelopes Mailed.....	596
Regular Envelopes Used .....	88
Amount in Adult's Envelopes.....	\$5,985.00
Loose.....	\$301.00
Building Maintenance.....	\$25.00
Electronic Giving .....	\$768.30
Immaculate Conception .....	\$155.00
Solemnity of Mary .....	\$60.00
First Offering .....	\$5.00
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$7,299.30</b>
<b>Fiscal year-to-date offertory collection.....</b>	<b>\$196,642.54</b>
<b>Fiscal year-to-date offertory budget.....</b>	<b>\$200,000.06</b>

CHRISTMAS OFFERTORY COLLECTION	
<b>December 25, 2021</b>	
Envelopes Mailed .....	596
Regular Envelopes Used.....	77
Amount in Adult's Envelopes .....	\$7,105.00
Loose .....	\$747.00
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$7,852.00</b>
<b>Fiscal year-to-date offertory collection.....</b>	<b>\$204,494.54</b>
<b>Fiscal year-to-date offertory budget.....</b>	<b>\$200,000.06</b>

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION	
<b>January 1/2, 2022</b>	
Envelopes Mailed .....	596
Regular Envelopes Used .....	90
Amount in Adult's Envelopes.....	\$5,355.00
Loose.....	\$180.00
Building Maintenance.....	\$394.00
Electronic Giving .....	\$538.30
Christmas .....	\$370.00
Solemnity of Mary .....	\$1,186.00
First Offering .....	\$245.00
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$8,268.30</b>
<b>Fiscal year-to-date offertory collection.....</b>	<b>\$212,762.84</b>
<b>Fiscal year-to-date offertory budget.....</b>	<b>\$207,692.37</b>

**Confessions will be heard on Saturday  
 from 4:00-4:30 PM.**



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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

New Registration  
 Change of Address  
 Moving out of Parish  
 Want Envelopes

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 Pre-Arrangements Available

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 Council #4262  
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 Fraternity Patriotism  
 Contact the Rectory for information

  
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