

THE CITIES OF GOD

ST. GREGORY PARISH



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“ I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep.” - Jn 10: 14-15

APRIL 25, 2021 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH

415 4th St, Ellwood City
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 10:00 am
Communion: 11:00 - 11:15 am

SAINT GREGORY CHURCH

2 West Beaver St, Zelienople
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 11:00 am
Communion: 12:00 - 12:15 pm

SAINT FERDINAND CHURCH

2535 Rochester Rd, Cranberry Twp.
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 10:00 am
Communion: 5:00 - 5:15 pm and
11:00 - 11:15 am

PRAYER & WORSHIP

Liturgical Schedule / Parish & School Directory

LITURGY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Fourth Sunday of Easter
5:00 pm | Louis H. Zimmerman - Dee
11:00 am | George Sauers - Family

MONDAY, APRIL 26

Easter Weekday
8:00 am | Mark Zywan—Winfield Family

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

Easter Weekday
8:00 am | Jesse & Mary Magill - Family

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

Saint Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; Saint
Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest
8:00 am | Gary & Marianne Gebhart - Patti &
Butch Langer

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of
the Church
8:00 am | Judy Kingerski - Tuesday Morning
Bible Study Group

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

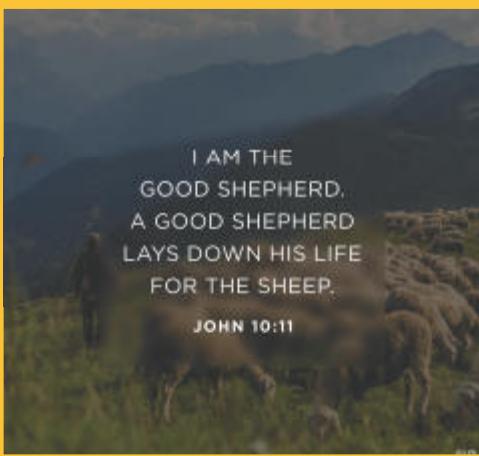
Saint Pius V, Pope
9:15 am | Gasparin & Gallagher Families - Pat
Stirling

SATURDAY, MAY 1

St. Joseph the Worker
10:00 am | No Confessions at St. Gregory
Church
5:00 pm | Richard Brill - Nolan & Alex Bogats

SUNDAY, MAY 2

Fifth Sunday of Easter
11:00 am | Bruca A. Davis - Glenn & Nancy Davis



CLERGY FOR PARISH GROUPING

Administrator:

Rev. Philip N. Farrell 724-452-7245

Senior Priest:

Rev. John P. Gallagher 724-776-2888

Senior Parochial Vicar:

Rev. Mark L. Thomas 724-758-4411

Parochial Vicar:

Rev. David J. Egan 724-776-2888

Deacon:

Donald C. Pepe 724-452-7245

Jeff Ludwikowski 724-452-7245

PARISH & SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Parish Secretary:

Diane Devens E-Mail: parishoffice@stgregzelie.org

Parish Office: 724-452-7245

M-F 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Fax 724-452-4064

Closed for Lunch 12 - 12:30 pm

Bulletin E-Mail: bulletin@stgregzelie.org

Ritzert Hall Rental: temporarily suspended 724-452-7245

Safe Environment Coordinator:

Cathy Nowak E-Mail: cathy@stferd.org

Pastoral Associate:

Sister Patricia Myers, SHS E-Mail: srpatty1@verizon.net

Director of Faith Formation:

Audra Brown E-Mail: ccd@stgregzelie.org

Program Manager:

Denise Knauff E-Mail: dknauff@stgregzelie.org

Music Director:

Adam Blotzer E-Mail: blotzeradam@gmail.com

Business Manager:

Julie Strosnider E-Mail: jstrosnider@stgregzelie.org

Maintenance Director Jim Bucek maintenance@stgregzelie.org

St. Gregory School: 724-452-9731

School E-Mail: schooloffice@stgregzelie.org

Principal:

Erin Rice E-Mail: erice@stgregzelie.org

School Cafeteria:

Andy Harmer 724-452-8010

St. Gregory School Website www.stgregzelie.org

St. Gregory Website: www.stgregparish.org

SACRAMENTS

Sacrament of Baptism

By appointment. Baptisms will be scheduled after parents have completed the baptism class and have obtained godparent sponsor letters and baby's birth certificate.

Sacrament of Matrimony

You must contact and meet with the priest at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Please call the St. Gregory office if you or a loved one is in need of this Sacrament.

Sacrament of Holy Orders

If you feel that God may be calling you to the Priesthood or to the Permanent Diaconate, please contact the parish office.

Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

Saturday: 10:00 am | Also by appointment.

Communion - Low-Gluten Hosts are available. Please come to the Sacristy before Mass.

FROM OUR ADMINISTRATOR

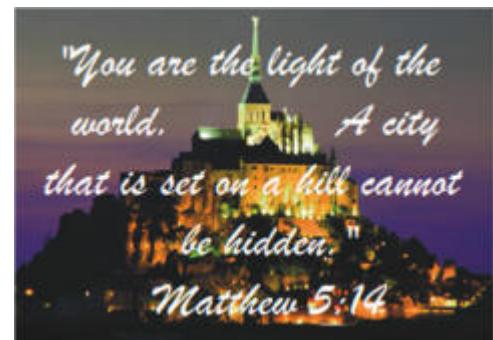
"IN ORDER TO FORM A MORE PERFECT UNION"

These words, taken from the Preamble of the Constitution of the United States, speak to US as a Grouping of three parishes moving forward into a merger of a newly formed parish. When Bishop Zubik assigned me as Administrator of OUR Grouping, he asked me to verify and validate his assessment that OUR three parishes could and should come together as one community of faith. Since 1 July 2020, I have worked together with the staff members, various committees, and many of you as parishioners from all three locations to test the proposal. On Thursday, 15 April 2021, I met formally with the Bishop and several of his chief advisers to inform them that, from my perspective, a merger is indeed the best course of action given the present status of OUR parishes, the Diocese, the Church, and the modern world as well as the vision for the foreseeable future. With that, Bishop Zubik accepted all of OUR work done so far and confirmed OUR path for a January 2022 merger. A timetable has also been established laying out when each of the tasks necessary to achieve this goal need to be accomplished. It is my intention to keep you informed and engaged along the way. While the practical tasks will be most evident in the last six months of this year, there are other tasks that WE need to stick to now and well into the future – those of the heart. The Preamble speaks of "a more perfect union." None of US is

perfect, whether as individuals, or communities, or parishes, but OUR hope is that the shared experience will bring all of US closer to the dreamed-for perfection. WE are The Cities of God; OUR one God is the underlying source of OUR union, and the diversity of OUR Cities is the mosaic that reveals the splendor of God's plan for US. It is incredible who WE have become and who WE can become as WE pull together OUR hearts! WE all recognize that WE have work to do, but it's work required not by any human leader but by God Himself. Jesus minces no words when He lays out His mandate, "So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." (Mt. 5:48) He charges US to become "a more perfect union" every day. As the early colonies of our country were charged to become more perfectly a nation united in purpose, so too, WE, as The Cities of God, are charged to become more perfectly The City of God. OUR sight and OUR insight are to be focused on the will of God, the plan of God, for US. WE bring to the table OUR abilities and OUR energies, OUR homogeneity and OUR specificity, OUR food and OUR faith. WE bring all of them – all of who WE are – to the table, the altar of sacrifice, where WE return these gifts back to God in honor and thanksgiving for how He allows all of US to be His very own and to dwell in His eternal City even now if all WE do is just open OUR hearts and lives to Him. This is who WE are as made in God's image and likeness and baptized into Christ Jesus. OUR

unity is not forced or dictated but natural, as God's dream for us. With the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit sent by the Risen Lord, may WE be empowered every day to work for the perfection of the Father in the unity of the Trinity.

God Bless The Cities of God!



READINGS | WEEK OF APRIL 25, 2021

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

Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [117:1a]/Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 14:7-14

St. Joseph the Worker: Gn 1:26—2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/ Ps 90:2, 3-4, 12-13, 14 and 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 13:54-58

Next Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

AROUND OUR COMMUNITY

The Cities of God- "A Past to Remember, a Present to Celebrate and a Future Full of Promise."



The Sanctuary Candle Burns
In Loving Memory of
Ron D'Alessandro
From: Jackie

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION -

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION will be celebrated on May 1, May 22 and May 29 this year at St. Gregory Parish.

Due to the Church being used during the morning and afternoon, there will be no confessions on all the above dates at St. Gregory. On May 1, you can find confessions at St. Ferdinand at 10 am and Holy Redeemer at 12:30 pm. On May 22 and 29 there will be no confessions at any of our Grouping Churches.



OUR PARISHES

ST. GREGORY

RESPECT LIFE NEWS:

Want Mom to be recognized in a special way this year? Our Respect Life bulletin board in the vestibule of St. Gregory Church is going to feature our beautiful Moms for Mother's Day! If you would like to submit a picture of your Mom (with you or individually) you may do so in one of three ways. Label it, "for respect life bulletin board" and send a copy of it to jlivorse@zoominternet.net or mail a photo to the St. Gregory Church Office. You may also place it in a marked envelope and drop it in the box labeled "Mother's Day Pictures for Bulletin Board" that will be on the table in the vestibule. We will do the same for our Dads in June so start collecting your pictures now!

ST. FERDINAND

LISTEN TO MASS from your car Sunday and Holy Day Masses will be broadcast on short range FM radio. Simply pull into the Saint Ferdinand Parking Lot and tune your car radio to 96.3 FM. You can listen to the Mass from the

MCGUIRE MEMORIAL HOME IS HIRING FOR SUMMER

Summer Positions for Direct Care Staff! It is fulfilling and rewarding work assisting individuals who have physical and intellectual disabilities. Work schedule is 40 hours a week with the following wage scale of \$14 per hour 1st Summer, \$14.50 per hour 2nd Summer and \$15 per hour 3rd Summer. Requirements: High school diploma or GED, a flexible summer schedule, a valid driver's license and must pass Physical drug screening, TB Test, Child Abuse Clearances, Criminal clearance and FBI Finger-printing. Apply today at www.mcquirememorial.org or call Lauren Smith at 724-843-3400 Ext. 1153.

comfort of your car. Or bring your smartphone or cellular enabled tablet and watch the live stream right on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/saintferdinandcranberry> **GIFT CARDS** for local stores and restaurants are available at St. Ferdinand Parish Office. The Church receives a discount for each sale. Anyone can participate.



HOLY REDEEMER

THE ST. ANTHONY NOVENA will begin on Tuesday, April 20. This year the Novena will be said from home. Father Mark has asked that we pray together from home on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm. Father Mark will lead the prayers from the Convent Chapel. If you would like to join in please [click here](#) or type this link into your browser: <https://holyredeemerparishpgh.com/st-anthony-novena-at-home>.



TENTATIVE DATE: JUNE 21-25TH**FROM 9:30 AM – 12:15 PM****WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

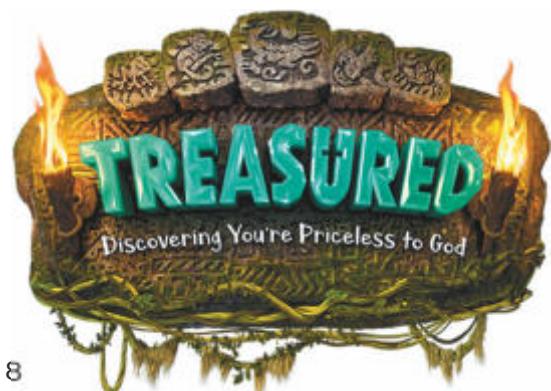
Our Parishes would like to have a Vacation Bible School and we need your help to do that.

If you or a Teen (6th grade and older) have been away from the Church or your faith and would like to get back into your relationship with God, VBS is a great way to jump back in.

Let's make VBS our great kick off to the summer in faith.

Please contact Mrs. Brown at ccd@stgregzelie.org or audra@stferd.org by May 8th.

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Reminder, Confirmation Retreat is May 8 and May 16. If you haven't signed up yet, please be sure to let Mrs. Brown know the date and time you plan to attend. See you there!

**ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

Any builder worth his or her salt knows the value and importance of a cornerstone. Properly laying and securing this primary unit determines how the rest of the project unfolds and its success. Cornerstones are necessary elements not only of buildings but of lives as well. Many human beings conduct the business of their lives paying little attention to a grounding reference or starting point. Hence, what unfolds is a tapestry of relativism, with few anchors or guideposts and many impulsive choices. Some consider love to be their cornerstone. While this may sound attractive and useful, the pursuit of love without a simultaneous pursuit of its source can be shallow and self-focused. Just because a person chooses to do no harm and love others does not mean that they are living in truth and properly anchored to the real cornerstone.

Jesus is the true and authentic cornerstone and shepherd. It is only in following the Risen One as the way, the truth, and the life that we can move from being well grounded ethical people to properly focused moral ones. Proper conduct, a true sense of justice, wisdom, virtue, moral principles, faith, hope, and love will be difficult to find unless we listen to the right Voice. It is when we learn to listen to the voice of God that we begin our journey on the road to salvation. It is only the Good Shepherd, the authentic and solid cornerstone, who can guide us through life's questions and challenges and bring us to the safe and proper pasture.

A person's life only has meaning when the cornerstone is properly selected and set. Understanding themselves only as random acts of creation, existing without intent or purpose, will color their choices and influence their decisions. The foundation of their lives will be simply a matter of preference and choice, leaving benchmarks of growth and higher ideals optional to pursue. Whereas people who believe that they are fashioned and loved into existence by a God who purposely made them, have this incredible unconditional relationship at their source which has tremendous significance. Their allegiance is not to themselves but to their Creator. Life, then, is an adventure in search of this Creator God and a journey of self-discovery that seeks to unite their will to His. There is a cost. We have to give up our life in order to gain our life. As ironic as that sounds, it is true. It is only when we finally figure this out that the true cornerstone of our lives will be properly laid and we can, with God's help, get about the business of properly constructing a temple that endures. ©LPI

PLEASE PRAY FOR

**PLEASE KEEP THESE IN
NEED OF HEALING IN
YOUR PRAYERS**

Michael Mack
Betty Korczynski
Dorothy Mellon
Adella Barr
Elaine Hafner
Mary Tomayko
Tina Loomis
Sharon Hunter
Norbert Miller
Mickey Lefevre
Amy Stubenhofer



PARISH NEWS

Event Calendar,

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER



GOD OUR CREATOR,

Your Word worked wonders to create the heavens and the earth and all they contain. Jesus Christ our Savior and Brother, You labored alongside your foster father Joseph, living the life of an ordinary worker. Holy Spirit, we are baptized into your life. You live and move and have your being in us as we go about our daily tasks. On this day and everyday, may all who work recognize their intrinsic value, no matter the task. Show them that their worth depends not on any task, responsibility, or skill. Remind them that their dignity lies in You, O' Lord. In all of our labors, may we remember that we imitate You. Amen.

SCRIPTURE STUDY ON ZOOM

Beginning in May, we will be offering the Monday Evening Scripture Study with our clergy on the first and third Monday of each month. To register, please send an email to julie@stferd.org with your name and preferred email address. You must register by the following dates to receive the Zoom link.

Register by April 28, and you will receive the Zoom link on April 29.

For Monday, May 3, Study with Father John Gallagher

Register by May 12, and you will receive the Zoom link on May 13.

For the Monday, May 17, Study with Father Philip Farrell

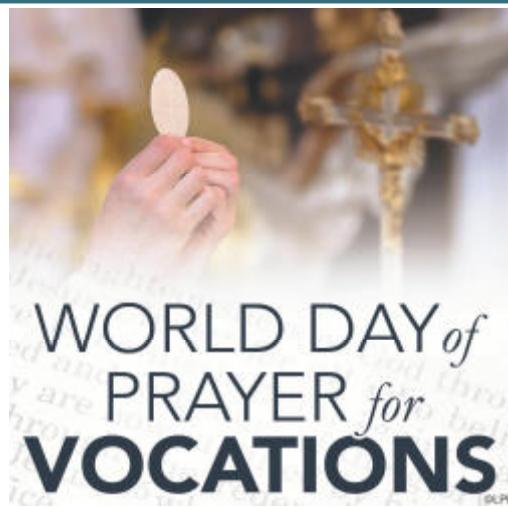
COLLECTIONS

APRIL 11

Sunday Offering\$11,845.00

APPALACHIA MISSION IS GEARING UP!

Look for your yellow envelope in your packet or donate online at <https://stgregzelie.weshareonline.org/> in May, to help fund the Mission to West Virginia in June. Thank you for your support.



Also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday" will be observed on April 25. The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes. Let us all thank our Gracious God for the clergy and religious who gave their "yes" to Him and who generously serve us; Reverends Philip Farrell, John Gallagher, Mark Thomas, David Egan; Deacons Donald Pepe, Jeff Ludwikowski, and Sister Patricia Myers.

REBORN IN CHRIST

WELCOME to our newest additions to our Parish Family. Recently, Carson Thomas Caughey and Henry Michael Chrobak were baptized into the Faith. May the Spirit of Christ continue to grow in them. Please pray for their parents, Sean & Nora Caughey and Michael & Katie Chrobak as they continue to raise their children in our Faith.



The Chrobak Family

ASLEEP IN CHRIST

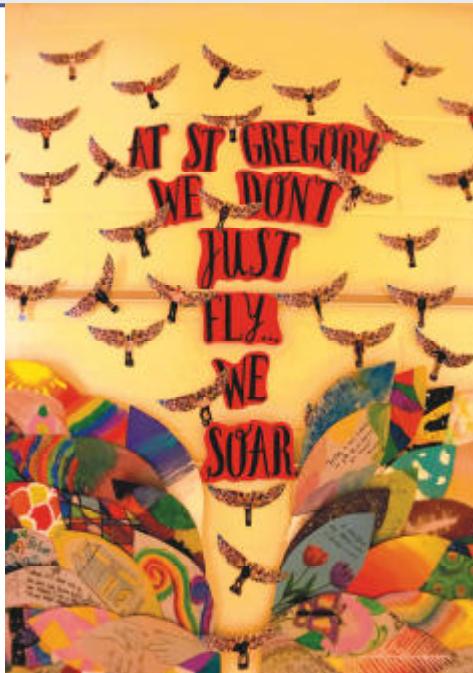
Please pray for the repose of the soul of Charlotte Leibach and Michael Mazur, who passed away recently. May they rest in peace and may the perpetual light of Christ shine upon them.



Meet the Staff—Mr. Charlie Pampena

Hi! I am Charlie Pampena and you can find me helping out around the school and church wherever I am needed; sanitizing, general maintenance, yard/garden work, etc. On Sundays, I am an usher at the 11:30 am Mass and kids know me as the “candy man.”
I have been a member of St. Gregory Church for 24 years and have enjoyed working with the Appalachia group and Lawn Fete committee where I would cook my favorite spaghetti and meatballs recipe.
Over the years I have always worked in construction and maintenance but more recently completed “Barber” training. I am an avid Penguins hockey fan and love working outdoors. I maintain the vegetable garden here on the church grounds and together, my brother and I grow a large crop of tomatoes, garlic and hot peppers which we put up in jars and share with family and friends.

Mrs. Garcia, who teaches art in grades 4 through 8, asked each of her students to decorate a feather, to their liking, which then formed a beautiful wing. This represents how the St. Gregory School students are “soaring” through the 2020-21 school year which has been filled with change and uncertainty. If you look closely, you can see small pictures of the students with the wings. We are so proud of everyone, students and staff, as we wind down this entire year of “in-school” lessons. If you, or someone you know, would like more information about attending St. Gregory School, please check out our website at www.stgregzelie.org or give us a call at 724-452-9731.

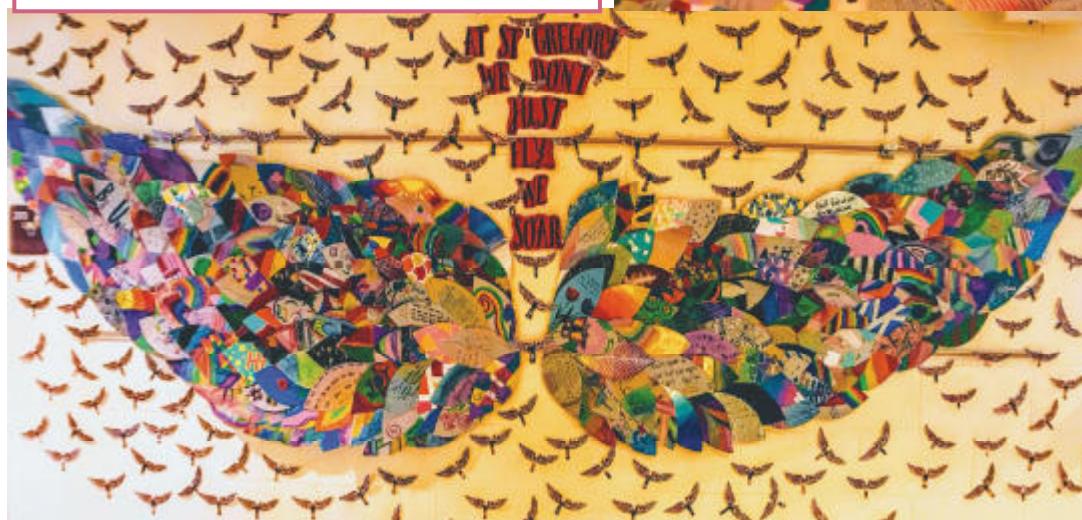


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