

THE CITIES OF GOD

ST. GREGORY PARISH

JUNE 13, 2021 | 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**“To what shall we
compare the
Kingdom of God?”**



**“It is like a mustard seed...Once it is sown, it
springs up and becomes the largest of plants”**

- Mk 4:30a, 31a, 32

Holy Redeemer Church

415 4th St, Ellwood City

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am
11:00 am

Saint Gregory Church

2 West Beaver Street, Zelienople

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:00 am
11:30 am

Saint Ferdinand Church

2535 Rochester Rd, Cranberry Twp

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm

6:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am
10:00 am
12:00 pm
5:00 pm

PRAYER & WORSHIP

Liturgical Schedule | Parish & School Directory

LITURGY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00 pm | Toni Scassera - Son, Charlie
8:00 am | Kara Henderson - The Winfield Family
11:30 am | Don Schuster - Wife, Marge

MONDAY, JUNE 14

8:00 am | James & Virginia Foltz - Daughter Mary Ellen

TUESDAY, JUNE 15

8:00 am | Celebration of Tom & Carol 25th Wedding Anniversary - Mom

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

8:00 am | Dennis Eifler - Ken & Gloria Spangler

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

8:00 am | Ron Rishack - Bill & Marie Ellen Knass

FRIDAY, JUNE 18

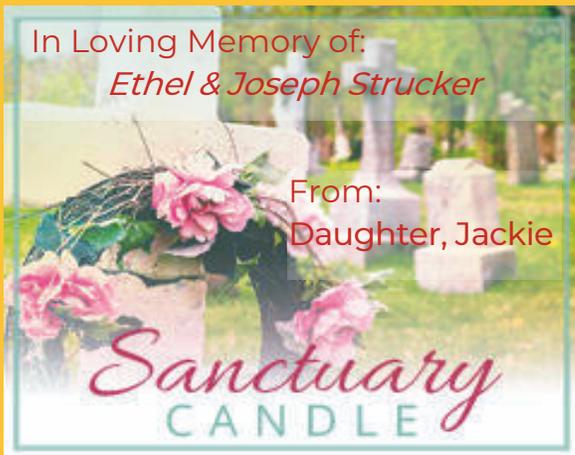
8:00 am | Anna & Ernest Springer - The Cummings Family

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Saint Romuald, Abbot; BVM
10:00 am | Confessions at St. Gregory Church
5:00 pm | Nicholas & Anna Geimer - Daughter, Claire

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 am | In Thanksgiving for: Coach Mark Harmanos - The St. Gregory Track & Field Team
11:30 am | Fred Burgess, Sr. - Susanne & John Perun & Sons



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

Jeffrey (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

ONLY TIME (AND GOD) WILL TELL

In each of OUR three parishes, WE will soon be planting a tree on the church grounds as a memorial for those loved ones WE have lost during this time of pandemic, whom WE may not have been able to hand back to God in a proper way. Each parish has been looking at local nurseries to find the right tree and the right space to address OUR grief and OUR hope. A smaller, young tree is best as it has potential and a future, enlivening OUR trust that God has so much in store for all of US. As the tree takes root and springs forth into life, perhaps so will OUR faith in God's promise of eternal life do the same. WE have to be patient and allow God's plan to unfold in God's time - not OURS.



In the Gospel passage this weekend, Jesus tells the parable of the mustard seed. It's a tiny, little seed that eventually grows into a very large plant...but in due time. It can't be rushed. It requires both nurturing and waiting. However, the results are large and spectacular. God will see it through, if only WE're willing to give God the space to do His work. So too with the coming of the Kingdom of God here on earth and in eternity. WE can do OUR part, but ultimately it's God who makes it happen.

It's been so good to see so many people feeling comfortable coming back to church. Last weekend was the first time since March 2020 that OUR churches were able to be fully open, and I have to admit that more parishioners came back than I had expected. Sure, there's room for plenty more, and WE hope to welcome back more, but this also tells us something. WE need some time; WE're not all quite ready just yet. Maybe there's uncertainty or fear. Maybe it's merely a matter of getting back into the routine. WE need to wait for God's action while being encouraging and welcoming. WE need to be concerned about the health and safety – physical, spiritual, and emotional – of each and everyone of OUR sisters and brothers. WE can't simply go back to the old “normal” of 2019 because the new “normal” is being fashioned by God in front of OUR very eyes as WE speak.

It's very understandable that many among US would like to jump back into things and pick up where WE left off. However, out of caution and sensitivity to others, WE need to work OURselves back into things slowly if WE hope that WE can be strong and survive for the future. There are a couple of larger activities in OUR parishes that I've felt necessary to put on hold again for this Summer because I'm not so certain that WE as parishes, or OUR world, are fully prepared to undertake them.

St. Ferdinand Parish Festival: Who doesn't love this? It's one of the biggest and most organized festivals across the Diocese. WE pack people in for an entire weekend. And so people have asked whether this is the right thing to be doing as we are only starting to come out of the pandemic. At the same time, OUR Business Manager, Joe Burkot, is retiring in mid-July, and OUR clerical staff in the business office is short-staffed in preparation for OUR merger, making it impossible to support such a full-scale endeavor. Therefore, the thought was that perhaps having only the White Elephant – the biggest attraction and largest money-making segment. Unfortunately, WE were unable to muster up the necessary numbers of workers to see this through. Nonetheless, the desire was strong, and so WE'll try again next year.

St. Gregory Appalachia Trip: This combines the enthusiasm of OUR youth with the experience of OUR seasoned veterans to provide assistance to those less fortunate in neighboring West Virginia. Here Covid concerns rise up once more. Many of OUR youth may not yet be fully vaccinated, and so spending considerable time in travel and the work environment may not be optimum for health concerns. While the Diocese has reluctantly granted permission for this type of summer activity this year, it still does not recommend it. Here again, I felt that out of concern for the health and safety of OUR volunteers of all ages the trip should be cancelled for this Summer with hopes again for next Summer. The money set aside for the trip will continue to grow into a larger source of funding to help the disadvantaged once the trip can be resumed.

When things don't turn out as WE had hoped, of course there can be a certain amount of disappointment. Yet, WE can never allow a detour to be the end of a journey. God has a plan for US. God has a dream for US. God has a vision for US. By this time next year, WE will be on the threshold of a new life in a new parish. God will continue to guide US and direct US, but WE will only get there in His time and with OUR cooperation. OUR potential and enthusiasm are there; WE need to keep the health and safety of others in OUR sights as well. OUR new beginnings will be small steps toward leaps and bounds of faith in God's due time.

God Bless The Cities of God!

AROUND OUR COMMUNITY

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

WE WALK BY FAITH

PRAYER

Heavenly Father,
We trust in Your goodness and love.

You treat everything You have created with compassion.

Your Spirit is at work giving us growth and allowing us to flourish.

We place ourselves into Your loving hands, with full confidence that You are at work even when the world seems to be a cold and dark place.

We work with confidence that You are bringing Your plan to fruition, even through our meager efforts.

May we always persevere in faith, hope, and love.

Through your Son, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

READINGS | WEEK OF JUNE 13, 2021

Sunday: Ez 17:22-24/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 [cf. 2a]/2 Cor 5:6-10/Mk 4:26-34

Monday: 2 Cor 6:1-10/Ps 98:1, 2b, 3ab, 3cd-4 [2a]/Mt 5:38-42

Tuesday: 2 Cor 8:1-9/Ps 146:2, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a [1b]/Mt 5:43-48

Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-11/Ps 112:1bc-2, 3-4, 9 [1b]/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: 2 Cor 11:1-11/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 7-8 [7a]/Mt 6:7-15

Friday: 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [cf. 18b]/Mt 6:19-23

Saturday: 2 Cor 12:1-10/Ps 34:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 [9a]/Mt 6:24-34

Next Sunday: Jb 38:1, 8-11/ Ps 107:23-24, 25-26, 28-29, 30-31 [1b]/2 Cor 5:14-17/Mk 4:35-4



OUR PARISHES

STILL NOT COMFORTABLE? If you would like to continue to social distance, receive communion after Mass or watch Mass livestreamed, provisions will temporarily remain in place for you to do so. Here is what each of our parishes will do to bridge the gap.

ST. GREGORY

At St. Gregory you can remain social distanced in Section A (behind the organ), receive communion after the Sunday, 11:30 am Mass until 12:45 pm and the 5:00 pm Mass will be live-streamed and available on YouTube.

The St. Gregory Church doors are now open for private prayer from 8:30 am until 3:00 pm Monday to Friday, except holidays.

Please continue to drop your envelopes into the drop boxes in the vestibules of the Church and the Parish Office.

ST. FERDINAND

St. Ferdinand will continue streaming on Facebook Live and on the Radio station 96.3 FM at both weekend Masses, Saturday at 4:00 pm and Sunday at 10:00 am. Communion will be available on, Saturday after 4:00 pm Mass until 5:15 pm and Sunday after 10:00 am Mass until 11:15 am.

If you would like to social distance while at Mass, please go to the Children's Liturgy Room.

HOLY REDEEMER

Holy Redeemer will continue to offer Communion after the 11:00 am Mass until 12:15 pm.

If you would like to social distance, in sections B and .

NOTE: Please be patient as we slowly reopen because we are actively merging it will take time to coordinate each activity based on the needs of our grouping as a whole. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we grow together.

REMINDER: If you have been fully vaccinated and beyond the waiting period a mask is not required.

ST. ANTHONY CAN FIND ANYTHING — EVEN YOU

"Tony, Tony, come around! Something is lost and it must be found."

Did you learn this one when you were a kid? In my experience there are even a lot of lapsed Catholics — or people who were never Catholic at all — who know that when you lose something, St. Anthony becomes your best friend. Missing keys? Pray to St. Anthony. Can't find your favorite sweater? St. Anthony. Forget where you parked your car in the mall lot? St. Anth— okay, you get the idea. Whatever it is, large or small, important or trivial, Tony has a reputation for finding the lost things.

It's a devotion that can seem a little like superstition — witchcraft, even? — if you don't really understand it. Mumble an incantation to a dead guy and you're guaranteed to find your

sunglasses. But as with most traditions that are old, beloved and effective, looking a little closer reveals the truth of the matter.

When we lose something really important, what do we do? We make the whole household stop what they're doing to join the search. Having St. Anthony as a friend means you ask him to stop what he's doing to help, too. And how he helps is by taking the matter exactly where all matters need to go — straight to the feet of Christ.

Here's the real genius of St. Anthony: he takes the most mundane, commonplace occurrence — misplacing socks — into an encounter with the divine and truly all things great and small are gifts from God. He grabs our hand and points to the cross. "That's what you're looking for," he tells us.

In the end, Tony doesn't really find the lost things. He finds the lost people

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO THAT IS COLLECTED EACH WEEK AT CHURCH?

This is a good question! Every parish has financial obligations, including the basic operation of the buildings, salaries, maintenance, and improvements. In addition, there are schools to support, programs to run, charities to be funded, and operational expenses like hosts and wine for Mass, music books, vestments, and so on. In some cases, cemeteries and other buildings need attention. Finally, there is the diocesan assessment that each parish pays to help run the diocese and the support services provided to each parish.

Most parishes manage to get by with the collection, a few fundraisers and endowments. But contrary to popular opinion, cash flow is also a problem, and many parishes operate in the red. The Finance Committee is responsible for assisting the pastor in fiscal management, and good stewardship is the basis for successful programs.





Pray For these in need of Healing :

Peggy	Sharon Hunter
Michael Mack	Norbert Miller
Betty Korczynski	Mickey Lefevre
Dorothy Mellon	Rodolfo Vaccaro
Adella Barr	Mark Thoma
Elaine Hafner	Bob Polak
Mary Tomayko	Patricia Zivkovic
Tina Loomis	
Eleanora Milbert	

SCRIPTURE STUDY ON ZOOM

We will be offering the Monday Evening Scripture Study with our clergy on the first and third Monday of June. 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.

Monday, June 21 – Deacon Jeff Ludwikowski
Please register by June 16. You will receive the Zoom link on June 17.

MEMORIAL PRAYERS

Beginning last weekend, June 5 and 6, we are remembering all our loved ones lost during the pandemic (not just from the virus) in a special way.

You can still provide the name of your loved one to the Parish Office at 724.452.7245, (leave a message with the spelling) or email: parishoffice@stgregzeliie.org. Your loved one's name will be placed on a dove on the bulletin board / tree in the vestibule of Church.

Hopefully, this Holy Spirit dove will represent all of our prayers for all those who died, and for all those who continue to suffer as a result of the pandemic.

A tree has been found to plant in our Mary Garden instead of the cemetery. A plaque at the tree will remind us of those we lost during this time.

COLLECTIONS

MAY 23	
Sunday Offering	\$11,382.00
MAY 30	
Sunday Offering	\$6,300.00

THREE NEWLY ORDAINED FOR THE PITTSBURGH DIOCESE

Three men preparing for ordination this month in the Diocese of Pittsburgh say they are energized and ready to serve God's people after years of formation and study. Joseph S. Uzar, Jr. will be ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, June 26, 10 a.m. at Saint Paul Cathedral in Pittsburgh's Oakland section. Bishop David Zubik will serve as principal celebrant and homilist.

David C. Schmidt, Jr. will be ordained to the transitional diaconate on Saturday, June 12, 10 a.m. at Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen Parish, Butler. Bishop William Waltersheid will be the principal celebrant and homilist.

Jeffrey McLaughlin will be ordained to the permanent diaconate on Saturday, June 19, 10 a.m. at Saint Maurice Church, Forest Hills, which is part of Saint Joseph the Worker Parish. Bishop David Zubik will serve as principal celebrant and homilist.

All three ordination Masses will be livestreamed on the diocesan [YouTube channel](#).

ASLEEP IN CHRIST

Pray for the repose of the soul of Robert Miles, husband of Jennifer Miles, who recently passed away. May he rest in peace and the perpetual light of Christ shine upon him.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY BLESSING OF FATHERS

God and Father of all creation,
we come before you today
with humble hearts.

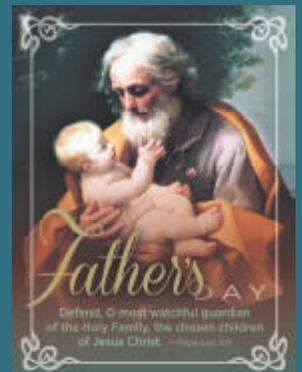
You are our model of a loving father.
When we fail and fall short
of your expectations,
you are always there at the
end of the day with open
arms, ready to heal the cuts
and scrapes of the day
and to encourage us to try
again and not to give up.

We hold up these men in
our midst who act in the
world as fathers to their
children or models of
fathers for others.

Bless them in their
moments of doubt and
frustration with their
children.

Give them warm and open
hearts to forgive failures.
Provide them with the
words needed for
encouragement and
perseverance.

We ask all this in the name
of Jesus.
Amen.



Job Opportunities



THE CITIES OF GOD PARISH GROUPING proudly announces a second wave of available positions in anticipation of our merger in July 2022. These positions are Communications Director and Human Resources/Safe Environment Coordinator. A brief summary of each position is stated below. For more details, including a job description and application requirements, please go to <https://www.diopitt.org/jobs>.

Communications Director, Parish Grouping of The Cities of God (St. Ferdinand Parish, St. Gregory Parish and Holy Redeemer Parish)

The Parish Grouping of The Cities of God, which includes the three parishes of St. Ferdinand, St. Gregory, and Holy Redeemer is seeking a Communications Director. These parishes call together the faithful in three principle cities (Cranberry Twp., Zelenople, and Ellwood City) and all the many other communities in between. The Communications Director is a primary instrument of evangelization for the Parish. This position provides oversight of the parish's print and digital media by developing strategies for its effective use and by forming others to utilize print and digital media effectively for the purpose of a stronger print and digital presence for the parish.

Human Resources/Safe Environment Coordinator, Parish Grouping of The Cities of God (St. Ferdinand Parish, St. Gregory Parish and Holy Redeemer Parish)

The Parish Grouping of The Cities of God, which includes the three parishes of St. Ferdinand, St. Gregory, and Holy Redeemer is seeking a Human Resources/Safe Environment Coordinator. These parishes call together the faithful in three principle cities (Cranberry Twp., Zelenople, and Ellwood City) and all the many other communities in between. The Human Resources/Safe Environment Coordinator, under the direction of the Business Manager will help organize, coordinate and carry out all human resource processes for the parish along with ensuring that anyone employed or volunteering in the parish/school has completed all required training and attained all necessary clearances. This position works to promote the understanding of Safe Environment in its broadest scope.

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