



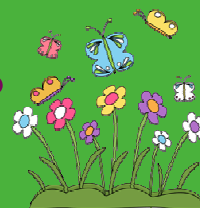
**ST. GREGORY
THE GREAT
CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY**

**We are a Stewardship
Parish, recognizing that
all we have comes from
God and as good
Stewards we are called
to share these gifts.**

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

Deacon Ron	2
Youth Ministry	3
Parish Directory	4
Gala Insert	5
Gala Insert	6
STGG School	7
Stewardship	8
Faith Formation	9
Parish Survey	9
Calendar	10
Easter Schedule	10

The Messenger



E A S T E R 2 0 1 9

The Lord Has Risen

My dear people,

Many of us say, that the people who know us best are those who love us most. Those who give themselves in love to each other over many years and who have remained faithful to each other, know each other in a way no one else knows them. Often times those we claim to know, we don't really know. We don't love them enough to really know them.

In the Gospel of John, one of Jesus' disciples, is always referred to as, the one Jesus loves. The 4th Evangelist (John) believed there was a special connection (bond) between Jesus and this disciple. Here was a disciple who was especially open to the presence of God's love in the person of Jesus and responded fully to that love. For the 4th evangelist, this disciple, is the ideal disciple, the disciple we are all called to become.

He is portrayed in the 4th Gospel as someone who, because of his special bond of love, knew Jesus better than any of the other disciples. His knowledge of Jesus was born of a greater love. He saw more clearly, loved more deeply.

In the Gospel, John 20: 1-9, he alone saw the true significance of the empty tomb of Jesus. "He saw and believed" Jn. 20: 8.

On the basis of the empty tomb alone, he recognized Jesus was Risen from the dead. The other disciples came to believe this only after Jesus appeared to them. "We have seen the Lord" they told Thomas.

Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene first and she went to tell Peter and the beloved disciple. Fr. James Martin says, "during that intervening time, Mary was the Church." Interesting thought. What the beloved Disciple recognized, what he believed, what Mary believed, is what brings us to church on Easter morning. God has raised His Son to new life. This is the heart of our Christian faith. Both Mary Magdalene and the beloved Disciple had a deep love for Jesus, and they were first to believe. The Resurrection is God's resounding yes, to all that Jesus said and did, to all he lived and died for. Resurrection is the keystone without which the archway of our Christian faith would collapse.

In these turbulent times in the church, when our faith is rocked to the core, when we seek answers and there are few, your great faith and love of God are so evident in your continued practice of your faith. I know you have drawn

strength from each other both in worship and prayer. Yes, we are in this together. Much gratitude for all your support, especially for the Sunday offertory and Annual Catholic Appeal.

Do take advantage of our Lenten Reconciliation service, with many priests assisting on Monday, April 8th at 7:00 PM. Let it be a gift to yourself, to go to confession for Easter. Holy Week is the greatest week of the year for our faith, as we live out the fullness of the Paschal Mystery. God's love for us; our love for God and each other. The communal washing of the feet on Holy Thursday as well as Adoration until midnight; The Passion of Good Friday, and a special "Stations" at 3:00pm; Holy Saturday at the empty tomb and the glory of Easter Sunday.

"Let Him Easter in us, be a dayspring to the dimness of us..." Gerald Manly Hopkins

On behalf of the clergy and staff, I wish you the blessings of a glorious Easter.

Happy Easter!

Very Rev. Nicholas Clavin

Very Rev. Nicholas Clavin
Pastor

From the Desk of Deacon Ron

Dear Parish Community of St. Gregory the Great,

On behalf of myself, Tina and our children we want to thank you for your outpouring of love, compaction and support at this time in our life. The sudden loss of our youngest son, Timothy has been a devastating blow to our family and life in general, on many different levels. Your thoughts, prayers and offers to help have helped direct us toward healing. While we know there will always be a part of us missing, you have helped. Your prayers have been there when we could not pray. Your arms have been there to hold us when we felt alone. Your hundreds of cards have been like ointment to sooth our wound. It is the practical way that God holds us in His arms and says, I love you and am with you in your pain.

This event has also drawn us closer as a family in this time of grief. We listen to each other more attentively, we communicate more often, we spend more time with each other both individually and as a family. Emotions are all over the place. Learning to grieve like this opens a whole new dimension of life. Sometimes we feel lost and find ourselves wandering around the house hoping to hear his voice or the door to his room open or the creaking of the stairs in the morning and a good morning greeting. We call his cell phone just to hear his voice. We question the importance of things in life more. We spend more time in reflection asking why, while still feeling disbelief.

This journey tests our beliefs and our faith. For me, in searching for hope and meaning I have had to ask myself, do I truly trust in Jesus Christ? It is in this trust that the birth of hope comes for me. There is nothing, nor anyone who has bridged this world of death to the world of life, but Christ Jesus. God intended a world of life from the beginning. Sin entered and took that away from us. God, through Jesus gave us a means to move from this temporary life to a real world without sin, death and separation.

While the process of grief continues and will for years to come it is in this hope that we must trust. This hope is not a wish we conjure up, but an expectation and anticipation of what is true. This hope is the means by which salvation from death to life can work in our present life. Jesus many times stated to those He healed, "It is your faith that has saved you." It is our faith that is the portal, the doorway that allows God's Grace, God's unconditional love to move and live in our lives.

It is in this Easter Hope we thank you for loving us,

Deacon Ron & Tina and Diem family



YOUTH MINISTRY



Karaoke Drop-In



January Minute to Win it challenge games.



St. Patrick's Day Drop-In



WALK FOR LIFE

Announcing the 2019 Parish Directory

- What:** St. Gregory the Great Catholic Community Parish Directory
- Who:** Father Nick Clavin - Pastor, Mass Celebrants and Deacons, Parish Staff, Maeve O'Connell - Principal, School Staff, Parish Ministries, Groups and Organizations, Registered Parishioners
- Why:** With a vibrant and growing faith community at St. Gregory the Great, the parish directory is an invaluable tool for Father Nick when called upon to schedule an appointment, preside at a wedding or a funeral, anoint a parishioner, and make home or hospital visits. The directory also serves as a parish family album to be used and as a resource for ministries and fellow parishioners. Each parishioner or family that participates will receive one free 8"x10" photo and a copy of the directory.
- How:** You can register online at stgg.org. Click the link on the home page. Or, you can fill in the attached form with your information. Colorcraft, our directory vendor, will call you to schedule a date and time for your session. Photographs will be taken in the St. Gregory the Great parish hall. Plan on one hour for the session which includes reviewing the photos and placing an order.
- When:** Sign-ups begin the weekend after Easter Sunday. Photographs start on June 7, 2019 and end by June 29, 2019. Sessions will be scheduled six days a week, Tuesday through Sunday. The directory will be ready this fall. Your pictures will be available approximately 4 weeks after being photographed.
- Contact:** Jeannine Sullivan or Orrie Irwin at directory.stgg@gmail.com for information.

Please fill out this form, detach it on the dotted line and place in the DIRECTORY BOX in the church, office or school. Please print your information.

Last Name:	First Name:
Cell Phone:	Work Phone:
Home Phone:	Group Size:
Email Address:	
I would like to volunteer:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Help with sign-ups <input type="checkbox"/> Receptionist at photo sessions <input type="checkbox"/> Proofing and editing	



Students at St. Gregory the Great Catholic School excel spiritually, academically and athletically in events across the Diocese of San Diego!



We are so proud of our **Academic Decathlon Team** who competed against **21 Catholic schools** on March 2 in the San Diego Diocese competition at St. Augustine High School, placing 1st in Mathematics and Writing; 1st in Literature; 4th in Fine Arts; and 2nd Place in the Super Quiz competition. This team exemplified all that is best in Catholic education, supporting each other, sharing their gifts and talents humbly, and working hard to earn their honors. Our Guardians took **2nd Place Overall in the Diocese of San Diego**.

St. Gregory the Great students earned Academic Scholarships to local Catholic high schools.



Sixth grader, JP composed and performed the winning entry, "Children Helping Children" in the Missionary Childhood Association Song Contest.

7th Grade Scientists brought home honors at the Greater San Diego Science & Engineering Fair in the categories of Mechanical & Electrical Engineering, Behavioral & Social Science, Biochemistry, and Microbiology, Medicine & Health Science.



St. Gregory the Great Varsity Basketball Team were victorious at CCHS, winning the Catholic Sports League Basketball Championship.

The boys' flag football team (below) won the Dons Alumni Parochial Football Championship. Thank you Coaches! Way to go, Guardians!



Catholic Schools
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

Kindergartener, Isabella, won the Diocese of San Diego, Catholic Schools Week, coloring contest. Certificate presented by Dr. Julie Cantillon from the Diocesan Office for Schools.



AN attitude of gratitude



STEWARDSHIP

Sharing God's Grace and Mercy – Ministry Stewardship in Action – March 2019

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist



The Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist assist at Mass by distributing Holy Communion along with the presiding clergy. They are to help our Eucharistic Liturgy truly be a work of the people; dedicated men and women who come forward to help and stand as an outward sign of our baptismal calling to serve. These wonderful stewards have an active prayer life and are well-immersed in the parish. Thank you for this ministry!

Contact: Greg Tom
858-271-9490
gtom@san.rr.com

Prayer Wheel



One of the very special ministries of St. Gregory the Great is our Prayer Wheel. These loving members offer their prayers to help give encouragement and strength during times of crisis when we are most aware that we need strength and power beyond our own, to help us cope. Praying for each other is the gift we offer to one another within our Christian community. How can we pray for you today?

Contact: Matt Gaynor
858.344.2165
mdgaynor@gmail.com



Bible Study



Did you know that Saint Gregory the Great has several active and vibrant bible studies to offer? There are two current classes that meet Monday evenings and Tuesday mornings, with a new class starting in April. All courses enjoy group discussions, personal study books and video from inspiring speakers. Please join us and see what God will reveal to you in The Word today!

Contact: Dennis Poirier
858.243.2455
dkpoirier@gmail.com

Women's Friendship Circle



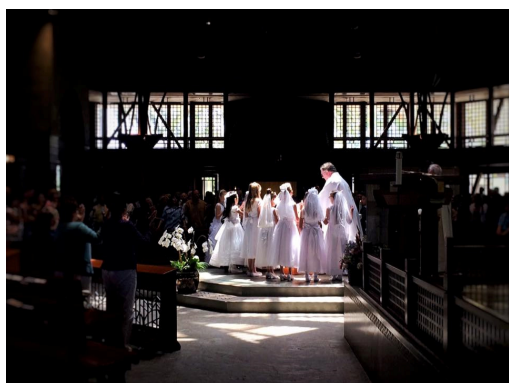
The Women's Friendship Circle is open to all Catholic women looking to enjoy friendship, faith, fun and support. Debbie Malone is new to leadership for the group and is chock-full of inspiring and fun activities planned throughout the year. There was quite a crowd for game night in March, but always a seat for you to join us too! Contact Debbie today for the schedule.

Contact: Debbie Malone
858.663.5230
demalone@san.rr.com

Happy Easter from Faith Formation

We are heading into our favorite time of year. First Eucharist Celebrations! The children have all been working so very hard to complete their workbooks and getting their Saying Hello booklets signed. We thank all of the leaders who take time on their Sundays to sign and talk to these wonderful children. We will have 2 celebrations this year, May 5th & 19th both at 2:00pm. This is such a special time for the children of the parish as they come to the table for the first time to receive Jesus. Our other great joy is planning for Vacation Bible School, this summer the theme is: Roar- Life is Wild...God is Good. VBS will run July 22 through July 26th with an ending Mass at noon on the 26th. Registration for Faith Formation for the 2019/2020 class year and VBS will begin on April 26th online. Classes will begin in late September or early October.

Blessings, Ginger Marlin, Erica Rossio & Janet Malacane

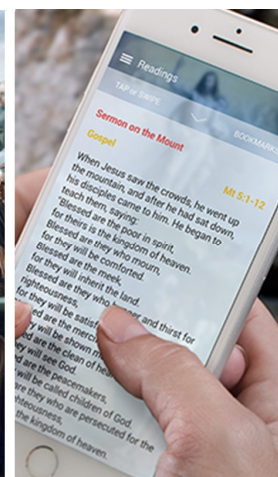


Parish Survey

Thank you to all of you who took the time to complete the parish survey last month. We are in the midst of tabulating the results and will publish them shortly. There are some preliminary results we can and have already partially addressed. Sound was a concern and we have had the technicians out to make adjustments and we are getting a second opinion. For those who have difficulty hearing there are headphones available for your use in the sound room. Any usher can direct you to them, just replace them back in the sound room at the end of Mass. We might do well to get some more headphones.

For those who want the readings at Mass the readings can be found on our parish app. Directions to download the app can be found on our website <https://www.stgg.org/home/welcome/myparish-app> or feel free to call Nichol Swift at 858-653-3540 and she can walk you through it.

We will continue to take your suggestions to heart and make adjustments as we can.



Parish Calendar Highlights

- **Stations of the Cross** - every Friday during Lent at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- **Fish Fry** - every Friday during Lent at 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- **Parish Penance Service** - April 8th at 7p.m.
- **Chrism Mass** – Good Shepherd Parish - April 11th at 4:00 p.m.
- **Holy Week** – See Below
- **Grandparents Mass** – May 3rd 10:30 a.m. at the school
- **Mass for the Sick** - May 4th at 10:00 a.m.
- **First Holy Communion**—May 5th at 2:00 p.m.
- **Confirmation** - May 16th at 5:00 p.m.
- **St. Gregory the Great Gala** - May 18th @ 5:00pm
- **First Holy Communion** – May 19th at 2:00 p.m.



Holy Week & Easter Schedule

Parish Reconciliation Service

Monday, April 8, 2019 ~ 7:00pm

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Saturday, April 13, 2019 ~ 5:00PM

Sunday, April 14, 2019 ~ 7:00AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM, & 5:00PM

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper

April 18, 2019 ~ 7:00PM

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

April 19, 2019

The Passion of Our Lord ~ 12:00PM

Stations of the Cross ~ 3:00PM

The Passion of Our Lord ~ 7:00PM

Holy Saturday Night: The Easter Vigil

April 20, 2019 ~ 8:00PM

Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of the Lord

April 21, 2019 ~ 7:00AM, Church only

Both 9:00AM & 11:00AM in the Church & Hall

Saint Gregory the Great Catholic Community

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San Diego, CA 92131



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