

# Sacred Heart Catholic Church St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
415 W. 5th St. ~ PO Box 45  
Rush City, MN 55069

**MASS TIMES:**  
Wednesday ~ 9:00 am  
1st Saturday Mass ~ 9:00 am  
Sunday ~ 8:30 am

**ADORATION:**  
Wednesday ~ 9:30 am - Noon

**RECONCILIATION:**  
Wednesday ~ 9:30 am  
1st Sunday ~ 8:00 - 8:20 am

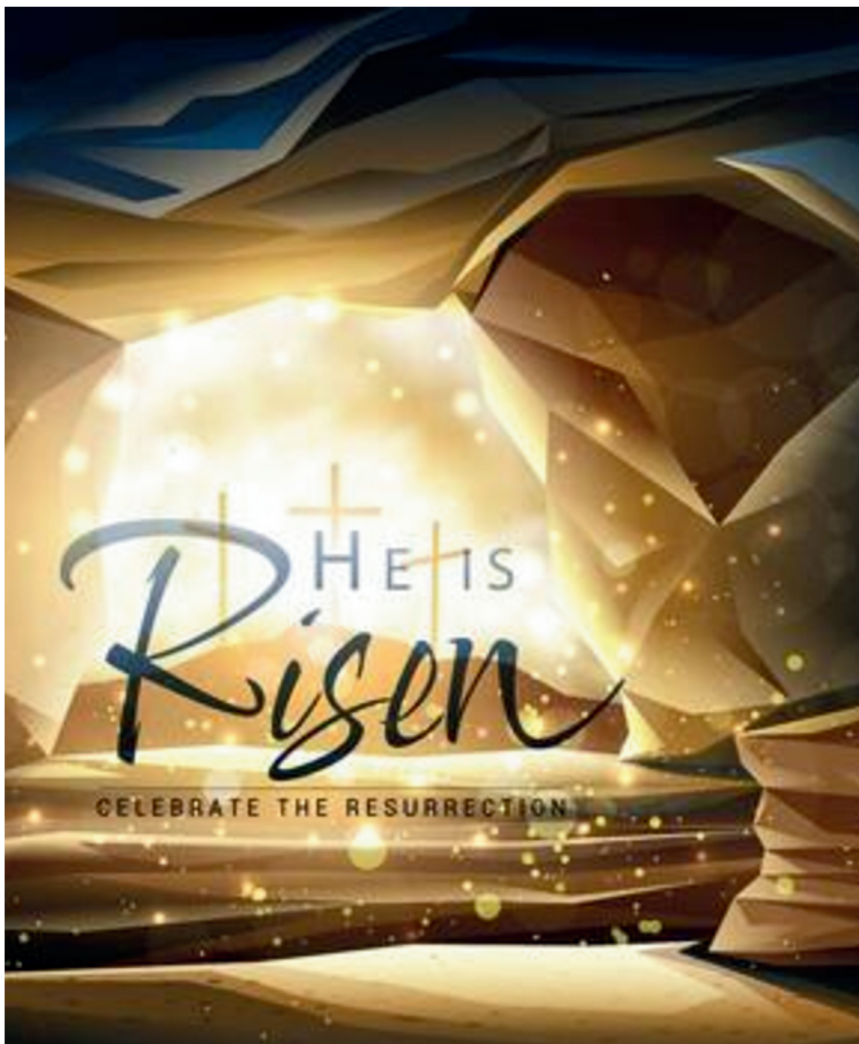
St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church  
38725 Forest Blvd ~ PO Box 609  
North Branch, MN 55056

**MASS TIMES:**  
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday ~ 8:30 am  
Wednesday ~ 5:00 pm  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help ~ 4:50 pm  
Saturday ~ 5:00 pm  
Sunday ~ 10:30 am

**ADORATION:**  
Tuesdays & Friday ~ 7:30 - 8:20 am  
Thursday ~ 9:00 am - 9:00 pm

**RECONCILIATION:**  
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday ~ 8:00 am  
Saturday ~ 4:00 - 4:30 pm

**ROSARY:**  
Saturday ~ 4:30 pm  
Sunday ~ 10:00 am



## Parish Staff:

**Pastor - Fr. Matt Shireman** [fathermatt@stgregorynb.org](mailto:fathermatt@stgregorynb.org)  
**Deacon - Dn. Kevin Downie** | **Assisting Priest - Fr. Chuck Brambilla**  
Bookkeeper: Mary Felix [mary@stgregorynb.org](mailto:mary@stgregorynb.org)

### SACRED HEART PARISH OFFICE

320-358-4370 | FAX: 866-779-1580  
[shc415@hotmail.com](mailto:shc415@hotmail.com)  
[www.sacredheartrcmn.org](http://www.sacredheartrcmn.org)

Admin Asst: Marsha Marcussen  
Project Asst./Music: Steve Yurick  
Tina Heidelberger, Faith Formation,  
763-670-8594,  
[tina.joeheidelberger@gmail.com](mailto:tina.joeheidelberger@gmail.com)

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**  
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday -  
8:30am - 12:30pm

### ST. GREGORY PARISH OFFICE

651-674-4056 [info@stgregorynb.org](mailto:info@stgregorynb.org) [www.stgregorynb.org](http://www.stgregorynb.org)

Donna Groschen, Admin Asst., Safe Environment Coordinator

Cathie Hendren, Music Director  
Rosemary Balster, Sexton  
Vince Hendren, Youth Music  
Rich Ohmann, Maintenance Dir.  
Lisa Ohmann, Custodial Tech.

Barb Karel, KIC Coordinator  
Patty Miller, KIC/DOC Admin Asst  
Danielle Miller, DOC Coordinator  
Liz Long, Youth Events Leader  
Donald Ohmann, Maint./Grounds  
Jacob Ohmann, Maint./Grounds

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**  
Monday & Friday - 8:00am - 1:00pm  
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday - 8:00am - 4:30pm

**FAITH FORMATION OFFICE HOURS:**  
Tuesday & Thursday - 8:00am - 4:30pm  
Wednesday (class nights) - Noon - 8:00pm

**April 5th, 2026 Easter Sunday ~ April 12th, 2026 Divine Mercy Sunday**

# ALMOST 2000 YEARS AFTER THE FIRST EASTER



## The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

In 2033, we will celebrate the 2000-year anniversary of the greatest event in history—Jesus dying and rising. Catholics (through the “Global 2033” and other initiatives), Orthodox Christians, and Protestants will look to mark this anniversary with great solemnity. And yet in our modern world, many people rarely (if ever) think of this “once-and-for-all” saving event. Even if someone celebrates Easter by getting together with family, the celebration may be very secular by focusing on bunnies and candy.

The patron saint of our Archdiocese, Saint Paul, says in one of his letters, “If Christ has not been raised, then empty is our preaching; empty, too, your faith” (1 Corinthians 15:14). Archbishop Hebda has taken up a similar theme in his upcoming pastoral letter titled “There is Only One Thing Necessary.” Essentially what St. Paul and Archbishop Hebda are getting at is the following: if we do not live out of the faith that Jesus Christ died and rose again, then nothing else matters. It is the duty of every household (and, therefore, every parent) and every family to live out their call to be a domestic church with holy, “happy” (or joyful), and healthy members (to the best of their abilities). The Catholic Church, and therefore every Catholic parish, is a family of families. Great families make for great parishes, although we admit, too, that all of us are in need of becoming the families that we are called to be. That is why God gives us His Grace most specifically through the Church’s Seven Sacraments, which were instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ.

As you celebrate the near 2000th anniversary of Jesus Christ rising from the dead, I invite you to join me in thanking God for family—both the domestic church and the parish. Have a blessed Easter!

~ Fr. Matt

## HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS

### EASTER SERVICES SCHEDULE:

#### Holy Saturday (April 4)

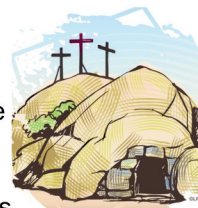
8:00am at St. Gregory - Morning Prayer  
8:30pm at both churches - Easter Vigil Mass

#### Easter Sunday Masses (April 5)

8:30am Sacred Heart  
10:30am St. Gregory

### STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION

Join Fr. Matt for four Saturdays after Easter for a new video series that will explore the 14 Stations of the Resurrection. All who are interested may join him 10:00-11:00am in St. Gregory's Parish Hall on April 11, May 2, May 16, and May 23. Some of the parish small groups will also be watching the videos.



Have you wondered why we celebrate the Stations of the Cross during Lent, but don't have a similar practice for the 50 days from Easter (from Easter Sunday to Pentecost)? Heidi Harvey and Janae Bower of St. Paul in Ham Lake found a papal document referencing such a practice. With Archbishop Hebda's endorsement, they have brought to fruition a written set of 14 stations and a 7-part video series for this practice, narrated by Bower. Each station recalls a Gospel story that takes place after the Resurrection, including the road to Emmaus, the encounter with the doubting Apostle Thomas, and the Ascension.



### Congratulations!

These individuals received Holy sacraments at the Easter Vigil:

George Judkins      Richard Lejonvarn  
Nicholas Dow      Logan Kirby



©LPI

### DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

St. Joseph's in Taylors Falls is having Divine Mercy devotions on Sunday, April 12 with Eucharistic Adoration and confessions from 1:30-3:00pm. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be recited at 3:00pm followed by Eucharistic Benediction. (490 Bench St, Taylors Falls)

### DIVINE MERCY STATUE AND DEVOTIONAL

Did you know? St. Gregory's has a Divine Mercy statue which may be taken to your house in your special time of need. Mary Ruyman-Lee is the caretaker. You may reserve the statue by contacting her or calling St. Gregory's Parish Office.

### RECLAIMING SUNDAYS: The initiative for April - Breaking Bread and Prayer

You will probably have a special meal for Easter Sunday, but what about next Sunday? Every Sunday is a mini Easter, and it is good to have a special family meal together, especially on Sunday. Plan ahead with your family. For example, if your kids in Confirmation or at Youth Group are getting Domino's Pizza for dinner, make the midday meal the big one (with everyone present). If there is a dessert specialist in the house (or at least someone who enjoys buying them from the grocery store earlier in the week), the Sunday meal is especially a good one to have a special dessert at. Try to avoid any temptation to “dine-and-dash”—perhaps include some elevated conversations (as discussed in March).



# SACRED HEART

## SACRED HEART FAITH FORMATION:

Tina Heidelberg ~ 763-670-8594,  
tina.joeheidelberg@gmail.com

**Confirmation:** Danielle Miller ~ danielle@stgregorynb.org

### SMALL GROUPS

Small Groups are Open to All Adults The parish small groups continue to welcome new participants, even on a trial basis. For more information on the groups, contact Fr. Matt (fathermatt@stgregorynb.org).

**Mondays** from 6-7:30pm in the Parish House.

**Wednesdays** from 10-11:30 a.m. at Rushseba Senior Living Center, Sandy Pelant.

**Thursdays** from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Parish House, Connie Blomquist.

**1st and 3rd Sunday** from 9:30-11:30 in Parish House.

**Men's small group**, 3rd Saturday of each month @ St. Gregory's from 7:30am-9am.

### Sisters of The Sacred Heart

Please mark your calendars for the Sisters of the Sacred Heart meetings, which are held on each 3rd Thursday in Wey Hall at 6:30 pm. **The next one will be on April 16th, 2026.**



### Attention all Youth in Grades 3-12!!!

Sacred Heart Youth get-together & Pizza Party-  
**April 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm-9:00pm.**

**Permission slips are required.** Contact the Tina or Fr. Matt for more information.

## PARISH SURVEY 2026: YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Fr. Matt and the parish leadership ask that you take a couple of minutes to respond to the questions/prompts in the parish survey (by April 15th) either online at <https://forms.gle/GRgYOL3ESQ3VW3YZ7> or in a printed copy in church. Your feedback enables us to better serve the needs of our community. This is an anonymous survey. If you'd like us to follow up with you on your questions or comments, you will have the opportunity to share your name and contact information at the end. We will share the results of the survey with the parish community once we have had a chance to tabulate them.

### Church is open during office hours

You may have noticed the camera at the door by the ramp. This makes it possible to safely open up the church during office hours (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30 to 12:30pm). Please consider visiting Jesus in the Church on one (or all) of these days.

### Sacred Heart Almsgiving Project

This Lent, Sacred Heart parishioners are invited to help the Diocese of Mamfe, located in western Cameroon near Nigeria, prepare classrooms for children whose families struggle simply to afford education. Years ago, Bishop Aloysius visited our parish as a young priest and shared the hardships facing families in Mamfe. Today, he is leading the renovation of its school serving preschool through high school students — including the very poorest children.

To open its school, they need desks, chairs, chalkboards, and basic supplies. Our desire is to furnish as much of two classrooms as possible (about \$4,000 each). Every dollar given will be matched up to \$10,000 — doubling the impact of every gift.

**To donate, please make checks payable to Sacred Heart and place them in the envelope addressed to "Mamfe" that are in the pews. You may drop your gift in the weekly offering basket.**

## PRAYER REQUESTS

If you or a loved one are ill in any way and would like to have your name included in the Sunday Prayers of the Faithful, contact the Parish office. Also, any prayer request or needs can be written in our Parish Intercessory Book in the back of church at any time.

### PRAYERS FOR:

Carole Stenger, Pat Mihm, Audrey Larson, Ken & David Kirchberg, Shirley Kirchberg, Grace Schwaab, Sue Roth, Gerald Mollberg, Erin Hestbeck-Mielke, Gary Frazier, Jim Brenna, Margery Steininger, Violet Pearson, Tori Yurick-Schieber, Al & Mary Petschl, Denise Boyd, Maureen Guentzel, Steve Lauinger

**Call the Parish Office to have yourself or loved one added to this prayer list for up to 3 months at a time.**

### COMMUNION VISITS:

Are you or someone you know homebound and desiring to receive Holy Communion? Or in need of Confession or the Anointing of the Sick (which is not just for people who are actively dying)? Let the Church come to you! To set a time that works for you, please contact your parish office. Sacred Heart and St. Gregory both have volunteers for this homebound ministry.

### Mass Intentions

#### Wednesday, April 8th

9:00 am †Brian Erickson

#### Sunday, April 12th

8:30 am †Richard Kemen

#### Wednesday, April 15th

9:00 am †Lorraine Meyer

#### Sunday, April 19th

8:30 am †Presiders Choice



| Financial Update | Budget   | Actual     |
|------------------|----------|------------|
| February 2026    | \$10,020 | \$8,642.30 |



### OUR MISSION

Sacred Heart parish is a community of Catholic Christian believers, established by the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

We strive to grow in holiness through prayer, celebration of the Eucharist and other sacraments, and reflection on the scriptures. We work hard to build the kingdom of God through evangelization, catechesis and service for all.

# ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

**Faith Formation Office: 651-674-7382**

Barb Karel, Coordinator ~ barb@stgregorynb.org  
 Patty Miller, Admin Asst. ~ patty@stgregorynb.org  
 Danielle Miller, Confirmation ~ danielle@stgregorynb.org  
 Liz Long, Youth Events Leader ~ liz@stgregorynb.org  
 Vince Hendren, Mission Trip ~ vince@stgregorynb.org

## CALENDAR

**Note** - Some weekdays will have Word & Communion Service instead of Daily Mass and Confession.

## FAITH FORMATION

*Have a Blessed Easter Sunday and Season from the Faith Formation Staff!*

### CLASS & EVENT SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, April 8, 6:00pm - KIC class for ALL grades  
 Sunday, April 12, 11:30am - Sunday School  
 Sunday, April 12, 5:30pm - DOC Class  
 Wednesday, April 15, 6:00pm - KIC class for ALL grades  
 April 18-19 - DOC Retreat at NET Center

### RE-CAP FAMILY LENT EVENT NIGHT:

At our last class on March 25, we were able to watch the beautiful Living Stations dress rehearsal and have families participate in some fun Lenten activities, including learning about and making a Triduum yarn bracelet. We also created a Resurrection Garden, which featured lots of dirt, an empty tomb, the 3 crosses of Calvary, and grass seed, which will (hopefully) sprout by Easter Sunday! It was messy, but FUN! Families were also able to hear a beautiful testimony from Boston Machin. It was a wonderful, faith-filled evening!

### ATTENTION 2ND-YEAR CONFIRMATION STUDENTS!:

The Confirmation weekend retreat is just around the corner! It will be held on April 18 & 19 at the NET Center in West St. Paul. Please contact Danielle Miller for more information.

**Monday, April 6 - Offices Closed**

**Tuesday, April 7**

7:00 pm NA Meeting.....Classrooms

**Thursday, April 9**

11:00 am Funeral for Sandra Wolf.....Church

1:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration until 9pm.....Church

6:30 pm Baptism Class.....Parish Hall

**Friday, April 10**

9:15 am Bible Study.....Cry Room

6:00 pm Friday Fun Night (gr. 3-5).....Parish Hall

**Saturday, April 11**

10:00 am Stations of Resurrection videos.....Parish Hall

4:00 pm Reconciliation.....Confessional

4:30 pm Rosary.....Church

5:00 pm Mass.....Church

6:00 pm Saturday Hospitality.....Parish Hall

**Sunday, April 12**

10:00 am Rosary.....Church

10:30 am Mass.....Church

11:30 am Coffee Sunday.....Parish Hall

**Tuesday, April 14**

8:30 am Word & Communion service.....St. Gregory

7:00 pm NA Meeting.....Classrooms

**Wednesday, April 15**

5:00 pm Word & Communion Service.....Church

**Thursday, April 16**

8:30 am Word & Communion service.....Church

9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration until 9:00pm.....Church

5:30 pm Mary & Martha meeting.....Parish Hall

7:00 pm Knights of Columbus meeting.....Parish Hall

**Friday, April 17**

8:30 am Word & Communion service.....Church

9:15 am No Bible Study

**Saturday, April 18**

9:30 am Small Group Leader check-in.....Parish Hall

4:00 pm Reconciliation.....Confessional

4:30 pm Rosary.....Church

5:00 pm Mass.....Church

**Sunday, April 19**

10:00 am Rosary.....Church

10:30 am Mass.....Church

11:30 am Sunday Hospitality.....Parish Hall

6:00 pm High School Youth Group.....Romero House

## WOMEN'S EVENTS

### MARY & MARTHA WOMEN'S GROUP

The next meeting is set for Thursday, April 16, at 5:30pm in the Parish Hall. All women of the parish are welcome at our meetings.



**June 4**  
**5:30-7:30pm**



**GUEST SPEAKER**

All women are invited to a special event in St. Gregory's Parish Hall. Our guest speaker, Alyssa Bormes' presentation is called "Mary and Martha - Woundedness to Hope". Alyssa is a Catholic educator, author, speaker, and emcee. Through humor, analogy, and an innate gift of storytelling, she helps ignite in her audiences a new-found sense of wonder in the Church. Her passion is to inspire others to take on greater personal responsibility for their faith and to grow in spiritual maturity.

Light snacks and refreshments will be served. There is no cost, but RSVP's are appreciated by Wednesday, May 27 to St. Gregory's Parish Office. (651-674-4056, donna@stgregorynb.org)

†Richard Popp  
 Husband of JoAnn



†Sandra Wolf  
 Mother of Jill Desrosier

*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

## Prayer REQUESTS

Almighty God, we lift up all those who are ill in body, spirit, or mind. We ask you to bring healing, comfort, and peace to them. Calm their fears and help them experience the healing power of Your love. Amen

### CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR:

Roger, Steve, and Pat Dusbabek, Austin & Jen DeMars, Dan Forschler, Raymond Kelly, Vivian Kreitz, Stephen Lauinger, Tom Mellgren, Marcia O'Brien, Dan Salzbrun

Call the Parish Office to have yourself or loved one added to this prayer list for up to 3 months at a time, or to be added to the Prayer Chain.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Tuesday, April 7, 8:30am**

†Marie Cardinal

**Wednesday, April 8, 5:00pm**

The Cierzan Family

**Thursday, April 9, 8:30am**

†Dylan & †Lucille Dusbabek

**Friday, April 10, 8:30am**

†Shawn O'Meara

**Saturday, April 11, 5:00pm**

The People of St. Gregory and Sacred Heart

**Sunday, April 12, 10:30am - Divine Mercy Sunday**

†Jane Dillon

**April 14 - 17**

Word and Communion Services; No Mass Intentions

**Saturday, April 18, 8:30pm**

The People of St. Gregory and Sacred Heart

**Sunday, April 19, 10:30am - 3rd Sunday of Easter**

†Ken & †Jim Zupun



## YOUTH EVENTS

Vince Hendren vince@stgregorynb.org  
Liz Long: liz@stgregorynb.org or call St. Gregory's Parish Office (651-674-4056) for their phone numbers.

### LIFELINE MASS FOR 6TH-12TH GRADERS

The next Lifeline Mass will be Saturday, April 11th at 6:00pm at the NET Ministries Center in St. Paul. Mari Pablo will be the guest speaker at this final Mass of the school year. Transportation will be provided. Don't miss this amazing event! Contact Liz Long by April 8 to sign up.

### MISSION TRIP - June 21-27

There is still time to join the Youth Mission Trip to attend the Catholic Heart Workcamp in Champaign, IL. The trip is open to high schoolers (entering 9th grade in Fall and up). The next meeting for interested families is May 3 after Mass. Contact: Vince Hendren

### EXTREME FAITH CAMP 2026 - Early July

There are still spots open for middle school and high school students to attend Extreme Faith Camp but the deadline is approaching soon. Don't delay to register if you've been on the fence! Dates are July 11-17 for High School youth and July 13-17 for Middle School youth. Contact: Liz Long

### TOTUS TUUS 2026 - June 14-19

The Totus Tuus summer youth program will return this Summer! Mark your calendars as this fun-filled week returns with a daytime program for grades 1-6 and an evening program for grades 7-12. More information coming soon. Contact: Liz Long

### UPDATE ON CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Both parishes have received their first (quarterly) check for the "Lord, Renew Your Church" capital campaign. Sacred Heart's stained glass window project will be worked on as early as May (money in savings makes it possible to move ahead with this project).

As for St. Gregory's, some research has been completed for its projects; however, nothing is ready to be greenlighted as purchase decisions are still pending. If any St. Gregory's parishioner is interested in joining a playground committee, please reach out to Fr. Matt. The security cameras and key fobs may be funded by a government grant (if so, then the Capital Campaign will be reallocated to other security measures), but that determination probably won't come until June.

### LENTEN ALMSGIVING PROJECT AT ST. GREGORY:

We have exceeded our goal! Our current collection stands at \$7,120 towards our Lenten almsgiving project to help Fr. Andy repair the roof of one of his parish churches. As there are two churches in dire need, all funds collected will be sent to his parish to support a safe and welcoming space for Fr. Andy's community to gather and worship. Donations may be placed in the wooden box in the narthex, the collection basket, or delivered to the Parish Office. Please make checks payable to St. Gregory the Great and note "Roof Project" in the memo line.



### FORMED.ORG VIDEO OF THE WEEK:

*What Catholics Believe About the Resurrection: Was Jesus a Ghost?*

Join Dr. Michael Barber as he answers some of the Internet's most popular questions about the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Did the Resurrection actually happen? Was Jesus a ghost when he appeared to the apostles? And what's the deal with the Easter Bunny?

<https://app.formed.org/app/videos/3156669/>

## NEWS FOR ALL

Fr. Matt Shireman: fathermatt@stgregorynb.org

**WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS** may be found online at: <https://bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar>

### BIBLE STUDY

Join Fr. Matt for bible study every Friday at 9:15am in the Cry Room of St. Gregory's, North Branch.

### BAPTISM PREP CLASS:

Parents seeking Baptism for their child are required to attend a single Baptism class, which we offer on the second Thursday of each month at St. Gregory's Parish Hall, 6:30-7:30pm. Call St. Gregory's Parish Office to sign up for the next class on **April 9**.



### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

All high school youth of St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart are invited to the next gathering on Sunday, April 12, 6:00-7:30pm at the Romero House (6385 Maple St, North Branch). Signed permission slips are required by all youth who attend. Bring your friends!

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Spend time with Jesus.

We are seeking people to be regular scheduled adorers on Thursdays at St. Gregory, particularly for the hours of Noon, 4:00pm and 5:00pm. Contact the Parish Office for more information. (651-674-4056)



### HOSPITALITY WEEKEND AT ST. GREGORY:

The next Hospitality Weekend is coming up with Saturday Hospitality after 5:00pm Mass on April 11, and Coffee Sunday after 10:30am Mass on April 12.

### GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION:

Pope Leo XIV asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection because it helps Christians in the Holy Land, where they are now less than 2% of the population. Your support will help the Church minister in parishes, and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred sites of Christianity, including in Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem, to name only a few.

The pandemic, the Israeli-Palestinian war, and now the Iranian conflict have made their situation even more dire. In these times of crisis, this collection is necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land and to maintain a Christian presence where the Church was born.

If you contributed to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you joined with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land.

**On behalf of Pope Leo, THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**



### ST. GREGORY FINANCIAL UPDATE

| ST. GREGORY FINANCIAL UPDATE     |        |                     |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------------------|
| Weekly Goal \$5,908.65           |        |                     |
| Offering for 03/08   Week 37     |        | \$6,994.75          |
| Offering for 03/15   Week 38     |        | <b>\$3,857.55</b>   |
| YTD Weekly Goal                  |        | YTD Actual Offering |
| \$224,528.70                     |        | <b>\$211,545.51</b> |
| MASS ATTENDANCE                  |        |                     |
| Date                             | 5:00pm | 10:30am             |
| March 7/8   Week 37              | 127    | 132                 |
| Mar 14/15   Week 38 (snow storm) | 203    | 60                  |



### ARCHDIOCESAN HISTORY BOOKS

We are now offering the Archdiocesan 175th Anniversary Books at a new lower price. Add one or both to your home library for just \$30 for the 500-page history book or \$10 for the graphic novel. Contact either Parish Office for your copy (651-674-4056, 320-358-4370).