

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

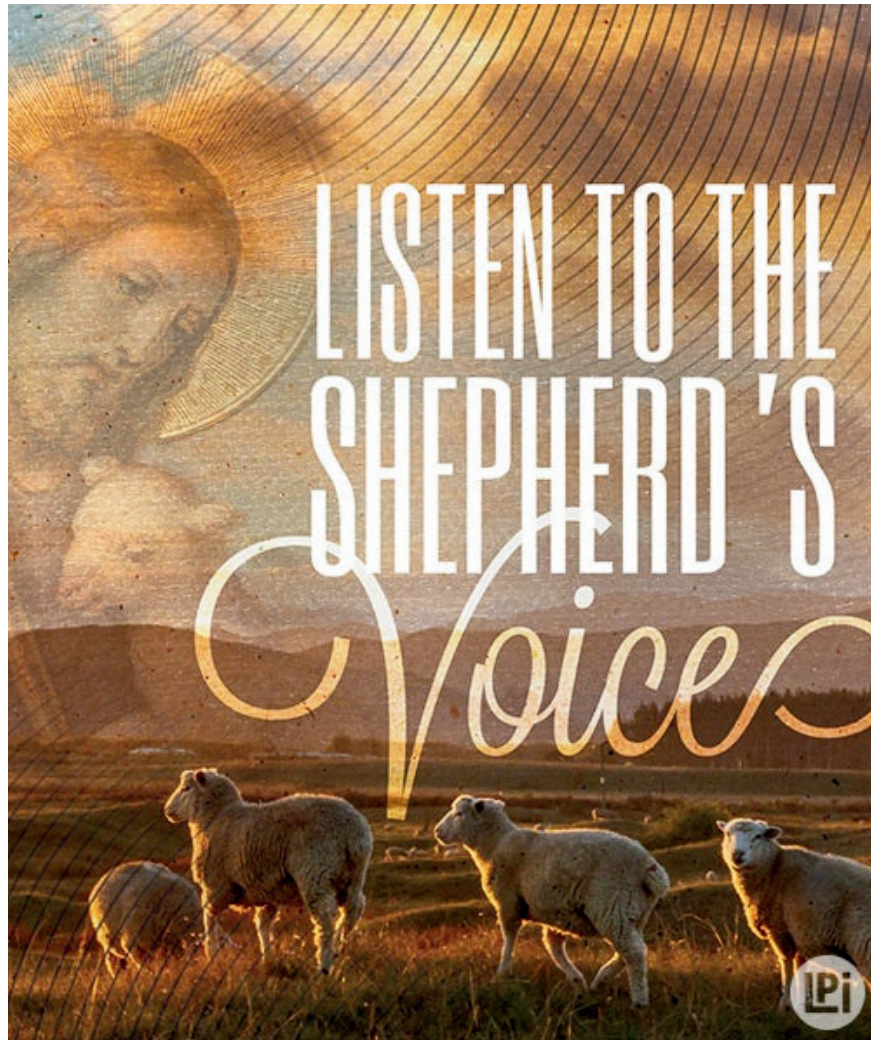
St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church
38725 Forest Blvd ~ PO Box 609
North Branch, MN 55056

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
Deacon - Dn. Kevin Downie | **Assisting Priest - Fr. Chuck Brambilla**
Bookkeeper: Mary Felix mary@stgregorynb.org

SACRED HEART PARISH OFFICE

320-358-4370 | FAX: 866-779-1580
shc415@hotmail.com
www.sacredheartrcmn.org

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

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

ST. GREGORY PARISH OFFICE

651-674-4056 info@stgregorynb.org 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 19th, 2026 3rd Sunday of Easter ~ April 26th, 2026 4th Sunday of Easter

GETTING PARISHIONERS MORE INVOLVED

This bulletin article continues the theme from my March 22nd bulletin article and is in response to the St. Gregory's parish survey.

Although many people are quite active at St. Gregory's (and Sacred Heart) with its various activities (e.g. parish small groups, Eucharistic Adoration, women and men groups, hospitality and funeral luncheons), there are a few people that would like more offerings and others who would like to see others get involved.

If you find yourself saying, "I wish that the parish had this offering at this particular time," then I first ask you to consider the question, "Is God asking me to start something at this parish?" For example, if your opinion is that there should be a co-ed small group (so that you and your spouse can participate) on Thursday (or Friday) evenings, then maybe God is inviting you to receive some training to be a small group leader (and if "leader" scares you, the leader is essentially a facilitator). I only have so many hours in a week or month plus I'm dividing myself between two parishes and other ministries, so it is not possible for me and Deacon Kevin to offer every possible form of ministry (especially daycare!). The laity are called to live out the dignity of their baptism by being formed in the faith and sharing in the ministry of the Church. In the past, the laity may have been dissuaded (or prevented) from starting their own activities; however, nowadays, as long as it has the pastor's blessing, parishioners do not need to wait for the clergy to find time in their schedules.

As for others who are not involved, perhaps in the activity that you are doing, my first question would be, "Have you personally invited anyone?" In regards to communication, the parish has made improvements including having a joint bulletin, a bi-weekly newsletter, and appropriately-worded pulpit announcements. However, the best form of communication is always through interpersonal contact. There is nothing better than a personal invite.



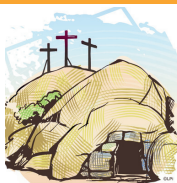
In every church, there are people who will do just the bare minimum – namely show-up on Sundays. Although opportunities are countless (especially with modern media), people are busy and may have limited availability with getting involved with anything else at this stage in their lives. I believe giving God 2 hours a week–Sunday Mass plus 1 hour of another activity–is a realistic goal for everyone to shoot for. So if you are not there yet, please either get a copy of our Ministry Guide from the office (or the vestibule outside of it) or find something listed in this bulletin to participate in (including the upcoming summer socials).

~ Fr. Matt

HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS

STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION

Three more sessions remain to explore the 14 Stations of the Resurrection along with Father Matt. The video series will be shown in St. Gregory's Parish Hall 10:00-11:00am on May 2, May 16, and May 23. No need to register or RSVP. All are welcome to join.



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)



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

Learn the "Regina Caeli" (meaning Queen of Heaven), which is a Catholic prayer traditionally prayed in the season of Easter. It can be prayed at any time, including as part of meal prayers or night prayers.

Regina Caeli/Queen of Heaven Prayer

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
For He, whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.
Has risen as He said, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
R. For the Lord is truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray: O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, his Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.

Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



WOMEN'S EVENTS



MARY & MARTHA WOMEN'S GROUP

All women are welcome to join the next meeting on Thursday, May 21, at 5:30pm in St. Gregory's Hall.

ANNUAL BABY SHOWER

Every May, the M&M group hosts a baby shower to benefit Options for Women of Chisago County. Watch for the donation bin in the narthex May 1st through 31st. Items needed include: wipes, bottles, Sz 6 diapers, nursing pads, breast pumps, Boppy pillow, onesies, clothing to 5T.



GUEST SPEAKER

June 4
5:30-7:30pm

All women are invited to a special speaker event in St. Gregory's Parish Hall. Alyssa Bormes will use humor, analogy, and an innate gift of storytelling to help 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. RSVP's are appreciated by Wednesday, May 27 to St. Gregory's Parish Office. (651-674-4056, donna@stgregorynb.org)

SACRED HEART

SACRED HEART FAITH FORMATION:

Tina Heidelberger ~ 763-670-8594,
tina.joeheidelberger@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 May 21, 2026.



Attention all Youth in Grades 3-12!!!

Sacred Heart Youth get-together & Pizza Party-
April 24th from 6:00pm-9:00pm.

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



Summer Opportunities for Youth

All of the youth events listed in the St. Gregory section—Totus Tuus (Vacation Bible School), Extreme Faith Camp, and Mission Trip—are open to all youth at Sacred Heart. Sacred Heart will provide scholarships to any youth who are interested. Please contact the Sacred Heart office or the Faith Formation office at St. Gregory's for more information.

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.

Thank you to all who filled out the parish survey. It is now closed. Fr. Matt and the leaders will communicate the results of the survey at a later date.

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, 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 22nd

9:00 am †Bob & Ellen Rothenbacher

Sunday, April 26th

8:30 am †Mark & Michelle Stenger

Wednesday, April 29th

9:00 am †Hildagaard Frazier

Saturday, May 2nd

9:00 am Presider Choice

Sunday, May 3rd

8:30 am †Joe & Elsie Moore



† Timothy Solorz

Son of Shirley Solorz

Funeral on April 28th here at Sacred Heart

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

Financial Update	Budget	Actual
March 2026	\$10,020	\$8,270



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

FAITH FORMATION

CLASS & EVENT SCHEDULE:

April 22, 6:00pm - KIC Class, all grades, Parish Hall
 April 25, 10am-Noon - First Communion Retreat (2nd graders and parents), Parish Hall
 April 26, 11:30am - Sunday School, Classrooms
 April 29, 6:00pm - KIC Class, Gr. 1-5, Parish Hall



FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT:

The 1st Communion Retreat will be held on Saturday, April 25th at 10:00am for families and their children who will be making their First Holy Communion this year. This is a required retreat for parents and their children to be prepared for their child's special day.

PARENT SMALL GROUP - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29:

The last Parent Small Group of the year will meet on Wednesday, April 29th from 6-7:30pm. This is a requirement for the 2nd grade parents of those making their First Holy Communion in May, but other parents are always welcome to join us!

FAITH FORMATION

END-OF-THE-YEAR PARTY:

The annual Faith Formation End-of-the-Year Party will be held on Wednesday, May 6th. This year, since it is so close to Cinco de Mayo, we will be having a Mexican-themed evening instead. More information to follow.



RITE OF SENDING FOR CONFIRMANDS:

The Rite of Sending for our Year 2 Confirmands will take place at Sacred Heart Church at Mass on Sunday, May 17 at 8:30am.



BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

The annual Baccalaureate Service will be on Wednesday, June 3 at 7:00pm in the North Branch High School Auditorium. All senior students, families, and the public are invited to this non-denominational service to bless and celebrate the graduating class.

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:

Jen DeMars, Roger, Steve, and Pat Dusbabek, 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.

†Ray Kelly
 Husband of Marie



†Betty Peltier
 Widow of Richard

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

ST. GREGORY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekly Goal \$5,908.65

Offering for 03/22 | Week 39 \$4,489.05

Offering for 03/29 | Week 40 \$5,084.32

YTD Weekly Goal

YTD Actual Offering

\$236,346.00

\$221,883.88

MASS ATTENDANCE

Date	5:00pm	10:30am
March 21/22 Week 39	114	226
Mar 28/29 Week 40	90	180

CALENDAR

Note: The Daily Mass and Reconciliation schedules will only be listed here if it is different from a typical week. Classes that require registration will be listed in their respective boxes in other areas of the bulletin.

Tuesday, April 21

11:00 am Funeral Mass for Ray Kelly.....Church
 7:00 pm NA Meeting.....Classrooms

Thursday, April 23

11:00 am Funeral Mass for Betty Peltier.....Church
 1:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration until 9pm.....Church

Friday, April 24

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

Saturday, April 25

10:00 am First Communion Retreat.....Parish Hall
 4:00 pm Reconciliation.....Confessional
 4:30 pm Rosary.....Church
 5:00 pm Mass.....Church

Sunday, April 26

10:00 am Rosary.....Church
 10:30 am Mass.....Church
 11:30 am Sunday Hospitality.....Parish Hall

Tuesday, April 28

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

Wednesday, April 29

6:00 pm 2nd Grade Parent Small Group.....Classroom

Thursday, April 30

9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration until 9:00pm.....Church
 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl group.....Off-Site

Friday, May 1

9:15 am Bible Study.....Cry Room
 6:00 pm Friday Fun Night (gr. 6-8).....Parish Hall

Saturday, May 2

9:00 am First Saturday Mass.....Sacred Heart
 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 Evening Prayer.....Church

Sunday, May 3

10:00 am Rosary.....Church
 10:30 am Mass - May Crowning & First Communion.....Church
 11:30 am Sunday Hospitality.....Parish Hall
 6:00 pm High School Youth Group.....Romero House

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, April 21, 8:30am

†Hank & †Del Duevel

Wednesday, April 22, 5:00pm

†Sally Pierce

Thursday, April 23, 8:30am

Jacob O'Meara

Friday, April 24, 8:30am

†Sally Pierce

Saturday, April 25, 5:00pm

Darren & Joleen Pierce's 28th Anniversary

Sunday, April 26, 10:30am - 4th Sunday of Easter

The People of St. Gregory and Sacred Heart

Tuesday, April 28, 8:30am

Cecelia Huss

Wednesday, April 29, 5:00pm

†Marguerite Rustand

Thursday, April 30, 8:30am

Mother Mary Small Group

Friday, May 1, 8:30am

Will Klobe

Saturday, May 2, 5:00pm

The People of St. Gregory and Sacred Heart

Sunday, May 3, 10:30am - 5th Sunday of Easter

†Jane Dillon



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.

FRIDAY FUN NIGHT

The final Friday Fun Night for grades 6-8 will be May 1, 6:00-9:30pm at St. Gregory's. Please RSVP to Liz Long by Wednesday, April 29.

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

Registration forms will be coming soon for this exciting summer youth program. The daytime program for those entering grades 1-5 will run June 15-19 from 8:00am to 1:30pm. The evening program for those entering grades 6-12 will be June 14-18 from 5:30pm to 8:15pm. We are looking for individuals to provide meals for both programs and help with snacks and supervision during the daytime program. Contact: Liz Long



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

All high school youth of St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart are invited to the next gathering on Sun., April 19, 6:00-7:30pm at the Romero House (6385 Maple St, North Branch). Signed permission slips are required if you have not attended before, or if you bring a friend.

Catholic Home Missions Appeal-April 26th

Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today! Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are considered mission territories because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities for their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Please be generous. Find more information at www.usccb.org/home-missions



FORMED.ORG VIDEO OF THE WEEK:

Via Lucis, or the Stations of Light, is a devotional practice for reflecting on the joy and hope of the Resurrection during the Easter season. While the Stations of the Cross commemorate Jesus' journey to his crucifixion and death, the Stations of Light focus on the events that followed the Resurrection.

<https://app.formed.org/app/videos/2101661/>

LENTEN ALMSGIVING PROJECT AT ST. GREGORY:

Thank you to all who donated towards our Lenten almsgiving project! Through your generosity, we have collected \$7,560 to help Fr. Andy re-roof his two parish churches in Zambia.



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).

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 (or the gazebo as the weather warms) of St. Gregory's, North Branch.

PIZZA RANCH FUNDRAISER - Monday, April 20

Let Pizza Ranch do the cooking for you! Dine in the Cambridge location 4:00-8:00pm on Monday, April 20 and 10% of each check will support The 4th Degree Knights of Columbus.



YOUNG ADULT PRAYER AND LISTENING EVENT AT THE CATHEDRAL - Tuesday, May 5, 6:30-9:00pm:

All young adults in their 20s and 30s are invited to pray, listen and share as the Archdiocese discerns next steps to support local young adult ministry. The evening will begin with music, *lectio divina*, and a few words from Archbishop Bernard Hebda. Attendees will then engage in small group conversations, connect with other young adults, and have an opportunity to share your insights with Archbishop Hebda. Your voice will help inform future initiatives for young adults in our local churches. Make your voice heard! (Optional social hour with food trucks 5:30-6:30pm.) RSVP here: <https://partiful.com/e/Sr58f1gWXAAMSv4fYy8?>



CATHOLIC WATCHMEN:

The next gathering of the Catholic Watchmen is Thursday, May 7 at 7:00pm in St. Gregory's Parish Hall. All men are welcome to join. This will be the final gathering until September.

FIRST COMMUNION

Please mark your calendar for these special dates that our young students will be making their First Holy Communion. Please keep them and their families in your prayers!

May 3 at 8:30am at Sacred Heart
May 3 at 10:30am at St. Gregory
May 17 at 10:30am at St. Gregory



St. Joseph's Cemetery
Spring Clean-up
Friday, May 8 at 4:00pm
Helpers wanted

Spring clean-up at the cemetery is to remove the faded decorations and crumbling wreaths, and to restore fresh Spring beauty before Memorial Day. All volunteers are welcome to join members of the Cemetery Committee for 1 to 2 hours of light-moderate work. Please bring your own gloves, rakes, and wagons to assist. Many hands make light work.

****NEW EVENT ALERT!****

St. Gregory's Grill & Gather

Save the date for these new Summer parish events! They will be held once a month on Wednesday evenings – June 10th, July 8th, and August 5th – from 6:00 to 8:00pm. Food, games, music, fellowship & fun! ALL St. Gregory parishioners are welcome! Watch future bulletins for more information!

