

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:

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

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Saturday ~ 5:00 pm (Rosary at 4:30pm)
Sunday ~ 10:30 am (Rosary at 10:00am)

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

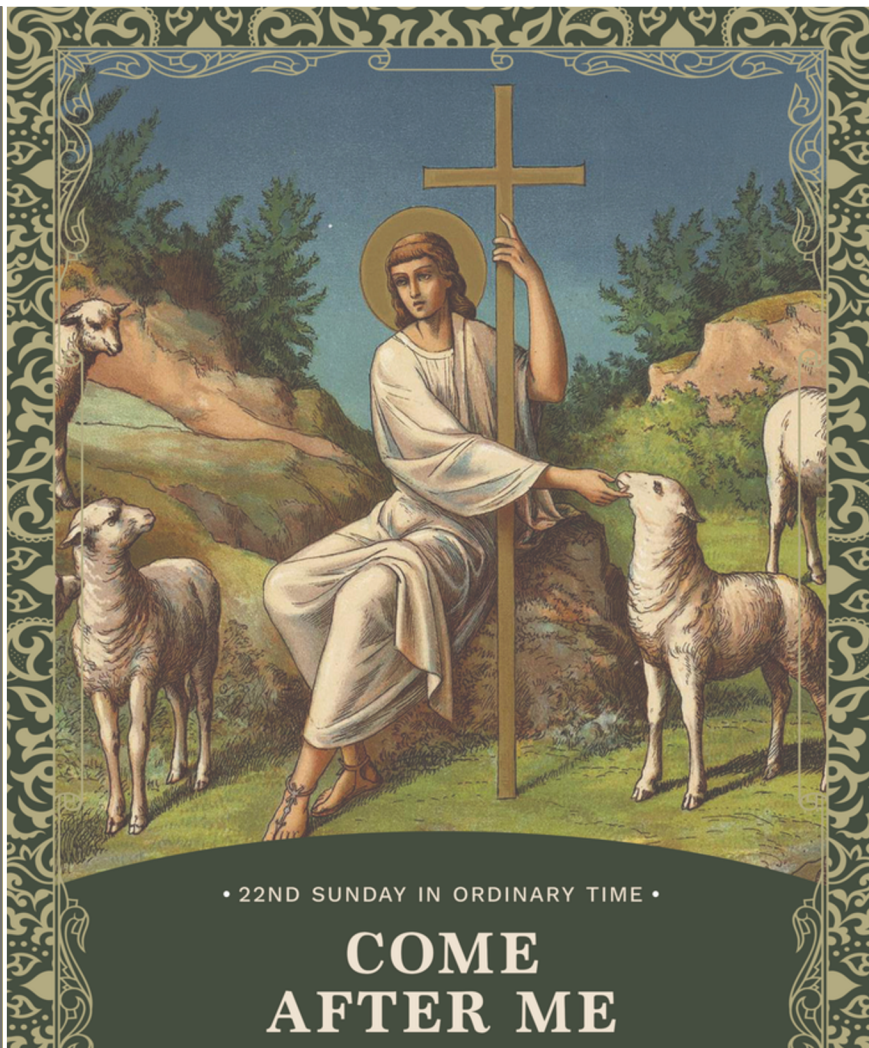
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday ~ 8:30 am
Our Lady of Perpetual Help ~
Wednesday 4:50pm (beginning Sept. 2)
Wednesday ~ 5:00pm (beginning Sept. 2)

ADORATION:

Tuesday & 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



• 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

COME AFTER ME

Parish Staff:

Pastor - Fr. Matt Shireman fathermatt@stgregorynb.org

Deacon - Dn. Kevin Downie | **Assisting Priest - Fr. Chuck Brambilla**

Bookeeper: 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

Faith Formation: Tina Heidelberger,

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, Parish Office Administrative Assistant

Patty Miller, KIC/DOC Admin Asst, Safe Environment Coordinator

Cathie Hendren, Music Director

Vince Hendren, Youth Music

Rich Ohmann, Maintenance Dir.

Lisa Ohmann, Custodial Tech

Bridget Weber, Monday Admin Asst

Barb Karel, KIC Coordinator

Danielle Miller, DOC Coordinator

Liz Long, Youth Events Leader

Rosemary Balster, Sexton

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 SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday through Thursday - 9:00am - 4:00pm

August 23rd, 2026 ~ 21st Sunday OT & August 30th, 2026 ~ 22nd Sunday OT

END-OF-LIFE PLANNING

Being human, we all come face to face with our mortality. Death entered the world through Adam and Eve, but Jesus by dying and rising has destroyed the sting of death.

Before I mention some secondary items for planning for the end of life, the most important thing is that a Catholic (or anybody for that matter) is spiritually prepared to die. This means that a Catholic, if possible, has an opportunity to confess their sins to a priest, receive healing through the Anointing of the Sick and Apostolic Pardon (a special mercy offered to those on their death bed), and consume the Eucharist one final time. These actions are all part of what are sometimes referred to as the Last Rites.

Many parishioners have expressed concern that when they prepare to pass on to eternal life that their family members won't know what to do. That is why it is important to get in writing that you want a funeral Mass (this is the best way to pray for the repose of one's soul) and to be interred in a Catholic cemetery. You may be surprised to hear that after ordination, one of the things that the Archdiocese asks a priest or deacon to do is to plan their own funeral liturgy (even at the age of 32). Planning your funeral liturgy (including the liturgy itself and where to be buried) in advance will help loved ones to process. The parish office has resources as to how to choose readings and songs for the funeral Mass. A funeral Mass includes 1 Old Testament reading (note: for a funeral during the season of Easter, the 1st reading is taken from Acts or Revelation), 1 New Testament reading, and 1 Gospel. For all of the reading options take a look at a website like <https://www.catholicchurchtimes.com/funeral-readings>.

A living will, such as one made through the free Catholic Legacy (<https://catholiclegacy.com/>) from Relevant Radio (or a similar venture) will help to have your end-of-life decisions reflect your deepest values, including for healthcare preferences. A living will gives clarity to loved ones to know what to do.

When a living will isn't set up, families have to go to probate court. Providing documentation to what you would like to have done with your money and valuables, whether it is through inheritances or charitable donations can save headaches and give peace of mind to your surviving loved ones.

In conclusion, we as Catholics do not need to fear death, but there are things we can do to prepare for eternal life—both spiritually and materially. ~ Fr. Matt

HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS

ANOINTING MASS

On Wednesday, September 2 at 5:00pm at St. Gregory's, Fr. Matt will offer an Anointing Mass. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may be administered to Catholics who are in danger of death—through old age (around 75+), a serious medical condition, or preparing for a serious medical procedure including one that uses general anesthesia. Those who receive the Sacrament at the Mass will need to give their name for record keeping. You may call the Parish Office to give your name ahead of time, or sign up at the Mass. Questions may be directed to Fr. Matt (fathermatt@stgregorynb.org).



SEPTEMBER 8 - GRANDPARENTS' DAY & FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

September 8th is the annual Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (i.e. Mary's birthday; note: 9 months after the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on December 8th). This also serves as Grandparents Day in the Catholic Church.



You are invited to a Word and Communion service at St. Gregory's at 8:30am on Tuesday, September 8, led by Deacon Kevin. At the end of the service, Deacon Kevin will bless all the grandparents in attendance.

End-of-Life Workshop:

Planning with your Next of Kin
Saturday, Nov. 7, 8:30am-4:30pm
St. John the Baptist, New Brighton

This is a comprehensive pre-planning workshop where you'll learn from expert speakers about a variety of end-of-life planning topics and fill out a pre-planning workbook. Registration includes seat and lunch. Attendees can optionally purchase the workbook as well. Find more information on The Catholic Cemeteries website: <https://catholic-cemeteries.org/>

RECLAIMING SUNDAYS: Service

Activity for August: As we continue the theme of "Service," serve at your parish or at a charitable organization. The needs of a parish and cemetery are almost limitless; perhaps you have a technical skill or a hobby that could benefit the parish and beyond. Our parish Fall Festival is right around the corner; help the Committee by letting them know in advance where you can serve. Other organizations like Options for Women (total life care center) or your local food shelf are also always looking for help. If giving of your time is difficult at your stage in life, then consider making a special donation.

August video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MzPIYfi7FPE&t>



Anne & Loring Olson

Your marriage is a beautiful testimony of God's love. Wishing you endless blessings as you celebrate your golden milestone.

SACRED HEART

Fall Festival

JOIN US!!

SEPT. 13, 2026, 11-2PM

Food /Live Music /Fun & Kid Games

BRASSRAIL CHICKEN/SILENT AUCTION/RAFFLE TICKETS

Come hungry, bring the whole family!



Be sure to purchase your festival tickets after Mass each Sunday or stop by the church office during business hours.

Needed: Help make this year's festival a success!



- **2-Liter Bottles of Pop:** Drop these off in the donation box in the vestibule for the Bottle Toss game.
- **Silent Auction Items:** Gift baskets
- **Country Store:** New homemade items and baked/canned goods.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

Sisters of The Sacred Heart /Fall Festival Meeting

Upcoming Planning Meeting & Call for Volunteers!

We would love your help to make this year's festival a success! We encourage anyone who is available to volunteer or help plan to join us every two weeks, our next meeting is Tuesday, September 1st at 6:00 PM in the Parish House.

Mass Intentions

Wednesday, August 26th

9:00 am †Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, August 30th

8:30 am †Kevin Hecmovich

Wednesday, September 2nd

9:00 am Presider's choice

Saturday, September 5th

9:00 am Presider's choice

Sunday, September 6th

8:30 am †Joe & Elsie Moore



Faith Formation 2026-2027: Gear Up for a Great Year!

The countdown to a new school year is officially on!

Classes kick off on Wednesday, September 16th!

Registration forms for the 2026-2027 Faith Formation program are available.

- Also, you can pick them up in the Parish House vestibule.

SACRED HEART FAITH FORMATION:

Tina Heidelberger-763-670-8594

tina.joeheidelberger@gmail.com

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 Kirchberg, David Kirchberg, Shirley Kirchberg, Grace Schwaab, Sue Roth, Gerald Mollberg, Erin Hestbeck-Mielke, Gary Frazier, Jim Brenna, Margery Steininger, Tori Yurick-Schieber, Al & Mary Petschl, Denise Boyd, Steve Lauinger, Bishop Kevin Kenny

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.

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 6pm-7:30pm in the Parish House.
- Wednesdays from 10am -11:30 am at Rushseba Senior Living Center, Sandy Pelant.
- Thursdays from 10am-11:30am at the Parish House, Connie Blomquist.
- 1st and 3rd Sunday from 9:30am-11:30am in Parish House.
- Men's small group, 3rd Saturday of each month at St. Gregory's from 7:30am-9am.

Financial Update	Budget	Actual
July 2026	\$10,432	\$7074.00

The Passion of Saint John the Baptist – August 29

This Saturday, August 29th, we honor the Passion of Saint John the Baptist. Saint John dedicated his life to preparing the way for Christ, ultimately giving his life for the sake of divine truth and righteousness.

His boldness and steadfast faith serve as a powerful reminder for us today: living the Gospel often requires courage, humility, and unwavering trust in God. As we reflect on his sacrifice, may we ask Saint John the Baptist to intercede for our parish community, that we too may stand strong in faith and direct others toward Jesus. Saint John the Baptist, pray for us!

THE PASSION OF
St. John the Baptist

AUGUST 23 & 30, 2026

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: Starting September 2, Wednesday Daily Mass returns at 5:00pm until May. The Devotion to our Lady of Perpetual Help moves back to the traditional time of Wednesdays at 4:50pm.

FAITH FORMATION

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE HOURS

During the upcoming school year, the Faith Formation office will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9am to 4pm, and noon to 8pm on Wednesday. You may call or email anytime with questions (contact info listed above).

REGISTRATION FOR FALL 2026 FAITH FORMATION

**REGISTRATION
OPEN NOW**



Rates increase on August 29th!! Don't delay!!

NEW THIS YEAR! We are up and running with online registration forms AND payment! You can register and pay online by using this QR code.

This link is good for all ages and classes of Youth Faith Formation from Pre-K through 7th graders from St. Gregory's parish and all 8th-10th graders of both parishes preparing for Confirmation. Details about class days and times are listed on the form. Paper forms are available at both entryways and at the Faith Formation office if you need them.

***Note** - if you are registering multiple children, you must enter a discount code to pay the family max of \$230. Read the instructions carefully before submitting payment. Stop and call the Faith Formation office if the codes are not working for you so we can help before your card is charged.



We wish all of our youth, parents, and teachers a safe and blessed start to the school year. May God bless you as you learn and grow in faith, knowledge, and love. Amen.

Baptized into the Family of God



May God's grace and blessings that you receive on your Baptism guide you throughout your life.

Romir Asiah

son of Robert and Tomira

WELCOME SUNDAYS

Join us on September 20, and the 3rd weekend of every month, after the 10:30am Mass to welcome new visitors and parishioners to our parish family! A friendly volunteer, as well as staff, will be on hand to welcome our new friends, to answer questions and offer resources for everyone. Whether you've been here 3 weeks, 3 months or 30+ years, come say 'hi' to the staff and volunteers that serve our parish. The Sunday Hospitality refreshments will also be served in the Parish Hall.



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:

Wendy Cole, Roger, Steve, and Pat Dusbabek, Loretta Kincaid, Stephen Lauinger, Glen Magnuson, Marcia O'Brien

Tuesday, August 25	7:00 pm NA Meeting.....Classrooms
Wednesday, August 26	5:30 pm Discippler Training.....Parish Hall
Thursday, August 27	9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration until 9:00pm.....Church
	1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Meeting.....Off-Site
	6:00 pm Pints with Padre.....The Fort Restaurant
Friday, August 28	9:15 am Bible Study.....Rectory Gazebo
Saturday, August 29	4:00 pm Reconciliation.....Confessional
	4:30 pm Rosary.....Church
	5:00 pm Mass.....Church
Sunday, August 30	10:00 am Rosary.....Church
	10:30 am Mass.....Church
	11:30 am Francis Family Baptism.....Church
	11:30 am Sunday Hospitality.....Parish Hall
Tuesday, September 1	7:00 pm Parish Council Meeting.....St. Rafka Room
	7:00 pm NA Meeting.....Classrooms
Wednesday, September 2 - Mass change for Sept.-May	4:50 pm Our Lady of Perpetual Help devotion.....Church
	5:00 pm Daily Mass.....Church
Thursday, September 3 - Feast of St. Gregory the Great	9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration until 9:00pm.....Church
	7:00 pm Catholic Watchmen Social...Firepit/Parish Hall
Friday, September 4	9:15 am Bible Study.....Rectory Gazebo
Saturday, September 5	9:00 am First Saturday Mass.....Sacred Heart
	4:00 pm Reconciliation.....Confessional
	4:30 pm Rosary.....Church
	5:00 pm Mass.....Church
	6:00 pm Evening Prayer.....Church
Sunday, September 6	10:00 am Rosary.....Church
	10:30 am Mass.....Church
	11:30 am Sunday Hospitality.....Parish Hall



Office Closed
Monday,
September 7

People should eat, drink, and enjoy the fruits of their labor, for they are gifts from God.
 ~Ecclesiastes 3:13

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, August 25, 8:30am

†Dylan Dusbabek

Thursday, August 27, 8:30am

Family of Mary Ruyman-Lee

Friday, August 28, 8:30am

†Richard Popp

Saturday, August 29, 5:00pm

The People of St. Gregory and Sacred Heart

Sunday, August 30, 10:30am - 22nd Sunday in OT
 Stephen Lauinger

Tuesday, September 1, 8:30am

Robbenolt Family

Wednesday, September 2, 5:00pm

Family of Mary Ruyman-Lee

Thursday, September 3, 8:30am

The People of St. Gregory the Great

Friday, September 4, 8:30am

Stephen Lauinger

Saturday, September 5, 5:00pm

The People of St. Gregory and Sacred Heart

Sunday, September 6, 10:30am - 23rd Sunday in OT
 Jacob O'Meara



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.



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

All high school youth of St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart are invited to join the Youth Group which meets monthly on Sunday evenings during the school year. The first gathering this Fall will be Sunday, September 13, 6:00-7:30pm at the Romero House (6385 Maple St, North Branch). Signed permission slips are required. You are welcome to bring high school age friends also.

FRIDAY FUN NIGHTS - Coming soon!

Schedule available soon. The first date is tentatively September 18 as a Family Mini-golf outing. More details coming soon.



FALL FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Saturday, September 5, 6pm-10pm – St. Bridget of Sweden Block Party (Hwy 8, Lindstrom) Turkey dinner, beer tent, burgers, brats, hot dogs, kids games, silent auction, \$7k cash raffle, live music www.stbridgetofsweden.org

Sunday, September 13, 10am-2pm – Sacred Heart Fall Festival; Food begins at 11am. Brass Rail chicken dinner with sides, silent auction, raffle, kids games, live music (415 W. 5th St, Rush City)

ST. GREGORY'S BOOYA & FALL FESTIVAL:

Sunday, September 27, 11:30am-2pm – Our 45th Annual Booya and Fall Festival is just around the corner! We will have a silent auction, raffle, country store, wine bottle booth, 50/50 raffle, bottle booth, and activities for the kids. Now is the time to start thinking about how you can contribute to make our one fundraiser of the year successful.

- **Will you buy or sell raffle tickets?** - Tickets available August 22!
- **Will you donate an item or basket to the Silent Auction, Country Store or Wine Bottle Booth?** - Donations can be dropped off anytime.
- **Will you donate your time to help prep, serve, or clean?**
- **Donate ingredients for the Best Booya in town?** ~ Sign-up boards available in the narthex August 29.

¿USTED HABLA ESPAÑOL?

We are seeking someone with some degree of fluency in the Spanish language to make St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart home to everyone. Fr. Matt speaks some Spanish, but it would be helpful to have a parishioner available who could at least translate for things like Baptism requests. Please contact the parish office if you are willing to help.

FORMED.ORG VIDEO OF THE WEEK:

The Confessions of St. Augustine | Littlest Saints A child, a sinner, a saint. Join us as we share the story of St. Augustine, tailored to our children, as he wrestles with God and comes to the faith.
<https://app.formed.org/app/videos/3279961/>



ST. GREGORY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekly Goal \$5,892.31

Offering for 08/02 Week 5	\$6,677.00
Offering for 08/09 Week 6	\$4,880.00
YTD Weekly Goal	YTD Actual Offering
\$35,353.86	\$33,291.97

MASS ATTENDANCE

Date	5:00pm	10:30am
August 1 & 2	104	190
August 8 & 9	121	180

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 on Fridays at 9:15am in the Gazebo of the Rectory at St. Gregory's, North Branch.

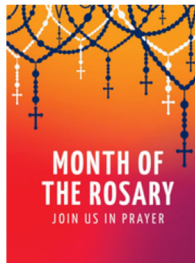
PINTS WITH PADRE

All adults of both parishes are invited to join Fr. Matt at The Fort Restaurant & Bar on Thursday, August 27. Gather at 6:00pm, talk by Fr. Matt about the 7 Deadly Sins at 6:30pm, and then hang out until 8:00pm. (80 W 4th St, Rush City)



Mary and Martha Women's Group

Please note: The September meeting will be one week later than usual. It will take place on Thursday, September 24th at 5:30pm in the Parish Hall. All women of the parish are welcome to attend.



ROSARY AT ST. GREGORY'S

Did you know? The Rosary is recited at St. Gregory's every Saturday at 4:30pm, and every Sunday at 10:00am. All are welcome to join and pray with us.

Looking ahead...

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY
Mary Ruyman-Lee will lead an outdoor Public Square Rosary on Saturday, October 10. Details coming soon.

CATHOLIC WATCHMEN SOCIAL - SEPTEMBER 3

The Catholic Watchmen will resume their monthly gatherings with a social on Thursday, September 3 at 7:00pm. This will be outdoors at the St. Gregory firepit, weather permitting.

All men of both parishes are welcome to attend. The Watchmen typically meet on the first Thursday of each month through May. Beginning in October, the gatherings will feature guest speakers.



ST. GREGORY'S IS SEEKING REGULAR ADORERS & LITURGICAL MINISTERS

We are seeking more people to volunteer with the Mass at St. Gregory's. Please contact the parish office for more information about any of these roles for Saturdays or Sundays:

Regular Adorer (Thursdays, especially 5:00pm)
Cantor **Usher** **Lector**
Eucharistic Minister **Youth Altar Server**



Are you able to crochet or knit and want to make a difference in someone's life in their time of need? Join the **Prayer Shawl Group** to make beautiful shawls to comfort those who are in need. We meet on the last Thursday of the month from 1pm-3pm. Please contact the office at St. Gregory's for more details.

St. Gregory's Chill & Chatter

If you missed any Summer fun of the Grill and Gathers, don't fret ---

We have 3 St. Gregory Chill & Chatter events coming up this Fall and Winter! Mark your calendars for November 8, January 31, and April 4. New games, new food, new FUN! Don't miss it! Open to all ages of both parishes!!