

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT UPDATE

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

Our 1ST Communion candidates are continuing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturdays before Mass. We have three more weeks and they will have all completed the sacrament.

We will begin the Catholic Charity Appeal after Easter this year. Our goal has been lowered this year to \$135,000. We ask that you consider your gift so that we may reach our goal.

There will be some changes for our Holy Week services due to COVID:

- a. At this time, Palms will be distributed on Palm Sunday.
- b. There will be no washing of the feet on Holy Thursday.
- c. There will be no personal Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday.
- d. Mass schedule for Holy Week is as follows:

Palm Sunday Masses are at 8:00am and 10:30am

Holy Thursday 7:00pm

Good Friday 3:00pm and 7:00pm

Easter Vigil at 7:30pm

Easter Sunday Masses are at 8:00am and 10:30am.

We are not adding Masses, taking reservations or distributing tickets. Our experience from Christmas is that people did not show after making reservations. Therefore, at this time of writing, only 125 people per Mass. Pray that those numbers increase. Otherwise, it will be first come, first served.

REMINDERS!!!

Monday and Wednesday weekday Mass at 8:30 has resumed.

We are now limited to 125 people per Mass. The Saturday Mass and the 8AM Masses are usually not as crowded as the 10:30. Please keep in mind, once our count reached 125, you will not be let in the Church.

Please observe the regulations for attending Mass. You must wear a face mask, at all times in the Church and attached buildings, this include the Gathering Space. If for some reason, any reason, you are not feeling well, please refrain from attending Mass.

Protocol for attending any and all Masses:

- a. Must wear a mask
- b. Must sanitize hands
- c. If you have any trace of illness, please stay home
- d. No congregating before, during or after Mass
- e. Practice social distancing

As we figured during the epidemic, our revenue has fallen. We are still responsible for many bills (heat, electric, insurance), Diocesan taxes and salaries. We thank those who have continued with their ongoing support, and ask all families to try to catch up with their giving if possible.

Our Mass counts for last weekend were as follows: At the 4pm Mass, 117, at the 8am Mass, 103 and at the 10:30 Mass, 125.

As ALWAYS if you are feeling ill in any way, cough, sneezing, or temperature, please do not come to church.

The Church is open daily Monday – Thursday 8am-2pm. Office hours are Monday –Friday 9-4. Reconciliation is one half hour before the Saturday Mass.

There is also a safe and secure drop off box (brown) located on the outside of the office. You may use that to drop off any notes or your budget if you wish.

Our Masses are Saturday 4 pm and Sunday at 8 am and 10:30 am. Masks must be worn during Mass. Communion will be at the end of Mass. **After you receive Communion, you should immediately exit the church.** Live streaming of Mass is on Sunday at 10:30 through our website at www.stgregorychurchri.com

In closing, we pray that everyone keeps safe, listens to the medical community, continues to pray, and is kind and loving to one another.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Rev. Alfred Ricci

PRAYER DURING A PANDEMIC

Loving God, Holy One,

Your desire is for our wholeness and well-being.

We hold in tenderness and prayer the collective suffering of our world at this time.

We grieve precious lives lost and vulnerable lives threatened. We ache for ourselves and our neighbors, standing before an uncertain future.

We pray: may love, not fear, go viral.

Inspire our leaders to discern and choose wisely, aligned with the common good.

Help us to practice social distancing and reveal to us new and creative ways to come together in spirit and in solidarity.

Call us to profound trust in your faithful presence, You, the God who does not abandon,

You, the Holy One, breathing within us, breathing among us, breathing around us in our beautiful yet wounded world.