

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, September 3

Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Thursday, September 5

Saint Theresa of Calcutta, Virgin

POPE ST. GREGORY THE GREAT was born in the 6th century into an influential Roman family. Amid plagues and barbarian invasions, he stood out for his intellect. By age 33, he became a Roman prefect but later transitioned to monastic life. He didn't seek the papacy but accepted it, underscoring his servant-leadership approach.

St. Gregory the Great is most known for the Gregorian Chant, a form of liturgical music. But his influence extends far beyond that. One of his major accomplishments was streamlining the administration of the Church. He was a practical man and focused on organization. For example, he clarified church teachings and liturgy, making them more uniform across the territories. He was responsible for sending Augustine of Canterbury to England to convert the population, which was instrumental in spreading Christianity to the British Isles.

St. Gregory the Great was also a prolific writer. His writings served as foundational texts for the Medieval Church. One of his famous works is "Pastoral Rule," which lays out the duties and qualities of bishops and is still studied and cited today. He had a talent for synthesizing ideas into a coherent framework, making complex theological issues accessible to everyday people.

St. Gregory the Great was a proponent of "servant leadership," leading by example. He sold church treasures to feed the poor during famine and took the title "Servant of the Servants of God," a title that popes still use today.

DAILY PRAYER OF MOTHER THERESA

Dear Jesus, help me to spread Thy fragrance everywhere I go. Flood my soul with Thy spirit and love. Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly that all my life may only be a radiance of Thine. Shine through me and be so in me that every soul I come in contact with may feel Thy presence in my soul. Let them look up and see no longer me but only Jesus. Stay with me and then I shall begin to shine as you shine, so to shine as to be a light to others. Amen.

"I used to pray that God would feed the hungry, or do this or that, but now I pray that he will guide me to do whatever I'm supposed to do, what I can do. I used to pray for answers, but now I'm praying for strength. I used to believe that prayer changes things, but now I know that prayer changes us and we change things."

—Mother Theresa of Calcutta

BUILDING COMMUNITY: The Parish Pastoral Council has begun a planning process for realizing our vision (top of front page) and mission (inside left panel). **The next Council meeting is Sunday, September 8, after mass. Meetings are open, and all are welcome to attend and participate!**

Pope St. Gregory the Great had a lasting impact on the Catholic Church. His administrative skills, missionary work, writings, and approach to social issues have left an indelible mark. He was canonized shortly after his death. He's a figure worth studying for anyone interested in the history of the Catholic Church.

adapted from <https://young-catholics.com/2075/st-gregory-the-great/>



SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, B

Deuteronomy 4:1–2, 6–8

Psalms 15

James 1:17–18, 21b–22, 27

Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23

Things standing shall fall, / but the moving ever shall stay. —Basava

POSITIVE DISRUPTION

Jesus often provoked disruption to move people beyond the status quo: While today's Gospel is from Matthew, a powerful story at the beginning of John's Gospel mirrors Jesus's sentiments in Matthew: Jesus's protest in the Temple [see John 2:13–22], when he drove out the merchants of sacrifice and appeasement and then made two outrageous statements. First, he said that God intended the Temple to be a house of prayer for all people (no exceptions), and second, he said that the corrupted Temple would be destroyed and replaced by something new, which would be resurrected in its place....

Jesus continues to use the imagery of disruption (John 3–4). First, he tells a man that in spite of all his learning, in spite of all his status, he needs to go back and start over, to be born again—perhaps the most apt image for disruption ever. Then he tells a woman that the location of worship doesn't matter at all—which in their day meant that temples were irrelevant. What matters, Jesus says, is the attitude (or spirit) and authenticity (or truth) of the worshipper. Jesus was calling for a radical disruption in his religion, a great spiritual migration, and a similar disruption and migration are needed no less today in the religion that names itself after him.

A later New Testament writer repeated and expanded upon the disruption and migration Jesus was calling for (1 Peter 2:5). The way of life centered in the Temple must be disrupted because God wanted to dwell not in buildings of bricks or stones cemented together by mortar, but rather in human beings—living stones, he called them—cemented together by mutual love, honor, and respect.

This disruptive revolution, this liberation, this great spiritual migration begins with each of us presenting ourselves, with all of our doubts and imperfections, all of our failures, fears, and flaws, to the Spirit.... You. Me. Everyone. No exceptions.

"The moving ever shall stay," [twelfth-century Hindu mystic and poet] Basava said. [2] Those words contradict so much of our inherited religious sensibility. "Stay the same. Don't move. Hold on. Survival depends on resistance to change," we were told again and again. "Foment change. Keep moving. Evolve. Survival depends on mobility," the Spirit persistently says. That prompting tells us that the migration we seek is not merely from one static location to another. It is, rather, from one static location to a journey of endless growth.

If you want to see the future of Christianity ... don't look at a church building. Go look in the mirror and look at your neighbor. God's message of love is sent into the world in human envelopes. If you want to see a great spiritual migration begin, then let it start right in your body. Let your life be a foothold of liberation.

For Reflection

★ What traditions or habits might be distracting me from true faith?

★ What actions can I take to show my faith?

<https://young-catholics.com/3376/22nd-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-b/>

<https://email.cac.org/t/d-e-ehkhdk-tdduxulkd-z/>

Holy Cross Parish

96-98 Main Street, PO Box 118
Morris NY 13808

<https://parishes.rcda.org/holycross/>
Our bulletin and Pastoral Council minutes are posted on our website. Council minutes are under Ministries & Committees. If you have a notice for the bulletin, please email: holycross-rcchurch@gmail.com by Wednesday, 7 p.m.

MISSION

To care for the poor, abandoned, and the marginalized.



SCHEDULE

Mass: Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Liturgy of the Word: Thursday, 10 a.m.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pastoral Associate (Parish Leader)
Matthew Tabone (360) 559-4098

Trustees

Michael Stensland (607) 783-2764
Richard Meyers (607) 263-5588

Parish Pastoral Council Chair

Kerry L. Mess (607) 386-1951

Parish Pastoral Council Members

Dana Mochovciak, Jenna Turner, Carol Tyson, Marguerite Webster

Liturgical Ministry

Marguerite Webster (607) 263-5478

Faith Formation

Daphne Thompson (607) 263-2410

Ministry to the Homebound

Matthew Tabone (360) 559-4098
Jenn Spivey (207) 539-5094

RCIA Contact

Maureen Joy (607) 263-5132

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

Celebrant

Rev. Bob Longobucco

Lector: Kerry L. Mess

Eucharistic Ministers: Diane Turner, Peg Lilley, Carol Tyson

Mass Intention

For all new teachers embarking on a new journey that they will seek the Holy Spirit to guide them.

If you would like to request an intention for a mass, simply call the office to schedule: (607) 263-5143.

Pray for

- ✘ the deceased members of our parish and their families and friends
- ✘ the sick, their caregivers, and all who have asked for our prayers, especially Sr. Theresa Ahern MSBT, Kathleen Barry, Diane DeDominicus, Jo Franklin, Tony Giambra, Agnes Huff, Louisa Joy, Lynn Joy, Maureen Joy, Rebecca Joy, Michelle Lee, Valerie McCann, Teresa Meyers, Rich Morley, Clara Murphy, John Neary, Diane Neczesny, Karen Newell, John O'Brien, Maria Papendrea, Joe and Carol Tyson, John Zaleski
- ✘ all the men and women of our parish family serving in the military and all first responders and emergency personnel: Ryan Barry, Jim Barry, Meghan Barringer

LOOKING FOR MORNING PEOPLE

Holy Cross is looking for a few more good greeters. Would you be willing to arrive 10 minutes before mass and greet people once a month? See the sign up sheet at the back of church or Marguerite Webster.

Pope Francis's September intention: May we hear the cry of the Earth, victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and personally care for our world.

Engage in Living Community

HAVE HELP TO OFFER? NEED ASSISTANCE?

- ☼ **Butternut Valley Food Pantry**
166 Marion Avenue, Gilbertsville NY
(607) 783-2267
Thurs., 3-5 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
- ☼ **The Lord's Table & Food Pantry**
305 Main Street, Oneonta NY
(607) 432-1458
Mon./Weds./Fri., 4-5:30 p.m.
- ☼ **The Magic Closet**
158 East Main Street, Morris NY
(607) 263-5116 or (607) 263-5859
Weds./Sat. 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

FREE LUNCH MEALS for adults (18 & up):
Monday, Wednesday, Friday,
11-11:30 a.m.
Nehawa Park

CARING CONNECTIONS Catholic Charities

Caring Connections is offered to individuals and families who are struggling to meet their basic needs. Individuals and families in need of accessing program must come to their local Catholic Charities office (176 Main Street, Oneonta, 607-432-0061) to complete an application. Mon/Tues/Weds/Fri: 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Thurs: 8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

WHOM HAVE YOU WELCOMED TODAY?

Upcoming Events

- 09/01: Mass with Fr. Bob Longobucco**
- 09/05: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.**
- 09/06: Holy Hour, 6:30 p.m.**
- 09/07: First Saturday Devotions (Our Lady of Fatima), St. Mary's Oneonta, 9 a.m. Chosen & Appointed Retreat, Immaculate Conception Church Greene, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., \$35/person; contact Mary Wentlent mwentlent@syrдио.org or 607-656-9546 to register.
- 09/08: Communion service; coffee hour, Pastoral Council meeting after service**
- 09/12: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.**
- 09/15: Communion service; rosary after**
- 09/20-22: Worldwide Marriage Encounter, Huntington; for more info, call Frank/Margie Pearson (860) 337-2447 or visit <https://wwmectw.org>
- 09/19: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.**
- 09/22: SPECIAL COLLECTION - Catholic University Collection**
- 09/29: 52nd Annual Marriage Jubilee [special wedding anniversary couples], 3 p.m., Christ Our Light Loudonville
- 10/11-12: Harvest Festival, Sacred Heart Sidney

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2024

Mass Attendance: 43
Collection: \$846.00
Special Collection: \$101.00