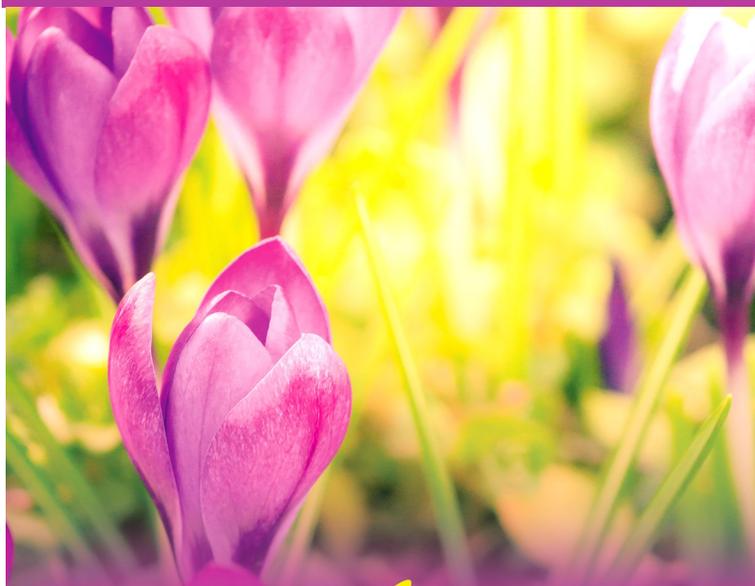


St. Gregory's Parish



3rd Sunday OF EASTER

With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. —Lk 24:31

2223 Dorchester Avenue

Lower Mills, Massachusetts 02124

Pastor: Fr. Jack Ahern

Email: bowdoin9043@gmail.com

In Residence: Fr. Brian F. McMahon

Fr. John J. Ronaghan

Business Manager: Julie A. Hayes

Music Director: James Busby

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 7:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM

DAILY MASSES

Monday - Friday – 6:45 AM

TELEPHONES

617-298-2460, 617-298-0478

Fax: 617-298-9232

(Office Hours: Monday—Friday, 9am—3pm)

Email: stgregoryparish@gmail.com

Website: www.stgregoryparish.com

WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all guests and parishioners of Saint Gregory Parish. We are delighted that you have come to worship with us, and we very much hope that you feel at home here! Newcomers are encouraged to register as members of the Parish. Registration forms are available in the entryways of the Church and in the Parish Office and can be placed in the offertory basket or mailed to the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Second Sunday of every month at 11:00 AM, in the upper Church. (Call rectory in advance to register).

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard from Noon to 1:00 pm on Saturdays to allow both the celebration of the Sacrament weekly, and also to schedule funerals.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Couples planning to be married should contact Fr. Jack at least six months prior to the date requested.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: Anytime by request and following all Masses the first weekend of the month.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: First Saturday of the month from Noon—1:00 pm.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Classes begin in September each year. Please contact the rectory for more information.

ST. JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC ACADEMY -LOWER MILLS

Lisa Warshafsky, Principal

For more information call 617-265-0019 or visit

www.sjp2ca.org

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Monday morning.

Please visit our website often for news and information.

www.stgregoryparish.com

Please turn off all cell phones and pagers upon entering the church.

Some Painful Decisions

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

In twenty-eight years of being a Pastor I have never been in a position where I needed to lay employees off. Last week after realizing that the Parish didn't have the necessary funds to continue to employ many of our present staff, I made some necessary though painful decisions.

1. All part-time staff which includes our cantors and organist, our receptionist, housekeeper, cook and a custodian have been furloughed for an indefinite period of time.
2. Both maintenance men - groundskeepers have had their hours reduced. Further reduction in hours may be necessary in the future.
3. My salary has also been temporarily put on hold not knowing what the future holds.

At the moment Julie is in the Parish Office parts of several days a week if you have any questions or concerns. I also can always be reached on my cell phone (617-686-0290). Please don't hesitate to call me at any time.

I have every confidence that we will get through the present difficulties however long and with God's help be a stronger Church and Parish.

Courage and confidence in the Risen Christ,

Fr. Jack

"Never yield to discouragement.

Do not lose trust.

Do not allow your hope to be extinguished."

Pope Francis -



OFFERTORY

Sunday April 18/19

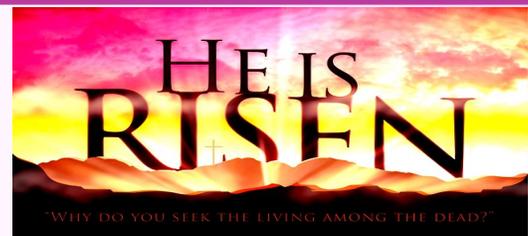
\$4,887.00 (includes online giving)

To give online, go www.stgregoryparish.com

There are simple instructions to follow to give online. We are grateful to all who are able to help during these difficult times.

Fr. Jack

(If you have trouble setting up online giving, please email Julie at stgregoryparish@gmail.com and she will walk you through the process.)



**Church Open Daily During Easter Season for Private Prayer Monday—Saturday 10:00AM– Noon
Sunday from 7:00AM—11:00 AM**

In the varying daily briefings, we have been asked to limit our time away from the safety of our homes as the rise in COVID-19 infection increases in our community. Given that, I am reducing the time available for private prayer in the Church. This will also allow us to more readily disinfect the Church daily. I apologize for the inconvenience. *Fr. Jack*

Private Mass Intentions

Each day I say a private Mass to remember each of you and your intentions. I also remember intentions that were booked prior to the shut-down.

Remembered at Mass this week: Eileen M. Kelleher, Martin Conroy, Diane Weir, Henry & Rita Doherty and John & Noni Henderson.

Please remember those whose Funeral Service we celebrated: Elaine Barry, James J. Smith, Mary Crahan, James C. Walsh, Joseph E. Duffy, Raymond D. Ryan, and Marie Steinbach. Please also say an extra prayer for their family members and friends who were not able to fully celebrate the life of their loved ones .



PRAYER AT THE TIME OF A PANDEMIC

Lord Jesus, who promised to remain with us always, when information overwhelms us and fear overtakes us, speak to us again those comforting words, "Peace be with you." Though we cannot be physically close to others, give us the ability and courage to love as well as we can, since "perfect love casts out all fear." Direct your caring gaze on doctors and nurses, researchers and safety personnel; Come to strengthen the sick, the vulnerable and comfort those who are grief stricken. And when the pandemic has passed, and this frightening crisis is resolved, teach us to know You more certainly

as our dearest Friend and our only Hope. You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

(offer one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and the Glory be...)

Our Lady, Mother of Perpetual Help, pray for us.



Supermarket Gift Cards and More THANK YOU

As you can well imagine the past several weeks have been a challenge for many fellow parishioners and neighbors. I have given more Stop and Shop and Star Market Gift Certificates these last few weeks than I have in a year's time. In some cases, there has been a loss in employment and in other cases not having enough food for children who are now home 24/7.

I was able to respond to the many requests because of the generosity of many of you who dropped off Gift Certificates and in some cases cash (for food or rental assistance). **THANK YOU.**

If anyone needs any assistance, please call me at 617-686-0290 and I will make every effort to assist you.

Fr. Jack

The Pandemic and the Generosity of the Young Boy

"There is a boy here who has five barely loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?"

John 6: 1-15

Whoever comes up with a vaccine that will lead to the eradication of the coronavirus will be hailed as the next great "Prophet." His or her accomplishment will be honored in no less glorious terms as Jesus' feeding of the five thousand in the Gospel. We will hold up that vaccine as a true sign of God's goodness in our midst.

But there are signs of God's goodness in our midst right now: the brave health workers caring for the sick, the scientists working in labs 24/7 to find at least a test if not a vaccine, the workers who keep stores open and necessary services going, the police and firefighters still at work to keep us safe, the neighbors who check in and take care of the especially vulnerable.

They are heroes like the boy in the story who gives all that he has – a few crusts of bread and pieces of fish – that enable a miracle to happen. These good folks have given everything they have – including their safety and that of their families – that we might make it through this pandemic.

So may we pause today to give thanks to God for those who give their "five barley loaves and two fish" so that God can make miracles happen for all of us – and may they inspire us to give all that we have to make such wonders happen.

Father of all that is good, help us to act first and always out of love. In imitating your Son's selflessness and humility, may our most insignificant and ordinary offerings of generosity, consolation and forgiveness enable us to realize Easter miracles of resurrection and reconciliation in our home, school, church, and community.

From Jay Cormier in *Connections DAILY*