Respect Life Sunday is observed every year on the first Sunday in October (Respect Life Month). This year's theme, "Be Not Afraid," is featured October 2017 - September 2018.

This year, the USCCB has chosen the theme "Be Not Afraid," taken from the command of the Lord Jesus several times in the Gospel: when he walked on the stormy waters toward his terrified apostles in their boat, "be not afraid (Matthew 14: 27 and Mark 6: 50);" when he healed the anxious paralytic, "be not afraid (Matthew 9: 2);" when he appeared with Moses and Elijah before his frightened apostles at the Transfiguration, "be not afraid (Matthew 17: 7);" when he addressed his bewildered apostles after the miraculous catch of fish, "be not afraid (Luke 5: 10)." This phrase was also used by the angel Gabriel to an overwhelmed Mary at the Annunciation, "be not afraid (Luke 1: 30)" and to the puzzled shepherds at Jesus' birth, "be not afraid (Luke 2: 10)." This was also the message of the angel to the confused women at the tomb after Jesus' resurrection, "be not afraid (Matthew 28: 5)."

These feelings that arose in the experiences of the apostles and Mary and the shepherds - terrified, anxious, frightened, bewildered, overwhelmed, puzzled, confused - are understandable and very human. They are not unique to them or their circumstances, however. We all have fear in the face of mystery and the unknown. The Lord Jesus knew that then and knows it now. He was moved to console and comfort them in their fear and he does so to us as well.

Life is a mystery, a great unknown, that unfolds with the
passage of time. It is also a gift, God’s gift, to all of us. In all life’s moments, we need to remember that with gratitude, grace-filled trust and deep respect. We do not know how long or short that gift is ours to possess. That knowledge belongs only to the Giver, the Creator. When a child is conceived, what will that life become? It is our God-given responsibility to give that life a chance to develop and grow, to nurture and nourish that life, to respect God’s gift of that life and to depend upon the love and mercy of God to accompany that life, every life throughout the whole of life until life’s dying breath. In the fears that confront us in life, in life’s good and difficult moments, in life’s routines and surprises, in life’s triumphs and disappointments, in life’s sickness and health, in life’s loves and heartaches, in life’s freedoms and captivities, in life’s familiarities and uncertainties, in life’s infancy and old-age and in between, never forget that the Lord Jesus himself lived and came among us that we might have life in its fullness (John 10: 10), in a fullness that God alone gives and takes. Through it all, listen to him as he says "be not afraid."

Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M., J.C.D.
Bishop of Trenton

RESPECT LIFE RESOURCES

Pregnancy Resources
There are many resources available to assist women who may need them during a pregnancy and for their babies. Let us Spread the Word that this help is available.

- Choice One Lawrenceville - 215-269-6912
- Good Counsel Homes in Riverside: 800-723-8331

Local Respect Life Events
Our Respect Life Team asks you to kindly pray for an awakening and recognition of the sanctity of life. Please pray for those who share their love of Jesus and life by visibly praying, welcoming, supporting and educating the needy. Consider joining us! Join us as we pray a Rosary for Life on Wednesday, October 11th at 6:30pm in the Church, followed by a Healing Service at 7pm.

Learn about and participate with St. Gregory’s Respect Life efforts by attending our parish and MercerLife Meetings on Thursday, October 12th at 6:45pm in the Parish Center. Contact Monica for information.

Join a Rosary Crusade at the Planned Parenthood at 437 E. State St. Trenton on Saturday, October 14th at 12:00 Noon. For more information contact Chet.

When a Friend Considers Abortion
Use the L.O.V.E. Approach™ to bring Christ's love at a crucial life-saving and life-defining moment.
Listen & Learn: Ask her about her feelings, thoughts, values, beliefs, and wants.
Open Options: When her story is fully shared, it is your turn to provide factual information, always in a loving and caring way.
Vision & Value: Awaken a vision in her for a healthier life
Extend & Empower: Provide practical help and support. Pray with her and for her and her baby.

October Diaper Collection

For RESPECT LIFE MONTH – OCTOBER 2017

Baby diapers (size 1 – 6) & wipes collection for JOHN CORR FAMILY RESOURCES

Donations may be left in the Church Gathering Space, Academy, or Parish Center. Thank you!

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT GALA

You are cordially invited to an Evening of Celebration at the Second Annual St. Gregory the Great Gala!

Proceeds will benefit St. Gregory the Great Academy

Honoring Coleman Buick GMC Cadillac & Everyday Heroes Sue Furman & Jane Mesday

Presenting sponsor

Berkshire Bank

Saturday, November 18, 2017
6:00pm to 10:00pm
The Stone Terrace by John Henry’s, Hamilton

Join us for a night of hidden surprises to support our school! Ticket ($125) includes an amazing cocktail reception with unlimited food, beer & wine, Live & Silent Auction, Tricky Tray, music and dancing, and lots of surprises!
MARY, UNDOER OF KNOTS

We all have some "knots" in our lives... and Mary can untie them! Please join us in praying the Novena Prayer to Mary, Undoer of Knots, from **September 28 to October 6** at home and at all Masses.

Virgin Mary, Mother of fair love, Mother who never refuses to come to the aid of a child in need, Mother whose hands never cease to serve your beloved children because they are moved by the divine love and immense mercy that exist in your heart, cast your compassionate eyes upon me and see the snarl of knots that exists in my life. Mary, Mother to whom God entrusted the undoing of the knots in the lives of his children, I entrust into your hands the ribbon of my life. Powerful Mother, by your grace and intercessory power with Your Son and My Liberator, Jesus, take into your hands today this knot. [Mention your request here] I beg you to undo it for the glory of God, once for all. You are my hope. Hear my plea. Keep me, guide me, protect me, o safe refuge! Mary, Undoer of Knots, pray for me.

AN INVITATION TO A MASS & HEALING SERVICE

Carmelo Cortez, a visionary from the Philippines, will be visiting St. Gregory the Great Church on **October 9th** to perform a healing service. **Mass will be celebrated at 3:00pm and the Healing Service will begin at 4:00pm.**

'Brother Carmelo' or simply 'Carmelo' is widely known for white rose petals that he prays over the sick and amazingly shows different etched images on them after just a few seconds. He believes that through the intercession of our Blessed Mother of the Eucharist and of Grace, God uses him to bring His grace of healing to the sick. We invite you then to come and be healed.

*NOTE: Please bring a fresh white rose flower or two with you when you come as he would need them for this healing service.*

OUR LADY OF FATIMA CELEBRATION
All are welcome for a special celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima visitations on **October 13th at 7:00pm** in church.

The evening will include Liturgy of the Word, a candlelight procession with a statue of Our Lady of Fatima, followed by recitation of the Rosary. A statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be available for veneration.

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**TUESDAY NIGHT LIVE**

In case you missed it, click below to watch last week's Tuesday Night Live presentation, "The Good, the Bad, and the Anxious: Recent and Pending Supreme Court Decisions on Religious Liberty" with Matthew Franck the Director of the Simon Center on Religion and the Constitution at the Witherspoon Institute.

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE NEXT ADULT FAITH PRESENTATION**

Father Frederick Miller, Spiritual Director of the College Seminary of the Immaculate Conception at Seton Hall University and Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology at the major seminary, will speak on "The 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima - the Enduring Significance of the Message." The talk will be held on **October 9th at 7:30pm** in the St. Gregory the Great Chapel.

One hundred years have passed since the six apparitions of the Mother of God to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal. Arguably, the message of Our Lady of Fatima was and remains the most important contemporary word that has come to us from Heaven. This centenary celebration offers us the opportunity to listen again and at a new depth to what has been called, "Heavens Peace-Plan."
CHORAL ANTHEM OCTOBER 1st

The St. Gregory the Great Choir will perform the choral anthem Look Up and Count the Stars by Peter Latona at the 10:30am Mass on Sunday, October 1st. This anthem was composed for the World Meeting of Families in 2015.

"Look up and count the stars if ye may," thus God to Abra'm did declare; "So shall all your descendants be for now and all eternity." We are the stars from God's own hand, reflections of his own true love, The beauty of God's heav'nly plan, the eternal gift from heav'n above. Now gaze upon the infant child with Joseph and the Virgin nigh; May all our fam'lies be like them in peace and joy and unity. Grant Lord, we pray, the grace to be the shining splendor of God's love; His radiant light of truth and hope from heaven down to earth below. So gaze upon the stars on high, sing praise to God with single voice. Accept His gift and guard it well and let His will be our hearts' choice. Praise God the Father, Christ the Son, and Holy Spirit with them one. We pray they bless our fam'lies now and throughout all eternity. Amen.

JUNIOR LECTOR TRAINING

St. Gregory the Great happily announces an opportunity for our young people in Grades 4-12 to be a part of our Junior Lector Program. The training class will be held on October 4th from 7:00pm to 8:00pm in church. Children will learn to proclaim God's Word in order to serve in this special way at our Liturgies with Children. Please contact Kathy Tharp via email for more information.
PRAYER TEAMS FOR HEALING

The MARIAN SERVANTS® of the Holy Family prayer teams will be available to pray with you individually for your personal needs in the Chapel after the Noon Mass on Sunday, October 1st.

MGA KAPATID, KUMUSTA NA KAYO?

Frs. Al and Lines would like to invite all Pinoy families from our parish (rehistrado man o hindi) to an acquaintance and fellowship on Sunday, October 8, 2017 at 1:00pm, immediately after the 12:00 pm Mass in O'Connor Hall, Parish Center. Since we do not know how many are coming, we will be having a potluck meal. Please bring an extra for 2 or 3 pax of your family's favorite food/s. Frs. Al & Lines will provide drinks and coffee for everyone. Hope to see and meet you all!

PICNIC THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone who joined us last weekend for our Annual Parish Picnic. We had fabulous (hot!) weather, great food, and lots of fun!

A special thanks to picnic coordinator Peg Kowalski, the Knights of Columbus Council 7677, The Smoke-N-Grill for their donation of delicious pulled pork, O'Grady's Kitchen for their donation of yummy salads and sandwiches, Risoldi's Great Value Market, the Saturday morning Macaroni Salad brigade, Academy parents for baking desserts, and all the volunteers who donated food and helped setup, serve, and cleanup.

Many thanks to our Picnic Committee volunteers and helpers: Barb and Tom Van Horn, Kathy Tharp, Billy Tharp, Carol Moscarello, Laurie Pietrini, Maureen Cozzi and Jason Bonifazi. We love our parish family!
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MUM SALE
The Knights of Columbus Council 7677 First Annual Fall Mum Sale continues this weekend after all Masses. These amazing field grown mums are available in 8" pots in all your favorite fall colors. Mums are available for the cost of 1 for $6, 2 for $10 or 3 for $15. Please show your support for your Knights of Columbus and their good works by supporting the Mum Sale!

WARM HANDS WARM HEARTS COLLECTION

Social Concerns is collecting NEW gloves, hats & scarves for local charities

Please drop off donations in the Gathering Space
October 7th - November 4th

LITURGY WITH CHILDREN

LITURGY WITH CHILDREN
Sunday, October 8
9am Mass

Help us celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima!
STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join us on **October 6th at 7:30pm** in church for Stations of the Cross. This will be the last monthly stations led by parish clergy until Lent begins. Going forward, on the first Friday of the month, Stations of the Cross books will be available for those who wish to continue the devotion on their own.

SGG ACADEMY STUDENT HONORS

Each week during the school year, St. Gregory the Great Academy recognizes students who demonstrate exemplary adherence to the school mission through words or deeds.

St. Gregory the Great Academy is blessed that these students are part of our school family, as students, teachers and parents work in partnership to provide an education that is authentically Catholic and academically excellent.

**Congratulations to this week’s honorees!**

- Joey Wilson
- Maura Goddeyne
- Michael Schiaretti
- Abigail Doan
- Michael Delate
- Dana Trotta
- Ava Shelbourne
- Max Foley
- Owen Jezek
- Teagan Ahearn
- Alyssa Burns
- Matteo Leming
- Justin Lushbaugh
- Abigail Zebrowski
- Anthony Liberto
- Anthony Cimino
- Kara Lushbaugh
- Brendan Appert
- Kathryn Cottrell
- Sofia Cavalli
- Salvatore Mazzella
- Joshua Mueller
- Jennifer Kale
- Bryce Goodwin

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
In honor of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, join us for a Blessing of the Animals Saturday, October 7th at 10:00am on the front lawn of the chapel. Bring your pets for a special blessing!

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

Angel in the Waters
Share the Wonder of Life with Your Children

Invite your children to celebrate their own journey from conception to birth during pro-life month! These beautiful illustrations and wise words tell the story of a baby growing, exploring, and speaking with its guardian angel in its mother's womb.

Watch on formed.org

“I watched this with my 5-year-old and she loved it. Such a wonderful way of explaining pregnancy and birth and our connection to God!”

—Irene K. Huron, OH

St. Gregory the Great invites you to enjoy a free subscription to FORMED - an incredible online gateway to the best Catholic content, all in one place! It’s FREE! Go to www.formed.org and enter the Parish Access Code: VKWMMMD. Sign up and you are ready to use FORMED! Check out the FORMED Pick of the Week above!
THIS WEEK AT ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

FRIDAY, September 29th
6:15am: Morning Prayer, Chapel

Saturday, September 30th
Fatima Ornaments on Sale
Shepherds of Bethlehem Sale - O'Connor Hall
St. Therese of Lisieux Relic at all Masses
6:45am: That Man Is You, Ferrante Hall
9:00am: Pilgrimage to Blue Army Shrine
6:30pm: Sensory-Adapted Mass, Church

Sunday, October 1st
Fatima Ornaments on Sale
Shepherds of Bethlehem Sale - O'Connor Hall
St. Therese of Lisieux Relic at all Masses
9:00am: Folk Mass, Church
1:00pm: Prayer Teams for Healing, Chapel
7:15pm: Total Consecration, Chapel

Monday, October 2nd
6:30pm: Altar Rosary Society, O'Connor Hall

Tuesday, October 3rd
8:00am: Morning Prayer, Chapel
6:15pm: Bingo, Ferrante Hall
7:30pm: Emmanuel Prayer Group, Chapel

Wednesday, October 4th
7:00pm: Junior Lector Training, Church

Thursday, October 5th
RESPECT LIFE MONTH

RESPECT LIFE

EACH OF US IS A MASTERPIECE OF GOD'S CREATION

St. Gregory the Great Church
A Marriage-Building Parish
Communications and Marketing Board
609-587-1131 | CMB@stgregorythegreatchurch.org
4620 Nottingham Way Hamilton Square, NJ 08690

www.StGregorytheGreatChurch.org