

ST IGNATIUS & ST LUKE'S

30 August 2020



GREGORY THE GREAT

This Thursday, September 3rd, we celebrate the feastday of **Pope Saint Gregory the Great**, a Doctor of the Church and one of the Latin Fathers; he was the bishop of Rome from 3 September 590 to his death on 12 March 604. He is known for instigating the first recorded large-scale mission from Rome, the Gregorian Mission, to convert the then-pagan Anglo-Saxons in England to Christianity. Gregory is also well known for his writings, which were more prolific than those of any of his predecessors as Pope.

A Roman senator's son and himself the Prefect of Rome at 30, Gregory tried the monastery but soon returned to active public life, ending his life and the century as pope. Although he was the first pope from a monastic background, his prior political experiences may have helped him to be a talented administrator.

Throughout the Middle Ages, he was known as “the Father of Christian Worship” because of his exceptional efforts in revising the Roman worship of his day. His contributions to the development of the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, still in use in the Byzantine Rite, were so significant that he is generally recognized as its *de facto* author.

One of his most remarkable legacies is what is now called Gregorian chant. Gregory’s biographer, John the Deacon, modestly claimed that the saint “compiled a patchwork antiphony,” gathering chants from among the regional traditions as widely as he could manage. Of those, he retained what he could, revised where necessary, and assigned particular chants to the various services. According to Donald Jay Grout, his goal was to organize the bodies of chants from diverse traditions into a uniform and orderly whole for use by the entire western region of the Church.

Gregorian chant

Singing has been part of the Christian liturgy since the earliest days of the Church. Indeed, the psalmody of ancient Jewish worship significantly influenced and contributed to early Christian ritual and chant. Early Christian rites incorporated elements of Jewish worship that survived in later chant tradition. The Apostolic Tradition attests the singing of Hallel psalms with Alleluia as the refrain in early Christian agape feasts. Chants of the Office, sung during the canonical hours, have their roots in the early 4th century, when desert monks following St. Anthony introduced the practice of continuous psalmody, singing the complete cycle of 150 psalms each week. Around 375, antiphonal psalmody became popular in the Christian East; in 386, St.

Ambrose introduced this practice to the West. Distinctive regional traditions of Western plainchant arose during the 5th through the 9th centuries, notably in the British Isles (Celtic chant), Spain (Mozarabic), Gaul (Gallican), and Italy (Old Roman, Ambrosian and Beneventan). It is from these sources that Pope Gregory made his collection for the entire Western Church.

Gregorian chant is sung in the Office during the canonical hours and in the liturgy of the Mass. The simple *accentus* chants for the intonations of the Collect, Epistle, and Gospel are intoned by bishops, priests, and deacons, mostly on a single reciting tone with simple melodic formulae at certain places in each sentence. More complex chants to accompany liturgical actions [the entrance of the officiant, the collection of offerings, and the distribution of the Eucharist] are sung by trained soloists and choirs. Responsorial and antiphonal chants, such as the psalms, expand on readings and lessons. The non-psalmodic chants, including the Ordinary of the Mass, sequences, and hymns, were originally intended for congregational singing.

Chant is normally sung in unison. Later innovations included *tropes*, which is a new text sung to the same melodic phrases in a melismatic chant (repeating an entire Alleluia-melody on a new text for instance, or repeating a full phrase with a new text that comments on the previously sung text) and various forms of *organum*, (improvised) harmonic embellishment of chant melodies focusing on octaves, fifths, fourths, and, later, thirds. Neither tropes nor organum, however, belong to the chant repertory proper. But their significance cannot be overrated; they are the roots of our modern Western polyphony.

The cover image is one of the many depictions of the **Mass of St. Gregory**, a common subject in Catholic art, especially during the Middle Ages. In these paintings, Pope Gregory is shown saying Mass just as a vision of Christ appears on the altar in front of him, in response to the Pope's prayers for a sign to convince a doubter of the doctrine of transubstantiation. This miraculous vision offered proof that the bread literally became Christ's body when consecrated. Christ appeared to Saint Gregory as the Man of Sorrows—a type of image of Christ with his wounds displayed on his hands and side, and with the instruments of His Passion nearby.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All who are suffering or sick and all caregivers who minister to the sick: John Hogan, Deirdre McQuade, Danny Hart, Amy Howard, Mary Morehead and family, Curtis Bailey, Leondre Massey, Sister Constance Ward, George Cochran, Mark Anthony Turner, Rachel Fisher, Patricia Ransom, Jacqueline Chancio, Beverly A. Woods, Kerianna Prather, Victoria P.; M.M., R.M., K.M., C.M., C.A., E.D., E.G., W.B., J.M., H.G., and J.G.

Please call or email the office to add a name to the prayer list.

Before calling, please be sure you have spoken to the person [or a member of his family] about adding the name—we do not want to inadvertently disregard someone's desire for privacy.

Names of those who are sick or suffering will be kept on the list for one month; to keep a name on the list for longer, you must email the parish office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PEW PROJECT The refinished sample pew is now back in place. And we are starting to take pledges and contributions for the refinishing of all the pews. Donation forms are available in the back of the church and in the auditorium entrance.

We have finished stripping the beadboard in the east wall of of the church, and are now working our way up the west wall. If you are interested in assisting in this work, usually on Monday each week, send an email to the office, and we will let you know when our workdays are scheduled.

PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY

Though it was delayed due to the quarantine restrictions, the photo directory is still in the works. We have rescheduled the photo sessions for October 1-3 in the parish house.

To sign up for your photo session online, visit the LifeTouch appointment calendar at <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/b790k2tg/> and follow the instructions.

Don't have a computer? Let us know and we can sign you up after Mass.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 29 August

The Passion of John the Baptist

Anticipated Mass for Sunday

4:30 pm Lorraine LaValley + [Rose Marie Malatesta, Matthew Malatesta, and Lori Woelfel]

Sunday, 30 August

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

8 am Patricia Hickey Anderson + [George F. Hickey, Jr.]

9:30 am Pro populo

11 am Emily Roszak + [St. Ignatius Ladies of Charity]

Monday, 31 August

Aidan, Bishop, and the Saints of Lindisfarne

9 am *no public mass*

Tuesday, 1 September

Feria

9 am Thomas McLaughlin + [Fran Doyle]

Wednesday, 2 September

Feria

9 am Emily Roszak + [Rosemary Collier]

Thursday, 3 September

Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

9 am Patricia LaValley + [Lorraine LaValley]

Friday, 4 September

Cuthbert, Bishop

9 am Madeline's intentions [George F. Hickey, Jr.]

Saturday, 5 September

Anticipated Mass for Sunday

4:30 pm Emily Roszak + [*month's mind*]

Sunday, 6 September

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

8 am Pro populo

9:30 am John Donovan [Jane Slattery]

11 am special intention [Rosemary Collier]

St. Ignatius Finance Council

Florian Hocke - *Co-Chair*

Jackie Chancio

Deacon Clark Glenn

Joseph Somerville

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