



# St. Gregory the Great Community

*Celebrating the Traditional Latin Mass*

**April 18, 2021**

Chaplain:

Fr. Jeffrey Robideau

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## Mission Statement

We have a nice blank spot in the bulletin to put such a thing... if we had one...

Hint, hint pastoral council.

Start writing your ideas.

Fr. Robideau – What will he say this time?

I can't wait!

I want to talk about a very personal and sensitive topic. Many are confused about this and experience much embarrassment in confession. I am not pointing to any one confession or any one person. I am speaking in very general terms and am speaking only of the moral issue itself and not of any person. I offer this teaching for your spiritual benefit.

First, we must remember that for something to be a sin, we must have some minimal amount of conscious participation in it, meaning we must be conscious enough to inform the will that we are able to make a choice. The amount of conscious awareness is one of the three conditions that separate venial sin from mortal sin.

This sets us up for the topic today. Let us just call it “happy dreams.” This name will work for both men and women. People fail to understand that they are not sinful. There are conditions though. The first is that we cannot have done anything to encourage them. The second is that we are asleep (not conscious). The third is that we cannot enjoy them or dwell on them once we awaken.

As to the first. We cannot set ourselves up to have them, hope for them, encourage them, or anything of the like.

As to the second. If we are fully asleep then there is no conscious participation that would be required to have sinned. If we are at the in-between stage, where we are only half asleep and semi-conscious, then we are accountable to the extent that we are conscious and aware of what is happening. Of course, if we are awake, then we are fully accountable and subject to the sin.

As to the third. When we awaken from the dream, we need to then consciously stop any appreciation of, fantasies about, feeling from, and so forth. There is not thinking that, if I go back to sleep... We just need to cease thinking about it. Do not dwell on what happened, how it happened, or being grateful that it happened. It simply just happened, now move on with your day, get up and get into your routine. If it happened in the middle of the night, you might have to get up and move around a bit and then go back to bed. In any case, get it off your mind quickly.

Should it be confessed? With all my questionable actions in life, I do not like giving me the benefit of the doubt. It just seems like the devil wins when I do. So, if it

## This Weeks Schedule

Sun: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday)  
Open 7:30 am – 12 noon  
Mass 8 am +Rush Limbaugh  
10 am Parish

Mon: Feria  
Open 11 am – 1 pm  
Confession 11 am – 12 pm  
Mass 12:10 pm Gina Ambrosia

Tues: Feria  
Open 5 pm – 7 pm  
Confession 5 pm – 6:15 pm  
Mass 6:30 pm Felicia Ambrosia

Wed: St. Anselm  
Open 7:30 am – 11 am  
Confession 8:45 am – 11 am  
Mass 8 am Gina Ambrosia

Thur: SS. Soter and Caius  
Open 5 pm – 7 pm  
Confessions 5 pm – 6:15 pm  
Mass 6:30 pm Felicia Ambrosia

Fri: Feria  
Open 7:30 am – 11 am  
Confessions 8:45 am – 11 am  
Mass 8 am Gina Ambrosia

Sat: St. Fidelis  
Open 8:30 am – 11 am  
Confessions 9:45 am – 11 am  
Mass 9 am Felicia Ambrosia

Next Sun: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Easter  
Open 7:30 am – 12 noon  
Mass 8 am Holy Souls  
10 am Holy Souls

## Please Pray for:



Oh Lord, hear  
our prayers  
for the  
members of  
our family in  
need.

Paul Sobie  
Rachelle Koenigsknecht  
Ed Reichstetter  
Ron Albert  
Melissa Dorbeck  
JoAnn Brock  
Chuck Campanella  
Hal Schneider  
Timothy McLin  
Dean Lind  
Rhoda Greenhoe  
David Makara  
Sharon Etzel  
Bob Wilson

## Money Counters

We need to reimplement money counters.

If you are interested in helping to count the Sunday collections after the 10 am Mass, please let Fr. Robideau know.

We will have a training session soon.

## Last Sunday's Collection

# of Contributions – 25  
Sunday Total – \$ 2311.25  
Capital Campaign – \$ 630

**Thank you for your generosity**

## Meetings

Pastoral/Finance Council -- May 11  
Security Council --  
Men's Group -- May 20  
Woman's Group -- May 1

**Pastoral Council Meeting**  
Had great input – thank you.

## **Work Be (hard)**

I will be here Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 5 to 8. (cancelled if raining).

We need to rake the rocks back into the parking lot. I started one pile last week. It is difficult, but not too bad.

Please bring a steel fork rake and a broom rake if you have them. Shovel and bucket also.

## **New Phone #**

**517-574-4921**

Crazy stuff, don't worry about why, not sure myself.

In any case, St Gregory's new number is listed above and on the front of the bulletin.

Be sure to change it in your contacts.  
**NOT NOW!** – Wait until the homily is done.

## **DSA**

Every year, Bishop Boyea asks that we have our Diocesan Service Appeal. That time is now.

If you are interested in giving to the DSA, please contact me and I will get you the necessary information and envelope you will need.

happens, even if you are sure you were asleep, I recommend confessing it. At minimum, I am sure most would have to confess having dwelt on it and having had undue appreciation for it.

What of embarrassment? No need for it, unlike the solitary sin that people commit. That one they do while awake and chose to do it. That one, there may be embarrassment. But do not worry about it. All sin is embarrassing. Confess it and more on, the priest will not judge you.

To give you some comfort about having happy dreams, know that it is natural. The body has needs and if they are not being met due to chastity, then it will act out in our unconscious sleep in the form of dreams.

In fact, in the writing of certain hermits and monks, they write of this occurrence. They go so far as to say that if a man (woman) is successful at being chaste, that they can expect that this will occur. They even go so far as saying that they can be expected every 6 months or so.

Keep in mind, that by chaste here, we are referring to chastity in the single or celibate state. In these states of life, there can be and should not be any acting out. This leaves the body deprived of a natural instinct and desire. In such a pitiable state, the body takes the alternative route of today's topic.

For those who are married, since you have a natural, wholesome, legitimate outlet with the marital act, I assume you may not have them as often. If you do, then I can think of several reasons why, but they are too in depth for this article.

Some may want to refer to the sin of Onan. This is where we talk about it being a sin to spill one's seed. This can only be applied to men. Certainly it is true of the solitary sin, but that sin also applies to women. That act is just simply sinful, no matter if you are a man or a woman or confused about which you are. It is not about the seen at this point, but about the act itself.

## Common Good

Remember that “common good” is not about a percentage. It is not about 51% or even 75% or more agreeing by vote, pole or force.

“Common” means those things that we share with one another. No, not like common sense. It seems that only a few of us have that anymore.

It does mean things like human dignity and the right to life, liberty, property, the pursuit of happiness, free speech, religion, gun ownership, self-defense, to determine our own medical practices, to work, to buy and sell without prejudice and so forth.

These things are the common good, not because man says so, but because God says so. He is the measure of what is of the common good. Any other measure is of man’s selfish bias or political agenda.

Now tell me, where does God say it is of the common good that a baby should die for the good of the rest? Wrong, that was the Jews saying that it is better for Jesus to die for the rest. Who thinks that was their finest hour?

Did you take the vaccine?

Scripture says it is better to have a millstone tied around your neck than to harm the least of these little ones.

Confession is available when you come to the realization of what you have done.

The sin of Onan (from my understanding) was more about why the seed was spilled. He interrupted the act and spilled the seed rather than complete the procreative aspect of the act. So, the seed that may be spilt during a happy dream is not a sin. Again, if all the above conditions are met.

If this topic was uncomfortable to read, try being the priest who had to write it. Being human is a wonderful thing. God made us this way. At the same time, He gave us a lot of rules to follow. They are there for our help and protection. As such, I have no problem speaking about such matters so long as it is for spiritual development. Set curiosity aside and take the information that is helpful and leave the rest behind.

As such, we will not dwell on this topic any further.

God Bless,  
Fr. Robideau

Do you need some rosary making supplies?  
Kathy Miles has some she would like to go to a good home.

Call Kathy at 517-482-5892

## Contributions and Donations are greatly appreciated

As a parishioner or visitor, you may contribute in the following ways:

- You may use the donation box in the back of Church if you want to use cash or check.
- You may contribute electronically with a credit card by going to
  - [www.continuetogive.com/gregorythegreat](http://www.continuetogive.com/gregorythegreat)
  - Of by scanning this QR code.

