

# ST. GREGORY THE GREAT!

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

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## A Lenten reflection from our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI...

**CHRIST, the Justice of God:** The Christian Good News responds positively to man's thirst for justice, as Saint Paul affirms in the Letter to the Romans: *"But now the justice of God has been manifested apart from law ... the justice of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction; since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, they are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as an expiation by his blood, to be received by faith"* (3, 21-25). What then is the justice of Christ? Above all, it is the justice that comes from grace, where it is not man who makes amends, heals himself and others. The fact that "expiation" flows from the "blood" of Christ signifies that it is not man's sacrifices that free him from the weight of his faults, but the loving act of God who opens Himself in the extreme, even to the point of bearing in Himself the "curse" due to man so as to give in return the "blessing" due to God (cf. Gal 3, 13-14). But this raises an immediate objection: what kind of justice is this where the just man dies for the guilty and the guilty receives in return the blessing due to the just one? Would this not mean that each one receives the contrary of his "due"? In reality, here we discover divine justice, which is so profoundly different from its human counterpart. God has paid for us the price of the exchange in His Son, a price that is truly exorbitant. Before the justice of the Cross, man may rebel for this reveals how man is not a self-sufficient being, but in need of Another in order to realize himself fully. Conversion to Christ, believing in the Gospel, ultimately means this: to exit the illusion of self-sufficiency in order to discover and accept one's own need – the need of others and God, the need of His forgiveness and His friendship. So we understand how faith is altogether different from a natural, good-feeling, obvious fact: humility is required to accept that I need Another to free me from "what is mine," to give me gratuitously "what is His." This happens especially in the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. Thanks to Christ's action, we may enter into the "greatest" justice, which is that of love (Rm 13:8-10), the justice that recognizes itself in every case more a debtor than a creditor, because it has received more than could ever have been expected. Strengthened by this very experience, the Christian is moved to contribute to creating just societies, where all receive what is necessary to live according to the dignity proper to the human person and where justice is enlivened by love.

We, the faculty and staff, wish all of our wonderful St. Gregory families a blessed and holy Easter!



Shh!!! "STANZIANO'S" is the word. As most of you are aware, Audrey and Joe Stanziano will be retiring at the end of the school year. As part of our celebration of their contributions to the St. Gregory the Great community we would like to compile a "Snapfish" book with photos and quotes from our school family. If you would like to send in a photo or short note, indicating your sentiments about the Stanziano's, it will help create a lasting gift to them. Please scan any photos you would like to include, as we will not be able to return them. All pictures and letters are due to the school office no later than **Wednesday, March 31, 2010**.

In addition to the "Snapfish" creation, we will also be setting up a website on Facebook, so all family, friends, alumni, students and teachers from the last few decades can contribute their favorite "STANZIANO" memory or story. Details about the website will be forthcoming shortly.

Thank you for your support in creating this gift of love!

**Provide Your Electronic Best Wishes/Thoughts to the Stanzianos...** We want to allow faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni, parishioners, and others in our community an opportunity to express their best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Stanziano for their fabulous dedication over the years to our school and parish communities. An electronic Guestbook has been set up at [www.stgregoryonline.org/stanzianos.html](http://www.stgregoryonline.org/stanzianos.html) to provide your thoughts. Just click the "Sign Guestbook" link to begin. When you have completed your message, click on the "Post Message" button. A compilation of your thoughts will be provided to the Stanziano's for lasting memoirs.

**DEAR PARENTS:** Please note for your calendars that Holy Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup> is and early dismissal at 1:30PM. Thanks!

“HOME OF THE JAGUARS” MARCH 29, 2010

