



November 1, 2020

We are in unprecedented times during this COVID-19 crisis.

At the start of this pandemic, we have had to close our church services, activities, and events for several months, but our financial obligations have not stopped. Although we have been able to again gather for mass with restrictions, many of our major events, such as the Spring and Fall banquets have had to be cancelled. We are presented with real financial challenges pertaining to maintenance of our church, hall, and property as well as the vitality of our parish. No one action or practice will ensure the financial stability of our congregation, but strategically putting enough strategies in place will provide a strong framework for sustainability.

We are introducing several fundraising campaign opportunities, in addition to weekly church offerings; help us get through these worrisome times and overcome the financial challenges we are experiencing.



One Heart One Soul Campaign from the Diocese of Hamilton

Although this Diocese campaign started before Covid-19, it really has come to St. Gregory the Great at the right time. The purpose of this campaign is for financially secure parishes within the Hamilton Diocese to help parishes that may need some financial aid. Fortunately, the diocese has designated St. Gregory the Great as a parish in need. The structure of this fundraiser is as follows: If we reach our goal of \$200,000 over the next three years, the diocese will give us additional support of \$20,000. With 200 active families within our community, a minimum contribution of \$1000 over 3 years (above regular tithing) would ensure we reach our goal.

You should have received a letter from the Diocese of Hamilton requesting your participation in this fundraising event. Your letter will have a suggested donation amount distinctly for you and your family. It is important for you to know that only a diocesan representative is aware of your personal numbers. Your privacy is respected and confidentiality is of utmost importance. The suggested donation amount presented in your letter is exactly that, if you are able to give more, that would be of great help. However, if you are unable to commit to the amount suggested over the three-year period, anything you can give will be much appreciated.

There are many ways that your family can donate. The Diocese of Hamilton letter will be outlining a number of options available to you. If using their website, please select St. Gregory the Great Parish (**Hamilton**) for your pledges. You will then be given options of

1. Credit Card Payments
2. Cheques by mail
3. Automatic withdrawals from your chequing account
4. Stocks and securities

You can make a one-time donation or a three-year pledge with monthly, quarterly, or annual payments.

For example: If you pledge \$1000 over three years, your monthly donation is \$27.78.

If you would like to pledge \$50 each month, your three-year total amount is \$1800.00

Understanding the dynamics of our Slovenian Community, we have decided to introduce alternate ways of donating to our parish to help us reach our goal - Partnering with Moya Financial.



Our Slovenian Credit Union has always supported our parish throughout our many years of partnership. Once again, Moya is willing to assist with our fundraising efforts while simultaneously facilitating personal savings accounts. Following are more ways for you to donate.

1. Donate online through the Moya Credit Union website.

Seamlessly and effortlessly donate online. Choose from the list of community groups (St. Gregory the Great), input the amount you would like to donate, and complete the donation using your credit card or PayPal account.

2. Set-up a weekly or monthly direct deposit from your account.

Keep the good times rolling with an automated transfer from your account to your community group of choice. You choose the amount and frequency, and our Member Service Representatives will take care of the rest.

3. 1% matching program through deposits made at Moya.

Invest in your future and your community. Start saving with Moya Financial and help your organization's fundraising efforts. Moya will match 1% of all new-money deposits and donate the funds to your organization of choice!

How many loonies and toonies can you donate in 3 years?



St. Gregory the Great with the help of Moya Financial will provide every parish family with a piggybank and a personalized envelope. Drop your loonies and toonies into your piggy bank as a family. Once your "piggy" is full transfer the coins into your personalized envelope and bring it to church where you will be provided with another envelope to continue with your savings. Dropping a dollar a day will help our parish reach our financial goals. If you want to teach your children to save, we are happy to give you a second piggy bank for your kids.

PLEASE NOTE: A tax receipt will be provided to you for all of your donations by the Diocese of Hamilton.

No one donation ensures the financial stability of our congregation, but together we can achieve all our goals!

- Past donations have helped our parish repair and maintain our roof, purchase pew cushions, install our church projection system, ...
- Upcoming projects for our parish
Bell Tower, Parking lot paving, Assistant for Fr. Drago, Roof updates...

Thank you for your help, your commitment to your parish and your prayers! God Bless our entire Community.

Parish Council of St. Gregory the Great Slovenian Parish

November 1st, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Drago".