

KEVIN McDERMOTT

*137 Seven Star Road
Groveland, Massachusetts 01834*

April 5th, 2013

Dear Friends and Fellow Pilgrims,

Many thanks to those who have already been led to make donations towards the effort to create a chalice and paten which will serve as a fitting and lasting memorial of the establishment of our parish, as well as those still discerning whether you are called to be part of this project. I am pleased to report that — combining funds received and pledged — we are three-quarters of the way towards the sum of \$10,000 required to purchase the silver and begin work.

Please note that one donor has generously pledged to match any funds received between now and Deacon Liias' priestly ordination on April 20th up to the amount of \$2,000 — so any donations made during that period will be doubled. The total required to complete the project (thanks to the prayerful generosity of the artist, Vincent Hawley) is \$22,500. The balance will be paid to Vincent, half during his work and half at the completion of the project — hopefully by our first Feast of Title and Dedication in early September.

Lest there be any confusion I want to stress this is a private, not a parish, effort: the chalice and paten are intended as a gift *of* the people *to* the parish; the parish is not (and will not be) responsible for any part of the cost. If God does not raise up sufficient support, donors will be contacted and their donations returned or re-directed, as they desire. However, the Vestry gave its blessing to the project at the meeting held on March 22nd and will gratefully receive the vessels.

Part of the vision of this project is a hope that all who have been part of the journey leading to the foundation of Saint Gregory the Great would be part of creating this Eucharistic memorial of its establishment: ideally, all of us would contribute

something. It is not the size of any individual contribution but a broad participation which is significant. Were we to accomplish this goal it would allow all of us, while alive, to look towards the Altar at the Elevation and see a visible symbol of the unity of this part of the Body of, and with, the Lord; and it would allow our successors (beholding the same vessels) to see in them a gift from the entire community which was gathered to found their parish.

If you find you are called to participate in this aspect of the establishment of Saint Gregory the Great as a Eucharistic community send your check (made out to *Saint Gregory the Great Church* and marked "*Sacred Vessel Fund*") to:

*Peter F. Carpentier, Treasurer,
Saint Gregory the Great Church,
27 Wethersfield Street, PO Box 59,
Rowley MA 01969*

as soon as possible, as it is necessary for Vincent to begin work quickly if the vessels are to be ready for our first Feast of Title and Dedication in September. A list of donations will be made and preserved; requests for anonymity will of course be honored.

Having just experienced the Holy Triduum, the liturgical contemplation of those mighty Acts by which our salvation was procured and which are celebrated at every Eucharist; and looking forward with great joy towards Deacon Liias' ordination to the Priesthood and our first Eucharist as a community, I hope you will prayerfully consider participating in creating this lasting memorial of the days we have, and are, living through.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin McDermott". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and "M".

Kevin McDermott