

From Father Kirby...

June 14, 2020

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! This Sunday, we have the third feast day in what is jokingly called “the trifecta,” namely, Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and now Corpus Christi. Having received the Holy Spirit and seen the face of the Triune God, we are now able to recognize and adore his Presence among us on earth. Today, we acknowledge and revere the Lord’s Presence as we show a proper and profound adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Congratulations to our new Catholics. Over the past few weeks, we have formally received many new people into the Church. Congratulations to each of them! May God bring to fulfillment the good work he has begun in them!

As announced last weekend, Pope Francis has named me one of his Missionaries of Mercy. There are only about 1,000 such Missionaries in the Church. Here’s a website that can help explain things: missionariesofmercyusa.org. I look forward to announcing when the Bishop will be on campus to bestow the *Decree of Appointment*.

This weekend, we return to our regular, permanent Mass schedule: Saturday evenings at 4:00 PM and 5:30 PM and Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM. For each mass, the number of worshippers is increased to 85 per Mass. With the quarantine still in effect, we will preserve our custom of celebrating Mass *ad orientem*. Once things stabilize further, this custom will be reevaluated.

In some other areas of the parish:

Please note our new parish website: gracewepray.org. A lot of work has gone into building this website. The site itself is still being constructed, but the major pages are complete! The staff will be working on the website for the next couple of months.

I was honored to work with Our Sunday Visitor on a new booklet, *A Pastoral Guide to Opening Your Parish*. The publisher asked for my assistance based on the work and effort we’re putting into opening our own parish. It seems that comparatively we’re doing things very well. This is encouraging, since I see the many things that we still need to do (or do better). I’m grateful, nonetheless, for the affirmation of our efforts! Go, Team Grace! Thank you, Staff!

As a help to understanding the multiple twists and turns of our current time, I’m launching a new show on Grace Lily. The show will air Monday – Thursday at 4:00 PM. It will be 20-30 minutes in length. The first show is this Monday, June 15. In the show, I’ll give updates, answer any questions from the parish, and give general reflections on our current state of affairs. The show will be available on our Grace Lily page after it airs, in case you want to watch it, but can’t tune in for it live.

More updates next weekend. Oremus pro invicem (let’s pray for one another)!