

From Father Kirby...

July 18, 2021

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! This year in Ordinary Time, we are hearing the Gospel of the Lord Jesus according to Saint Mark. This is the shortest of the four gospel books and has sometimes been called the “cliffs notes” of the Lord’s teachings.

Since it consists of sixteen short chapters, the Gospel of Mark can easily be read in a couple of hours. As we walk through the summer, I want to encourage you to pick up and read Mark’s Gospel. It’s in reading the gospels that we come to a greater knowledge and love of the Lord Jesus! Be sure to read the Gospels!

Some things happening around the parish:

The parish census continues. The staff are making phone calls to all currently registered parishioners who have not yet indicated their status with us. Please encourage any friends or neighbors you know to contact us if they have left or have recently been participating in the life of the parish.

There was a recent question raised about our new security measures (i.e., no use of the side doors, locking the main doors once Mass starts, etc). *I want to stress that these measures are all preventative.* There is no threat or active concern about the safety or well-being of our parish.

Currently, the operations staff and parish leaders are reviewing architectural firms to determine which company we want to work with as we begin the process to draft a master plan for [Catholic Land](#).

Don’t forget about our weekly Parish Holy Hour and Confessions on Monday evenings from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM. All are welcome!

This Tuesday, July 20, we will not have daily Mass at the parish. I’ll be away for some personal appointments and, regrettably, I was unable to find priest coverage for the Mass. The rosary, Saint Peregrine Novena, and Adoration will continue as usual.

Our weekly parish Bible Study is now on hiatus until August 4. As a reminder, all our Bible Study sessions can be found on our [Grace Lily](#) page.

The Mass this Thursday, July 22, will be in the church (and not at the columbarium). During the Mass, we’ll baptize Philomena Marlene, the newest daughter of our

Director of Operations. Everyone is welcome! As usual, our weekly Thursday fellowship will follow after the Mass.

Next weekend, July 24-25, there will be a blessing for grandparents at all the weekend Masses. The blessing is given in honor of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of the Lord Jesus, whose feast day is July 26.

As my Priestly Anniversary approaches, I'm asking for your help on a project, ["What Makes a Good Priest?"](#) Please consider sending in some thoughts!

As we move through the summer, please note that our entire [parish calendar](#) is available on our website.

As a reminder, every Sunday, I write a spirituality column on Crux. If anyone is interested, [here is the link](#) to the weekly columns.

Please be sure to read and review our revised and updated [Security/Safety Protocols for Parishioners](#) and [Church/Holy Communion Protocols](#).

More updates next week! Oremus pro invicem (let's pray for one another)!