

From Father Kirby...

July 25, 2021

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! As we continue to walk through Ordinary Time, Mother Church gives us various teachings of the Lord Jesus. Each selection is meant to help us encounter the Lord and recommit ourselves to him.

Today in our Gospel Reading, we hear about the five loaves and two fish and the amazing miracle of the Lord in feeding several thousand people! This shows us what God can do with even the smallest of offerings. Each of us, as his disciples, are called to surrender our lives to the Lord. We are summoned to give him our five loaves and two fish!

This weekend, we offer a blessing to all our grandparents in honor of Saints Joachim and Ann, the grandparents of our Lord. Thank you, grandparents, for your service to your families and our parish! Happy Feast Day!

This Sunday, after the 11:00 AM Mass, we'll have our monthly Fellowship Sunday. Please stop by to meet some of your fellow parishioners and have a few doughnuts! All are welcome!

Some things happening around the parish:

After all our Masses this weekend, free copies of the spiritual masterpiece, *The Imitation of Christ*, will be available in the narthex. The book is made possible by a generous donor. The work is a great resource for growth in the spiritual life. Be sure to pick up your copy!

This Tuesday, July 27, is my Anniversary of Priestly Ordination. We'll have our regular Noon Mass with a small fellowship afterwards in the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

Our weekly parish Bible Study is now on hiatus until September 15 (please note the adjusted date). As a reminder, all our Bible Study sessions can be found on our [Grace Lily](#) page.

On Friday, August 6, we will resume Nocturnal Adoration on the First Fridays of the month. This is a monumental effort of our community and it requires the involvement of many souls. Please consider signing up for an hour of prayer for this monthly all-night prayer vigil of our parish!

The parish census continues. This weekend, we're concluding our first round of phone calls. We hope to hear back from any remaining households within the next several days.

This past week, our Director of Operations and I had a meeting with diocesan officials about our next steps with [Catholic Land](#). The diocesan team was impressed with the work of the parish and very encouraging in terms of our hopes for the future. Our local operations team continues to review architectural firms to determine which company we want to work with on our master plan. More developments are forthcoming.

As we move through the year, 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)!