

From Father Kirby...

September 26, 2021

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

In the life of the Church, Ordinary Time is a blessed season for us to re-hear the Gospel and recommit ourselves to the Lord Jesus. With Saint Mark's Gospel to help us this year, we hear the call of the Lord to follow him. In our lives, let's once again say "yes" and generously follow him!

Some things happening around the parish:

Last weekend, our two Deacon Candidates received some of the rituals that move them along to ordination. Tom Heath received the Ministry of Acolyte. With this ministry, you'll now see Tom performing more duties at the altar. This is the last formal step before ordination. God willing, Tom will be ordained a Deacon in February, 2023. Also, Justin Barraco received formal Candidacy for Holy Orders. This is the first formal step to ordination. *Congratulations*, Tom and Justin!

This Sunday at our 11:00 AM Mass, we're giving a special blessing to our fellow parishioner, Dr. Angela "Angie" Letourneau. Angie was selected by the Holy Father, Pope Francis, to receive the high honor of the *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* award. It's our privilege to offer Angie a blessing on this occasion. *Congratulations*, Angie!

Our monthly Fellowship will be held this Sunday around 12:30 PM. We'll have a nice cake in honor of Angie Letourneau. All are welcome!

Sign-ups for our Nocturnal Adoration this coming Friday-Saturday, October 1-2, are in the narthex. Please give an hour of prayer to the Lord Jesus and your parish family!

Our First Friday Mass is this Friday, October 1, at 7:00 PM. Confessions are available from about 8:00 PM – Midnight.

Our First Saturday Healing Mass is this Saturday, October 2, at 11:00 AM. Anyone in need of the Anointing of the Sick is encouraged to come. Confessions are from 10:00 – 10:30 AM.

Please remember our fellow parishioner, Sister Therese Marie (Molly Rusciolelli). Sister has completed the novitiate of the [Franciscan Daughters of Mary](#) and will be making her First Vows on October 2! *Congratulations*, Sister!

Next Sunday, October 3, at 2:00 PM, we'll have our annual Blessing of Pets in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi. All pets – large and small – are welcome! Ice cream will be served after the blessing.

Last weekend, we mistakenly identified the Saint Clare Home as the recipient for the charitable portion of our tithe. The recipient was actually HOPE in Lancaster. The Saint Clare Home will receive the tithe on October 1-2.

Our Operations Director continues to work and interface with [Wagner Murray Architects](#) as we initiate our Master Plan for [Catholic Land](#). *Please be a part of this process!* We are holding two Parish Town Hall Meetings on October 19, one at 1:30 PM and another at 7:00 PM. Please attend one of these sessions and voice your thoughts and ideas! This is the future of our parish!

Please note that from Monday – Thursday, October 4-7, I'll be away on the annual priest retreat. We will not have public daily Mass or Confessions on those days. The Rosary, Adoration, and devotions will still be held Monday- Wednesday. On Thursday, October 7, however, the church and Parish Office will be closed and no devotions or events will take place.

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)!

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