

From Father Kirby...

July 3, 2022

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

We continue our walk through Ordinary Time and through the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. As a reminder, for this portion of Ordinary Time, we're going to walk through the sections of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* on the Eucharist. This is a part of our parish's observance of the National Eucharistic Revival. As a reminder, the Revival is sponsored by the US Bishops, who are addressing the widespread disbelief in the Real Presence of the Lord Jesus in the Eucharist. More information on the National Eucharistic Revival can be [found here](#).

Happy Birthday to our beloved homeland, the United States of America! May God bless our nation and keep us always in his grace!

As is our custom here at Our Lady of Grace, our parish campus will be closed the week of or after July 4. For this year, that will be from July 4-7. This time serves as vacation opportunity and/or planning and preparation time for our parish staff. All public events are suspended on these days. There will be no public Masses or Confessions on these days.

Some things happening around the parish:

This weekend, there are copies of my recent book on social issues, [*Sanctify Them in Truth: How the Church's Social Doctrine Addresses the Issues of Our Time*](#). The book is available for purchase. It addresses pressing social issues from the perspective of our faith.

Our new program and fiscal year began on July 1. Please note our new [calendar for the program year](#) 2022/2023 is now posted on our parish website. The calendar describes all of our events and programs for the coming year. It is posted as a resource to you, so that you'll know what - and when - we'll be doing things this year.

On Saturday, July 16, at 11:00 AM Mass, we'll have our annual Scapular Mass in honor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. All are welcome. Those present will have the opportunity to be invested, or re-invested, in the Brown Scapular.

Some other future events I'd like to highlight:

On Tuesday, July 19, at our Noon daily Mass, the newly ordained transitional Deacon Peter Rusciollelli will serve and preach the Mass. Many of us have watched Peter go through his time of formation. This is a blessed opportunity for us to see him serve as a Deacon!

In response to a direct request of our Bishop, the parish will be starting a new Adoration time on Thursdays from 10:15 AM – 11:15 AM. The Holy Hour is for vocations to the priesthood. It will begin on Thursday, July 14. All are welcome!

In honor of Saints Joachim and Ann, the grandparents of our Lord, we will offer a special blessing to all grandparents at our weekend Masses on July 23-24.

On Sunday, July 24, at 12:15 PM, we will have our parish summer Ice Cream Social. We're going to have ice cream, whip cream, candies, and other toppings. It's going to be ice cream galore! All are welcome! Bring a friend!

Also on Sunday, July 24, we will have a Blood Drive here at the parish from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. As a pro-life people, I encourage all parishioners to regularly give blood. For those interested in giving blood on July 24, please [visit this website](#).

On Wednesday, July 27, our daily Mass will be at 7:00 PM. The Mass will be in honor of my 15th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination. While it's difficult to personally celebrate anything this year, as my family and I grieve the loss of my father, I realize this is about the priesthood and merits to be publicly celebrated. And so, we turn to the altar together. It will be a consolation to celebrate this anniversary with each of you, my parish family. I pray many of you can join me for this Mass.

I'm happy to announce that next summer, June 2023, I'll be hosting a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Rome. Here's an [invitatory video](#). And here's [the link](#) to the website with more information. Please note this is not a parish pilgrimage. I am taking this pilgrimage on vacation time and inviting others to join me. Other friends and supporters will come from other parts of the country and be a part of the pilgrimage.

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

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

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