

From Father Kirby...

June 26, 2022

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

After so many feast days, it's good to be back in Ordinary Time. The season allows us to re-hear the Gospel and re-commit ourselves to the Lord Jesus and his way!

This past Friday, the United States reclaimed its birthright! The Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, ruling that there is no constitutional right to abortion. Thanks be to God!

The decision of legal abortion now goes to the individual states. Of course, our own state of South Carolina is adamantly pro-life. We need to pray for North Carolina, however, which is more divided on this issue.

As I mentioned last weekend, 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](#).

Some things happening around the parish:

This weekend after all the Masses, we have sign-ups for our monthly Nocturnal Adoration (July 1-2). Please be generous with your time and give the Lord an hour of prayer!

This weekend at our 11:00 AM Mass, we will honor the life and legacy of Saint Josemaria Escriva, whose feast day is June 26. Blessings with the relic of the saint will be available after the Mass. Free copies of the book, *The Way*, will also be available after Mass. The book is a collection of the saint's sayings and wisdom.

Our monthly Fellowship Sunday is this Sunday at 12:15 PM. All are welcome to join us for doughnuts and fellowship!

Please note that our parish Bible Study, High School Formation program, and Middle School Formation program have all concluded for the year. They will resume in the early Fall.

This coming Friday, July 1, we will have our monthly Mass of the Sacred Heart at 7:00 PM. Confessions will follow after the Mass and be heard until Midnight.

This coming Saturday, July 2, we will have our monthly Healing Mass with the Anointing of the Sick at 11:00 AM.

Some other future events I'd like to highlight:

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

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.

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 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.

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.

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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