

From Father Kirby...

July 17, 2022

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

As a parish family, we continue to walk through Ordinary Time and the various 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.

Some things happening around the parish:

I'm happy to announce that our Bishop has asked our parish to take on the pastoral care of the Catholic inmates of the [Kershaw Correctional Institution](#). In many respects, this is an answer to my long-standing prayer of how we can live as a parish "field hospital of mercy." This past week, I received guidance from diocesan leadership on the goals and expectations of our outreach. My task is now to discern our ministry and create a pastoral plan. I will communicate more as things are formalized. Please pray for this discernment and for those who are incarcerated!

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.

At our Noon daily Mass this Tuesday, July 19, 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! All are welcome! A reception will follow the Mass. There are no Confessions on Tuesday.

Some other future events I'd like to highlight:

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 this Thursday, July 21. All are welcome!

This coming Saturday, July 23 from 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM, we have our next parish Prayer Outreach at the local abortion facility. *All parishioners are strongly encouraged to come and join us in this peaceful, prayerful protest against abortion.* The facility is located at 3220 Latrobe Drive, Charlotte, NC. There is a free bus available from the parish. Please see the Front Office to sign up for the bus.

In honor of Saints Joachim and Ann, the grandparents of our Lord, we will offer a special blessing to all grandparents at our Masses next weekend (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.

In observance of the National Eucharistic Revival, our parish will host a display of the Church's Eucharistic Miracles on August 13-14. The display will be held in the Parish Hall and will be available after all our weekend Masses.

Please note that the obligation for the Solemnity of the Assumption (August 15) is lifted this year. The holy day falls on a Monday, and so the Church dispenses from the obligation to participate in Mass. As such, we will only have our regular Noon Mass on August 15. All are welcome!

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 Protocols](#).

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

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