

From Father Kirby...

April 30, 2023

Happy Easter, Team Grace! As Christians, we continue to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus. While the secular world goes on with its business, we are still present before the empty tomb rejoicing in the victory of the Lord Jesus over sin and death. Happy Easter!

Our homily series for the Easter Season will be on the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church's formal daily prayers.

It's a joy to be back at the parish! The National Gathering of Papal Missionaries of Mercy was rejuvenating and informative, but there's no place like home. You were missed, Team Grace! It's good to be back!

This weekend, we have sign-ups for our Nocturnal Adoration next weekend, May 5-6. Please be generous with your time and give the Lord an hour of prayer.

Here are some things happening at the parish this week:

Starting this Monday, May 1, I'll be offering free daily reflections through the *Morning Offering* of the Catholic Company. By signing up, you'll receive spiritual encouragement sent right to your in-box every morning. Sign up at morningoffering.com.

The Bishop will be here this Tuesday, May 2, for Confirmation. The Mass is at 7:00 PM. *All parishioners are asked to come and be a part of the Mass.* This is our new Bishop's first visit to Our Lady of Grace. Let's show him a warm welcome!

This Wednesday, May 3, is our final faith formation session of this program year. After Wednesday, we go on our regular summer hiatus until the early Fall.

This Friday, May 5, we have our monthly Mass of the Sacred Heart at 7:00 PM. After the Mass, Confessions are heard until Midnight.

This coming Saturday, May 6, we have our monthly Healing Mass at 11:00 AM. Anyone in need of the Anointing of the Sick is encouraged to come. Confessions will be heard before the Mass from 9:00 AM until 10:30 AM. Our prayer teams and free parish brunch will follow the Mass. All are welcome!

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.

I'd like to encourage every household of the parish to register for [FORMED](#). This is a free digital platform with family friendly content.

Some other future events I'd like to highlight:

On the weekend of May 13-14, for Mother's Day, we'll offer a special Mother's Day blessing to mothers at all our weekend Masses.

Our annual May Procession and Crowning will be at the beginning of our 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday, May 21. Parishioners are asked to come around 10:45 AM, park their vehicles, and meet up at the flags at the entrance of our campus. The Procession is a beautiful way to honor Our Lady. All are welcome!

Our parish May Picnic will be on Sunday, May 21, around 12:30 PM. We'll have a live band, hamburgers, hot dogs, ice cream, and a lot of fun! All are welcome!

On Wednesday evening, May 31, at 7:00 PM, author and speaker Gary Zimak will give a presentation on Our Lady. Gary has visited our parish before and has always been very well received by you. I hope many of you can come and hear more about the glories of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

This coming October, 2023, I'll be hosting a pilgrimage to Fatima, Spain, and Lourdes. Here's the [link to the travel agency 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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Daily Reflections are available through MorningOffering.com.