

From Father Kirby...

June 4, 2023

Happy Trinity Sunday, Team Grace! Today, the Church directs our attention to the mystery of God and calls us to a deeper worship of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

I hope everyone started some version or variation of the Liturgy of the Hours this past week. It's never too late to start! Be sure to join in the ancient and beautiful daily prayer of the Church!

Here are some things happening at the parish this week:

Due to your generosity, we were able to give [HOPE in Lancaster](#) a \$40,000 charitable donation in honor of their 40th anniversary. The donation was drawn from our charitable fund and from our revenue surplus this fiscal year. We are blessed to partner with HOPE in the service of those in need.

In the narthex this week, two of my recent books of prayer are available for purchase. The book, *Be Not Troubled*, is a six-day at-home retreat on living in the present moment, and *Manual for Suffering* is a concise summary of our theology of redemptive suffering and a treasury of prayer and spiritual resources.

This week at the parish, the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) will be on-site for the recording on a new miniseries on the Brown Scapular. The recording will not interfere with any of our regularly scheduled Masses or events. You will, however, see a lot of recording set-ups in the nave.

As a reminder, our Thursday morning holy hours are now on hiatus for the summer. I encourage parishioners to come to Adoration on Monday evenings, or on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons.

Next weekend, June 10-11, the parish will host a Food Drive for [HOPE in Lancaster](#). The outreach is requesting the following items: Juice (64 oz or bigger), canned beef stew or any canned meat, and jelly (no glass jars). Please bring these items with you to Mass. You can drop them off at the pavilion before Mass begins. Members of our Helping Hands ministry will be on-site to assist you.

Next Sunday, June 11, the parish is happy to sponsor two blood buses! Yes, Team Grace, we have exceeded one bus and require two buses to cover the number of our blood donors. [Please sign up to give blood here.](#)

Next Sunday, June 11, in honor of Corpus Christi, we'll have a special Eucharistic Procession after our 11:00 AM Mass. All are welcome! After the procession, we'll have some ice cream trucks on campus for our enjoyment!

Our culture tells us that June is "Pride Month." As Christians, we disagree. The *National Catholic Register* ran my column, [*What Love Is – And What It Is Not*](#). It might help you in responding to the aggression of the LGBTQ+ movement. As a reminder, Christians are not to participate in any activities, rallies, or other events that normalize disordered behavior and ways of life. Please pray for those who suffer from same-sex attraction and gender dysphoria.

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.

Periodically, I'm asked for resources to find a good Catholic therapist. The best resource I can recommend is [Catholic Counselors](#), which is a group of Catholic therapists who give digital therapy and life coaching. I would direct any parishioner to this group. If any parishioner needs financial assistance for counseling, the parish is happy to provide whatever assistance is needed. Please email me directly: Jeffrey.kirby@charlestondiocese.org.

Some other future events I'd like to highlight:

This summer, I'll be away on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Rome from June 12-23. While I'm away, [Father Colin Blatchford](#) will be here at the parish. The parish's liturgical and devotional schedule will remain unchanged. All Masses and Confession times are the same.

On Friday, June 16, at 3:00 PM, the parish will participate in the Annual Global Rosary Relay. [Watch the promotional video here](#). Deacon Heath will lead a solemn rosary in the church. The rosary will also be livestreamed on Grace Lily.

On Wednesday, June 21, at 7:00 PM, Father Blatchford will give a talk on "Transgenderism and the Catholic Church." Father Blatchford is the associate national chaplain of [Courage International](#), which is the Church's outreach to those who have same-sex attractions and gender dysphoria.

On Friday, June 30, at 7:00 PM, Father Gerald Murray will give a talk at the parish entitled: “Calming the Storm: Navigating the Crises Facing the Catholic Church and Society.” A reception will follow the event and copies of Father Murray’s book (of the same title) will be given out for free.

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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Twitter: @fatherkirby

Patreon: The show, [The Bible with Father Kirby](#) (Wednesdays at 6:30 PM)

Podcast: *Truth be Bold*: On [Spotify](#), [Apple Podcast](#), and [Good Catholic](#)

Daily Reflections are available through MorningOffering.com.