

From Father Kirby...

June 18, 2023

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! Greetings from the Holy Land, where our Lord walked, taught, healed, and offered himself up for our salvation. It is a blessing to be here and to pray for our parish family in these holy places!

While it is good to be here, I look very forward to heading home and arriving back at the parish this coming Friday, June 23.

This Sunday, we are finally back in Ordinary Time. This is the liturgical season in which we re-hear the Gospel and are called by the Church to re-commit ourselves to the Lord Jesus. How is your discipleship going? How do you plan on using this summer to draw closer to the Lord?

Happy Father's Day to all our dads! May the Lord bless you for your selfless service to your families!

I'm grateful to [Father Colin Blatchford](#) for covering our parish Masses, Confessions, and devotionals. I'm also grateful to Ryan Kubic, our Lay Administrator, and my amazing staff for the constant attentiveness and care they give to each of you and to our parish mission!

Some things happening at the parish that I'd like to highlight this week:

This 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 Saturday, June 24, we have our next prayer outreach at the local abortion facility. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to come and join in our peaceful, prayerful protest against the horror of abortion. The facility is located at: 3220 Latrobe Drive, Charlotte, NC. The parish offers a free bus to any parishioner or household. Please stop by the Front Office or drop us an email for a seat on the bus.

Next Sunday, June 25, we have our monthly Fellowship Sunday around 12:15 PM. Please come and join your fellow parishioners for donuts and conversation.

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@charlestdiocese.org.

Some other future events I'd like to highlight:

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.

Some of you may already know, but I now co-host *Truth Be Bold*, which is a podcast on contemporary issues facing Christian disciples. Compliments of [Good Catholic](#), the podcast is free. Recent episodes have addressed the Beatitudes, pornography, cohabitation, transgenderism, and many other topics. The podcast is free and can be found in any of the following places: [Spotify](#), [Apple Podcast](#), and [Good Catholic](#).

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 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](#).