

From Father Kirby...

July 23, 2023

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! We continue our walk through Ordinary Time. I encourage each of you to use this time to recommit yourself to the Lord Jesus and his most excellent way of love.

In honor of Saint Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of the Lord Jesus, the parish is happy to give a special blessing to all our grandparents during this weekend's Masses (July 22-23).

This Sunday, July 23, around 12:30 PM, the parish will have its annual Summer Ice Cream Social. The social will be marked by a visit from an Indian Land fire truck, fire hats for kids, games, activities, Root Beer floats, free t-shirt giveaways, and a whole lot of ice cream! The event is free. *All are welcome!*

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

This Wednesday, July 26, I'll be participating in a digital evening program hosted by Good Catholic. I'll give a presentation, as well as Catholic therapist, [Dr. Mario Sacasa](#). The event is entitled, [Find Freedom from Anxiety](#). Please tune in if you think this digital event could help you or a loved one. [You can sign up here](#).

This Thursday, July 27, I'll be celebrating my 16th anniversary of Priestly Ordination. A small fellowship is planned after our Noon daily Mass that day. All are welcome!

Our new Sacred Heart Homeschool Co-op begins this September 12 for elementary Grades K – 5. The Co-op will meet at Our Lady of Grace on Tuesdays from 10:15 AM – 2:00 PM in the Parish Hall. If you are interested, please contact Mary Ellen Wolfe at mail sacredheartindianland@gmail.com

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 good Catholic, family-friendly content. I also want to strongly encourage every household to join [EWTN OnDemand](#), which is another free digital platform whose content is supportive of our faith.

Some other future events I'd like to highlight:

Next weekend, July 29-30, the parish is happy to welcome a priest of [FOCUS](#) to celebrate and preach our weekend Masses. FOCUS is the Church's outreach to Catholic college and university students. Many of you might remember our last visit by a FOCUS priest. It's been a little while, and so it's good to host another FOCUS priest and be reminded of the Church's extensive outreach and efforts to minister to Catholic young people in the college and university systems of our country.

While we host a FOCUS priest here at the parish, I'll be away speaking at the [Defending the Faith conference](#) at the Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Our next First Friday and First Saturday are August 4-5. Please plan to join us for Nocturnal Adoration.

On August 12-13, the parish will host a School Supply Drive. All school supplies are needed. Please bring popular school supplies with you to Mass that weekend. You can drop off any items at the pavilion before Mass. Members of our Helping Hands ministry will be there to assist you.

On Sunday, August 13, the parish will once again host two blood buses. I ask that all parishioners please consider giving blood. As a pro-life people this is one of the important things we're called to do! Please do what you can. Sign-ups are required. [You can sign up here.](#)

On the weekend of August 19-20, the parish will host a [display on the Eucharistic Miracles](#). After all the Masses that weekend, parishioners are invited to visit the Parish Hall and peruse the display. The miracles can be a great help to deepening our belief in the Lord's True Presence in the Eucharist.

On Friday, September 8, the parish will be hosting a one-day visit to Belmont Abbey. I've spoken about the witness and prayer routine of the monks before. This visit will be an opportunity to see it in person! More details are forthcoming.

I'd like to give the parish an update on developments relating to Catholic Land and our current campus. I'd like for everyone to have the opportunity to ask questions and give comments. As such, the parish will host two Town Hall sessions on Wednesday, September 27. One Town Hall session will be at 1:00 PM and the other

will be at 6:30 PM. The same content will be presented at each session. There are two sessions so that more people can attend.

Some general announcements for the good of the parish:

The Bishop would like to invite all medical doctors and nurses to spend October 21 with him in prayer and formation. [Here is the invitation.](#)

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.

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

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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](#).