

March 24, 2024

From Father Kirby...

Happy Palm Sunday, Team Grace! Today, we celebrate the triumphal entrance of the Lord Jesus – son of David – into the Holy City Jerusalem! Today, the Lord Jesus claims his inheritance to the messianic shouts of “Hosanna” and the throwing of palms. Jesus is Lord. He has come to usher in our salvation. Rejoice! Hosanna! Rejoice!!

This Sunday, March 24, we’ll have our Spring Fest around 12:30 PM. The fest includes food, a petting zoo, and pony rides for children! *All are welcome!*

This weekend, we have sign-ups for our Nocturnal Adoration *on April 5*. Please note the sign-ups are for almost two weeks away. We didn’t want to do sign-ups on Easter and so we’re doing them this weekend. Please also note that, due to our Diocesan Eucharistic Congress on April 6, our Adoration on Friday, April 5, ends at Midnight.

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

Our Wednesday faith formation programs are now on Spring hiatus until Wednesday, April 10.

Here is our schedule for this coming week, which is Holy Week:

- Monday, March 25, the parish is open. We’ll have the Miraculous Medal Novena at 5:30 PM, followed by Adoration with Benediction at 7:00 PM. There is no evening Mass or Confessions since Father Kirby will be traveling to Charleston for the Chrism Mass with the Bishop.
- Tuesday, March 26, our parish campus is closed. Father Kirby and senior staff will be attending the Chrism Mass in Charleston.
- Spy Wednesday, March 27, Confessions will be heard from 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM and then 12:45 PM until last penitent. Mass is at Noon with the Saint Dymphna Novena and Adoration afterwards.
- Holy Thursday, March 28, the Mass of the Lord’s Supper will be at 7:00 PM. The Altar of Repose and Confessions will follow the Mass and continue until 11:50 PM. *There is no Noon Mass on Holy Thursday.*

- Good Friday, March 29, Confessions are from 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM and then 4:30 PM until 8:00 PM. Solemn Stations of the Cross are at Noon. The Liturgy of the Lord's Passion is at 3:00 PM.
- Holy Saturday, March 30, the Great Easter Vigil is at 8:30 PM. *There is no 4:00 PM or 5:30 PM Masses on Holy Saturday.* A "Resurrection Party" will be held in the Parish Hall after the Easter Vigil.
- Easter Sunday, March 31, Masses are at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

As is our custom here at the parish, the campus and church are closed the week after Easter, Monday – Thursday, April 1- 4.

Please note our [calendar for the program year](#) 2023/2024 is posted on our parish website. The calendar describes all our events and programs for the year.

Some other future events I'd like to highlight:

As we begin to prepare for our parish's participation in our Diocesan Eucharistic Congress on Saturday, April 6, please note the following:

- Our First Friday Adoration on April 5 will conclude at Midnight.
- We will have no Confessions and no Healing Mass on First Saturday, April 6.
- All other First Saturday observances are suspended on April 6.
- Our Saturday evening Masses on Saturday, April 6, are suspended. We will not have Masses on Saturday evening, April 6, since the parish will be in Columbia for the Eucharistic Congress.

On Sunday, April 7, we'll have our annual Divine Mercy Service from 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM. We'll have Eucharistic Adoration, Confessions, the singing of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, readings from Saint Faustina's *Diary*, and other devotions. All are welcome!

As a Papal Missionary of Mercy, I'm sometimes asked to assist as a confessor/spiritual director for priest retreats. On Monday – Thursday, April 8-11, I'll be serving in this capacity at a national priest retreat in Austin, Texas. Please remember the priest retreatants in your prayers!

On Monday evening, April 8, our 5:30 PM Mass is cancelled. We'll still have the rosary at 5:00 PM. The Miraculous Medal Novena will be prayed at 5:30 PM and

our evening Adoration time will follow afterwards until 6:55 PM. At 6:55 PM, one of our parish deacons will give Benediction.

On Tuesday – Thursday, April 9-11, Father Bob Morey will be here at the parish. He'll offer the daily Masses and hear daily Confessions. Our parish schedule remains the same for devotions and other events.

On Wednesday evening, April 10, during our regular adult formation time, 6:30 – 7:45 PM, Dr. John Acquaviva will give a guest presentation on themes relating to sports.

Please note there are no Confessions on Wednesday evening, April 10.

Some general announcements for the good of the parish:

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.

As a reminder, our parish staff can be readily reached via email. [Here is the staff directory](#).

As a reminder, *starting Saturday, April 13, we're only going to have a 5:00 PM Saturday evening Mass.*

Starting on Saturday, April 13, we'll have Solemn Vespers at 4:00 PM on Saturdays. Everyone is encouraged to come and join in the Evening Prayer of the Church!

Confessions will still be heard from 3:00 – 3:30 PM on Saturdays, as well as during our regular times throughout the week.

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

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Radio Show: *Of First Importance*, [RadioMariaUS](#)

Weekly spirituality column: <https://cruxnow.com/author/fr-jeff-kirby>

Daily Reflections available through [MorningOffering.com](#).