

June 9, 2024

From Father Kirby...

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! We are now back in Ordinary Time. As we know, this is the liturgical season that focuses on our discipleship. We are invited to ask ourselves honestly where we stand with the Lord Jesus and then commit ourselves to go deeper in our relationship with him.

This weekend, we welcome to our parish Sister Maris Stella, OP, and Sister Emma, OP, of the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia in Nashville, TN. The Sisters are visiting our parish for the weekend! *Welcome, Sisters!* Please join us this afternoon, Sunday, June 9, at 12:15 PM for a special “Fellowship with the Sisters!” All are welcome!

Some things happening at the parish this week:

This coming June 9 -20, I’ll be away on pilgrimage visiting the holy places of France. I’ll carry each of you with me throughout the pilgrimage! *This weekend in the narthex, there are sheets out for any parishioner who would like to write down their intentions.* The intentions will be put in a binder and placed on the altar during all the Masses throughout the holy places of the pilgrimage.

This coming Monday – Thursday, June 10-13, there will be no Confessions or public Masses at the parish. The rosary, novenas, and our Adoration times will still all take place. Here’s the schedule for the week:

- Monday, June 10: Rosary at 5:00 PM; Miraculous Medal Novena at 5:30 PM; Adoration from 5:45 PM – 7:00 PM.
- Tuesday, June 11: Rosary at 11:30 AM; Saint Peregrine Novena at 12 Noon; Adoration from 12:15 PM – 2:15 PM; Benediction at 2:15 PM.
- Wednesday, June 12: Rosary at 11:30 AM; Saint Dymphna Novena at 12 Noon; Adoration from 12:15 PM – 2:15 PM; Benediction at 2:15 PM.
- Thursday, June 13: Rosary at 11:30 AM; Divine Mercy Chaplet at 12 Noon. No fellowship.

Next Saturday – Sunday, June 15-16, Father Colin Blatchford from [Courage International](#) will be visiting our parish again. He’ll hear Saturday evening’s Confessions and offer our weekend Masses. *Welcome, Father Blatchford!*

On Monday – Thursday, June 17-20, Father Blatchford will stay at our parish and cover our daily Confessions and Masses. There are no changes to our liturgical and devotional schedule this week. *Thank you, Father Blatchford!*

The [calendar for the program year](#) 2024/2025 is posted on our parish website. The calendar describes all our events and programs for the year. This is posted for your reference and information.

Some other future events I'd like to highlight:

Our next prayer outreach at the local abortion facility is Saturday, June 22, at 8:30 AM. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to join us in this peaceful, prayerful protest against abortion. The facility is located at 3220 Latrobe Drive, Charlotte, NC.

Our next monthly Fellowship Sunday is Sunday, June 23, at 12:15 PM. Come and join your fellow parishioners for conversation and donuts!

Please note that the parish campus and office will be closed on Wednesday, July 3 – Thursday, July 4, in honor of our nation's Independence Day. There is no public Mass on these days and all other events are suspended.

Our next First Friday and First Saturday are July 5-6. Please plan ahead and make arrangements to give an hour of prayer during our parish's Nocturnal Adoration.

The parish is happy to host a three-day pilgrimage on August 21-23 to the holy places in Washington, DC. The pilgrimage will include a visit to the John Paul II Shrine. [Here's the flyer](#) for more information. Please note the deadline in mid-June.

Some general announcements for the good of the parish:

Thank you to everyone who made donations toward new liturgical vestments for our parish. I'm grateful for your support to 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.

This Fall, from October 20-29, 2024, I'll be hosting a personal pilgrimage to the holy places of Ireland. I know that many of you, like myself, come from Irish stock and

this pilgrimage could be a way for all of us to connect to the spiritual portions of our cultural roots. The pilgrimage will include visits to Wicklow, Glendalough, Tipperary, Rock of Cashel, Kerry, Dingle Peninsula, Shannon, Cliffs Of Moher, Corcomroe Abbey, Galway, Corrib Lake, Clonmacnoise, Dublin, and especially the Shrine at Knock. The pilgrimage will also include a special Mass at one of the noted “Mass rocks,” which were used by hidden priests during the persecution of our Faith. [Here's a link](#) for more information on the pilgrimage!

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

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

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