

June 16, 2024

From Father Kirby...

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! Greetings from the Shrine of the Miraculous Medal in Paris, where today I celebrated Mass for our parish family! Please know that you all are with me throughout the various holy places of this pilgrimage!

Happy Father's Day to all the dads in the parish! May God bless you for the love and selfless service you give to your families!

This weekend, June 15-16, we welcome Father Colin Blatchford from [Courage International](#) back to Our Lady of Grace! Father Blatchford will hear Confessions and offer our weekend Masses. *Welcome, Father Blatchford!*

Some things happening at the parish this week:

This 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!*

Our next prayer outreach at the local abortion facility is next 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.

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 monthly Fellowship Sunday is next 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.

Recently, I recorded a miniseries on the Brown Scapular with EWTN. The miniseries will run from Monday – Friday, July 8-12, at 5:30 PM each night. The miniseries can be watched when it initially airs, or any time later on [EWTN OnDemand](#).

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.

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)!

Email: Jeffrey.Kirby@charlestandiocese.org

Website: www.frkirby.com

Twitter: [@fatherkirby](https://twitter.com/fatherkirby)

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

Daily Reflections available through MorningOffering.com.