

June 30, 2024

From Father Kirby...

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! We're moving along through Ordinary Time. Every day we're given an opportunity to deepen in our discipleship. I encourage everyone to hear the Gospel again and recommit yourselves to Jesus Christ.

This week, we celebrate our Independence Day as a nation. May God continue to bless and protect the United States of America! Our recessional hymn will be a patriotic hymn in honor of our country. Our parish campus and office will be closed this coming Wednesday, July 3 – Thursday, July 4, in observance of the national holiday. There is no public Mass on these days and all other events are suspended.

This weekend, we have sign-ups for our Nocturnal Adoration this coming Friday – Saturday, July 5-6. Please be generous with your time and give an hour of prayer to the Lord and your parish family.

Some things happening at the parish this week:

Congratulations to Ryan Kubic, our Lay Administrator. Ryan recently completed the esteemed *Certificate in Church Management* from Villanova University. Thank you, Ryan, for studying and working so diligently for our parish!

This Friday evening, July 5, at 7:00 PM, we have our monthly Sacred Heart Mass. Confessions begin after the Mass and continue until Midnight.

This Saturday morning, July 6, we have Confessions from 9:00 – 10:30 AM, the rosary at 10:30 AM, our monthly Healing Mass with the Anointing of the Sick at 11:00 AM, and then our intercessory prayer teams in the church and our parish brunch in the Parish Hall after the Mass.

Work continues on our parish columbarium. The support wall is done and now the contractors are working on the electrical connections and the pavers.

Our new parish website is still under construction. We'll have the first mock-up presented to leadership next week. Our goal is to have the new website up and running before our Fall programming begins.

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:

The preparation for investiture (or devotional re-investiture) in the Brown Scapular of Our Lady begins on Monday, July 8. If you plan to be invested (or re-invested) in the Brown Scapular on July 16, the feast day of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, then it's recommended you make the nine-day preparation. My recent book, [A Journey to Mount Carmel: A Nine-Day Preparation for Investiture in the Brown Scapular of Our Lady](#), can be a resource and help for the preparation.

As a Papal Missionary of Mercy, I'm periodically called to assist as a confessor and spiritual director for priest retreats. This July 8-11, I'll be assisting at a retreat in Wheeling, West Virginia. Father Robert Morey will be covering our daily Masses and Confessions while I'm away. *Welcome back, Father Morey!*

Recently, I recorded a miniseries on the Brown Scapular with ETWN. 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.

Due to some unexpected pastoral duties this October, I've regrettably had to cancel my planned pilgrimage to Ireland. Later next year, however, I'll be hosting a [pilgrimage to Italy in March](#) for the Jubilee Year and a [pilgrimage in the footsteps of Saint Paul](#) (Greece and Turkey) in June. I'll post more information on these pilgrimages in the weeks to come.

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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