

September 29, 2024

From Father Kirby...

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! We continue to follow the way of the Lord Jesus. Ordinary Time is an opportunity to assess our discipleship. As a part of this examination, it's a good and spiritually healthy thing to ask ourselves hard questions and make strong resolutions so that we can draw closer to the Lord.

This weekend, we have sign-ups for our Nocturnal Adoration this coming Friday evening and Saturday morning, October 4-5. Please be generous with your time and give an hour of prayer to the Lord and your parish family.

The formal blessing of the new Holy Angels Columbarium will happen after the 11:00 AM Mass this Sunday, September 29. All are invited to come for the blessing and share in fellowship afterwards!

Regrettably, due to the weather this past week, we were not able to move the column from our old columbarium to the new columbarium. As such, all those resting in our new Holy Angels Columbarium will remain in their temporary niches until we can move the column. It is our great hope to move the column this coming week.

During the fellowship this Sunday, we'll have three important booths: Sandy Petrizzo from our Business Office will be available for anyone who wishes to purchase a niche; Monty Bennett, our parish Funeral Coordinator, will be available with funeral pre-planning packets; and a representative from [Heritage Funeral Homes](#) (which is our preferred funeral home as a parish) will be available to initiate pre-planning with them. I'm happy to announce that Heritage will give a 10% discount to anyone who initiates a pre-planning process with them during our fellowship event.

Some things happening at the parish this week:

As a Papal Missionary of Mercy, I am periodically expected to be at priest retreats as a confessor and spiritual director. As such, I'll be away this week assisting at a priest retreat in Orlando, Florida, from Monday – Thursday, September 30 - October 3. Please remember to pray for your priests!

While I'm away, Father Robert Morey will hear Confessions and offer the Masses this coming Monday – Wednesday, September 30- October 2.

Please note, however, that there will be no Wednesday evening Confessions this coming Wednesday, October 2.

Please also note that there will be no Mass this coming Thursday, October 3.

There will still be Morning Prayer (Lauds) at 10:00 AM this Thursday (October 3) and we'll have the Rosary at 11:30 AM and the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 12:00 PM. But there is no Fellowship this coming Thursday.

Our next Saint Paula Dinner for Widows is this coming Tuesday, October 1, at 5:00 PM. The group will meet in the Parish Hall. Carrie Scibelli will facilitate the meeting and our Deacon Candidate, Binh Davis, will talk about his journey of faith and his path to the diaconate. All widows are invited to come! Please bring your Liturgy of the Hours book with you.

As we begin our new program year, we're now able to record and post our Wednesday evening Bible Study on my YouTube page, [Daily Discipleship](#). The study is not live but is usually posted later on Wednesday evenings.

This coming Friday evening, October 4, we'll have our monthly Mass of Sacred Heart at 7:00 PM. Adoration begins after the Mass and continues until 10:20 AM on Saturday. Also after the Mass, Confessions begin and continue until Midnight.

This coming Saturday, October 5, we'll have our monthly Healing Mass with the Anointing of the Sick at 11:00 AM. Confessions precede the Mass from 9:00 AM – 10:20 AM. After the Mass, we'll have the relic of Saint Faustina available for veneration. We'll also have our intercessory prayer teams and our monthly parish brunch. All are welcome!

Next Sunday, October 6, we'll have our annual Rosary Procession before our 11:00 AM Mass. *All parishioners are strongly encouraged to come and honor Our Lady and her holy Rosary!* Parishioners are asked to join us near the flags at the entrance of our campus around 10:45 AM.

Also, next Sunday at 2:00 PM, we'll have our annual Blessing of Pets in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi at the pavilion. All pet owners are invited to bring their pets! Ice cream will be served after the blessing!

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:

On Monday, October 7, our parish Rosarians will meet for a Day of Recollection. The Rosarians are the men and women who lead the public rosary at our parish. We're thankful for their prayerful service to us! *Thank you, Rosarians!* If anyone would like to become a Rosarian, please reach out to Barbara Bancker: bbbancker@yahoo.com.

For the weekend of October 12-13, the parish will be hosting a Food Drive for [HOPE in Lancaster](#). The outreach center is asking for three specific items: dry cereal, canned pasta (Chef Boyardee), and 64oz juice (plastic bottles please). All parishioners are asked to participate in the drive. Please bring the food with you to Mass and drop it off at the pavilion before you come into the church. Members of our Helping Hands ministry will be at the pavilion to help you. Thank you!

On Sunday, October 13, the parish will host two blood buses. Please be generous and sign up to give blood! As a pro-life people, we are called to serve life and this involves many things, including giving blood. Sign-ups are required. [Here's the link](#).

The diocesan priest retreat will be Monday - Thursday, October 14-17. I will be away with our Bishop and the priests of the diocese. There are no public Masses that week.

Our new parish website is still under construction but moving closer to completion. We hope to have something up by November.

In the Spring, the Bishop will be visiting our parish to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation. More information will be given as details are set.

Some general announcements for the good of the parish:

The parish is happy to host another module of the Young Theologians this Fall. The Young Theologians is a group for high school young people who take their discipleship seriously, have a mastery of basic Catholic doctrine, and are interested and eager to dive deeper into certain aspects of our Faith. The Fall module has five sessions on Mondays: October 21 and 28, and November 4, 11, and 18. The group

meets from 4:00 – 5:15 PM. If a young person is interested, a parent should reach out to me directly: Jeffrey.kirby@charlestandiocese.org.

I was recently made aware that my miniseries on discipleship and the Brown Scapular has posted on EWTN OnDemand. [Here's the link](#). Enjoy!

I'm happy to host 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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