

**February 9, 2025**

***From Father Kirby...***

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! As followers of the Lord Jesus, we use this season of Ordinary Time to evaluate and assess our relationship with him and then we do what we can to draw closer to him. This season is about discipleship. It is about the Lord Jesus!

Some things happening at the parish this week:

Our next Stations of the Cross for those who have left the practice of the Faith is Monday, February 10, at 7:00 PM. All are invited to come and walk the Stations praying for the swift return of those who are fallen away.

As a reminder, on Wednesdays at the parish, we have a Saint Joseph Devotional at 9:30 AM, Morning Prayer (Lauds) at 10:00 AM, the course *Learning the Psalms* from 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM, the Holy Rosary at 11:30 AM, the Holy Mass at Noon, the Saint Dymphna Novena at 12:45 PM, Adoration from 1:00 PM – 2:15 PM, Confessions from 12:45 PM until the last penitent, the class *Great Adventure Bible Study* from 1:00 PM – 2:10 PM, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 2:15 PM, Confessions from 6:00 – 6:30 PM, and then our Adult Bible Study on Exodus, our Elementary School, Middle School, and High School formation programs from 6:30 PM – 7:45 PM. *Please be involved in the life of our parish!*

Our next Formation Day is Saturday, February 15, from 9:00 AM – 12 Noon. The theme is: *Understanding the History, Logistics, and Spiritual Power of Confession!* All are welcome!

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:

In observance of Presidents' Day, the parish campus will be closed on Monday, February 17. There is no public Mass. All other events are suspended.

As a reminder to all our Confirmation candidates, you need to attend one of the two Catechetical Reviews. The reviews are on Sunday, February 16, from 12:30 PM –

2:00 PM, and on Saturday, February 22, from 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM. There is also a required Liturgy Practice on Sunday, February 23, from 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM.

On Friday, February 21, we're happy to welcome [Clement Harrold](#) back to the parish. We'll have a Sacred Music Concert at 6:30 PM. At 7:00 PM, Clement will give a talk on "With Christ in the Desert: Lessons for the Lenten Journey." A Fellowship and Meet-the-Speaker will follow the talk. All are welcome!

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

Our next Sunday Fellowship is on Sunday, February 23, around 12:30 PM. All are welcome!

I'm happy to announce that our Bishop will be visiting the parish on March 1, 2025. The Bishop will offer Mass at 2:00 PM. It is a blessing for us to have our apostle – our Bishop – with us! *All parishioners are strongly encouraged to come, worship, and share holy fellowship with our Bishop!*

The penitential season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5. Our Masses for the holy day are at 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, and 11:00 AM. *Ashes will only be distributed during Mass.* After the 11:00 AM Mass, we'll have Adoration and Confessions until 4:00 PM. Solemn Vespers will be prayed at 4:00 PM.

From March 5-8, a filming crew from EWTN will be on-site. I'll be recording a new miniseries entitled, "Our Catholic Way of Life." The miniseries will talk about the various sacramentals, customs, and traditions of our faith. The filming crew will need to block off some areas of the church, but none of this should cause any serious disruptions to our daily schedule. Thank you in advance for your patience and support!

Some general announcements for the good of the parish:

Many of you know how much I love Saint Paul and his apostolic writings. I'm overjoyed to host a [pilgrimage in the footsteps of Saint Paul](#) (Greece and Turkey) this June. I have not been to many of the holy places associated with the Apostle, but I know his writings and their context, and I'm eager to visit these holy places and celebrate Mass there. I'm extending an open invitation to anyone who is able

and would like to come on the pilgrimage! Let's walk in the footsteps of Saint Paul together!

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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