

March 23, 2025

From Father Kirby...

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! Our Lenten journey of purification continues. Two weeks ago, we spoke of metanoia (μετάνοια), which is the personal on-going conversion that we are called to undergo as we seek to draw closer to the Lord Jesus. Last week, we talked about euangelion (εὐαγγέλιον), which is “the good news” of Jesus Christ. Today, we’re going to focus on kerygma (κηρύσσω), which is the initial proclamation of the Gospel. The kerygma focuses on the core tenets of our Faith and how to announce them in a convincing way.

This Sunday, March 23, at 12:30 PM, we have a Fellowship with our visiting Dominican Sisters in the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

I’m about to leave on a Jubilee Pilgrimage to Rome and the holy places of Italy. In the narthex this weekend, you’re invited to write any intentions you’d like for me to carry to the holy places.

Here are some things happening at the parish this week:

While I’m away on pilgrimage, Father Colin Blatchford will be at the parish from March 24 – March 30 and Father Robert Morey will be at the parish from March 31 – April 3. *Welcome, Fathers!*

Our Mass schedule, Liturgy of the Hour, Novena, Rosary, Adoration, and program schedule will all remain the same while I’m away. Please note, however, that we will have an abbreviated Confession schedule from March 24 – April 3.

Please note: Our abbreviated Confession schedule includes: There are no *morning* Confessions from March 24 - April 3. There are no Wednesday evening Confessions on Wednesday, March 26. *Confessions will be heard on Monday evenings, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, and late afternoon on Saturday.*

For Lent, our Stations of the Cross are prayed at 7:00 PM on Mondays. Please come and walk the Stations this Monday, March 24, as well as March 31 and April 7. Please note there are no Stations of the Cross on April 14, since it’s Monday of Holy Week. The Solemn Stations at Noon on Good Friday are the Stations for Holy Week.

This Wednesday, March 26, we'll have our last Wednesday Faith Formation session for the Spring module. Our programs will all resume in September.

For our Adult Formation this Wednesday, Monty Bennett of our staff will give a presentation on pre-planning and the Catholic Funeral. Please come and learn about how we honor and bury our dead as Catholic Christians!

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:

During this Lent, we are slowly reintroducing our Thursday Outdoor Masses at the parish columbarium. *What a blessing it is for us to now offer these Masses at our new Holy Angels Columbarium!* The final outdoor Mass for this Lent will be offered on Thursday, April 10. Please bring a chair or blanket to sit on. When we have our outdoor Masses, we will also have the Thursday holy Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and our weekly Fellowship outside at the columbarium.

On Friday – Saturday, April 11-12, we're very happy to welcome Dr. John Bergsma to the parish. Dr. Bergsma will give talks on the Old Testament understanding of the Lord's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. The talks are being given right before we start Holy Week. I encourage everyone to participate and to use these talks as a help to enter the Paschal Mystery.

Here's the schedule for Dr. Bergsma's visit:

Friday, April 11:

- 6:30 PM Sacred Music Concert
- 7:00 PM "Holy Thursday through Jewish Eyes"
- 8:00 PM Fellowship and Book Signing

Saturday, April 12:

- 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast
- 9:30 AM "Good Friday through Jewish Eyes"
- 10:30 AM Break
- 11:00 AM "Easter through Jewish Eyes"
- 12:00 PM Fellowship and Book Signing

This year, for Palm Sunday, April 13, we'll have our annual Solemn Procession of the Palms at the beginning of our 11:00 AM Mass. All parishioners are invited to come and be a part of this procession as we honor the triumphal entry of the Lord Jesus into Jerusalem. Parishioners are asked to come early, park, and meet around 10:45 AM at the flags near the entrance of our campus.

During our 11:00 AM Mass on Palm Sunday, the homily will be a Children's Homily. All children are invited!

On Palm Sunday, April 13, we'll have our annual Spring Festival around 12:30 PM. Come and join us for food, a petting zoo, and games in honor of the Lord's entry into Jerusalem!

Some general announcements for the good of the parish:

In his apostolic journeys, Saint Paul had communities he struggled with and communities he rejoiced over. The Ephesians were especially close to Saint Paul. Saint John the Apostle lived in Ephesus and Our Lady lived in John's house for a portion of time. We think that Ephesus is where Saint Luke – a disciple of Saint Paul - met and “interviewed” Our Lady for his Gospel. During the Jubilee pilgrimage in the footsteps of Saint Paul, we'll visit Ephesus and Our Lady's house! If you want to dive into the life and legacy of the great Apostle, please consider coming on my Jubilee [pilgrimage in the footsteps of Saint Paul](#) (Greece and Turkey) this June!

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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Daily Reflections: www.DailyDiscipleship.org

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