

**June 1, 2025**

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

Happy Easter, Team Grace! This Sunday, we celebrate the glorious Ascension of the Lord Jesus. After spending forty days with his apostles and disciples, the Lord ascends to the Father. The Ascension of the Lord Jesus is the exultation of our human nature as the Lord takes our nature with him into the glory of heaven. Now, at the hand of God, the Lord dwells in both his divine and human nature!

This weekend, we have sign-ups for our Nocturnal Adoration this coming Friday-Saturday, June 6-7. 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:

Sadly, our culture is beginning what they call “Pride month.” As Catholics, June is about the Sacred Heart and God’s love for us. I remind everyone that we are not to participate in “Pride” events since the ideology behind these events is radically opposed to the natural family and the Gospel. [Here’s a homily](#) from a few years ago that explains things.

The parish recently issued a \$10,000 charitable grant to our sister parish, St Catherine’s, in Lancaster. The donation will go to support the outreach and ministries to Spanish-speaking Catholics. The grant was taken from funds earmarked for charitable purposes.

I want to encourage everyone to give a Sunday flower donation for their respective intention. There are many Sundays still available. Please reach out to MJ Wallace for more information: [mjwallace@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:mjwallace@charlestdiocese.org).

As a reminder, we have several Novenas throughout the week. On Monday evenings, after the Mass, we have the Miraculous Medal Novena for those who have fallen away from the Faith. On Tuesdays, after the Noon Mass, we have the Novena to Saint Peregrine for those who are fighting cancer. On Wednesdays, after the Noon Mass, we have the Saint Dymphna Novena for those who are struggling with emotional and mental challenges. On Thursdays, after the Noon Mass, we have the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the faithful departed. Everyone is invited to these prayer opportunities!

This Friday, June 6, we have our monthly First Friday Mass of the Sacred Heart at 7:00 PM. The Rosary is prayed before the Mass at 6:30 PM. Confessions begin after the Mass and are heard until Midnight. Adoration begins after the Mass and continues until 10:20 AM on Saturday.

This Saturday, June 7, we have our monthly First Saturday observances: Confessions are from 9:00 AM – 10:20 AM. The holy Rosary is at 10:30 AM, and our Mass of Healing with the Anointing of the Sick is at 11:00 AM. Our intercessory prayer teams and brunch follow the Mass.

For our Pentecost Masses next Sunday, June 8, all the baptized are encouraged to wear red as a sign of the Holy Spirit dwelling within them.

The [calendar for the program year](#) 2025/2026 is now 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 events I'd like to highlight:

As a reminder, our Mass intention book for the coming program year (July 1 – June 30) opened last week. I encourage everyone to make their Mass intentions as soon as possible since our Mass intentions for the year usually fill up pretty quickly.

I'm currently working on a few projects for some Catholic publishers and my niece, Julia, is helping me as a Research Assistant. Julia is currently in college studying to be a teacher. On the weekends, you might periodically see Julia around the rectory. Please feel free to say, "Hello."

From June 9 - 18, I'll be away on a Jubilee Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of Saint Paul. I look forward to praying and offering Mass in the many places we've been hearing about in the Acts of the Apostles this Easter Season! Please know of my prayers for you and your families.

For the week of June 9 – 13, the parking lot of our parish campus will be undergoing major repairs. Some of you may have noticed the widening cracks throughout the parking lot. The cracks have become so severe that we are dangerously close to having sink holes. We will need to have these cracks and other damages repaired and due to the extensive nature of this work we will need to close the parish campus for it to be done. And so, *from June 9-13, the parish campus will be closed and all access suspended.*

We chose this time because I will already be away, and daily Mass would already be suspended. In addition to Mass, all other events will be suspended and access to the campus will be restricted from June 9-13. My apologies for any hassle or inconvenience this might cause. Please note that this work must be done, and the workers need the entire campus to conduct these repairs and allow things to dry and settle.

On Saturday-Sunday, June 14-15, Father David Rivera from the Diocese of Camden, NJ, will be visiting our parish. Father Dave will hear our parish Confessions on Saturday at 3:00 PM and offer our Sunday morning Masses. *Welcome, Father Dave!*

On Monday – Tuesday, June 16-17, Father Robert Morey will be visiting the parish to hear Confessions and offer our daily Mass while I'm away. *Welcome, Father Morey!* Our schedule remains the same on these days except that there will be no *morning Confessions* on Tuesday, June 17. There will still be Confessions on Monday evening and Tuesday afternoon.

On Wednesday, June 18, there will be no public Mass. We will still have the Saint Joseph Prayers at 9:30 AM and Morning Prayer (Lauds) at 10:00 AM. The Saint Dymphna Novena will be prayed at 12 Noon and Adoration will follow until Benediction at 2:15 PM.

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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