From Father Kirby...

Happy Trinity Sunday, Team Grace! Today, we pause and revere the supreme mystery of God himself. The Holy Trinity is the central mystery of the Christian faith. It is the revelation to us of God's inner life. This revelation shows us that God desires for us to know him and to be in a relationship with him. We do not approach a silent god, or a distant god, or an unknown god. We approach the living and true God, who has unveiled himself to us!

Greetings from the waters of the Mediterranean Sea! Currently, I and the other pilgrims are on the nautical portion of our pilgrimage as we trace the footsteps of Saint Paul. My Sunday Mass will be on the water and my intention for the Mass is our parish family. You are with me, Team Grace!

This weekend, June 14-15, Father David Rivera from the Diocese of Camden, NJ, will be visiting our parish. Father David and I are old friends from the seminary. Father David is offering our Sunday morning Masses today. He's a great priest and a superb homilist. I'm sorry I'll miss his visit! *Welcome, Father David!*

Happy Father's Day to all our Dads! We thank you for the love and selfless service you give to your families. At the end of our Masses this weekend, a special blessing will be offered to you in honor of your vocation.

Some things happening at the parish this week:

The parish is hosting a pilgrimage to the EWTN Family Celebration, the National Shrine of Padre Pio, and the Shrine of Pope Saint John Paul II from August 28-31. All parishioners are invited to come! <u>Here's a flyer</u> with more information.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility this past week! The renovation of our parking lot went well. The various cracks have been filled and secured, and the parking lines have all been repainted. We're moving forward!

Our focus now is on Lourdes Hill (our front hill). The contractors are ready to initiate the work. Hopefully, the rain will stop and let them begin! Once the work starts, it will move quickly. The Bishop is tentatively scheduled to visit our parish on Saturday, August 23. It's our great hope to have the Lourdes Hill and Mary's Grotto

completed by then so the Bishop can bless them. More details will follow as updates are given.

This 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 there will be no *morning Confessions* on Tuesday, June 17. There will still be Confessions on Monday evening and Tuesday afternoon.

This Wednesday, June 18, there will be no public Mass and no Confessions. 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.

I return on Wednesday evening, June 18. I look forward to being home!

Next Saturday, June 21, from 9:00 AM - 12 Noon, we'll have one of our periodic Formation Days. The theme is: A Different Perspective on Saint Paul: The Man, his Teachings, and his Apostolic Letters. All are welcome! Consider coming and bringing a friend with you!

The <u>calendar for the program year</u> 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:

On Sunday, June 22, at our 11:00 AM Mass, we will re-commission all of our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMs). These are the faithful men and women who regularly take Holy Communion to the sick and suffering. We thank them for their service!

Also on Sunday, June 22, our 11:00 AM Mass will conclude with a Corpus Christi Procession and Benediction. A Fellowship will follow the Benediction. All parishioners are encouraged to come and celebrate the Lord's Eucharistic Presence among us!

Our next Prayer Outreach at the local abortion facility is Saturday, June 28, at 8:30 AM. All parishioners are invited to come to this peaceful, prayerful protest against the horror of abortion. The facility is located at 3220 Latrobe Drive, Charlotte, NC.

Please note that the church building and campus will be closed on Thursday, July 3, in observance of Independence Day.

As a reminder, our parish staff can be readily reached via email. <u>Here is the staff directory</u>.

More updates next week! Oremus pro invicem (let's pray for one another)!

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Weekly spirituality Column

Monthly Newsletter