

July 6, 2025

From Father Kirby...

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! Today, we celebrate a Sunday in Ordinary Time. After so many solemnities and feast days, we are finally able to have Sunday of Ordinary Time. This liturgical season is all about discipleship. It's an opportunity for us to go deeper in our relationship with Jesus Christ.

This weekend, we celebrate our Independence Day! May God bless the United States of America! Our recessional hymn will be a patriotic hymn in honor of our nation.

In between rain and holidays, work continues on Lourdes Hill and Mary's Grotto. It's our hope to have things relatively completed before the Bishop's visit on August 23. More details will follow as things move forward!

Some things happening at the parish this week:

On July 1, we began our new fiscal year. Our parish budget is remaining the same (with slight internal adjustments). In the last fiscal year, we raised the budget. This year, we're keeping the budget the same as we grow into it. As is our custom, we'll issue our semi-annual fiscal report in September.

As a reminder, the nine-day preparation for investiture (or devotional re-investiture) in the Brown Scapular of Our Lady begins this Monday, July 7. There are many resources for this preparation, including my recent book, [*A Journey to Mount Carmel, A Nine-Day Preparation for Investiture in the Brown Scapular of Our Lady*](#).

Please note that our Tuesday and Thursday morning Confessions now conclude at 11:00 AM. This new set schedule actually reflects the real flow of penitents. In addition, starting on July 16, we will also have morning Confessions on Wednesdays from 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM.

This Thursday, July 10, *we will not have daily Mass or Confessions*. I'll be visiting Father David Rivera's parish in New Jersey to help with a Brown Scapular Novena. As you might recall, Father David was here earlier this month to help with our Masses, and so on July 10 I'll be returning the favor.

Please note that on Thursday, July 10, we will still have Morning Prayer (Lauds) at 10:00 AM, followed by Adoration until 11:20 AM. At 11:30 AM, we'll have the

holy Rosary. At 12 Noon, we'll have the Divine Mercy Chaplet. There is no Fellowship. *Please come and join your parish family for prayer!*

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:

Our next monthly Stations of the Cross for those who have fallen away from the faith will be next Monday, July 14, at 7:00 PM. All are invited to come and walk the Stations and pray for the swift return of all those who are fallen away.

Starting Wednesday, July 16, our Saint Joseph Prayers will move from 9:30 AM to after Lauds on Wednesdays. The change of time is to help facilitate a greater participation in the prayers.

On Wednesday, July 16, our Noon Mass will be our annual Brown Scapular Mass. All are invited to come and be invested (or devotionally reinvested) in the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The parish is happy to provide scapulars to everyone who is invested or reinvested in the Brown Scapular.

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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