

July 27, 2025

From Father Kirby...

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! During the season of Ordinary Time, it's pressing that we evaluate and examine our discipleship. We need to thank God for the areas where we're strong and ask him for the help of his grace where we are weak and struggling. Discipleship is about honesty and growth. We can approach God and be transparent with him. He knows us and loves us. He is always ready to help us!

As we celebrate the feast day of Saints Joachim and Ann, we wish all our grandparents a very *Happy Grandparent's Day!* Grandparents, thank you for the love and selfless service you give to your families. In gratitude, at the end of our Masses today, we'll offer a special blessing to all our grandparents!

At the end of our 11:00 AM Mass today (around 12:15 PM), we'll have our monthly Fellowship Sunday. For this Fellowship, we'll be celebrating the priesthood as I mark my 18th year as a priest!

This Sunday, we have sign-ups in the narthex for our Nocturnal Adoration this coming Friday-Saturday, August 1-2. All parishioners are encouraged to give an hour of prayer to the Lord Jesus and our parish family!

Some things happening at the parish this week:

Work continues on our Lourdes Hill and Mary's Grotto. You can see the progress on the hill and the beginnings of the sidewalks and ramps that will eventually help us to safely walk down to the Grotto. *As the project is being completed, however, please do not walk in the construction site.* I know it's tempting. We all want to see the Grotto completed, but the area is still an active construction site and can be dangerous. *It will be open soon!*

We recently moved our Wednesday Saint Joseph Prayers to *before* Lauds (rather than afterwards). All are invited to come and pray before Saint Joseph, asking for his help and guidance.

On all Wednesdays, we now also have Adoration from 10:30 AM (after Lauds) until 11:20 AM.

This Friday, August 1, at 7:00 PM, we have our First Friday Mass in honor of the Sacred Heart. Confessions are heard after the Mass until Midnight. Adoration begins after the Mass and continues through the night until 10:20 AM on Saturday.

This Saturday, August 2, is First Saturday in honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Our First Saturday observances include: Confessions from 9:00 AM – 10:20 AM; the holy Rosary at 11:30 AM; the Healing Mass with the Anointing of the Sick at 11:00 AM; and our intercessory prayer teams and monthly Parish Brunch after the Healing Mass. All are welcome!

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:

Starting next Monday, August 4, we will now have the Stations of the Cross *every Monday* at 7:00 PM. The Stations have become a popular devotion, and more people would like to walk and pray them together. *All are welcome!*

Our next Saint Paul Dinner is Tuesday, August 5, at 5:00 PM. All widows of the parish are invited and encouraged to come for fellowship and formation. Please remember to bring your copy of the Liturgy of the Hours.

On Sunday, August 10, we have our annual School Supply Drive. The school supplies will go to local schools in need. The schools are asking for three specific items:

1. Clorox cleaning wipes
2. Kleenex tissues
3. Hand sanitizers

Please bring these items with you to church and drop them off at the portico before Mass. Members of our Helping Hands ministry will be on-site to help you.

On Sunday, August 10, we'll have our next Blood Drive. All Christians who are able to give blood are strongly asked to show their love for life and sign up to give blood. Giving blood is giving life! There is an urgent shortage of blood in our area. Sign-ups are needed beforehand. [Here's the link.](#)

On Sunday, August 17, at 12:30 PM, Deacon Binh Davis will host a Meet-and-Greet for anyone who is interested in learning about the Catholic Church. There is no commitment. The meeting is a casual opportunity to ask any questions about the Catholic Church and to hear about the OCIA process.

As many parishioners know, we are an on-line giving parish. Our weekly collection is mainly received through sustained on-line giving by the members of our parish. I want to encourage all parishioners to switch to on-line giving. [Here's the link](#) for more information.

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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