

September 28, 2025

From Father Kirby...

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! During this Ordinary Time, we are called to examine and evaluate our discipleship. How can we draw closer to the Lord Jesus? How can we be more faithful to his way?

In honor of the Holy Angels, we are happy to bless all babies after our Masses this Sunday. May God's angels always protect and bless the children of our parish and the world!

This Sunday, September 28, we have our monthly Fellowship Sunday after our 11:00 AM Mass. Everyone is invited to come for fellowship and donuts!

In the narthex this Sunday, we have sign-ups for our Nocturnal Adoration this Friday and Saturday, October 3-4. Please be generous with your time and give some time of prayer to the Lord Jesus and your parish family.

Some things happening at the parish this week:

We are still waiting for the contract to be approved for the handrails at Mary's Grotto. *It's my hope that the contract will be approved soon and that we can see the handrails going up soon!* Once the handrails are secure and inspected, we can open up the Grotto for visits.

This Tuesday, September 30, we'll have two parish Town Hall meetings. The two sessions will be at 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM. During the Town Hall, we'll review the parish's master plan and answer any questions. All parishioners are invited to come and voice their questions, ideas, concerns, and hopes.

This Friday, October 3, we have our monthly First Friday Mass of the Sacred Heart at 7:00 PM. The holy 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.

For our First Friday Mass, we will be able to observe the eight-centuries old Franciscan tradition of the Transitus of Saint Francis of Assisi. The Franciscans usually hold a vigil from October 3-4 to mark the transitus – the crossing – of Saint Francis of Assisi from this life into eternity. Our local Secular Franciscans have

offered to share this tradition with us and to merge their vigil with our parish Nocturnal Adoration. And so, at the beginning of our First Friday Mass, a devotional bier with a Franciscan habit will be carried in the opening procession and the bier and habit will be placed on the sanctuary steps of the altar and will remain there all through the night. As you come for Adoration, please be sure to say a few prayers to Saint Francis! *Thank you, Secular Franciscans!*

This Saturday, October 4, 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. All are welcome!

Next Sunday, October 5, we'll have our annual Rosary Procession at the beginning of the 11:00 AM Mass. Parishioners are asked to come around 10:45 AM and meet near the flags at the entrance of our campus. *All parishioners are encouraged to come and honor Our Lady and her holy Rosary!*

Next Sunday, October 5, at 2:00 PM, we'll have our annual Blessing of Pets in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi. All parishioners are invited to bring their pets to the pavilion for the blessing. All pets – however large or small – are invited (including cats)! Ice cream will be served after the blessing.

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:

On Monday evening, October 6, at 7:00 PM, the parish will initiate its new monthly Peregrine Cancer Support Group. The group is for all parishioners who are fighting cancer or are in remission. The group is a faith-based, sacred place for prayer and open conversation about the struggles and fears of fighting cancer. I'm grateful to Marta Pereda and Diane Corbitt, two nurses in the parish, who will facilitate the group. For more information, please email: stperegrinesg25@outlook.com.

On Tuesday, October 7, at 5:00 PM, we have our next Saint Paula Dinner for Widows. Deacon Heath will be talking with the group. All widows of the parish are invited to come and join in this opportunity for fellowship and friendship. Please be sure to bring your copy of the Liturgy of the Hours.

On Wednesday, October 8, at 10:30 AM we have the next gathering of our Eucharistic Kids! This is a monthly opportunity for small children and stay-home parents to adore the Eucharistic Lord and share in some playtime. All small children and their parents are invited! For more information, please email Rachael Kanetzke: rachael.kanetzke@gmail.com.

On Saturday, October 11, from 9:00 AM – Noon, we have one of our periodic Formation Days. The theme of this Formation Day is “The Other Apostolic Letters: Exploring the Seven Universal Letters of the New Testament.” As a parish, we’re focusing on the fourteen letters of Saint Paul in the sacred liturgy. This Formation Day will provide an opportunity to learn about the other seven apostolic letters.

On Sunday, October 12, the parish will once again sponsor two blood buses. As Christians, giving blood is one of the many ways we cherish and serve life. Please sign up to give blood! [Here is the link for sign-ups](#). Prior sign-ups are required.

On Sunday, October 12, the parish is also hosting one of its annual Food Drives. The parish is collecting three specific items: canned corned; canned peas; and Chef Boyardee pasta (not spaghetti or lasagna). Parishioners are asked to bring these items with them to church and drop them off at the pavilion before Mass. Members of our Helping Hands ministry will be on-site to help you.

On Saturday morning, October 18, from 9:00 – 12:00 PM, we’ll have our first meeting of the Saint Joseph Men’s Fellowship. This newly formed group has been established specifically for the men of the parish who have a desire to grow in faith through prayer, insightful lectures and discussions, male fellowship, and some good food and fun. All men of the parish are invited! For more information, please reach out to Pete McCadden at pmcc582@gmail.com.

This May, I’ll be hosting a five-day pilgrimage to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Honestly, the shrine was not on my short list of places to visit, but I had a strong movement in prayer that has summoned me to go and visit the Patroness of the Americas. I look forward to offering Mass at the shrine, as well as to visiting the other holy places in the area, especially those associated with the [Cristero martyrs](#). Everyone is invited! [Here is 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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