

June 14, 2026

From Father Kirby...

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! As we enter into the Sundays of Ordinary Time, the Bishops of the United States have consecrated our homeland to the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ.

This Sunday, June 14, our parish will spiritually participate in the Consecration by offering the dedicatory prayer at the end of our 11:00 AM Mass. All parishioners are invited to be a part of the Consecration.

Through the generosity of a donor, sets of Home Enthronement of the Sacred Heart are available in the narthex this Sunday for all households in the parish. Please take one and enthrone Jesus Christ as the Lord of your home.

This Saturday and Sunday, June 13-14, our Mass Intentions have opened for the next program year (July 1 – June 30). Our intentions tend to fill up quickly. If you want a specific day or intention remembered at the altar, please plan to stop by the Reception Area and request your Mass intention. Here is the schedule:

- Sunday, June 14
 - 8:00 AM -8:45 AM
 - 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM
 - 12:00 PM 1:30 PM

Some things happening at the parish this week:

I'd like to encourage all parishioners to generously support our parish *Support Our Seminarians Fund*. We are seeking to raise \$210,000 in support of our diocesan seminarians. Everyone is asked to contribute what they can!

Thank you to the parishioner who generously donated a car to our seminarian in need. May God bless your kindness!

Please note that our Monday evening Stations of the Cross will be moving to Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM. Our last Stations on Monday will be tomorrow evening, Monday, June 15, and our Tuesday Stations will start next week on June 23.

This Thursday, June 18, at 10:30 AM we have the next gathering of our monthly Gianna Caregiver Support Group. If you are providing or managing the care of an adult loved one, this group is for you!

Next Sunday, June 21, we'll give the Blessing of Fathers at all our Sunday Masses. We thank our fathers for the love and selfless service they give to their families.

As academic years conclude and many people begin their summer travels, I want to remind everyone of our grave obligation to attend Sunday Mass. As you travel, I recommend using one of the many digital services that indicate local Mass times, such as [Catholic Mass Times](#). *As you travel, be sure to make it to Sunday Mass!*

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 Sunday, June 28, we're having a *Patriotic Service Sunday*. Our patriotic service will include a Food Drive and a Blood Drive:

For the Patriotic Blood Drive, all parishioners who are able, are asked to sign up to give blood. There is a pressing need in our area for blood. Please fulfill your Christian and patriotic duty to serve life by giving blood! [You can sign up here](#).

For our Patriotic Food Drive, we are asking parishioners to bring one (or some) of the following items: Grits; Instant Potatoes; Canned Potatoes. Please bring these items with you to Mass. You can drop them off at our pavilion before Mass. Members of our Helping Hands ministry will be on site to help you.

Next month, our Nocturnal Adoration on July 3-4 will be a Patriotic Nocturnal Adoration. Everyone is invited to come and pray for our nation as we celebrate her 250th birthday! May God continue to bless and protect the United States of America.

Since July 4 falls on a Saturday, our parish will observe the holiday on Monday, July 6. There is no public Mass. All events are suspended.

Team Grace, our nation is receiving a great birthday gift from the Holy Spirit! In the coming year, as we celebrate our 250 th birthday as a nation, Venerable Fulton Sheen

will be beatified on American soil in late September! Fulton Sheen was (and is) a noted preacher and teacher of our Faith. We need his message today!

Our Bishop has asked our parish to take the lead and organize the diocesan pilgrimage to Saint Louis for the Beatification Mass! In response to this summons, we have [this pilgrimage](#) planned. Everyone is invited! I hope many of you can come on the pilgrimage!

Grotto Update: We have been evaluating several contractors. The list started with over 20 and moved to about 8. We are now seriously looking at two contractors. Once our contractor is selected, they will go through the diocesan approval process. Wesley Dry, our Director of Buildings and Grounds, is heading up this effort. He has a committee of parishioners who are skilled in different areas of construction assisting him. It's our hope to have a contractor selected by July and then begin the diocesan process as soon as possible. More updates will follow.

We are now at **\$720,000** for Phase II. Phase Two of Mary's Grotto will enlarge the size of the Grotto, extend its height, and add a large patio area with an outdoor altar in front of the Grotto. As we move forward, I ask for your continued support of our "Capital Projects." I would like for us to have additional funds in case we exceed the original cost projections of Mary's Grotto. If we don't use the collected funds, we'll roll the funds over to some of our other capital projects.

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)!

In Christ,

Father Jeffrey Kirby

Very Rev. Jeffrey F. Kirby, STD, VF
Pastor/Dean of Rock Hill Deanery
www.frkirby.com