Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

Rejoice! We continue to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection during this Easter Season. This is the time for us to "fan into flame" the hope and joy that we receive in Jesus Christ!

I'm very grateful that we will be able to resume our daily Masses tomorrow, Monday, May 11. Please come, if you are comfortable and able. We ask that no one comes who is of an older age and/or has pre-existing conditions. We want everyone to be safe. The daily Masses will still be live streamed through our <u>Grace Lily YouTube page</u>.

As we begin our public Masses, we will keep our recent practice of celebrating the Mass *ad orientem*. Once the transition period passes, and we return to our regular daily and weekend Mass schedule, things will be reassessed. For now, we will continue to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass facing the tabernacle together.

Also, tomorrow, May 11, our church building will be open for regular hours, 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Monday-Thursday. Please come by and spend some time in prayer. Our Parish Office is also open during these hours.

It seems that some people are still confused on the recent decision to put many of our parish groups on a one-year hiatus. I don't want anyone to be confused, and so I'd like to explain things again. We need this time to reestablish our bearings as a parish. Our staff is smaller now. Our volunteer base has been cut in half. In some areas, it's nonexistent now. We have to limit the use of our building, and impose severe cleaning practices whenever it's used, in order to prevent a resurgence of the coronavirus. Having all our facilities in one building poses a major problem with social distancing and requires us to restrict broader access to the building for meetings and social gatherings. For now, therefore, our efforts are to heal and rebuild as a parish community. Our talents and energies cannot be invested in any one group, but must be used for the overall parish. Taking this year will allow us to do this work and to be stronger when the time comes to reinstitute our various groups and organizations. I hope this explanation helps. If there are any questions, please email me: Jeffrey.kirby@charlestondiocese.org.

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