

*From Father Kirby...*

**August 9, 2020**

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! Every Sunday of Ordinary Time, we are invited to hear the Gospel anew and recommit ourselves to the Lord Jesus. As Christians, our hope lies in the Lord alone. Today, in our Gospel Reading, Saint Peter models this for us. As he hopes and trusts in the Lord, he is able to walk on water. As he becomes distracted and turns away from the Lord, he begins to sink in the waters around him. Our task in this life, amidst all of our duties and anxieties, is to stay focused on the Lord Jesus.

What things in our lives are distracting us from the Lord? How can we refocus our hearts on the Lord Jesus?

Some things happening around the parish:

As a reminder, starting this Monday, August 10, the Parish Office and church building will be open from 10:00 AM – 2:30 PM, Monday – Thursday.

Also, starting this Monday, Natalie Jackson will be principally working remotely. She will still be in the Parish Office once a week, and is readily available by email.

By popular request, starting this Tuesday, at 2:30 PM, I'll be leading a weekly presentation on spiritual theology. The class will be livestreamed and available through our Grace Lily page. The class will run for a few weeks (TBD). It will be recorded, and will be available for later viewing on our Grace Lily page.

As previously announced, Deacon Doc will be leading our RCIA this year. If you're interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, please reach out to the deacon: [bdonofrio@charlestandiocese.org](mailto:bdonofrio@charlestandiocese.org).

I'm happy to announce that the parish recently closed on the 2.5 acres of land down Highway 521! We are now a two-campus parish!! Even if, admittedly, our current "second campus" is 2.5 acres of trees! You'll recall that this land is next to "Catholic Land" (the 53 acres of land we are planning to purchase in the future). I see this piece of land as a small footprint of what is to come! I'm overjoyed as we slowly see things move toward the future! This additional 2.5 acres will give us more highway frontage, and will make our future campus even more visible from the highway. The purchase of this land was given completely by a donor. I'm very grateful for this donor's immense generosity!

Please note the *Daily Briefings* every day, Monday – Thursday, at 4:00 PM, on our Grace Lily page. These reviews are further explanations of the many things happening at the parish.

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