

From Father Kirby...

October 25, 2020

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! As we continue our walk through Ordinary Time, we are once again presented with the teachings of the Lord Jesus. And, once again, we are invited to accept him as Lord and to follow him as his disciples.

The Sunday Mass readings follow a three-year cycle, based on the Synoptic Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. This year, we're reading the Gospel of Matthew. Today, we are presented with the two Great Commandments, to love God and to love our neighbor. How are we doing in these areas? Are we pursuing the most excellent way of love in our lives?

This weekend, we return (and conclude) our summary of contemporary issues. So far, we've discussed *Life Issues and Human Dignity*, *Immigration and the Common Good*, *The LGBTQ Movement and Complementarity*, and *The Environment and Stewardship*. Today, we conclude with a review of *Law and Justice*.

Some things happening around the parish:

This weekend, I'm honored to give a talk (via Zoom) to our sister parish of Saint James in Conway, South Carolina, on the place of mercy in Christian ministry. It's an important lesson for us all.

This weekend, Msgr. Charles Rowland, who was the Pastor of Saint Joseph's Parish while I was in middle school and high school, and who later vested me as a priest during my Ordination, will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of his own priestly Ordination. I'm grateful for his guidance and encouragement through the years. May God bless him and his faithful service to the Church!

Our weekly Bible Study continues this Wednesday. We'll continue through the Book of Genesis and discuss Noah and the Ark. There's more to the story than what we might remember from our children's Bibles! I hope everyone can tune in!

This coming Friday, October 30, my new book, *Living in Peace*, will be released. The book is a modification of the homilies I gave during the lockdown this past Spring. You can pre-order the book [here](#).

I want to remind everyone of our Healing Mass this coming Saturday at 11:00 AM.

This year, the feast of All Saints falls on Sunday, and so there is no obligation beyond our regular weekend (which is also dispensed by the Bishop, as needed).

The feast of All Souls, November 2, falls on Monday this year. Following ancient custom, we will have three Masses at the parish for our beloved dead. The Masses are at 7 AM (in the church), 12 Noon (at the columbarium), and 7 PM (in the church). During the evening Mass, we will have the annual reading of names. If you've lost someone *within the past year*, and would like their name to be read, please send it to Johnny Rusciollelli: jrusciollelli@charlestdiocese.org. Please note, also by ancient custom, that the All Souls offertory and envelopes go directly to the Pastor. It is the only time the offertory is given directly to the priest.

We are very blessed to have Sister Dede Byrne with us on Election Day (November 3). Sister will lead a Rosary – by livestream - in our church at 7:30 PM. Please plan to tune in for this important prayer for our country.

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