

From Father Kirby...

November 8, 2020

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

After last weekend's celebration of All Saints, we now return to Ordinary Time. During this season, portions of the Lord's teachings are given to us at Mass so that we can recommit ourselves to him. These selections are on a three-year cycle based on the Synoptic Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Currently, we are still in Matthew's Gospel.

This Sunday, and next Sunday (November 15), I'll be returning to the theme of end-of-life care. These are pressing questions that we will all face (or have faced) in one way or another. This mini-series of homilies fits within the overall observance of November as the month of the dead.

Speaking of end-of-life care, I was honored to speak with the Order of Malta in Greensboro this past Thursday evening. The Order is committed to the defense of the faith and the care of the sick. It was a pleasure to be with them and to share the wisdom of the Church's teachings.

In November, I encourage you to write the names of your beloved dead in the [Book of the Dead](#) (which is up at the baptismal font). I also encourage you to pray for your dead, visit our parish columbarium, and participate (as you're able) in our [Divine Mercy Chaplet](#) every Tuesday at 12:30 PM.

Some things happening around the parish:

Please also note the expansion of the [All Souls Indulgence](#) this year.

If you'd like to see the various "thank you" letters that we've received from the recipients of our weekly tithes, please visit the bulletin board in the main hallway (near the restrooms).

Our weekly Bible Study continues this Wednesday. My apologies for the cancellation of last week's session. Some pastoral matters came up that demanded my attention. This week, we'll go back and cover the New Creation after the Great Flood (Genesis 8-9).

Contrary to a previous announcement, my new book, *Living in Peace*, was not released this past week. There was a delay in publishing. It will now be released in

mid-November. You might recall that the book is a modification of the homilies I gave during the lockdown this past Spring. If you're interested, you can order a copy of the book [here](#).

Lastly, and of deep personal importance, I mentioned in the Daily Briefing this past Wednesday that my family had to make the heart-breaking decision to place my father in a memory care unit. We've cared for him at home for the past five years, with my mother and older brother carrying the heaviest weight. But his dementia is quickly advancing, and he needs more professional help, and so the decision had to be made. This was a profoundly difficult decision, and one that still hurts my soul and those of my family. I ask you to please pray for my father, and my mother and family. Thank you!

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