

***From Father Kirby...***

**October 17, 2021**

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

As we walk through Ordinary Time, Mother Church echoes the call of the Lord Jesus to each of us. Will we heed the call and recommit ourselves to the Lord? This liturgical year, we are guided by Saint Mark and his gospel. This Sunday, the evangelist reminds us of our call to humility and selfless service. Will we accept this summons, die to ourselves, and follow the way of the Lord?

Some things happening around the parish:

As I mentioned in our Weekly Review this past week, my father has been put on hospice. We are uncertain how long he is for this life. I ask for your prayers as my Dad and family make this last part of his life's journey together.

This weekend, we are overjoyed to bless our new statue of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha at the 5:30 PM Saturday evening Mass. The saint is one of our few native American saints and represents the single life and our mutual call to holiness. In honor of the blessing of her statue, I'll be preaching on the life of Saint Kateri this weekend.

This weekend at our 11:00 AM, our Saint Cecilia Girls' Choir will be leading us in sacred song. At the end of the Mass, I'll bless the saint medals that the young women will wear with their choir robes. Thank you to the young women for their generous service to God and our parish!

As announced in the Weekly Briefing this past week, our parish will be receiving two Religious Sisters from the [Sisters of Saint Michael the Archangel](#). The Sisters will be permanent members of our staff. They will arrive this summer. Many details still have to be worked out, but let's rejoice that our community will be blessed with two Sisters!

As you visit campus this weekend, I hope you noticed the extensive work that's been done to the front hill. This is a huge step forward as we secure erosion and begin to beautify that part of our property. I look very forward to having a beautifully landscaped front hill as soon as possible!

Our Operations Director, Ryan Kubic, continues to work and interface with [Wagner Murray Architects](#) as we initiate our Master Plan for [Catholic Land](#). *Please be a part of this process!* We are holding two Parish Town Hall Meetings this Tuesday,

October 19, one at 1:30 PM and another at 7:00 PM. Please attend one of these sessions and voice your thoughts and ideas! This is the future of our parish!

Our parish Bible Study continues this Wednesday. We'll discuss Jacob and Esau and conclude Chapter 25 of the Book Genesis. The study is done in-person and is livestreamed on Grace Lily.

Also on Wednesdays, I've started a new hour-long show on Patreon entitled, "[Father Kirby LIVE.](#)" The program is interactive and seeks to dynamically present the Faith, as well as address any questions that are sent in by patrons. Please consider joining the show! Since this is not a parish-based program, there is a small fee for participation.

As we resume our Formation Days, I want to announce the dates and topics of these events. On Saturday, October 30, from 9:00 AM – 12 Noon, we'll cover: "From Mother Eve to Mother Mary," and on Saturday, November 20, from 9:00 AM – Noon, we'll cover: "Discipleship and Redemptive Suffering." *Please note the change of theme on October 30.* There is no charge. There is no registration. The Formation Days will be in-person and will be livestreamed on Grace Lily. All are welcome!

As we near the feast of All Souls on November 2, we are collecting the names of anyone who has died within the past year (November 1, 2020 – November 1, 2021). If you lost a loved one within this time frame, and would like their name to be read in the Reading of Names on the feast day, please email the names to Johnny Rusciollelli: [jrusciollelli@charlestandioocese.org](mailto:jrusciollelli@charlestandioocese.org).

With our census recently completed, I want to remind everyone to please keep your information up-to-date. If you change your phone number, mailing address, or if you are leaving the parish, please let us know. We want to keep our census as current as possible.

As a reminder, every Sunday, I write a spirituality column on Crux. If anyone is interested, [here is the link](#) to the weekly columns.

Please be sure to read and review our revised and updated [Security/Safety Protocols for Parishioners](#) and [Church/Holy Communion Protocols](#).

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

Email: [Jeffrey.Kirby@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:Jeffrey.Kirby@charlestdiocese.org)  
Website: [www.frkirby.com](http://www.frkirby.com)  
Twitter: @fatherkirby