

From Father Kirby...

November 7, 2021

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

As we continue to walk through Ordinary Time, we take up the solemn month of the dead. During November, Mother Church calls on us to pray and offer sacrifices for our beloved dead. Such actions are acts of faith in the Resurrection and charity to our loved ones who are undergoing their purgation for heaven.

This weekend, I'll review the readings from Sacred Scripture, but also highlight our teachings on Purgatory and the afterlife.

As the first full weekend of the month, we'll have Confessions after all our Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. Please make the sacrament a regular part of your discipleship!

Some things happening around the parish:

We're happy to announce that we found a small cottage within a few miles of the parish that we'll be able to rent and use as a convent for the [Sisters of Saint Michael the Archangel](#) when they arrive! Thank you to the Catholic family that assisted us with these efforts! I'll give more details as arrangements are confirmed.

With Children's Faith Formation moved to the early Fall, we will not have a communal First Holy Communion Mass this year. Any parent who would like for their child to receive Confession or their First Holy Communion on an individual basis should email me for details. Otherwise, second grade children will receive the sacraments next year.

Sign-ups continue in the narthex for our Christmas Children's Choir. All children are invited to be a part of this seasonal choir!

Please note that preparation for [Consecration to Jesus through Mary](#) formally started on November 5. If you would like to make or renew your consecration on December 8, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, please begin your preparation. If you've missed the first couple of days, you can double up the first few days and be caught up with the preparation schedule.

Our parish Bible Study continues this Wednesday. We'll continue to walk through the Book of Genesis as we discuss Jacob's Flight to Laban (Genesis 27:46-28:9). The study is done in-person and is livestreamed on Grace Lily.

Our Women's Faith Formation continues this Thursday from 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM in the Parish Hall. The program has been paid for by the parish and is free to parishioners. No preparation is needed. A nursery will be provided. *All women are invited to join the study!*

Please note that as of Saturday, November 13, our electronic newsletter will be sent out on Saturdays between 4:00 – 7:00 PM.

If you are taking required minimum distributions (RMD) from your IRA, are you taking advantage of the qualified charitable distribution (QCD)? If not, you may want to contact Angie Letourneau at aletourneau@carolina.rr.com to get information on how to structure your cash contributions to get a tax break!

Our professional staff is continuing their research on many of the ideas that were voiced during our Town Hall meetings, as well as making a few off-site visits to sister parishes or local churches that have similar programs or resources as those mentioned by our parishioners. In addition, Ryan Kubic, our Director of Operations, continues to interface with our architects, [Wagner Murray Architects](#). Next month, the parish Finance Council will meet and give another review of the ideas and suggestions raised by parishioners. I'll give more updates as we walk through this process.

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

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

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