

From Father Kirby...

March 20, 2022

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

Our journey through Lent continues. The Spirit leads us into the spiritual desert and calls us to die to ourselves so that we can live fully for Jesus Christ. What has hindered us in surrendering to the Lord Jesus? What aspects of our lives still need conversion? Where do we need to die to ourselves? Lent is the time for hard questions. It's the season for renewal in our discipleship.

Please continue to pray for our new Bishop, [Father Jacques Fabre](#). Please note that no Bishop is mentioned in the Eucharistic Prayer at Mass. This is a spiritual observance of the Church that indicates a diocese is waiting for a new shepherd.

Some things happening around the parish:

I'm grateful for the visit of Father Eric Cadin to our parish last week. As you heard, the challenge of the New Evangelization is before us and [FOCUS](#) is doing some great front-line work! Please continue to pray for its success and to support the group as you're able.

This weekend in the narthex, my newest book, [Glory Unto Glory: A Primer on Ascetical Theology](#), is available for purchase. The book addresses the basic truths of the spiritual life and provides some practical guidance on prayer.

Last weekend, we published our parish [Semi-Annual Financial Report](#). If any parishioners have questions, please direct them to our Parish Bookkeeper, Sally Santimaw at ssantimaw@charlestondiocese.org.

This Monday, March 21, from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM, we are blessed to host [Treasures of the Church](#). This is a Vatican-approved display of relics combined with teaching and prayer. All are invited! *Please plan to come and be a part of this holy night!*

This coming Saturday, March 26, at 8:30 AM, we have our next Parish Prayer Outreach at the local abortion center. All parishioners are encouraged to come and join in this peaceful, prayerful protest against the unjust law of abortion. A bus is available at no cost. Please see the Front Office for more information. For those who will drive, the center is located at 3220 Latrobe Drive, Charlotte, NC.

For those who would like to support the Saint Clare Home, our diocesan maternity home, please consider attending the [Pink and Blue Banquet](#) on March 26. The banquet is the home's largest annual fundraiser.

In looking at some other future events, I'd like to highlight:

In honor of Laetare Sunday next weekend, I'll hear Confessions on Sunday morning (March 27) after the 9:00 AM and the 11:00 AM Masses.

I'll be away for some additional vacation time from Monday- Wednesday, March 28-30. I'll be preaching a Parish Mission in Florida. While I'm away, there is no public Mass or Confessions at the parish. All other events are still being held. Please check the [Parish Calendar](#) for more information.

On Wednesday, April 6, at 7:00 PM, we will have a public talk at the parish by the papal biographer of Pope Saint John Paul II, Prof. [George Weigel](#). The event is open to the public.

The Master Plan for [Catholic Land](#) will be presented to the entire parish during two parish Town Hall meetings on Tuesday, April 26, one at 1:00 PM and another at 7:00 PM. *I strongly encourage every parishioner to attend one of these sessions!*

I'm happy to announce that Bishop Robert Guglielmone will be at the parish on May 3 for Confirmation. Any baptized Catholic Christian, who is in 7th grade or older, who would like to be Confirmed is encouraged to reach out to Johnny Rusciolelli, our Operations Assistant and Liturgy Coordinator, for more information: jrusciolelli@charlestondiocese.org.

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)!

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