

*From Father Kirby...*

**September 11, 2022**

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

During this Ordinary Time, we are encouraged by the Church to recommit ourselves to the Lord Jesus. As we hear the Gospel again, let us surrender our lives completely to him.

This weekend our homily will be my annual “State of the Parish” update. I attempt to give an annual update on things every Fall. It’s good to see what the Lord has done and what he’s expecting of us as we move forward.

For some time, I’ve been promoting [FORMED](#), which is the Catholic livestream service our parish covers so that every household has free access to wholesome, faith-based content. As an encouragement, I’m going to start highlighting content I’m watching on [FORMED](#). This past week, I watched the video, *Blessed Dun Scotus*. The video recounts one of least known theologians in the Church. The theological work of Blessed Dun Scotus is what helped pave the way for the Church to dogmatically claim the Immaculate Conception of Mary.

Some things happening around the parish:

Today as a nation we observe Patriots Day. Our parish flags are being flown as half-mast in honor of those who died in the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001. We ask God’s continued blessings and protection upon the United States of America.

In lieu of anticipated bad weather, we have rescheduled our planned outdoor rides for our Fall Festival this Sunday. We will reschedule the rides for another weekend in October (to be announced). We will still have our Fall Festival this Sunday! We will just move the food and booths into the church building.

Our bi-annual parish financial report is now available. [It can be found on our website](#). Please direct any questions to our Parish Bookkeeper: [ssantimaw@charlestandioocese.org](mailto:ssantimaw@charlestandioocese.org).

Starting this Monday, September 12, from 1:00 – 2:00 PM, our parish Book Club will resume. All are welcome! The first book of the club this year is *The Gift of God: The Holy Spirit* by Fr. Andrew Apostoli, CFR. For more information, please contact Deacon Doc: [bdonofrio@charlestandioocese.org](mailto:bdonofrio@charlestandioocese.org).

Also starting this Monday, September 12, at 6:30 PM, the Spiritual Society of Saint Monica will host the Stations of the Cross for those who have left the faith every second Monday of the month. The Stations will be prayed in the church. The books are provided. All are welcome! For more information, please contact Angie Letourneau: [aletourneau@carolina.rr.com](mailto:aletourneau@carolina.rr.com).

Also, Deacon Doc will be hosting an information night on the RCIA process on Monday, September 12, from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM. This RCIA is the process by which an adult is prepared for baptism or for a full reception into the Catholic Church. The event will be held in Room 1 of the Parish Hall. For more information, please contact Deacon Doc: [bdonofrio@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:bdonofrio@charlestdiocese.org).

Our next parish Formation Day was scheduled for Saturday, September 17. The diocese intervened and asked if we could move the event to Cardinal Newman School and open it up to the entire diocese. Of course, we agreed. The event is now entitled, [“Born for This!”](#) All parishioners are invited to come and learn about the continued summons of the Gospel of Life in a post-Roe world.

Please note our new [calendar for the program year 2022/2023](#) is now posted on our parish website. The calendar describes all of our events and programs for the coming year.

Some other future events I’d like to highlight:

Starting Tuesday, September 20, from 10:30 AM- 11:45 AM, the Saint Philomena Fellowship will begin in the Parish Hall. The fellowship is for all children Pre-K through First Grade. It is an opportunity for young parents and their children to spend time together, play games, and learn biblical stories. For more information, please contact Mary Ellen Wolfe: [mer102780@hotmail.com](mailto:mer102780@hotmail.com).

Our next prayer outreach at the local abortion facility is on Saturday, September 24, at 8:30 AM. All parishioners are encouraged to come and join in this peaceful, prayerful protect against the horror of abortion and the preservation of all human life.

Please note that the annual diocesan Priest Retreat will be held on Monday-Thursday, September 26-29. I will be away with the Bishop and the priests of the diocese. We will not have public Mass or Confessions on these days. All other events – the Rosary, Novenas, Adoration, and formation sessions - will still take place.

I'm happy to announce that next summer, June 2023, I'll be hosting a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Rome. Here's an [invitatory video](#). And here's [the link](#) to the website with more information. Please note this is not a parish pilgrimage. I am taking this pilgrimage on vacation time and inviting others to join me. Other friends and supporters will come from other parts of the country and be a part of the pilgrimage.

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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