

From Father Kirby...

October 23, 2022

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

As we make our way through Ordinary Time, I encourage you to evaluate your discipleship and renew your commitment to the Lord Jesus!

Congratulations to our Deacon Candidate Tom Heath, who received his Master of Arts Degree in Theology last weekend! We look very forward to his diaconal ordination on February 4. For your future planning, the parish will host an overnight bus trip to the ordination ceremony. More information is forthcoming.

Congratulations also to our Deacon Candidate Binh Davis, who formally received the Ministry of Lector this past weekend. This is the first step toward diaconal ordination. We are happy to celebrate this milestone with Binh!

We also welcome Patte Kennedy to the parish staff. Patte is our new Parish Secretary. *Welcome, Patte!*

This Sunday, we have our monthly Fellowship Sunday around 12:15 PM. Come and join your fellow parishioners for donuts and conversation!

Here are some things happening at the parish this week:

In the narthex this weekend, we have sign-ups for our Christmas Children's Choir and our Live Nativity. All children of the parish are encouraged to sign up and be a part of the fun!

Also in the narthex this weekend are copies of my new book, [*A Journey to Mount Carmel: A Nine-Day Preparation for Investiture in the Brown Scapular of Our Lady*](#). The book dissects our call to be disciples of the Lord Jesus and invites us to see the scapular as a reminder of that call.

This coming Saturday, October 29, I'm happy to welcome [Father Dwight Longenecker](#) to the parish for a mini-retreat from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM. The title of the retreat is: "Prayer, Healing, and Our Lady's Rosary." No registrations are needed. All are welcome!

The parish is in need of new Counters for our weekly offertory. The counters are on a rotating schedule. Volunteers usually serve every three to four weeks. Please

consider this important service! Please stop by the Front Office or send Ryan Kubic an email: rkubic@charlestandioocese.org.

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.

I'd like to encourage every family in the parish to register for [FORMED](#). This is a free digital platform with family friendly content.

Some other future events I'd like to highlight:

Our parish Book Club will start a new book on Monday, October 31. Entitled, *The Joy of Full Surrender*, the book addresses the search for God's presence in our daily lives. The Book Club is held every Monday at 1:00 PM. All are welcome!

Please note that Tuesday, November 1, is the Solemnity of All Saints. The feast is a Holy Day of Obligation. All Catholics are obliged to attend Mass. Our Mass schedule here is: October 31 at 4:00 PM and 5:30 PM; and, November 1 at 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, and 7:00 PM. Confessions will be heard after all the Masses.

The feast of All Souls is Wednesday, November 2. All the baptized are encouraged to come and pray for the repose of the souls of their loved ones. Our Masses are at 7:00 AM, 12 Noon at the Columbarium, and 7:00 PM.

Here's a quick summary of our All Souls traditions:

- *The Reading of Names*: This solemn tradition occurs at the 7:00 PM evening Mass *and is reserved only for those people who have died within the last liturgical year (from November 2 to November 2)*. Anyone who has lost a loved one during the past liturgical year is asked to send in their names to John Paul Rusciolelli: jrusciolelli@charlestandioocese.org.
- *The Book of the Dead*: The Book is placed near the baptismal font on November 1 and remains there throughout the month of November. Anyone who has died can be written in the Book of the Dead, regardless of when or how long ago they may have died. Those who are written in the Book of the Dead will be remembered in the Prayers of the Faithful throughout November.
- *The All Souls collection and envelopes*: On the envelopes, the faithful list their loved ones and ask their pastor to remember them in his Masses and prayers

throughout the year. This is the only time when a collection and envelopes go to the pastor.

Our next First Friday and First Saturday are November 4-5. Please plan to give an hour of prayer during our Nocturnal Adoration.

We've been able to reschedule our Ferris Wheel and Merry-Go-Round to Sunday, November 6. We're adding a few other activities and are calling the event the "All Saints Festival!" More details will follow soon!

Every Monday, the parish hosts an evening Holy Hour. On Monday, November 7, our Holy Hour will be specifically offered for our country and for a safe and good midterm election. All are invited to come and join us for prayer!

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)!

Email: Jeffrey.Kirby@charlestdiocese.org
Website: www.frkirby.com
Twitter: @fatherkirby