

From Father Kirby...

November 6, 2022

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the many opportunities for grace this past week! It was a joy to see so many actively involved in the prayer of the Church! Go, Team Grace!

For those who did not attend Mass for the Holy Day of Obligation this past week, however, I remind you of your need to go to sacramental Confession.

Everyone is invited to join us this Sunday afternoon, November 6, around 12:30 PM, for our All Saints Festival! We'll have a Ferris Wheel, Merry-Go-Round, some hot dogs, funnel cakes, face painting, and all kinds of fun! The event is free. *All are welcome!*

The thirty-three days of preparation begin this Sunday (November 6) for those who will want to make (or renew) their Consecration to Jesus Through Mary on the Immaculate Conception (December 8). Free preparation books are available in the narthex this weekend. All are encouraged to make this powerful devotion of the Church.

Here are some things happening at the parish this week:

In this quarter's offertory envelopes, you may have noticed that there is a new second collection on the first weekend of the month. The second collection will provide additional resources to our major projects on campus, such as the front hill, the railway landscaping, etc. Thank you for whatever support you can give to this collection!

If you are taking required minimum distributions (RMD) from your IRA, are you taking advantage of the qualified charitable distribution (QCD)? Please consider doing so and remembering your parish in your charitable giving. If you're not sure what this is, or how to give to the parish, please contact Angie Letourneau, a member of our parish Finance Council, at aletourneau@carolina.rr.com to get information on how to structure your cash contributions to get a tax break.

Many of you know John Paul Rusciolelli. He's a college student working on our staff as our current Director of Ministries. John Paul works diligently for the parish and has been a key staff member in the on-going post-pandemic mission of our

parish. Well, John Paul was recently able to buy a small home in the Waxhaw area. As a help, I asked him to come up with a registry for things he might need for his new home. [Here's the link to his registry](#). Team Grace, please do what you can to support this young adult as he tirelessly supports us!

Every Monday, the parish hosts an evening Holy Hour at 7:00 PM. On Monday, November 7, our Holy Hour will be offered specifically for our country and for a safe and good midterm election. All are invited to come and join us for prayer!

This coming Wednesday and Thursday, November 9 and 10, I'll be away visiting our friends at EWTN. While I'm away, Father Robert Morey will be visiting us. Father Morey will hear Confessions on Wednesday and celebrate our daily Masses on Wednesday and Thursday. *Welcome, Father Morey!*

This Friday, November 11, we wish all our veterans a very Happy Veteran's Day! We thank you for your service to our nation! As is our custom here at Our Lady of Grace, we will have our "God Bless America" banner up from Veteran's Day to Thanksgiving weekend. We ask God's continued blessing and protection upon the United States of America!

Coming up on EWTN, I'll be co-hosting a miniseries entitled, *Living the Christian Way*. The miniseries runs from November 14-18 at 5:30 PM (ET) with an encore at 2:30 AM (ET). The series addresses major social issues of our day, including the LGBTQ+ movement, Critical Race Theory, gender equality, etc. All parishioners are encouraged to tune in for the miniseries!

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:

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@charlestdiocese.org.

On Monday, November 14, at 6:30 PM, we'll have our monthly Stations of the Cross for those who have left the faith. All are invited to come and pray for their loved ones who have left the Church.

On Saturday, November 19, we'll have our next Formation Day from 9:00 AM – 12 Noon. The day will focus on “Purgatory, Indulgences, Relics, and All Things Christian!” The event is free. No registration is needed. All are welcome!

Our annual Gingerbread Day for the children of the parish will be on Sunday, November 27. The 11:00 AM Mass will have a children's homily and blessing of the Baby Jesus. After the Mass, there will be free gingerbread houses for every child in the Parish Hall, as well as all the fun things needed to decorate them! All children and their parents are welcome!

Our next First Friday and First Saturday are December 2-3.

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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