

*From Father Kirby...*

**January 8, 2023**

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! Today, we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. It is his manifestation to the nations, and the revelation that the Anointed Savior is for all people.

During our 11:00 AM Mass, we'll be blessed with three children of the parish dressed up as the Magi bringing up the bread and wine during the Offertory Procession.

In the narthex this weekend, we have the form for the annual Epiphany Blessing of the Christian Home. I encourage each of you to celebrate this beautiful ritual in your homes.

Here are some things happening at the parish this week:

Thank you to everyone who dropped off Christmas desserts and spirits for myself and the staff. We're all very grateful for your kindness!

Considering the feedback of many parishioners to my inquiry about our Monday daily Mass, I've decided to move our Monday daily Mass from 12 Noon to 5:30 PM. *The new schedule will start this Monday, January 9.* The Rosary will be at 5:00 PM, Mass at 5:30 PM, and the parish Holy Hour and Confessions will follow the Mass until Benediction at 7:00 PM.

Deacon Doc will be starting a new book in the parish Book Club this Monday, January 9. He will be walking through [\*Sanctify Them in Truth: How the Church's Social Doctrine Addresses the Issues of Our Time\*](#). The Book Club runs from 1:00 – 2:00 PM. All are welcome!

Every Thursday, from 10:30 AM – 11:40 AM, the Women's Faith Formation meets. Currently, the group is walking through the biblical names of the Lord Jesus. All women are welcome to join the group!

Next weekend, January 14-15, the parish will host a Diaper Drive. All parishioners are asked to bring diapers to Mass. The diapers will then be distributed to local outreaches in support of unwed or low-income mothers.

Next Sunday, January 15, the parish will host a blood bus. All parishioners are encouraged to give blood. As a pro-life people, we serve life however we can. Blood

is in great need in our area. Please sign up! *Please note: sign-ups are required.* Here is [the link to sign up](#).

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 household of 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:

Monday, January 16, is Martin Luther King Day. In honor of the national holiday, our parish campus will be closed. There is no public Mass or Confession. All other events are suspended.

Our Deacon Candidate, Tom Heath, will be ordained a permanent deacon by our Bishop on Saturday, February 4, at 11:00 AM at the Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist in Charleston. All are welcome and invited to attend the Ordination.

Our 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday, February 12, will be our future Deacon Heath's Mass of Thanksgiving. *All parishioners are strongly encouraged to come and celebrate our new Deacon's Ordination.* A reception with personal Diaconal Blessings will follow the Mass.

The parish is happy to host a pilgrimage to the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) and the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament on April 12-14. [Here is the link](#) for more information.

I want to encourage parishioners to please pre-plan their funerals with the parish. Monty Bennett, our Director of Sacred Music, is happy to meet with any parishioner and go through the pre-planning process. Monty can be reached at [mbennett@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:mbennett@charlestdioocese.org).

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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