

From Father Kirby...

March 12, 2023

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

Lent continues on. It's a season of sacrifice. It's a sacred time when we are called to die to ourselves, so that we can live more fully for Jesus Christ. Are you using this Lent well?

In my homily this weekend, I'll reference the prayer, the Morning Offering. Here is the link to ["The Morning Offering,"](#) which a great daily service that sends you the prayer, the daily Mass readings, information on the saint of the day, and other spiritual resources. I highly recommend it!

Here are some things happening at the parish this week:

Every Monday evening, we have Mass at 5:30 PM, with Adoration and Confessions afterwards until 7:00 PM. For Lent, our Stations of the Cross are prayed after Adoration at 7:00 PM. In observing the amount of people who are coming to Confession, and the ones that are turned away at 7:00 PM, we're going to extend our Confessions on Monday evenings until the end of the Stations of the Cross.

For Saint Patrick's Day, March 17, the Bishop has dispensed from the meat abstinence for the faithful of the Diocese of Charleston. If the dispensation is used, the faithful are to do another act of sacrifice at their discretion.

Next weekend, March 18-19, the parish is hosting a personal hygiene items collection. The items will go to the [Women's Enrichment Center](#). The center requests the following items: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo-body wash (two in one), and deodorant for women. Please participate in our drive and bring these items with you to Mass next weekend. When you arrive on campus, please take the items directly to the pavilion. Members of our Helping Hands ministry will receive your items and load them on our collection truck.

Next Sunday, March 19, we'll once again host a Blood Bus as a parish. As a pro-life people, we serve life however we can. There is a great need for blood in our area. Sign-ups are required. [Here is the link to sign up.](#)

Next Sunday at our 11:00 AM Mass we'll have bagpiper in honor of Laetare "Rejoice" Sunday.

Our parish Administrator and his wife are expecting their fourth child in May! Congratulations, Ryan and Margaret! At my request, they've made a baby registry. If any parishioners would like to bless this family with a gift on the occasion of their new baby, [please visit the registry here](#).

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:

Our next Prayer Outreach at the local abortion facility is Saturday, March 25, All parishioners are encouraged to come for this peaceful, prayerful protest against abortion.

Due to the timing of Holy Week this year, our next First Friday and First Saturday celebrations will be March 31 – April 1. Please plan on participating in our parish Nocturnal Adoration.

On Sunday, April 2, the Solemn Procession of Palms will be held at the beginning of our 11:00 AM Mass. Our annual Spring Festival will be after the Mass. For the festival, we'll have some BBQ, a petting zoo, pony rides, and a lot of other activities. All are welcome!

The Bishop will be here on Tuesday, May 2, for Confirmation. Any baptized person in seventh grade or above can petition to receive Confirmation. Please reach out to John Paul Rusciollelli for more information: jrusciollelli@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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