

*From Father Kirby...*

**March 5, 2023**

Happy Sunday, Team Grace!

As we journey through the holy and penitential season of Lent, I encourage you to look for ways in which you can die to yourself, so that you can live more fully for Jesus Christ. Lent is about sacrifice. It is about drawing closer to the Lord Jesus in all we say and do.

I'm grateful for the presence and assistance that Monsignor Karl Chimiak gave to our parish these past several weeks. Monsignor was called back to Washington, DC, to assist with a parish there. He will be missed. We wish him the best!

Here are some things happening at the parish this week:

This weekend, the [parish's semi-annual financial report](#) is posted. If you have any questions, please reach out to Ryan Kubic, our parish Administrator: [rkubic@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:rkubic@charlestdioocese.org).

Please pray for the young people of the parish who are away for the Diocesan Youth Conference this weekend. May they go deeper in their relationship with the Lord Jesus.

Our Stations of the Cross for Lent are prayed every Monday at 7:00 PM. All are welcome!

On Saturday, March 11, from 9:00 AM – 12 Noon, we'll have our next Formation Day. Our theme will be "Discipleship and the Sacraments of Healing." All are welcome! No registration is needed.

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:

On the weekend of March 18-19, we'll have a personal hygiene 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.

On 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.](#)

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](mailto:jrusciollelli@charlestdioocese.org).

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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