

From Father Kirby...

April 2, 2023

Happy Palm Sunday, Team Grace!

Today, we remember and liturgically re-live the triumphal entry of the Lord Jesus into the Holy City Jerusalem. The Lord enters Jerusalem to prepare for his Passion and Death. *I strongly encourage everyone to participate in the sacred liturgies of this Holy Week!*

Here are some things happening at the parish this week:

This Sunday, April 2, we have our Solemn Procession of Palms at the beginning of our 11:00 AM Mass. All parishioners are asked to arrive around 10:45 AM and to meet at the statue of Our Lady at the entrance of the parish campus.

Our annual Spring Festival will be after the 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday. For the festival, we'll have some BBQ, a petting zoo, pony rides, and a lot of other activities. All are welcome!

Please note we will not have Confessions or daily Mass this coming Monday and Tuesday, April 3-4. I'll be in Charleston for the annual Chrism Mass with the Bishop. The campus and parish office will be opened on Monday (April 3), but will be closed on Tuesday (April 4).

Our Faith Formation on Wednesday evenings is on hiatus until April 19.

Our Holy Week schedule (from Wednesday to Sunday) is as follows:

Spy Wednesday (April 5): Confessions 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM; Rosary at 11:30 AM; Mass at Noon; Saint Dymphna Novena at 12:30; Confessions from 12:45 PM until last penitent. Adoration from 12:45 PM – 2:15 PM.

Holy Thursday (April 6): No day events. Parish Office and campus are closed during the morning and afternoon. No 12 Noon Mass. Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 PM. Confessions from 8:30 PM – 11:30 PM. Adoration (Altar of Repose) from 8:30 PM – Midnight.

Good Friday (April 7): Parish Office closed. Confessions from 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM; Solemn Stations of the Cross at 12 Noon; Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 3:00 PM; Confessions from 4:30 PM – 8:00 PM.

Holy Saturday (April 8): Parish Office and campus closed in the morning and afternoon. No 4:00 PM or 5:30 PM Masses. Great Easter Vigil at 8:30 PM.

Easter Sunday (April 9): Mass at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM.

Please note that the Parish Office and campus are closed for Easter Week, April 10 – 14. There is no public Mass. All activities are suspended.

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 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](#).

Our annual Mercy Service will be held on Mercy Sunday, April 16, at 3:00 PM. We'll have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions, readings from Saint Faustina's *Diary*, and a singing of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. 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.

This coming October, 2023, I'll be hosting a pilgrimage to Fatima, Spain, and Lourdes. Here's the [link to the travel agency website](#) with more information. Please note this is not a parish pilgrimage. I am taking this pilgrimage on vacation time and inviting others to join me. Other friends and supporters will come from other parts of the country and be a part of the pilgrimage.

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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