

*From Father Kirby...*

**April 23, 2023**

Happy Easter, Team Grace! We continue to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord throughout the Easter Season! He is Risen! Alleluia! The Lord is truly Risen!

Our homily series for the Easter Season will be on the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church's formal daily prayers.

Here are some things happening at the parish this week:

It's our pleasure as a parish to provide support to Saint Catherine's Parish, our sister parish in Lancaster County, and its extensive outreach to Spanish-speaking Catholics. This past week, we gave Saint Catherine's a \$10,000 charitable grant in support of its financial needs and pastoral works.

This coming week, April 24-27, I'll be away for the National Gathering of Papal Missionaries of Mercy. Father Bob Morey will be at the parish. There are no substantial changes to our parish schedule for Confessions and Mass.

This Wednesday evening, April 26, there are no evening Confessions at 6:00 PM. *Please note: this is our only schedule change for Confessions next week.* For our adult faith formation at 6:30 PM, Monty Bennett, our Director of Sacred Music and our parish Funeral Coordinator, will be giving a special presentation on funeral planning. All parishioners are encouraged to come!

The Bishop will be here on Tuesday, May 2, for Confirmation. The Mass is at 7:00 PM and all parishioners are asked to come and be a part of the Mass. This is our new Bishop's first visit to Our Lady of Grace. Let's show him a warm welcome!

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 First Friday and First Saturday for May is on May 5-6.

On Mother's Day weekend, May 13-14, we will offer a special Mother's Day blessing to all mothers.

Our annual May Procession and Crowning will be at the beginning of our 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday, May 21.

Our parish May Picnic will be on Sunday, May 21, at 12:30 PM. We'll have a live band, hamburgers, hot dogs, ice cream, and a lot of fun! All are welcome!

I'm happy to announce that I've launched a new podcast through Good Catholic. The podcast is free. Entitled "Truth Be Bold," it covers contemporary issues facing Christians today. Here's a [promo video](#). The podcast is available on [Spotify](#), [Apple Podcast](#), and [Good Catholic](#).

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)!

Email: [Jeffrey.Kirby@charlestandiocese.org](mailto:Jeffrey.Kirby@charlestandiocese.org)

Website: [www.frkirby.com](http://www.frkirby.com)

Twitter: @fatherkirby

Podcast: *Truth be Bold*: On [Spotify](#), [Apple Podcast](#), and [Good Catholic](#)

Daily Reflections are available through [MorningOffering.com](http://MorningOffering.com).