

From Father Kirby...

September 24, 2023

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! As Ordinary Time continues, we examine our discipleship and ask where we stand with the Lord Jesus. Are we seeking to be true and faithful followers of the Lord in all we say and do?

This weekend, we have sign-ups in the narthex for several of our most critical ministries. These ministries include: *Helping Hands*, which assist with food drives, large events, and special projects; *Our Lady's Helpers*, which cleans the church and its sacred areas; and, *Nursery Helpers*, which helps run a nursery during special events. Please be generous with your time and talents!

Also in the narthex this weekend, the parish has additional copies of the book, [*The Dogma of Hell*](#). Due to the large response to the book, we ran out of copies last weekend. Please be sure to get your free copy this weekend!

Our monthly Fellowship is this Sunday around 12:15 PM. We'll have donuts in the Parish Hall and a coffee/tea truck near the pavilion. All are welcome!

Some things happening at the parish that I'd like to highlight this week:

With the first of the month being a Sunday in October, our Nocturnal Adoration is off by one week. Sign-ups for Adoration will be next weekend and our Nocturnal Adoration is October 6-7.

Every Tuesday, the Philomena Fellowship meets from 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM. The fellowship meets in Rooms 1 and 2 of the Parish Hall. The Fellowship is for stay-at-home parents and their little ones (up to first grade) to meet for playtime and lessons on our Faith. For more information, please contact the group leaders at philomena@gracewepray.org.

This Wednesday, I'd like to give the parish an update on developments relating to Catholic Land and our current campus. I'd like for everyone to have the opportunity to ask questions and give comments. As such, the parish will host two Town Hall sessions this Wednesday, September 27. One Town Hall session will be at 1:00 PM and the other will be at 6:30 PM. The same content will be presented at each session. There are two sessions so that more people can attend.

On Saturday, September 30, at our 5:30 PM Mass, several members of our parish will make their Profession of Vows as Secular Franciscans. We wish them all God's blessings and look forward to celebrating this milestone with them!

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.

Some other future events I'd like to highlight:

I'd like to start highlighting our senior staff and letting you know their major areas of responsibility. Wesley Dry is our Director of Buildings and Grounds. He is responsible and has decision-making authority over all areas relating to the church building, rectory, and parish campus. If you have any concerns relating to these areas, however small or large, please email Wesley at: wdry@charlestdiocese.org.

Next weekend, September 30 - October 1, in honor of the Guardian Angels, we will give a special blessing to all babies and toddlers (up to two years old) during all our Masses.

Next Sunday, October 1, at 2:00 PM, we'll have our annual Blessing of Pets in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi. The blessing will be near the pavilion. Snacks and refreshments will be served after the blessing. Bring your pets, however large or small!

On Sunday, October 8, we'll have a Rosary Procession before our 11:00 AM Mass. All parishioners are invited to come and honor Our Lady during the month of the Rosary. Please come around 10:45 AM, park your cars, and meet down by the flags at the entrance of our campus.

On Monday, October 9, at 7:00 PM, we'll have our monthly Stations of the Cross for all those who have left the Faith. All are welcome to come and walk the Stations for this special intention!

Please note that EWTN host and noted author, Raymond Arroyo, will be visiting our parish on Sunday afternoon, October 29. More details will follow as the event gets closer.

Some general announcements for the good of the parish:

I'd like to encourage every household of the parish to register for [FORMED](#). This is a free digital platform with good Catholic, family-friendly content. I also want to strongly encourage every household to join [EWTN OnDemand](#), which is another free digital platform whose content is supportive of our faith.

As a reminder, our parish staff can be readily reached via email. [Here is the staff directory](#).

The Bishop would like to invite all medical doctors and nurses to spend October 21 with him in prayer and formation. [Here's the information](#).

More updates next week! Oremus pro invicem (let's pray for one another)!

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Twitter: @fatherkirby

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

Radio Show: *Of First Importance*, [RadioMariaUS](#)

Weekly spirituality column: <https://cruxnow.com/author/fr-jeff-kirby>

Daily Reflections available through [MorningOffering.com](#).