

March 31, 2024

From Father Kirby...

Happy Easter, Team Grace! The Lord is Risen! He is truly Risen! Alleluia! Rejoice!! The Lord is Risen!! May you experience the rich fullness of his grace and always know of his love and presence in your life!

Thank you to everyone who donated toward our Easter Flowers. [Here is the list](#) of the intentions of our donors.

For all parishioners who signed up for the diocesan Eucharistic Congress, please be sure to pick up your parish shirts this weekend or on Friday night. You will need to wear these to the event. Please remember that we are departing from the parish campus next Saturday morning, April 6, at 7:00 AM. Please be punctual since our buses will need to get on the road as quickly as possible. If you are driving yourself, still meet at the parish campus at 7:00 AM to get your ticket and a blessing. If for some reason you cannot meet us that morning, contact our Lay Administrator Ryan Kubic at rkubic@charlestdiocese.org to get your tickets in advance.

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

As is our custom here at the parish, the campus and church are closed the week after Easter. As such, we will be closed this coming Monday – Thursday, April 1- 4. There is no public Mass. All events are suspended.

This coming Friday, April 5, we have our modified Nocturnal Adoration for First Friday. Please come and join your parish family for Mass at 7:00 PM, followed by Adoration and Confessions until Midnight.

Due to the diocesan Eucharistic Congress, please note that there are no First Saturday observances next Saturday, April 6. *There are also no 4:00 PM and 5:30 PM evening Masses next Saturday, April 6.*

Next Sunday, April 7, we'll have our annual Divine Mercy Service from 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM. We'll have Eucharistic Adoration, Confessions, the singing of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, readings from Saint Faustina's *Diary*, and other devotions. All are welcome!

Our Wednesday faith formation programs are still on Spring hiatus until Wednesday, April 10.

Please note our [calendar for the program year 2023/2024](#) is posted on our parish website. The calendar describes all our events and programs for the year.

Some other future events I'd like to highlight:

As a Papal Missionary of Mercy, I'm sometimes asked to assist as a confessor/spiritual director for priest retreats. On Monday – Thursday, April 8-11, I'll be serving in this capacity at a national priest retreat in Austin, Texas. Please remember the priest retreatants in your prayers!

On Monday evening, April 8, *our 5:30 PM Mass is cancelled*. We'll still have the rosary at 5:00 PM. The Miraculous Medal Novena will be prayed at 5:30 PM and our evening Adoration time will follow afterwards until 6:55 PM. At 6:55 PM, one of our parish deacons will give Benediction.

On Tuesday – Thursday, April 9-11, Father Bob Morey will be here at the parish. He'll offer the daily Masses and hear daily Confessions. Our parish schedule remains the same for devotions and other events.

On Wednesday evening, April 10, during our regular adult formation time, 6:30 – 7:45 PM, Dr. John Acquaviva will give a guest presentation on themes relating to sports.

Please note there are no Confessions on Wednesday evening, April 10.

As a reminder, starting Saturday, April 13, we're only going to have a 5:00 PM Saturday evening Mass.

Starting on Saturday, April 13, we'll have Solemn Vespers at 4:00 PM on Saturdays. Everyone is encouraged to come and join in the Evening Prayer of the Church!

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](#).

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

Email: Jeffrey.Kirby@charlestdiocese.org

Website: www.frkirby.com

Twitter: @fatherkirby

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

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

Daily Reflections available through MorningOffering.com.