

September 8, 2024

From Father Kirby...

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! Today, we continue the examination of our discipleship during this season of Ordinary Time. How can we draw closer to the Lord? Where can we be more faithful to him?

This Sunday, we have our annual Fall Festival around 12:30 PM. There will be games, food, and fun for everyone! Please come and join us! Bring some friends! *All are welcome!*

Our patriotic banner continues to be displayed at the entrance of our campus. As is our custom here, the banner is displayed from Labor Day to Patriot Day (September 11).

Some things happening at the parish this week:

As we start our program year, I'd like to release our parish [*Annual Report and Budget*](#). Please direct any questions you might have to our Business Manager, Sandy Petrizzo: spetrizzo@charlestondiocese.org. I'm grateful to all the families and parishioners who support the mission and work of our parish!

As a reminder, all our formation and fellowship programs are back in session. I encourage everyone to participate and be active in our parish life.

This Monday, I'll be in Charleston giving the faculty retreat for Bishop England High School. As some of you might know, I taught at Bishop England before I went into the seminary and, early in my priesthood, I served as the Chaplain of the school. It's a place of great meaning and nostalgia for me. I was honored to be asked by the principal to give the faculty retreat and I look forward to being back at BE! I'll return to the parish in the late afternoon. Our evening Mass schedule on Monday *will not* be affected by this event.

This Monday evening, September 9, at 7:00 PM, we'll have our monthly Stations of the Cross for our loved ones who have left the Faith. All are encouraged to come and walk the Stations as we pray for the swift return of all those who have left the Church.

This Wednesday, September 11, the parish will observe Patriot Day with a special Memorial Mass at 12 Noon for all those who died during the terrorist attacks on

September 11, 2001. All are encouraged to come and pray for God's blessings and protection upon our nation!

Please note that evening Confessions on Wednesdays have resumed and are heard from 6:00 – 6:30 PM.

It was our hope to host Paul Nelson for a talk on evangelization on September 13. Regrettably, this event has fallen through. Instead, we'll host a Formation Day on September 14.

On September 14, from 9:00 AM – 12 Noon, we'll have one of our sporadic Formation Days. Our topic for this Formation Day will be the mystery of the prophets. Who are these holy ones? What can we learn from them? Please bring a Bible with you! All are welcome!

The [calendar for the program year 2024/2025](#) is posted on our parish website. The calendar describes all our events and programs for the year. This is posted for your reference and information.

Some other future events I'd like to highlight:

In honor of the Guardian Angels, we'll offer a special blessing to all babies and small children (unborn to age two) during our Sunday morning Masses on September 22.

I'm happy to announce that at 10:00 AM on Monday, September 23, we will have the Solemn Transferal of Cremains from our current columbarium to our new Holy Angels Columbarium. All parishioners are invited to come and participate in the procession and participate in Mass. Please meet us at our current columbarium (near the rectory) at 10:00 AM. Mass will be offered after the procession at our new Holy Angels Columbarium. A fellowship will follow the Mass.

The formal blessing of the new Holy Angels Columbarium will happen after the 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday, September 29. All are invited to come for the blessing and share in fellowship afterwards. New niches can be purchased at the blessing and any time afterwards.

As a reminder, the reception of First Holy Communion is independent of our Faith Formation programs. While on-going formation is necessary for First Holy Communion, our catechetical program itself does not prepare a child for their First Holy Communion. The reception of First Holy Communion requires active

participation at Mass and in parish life. If a parent thinks a child is ready for their First Holy Communion, they should reach out to Carrie Scibelli, our Liturgy Coordinator, for information on the review process for the sacrament. Carrie can be reached at cscibelli@charlestandioocese.org.

In the Spring, the Bishop will be visiting our parish to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation. More information will be given as details are set.

Our new parish website is still under construction. We are behind schedule and hope to post something soon.

Some general announcements for the good of the parish:

I'm happy to host a [pilgrimage to Italy in March](#) for the Jubilee Year and a [pilgrimage in the footsteps of Saint Paul](#) (Greece and Turkey) in June. I'll post more information on these pilgrimages in the weeks to come.

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)!

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