

**February 2, 2025**

***From Father Kirby...***

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! Today, we pause Ordinary Time and celebrate the Presentation of the Lord Jesus. Forty days after his birth, the Lord Jesus was taken to the Temple in Jerusalem by Mary and Joseph and presented to God the Father. Today is a celebration of revelation, light, and joy!

What a grace it is for our parish that we are able to celebrate the Presentation of the Lord with a new deacon! Congratulations to Deacon Binh Davis, who was ordained by our Bishop yesterday at the Cathedral in Charleston. *Congratulations, Deacon Binh!*

Some things happening at the parish this week:

This weekend, in the narthex, we have sign-ups for our Nocturnal Adoration this coming First Friday - First Saturday, February 7-8. Please be generous with your time and give an hour of prayer to the Lord Jesus and your parish family.

During our 5:30 PM Mass this Monday evening, February 3, we'll have our annual Blessing of Throats in honor of Saint Blaise. All are encouraged to come and receive the blessing of the saint!

Our next Saint Paula Luncheon for Widows is this Tuesday, February 4, at 1:15 PM. All widows of the parish are encouraged to come. Monty Bennett, our Director of Sacred Music, will talk about the healing and encouraging power of music. For more information, please contact Carrie Scibelli: [cscibelli@charlestandioocese.org](mailto:cscibelli@charlestandioocese.org).

As a reminder, every Tuesday and Thursday morning we have Morning Prayer (Lauds) at 10:00 AM, followed by Adoration and Confessions until 11:20 AM.

This Friday, February 7, our monthly Mass of the Sacred Heart is at 7:00 PM. Confessions follow the Mass until Midnight. Adoration begins after Mass and continues until 10:20 AM on Saturday morning.

This Saturday, February 8, we have Confessions from 9:00 – 10:20 AM. The Holy Rosary is at 10:30 AM. Our monthly Healing Mass with the Anointing of the Sick is at 11:00 AM. Our Intercessory Prayer Teams and Parish Brunch follow the Mass.

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:

Our next Stations of the Cross for those who have left the practice of the Faith is Monday, February 10, at 7:00 PM. All are invited to come and walk the Stations praying for the swift return of those who are fallen away.

Our next Formation Day is Saturday, February 15, from 9:00 AM – 12 Noon. The theme is: *Understanding the History, Logistics, and Spiritual Power of Confession!* All are welcome!

In observance of Presidents' Day, the parish campus will be closed on Monday, February 17. There is no public Mass. All other events are suspended.

On Friday, February 21, we're happy to welcome [Clement Harrold](#) back to the parish. We'll have a Sacred Music Concert at 6:30 PM. Clement will give a talk on "With Christ in the Desert: Lessons for the Lenten Journey." A Fellowship and Meet-the-Speaker will follow the talk. All are welcome!

Anyone who has been through an abortion is encouraged to go on a [Rachel's Vineyard Retreat](#). The retreat is focused on healing and restoration. I strongly recommend this retreat. If anyone needs help financially to attend the retreat, the parish will provide whatever assistance is needed.

I'm happy to announce that our Bishop will be visiting the parish on Saturday, March 1, 2025. The Bishop will be visiting to confer Confirmation on the young people of our parish. Any young person who is in the process of petitioning for Confirmation will need to complete the process no later than *February 9*. If you have any questions, please reach out to Carrie Scibelli at: [cscibelli@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:cscibelli@charlestdiocese.org).

Some general announcements for the good of the parish:

Many of you know how much I love Saint Paul and his apostolic writings. I'm overjoyed to host a [pilgrimage in the footsteps of Saint Paul](#) (Greece and Turkey) this June. I have not been to many of the holy places associated with the Apostle, but I know his writings and their context, and I'm eager to visit these holy places

and celebrate Mass there. I'm extending an open invitation to anyone who is able and would like to come on the pilgrimage! Let's walk in the footsteps of Saint Paul together!

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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