

**March 30, 2025**

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

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! Greetings from Gubbio, Italy! Today my Sunday Mass at the Church of Saint Francis in Gubbio was offered for our parish family! You and your intentions are being remembered throughout the holy places of Rome and Italy.

This weekend, we have sign-ups for our Nocturnal Adoration this Friday – Saturday, April 4-5. Please be generous with your time and spend an hour with the Lord Jesus and your parish family.

Here are some things happening at the parish this week:

I'm grateful to Fr. Colin Blatchford for covering the parish Masses and Confessions this past week. We continue to pray for his work with [Courage International](#) and its outreach to those with same-sex attractions and gender dysphoria. *Thank you, Father Blatchford!*

We welcome Father Robert Morey to the parish this coming week, March 31 – April 3. *Welcome, Father Morey!*

Our Mass schedule, Liturgy of the Hour, Novena, Rosary, Adoration, and program schedule will all remain the same this week. Please note, however, that we will have an abbreviated Confession schedule from March 31 – April 3.

Please note our abbreviated Confession schedule: There are no *morning* Confessions from March 31 - April 3. *Confessions will be heard on Monday evenings, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, and late afternoon on Saturday.*

For Lent, our Stations of the Cross are prayed at 7:00 PM on Mondays. Please come and walk the Stations this Monday, March 31, as well as April 7. Please note there are no Stations of the Cross on April 14, since it's Monday of Holy Week. The Solemn Stations at Noon on Good Friday are the Stations for Holy Week.

This week, our parish is happy to provide cheeseburgers for the inmates of the Kershaw Correctional Institution. While cheeseburgers might not sound like much to most of us, it's greatly cherished by the inmates, who are not usually able to eat fast food. We usually do this for Easter. The prison schedule this year, however,

required us to do it a little earlier. Thank you to the members of our prison team for coordinating this distribution of cheeseburgers and Christian love!

As a reminder, the Spring module of our Wednesday and other faith formation programs are now on hiatus. Our programs will all resume in September.

I look forward to being back in time to celebrate First Friday and First Saturday with the parish family. As a reminder:

This Friday, April 4, at 7:00 PM, we have our monthly Mass of the Sacred Heart. Confessions follow the Mass until Midnight. Adoration also follows the Mass and continues on until 10:20 AM on Saturday morning.

This Saturday, April 5, we have Confessions from 9:00 AM – 10:20 AM, the holy Rosary at 10:30 AM, our Healing Mass with the Anointing of the Sick at 11:00 AM, and then our intercessory prayer teams and parish brunch after 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:

During this Lent, we are slowly reintroducing our Thursday Outdoor Masses at the parish columbarium. *What a blessing it is for us to now offer these Masses at our new Holy Angels Columbarium!* The final outdoor Mass for this Lent will be offered on Thursday, April 10. Please bring a chair or blanket to sit on. When we have our outdoor Masses, we will also have the Thursday holy Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and our weekly Fellowship outside at the columbarium.

On Friday – Saturday, April 11-12, we're very happy to welcome Dr. John Bergsma to the parish. Dr Bergsma will give talks on the Old Testament understanding of the Lord's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. The talks are being given right before we start Holy Week. I encourage everyone to participate and to use these talks as a help to enter the Paschal Mystery.

Here's the schedule for Dr. Bergsma's visit:

Friday, April 11:

- 6:30 PM Sacred Music Concert

- 7:00 PM “Holy Thursday through Jewish Eyes”
- 8:00 PM Fellowship and Book Signing

Saturday, April 12:

- 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast
- 9:30 AM “Good Friday through Jewish Eyes”
- 10:30 AM Break
- 11:00 AM “Easter through Jewish Eyes”
- 12:00 PM Fellowship and Book Signing

This year for Palm Sunday, April 13, we’ll have our annual Solemn Procession of the Palms at the beginning of our 11:00 AM Mass. All parishioners are invited to come and be a part of this procession as we honor the triumphal entry of the Lord Jesus into Jerusalem. Parishioners are asked to come early, park, and meet around 10:45 AM at the flags near the entrance of our campus.

During our 11:00 AM Mass on Palm Sunday, the homily will be a Children’s Homily. All children are invited!

On Palm Sunday, April 13, we’ll have our annual Spring Festival around 12:30 PM. Come and join us for food, a petting zoo, and games in honor of the Lord’s entry into Jerusalem!

Some general announcements for the good of the parish:

In his apostolic journeys, Saint Paul had communities he struggled with and communities he rejoiced over. The Ephesians were especially close to Saint Paul. Saint John the Apostle lived in Ephesus and Our Lady lived in John’s house for a portion of time. We think that Ephesus is where Saint Luke – a disciple of Saint Paul - met and “interviewed” Our Lady for his Gospel. During the Jubilee pilgrimage in the footsteps of Saint Paul, we’ll visit Ephesus and Our Lady’s house! If you want to dive into the life and legacy of the great Apostle, please consider coming on my Jubilee [pilgrimage in the footsteps of Saint Paul](#) (Greece and Turkey) this June!

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

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

“X”: [@fatherkirby](#)

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