

August 31, 2025

From Father Kirby...

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! During Ordinary Time, we are all reminded that we are works in progress. As such, we can approach the Lord Jesus with humility and transparency. We can acknowledge our strengths and confess our weaknesses as we seek to grow in our relationship with him.

Our hearts go out to Annunciation Parish in Minneapolis after this past week's shooting and the tragic loss of life. We pray for the children whose lives were taken and for those who were injured. May God grant them peace.

Please know that our parish has an extensive safety and security plan. We are doing everything possible to keep everyone safe and relaxed. I ask for your continued support and cooperation in these efforts.

This Monday, September 1, the parish will be closed in observance of Labor Day. There is no public Mass, and all other events are suspended. May God bless our work force and keep America strong!

In the narthex this weekend, we have sign-ups for our Nocturnal Adoration this coming Friday and Saturday, September 5-6. Please be generous with your time and give an hour of prayer to the Lord Jesus and your parish family.

Some things happening at the parish this week:

Our Mary's Grotto is nearly complete. All we have left is the placing of the handrails and their inspection. It's our hope to move this process along and open Mary's Grotto as soon as possible for prayers and devotions!

This Tuesday, September 2, our Mother Drexel Stitch and Chat will pick back up! The group meets from 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM. The group is for anyone who is interested in crochet, knitting, or any needlework. All experience levels welcome. For more information, contact Patti Bennett at: pbennett5678@gmail.com.

This Tuesday, September 2, our new Resurrection Bereavement Group will begin. We'll have a morning session at 10:30 AM and an evening session at 7:00 PM. The group is a Catholic-based ten-week program for adult men and women to prayerfully walk through the grieving process together. For more information, please reach out

to Jackie Greene for the morning session: jrgreene19@gmail.com, or Sue Garera for the evening session: susangarera@gmail.com.

Starting this Wednesday, September 3, from 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM, a new class will be starting up on the early Fathers of our faith. The class is an opportunity to dive into the writings of our early Fathers! The group will use the book, *The Fathers of the Church* by Mike Aquilina. Free copies will be given to participants. The book helps to give an insight into the Church Fathers, the unbroken line of teaching that flows from their witness, and how these early leaders have shaped our Faith. You will be blown away by how much deeper in prayer you'll be able to go after this class! Come out and experience a small taste of the abundant life. For more information, contact Marcus Allen at ecclesiastestwelve@proton.me.

Starting this Wednesday, September 3, come and join me every Wednesday evening, from 6:45 PM – 8:00 PM, as we spend a little time in Adoration and then dive in the Book of Exodus for our Adult Faith Formation. *All are welcome!*

This Thursday, September 4, our Women's Faith Study will start back up! The group meets from 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM. This semester, the group will walk through *The Activated Disciple: Taking Your Faith to the Next Level* by Jeff Cavins. This study is aimed at helping believers to go beyond a simple belief and practice of the faith into a radical living it. In this study, we will learn to discern and overcome obstacles that can prevent us from becoming fully committed disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. All women are invited to join the group! For more information, contact Carole King: carole.king@charlestdiocese.org.

This Friday evening, September 5, we have our monthly Mass of the Sacred Heart at 7:00 PM. Confessions will follow the Mass until Midnight.

This Saturday morning, September 6, we have all our normal First Saturday observances. All are welcome!

The [calendar for the program year](#) 2025/2026 is now 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 events I'd like to highlight:

I'd like to ask any members of our parish who are familiar with Alcoholics Anonymous to please reach out to me. I'd like to identify a few parishioners who

can help us to launch an AA group at the parish. Please email me directly: Jeffrey.kirby@charlestdiocese.org.

Starting next Monday, September 8, at 1:00 PM, Deacon Doc will resume our parish Book Club. For this module, the group is reading the book, [*Real Discipleship: How to Follow Jesus His Way – Not Ours*](#). All are welcome to be a part of this engaging and fun dive into what it means to follow Jesus Christ. For more information, please reach out to Deacon Doc Donofrio: bdonofrio@charlestdiocese.org.

Starting next Wednesday, September 10, from 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM, we're launching a new monthly program for small children and stay-home parents. Entitled, "Eucharistic Kids!," the program consists of Adoration and playtime. All small children and their parents are invited! For more information, please email Rachael Kanetzke: rachael.kanetzke@gmail.com.

As many parishioners know, we are an on-line giving parish. Our weekly collection is mainly received through sustained on-line giving by the members of our parish. I want to encourage all parishioners to switch to on-line giving. [Here's the link](#) for more information.

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

"X": [@fatherkirby](#)

Spiritual Resources:

[Weekly Spirituality Column](#)

[Monthly Newsletter](#)