

# Our Lady of SORROWS C H U R C H



ESTABLISHED 1890

IN MARY'S TEARS AND SORROWS WE FIND GRACE

## From Our Pastor:

### Feast of Baptism of the Lord: Remember Who You Are

Every year, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord brings us to the banks of the Jordan River, where something quietly revolutionary happens. Jesus steps into the water. No thunder yet. No miracles. No preaching. Just Jesus, standing in line with sinners, asking John to baptize Him. John is understandably confused. "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" In other words: *This doesn't make sense.* And John is right—at least by human logic. Jesus has no sin to wash away. He doesn't need



repentance. Yet Jesus insists: "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."

Why does this matter? Because in this moment, Jesus teaches us what baptism truly means. Baptism is not first about *what we do for God*; it is about *who we become in God*.

When Jesus rises from the water, the heavens open. The Spirit descends like a dove. And the Father speaks: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." Notice the order. Before Jesus preaches a sermon, heals a sick person, or dies on the cross, the Father declares His identity. Jesus is loved—not because of achievement, but because of relationship.

That same truth applies to us. At our baptism, the heavens opened over our lives too—perhaps not visibly, but truly. God claimed us as His own. Baptism is not a spiritual decoration or a childhood memory to be framed and forgotten. It is a lifelong identity. To be baptized is to be named: *beloved son, beloved daughter.*  
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## Parish Office

2552 Gillham Rd  
Kansas City, MO 64108  
North of the church at the top of the stairs.

## Office Hours

9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Monday-Friday

**Phone** (816) 421-2112

**Fax** (816) 421-6037

**Email** oloskc@oloskc.org

## Rev. Leonard Gicheru

Pastor  
frleonard@oloskc.org

## Brad Geist

Pastoral Associate  
Legion of Mary President  
bgeist@oloskc.org

## John Pileggi

Knights of Columbus  
816-547-6574  
jgapileggi@gmail.com

## Weekly Schedule

### Saturday

Confessions 3:30 pm

Mass 4:00 pm

### Sunday

Mass 11:00 am

### Wednesday and Thursday

Adoration 11:00am

Confession 11:30 am

Mass 12 Noon

## Baptism and Marriage

Call for information or email  
bgeist@oloskc.org

JANUARY 11, 2026  
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

# Feasts and Mass Intentions

## SATURDAY, January 10— The Baptism of the Lord

4:00pm † Frank Joseph Baccala

## SUNDAY, January 11— The Baptism of the Lord

11:00am The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

## MONDAY, January 12

## TUESDAY, January 13— St. Hilary Poitiers

## WEDNESDAY, January 14

Noon † The deceased family and friends of Jane Carey

## THURSDAY, January 15

Noon † The deceased family and friends of Rose Ann Jett

## FRIDAY, January 16

## SATURDAY, January 17— The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm † Anna A Nachtigall

## SUNDAY, January 18— The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

11:00am The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

### Please Note: MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions are available for the posted times in the bulletin, on our church sign, and on our website. We do have days with openings for intentions coming up. Call or email the office at (816) 421-2112 or bgeist@olosc.org if you would like to have a Mass said for yourself or a loved one, living or deceased.

# Liturgical Assignments

1/10 & 11	4:00pm	11:00am
Reader	Nancy Lowdon	Ann Creedon
Eucharistic Minister	Lynette Wheeler	Joe Creedon
Server/Sacristan	John Pileggi	George Bryde
Usher	Ted Tschirhart	Bill Capotosto

1/17 & 18	4:00pm	11:00am
Reader	Lynette Wheeler	Bill Capotosto
Eucharistic Minister	Nancy Lowdon	Rita Witt
Server/Sacristan	John Pileggi	George Bryde
Usher	Ted Tschirhart	Bill Capotosto

## Readings for the 1st Week in Ordinary Time

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-19; Mk 1:14-20  
 Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8; Mk 1:21-28  
 Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10; Mk 1:29-39  
 Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40-45  
 Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1-12  
 Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1; Ps 21:2-7; Mk 2:13-17  
 Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

# Parish Calendar of Events

- Jan 10-11— Food Pantry Collection after Mass
- Jan 12— Legion of Mary at 4pm (Every Monday)
- Jan 18— Catholic Home Missions Appeal
- Jan 20— Water Garden Society at 5:30pm
- Jan 31— Wedding at 1:30pm
- Feb 4— Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- Feb 5— Bible Study (Genesis) at 7pm
- Feb 7— Church Cleaning at 9am
- Feb 17— Water Garden Society at 5:30pm
- Feb 14-15— Food Pantry Collection after Mass
- Feb 18— Ash Wednesday Mass at Noon.
- Feb 19— Wedding at 5pm
- Feb 22— Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Appeal
- Mar 4—Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- Mar 5— Bible Study (Genesis) at 7pm
- Mar 7— Church Cleaning at 9am
- Mar 14-15— Food Pantry Collection after Mass
- Mar 14— Wedding at 6pm
- Mar 17— Water Garden Society at 5:30pm
- Mar 21— Wedding at 1:30pm
- Mar 29— Palm Sunday
- Apr 3— Holy Land Collection
- Apr 4—Church Cleaning and decoration at 9am
- Apr 5— Easter Sunday
- Apr 9— Bible Study (Genesis) at 7pm
- Apr 11— Wedding at 1:30pm
- Apr 11-12—Food Pantry Collection after Mass

Keep watching for more info & dates to come!

# Ministries & Reflections



## Saint of the Week— St. Anthony of the Desert

Saint Anthony of the Desert is revered as one of the most famous Christian monks in both the Western and Eastern Churches. Born in 251 in Lower Egypt to wealthy parents, at the age of 20, Anthony's parents died and he was left to care for his younger unmarried sister. Soon after, he entered a church as Mt 19:21 was being read: "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasures in heaven." Deeply moved, Anthony quickly sold all his lands, gave the proceeds to the poor, and entrusted his sister to the care of a group of consecrated virgins. He went out to the desert to live alone as an ascetic, eating only bread and drinking saltwater, sometimes fasting from 2-4 days at a time. Eventually his asceticism attracted followers and a group formed that asked him to be their spiritual leader. Because of Anthony's leadership and organization of this group, he is called the "Father of Monasticism." St. Athanasius of Alexandria wrote his biography, called the Life of St. Anthony, making him a famous name throughout the Church. This work about St. Anthony influenced many other saints, playing an important role in the conversions of St. Augustine and St. John Chrysostom. His influence can be felt in the writings of St. Benedict, who brought monasticism to the Western Church. St. Anthony died in 356 at the age of 105. He was buried in a grave near his cell.

## Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Next weekend we will have a second collection for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal, which goes to support poorer dioceses in the United States.

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This is where the challenge comes in. Many of us live as if baptism were something in our past instead of the foundation of our present. We define ourselves by our failures, our successes, our titles, our regrets, or what others think of us. But baptism tells a different story. Before we are workers, parents, leaders, retirees, or sinners trying to do better—we are beloved.

And yet baptism is not passive. Jesus does not remain in the Jordan forever. He comes up from the water and immediately begins His mission. Baptism launches Him into the wilderness, into ministry, into sacrifice. In the same way, our baptism commissions us. It calls us to live differently, love boldly, forgive generously, and resist the temptation to blend quietly into a culture that often forgets God.

To be baptized is to say: *My life no longer belongs only to me.* Every time we bless ourselves with holy water, we are reminded of this truth. We are reminded that we have died with Christ and risen with Him. That we are not self-made people, but God-claimed people. That holiness is not reserved for saints on stained glass windows, but expected of ordinary believers living ordinary lives with extraordinary faith.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord invites us to ask a simple but demanding question: **Do I live like someone who knows they are beloved?**

Because when we remember who we are, we begin to live as we should. And that is the real power of baptism—not just water on the skin, but identity written on the heart.



## Church Cleaning Invitation

This Sunday, January 11, beginning after the 11am Mass, is our monthly church cleaning as well as Christmas decoration take down. Please come and lend a hand for the work is light and rewarding. Stay a few minutes or an hour. We will need many hands to help.

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## Office of Child & Youth Protection—Sexual Abuse

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911.

If the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, report the suspected abuse to the Diocesan Ombudsman, [ombudsman@ombudsmankcsj.org](mailto:ombudsman@ombudsmankcsj.org) 816-213-6024 The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate, at 816-714-2357 or [victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org](mailto:victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org) for more information.

# Weekly Activities & Events

## Last Week's Offering

From Dec 29, 2025 to Jan 4, 2026

Plate _____	\$378.00
Envelopes _____	\$2296.00
Mother of God _____	\$170.00
Home Missions Appeal _____	\$20.00
Candles _____	\$75.00
Poor Box _____	\$70.00
Maintenance _____	\$205.00
Online _____	\$1193.06

## Thank You!

We wish to give a special thank you to Teocali Mexican Restaurant and Cantina for providing us food for our Christmas party! We encourage all our parishioners to support this excellent business, which is owned by our parishioners. We also wish to thank all who helped to decorate and prepare for the event. It was a lot of fun and was our biggest party in recent memory!

## The Legion of Mary

Under the patronage and care of the Mother of God, the Legion of Mary is formed to serve both the spiritual growth of her members and in commitment of work and service to the Church.

The Our Lady of Kibeho Praesidium meets every **Monday at 4pm in the parish hall except for the last Monday of the month, when we meet at St.**

**Monica's at the same time.** This group collaborates with parishioners of St. Monica's, our sister parish.



## Prayers Requested

Pray for Mary Weatherford, Grace Diaz, Sarah Eck, Jim Healy, Rose Ann Jett, Jane Carey, Jerry Gumminger, Ken Blundell, Allan Schaff, Grace Weatherford, Joe Creedon, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Nolan Davidson, Jay Keen, Jim Tabor

## A Note From The Editor

Announcements and changes for the bulletin must be submitted to the parish office in writing no later than Wednesday by Noon. Please indicate which dates you would like the notice to run. Please mail the information to the office or email Brad at the office at [bgeist@oloskc.org](mailto:bgeist@oloskc.org).

## Visit our Website & Facebook Page

Please visit our website at [oloskc.org](http://oloskc.org). Once there Visit our Facebook page by clicking where indicated. Please be sure to like our Facebook Page for updates!



You can make donations through our website or scanning the QR code, which will take you directly to Vanco.

You can also **text to give** by texting the amount you would like to give to **844-780-2300**. You will receive a registration link where you can give your payment information and then confirm.

## The Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus will be meeting at **6:30pm on Wednesday, February 4th** in the parish hall. If you have an interest in joining the Knights, we strongly encourage you to attend this meeting.



## Parish Bible Study

The next Bible study session is on Thursday, **February 5th at 7pm** and we normally meet monthly on the first Thursday of every month. We will study the Book of Genesis, the first and one of the most important books of the Bible. Please email Brad at [bgeist@oloskc.org](mailto:bgeist@oloskc.org) for updates and details.



## Pray for our Catechumens

Please pray for Noah and Drew, who are preparing to enter the Church next Easter.

## Email Prayer Chain

If you would like to request prayers, please email our prayer chain at [AnnMarie@oloskc.org](mailto:AnnMarie@oloskc.org). If you would like to join the prayer chain to pray for these intentions, please send an email request to be added to the list.

## Social Outreach Ministry

The parish Social Outreach ministry will be taking monthly donations of perishable and non-perishable food, toiletries, unopened hygiene products, diapers, and laundry items for donation to the food pantry at St. Monica's. **Our monthly collection of these items will take place on January 10th and 11th** and takes place on the second weekend of each month. You can leave your items in the back of the church. If you would like to help with the social outreach ministry, please contact Bill Capotosto at [bcapotosto@gmail.com](mailto:bcapotosto@gmail.com).