

Our Lady of SORROWS C H U R C H



ESTABLISHED 1890

IN MARY'S TEARS AND SORROWS WE FIND GRACE

From Our Pastor:

God's Antique GPS Still Works

"When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem..." And they came with one simple explanation: "We saw *his star*." Not a map. Not directions from Google. Not even a vague sense of intuition. A **star!** Now, let's be honest—if someone told us today, "I followed a star across several countries," we might gently suggest a good night's sleep or a stronger cup of coffee. Yet Scripture tells us that these Magi—learned, educated, respected men—trusted that a point of light in the sky was enough to change their route, interrupt their schedules, and send them on a long, uncertain journey. That alone should get our attention.



The Feast of the Epiphany is not just about gold, frankincense, and myrrh. It's about **light**. The star is God's way of saying: *I will meet you where you are, and I will lead you—if you are willing to move.*

Notice something important: the star did not give the Magi the entire plan all at once. It didn't spell out the route, the timeline, or the challenges ahead. It simply appeared—and that was enough to get them started. Faith often works that way. God rarely hands us a full itinerary. Instead, He gives us just enough light for the next step.

And here's the humbling part: when the Magi arrived in Jerusalem, the people who *should* have noticed the star—the religious experts, the insiders, the scholars of Scripture—were caught off guard. The outsiders were paying attention, while the insiders were busy with business as usual. Even King Herod, surrounded by religious knowledge, was more troubled than enlightened.

The star teaches us something uncomfortable and beautiful at the same time:

God's light is available to everyone, but not everyone is looking up.

The Magi didn't stop when the journey became inconvenient. They didn't turn back when the star led them somewhere unexpected—like a humble house
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Parish Office

2552 Gillham Rd
Kansas City, MO 64108
Next to 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

igapileggi@gmail.com

Weekly Schedule

Saturday

Confessions 3:30 pm

Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday

Mass 11:00 am

Wednesday and Thursday

Confession 11:30 am

Mass 12 Noon

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday 11:00 am

Thursday 11:00 am

Baptism and Marriage

Call for information or email

bgeist@oloskc.org

JANUARY 4, 2026
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Feasts and Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, January 3— The Epiphany of the Lord

4:00pm † Russ Daly

SUNDAY, January 4— The Epiphany of the Lord

11:00am The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

MONDAY, January 5— St. John Neumann

TUESDAY, January 6— St. Andre Bessette

WEDNESDAY, January 7— St. Raymond of Penyafort

Noon The deceased family and friends of Elisabeth Sander

THURSDAY, January 8

Noon The deceased family and friends of Edward Stevens

FRIDAY, January 9

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

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@oloskc.org if you would like to have a Mass said for yourself or a loved one, living or deceased.

Liturgical Assignments

1/3 & 4	4:00pm	11:00am
Reader	John Pileggi	Maureen Kramanak
Eucharistic Minister	Nancy Lowdon	Rita Witt
Server/Sacristan	John Pileggi	George Bryde
Usher	Ted Tschirhart	Bill Capotosto

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

Readings for the Week After Epiphany

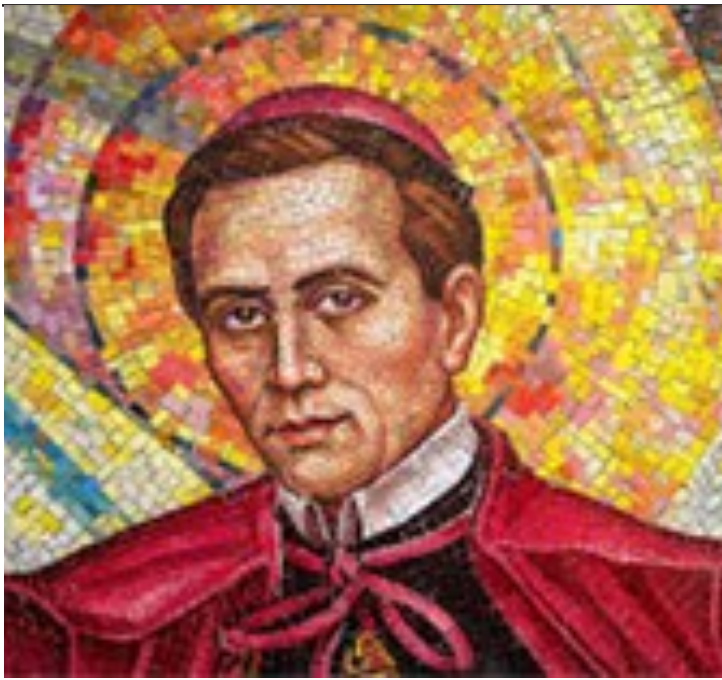
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Ps 2:7-8, 10-12; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14-15, 17; Lk 4:14-22
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6, 9; Jn 3:22-30
 Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1-4, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17

Parish Calendar of Events

- Jan 3— Christmas Party after 4pm Mass
- Jan 5— Legion of Mary at 4pm (Every Monday)
- Jan 7— Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- Jan 8— Bible Study (Genesis) at 7pm
- Jan 10— Wedding at 1:30pm
- Jan 10-11— Food Pantry Collection after Mass
- 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 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

Keep watching for more info & dates to come!

Ministries & Reflections



Saint of the Week— St. John Neumann

Saint John Neumann was born in Bohemia, what is now the Czech Republic. He came to the United States in 1836, having already completed his seminary education in Prague but not yet having been ordained because his diocese had too many priests. He arrived with one tattered suit of clothes and a dollar in his pocket. Within a month of his arrival he was ordained by the Bishop of New York, who was badly in need of German priests.

After several years of ministry in parishes, Neumann sought something more and joined the Redemptorists, moving to Philadelphia. He continued missionary work in Maryland, Virginia and Ohio, where he became popular with the Germans. At 41, as bishop of Philadelphia, he organized the parochial school system into a diocesan one, increasing the number of pupils almost twentyfold within a short time.

Gifted with outstanding organizing ability, he drew into the city many teaching communities of sisters and the Christian Brothers. During his brief assignment as vice provincial for the Redemptorists, he placed them in the forefront of the parochial movement. Well-known for his holiness and learning, spiritual writing and preaching, on October 13, 1963, Saint John Neumann became the first American bishop to be beatified. Canonized in 1977 as the first American citizen, he is buried in St. Peter the Apostle Church in Philadelphia.

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instead of a royal palace. And when they finally found the child, they didn't analyze or debate. They knelt. They worshiped. They offered what they had. That is Epiphany!

God still places stars in our lives today—moments of clarity, people who guide us, Scripture that suddenly speaks to us, a restlessness that won't go away. The question is not whether God is shining. The question is whether we are willing to follow.

This Epiphany, perhaps the invitation is simple: **look up more often.** Pay attention to the quiet lights God places in your path. And when that light nudges you to move—to forgive, to change direction, to trust—don't overthink it.

After all, the Magi didn't need all the answers. They just needed the courage to follow the star.



Church Cleaning Invitation

Next Sunday, January 4, beginning after the 11am Mass., is our monthly church cleaning as well as 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.

Prayer of the Week

Prayer for Blessing the Home on Epiphany

"Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill them with the light of Christ, that their concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen."

It is customary at the time of Epiphany to bless doorways in the home with chalk, writing the inscription 20+C+M+B+26. The outer numbers signify the year, the inner numbers signify the names of the Magi who visited Jesus— Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar.

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 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 for more information.

Weekly Activities & Events

Last Week's Offering

From Dec 22, 2025 to Dec 28, 2025

Plate	\$591.00
Envelopes	\$1116.00
Christmas	\$4709.00
Candles	\$143.36
Poor Box	\$2.00
Weddings	\$1995.00
Maintenance	\$110.00
Donation	\$200.00
Online	\$621.97

Christmas Party

Our Parish's annual Christmas Party will take place on this **Saturday January 3rd after the 4pm Mass**. There will be carols, good food, and a white elephant gift exchange. We look forward to seeing you there! 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.

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 4:00pm in the parish hall except for the last Monday of the month, when we meet at St.**

Monica's. 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.

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Please visit our website at 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, January 7th** 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, **January 8th 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 for updates and details.



Pray for our Catechumens

Please pray for Noah and Drew, who have begun their preparation 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. 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.