

# Our Lady of SORROWS C H U R C H



ESTABLISHED 1890

2552 GILLHAM ROAD ~ KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64108

## A Meditation on Today's Gospel from Pope Benedict XVI:

The star had evidently receded from view in Jerusalem. After their encounter with the words of Scripture, it shone for the wise men once more. Creation, interpreted by the Scriptures, speaks to humanity again. In describing the wise men's reaction, Matthew reaches for superlatives: "When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy" (2:10). It is the joy of one whose heart has received a ray of God's light and who can now see that his hope has been realized—the joy of one who has found what he sought, and has himself been found.

"Going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshipped him" (Mt 2:11). The wise men do a *proskýnesis* before the royal child, that is to say they throw themselves onto the ground before him. This is the homage that is offered to a divine king. The gifts brought by the wise men may be explained in similar terms. They are not practical gifts, of a kind that the holy family might have had a use for at this moment. They express the same thing as the *proskýnesis*: they acknowledge the royal dignity of him to whom they are offered. God and incense are also mentioned in Is 60:6 as gifts of homage that the Gentiles will place before the God of Israel.

In the Church's tradition—with certain variations—the three gifts have been thought to represent three aspects of the mystery of Christ: the gold points to Jesus' kingship, the incense to his divine sonship, the myrrh to the mystery of his Passion.

The myrrh actually appears in Saint John's Gospel after the death of Jesus: John tells us that Nicodemus had prepared myrrh, among other ointments, for the anointing of Jesus' body (cf. Jn 19:39). Through the myrrh, then, the mystery of the Cross is once again associated with Jesus' kingship and mysteriously proclaimed in the worship offered by the wise men. Anointing is an attempt to resist death, which only becomes definitive with decomposition. By the time the women came to the tomb to anoint the body on Easter morning—a task that could not be carried out on the evening of the crucifixion because of the approaching feast day—Jesus had already risen. He no longer needed myrrh as a protection against death, because God's life itself had overcome death.

-Pope Benedict XVI: *Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives*

(To read more about Pope Benedict XVI, please see pg 3).



POPE BENEDICT XVI  
APRIL 16, 1927– DECEMBER 31, 2022  
IN MEMORIAM

## Parish 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

## Rev. Mr. Michael Elsey

Deacon

melsey@spxkc.org

## Brad Geist

Pastoral Associate

Legion of Mary

bgeist@oloskc.org

## John Pileggi

Knights of Columbus

816-547-6574

jpgapileggi@gmail.com

## Report Abuse:

### Ombudsman, Joe Crayon

816-812-2500

### Diocesan Victim Advocate

### Whitney True-Francis

true.francis@diocesekcsj.org

## 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

Thursday 11:00 am

### Baptism and Marriage

Call for information

JANUARY 8, 2023  
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

# Mass Intentions and Feasts

**SATURDAY, January 7—The Epiphany of the Lord**  
4:00pm Lebarbara Ganz

**SUNDAY, January 8—The Epiphany of the Lord**  
11:00am The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

**MONDAY, January 9—The Baptism of the Lord**

**TUESDAY, January 10**

**WEDNESDAY, January 11**  
Noon JP and Kathy Houchins

**THURSDAY, January 12**  
Noon Paula Daub Family

**FRIDAY, January 13—St. Hilary**

**SATURDAY, January 14—2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time**  
4:00pm Pam Tyrrell

**SUNDAY, January 15—2nd Sunday of 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@oloslkc.org if you would like to have a Mass said for yourself or a loved one, living or deceased.

## Parish Calendar of Events

- **January 9—Legion of Mary** at 6pm
- **January 14—Wedding** at 6:00pm
- **January 15—Catholic Home Missions Appeal**
- **January 16—Legion of Mary** at 6pm
- **January 19—Holy Hour for Marriage** from 6-7pm
- **January 28—Wedding** at 1:30pm
- **February 2—Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)** at Noon.
- **February 2—Bible Study (The Gospel of John)** at 7pm

**Keep watching for more info & dates to come!**

# Volunteers

1/7 & 8	4:00pm	11:00am
Reader	Lynette Wheeler	AnnMarie Creedon
Eucharistic Minister	Lynette Wheeler	Joe Creedon
Server/Sacristan	John Pileggi	George Bryde
Usher	Pat Tangen	

1/14 & 15	4:00pm	11:00am
Reader	Nancy Lowdon	Brad Geist
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Michael Elsey	Deacon Michael Elsey
Server/Sacristan	Jim Hardy	George Bryde
Usher	Edward Stevens	Richard Grindell

## Readings for the 1st Week in Ordinary Time

Monday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28  
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34  
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42  
 Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 4:14-22a  
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]  
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Sal 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 2:1-11  
 Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

## Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Next week, January 14th and 15th, we will have a second collection for the Catholic Home Missions appeal, which provides for dioceses in the United States that have limited resources, difficult financial situations, vast distances, difficult terrain, and a lack of priests and lay ministers. Your contribution will go toward helping these dioceses to grow and thrive. Please be as generous as you are able.

## Annual Catholic Appeal

The 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) supports over 30 ministries and the people they serve to provide spiritual, educational, and social needs in our Diocese. This is an opportunity to commit our support to diocesan programs and ministries that no one parish could provide on its own. You will receive an invitation from Bishop Johnston inviting you to participate. Our goal is 100% participation. No gift is too small. Please join the effort.

# Weekly Activities & Events



## Saint of the Week— St. Hilary of Poitiers

St. Hilary was born to affluent pagan parents at Poitiers, France around 310. He received a very good pagan education, which included a high level of Greek. At some point he studied the Bible and abandoned his Neo-platonism for Christianity. He was baptized into the Church with his wife and young daughter. St. Hilary was so well respected by the Christians at Poitiers that they unanimously elected him as their bishop in 350. At that time Arianism, the heresy that taught that Jesus Christ is not God but the highest of all created beings, was ravaging the Church. St. Hilary was a dominant voice in the discussion and became well known for his orthodoxy. Hilary wrote to the Emperor Constantius II, rebuking him for the persecution of orthodox Christians. For this he was sent into exile for four years in Phrygia (modern day Turkey). From Phrygia, Hilary continued to manage his diocese and wrote several theological works on the Trinity. He made himself so irksome to the emperor there that he was sent back to his own diocese. At Poitiers, Hilary continued to fight for the orthodox understanding of the Trinity, writing several more works. He also encouraged St. Martin of Tours to found a monastery in his diocese. He died in 367 and is known as a Doctor of the Church.

## New Ministries Beginning!

Our new ministries are beginning. Stay tuned in the next few weeks for more info as they all begin to get days and times on the schedules. Here's some to look forward to:

**Refresh Your Faith**  
**Book Club**  
**Fellowship Sunday**  
**Social Outreach**  
**Giving Tree**

To learn more about these ministries, please contact the parish office.

## IN MEMORIAM

Pope Benedict XVI

Papacy:

April 19, 2005– February 28, 2013

Joseph Alois Ratzinger was born in Marktl am Inn, Bavaria, on April 16, 1927—Holy Saturday—and was baptized that same day, the first to be received into the Church in the new Easter waters. He entered the minor seminary at the age of 12 but his studies were interrupted by the outbreak of WWII and with most of his class was drafted into the army at the age of 16. Joseph did not believe in the merits of the war and deplored the Nazi ideology. He soon deserted, returning to his family when the war had concluded. He quickly resumed his education in philosophy and theology and was ordained a priest side by side with his brother Georg in 1951. He spent the next 20 years of his life as a professor of dogma and theology at several German universities and earned the reputation of a gifted lecturer and learned scholar. He was present at the Second Vatican Council for all four sessions as a *peritus*, or theological advisor,.

He was ordained an archbishop in May 1977 and was elevated to the College of Cardinals just a month later. He became one of the most influential men in the Roman curia under Pope John Paul II. The best known office he held was the Prefect of the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith and helped settle many important theological disputes. When Pope John Paul II died in 2005, he presided over the funeral and his homily detailing the needs of the Church so impressed the College of Cardinals that he was elected the 265th Successor of St. Peter, taking the name Pope Benedict XVI after St. Benedict, the patron of Europe.

As pope, he sought to reverse the moral decline sweeping across the western world by giving a staunch defense of Christian values. At the same time he sought to improve relations with those of other religions such as the Lutheran World Federation, Judaism, Islam, the Anglican Communion, and the Orthodox Churches by engaging them in discourse. He spoke out against human rights abuses and political conflicts. He sought ever to defend traditional Catholic doctrine and values.

On February 11, 2013, he shocked the world with an announcement that he would resign as supreme pontiff on February 28th and that a conclave should be convened to elect a new pope. He returned to Rome and remained after Jorge Bergoglio succeeded him as the Bishop of Rome. He remained in his retirement at Mater Ecclesiae Monastery in the Vatican Gardens until his death. During this time, he was known as Pope Emeritus and retained his papal name. He spent the next nearly ten years writing, studying, and praying for the Church. Pope Benedict XVI died on December 31, 2022. His final words were "*Signore ti amo*," Italian for "Lord, I love you." He was laid to rest on January 5th.

## Office of Child & Youth Protection—Sexual Abuse

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combating 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, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected *sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult* to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or [crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org](mailto:crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org) if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

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 Whitney True-Francis, at 816.392.0011 or [true.francis@diocesekcsj.org](mailto:true.francis@diocesekcsj.org) for more information.



# Weekly Activities & Events

## Last Weekend's Collection

From December 26, 2022 to January 1, 2023

Plate.....\$326.00

Envelopes.....\$1,511.00

## Prayer of the Week

### Act of Faith

*O my God, I firmly believe that You are one God, in three Divine Persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; I believe that Your Divine Son became man and died for our sins and that He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the holy Catholic Church teaches, because You have revealed them, Who can neither deceive nor be deceived.*

*Amen.*

"Faith is a foretaste of the knowledge that will make us blessed in the life to come." -St. Thomas Aquinas

## The Knights of Columbus

Our Knights of Columbus Council #2457 meets in the Parish Hall on the first Wednesdays beginning with recitation of the Rosary at 6:30pm. In addition to serving our Pastor, the Council has established Roundtables for Our Lady of Perpetual Help as well as Our Lady of Good Counsel. We are also establishing a Women's Auxiliary to help support the Knights' charitable works both practically and spiritually. Please contact Brad Geist or John Pileggi for more information."



## 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 get alerts to pray for these intentions, please feel free to send an email request.

## Prayers Requested

Pray for Mary Weatherford, Grace Diaz, Sarah Eck, Jim Healy, Mary Healy, Rose Ann Jett, Jane Carey, Mike Burke, Maurice Carey, Jerry Gumminger, Ken Blundell, Allan Schaff, Sandra Freeman, Grace Weatherford, Jim Randolph, Joe Creedon, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera

## A Note From The Editor

Announcements and changes for the bulletin must be submitted to the parish office in writing no later than Thursday by Noon. Please indicate which dates you would like the notice to run.

Please mail the information to the office or fax it to 816.421.6037 or email Brad at the office at [bgeist@oloskc.org](mailto:bgeist@oloskc.org).

## The Legion of Mary

The Our Lady of Kibeho Praesidium of the Legion of Mary meets every **Monday at 6:00pm in the parish hall**. The Legion of Mary is a Marian group that, confident in the help of Mary, seeks to imitate her in serving Jesus in those they meet by evangelizing and performing spiritual works of mercy. This group collaborates with parishioners of St. Monica Catholic Church, our sister parish. If you would like to join the Legion or want more information, please contact Brad at [bgeist@oloskc.org](mailto:bgeist@oloskc.org) for more information or come to the meeting.



## Parish Bible Study— The Gospel of John

The next Bible study session is on **February 2nd at 7pm** and it will meet monthly on the first Thursday of every month. The first book that we will study will be the Gospel of St. John. The Gospel of John is known as the Spiritual Gospel due to its emphasis on Christ's divinity. Come learn about the history of the Gospel and learn about its many themes. We'll dive down deep into what Jesus teaches, explore the miracles and their meaning, and explore the differences between John's Gospel and the other three.

## The Holy Hour for Marriage

The Holy Hour for Marriage, a new ministry that will be starting after the new year, will be held at 6pm on January 19th at Our Lady of Sorrows and will be done monthly on the third Thursday of every month. The Holy Hour will be for married and engaged couples to come and pray in eucharistic adoration over each other and for the needs of their marriage. There will be a short reflection on an aspect of married life, confession, and ample time to pray. When it is over, all couples are encouraged to go on a date with their spouse or fiancé. This event is open to any Catholic couple throughout the city. Please plan on attending this beautiful time of prayer and support the vocation of marriage in our community and diocese.

## Lector Workbooks

Workbooks for our Lectors are available in the Sacristy. If you are a lector, please come get yours. These books are to help in your practice of proclaiming the Word of God at Mass.

## 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. There is also a link to our YouTube page. Like our Facebook Page and Subscribe to our YouTube Channel.

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