

Our Lady of SORROWS C H U R C H



ESTABLISHED 1890

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
DEDICATION OF OUR PARISH CHURCH: 1923-2023

From our Pastoral Associate:

In our Gospel reading today, John the Baptist announces that “there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.” Up to this point, John’s preaching had been vexing to the authorities. They were unsure what to make of him. So they sent priests and Levites to question him. John tells them that he is not the Christ, he is not Elijah, he is not the prophet that Moses foretold would arise that would be like himself. Instead, John tells them that he is the fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah in which is stated “I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the paths of the Lord.” John’s humility is on full display in this story. He openly denies the greatest possibilities of who he is— the Christ, Elijah, the New Moses. His answers to the questioners get steadily shorter, fulfilling a later moment of humility in which John would declare, “He (Christ) must increase. I must decrease.” It is essential that he not let his ego get in the way of the coming of the great Messiah. Instead he prepares the crowds for his great appearance. In every way, John understands his mission, his vocation, and his identity. He does not allow himself to inflate his identity or to allow himself to run away with possibilities, wasting the people’s time, which is short.



We too should be like John the Baptist, eager and anxious for the coming of Jesus and ready to meet him the moment he appears. We should be ready to get out of his way and not allow ourselves to be the center of attention. John provides a masterful example of how to do this.

Finally, we should heed his advice, make straight the way of the Lord. Have we prepared our homes for the coming of the Messiah? Have we prepared our hearts? John tells us to prepare the way. In all of our preparations for Christmas, we should not lose track of the fact that this is the celebration of Jesus’ birth and we look forward in anticipation when Jesus will once again walk onto the stage for the final act. We, like John the Baptist, should be ready, as he was, to proclaim to the world, “Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

Christmas Mass Times

Dec 24- 8:30am– 4th Sunday of Advent
Dec 24- 3pm- Christmas Eve Mass
Dec 24- 5pm- Christmas Eve Mass
Dec 25– 10am– Christmas Day Mass

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

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Email oloskc@oloskc.org

Rev. Leonard Gicheru

Pastor
frleonard@oloskc.org

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Pastoral Associate
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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

Confession 11:30 am
Mass 12 Noon

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday 11:00 am

Baptism and Marriage

Call for information or email
bgeist@oloskc.org

DECEMBER 17, 2023
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass Intentions and Feasts

SATURDAY, December 16—3rd Sunday of Advent

4:00pm † Brian Waldbillig

SUNDAY, December 17— 3rd Sunday of Advent

11:00am The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

MONDAY, December 18

TUESDAY, December 19

WEDNESDAY, December 20

Noon † Maurice Carey

THURSDAY, December 21— St. Peter Canisius

Noon † Maurice Carey

FRIDAY, December 22

SATURDAY, December 23—4th Sunday of Advent

4:00pm The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

SUNDAY, December 24—4th Sunday of Advent

8:30am † Regina Foster

Readings for the 3rd Week of Advent

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17; Ps 25:4-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18-23

Thursday: Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; Lk 7:24-30

Friday: Is 56:1-3, 6-8; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Jn 5:33-36

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27

Mass Assignments

12/16 & 17	4:00pm	11:00am
Reader	Anthony Effertz	Jim Carley
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Michael Eley	Deacon Michael Eley
Server/Sacristan	John Pileggi	George Bryde
Usher	Ted Tshirhart Judy Stevens	Bill Capotosto

12/23 & 24	4:00pm	11:00am
Reader	Lynette Wheeler	Brad Geist
Eucharistic Minister	John Pileggi	Rita Witt
Server/Sacristan	John Pileggi	George Bryde
Usher	Ted Tshirhart Ed and Judy Stevens	Bill Capotosto

12/24 & 25	3:00pm	5:00pm	10:00am
Reader	Lynette Wheeler	Ann Creedon	Tim Healey
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Michael Eley	Joe Creedon	Rita Witt
Server/Sacristan	John Pileggi	John Pileggi	George Bryde
Usher	Ted Tshirhart		Bill Capotosto

Parish Calendar of Events

- Dec 18— The Legion of Mary at 6pm
- Dec 24— 4th Sunday of Advent Sunday Mass time changed to 8:30.
- Dec 24— Christmas Eve Mass at 3pm
- Dec 24— Christmas Eve Mass at 5pm
- Dec 25— Christmas Mass at 10am
- Dec 30— Wedding at 2pm
- Dec 31— Sunday Mass at 11am
- Dec 31— Wedding at 4pm
- Jan 1— Mary, Mother of God Mass at 11am
- Jan 3—Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- Jan 4—Bible Study (The Gospel of John) at 7pm
- Jan 6— Church Cleaning at 9am
- Jan 13-14— Social Ministry Collection
- Jan 20— Rediscover Your Faith at 10am at St. Monica's
- Jan 20-21— Catholic Home Missions Appeal
- Feb 1— Bible Study (The Gospel of John) at 7pm
- Feb 3— Church Cleaning at 9am
- Feb 8—Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- Feb 10-11— Social Ministry Collection
- Feb 14— Ash Wednesday Mass at Noon
- Feb 17-18— Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Appeal
- Feb 18— Catholic Movie Night at 6pm
- Mar 2— Church Cleaning at 9am
- Mar 3— Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- Mar 4— Bible Study (The Gospel of John) at 7pm

Keep watching for more info & dates to come!

Ministries & Reflections



Saint of the Week— St. Zechariah

St. Zechariah was the father of St. John the Baptist, the Forerunner of the Lord. He was Jewish priest who served at the time of King Herod. He and his wife were childless in their old age. During his time to serve in the Temple, Zechariah was chosen by the casting of lots to minister at the Altar of Incense, which stood before the veil of the Temple that shrouded the Holy of Holies. During this supreme moment, he was visited by the Angel Gabriel, who announced to him that his wife would bear him a son in his old age that would be the prophet that would prepare the way for the Messiah. Zechariah, however, asked for a sign for proof of this—demonstrating a lack of faith. For this, the sign given to him is that he would be unable to speak until the baby was born. Elizabeth conceived and, during her pregnancy, was cared for by the Blessed Virgin Mary. Zechariah learned of the coming of the Messiah and, as later events proved, was joyed by the news. When John the Baptist was born, Zechariah wrote his name on a tablet. Suddenly, he was allowed to speak and his song of praise to God, the Benedictus, is sung daily by the Church during morning prayer. It is unclear when he died, but it is possible he died protecting John during the Massacre of the Innocents by Herod.

Catholic Movie Night

Our first Catholic Movie Night, hosted by the Legion of Mary, **will be on Sunday, Feb 18th at 6pm.** Our next movie will be **There Be Dragons** (2011), a fictional retelling of the life of St. Josemaría Escrivá, the founder of *Opus Dei*: *Arising out of the horror of the Spanish Civil War, a candidate for canonization, Josemaría Escrivá, is investigated by a journalist who discovers that his own estranged father had a deep, dark and devastating connection to the saint's life. As he uncovers the truth, he learns more about his origins and learns much about forgiveness and the power of faith.* Don't miss such an excellent movie!

For Your Reflection:

To speak of our Lord, the son of the Blessed Virgin Mary, as true and perfect man is of no value to us if we do not believe that he is descended from the line of ancestors set out in the Gospel.

Matthew's gospel begins by setting out *the genealogy of Jesus Christ, son of David, son of Abraham*, and then traces his human descent by bringing his ancestral line down to his mother's husband, Joseph. On the other hand, Luke traces his parentage backward step by step to the actual father of mankind, to show that both the first and the last Adam share the same nature.

No doubt the Son of God in his omnipotence could have taught and sanctified men by appearing to them in a semblance of human form as he did to the patriarchs and prophets, when for instance he engaged in a wrestling contest or entered into conversation with them, or when he accepted their hospitality and even ate the food they set before him. But these appearances were only types, signs that mysteriously foretold the coming of one who would take a true human nature from the stock of the patriarchs who had gone before him. No mere figure, then, fulfilled the mystery of our reconciliation with God, ordained from all eternity. The divine nature and the nature of a servant were to be united in one person so that the Creator of time might be born in time, and he through whom all things were made might be brought forth in their midst.

For unless the new man, by being made *in the likeness of sinful humanity*, had taken on himself the nature of our first parents, unless he had stooped to be one in substance with his mother while sharing the Father's substance and, being alone free from sin, united our nature to his, the whole human race would still be held captive under the dominion of Satan. The Conqueror's victory would have profited us nothing if the battle had been fought outside our human condition. But through this wonderful blending the mystery of new birth shone upon us, so that through the same Spirit by whom Christ was conceived and brought forth we too might be born again in a spiritual birth; and in consequence the evangelist declares the faithful to *have been born not of blood, nor of the desire of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*

-From a Letter by Pope St. Leo the Great

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 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

Weekly Activities & Events

Last Week's Offering

From December 4 to December 10, 2023

Plate	\$380.00
Envelopes	\$4496.00
Immaculate Conception	\$210.00
Religious Retirement	\$616.75
Maintenance	\$25.00
Poor Box	\$15.00
Weddings	\$995.00
Other	\$1402.78

Christmas Decorations

We will be decorating the Church for Christmas immediately after the 8:30am Mass on December 24th. If you are able to help, even for a little while, it would be greatly appreciated.

The Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus Council #2457 meets in the parish hall on the first Wednesdays beginning with recitation of the Rosary at 6:30pm. We are also establishing a Women's Auxiliary to help support the Knights charitable works both practically and spiritually. Please contact John Pileggi at (816) 547-6574, or jgapileggi@gmail.com.



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.

Healing Mass

Are you in need of prayer for physical healing - chronic conditions, broken bones, pain, cancer? Encounter School of Ministry is hosting a healing service from 7-10pm on January 12, 2024 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Overland Park, KS. We encourage anyone in need of physical healing to come as well as anyone wanting to encounter God's presence. No cost or registration is required.

Prayers Requested

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

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.

Visit our Website & Facebook Page

Please visit our website at 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.



You may also make donations through our website.

Or use our QR Code for PayPal!

Social Outreach Ministry

The parish Social Outreach ministry will be taking monthly donations of perishable and non-perishable food, toiletries, 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 13-14**, 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.

Parish Bible Study

The next Bible study session is on **January 4th at 7pm** and we meet monthly on the first Thursday of every month. We are studying the Gospel of John, known as the Spiritual Gospel due to its emphasis on Christ's divinity. Our next session will explore Jesus' healing of the man born blind. All are welcome! There is no need to have come to prior meetings to come to this one. Please email Brad at bgeist@oloskc.org for updates and details.



Rediscover Your Faith

Our next meeting will be on **Jan 20 at 10am** at St. Monica's, our sister parish. During each meeting we focus in on a special topic to explore. Our next topic will be announced in the next couple of weeks. Please set aside time in your calendar for a deeper dive into your faith!



The Legion of Mary

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 seeks to imitate Mary in serving Jesus in those they meet by advancing the Gospel. This group collaborates with parishioners of St. Monica's, our sister parish. Our praesidium, does homebound visits of parishioners, takes communion to the sick, leads ministries, and many other vital ministries in our parish.

