

# Our Lady of SORROWS C H U R C H



ESTABLISHED 1890

IN MARY'S TEARS AND SORROWS WE FIND GRACE

## From our Pastor:

Dear Beloved Parish Family,  
Merry Christmas!  
As we gather to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we are reminded of the profound significance of this holy season for us Christians. The Nativity of our Lord is not just a historical event but a divine gift that has transformed our lives



and the world forever. In the humble birth of Jesus in a manger, God fulfilled His promise of salvation, bringing hope and light to a world darkened by sin. Through the Incarnation, God entered our humanity, drawing us closer to His divine love and making Himself accessible to each of us.

The Gospel of Luke beautifully recounts the angel's proclamation to the shepherds: "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord" (Luke 2:10-11). This good news calls us to rejoice and share in the wonder of God's love made flesh. Likewise, the opening of John's Gospel invites us to reflect on the mystery of the Word becoming flesh: "And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14).

Christmas is a season of giving, as God gave us the ultimate gift in His Son. In this spirit, I humbly invite you to consider including Our Lady of Sorrows in your generous giving this Christmas. Your support is vital in sustaining our parish's mission to be a place of worship, community, and service. Your contributions enable us to continue sharing the joy of Christ's birth with others, especially those in need.

As your priest and pastor, I treasure the gift of you. The dedication, sacrifices, and hard work you show daily make this parish a beacon of Christ's love. I am deeply grateful to all who serve in our various ministries and organizations, bringing life and joy to our parish. I especially thank everyone who contributed to making our Christmas celebrations and decorations so vibrant and colorful.

On behalf of Deacon Mike Eley and all our staff, I wish you and your families a blessed and joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year! May the peace, joy, and love of the Holy Family dwell in your hearts and homes throughout the New Year.

With gratitude and prayers,  
Fr. Leonard Gicheru

## Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve: 3pm and 5pm  
Christmas Day: 10am  
New Years Day: 10am

## 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  
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 22, 2024  
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# Feasts and Mass Intentions

**SATURDAY, December 21— The Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
4:00pm The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

**SUNDAY, December 22— The Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
11:00am Anthony Martinez and Holy Souls

**MONDAY, December 23— St. John of Kanty**

**TUESDAY, December 24**

3:00pm Anthony Martinez and Holy Souls

5:00pm The Parishioners Our Lady of Sorrows

**WEDNESDAY, December 25— Christmas Day**

10:00am The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

**THURSDAY, December 26— St. Stephen the Martyr**

Noon † Frankie Fowler

**FRIDAY, December 27— St. John the Apostle**

**SATURDAY, December 28— The Holy Family of Jesus,  
Mary, and Joseph**

4:00pm † Brian Waldbillig

**SUNDAY, December 29— The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary,  
and Joseph**

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

12/21 & 22	4:00pm	11:00am
Reader	Lynette Wheeler	Bill Capotosto
Eucharistic Minister	Arthur Kovach	Rita Witt
Server/Sacristan	James Hardy	George Bryde
Usher	Ted Tschirhart	Bill Capotosto

12/24 & 25	3:00pm	5:00pm	10:00am
Reader	Jim Carley	Ann Creedon	Bill Capotosto
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Mike Elsey	Joe Creedon	Rita Witt
Server/Sacristan	John Pileggi	John Pileggi	George Bryde
Usher	Ted Tschirhart		Bill Capotosto

12/28 & 29	4:00pm	11:00am
Reader	James Hardy	Ann Creedon
Eucharistic Minister	John Pileggi	Joe Creedon
Server/Sacristan	John Pileggi	George Bryde
Usher	Ted Tschirhart	Bill Capotosto

# Parish Calendar of Events

- Dec 24— Christmas Eve Masses at 3pm and 5pm
- Dec 25— Christmas Day Mass at 10am
- Dec 28— Wedding 1:30pm
- Jan 1— Mary, Mother of God at 10am
- Jan 1— Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- Jan 4— Parish Christmas Party after 4pm Mass
- Jan 6— Legion of Mary at 6pm (Every Monday)
- Jan 9— Bible Study (The Gospel of John) at 7pm
- Jan 11-12— Social Ministry Collection
- Jan 19—Catholic Home Missions Appeal
- Jan 21—Water Garden Society at 5:30pm
- Feb 5— Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- Feb 6— Bible Study (The Gospel of John) at 7pm
- Feb 7— Wedding at 5:00pm
- Feb 8-9— Social Ministry Collection
- Feb 18— Water Garden Society at 5:30pm
- Mar 5— Ash Wednesday at Noon
- Mar 5— Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- Mar 6— Bible Study at 7pm
- Mar 9— Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Appeal
- March 15—Wedding at 1:30pm
- March 30— Catholic Relief Service Collection
- Apr 18— Good Friday Holy Land Collection
- Apr 25— Wedding at 1:30pm
- May 3— Wedding at 1:30pm
- May 3— Wedding at 6pm
- May 9— Wedding at 4:30pm

Keep watching for more info & dates to come!

# Ministries & Reflections



## Saints of the Week— The Holy Innocents

Herod “the Great,” king of Judea, was unpopular with his people because of his connections with the Romans and his religious indifference. Hence he was insecure and fearful of any threat to his throne. He was a master politician and a tyrant capable of extreme brutality. He killed his wife, his brother, and his sister’s two husbands, to name only a few. Matthew 2:1-18 tells this story: Herod was “greatly troubled” when astrologers from the east came asking the whereabouts of “the newborn king of the Jews,” whose star they had seen. They were told that the Jewish Scriptures named Bethlehem as the place where the Messiah would be born. Herod cunningly told them to report back to him so that he could also “do him homage.” They found Jesus, offered him their gifts, and warned by an angel, avoided Herod on their way home. The Holy Family escaped to Egypt. Herod became furious and ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under. The horror of the massacre and the devastation of the mothers and fathers led Matthew to quote Jeremiah: “A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentation; Rachel weeping for her children...” (Matthew 2:18). Rachel was the wife of Jacob (Israel). She is pictured as weeping at the place where the Israelites were herded together by the conquering Assyrians for their march into captivity. The Holy Innocents are today honored as saints— the first people to shed their blood for Christ.

## Christmas Decoration

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Monday, December 23rd starting at 10am in the church. This is a great time to get together and make our parish beautiful for Christmas. We hope to see you there!

## For Your Reflection:

God is man’s glory. Man is the vessel which receives God’s action and all his wisdom and power. Just as a doctor is judged in his care for the sick, so God is revealed in his conduct with men. That is Paul’s reason for saying: *God has made the whole world prisoner of unbelief that he may have mercy on all.* He was speaking of man, who was disobedient to God, and cast off from immortality, and then found mercy, receiving through the Son of God the adoption he brings. If man, without being puffed up or boastful, has a right belief regarding created things and their divine Creator, who, having given them being, holds them all in his power, and if man perseveres in God’s love, and in obedience and gratitude to him, he will receive greater glory from him. It will be a glory which will grow ever brighter until he takes on the likeness of the one who died for him. He it was who took on the likeness of sinful flesh, to condemn sin and rid the flesh of sin, as now condemned. He wanted to invite man to take on his likeness, appointing man an imitator of God, establishing man in a way of life in obedience to the Father that would lead to the vision of God, and endowing man with power to receive the Father. He is the Word of God who dwelt with man and became the Son of Man to open the way for man to receive God, for God to dwell with man, according to the will of the Father. For this reason *the Lord himself* gave as the sign of our salvation, the one who was born of *the Virgin, Emmanuel.* It was *the Lord himself* who saved them, for of themselves they had no power to be saved. Isaiah says the same: *Hands that are feeble, grow strong! Knees that are weak, take courage! Hearts that are faint, grow strong! Fear not; see, our God is judgement and he will repay. He himself will come and save us.*

-St. Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against Heresies*

## Readings for this Week

Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 ; Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66  
Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79  
Wednesday: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18  
Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3-4, 6, 8, 16-17; Mt 10:17-22  
Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1-8  
Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7-8; Mt 2:13-18  
Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21; Lk 2:22-40

## 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)

# Weekly Activities & Events

## Last Week's Offering

From December 9 to December 15, 2024

Plate	\$579.11
Envelopes	\$2136.00
Religious Retirement	\$40.00
Candles	\$86.00
Poor Box	\$138.00
Maintenance	\$100.00
Weddings	\$1000.00
Christmas Flowers	\$50.00
Lighthouse	\$7.00

## Prayer of the Week

### A Prayer During Christmastime

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires (mention your intentions here), through the merits of Our Savior, Jesus Christ, and of His Blessed Mother.  
Amen.

## The Legion of Mary

Our Lady of Kibeho Praesidium of the Legion of Mary meets every **Monday at 6:00pm in the parish hall except for the last Monday of the month, when we meet at St.**

**Monica's.** The Legion of Mary is a Marian group that seeks to bring Jesus and Mary to the world through acts of evangelization and spiritual outreach. 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.



## 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.

## 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, Jay Keen

## 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 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

Are you looking to make a difference in your community, grow in faith, and build lasting friendships? The Knights of Columbus are calling you! The Knights of Columbus:

**\*\*Serves Others\*\*:** Participation in charitable works that support those in need.  
**\*\*Strengthen Faith\*\*:** Deepening spiritual life through prayer, education, and service.

**\*\*Enjoy Brotherhood\*\*:** Connection with like-minded men who share Catholic values with commitment to faith, family, and community.

Please contact Arthur Kovach at (816) 574-0900



## Christmas Party

Our Parish will celebrate its annual Christmas Party on January 4th after the 4pm Mass. This is a wonderful time to enjoy one another's company in festive cheer. More details to come. Please plan on attending this wonderful celebration!

## Parish Bible Study

The next Bible study session is on Thursday, **January 9th at 7pm** and we normally 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 walk through Jesus' passion, beginning with his arrest and trials. You do not want to miss this session! Please email Brad at [bgeist@oloskc.org](mailto:bgeist@oloskc.org) for updates and details.



## 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 today, January 11 and 12th**, 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).