

# 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:

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, which always comes on the Sunday immediately after Christmas. On this feast day, we reflect on this most unique family, a model for all the rest of our families on earth.

But why is this family the model for all others? The Holy Family was something entirely new— and never to be repeated. And there seem to be real difficulties in the family— Joseph is not Jesus' biological father and the couple, according to Mary's own answer to the angel, appear to have taken a vow of celibacy. So how are they a model for us and for the every day family?

The answer lies, of course, in the child. Whereas most couples are united by their vows and by their relationship with one another that creates unity and brings forth a child, in the Holy Family, it is Jesus himself that creates the unity of their relationship. Both Matthew and Luke show this close unity between Mary and Joseph. Both go to Bethlehem and suffer together because there was no room for them in the inn. Together, they present Jesus in the Temple. Together, they save Jesus from the murderous hatred of King Herod. They go to Egypt and return together. They search diligently for him in the Temple. They educate him, feed him, care for his needs, defend him. They help him to grow in awareness of his Divine vocation to be the Messiah. This would have undoubtedly challenged and deepened their faith, not only in him, but in one another as well. Their warm human love for one another would have grown and deepened precisely in this common concern, service, and love for Jesus.

So while the Holy Family is unique, there is much that our families can learn from and strive to imitate in our daily lives. Are we seeking to serve and seek Jesus in our family lives? How are we doing it? What things can be added to our family routine to make this more concrete in our relationships with one another? And let us not forget about our parish family. Do we see this same growth in love in our parish? As we seek Jesus, are we also growing closer to one another, or are we staying apart? Do you know the names of the people in front of you, or next to you, or behind you at Mass? If not, why? Take some time to introduce yourself. Become familiar with your fellow parishioners. Attend the many ministries that our parish provides, and grow together in the mutual love of Jesus Christ, always using the Holy Family as our guide.



## 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 31, 2023  
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

# Mass Intentions and Feasts

**SATURDAY, December 30—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**  
 4:00pm The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

**SUNDAY, December 31—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**  
 11:00am †Fausta Roco Pelayo, †Charlie Mantle Pileggi

**MONDAY, January 1 Mary, Mother of God**  
 11:00am The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

**TUESDAY, January 2— Sts. Basil and Gregory Nazianzen**

**WEDNESDAY, January 3—The Most Holy Name of Jesus**  
 Noon † Maurice Carey

**THURSDAY, January 4— St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**  
 Noon † Maurice Carey

**FRIDAY, January 5— St. John Neumann**

**SATURDAY, January 6—The Epiphany of the Lord**  
 4:00pm The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

**SUNDAY, January 7—The Epiphany of the Lord**  
 11:00am †Fausta Roco Pelayo, †Charlie Mantle Pileggi

**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.

# Mass Assignments

12/30, 31, 1/1	4:00pm Dec 30	11:00am Dec 31	11:00am Jan 1
Reader	Anthony Effertz	Ann Creedon	Bill Capotosto
Eucharistic Minister	Arthur Kovach	Joe Creedon	Rita Witt
Server/Sacristan	John Pileggi	George Bryde	George Bryde
Usher	Ted Tschirhart		Bill Capotosto

1/6 & 7	4:00pm	11:00am
Reader	Jim Carley	Bill Capotosto
Eucharistic Minister	Nancy Lowdon	Rita Witt
Server/Sacristan	John Pileggi	George Bryde
Usher	Ted Tschirhart Ed and Judy Stevens	Bill Capotosto

## Readings for the Octave of Christmas

Monday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4, Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3-6; Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:25-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1-5; Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11

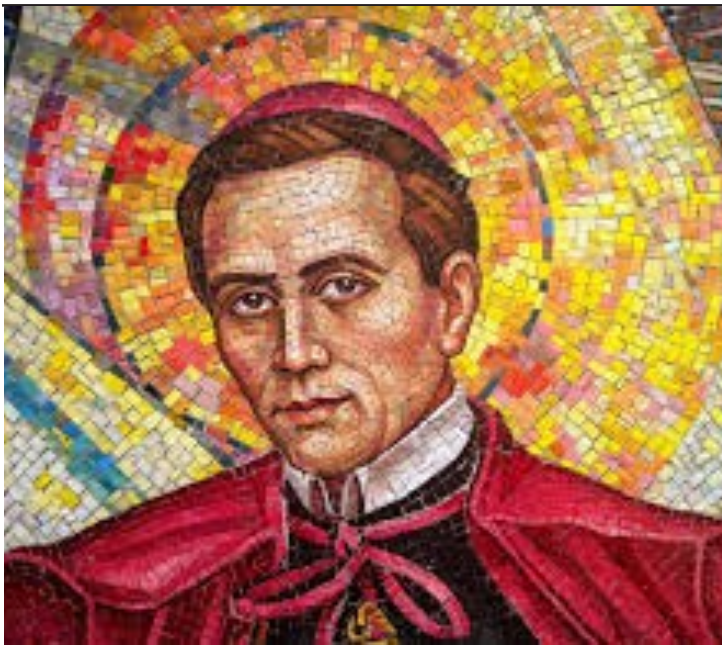
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

# Parish Calendar of Events

- 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 8— Legion of Mary Meeting at 6pm
  - 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
  - Mar 9-10— Catholic Relief Services Collection
  - Mar 29— Good Friday Holy Land Collection
  - Apr 6— Church Cleaning at 9am
  - Apr 6— Wedding at 1:30pm
  - Apr 13— Wedding at 1:30pm
  - Apr 20— Wedding at 1:30pm

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

# Ministries & Reflections



## Saint of the Week— St. John Neumann

St. John Neumann was a Catholic immigrant to the United States. He was born in 1811 in the Kingdom of Bohemia, in what is now the Czech Republic. He came to the United States in 1836, having already completed his seminary education 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 was the first Redemptorist to be invested with the habit in the New World. He eventually became their Provincial Superior. In 1852, the Holy See appointed him Bishop of Philadelphia. He inherited a rapidly expanding diocese with a new parish being completed each month. One of the first things he did was erect a Catholic school system, with 200 schools being established during his time as bishop. His diocese was poor and Neumann was well known for his frugality, giving gifts given to him to newly ordained priests. He died while running errands in the street of Philadelphia. He was canonized by Pope St. Paul VI in 1977, the first man with American citizenship to be canonized a saint.

## 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:

Nazareth is a school where we may begin to discover what Christ's life was like and to understand his Gospel. Here we can observe and ponder the simple appeal of the way God's Son came to be known, profound yet full of hidden meaning. And gradually we may even learn to imitate him. Here we can learn to realize who Christ really is. And here we can sense and take account of the conditions and circumstances that surrounded and affected his life on earth: the places, the tenor of the times, the culture, the language, religious customs, in brief everything which Jesus used to make himself known to the world. Here everything speaks to us, everything has meaning. Here we can learn the importance of spiritual discipline for all who wish to follow Christ and to live by the teachings of his Gospel. How wonderful to be close to Mary, learning again the lesson of the true meaning of life, learning again God's truths. But I cannot leave without recalling, some thoughts I take with me from Nazareth. First, we learn from its silence. If only we could once again appreciate its great value. We need this wonderful state of mind, beset as we are by the cacophony conflicting claims so characteristic of these turbulent times. The silence of Nazareth should teach us how to meditate in peace and quiet, to reflect on the deeply spiritual, and to be open to the voice of God's inner wisdom and the counsel of his true teachers. Nazareth can teach us the value of study and preparation, of meditation, of a well-ordered personal spiritual life, and of silent prayer that is known only to God. Second, may Nazareth serve as a model of what the family should be. May it show us the family's holy and enduring character and its basic function in society: a community of love and sharing, beautiful for the problems it poses and the rewards it brings; in sum, the perfect setting for rearing children—and for this there is no substitute. Finally, in Nazareth, the home of a craftsman's son, we learn about work and the discipline it entails. I would especially like to recognize its value—demanding yet redeeming—and to give it proper respect. Work has its own dignity. On the other hand, it is not an end in itself. Its value and free character, derive not only from its place in the economic system, as they say, but rather from the purpose it serves.

- *From and Address by Pope St. Paul VI*

## 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 18 to December 25, 2023

Plate	\$2496.67
Envelopes	\$3186.00
Christmas	\$4001.67
Religious Retirement	\$50.00
Maintenance	\$649.00
Weddings	\$4985.00
Candles	\$131.22
Poor Box	\$36.63
Other	\$45.00



## Church Cleaning Invitation

January 6th, beginning at 9:00 a.m., is our monthly church cleaning. Please come and lend a hand for the work is light and rewarding. Stay a few minutes or an hour. We need to have about 10 people there to complete the cleaning.

## 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](mailto:jgapileggi@gmail.com).



## 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.

## 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. 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](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. 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](mailto: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](mailto:bgeist@oloskc.org) for updates and details.



## Rediscover Your Faith

Our next meeting will be on **January 20th 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 on Mary and the Four Marian Dogmas. Emphasis will be on understanding her biblical role in our salvation and how to defend these teachings to others. 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.

