

# Our Lady of SORROWS C H U R C H



ESTABLISHED 1890

IN MARY'S TEARS AND SORROWS WE FIND GRACE

## From Our Pastor:

### When Hunger Feeds the Soul

Every year, Lent begins not with comfort, but with confrontation. The Gospel for this First Sunday places us in the desert with Jesus — not a peaceful retreat, but a battlefield. The Spirit leads Him there, and the first thing we learn is this: being led by God does not mean avoiding struggle.

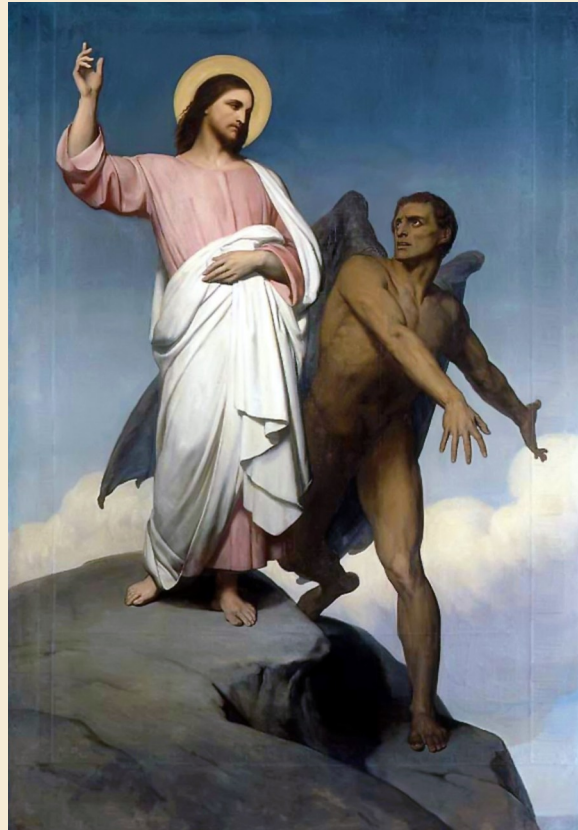
Sometimes it means facing it. After forty days of fasting, Jesus is hungry. The tempter comes precisely at His weakest moment. That is how temptation works. It does not strike when we are strong and alert; it comes when we are tired, stressed, lonely, or discouraged. The devil's first suggestion sounds reasonable: "Turn these stones into bread." In other words, *satisfy yourself first*.

Jesus refuses, teaching us that life is not sustained by bread alone but by God's Word. The first battle of Lent is learning that our deepest hunger is spiritual, not material.

The second temptation is more subtle: "Throw yourself down. God will catch you." Here the devil even quotes Scripture. This is the temptation to manipulate God — to demand signs, to expect Him to prove Himself on our terms. Jesus answers firmly: "You shall not put the Lord to the test." Faith is not bargaining with God; it is trusting Him.

Finally comes the third temptation: power, glory, and success without sacrifice. "All these I will give you if you worship me." This is the shortcut temptation — wanting the crown without the cross, the victory without the struggle, the resurrection without Good Friday. Jesus' response is decisive: "The Lord your God shall you worship, and Him alone shall you serve." With that, the devil leaves.

Notice something important: Jesus does not defeat temptation by arguing feelings or opinions. He answers with Scripture — the living Word of God. This tells us how we fight our own battles. Lent is not just about giving up chocolate



## Parish Office

2552 Gillham Rd  
Kansas City, MO 64108  
North of 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

Adoration 11:00am

Confession 11:30 am

Mass Noon

## Baptism and Marriage

Call for information or email  
bgeist@oloskc.org

FEBRUARY 22, 2026  
THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

# Feasts and Mass Intentions

## SATURDAY, February 21— The 1st Week in Lent

4:00pm † Russ Daly

## SUNDAY, February 22— The 1st Week in Lent

11:00am The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

## MONDAY, February 23— St. Polycarp

## TUESDAY, February 24

## WEDNESDAY, February 25

Noon † John Altman

## THURSDAY, February 26

Noon

## FRIDAY, February 27— St. Gregory of Narek

## SATURDAY, February 28— The 2nd Week in Lent

4:00pm † Brian Waldbillig

## SUNDAY, February 29— The 2nd Week in Lent

11:00am The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

# Liturgical Assignments

2/21 & 22	4:00pm	11:00am
Reader	James Hardy	Bill Capotosto
Eucharistic Minister	Nancy Lowdon	Rita Witt
Server/Sacristan	John Pileggi	George Bryde
Usher	Ted Tschirhart	Bill Capotosto

2/28 & 29	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 1st Week in Lent

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46  
 Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15  
 Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32  
 Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7-8; Mt 7:7-12  
 Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26  
 Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48  
 Sunday: Gn 12:1-4; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; 2 Tm 1:8-10; Mt 17:1-9

### Please Note: MASS INTENTIONS

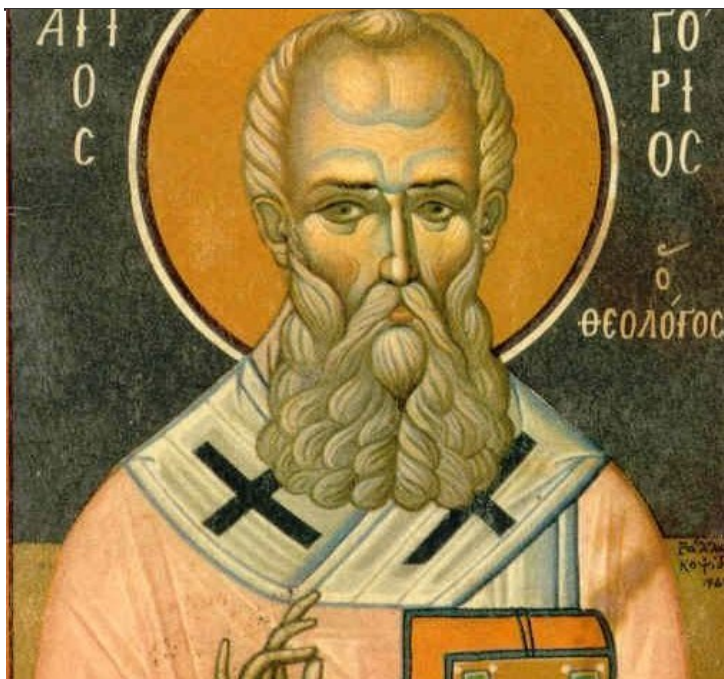
Mass intentions are available for the posted times in the bulletin, on our church sign, and on our website. We do have days with openings for intentions coming up. Call or email the office at (816) 421-2112 or bgeist@olosc.org if you would like to have a Mass said for yourself or a loved one, living or deceased.

# Parish Calendar of Events

- Feb 21-22— Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Appeal
- Feb 23— Legion of Mary at 4pm (Every Monday)
- 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 17— Water Garden Society at 5:30pm
- Mar 21— Wedding at 1:30pm
- Mar 29— Palm Sunday
- Apr 1— Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- Apr 3— Holy Land Collection
- Apr 4—Church Cleaning and decoration at 9am
- Apr 5— Easter Sunday
- Apr 9— Bible Study (Genesis) at 7pm
- Apr 11— Wedding at 1:30pm
- Apr 11-12—Food Pantry Collection after Mass
- Apr 24—Wedding at 3:00pm
- Apr 25— Wedding at 6:00pm
- May 2— Church Cleaning at 9am
- May 3— Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- May 4— Bible Study (Genesis) at 7pm
- May 9— Wedding at 1:30pm
- May 16— Wedding at 1:30pm
- May 23— Wedding at 1:30pm
- May 23-24— Peter's Pence Collection
- May 30— Wedding at 1:30pm

Keep watching for more info & dates to come!

# Ministries & Reflections



## Saint of the Week— St. Gregory of Narek

Saint Gregory of Narek was born in a village on the shores of Lake Van (modern day Turkey) between 945 and 950. When his parents died, Gregory and his older brother were raised by a scholarly uncle who had them educated at the Narek monastery where he was a monk. The monastery was a prominent center of learning located in what is now Turkey. Gregory too entered the monastery and was ordained in 977.

A professor of theology, Gregory wrote a mystical interpretation of the Song of Songs, and a long mystical poem called the Book of Prayer or the Book of Lamentations. He described his poem as “an encyclopedia of prayer for all nations.” This classic of Armenian literature has been translated into 30 languages. The Russian text of the Book of Lamentations was set to music in 1985. Little else is known about Saint Gregory of Narek, other than he died in the early 11th century and was buried within the walls of the Narek monastery where he had spent his life. In 2015 as the world observed the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide in the Ottoman Empire, Pope Francis concelebrated a Mass at the Vatican with Patriarch Nerses Bedros XIX Tarmouni and declared the monk, poet, and saint of the Armenian Apostolic Church, Gregory of Narek, a Doctor of the Church.

## Stations of the Cross

We will pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 3pm in the Church. Please join us for this devotion.



or soda. It is about strengthening the soul with prayer, Scripture, fasting, and acts of charity so that when temptation comes, we stand firm.

Each of us has a desert. It may be a difficult relationship, a private struggle, a hidden fear, or a persistent sin. We often want God to remove the desert. But the Gospel shows that God sometimes leads us into it — not to abandon us, but to strengthen us. The desert is where illusions fall away. It is where we discover what really sustains us. It is where faith becomes real. And notice how the story ends: after the battle, angels come and minister to Jesus. God does not leave us alone after our struggles. Grace always follows perseverance. Strength always follows surrender. Victory always follows fidelity.

This Lent, do not be afraid of your desert. Enter it with Jesus. Face your temptations honestly. Feed your soul with God’s Word. Worship Him alone. If you do, you will discover that the desert is not a place of defeat — it is the place where saints are formed and hearts are made free.

**Challenge for the Week:** Identify one temptation that most often pulls you away from God. Bring it to prayer each day this week and respond to it as Jesus did — with truth, trust, and total devotion to the Lord.

## Prayer of the Week

### The *Attende Domine*

*Attende, Domine, et miserere, quia peccavimus tibi.*

Hear us, O mighty Lord, show us your Mercy: Sinners we stand before you.

## Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance

This weekend we will have a second collection for the Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Appeal, which goes to support relief for those who have suffered a disaster. Please be as generous as you are able.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org) for more information.

# Weekly Activities & Events

## Last Week's Offering

From Feb 9, 2026 to Feb 15, 2026

Plate	\$401.00
Envelopes	\$8151.00
Ash Wednesday	\$125.00
Catholic Charities	\$20.00
Candles	\$58.50
Poor Box	\$43.00
Weddings	\$2990.00
Maintenance	\$100.00
Lighthouse	\$25.00
Online	\$566.67

## The Knights of Columbus

Are you interested in strengthening your bonds as a family, deepening your faith in the Catholic Church, and working with like-minded men to help support your church and community? If so, please consider joining the Knights of Columbus.

**FREE MEMBERSHIP:** Join the Knights of Columbus between now and June 30th, 2026, and your first year of membership will be FREE! Use code **BLESSEDMCGIVNEY** at [kofc.org/join](http://kofc.org/join) To join the Knights use the link above or contact John Pileggi at [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.

## 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](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 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 4pm in the parish hall except for the last Monday of the month, when we meet at St. Monica's at the same time**. This group collaborates with parishioners of St. Monica's, our sister parish.



## Parish Bible Study

The next Bible study session is on Thursday, **March 5th 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](mailto:bgeist@oloskc.org) for updates and details.



## Pray for our Catechumens

Please pray for Noah and Drew, who are preparing to enter the Church next Easter.

## 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 March 14th and 15th** 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).