

Our Lady of SORROWS C H U R C H



ESTABLISHED 1890

IN MARY'S TEARS AND SORROWS WE FIND GRACE

From our Pastor:

The Feast of the Ascension: Christ Has Gone Ahead of Us

One of the most beautiful and often misunderstood feasts in the Church is the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. At first glance, it can seem like a feast about Jesus leaving. The disciples stand there looking up into the sky as Christ disappears from their sight. It almost feels like a goodbye. But in reality, the Ascension is not about Jesus abandoning the world. It is about Jesus opening heaven for the world and entrusting His mission to us. The Ascension marks a turning point. Jesus, who walked with His disciples, taught them, forgave sinners, healed the sick, and conquered death through His resurrection, now returns to the Father. But before He ascends, He gives His disciples a mission: "Go and make disciples of all nations." In other words, the work of Christ must now continue through His Church.



This feast challenges us because many Christians today are comfortable being spectators rather than witnesses. The disciples could have remained standing there, staring into the sky. In fact, the angels tell them, "Why are you standing there looking at the sky?" The message is clear: do not remain frozen in place. Go. Live the Gospel. Proclaim Christ. Build the Kingdom. That message is just as urgent today.

We live in a culture where faith is often pushed to the margins. Many people are spiritually searching but disconnected from God. Others carry wounds, loneliness, anxiety, or hopelessness beneath the surface of busy lives. In the midst of this, the Ascension reminds us that Christianity is not simply about attending Mass once a week. It is about being witnesses to hope in everyday life.

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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

MAY 17, 2026
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Feasts and Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, May 16— The Ascension of the Lord

4:00pm † Brian Waldbillig

SUNDAY, May 17— The Ascension of the Lord

11:00am The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

MONDAY, May 18— St. John I

TUESDAY, May 19

WEDNESDAY, May 20— St. Bernardine of Siena

Noon

THURSDAY, May 21—St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions

Noon

FRIDAY, May 22— St. Rita of Cascia

SATURDAY, May 23— Pentecost

4:00pm Kevin Kinzer

SUNDAY, May 24— Pentecost

11:00am The Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

Liturgical Assignments

5/16 & 17	4:00pm	11:00am
Reader	Nancy Lowdon	Jim Carley
Eucharistic Minister	Lynette Wheeler	Rita Witt
Server/Sacristan	John Pileggi	George Bryde
Usher	Ted Tschirhart	Bill Capotosto

5/23 & 24	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

Readings for the 7th Week in Easter

- Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-7; Jn 16:29-33
- Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11
- Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36; Jn 17:11-19
- Thursday: Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26
- Friday: Acts 25:13-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20; Jn 21:15-19
- Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4-7; Jn 21:20-25
- Sunday: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

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

- May 18— Legion of Mary at 4pm (Every Monday)
- May 19— Water Garden Society at 5:30pm
- May 23— Wedding at 1:30pm
- May 23-24— Peter's Pence Collection
- May 30— Wedding at 1:30pm
- May 30— Wedding at 6pm
- Jun 3— Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- Jun 4— Bible Study (Genesis) at 7pm
- Jun 6— Church Cleaning at 9am
- Jun 6-7— Tomorrow's Priests Collection
- Jun 13— Wedding at 1:30pm
- Jun 13-14— Food Pantry Collection after Mass
- Jun 21— Communications Collection
- Jul 1— Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- Jul 2— Bible Study (Genesis) at 7pm
- Jul 4— Church Cleaning at 9am
- Jul 11-12— Food Pantry Collection after Mass
- Jul 18— Wedding at 1:30pm
- Jul 25— Wedding at 1:30pm
- Jul 25— Wedding at 6pm
- Aug 1— Church Cleaning at 9am
- Aug 5— Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm
- Aug 6— Bible Study (Genesis) at 7pm
- Aug 8— Wedding at 1:30pm
- Aug 14— Wedding at 2:30pm
- Aug 15— Wedding at 1:30pm
- Aug 16— Diocesan Life and Justice Collection

Keep watching for more info & dates to come!

Ministries & Reflections



Saint of the Week— St. Rita of Cascia

Like Elizabeth Ann Seton, Rita of Cascia was a wife, mother, widow, and member of a religious community. Her holiness was reflected in each phase of her life. Born at Roccaporena in central Italy, Rita wanted to become a nun but was pressured at a young age into marrying a harsh and cruel man. During her 18-year marriage, she bore and raised two sons. After her husband was killed in a brawl and her sons had died, Rita tried to join the Augustinian nuns in Cascia. Unsuccessful at first because she was a widow, Rita eventually succeeded.

Over the years, her austerity, prayerfulness, and charity became legendary. When Rita of Cascia developed wounds on her forehead, people quickly associated them with the wounds from Christ's crown of thorns. She meditated frequently on Christ's passion. Her care for the sick nuns was especially loving. She also counseled lay people who came to her monastery.

Beatified in 1626, Rita of Cascia was not canonized until 1900. She has acquired the reputation, together with Saint Jude, as a saint of impossible cases. Many people visit her tomb each year.

KofC Baby Bottle Collection

Our Knights of Columbus Council is holding their annual Baby Bottle campaign this weekend through Father's Day. Donations support the MO Knights Sonogram Initiative maintaining machines throughout the State. Some 95% of mothers that meet their baby via sonogram decide to choose life! Thank you for your participation.



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The Ascension teaches us several important lessons. First, it reminds us that heaven is our goal. In a society focused heavily on success, achievement, possessions, and entertainment, we can easily forget that this world is not our final home. Jesus ascends to prepare a place for us. The feast invites us to ask an uncomfortable but necessary question: What am I really living for? Second, the Ascension reminds us that Christ still works through ordinary people. The disciples were not perfect. They doubted, failed, and struggled with fear. Yet Jesus entrusted them with the mission of changing the world. That should encourage us. God does not wait for perfect people. He works through willing hearts. Third, the Ascension reminds us that we are never abandoned. Before ascending, Jesus promises: "I am with you always." Christ may no longer be physically visible, but He remains present through the Eucharist, through Scripture, through the Church, and through the Holy Spirit. The Ascension is not Christ disappearing; it is Christ becoming present in a new and deeper way. Finally, the feast challenges us to stop separating faith from daily life. Christian witness happens in ordinary places: in marriages, workplaces, schools, neighborhoods, and conversations. People should encounter something different in us—greater patience, deeper compassion, stronger hope, and a faith that remains steady even in difficult times.

The Ascension is not the end of the story. It is the beginning of the Church's mission. Christ has gone ahead of us, but He has also sent us forward. The question is whether we are willing to live not merely as admirers of Jesus, but as witnesses to Him in the world today.



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 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 for more information.

Weekly Activities & Events

Last Week's Offering

From May 4, 2026 to May 10, 2026

Plate _____	\$583.59
Envelopes _____	\$16991.00
Candles _____	\$87.52
Poor Box _____	\$25.00
Weddings _____	\$1990.00
Maintenance _____	\$600.00
Mass Stipends _____	\$30.00
Lighthouse _____	\$1.00
Online _____	\$374.86

Peter's Pence

New week we will have a second collection for Peter's Pence, which goes to supporting the Pope's charitable endeavors throughout the world.

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 To join the Knights use the link above or contact John Pileggi at 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.

Prayers Requested

Pray for Mary Weatherford, Grace Diaz, Sarah Eck, Rose Ann Jett, Jane Carey, Jerry Gumming, Ken Blundell, Allan Schaff, Grace Weatherford, Jim Taber, Michael Mora

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.

Visit our Website & Facebook Page

Please visit our website at 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, **June 4 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 for updates and details.



Tomorrow's Priests

The second collection for Tomorrow's Priests will **not** be May 17 week but has been postponed by the diocese to June 7th.

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 June 13th and 14th** 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.