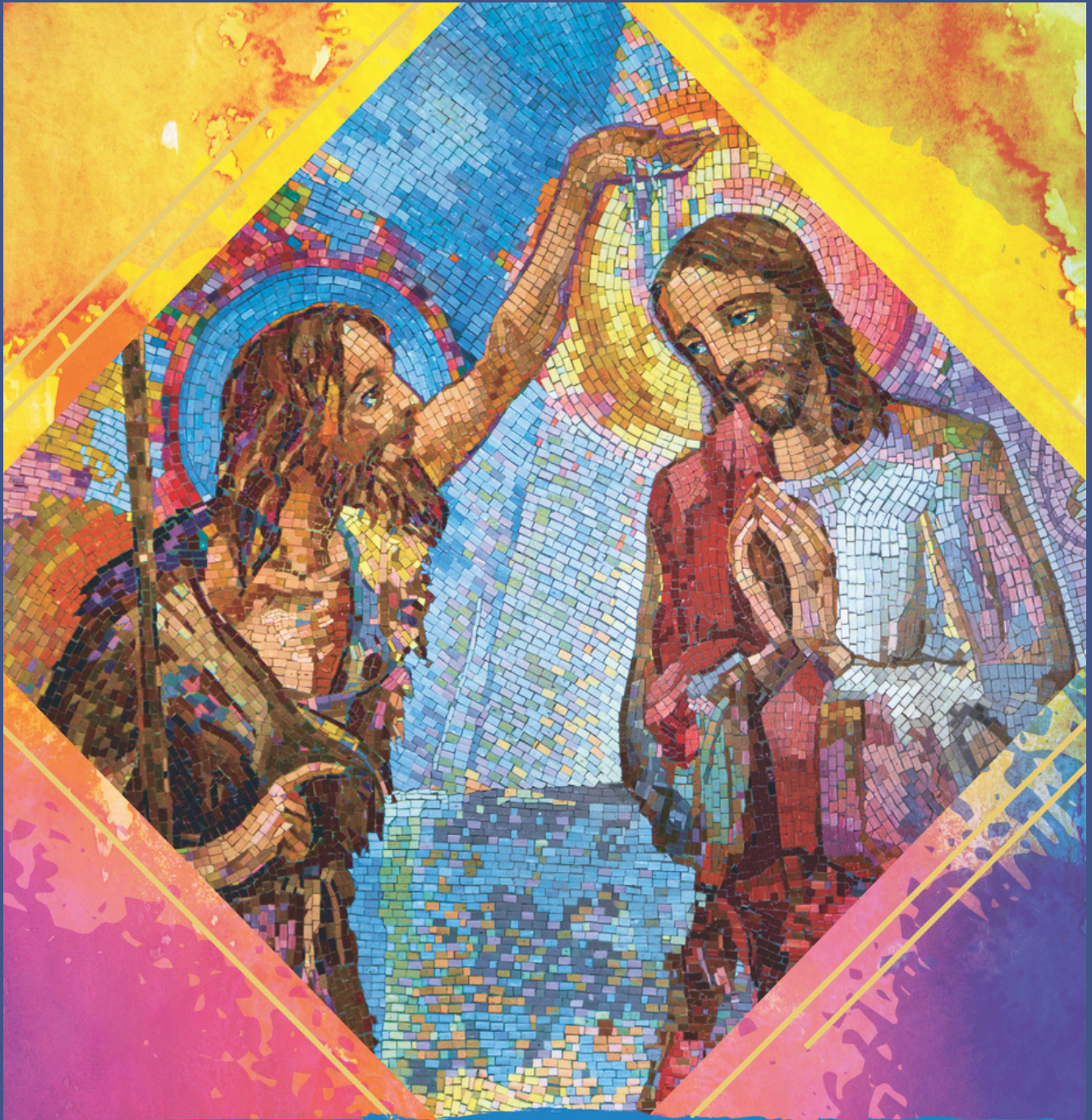


OUR LADY OF THE LAKE

203 VAUGHN RD., BRANSON, MO | 417.334.2928 | OFFICE@OLLBRANSON.COM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2026



2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away
the sin of the world.” - Jn 1:29



2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 17 - January 23

Events

SATURDAY Jan. 17

Our Lady Cares 2nd Collection
Sacrament of Reconciliation
3:00-4:30pm - Confessional

SUNDAY Jan. 18

Our Lady Cares 2nd Collection
Coffee & Christ
9:15-10:15am - Faith Formation Room

MONDAY Jan. 19

No events today

TUESDAY Jan. 20

Adult Bible Study
10:00am-Noon - Faith Formation Room
Centering Prayer
12:15-2:00pm - John Paul II Room

OCIA

6:30-8:00pm - Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY Jan. 21

Stitchers
9:00am-12:00pm - St. Francis Room
PSR
5:30pm - Mass
6:15-7:00pm - Dinner/Class

THURSDAY Jan. 22

OLL Game Day
1:00-3:30pm - Faith Formation Room

Spiritual Companionship
6:30-8:30pm - St. Ignatius Room

FRIDAY Jan. 23

Spanish Charismatic Group
6:00-9:00pm - Faith Formation Room

SATURDAY Jan. 24

WELCOME Women
9:00-11:00am - Heritage Room

Mass Times

SATURDAY

5:00pm
7:00pm (Spanish)

SUNDAY

8:00am
10:30am

MONDAY

9:00am

TUESDAY

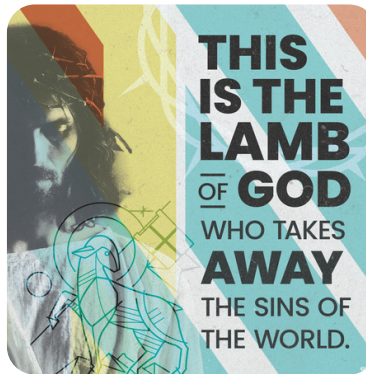
9:00am

WEDNESDAY

5:30pm

THURSDAY

9:00am



Adoration

TUESDAY

9:30am-3:00pm - Chapel

THURSDAY

9:30am-7:00pm - Chapel

Important Links

[Click Here For PARISH CALENDAR](#)

[Click Here For MASS INTENTIONS](#)

[Click Here For FLOWER INTENTIONS](#)

 *Flower Intentions available for January*

Mass Intentions

Sat. 1/17	5:00pm	Annliese Butterwegge †
Sat. 1/17	7:00pm	Taney County Parish Family (Living)
Sun. 1/18	8:00am	Joe Brinell †
Sun. 1/18	10:30am	Frank Arnold †
Mon. 1/19	9:00am	Geraldine Couture †
Tue. 1/20	9:00am	Jake Ackerman (Special Intention-Living)
Wed. 1/21	5:30pm	Fr. Dhaneesh Thomas 7th Anniversary of Ordination
Thur. 1/22	9:00am	Deceased family members of John & Margaret Casey †



[Click Here to Make a Prayer Request](#)

[Click Here to Donate Online](#)

[Haga clic aquí para el boletín en español](#)

[Click Here to Contact Parish Staff](#)

WORSHIP WITH US



[Click here](#) for Mass Times & Sacrament of Reconciliation



[CLICK HERE FOR DAILY MASS READINGS](#)

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Collection through Jan. 11, 2026

Envelopes:		\$9,134.00
Plate:		\$5,000.00
Green Envelopes:		\$2,925.00
Total:		\$17,058.00



Coffee & Christ Sundays

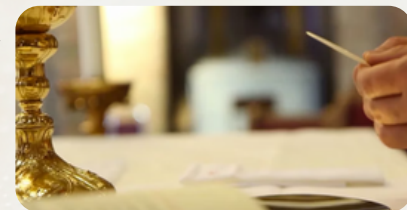
9:15am to 10:15am
Faith Formation Room



Jan. 18

Episode 9 -The Mass: Emmaus and the Mystery of the Eucharist

"The Eucharist affected the thinking of the early Church in all aspects of its worship and practices. But how did the Apostles put into practice Christ's command to ""Do this in memory of me?"" Two men and the miraculous encounter they had on the road to Emmaus could show us more than we realize.



Jan. 25

Episode 10 -Revelation: Heavenly Worship and the End of Time

"The book of Revelation, with all of its apocalyptic imagery and focus on the end of time, has a great deal to teach us about liturgy and worship. Dr. Pitre brings our study of the Eucharist to a powerful conclusion.



Adult Bible Study Tuesdays 10:00am-Noon Faith Formation Room

Join us on Tuesdays
to watch & discuss
Season 5 of The Chosen
followed by that episode's
Biblical Roundtable discussion



There's a lot to talk about, and our Messianic Jewish rabbi, Catholic priest, and Evangelical scholar are back to discuss it all.

Jan. 20th

Season 5 Episode 3: Woes

Jesus preaches one last time to the massive Passover crowd, and the religious leaders try to trap him in his words.

Bible Roundtable:

Episode 3 covered a lot of ground Biblically—and all of it pretty weighty stuff—so there's much to discuss. Our scholars address the religious leaders' attempt to publicly discredit Jesus, His equally public denouncement of them, and his private prediction to the disciples about the end of the age. And despite all the conflict and sadness throughout the episode, they point us to the words of hope and peace at the beginning and end.

Jan. 27th

Season 5 Episode 4: The Same Coin

Afraid of public outcry—and further embarrassment—Caiaphas resolves to arrest Jesus quietly at night. Only one problem: no one knows how to find Him.

Bible Roundtable:

You've seen Jesus get angry at corruption in His Father's house and hypocrisy within the religious leadership, but now, you've also seen Him snap at a tree. The "Cursing of the Fig Tree," has stumped many Christians over the centuries, but Dallas promises our Bible consultants will figure it out. ;) Puns notwithstanding, this discussion truly gives us a solid understanding of the spiritual, historical, and symbolic meaning of what's been a confusing Bible passage for many.



JANUARY PSR CALENDAR



Wednesday PSR K-12th

Jan. 21 5:30-7:00pm

Mass
Food/Class

Jan. 28 5:30 - 7:00pm

Mass
Food/Class



SAINT OF THE MONTH

Saint John Bosco



His feast day is on
January 31

ALSO KNOWN AS
DON BOSCO,
WAS BORN IN BECCHI, ITALY,
ON AUGUST 16, 1815

SAINT JOHN BOSCO IS THE
PATRON SAINT OF APPRENTICES,
EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS,
SCHOOLCHILDREN, MAGICIANS,
AND JUVENILE DELINQUENTS.

SERVICE PROJECT

Decorate
lunch bags
for Elevate
Branson



MENU

2026

1/21 - Chicken Nachos

1/28 - Pasta





THE LORD'S TABLE IS SET... & YOU'RE INVITED

This guide lays out monthly themes & practical suggestions for families to build lasting habits within their family & anchor their lives by placing God at the center.

JANUARY

BLESS YOUR HOME FOR EPIPHANY *

Use Chalk to Bless your home

HOW TO BLESS THE HOME

Use blessed chalk to mark the frame of your front door:

20 + C + M + B + 26

While saying:

The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and fifteen years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.

ATTEND MASS AS A FAMILY

Attend Mass every Sunday this month

VISIT THE OTHER "OUR LADY" AREA PARISHES

Pick a time to attend a Mass at one of the other area churches

Our Lady of the Cove - Kimberling City

Sat. 5pm / Sun. 8am & 10am

Our Lady of the Lake - Branson

Sat. 5pm & 7pm / Sun. 8am & 10:30am

Our Lady of the Ozarks - Forsyth

Sun. 8:30am

We want to hear from you.

Has your family done any of the suggestions from the November or December habits from The Lord's Table is Set? Please email us comments about the new habits your family is forming or photos of your tables with your Saints (from November) or Advent wreath (December) -

SAVE THE DATE: Diocesan Eucharistic Congress 2026



DIocese of SPRINGFIELD-CAPE GIRARDEAU



SCAN HERE to learn more!

Visit WWW.DIOSCG.ORG/DIOCESAN-EUCHARISTIC-CONGRESS or scan the QR CODE for more resources, including suggestions for the Year of Spiritual Preparation, updates to the Congress and to help promote the Congress!

In preparation for the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress, all are invited to join Bishop Edward Rice for an hour with Jesus



Deanery Four
St. Agnes Cathedral, Springfield

Thursday, January 22
6:00pm - 7:00pm

Learn more about the

Diocesan Eucharistic Congress at
<https://dioscg.org/diocesan-eucharistic-congress/>

Prayer and Adoration

Thursday, January 22 6:00pm-7:00pm

St. Agnes Cathedral, Springfield

Thursday, February 19 6:30pm-7:30pm

Sacred Heart Parish, Bolivar

Thursday, March 19 10:00am-11:00am

Sacred Heart Parish, Dexter

Sunday, April 19 4:30pm-5:30pm

SEMO - St. John Henry Newman Center, Cape Girardeau

Monday, May 18 6:30pm-7:30pm

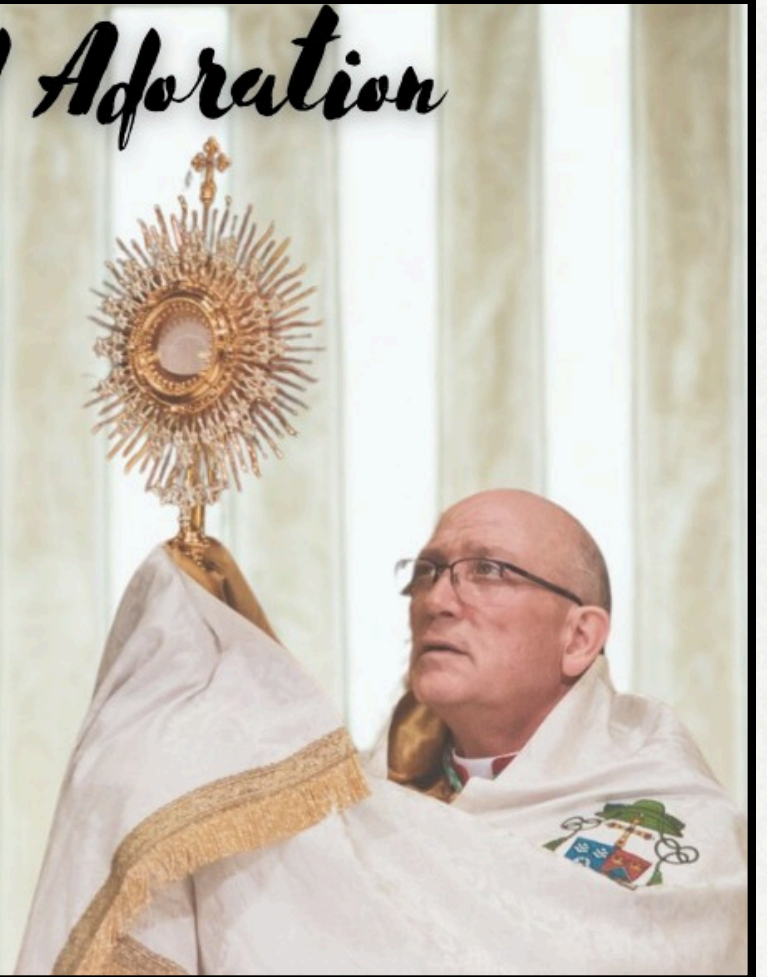
St. John Vianney, Mountain View

Thursday, June 18 4:45pm-5:45pm

St. Ann Parish, Carthage

Wednesday, July 15 6:30pm-7:30pm

Holy Trinity Parish, Aurora



W H Y N O T

DRAW CLOSER

TO JESUS IN THE HOLY EUCHARIST?

Learn from the Catechism

#1322 - 1327

Get to know St. John Paul II's Mind

Ecclesia de Eucaristica Introduction

Give Praise to God

through the "Tantum Ergo" hymn

Reclaim Sunday for God & the Family

Take a fun Catholic online quiz

Watch an uplifting movie

The Boy from Milan

I am with You - A documentary on Carlo Acutis

Contemplate Sacred Art

The Pelican and the Eucharist



70
YEARS
1948-2018

DIocese of SPRINGFIELD-
CAPE GIRARDEAU

JANUARY

resource page. Find more ideas at dioscg.org/diocesan-eucharistic-congress



Page 7

Want to attend the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress, but don't want to drive?
We will be taking a chartered bus to West Plains.
We will leave OLL - SAT. AUG. 15TH at 6:00AM

*There's no charge to sign up for the bus, **HOWEVER...**
you will need to register & pay to attend the Congress.*

Cost

There is a registration fee of
**\$10 per person or
\$25 maximum per family**
(parents with minor age children).

*We are grateful to the
sponsors and donors whose
financial gifts are helping to
keep the registration cost very
low for participants!*

The registration fee includes

- all Congress activities
- speakers
- materials
- and a lunch meal

Meals

Lunch will be provided at the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress. A variety of grab-n-go lunch options will be provided by area restaurants that will be serving meals at the Civic Center.

**You will be able to view menu options
and order your lunch meal ahead of time,
during the online registration process.**

TO RESERVE A BUS SEAT(S)

Scan QR code
to reserve



Or

Click on the link below to
reserve a seat(s) on the bus

[Eucharistic Congress Bus
reservation](#) | [Flocknote](#)

TO SIGN-UP FOR THE
CONGRESS OR
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Scan the QR CODE
Or

Click on the link below

[Diocesan Eucharistic Congress - DioSCG](#)

Diocesan Eucharistic Congress
AUGUST 15, 2026
WEST PLAINS CIVIC CENTER
REGISTRATION OPENS
JANUARY 12, 2026!

Those who eat my flesh & drink my blood remain in me & I in them. - Jn 6:56

**JOIN US IN PRAYING, LEARNING & CELEBRATING
at the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress**

DIocese of SPRINGFIELD-CAPE GIRARDEAU 70 YEARS 1956-2026

Visit WWW.DIOSCG.ORG/DIOCESAN-EUCHARISTIC-CONGRESS or scan the QR CODE for more resources, including suggestions for the Year of Spiritual Preparation, and updates to the Congress!

Speakers: Bishop James Conley, Bishop Edward Rice, Fr. Leo Potalinghaus, Dr. Scott Hahn, Fr. Elvis Gonzalez, De Ministris, Mari Pablo, Brian Miller, Dr. Carolyn Nunes-Fisher

OLL Games

Join us on January 22nd
OLL Game Day
1:00pm Faith Formation Room

OLL Train - Wee Four
BIG Winner is Eva -163
Remy -182 Judy E -280
Lil' Winner is Kevin -414



OLL Train - Rose Marie's Girls
BIG Winner is Rose Marie -299
Brenda -312 Karen -446
Lil' Winner Anne Marie - 477



Swoop - JP Morgan and Associates
BIG Winner is Julie H -194
Judy O -224 Margaret -237 Jeanne -260
Tied Harry and Joyce -335
Lil' Winner is Sharron -444



FORWARD... One Step At A Time



Bereavement Healing

Grief is painful and exhausting. Bereavement is the state of loss when someone close to an individual has died. The death of a loved one is one of the greatest sorrows that can occur in one's life. People's responses to grief will vary, but grief is a normal, healthy response to loss.

It sometimes seems easier to avoid confronting the feelings of grief and loss. But working through sorrow and allowing ourselves to express such feelings can help us recover.

As we come together, sharing our pain, you will not be told how to grieve or how long it will take. Grief ultimately asks many things of us... including a shift in the way we relate to life. As we walk with each other, we will understand that we are not alone, allow ourselves to be mad and broken, re-discover God's love for us and eventually think and say our loved one's name with hope.

You are invited to join the bereavement gathering in mid February. You may have recently lost a loved one or time may have passed since your loved one's death. If you are interested in walking together through this time of sorrow, call the OLL parish office 417-334-2928 asking to be contacted by Joyce Arnold about our Lady's Bereavement Healing Group.

37TH ANNUAL JACK FROST 5K

RUN/ WALK

Give-away & medal for all racers
Gold medals to 1st place in each men & women's age division

- \$25 STUDENTS
- \$25 GROUP (10+)
- \$45 EARLY REGISTRATION
- \$50 DAY OF RACE

SAT

RACE BEGINS

JANUARY
24, 2026

9 AM



(417) 865-0802
@CCM_847
CCM847.ORG

BEGIN AT MSU STRONG HALL
847 S HOLLAND AVE. SPRINGFIELD, MO 65806



Priestly Discernment Retreat



All Men ages 18-35 interested in learning more about seminary life are invited to register for the Priestly Discernment Retreat at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis, the weekend of February 6-8, 2026. The retreat will focus on seminary formation, prayer, and discerning one's call. For more information or to register, [please click here.](#)

You are Invited
to the
Diocesan Wedding Anniversary
Celebration

For couples celebrating their
1st, 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, or 50+
anniversary anytime during 2026

Join Bishop Edward M. Roice

FOR THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY MASS
FOLLOWED BY A LIGHT LUNCH RECEPTION

01 | FEB | 2026

Sunday at 1:30-3:30 p.m.
St. Mary of the Annunciation Cathedral
Cape Girardeau

08 | FEB | 2026

Sunday at 1:30-3:30 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
Springfield

Kindly RSVP by January 23, 2026 online by scanning the QR code above
or call Sharon in the Diocesan Family Life Office at (417)866-0841.
Family members are welcome!

***Updated as the Springfield celebration has been moved to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish due to the construction at St. Agnes Cathedral.**

Why are non-Catholics prohibited from receiving Holy Communion at Mass?

The Catholic Church's discipline of limiting Holy Communion to Catholics is rooted in its understanding of what the Eucharist is and what receiving it expresses. According to Catholic teaching, the Eucharist is not simply a symbolic meal but the real presence of Jesus Christ—His Body and Blood—made present under the appearance of bread and wine. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states plainly that “the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life” (CCC 1324) and that in it, Christ Himself is “truly, really, and substantially contained” (CCC 1374).

Because of this profound belief, receiving Communion is considered an intimate act of union with Christ and with the Church that safeguards this sacrament. A non-Catholic who does not understand nor profess this belief would not be properly prepared to receive the Eucharist.

Receiving Communion is not only a personal expression of devotion; it is also a public declaration of full unity with the Catholic Church's faith, sacraments, and authority. The Catechism explains that “Communion signifies this union” (CCC 1398). To receive the Eucharist is to say, “I am in full communion with the Catholic Church.” When someone who is not Catholic receives Communion, the Church believes the outward sign would not match the inner reality, since important differences remain—especially regarding the nature of the Eucharist, the papacy, and sacramental life.

This is why the Church sees the restriction not as exclusion but as integrity. The sign must reflect the truth. Just as a wedding ring symbolizes a covenant that already exists, Communion symbolizes a unity that must already be real. If that unity is not yet present, the symbol becomes misleading.

The Catechism also emphasizes the need for proper spiritual disposition: “Anyone conscious of a grave sin must receive the sacrament of Reconciliation before coming to Communion” (CCC 1385). Catholics are formed within a sacramental system that prepares them for this responsibility. The Church cannot assume that non-Catholics share the same preparation or beliefs, and it would be pastorally irresponsible to treat the Eucharist as a gesture of hospitality rather than a sacred mystery.

Interestingly, the Church teaches that this discipline is actually part of its commitment to Christian unity. The Catechism acknowledges that “ecclesial communities derived from the Reformation... have not preserved the proper reality of the Eucharistic mystery” (CCC 1400). This is not a criticism of individuals but a recognition of real theological differences in other faiths. The Church believes that honest acknowledgment of these differences is more respectful than pretending they do not exist. The goal is genuine unity, not symbolic unity.

In short, non-Catholics are not prohibited from Communion because they are unwelcome, but because the Eucharist expresses a unity that Christians do not yet fully share. The Church hopes for the day when all followers of Christ can receive together, but until that unity is achieved, it maintains this discipline to protect the meaning of the sacrament and respect the convictions of all Christians.

The 7th Annual
**CATHOLIC
MEN'S
CONFERENCE**

In cooperation with the diocesan Office of Evangelization.

**TAKING
FAITH TO THE
NEXT LEVEL!**

Saturday, Feb. 21, 2026
at Springfield Catholic High School

Keynote Speaker

Marcel LeJeune

"Marcel LeJeune, author of 'The Contagious Catholic,' is renowned for his message of radical change and the call for person-to-person evangelization."

— John Edwards

Doors open 7am. Mass 8am. Ends by 3:30pm.

Register for free now!

www.CatholicConference.men

  @SOMOMensCon



January is Respect Life Month
Join Catholics Nationwide for the
9 Days for Life Novena, January 16-24, 2026



9 Days for Life is an annual novena for the protection of human life.

Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life.

Participants can download the novena or sign up to receive the daily prayers via email or text message.

Go to the link below to pray for life:

<https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup>

Day of Prayer for the

**LEGAL PROTECTION
OF UNBORN CHILDREN**

Thursday, January 22nd

Most precious Lord, You dwelt within the womb of your dear mother, sanctifying the womb and elevating the dignity of all human life. I pray for the full legal protection of every unborn child and that every heart that supports abortion will be changed to experience the freedom that comes from living in the Truth. I offer You all my sufferings and sacrifices to atone for every violation against human dignity committed through acts of abortion. Please bring healing, hope, and freedom to all. Mother Mary, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children - USA Memorial



"Let us pray and work for the protection of all human life, from conception to natural death. May every parish put forth the necessary resources to walk with moms in need."

Bishop Edward M. Rice



January
PRAYER INTENTION



Catholic Recording Artist
Donna Cori Gibson
In Concert

Way of the Cross Concert
Friday, January 23rd at 7:00 p.m.
(inclement weather, January 30th)



Our Lady of the Cove
Catholic Church
20 Kimberling Blvd
Kimberling City, MO 65686
Info at 417-739-4700



Free music
download at
www.DonnaCori.com

The Way of the Cross
(a song and video for each station)

Make the Stations of the Cross like never before. This presentation is an intimate "walking" with the Lord in his last hours. Donna sings a meditation accompanied by a powerful video for each of the 14 Stations of the Cross. The lush arrangements and the words draw you into the depth, meaning and emotion of the passion of Christ. The contemporary style music includes a full band and over 40 string players.

You Are Not Alone
God's Kingdom is Here in the Eucharist



Women's Retreat

When: Saturday, January 24*
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Where: OLC Catholic Church

Lunch will be provided --

the retreat is free but please RSVP by 1/19 to bjgarlich@gmail.com or 847-721-4391 so we can get the right amount of food

**in case of inclement weather, the retreat will be on January 31*

Welcome.
CRHP 2.0
There is **More to Life**

*The experience is personal,
inspirational, and fulfilling.*

 **Dynamic Catholic**
Be Bold. Be Catholic.

Women's Welcome Retreat
Our Lady of the Lake in Branson, MO
March 7 & 8, 2026

SCAN TO
REGISTER



Welcome is a two-day renewal weekend unlike any you have attended. Parishioners share with one another ways they have found meaning, hope, peace, and love in their lives through Christ.

OR GO TO:

OLLBRANSON.COM/WOMENS-WELCOME-RETREAT

"What's the most stressful thing about being a dragon?"



"Trying to blow out birthday candles."



Birthdays are wonderful! Part of building a Culture of Life is celebrating all life—big and small!

©LPI

LEAVE FOOTPRINTS OF KINDNESS WHEREVER YOU GO

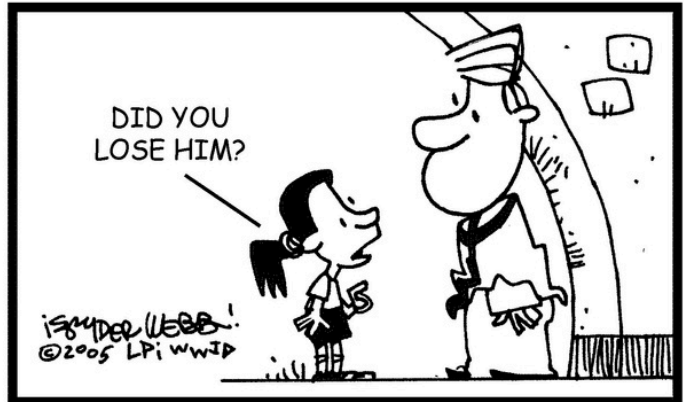
CATHOLIC TRIVIA - JUST FOR FUN

Question: Is it true or false that all wine used in the Eucharist must be fermented?

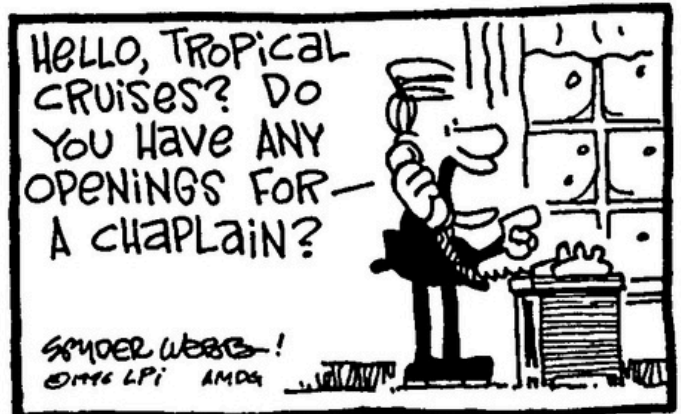
Answer: True

©LPI

2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

I will make you a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.
(Is 49:6)

Psalm:

Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will. (Ps 40)

Second Reading:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Cor 1:3)

Gospel:

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said,
"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the
world." (Jn 1:29)

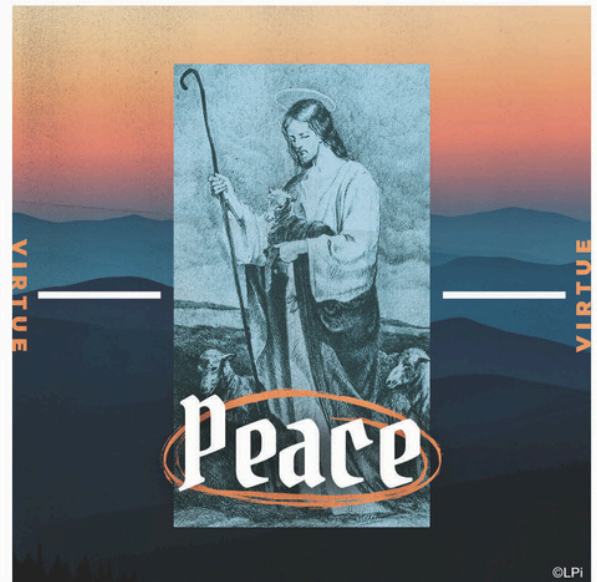
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The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997,
International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Do we recognize Christ when we see him? Do we have the courage to point him out, to show others who he is? John cried out so the whole world could hear: "He is the Son of God." Always and everywhere, let us do the same.

Observances for the week of January 18, 2026

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: Martin Luther King Day
Tuesday: St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr;
St. Sebastian, Martyr
Wednesday: St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr
Thursday: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of
Unborn Children
Friday: St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr;
St. Marianne Cope, Virgin
Saturday: St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the
Church
Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Celebrate Catholic Schools Week



Virtues, Explained!

Our modern Catholic understanding of peace is derived from the Hebrew concept of *shalom*, or wholeness, and refers not just to an absence of violence but to a personal reconciliation with one's Creator.

Blessing of the Beloved

Dear God,
Bless and anoint us today. You are our Father and guide.
Remind us of our identity in You: loved, called, and equipped for mission.
Bless us as we journey, giving us strength for each day and grace in each step.
Amen.

Readings for the week of January 18, 2026

Sunday:

Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/
1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

Monday:

1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and
23/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday:

1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28/
Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday:

1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2,
9-10/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday:

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-
11, 12-13/Mk 3:7-12

Friday:

1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11/
Mk 3:13-19

Saturday:

2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/
Mk 3:20-21

Next Sunday:

Is 8:23-9:3/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/1 Cor 1:10-13,
17/Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17



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The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for
Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in
the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

It's common to hear belief in Jesus and the Church mocked as blind faith and credulity. But in reality, it is deeply human and rational. Think about it: we rely on the testimony of others constantly. I trust chemists who certify the safety of toothpaste and cleaning products. I trust engineers when I use a microwave or drive over a bridge. Why? Because they have studied and seen what I have not, and their testimony proves itself in daily life. That kind of trust is not irrational; it is how human knowledge works.

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist declares: **"Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God" (John 1:34).** That is the language of an eyewitness. It invites us into a very human act: trusting someone who has directly encountered something — or Someone — we have not yet fully seen ourselves.

The Church's faith is built on this kind of reliable sight-based testimony. The Apostles did not make abstract claims. They saw, followed, suffered for, and proclaimed Jesus Christ. Over centuries, their witness — carried in Scripture, in the lives of the saints, and in the sacramental life of the Church — has proven dependable. We come to know its truth by assenting to it, by living and studying it, praying with it, trusting it.

Faith in Christ is not a childish leap into the dark. It is a step into the light of testimony that proves itself over time.

— *Father John Muir*

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: John the Baptist recognizes Jesus when he sees him, though there is nothing extraordinary-looking about him. This is how Jesus comes to us today: veiled in the ordinary. He is in the people who are easiest to miss, the easiest to ignore, the easiest from whom it is to turn away.

Behold the Lamb

“Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”

Be honest. When the priest or deacon read this line from the Gospel today, did your brain finish it with: “Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb”? (Mine did. And then I almost blurted out: “Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul will be healed.” Because it’s Sunday morning, and I’m tired.)

We hear the words of John the Baptist every Sunday in the *Agnus Dei*. If you have been Catholic since childhood, the words of this rite are probably ingrained in your memory, like a groove worn across a wooden floor by the scratching of an often-used chair. That’s the beautiful thing about our liturgy: it gets inside of you, and it doesn’t leave. I’ve never met a Catholic, however long-fallen-away, who did not recall the responses of the Mass.

When the priest says or chants the *Agnus Dei*, he is showing us the Host — the most ordinary-looking thing you ever did see. Nothing interesting about it whatsoever. Nothing that would make a person give it a second glance.

John the Baptist recognizes Jesus when he sees him, though there is nothing extraordinary-looking about him. There is nothing that would make a person give Jesus a second glance, if that person expected redemption to come in a loud, aggressive show of power.

And this is how Jesus comes to us today: veiled in the ordinary. He is in the people who are easiest to miss, the easiest to ignore, the easiest from whom it is to turn away.

Consider what the world could look like, if an instinct to love and reverence those people were as deeply ingrained in us as the beautiful words so easily on our lips: “Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul will be healed.”

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

How many times a day can a person receive communion?

Answer:

To find an answer to this question, we need to turn to the Church’s Code of Canon Law. Here we read, “One who has received the blessed Eucharist may receive it again on the same day only within a Eucharistic celebration in which that person participates ...” (no. 917). This tells us that the standard answer would be that we can receive communion twice in a day.

Having said that, we also want to be sure that we pay attention to the entire instruction. The phrase “within a Eucharistic celebration in which that person participates” is important. It means a) that we always have to think of receiving communion as being within a celebration of the Mass and b) we have to be participants in that celebration – we can’t simply show up “in time” for communion.

So, when would this rule apply?

For example, if you attend Mass on a Saturday morning and then take part in the Sunday Vigil Mass on Saturday evening, you could licitly receive communion at both celebrations. Or, another example, if you receive communion at a wedding or funeral Mass, you could also receive communion at a daily Mass or Sunday Vigil celebrated on the same day. We always want to be sure that we observe the rules for fasting from food and drink before receiving the eucharist (see Code of Canon Law, no. 919).

We should also remember that the Code of Canon Law instructs that anyone who is in danger of death or seriously ill may also receive communion a second time (no. 91, §2).

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MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND

Saturday 5:00 pm & 7:00 pm (Spanish)
Sunday 8:00 am & 10:30 am (Live-Streamed)

WEEKDAY

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday 9:00 am
Wednesday 5:30 pm
1st Friday 10:00 am

Holy Day of Obligation

Noon and 7pm (Bilingual)

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:00 - 4:30 pm
or by Appointment (417-334-2928)

ADORATION

Tuesday 9:30 am - 3:00 pm

1st Wednesday of the month. After Mass -

Adoration, Exposition, and Benediction until 7:30pm

Thursday 9:30 am - 7:00 pm

- We will not have the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for the week before, the week of, and the week after a holiday.
- All Adorers, please sign in when you come to pray before the Blessed Sacrament.
- Please get in touch with the office if you need a door code or are having trouble with your own.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Any suspected or known abuse of a minor must first be immediately reported to the Missouri Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline 800-392-3738 or 844-CAN-TELL; or for suspected or known abuse of vulnerable or eligible adults, the Missouri Adult Abuse and Neglect Hotline 800-392-0210.

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