

# OUR LADY OF THE LAKE

203 VAUGHN RD., BRANSON, MO 65616 | 417.334.2928 | OFFICE@OLLBRANSON.COM

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026**



## 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors,  
Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all  
that you vow.” - Mt 5:33

# 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 14 - February 20

## Events

SATURDAY Feb. 14

**Our Lady Cares 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

3:00-4:30pm - Confessional

SUNDAY Feb. 15

**Our Lady Cares 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection**

**Coffee & Christ**

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

**Mardi Gras Celebration**

Noon-2:00pm - Parish Center

MONDAY Feb. 16

**No Events**

TUESDAY Feb. 17

**Adult Bible Study**

10:00am-Noon - Faith Formation Room

**Centering Prayer**

12:15-2:00pm - John Paul II Room

**Bereavement Group**

2:00pm-4:00pm - Heritage Room

**OCIA**

6:30-8:00pm - Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY Feb. 18

**Stitchers**

9:00am-12:00pm - St. Francis Room

**NO PSR**

Resumes Feb. 25th

THURSDAY Feb. 19

**OLL Game Day**

1:00-3:30pm - Faith Formation Room

FRIDAY Feb. 20

**Stations & Soup**

6:00pm - Stations in the Church

Followed by soup in the Gathering space

**Spanish Charismatic Group**

6:00-9:00pm - Faith Formation Room

SATURDAY Feb. 21

**Anniversary of the Charismatic Prayer Group Celebration**

8:30am-6:30pm - St. Joseph Hall

## Mass Times

SATURDAY

5:00pm

7:00pm (Spanish)

SUNDAY

8:00am

10:30am

MONDAY

9:00am

TUESDAY

9:00am

ASH WEDNESDAY

Noon

7:00pm

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](#)

It's time  
to bring  
your old palms!  
Please place  
your palms in  
the basket at the  
Helpdesk

## Mass Intentions

Sat. 2/14 5:00pm Taney County Parish Family (Living)

Sat. 2/14 7:00pm Panchita Gallardo † (Anniversary DOD)

Sun. 2/15 8:00am Clarence Grimes †

Sun. 2/15 10:30am Desmond O'Regan †

Mon. 2/16 9:00am Judy Hohenbrink (Special Intention-Living)

Tue. 2/17 9:00am Nate Ackerman (Special Intention-Living)

Wed. 2/18 Noon Beverly Bruneau †

Wed. 2/18 7:00pm Jacinta Axelson (Special Intention-Living)

Thur. 2/19 9:00am Rienzie Wannithantri †



[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

**We are currently facing some issues with our PayPal and Venmo accounts, but you can still make a contribution online.**

**Kindly visit our website at**

**<https://ollbranson.com/online-giving> to donate directly or through ParishSoft, which is also accessible via our website.**

**Thank you for your generosity and understanding.**

### [CLICK HERE](#) FOR

### DAILY MASS READINGS



### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



### Collection through Feb. 8, 2026

Envelopes:		\$8,840.75
Plate:		\$ 500.00
Green Envelopes:		\$2,638.40
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$11,979.15</b>



# Ash

# Wednesday

MASS TIMES

FEBRUARY 18, 2026

Our Lady of the Lake  
Noon  
7:00PM

Our Lady of the Ozarks  
Forsyth  
9:00AM

Our Lady of the Cove  
Kimberling City  
9:00AM  
6:00PM



ASH WEDNESDAY



### Fast for Lent

A man who had been away from the Church for some time came into the confessional on Ash Wednesday. The man professed, "Father, for Lent, I'm going to pray a whole bunch and I'm going to do that thing where you give up food in between meals.

The priest responded, "You're going to fast?" The man started again, "I'm... going... to... do... that... thing..."

## LENTEN DISCIPLINES OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.



# MARDI GRAS

*Celebration*

SUNDAY, FEB. 15TH

Noon

*OLL Parish Center*

POTLUCK STYLE

BRING YOUR BEST  
GUMBO, JAMBALAYA OR  
FESTIVE FOOD TO SHARE

COME SEE THE  
PSR KIDS' FLOATS

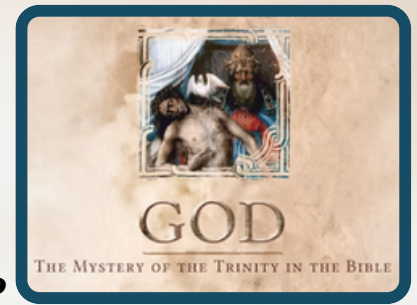
*ALL ARE  
WELCOME*





# Coffee & Christ Sundays

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



## *What do we mean when we say 'God'?*

*Misconceptions about God abound, even among Christians, and these misconceptions can become obstacles in our relationship with God. Join Augustine Institute Assistant Professor Dr. Elizabeth Klein for a careful study of Scripture that will lead you to a deeper and clearer awareness of who God is, equipping you to share this truth with others.*

### **Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> I Am Who I Am | Lectio: God | Episode 1**

What do we mean when we say the word “God”? Who is he? What is he like? Misconceptions about God abound, even among Christians, and these misconceptions can be obstacles in our relationship with God. Through a careful study of Scripture, Dr. Klein leads you to a deeper and clearer awareness of God’s nearness, his power, and his relationship with humanity.

### **Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> The Lord Our God is One | Lectio: God | Episode 2**

What does it mean to say the Lord is one? Why was this such an important revelation to Israel, and why is it important for us today? In this session, you will learn why acknowledging God’s oneness is essential for a proper understanding of him and to grow in your relationship with him.



## **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.

### **Feb. 17th**

#### **Season 5 Episode 6: Reunions**

*As Jesus’ followers gather for the Passover meal, His enemies assemble for a man hunt. Judas holds a secret meeting*

#### **Bible Roundtable:**

In Episode 6, we saw the first Communion at the Last Supper. The Chosen’s portrayal stuck closely to Jesus’ words straight from the Gospels, but there’s a longstanding Catholic-Protestant disagreement over how to interpret those words. How literal or figurative was Jesus being when He said, “This is my body,” and “This is my blood”? In this discussion, Father Guffey clearly presents the Catholic viewpoint. Dr. Huffman presents a continuum of Protestant views, and Rabbi Sobel brings in a Jewish perspective, connecting the Lord’s Supper to Passover—and all the way back to the trees in the Garden of Eden. Despite any differences of interpretation, one thing is clear: everyone takes Jesus’ words seriously and believes in the sacredness of this sacrament.

### **Feb. 24th**

#### **We will be attending the Lenten Mission featuring Bob Schrimpf**

**Bob Schrimpf is a #1 Best Selling Author, National Speaker, 45 years in direct ministry, Steubenville Host, and Director of Western Expansion for Evangelical Catholic**

### **March 3rd**

#### **Season 5 Episode 7 The Upper Room Part 1**

**Followed by the Biblical Roundtable discussion**

### **March 10th**

#### **Season 5 Episode 8: The Upper Room Part 11**

**Followed by the Biblical Roundtable discussion**

# O CIA

*Ash Wednesday and Lent are upon us,  
and in O CIA- for many,  
it will be the first time experiencing Lent.*

*This period is referred to as Purification and Enlightenment.*

*On Sunday, February 22, (on the western side of our Diocese)  
will be celebrating the Rite of Sending here at OLL (10:30 Mass) &  
the Rite of Election at St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton Church in Springfield at 3:00.*

*During the Rite of Election, our Catechumen (unbaptized)  
will then be referred to as Elect  
after Bishop Rice receives the Book of Life signed by the  
Catechumen during the Rite of Sending.*

*They, and our Candidates will receive special Blessings from our Bishop,  
for their journey into the Church at the Easter Vigil (or another time soon after)*

*This is a very special time for our Elect and Candidates as they have been  
actively studying about our faith for many months. They, and their sponsors, have been  
on their Faith Journey and are still in need of your prayers!*

## *For Elect:*

*Caleb Newman*

*Garry Hunt*

## *Candidates:*

*Nate Akley*

*Tommy Head*

*Daniella Lingner*

*Alyson Sparks*

*Gabriel Vuyckankiat*

*Bonnie Grace Day*

*Vanessa Parks*

*Elijah Bumgarner*

*Hector Buentello*

*Debbie Philpott*

*James Roach*

*Janet Johnson*

*Kimberly Huen*

## *For Confirmation:*

*Carl Northcutt*



*If you would be so kind as to write them a note, letting them know of all  
your prayers for them, and to welcome them into our Church family.  
You can drop them off in the basket in the Gathering Space or at the office.*

*Thank you!*

## Black History Month and the Catholic Church: A Catechetical Reflection

Each February, the Church in the United States joins our wider community in observing Black History Month. While the Catechism of the Catholic Church does not mention this observance by name, it provides the theological foundation for why the Church honors the history, dignity, and contributions of Black Catholics—and why she confronts the sin of racism with clarity and hope.

At the heart of the Catechism is the truth that every human person is created in the image and likeness of God. The Church teaches that all people share the same dignity and are equal before the Lord (CCC 1934). Because of this, the Catechism states plainly that any form of discrimination “must be curbed and eradicated as incompatible with God’s design” (CCC 1935).

Black History Month is a time to remember that racism is a sin, a wound against charity, justice, and the unity of the human family. The Catechism calls Christians to actively work to remove “structures of sin” and to promote justice and solidarity (CCC 1888; 1928–1948). This month invites us to examine our hearts, heal divisions, and recommit ourselves to the Gospel’s call to love.

The Church also uses this month to celebrate the deep and enduring faith of Black Catholics, whose witness has strengthened American Catholicism for centuries. From the earliest days of Christianity, shaped profoundly by African saints such as Augustine, Monica, and Cyprian, to the perseverance of enslaved Africans who clung to the hope of the Gospel, the story of Black Catholics is woven into the very fabric of our faith.

In the United States there are six African American Catholics currently on the path to sainthood, each being a powerful witness of holiness and perseverance – the Venerable Pierre Toussaint (1766-1853), Mother Mary Lange (1784 -1882), Henriette Delille (1813-1862), Julia Greeley (1833-1918), Sister Thea Bowman (1937-1990) and Father Augustus Tolton (1854–1897). Fr. Tolton is from Missouri, born into slavery in Brush Creek, Ralls County, and baptized at St. Peter’s Catholic Church. He escaped Missouri with his family during the Civil War and later became the first recognized Black American priest.

The Church also highlights the importance of Catholic institutions that have served the Black community. Xavier University of Louisiana, the nation’s only Catholic historically Black university, continues to form leaders in education, science, medicine, and public service. Parishes, schools, and diocesan offices across the country offer liturgies, educational programs, and service opportunities that honor Black Catholic heritage and promote racial reconciliation.

Ultimately, the Church’s role during Black History Month is rooted in her mission: to proclaim Christ, to uphold human dignity, and to build a community where every person is welcomed, valued, and loved. As Catholics, we are called to remember the past with honesty, celebrate the present with gratitude, and work for a future marked by justice, unity, and peace.

May this month inspire us to learn, to listen, and to allow the Holy Spirit to renew our hearts so that the Church may more fully reflect the Kingdom of God, where people of every race and nation stand together in praise of the Lord.

# OLL Games

Join us February 19th OLL Game Day  
1:00pm Faith Formation Room

OLL Train - The Sweethearts  
BIG Winner Anne Marie -270  
Julie J -273 Mary -280  
Pam -293  
Lil' Winner Sandy -304



Mahjong

Fr. J 25 Brenda 50 Sue 25  
Joyce 25 Susan 0

OLL Train - The Sweethearts TOO  
BIG Winner Remy -197  
Judy E -231 Eva -270  
Joe -300 Susan -369  
Lil' Winner Ed -422

Swoop Heartless  
Big Winner Dan -233  
Julie W -274 Sharon S -295  
Sharon A -313 Sharron -338  
Lil' Winner Harry -408



Swoop Cupid and His Hearts  
Big Winner Butch -68  
Way to Go Butch!  
Judy H -190 Jeanie -278  
Lil' Winner Margaret -448



## FORWARD... One Step At A Time



## Bereavement Healing

Grief is painful and exhausting. The death of a loved one is one of the greatest sorrows 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.

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 group on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm in the Heritage Room (lower level of the church). 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 or join us on Tuesday.



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

This invitation is for everyone.

This guide lays out monthly themes & practical suggestions to help you build lasting habits & to focus on placing God back at the center of your life.

## FEBRUARY

### GET TO KNOW YOUR CHURCH\*

Click on the link:  
[Get to Know Your Church](#)  
Or pick up a copy of this sheet at the Help Desk & see if you can find these items in your parish

### ATTEND MASS ON ASH WEDNESDAY

Wed. Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>

Our Lady of the Cove - 9:00am & 6:00pm  
Our Lady of the Ozarks - 9:00am  
Our Lady of the Lake - Noon & 7:00pm

### TURN OFF PHONES DURING DINNER

Spend the time talking about the "highs & lows" from the day or week



## Lenten Opportunities



**LENTEN MISSION WITH BOB SCHRIMPF**

*He has shared his heartfelt message as a national speaker and workshop leader, leaving a lasting impact on audiences across the nation.*

**Monday, Feb 23rd**

**Our Lady of the Cove - 9:00AM**

**Tuesday, Feb 24th**

**Our Lady of the Lake (Part 1) -10:00AM**  
**Our Lady of the Lake (Part 1) -6:00PM**

**Wednesday, Feb 25th**

**Our Lady of the Lake (Part 2) -10:00AM**  
**Our Lady of the Lake (Part 2) -6:00PM**  
(after 5:30 Mass)

## Soup & Stations

*Stations start at 6pm followed by soup in the gathering space*

Feb. 20th

Feb. 27th

March 6th

March 13th

March 20th

March 27th



**LENTEN MISSION WITH STEVE ANGRISANO**

**Thursday**  
**March 26th**  
**Time: TBA**

*Steve Angrisano is undoubtedly one of the most effective and versatile ministry leaders in the Church today.*

*Young and old alike embrace the passionate message of faith, hope and love woven throughout his music and storytelling.*

# WHY NOT DRAW CLOSER

TO JESUS IN THE HOLY EUCHARIST?

*Learn from the Catechism*

#1328 - 1332

*Get to know St. John Paul II's Mind*

EE Ch. 1 The Mystery of Faith

*Give Praise to God*

through the "Salutaris Hostia" hymn

*Reclaim Sunday for God & the Family*

Get to Know Your Church

*Watch an uplifting movie*

For Greater Glory: The True Story of Cristiada

Buy/rent from your favorite streaming services

*Contemplate Sacred Art*

The Last Supper by Juan de Juanes



# FEBRUARY PSR CALENDAR



## SAINT OF THE MONTH

**St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows**

His feast day is Feb. 27th



Many young people look up to Gabriel today. He shows that you do not need to be famous or powerful to please God. You only need to love and trust Him. Gabriel lived this lesson with all his strength.

**SAINT GABRIEL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS IS A PATRON SAINT OF:  
CLERGY, STUDENTS & YOUNG PEOPLE**

**Wednesday PSR K-12th**

**Feb 18th**  
Ash Wednesday  
Mass Times  
Noon & 7:00pm  
No Class

**Feb 25th 5:30-7pm**  
Mass  
Food/Class



## SPECIAL EVENTS



**Mardi Gras Celebration**  
Sunday, February 15th @  
Noon ~ Parish Center

Join us for a Potluck and see the  
kids' Mardi Gras floats

**Ash Wednesday, February 18th**  
Mass Times  
Noon & 7:00pm



## SERVICE PROJECT

**Valentine's Day Cards-**  
**for Homebound**



## MENU

**2/25 - Pasta and salad**





**Join Us  
for  
Soup & Stations**

**Every Friday at 6:00pm**

*Stations start at 6pm  
followed by soup in the gathering space  
provided by the following  
Parish Ministries*

**Feb. 20th  
Coffee & Christ**

**Feb. 27th  
Hispanic Ministry & Community**

**March 6th  
PSR**

**March 13th  
Welcome Women**

**March 20th  
Knights of Columbus**

**March 27th  
Parish Staff**



Register for the March Give 5 classes at [www.OLLBranson.com/Give5](http://www.OLLBranson.com/Give5) and spend your Tuesdays learning more about your community and discovering where your unique skills, talent, interests, and extra time can make a difference.



***This session is being hosted by the  
Stone County Health Department in Reeds Spring.  
Bring a friend and make some new ones too!***

***To register -  
Please use our QR Code  
or use the website address below.***

**<https://ollbranson.com/give5signup2026>**



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

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

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

*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.*

SCAN TO  
REGISTER



OR GO TO:  
[OLLBRANSON.COM/WOMENS-  
WELCOME-RETREAT](http://OLLBRANSON.COM/WOMENS-WELCOME-RETREAT)

Dynamic Catholic

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](http://www.CatholicConference.men)

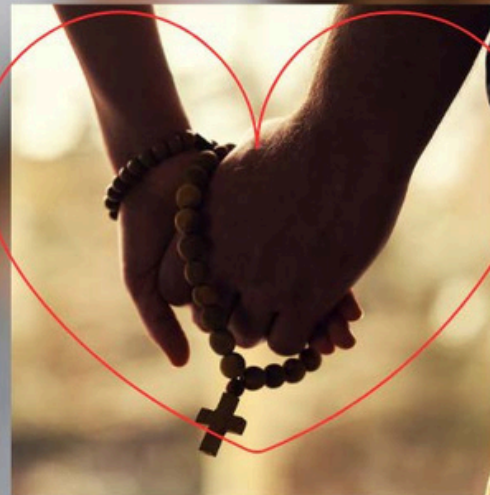
@SOMOMensCon

*Looking for a  
special Valentines' Day gift  
for you and your spouse?*

The World Wide Marriage Encounter  
Weekend Experience is the perfect  
way to renew, refresh, and reignite  
your marriage!

**March 20 - 22, 2026**

Congregation of the Mother of the  
Redeemer Retreat Center  
Carthage, Missouri



**For more information and to register online, please go to**

[wwme.org](http://wwme.org)



# OLL & OLC NEVER ALONE

Call to Community and Mission

## SCHEDULE

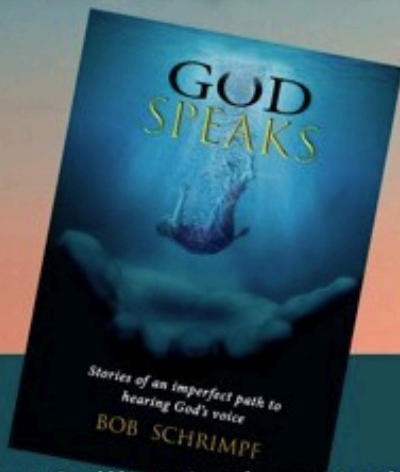
*February 23:  
9AM Our Lady of the Cove*

*February 24:  
10AM Our Lady of the Lake Part 1  
6PM Our Lady of the Lake Part 1*

*February 25:  
10AM Our Lady of the Lake Part 2  
6PM Our Lady of the Lake Part 2*

## GUEST SPEAKER

Bob Schrimpf



**Come Be Inspired**

*#1 Best Selling Author, National Speaker, 45 years in direct ministry, Steubenville Host, and Director of Western Expansion for Evangelical Catholic*





# Knights of Columbus®

**Knights' Corner ~ Council 6470**

## **K of C Parish Breakfast**

Mark your calendars for March 15th!  
Serving a delicious breakfast for St. Patrick's Day!

After both the 8am and 10:30am Masses,  
the Knights of Columbus will be serving up  
breakfast in the St. Joseph Hall  
at the Parish Center.

Come hungry and enjoy some  
food and fellowship!



## **Save the DATES!**

## More Events Coming...

Our Council has reserved the following dates for more  
food and fellowship opportunities to come:

Breakfast      Talent Show      Breakfast  
June 21st   -   August 2nd   -   November 8th

Plan ahead to come and support our charitable endeavors!  
Knights! Check to see how YOU can be involved and help out!

## K of C Scholarships Available - Deadline Feb 20th!



The Missouri State Council awards a total of eleven, \$1,500 scholarships each year, and some of our own parishioners have been past recipients!

If you are interested in learning more, we strongly urge you to check out the scholarship descriptions, criteria, and application process at:

<https://mokofc.org/Programs/Family-Program/Scholarships>

The next blood drive is scheduled for  
**March 20, 2026**

from 12 noon to 5:00pm at

Our Lady of the Lake Parish Center,  
202 Vaughn Drive Branson MO. 65616.

40 - units collected at the January 16th, 2026 drive.

62 - drives successfully completed since Nov. 2015.

3057 - units of blood have been collected since Nov. 2015.

GO TO –

[www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) zip code 65616 to schedule appointment

**Red Cross  
Blood Drive**

## Food Drive Update



As of 1/31/26, Our Lady of the Lake has donated over 3,131 lbs of food and \$745 to the Salvation Army Food Pantry for the Fraternal year 7/1/25 - 6/30/26.

Did you know the Salvation Army can buy food at just \$0.18 per pound? Obviously this makes monetary contributions more effective.

Just a reminder that for every 1000 lbs of food **AND** for every \$500 donated, K of C donates \$100 to the pantry, up to \$500 each from the K of C annually.

Want to make a monetary contribution to the Salvation Army Food Panty through the Knights of Columbus to help reach the bonus gift from the K of C?

*Make checks payable to:*  
K of C Council 6470  
Memo: S. A. Food Pantry

*Send checks to:*  
Our Lady of the Lake, Attn: Knights of Columbus  
203 Vaughn Dr. Branson, MO. 65616



# CALLING ALL VENDORS

AUGUST 15 2026

WEST PLAINS CIVIC CENTER

We are seeking Catholic vendors and artisans to participate in the Exhibition Hall at our Diocesan Eucharistic Congress as we celebrate our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

BOOTH REGISTRATION OPENS **FEBRUARY 18**  
SCAN QR TO REGISTER



MORE INFO: (417) 866-0841 pwright@dioscg.org  
<https://dioscg.org/diocesan-eucharistic-congress/>



# LENT PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD



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

## Prayer and Adoration

Deanery Three  
Sacred Heart, Bolivar

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



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

40 Days for Life  
will begin on  
Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2026.

40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses.

All Knights of Columbus, DCCW, Scripture study, youth groups, and families are invited to prayerfully consider signing up for an hour to pray in front of the Planned Parenthood on Battlefield Rd., in Springfield.

For more information, and to sign up, visit [40daysforlife.com](http://40daysforlife.com).



FEBRUARY 18 - MARCH 29

# 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

## HELP SAVE LIVES IN SPRINGFIELD

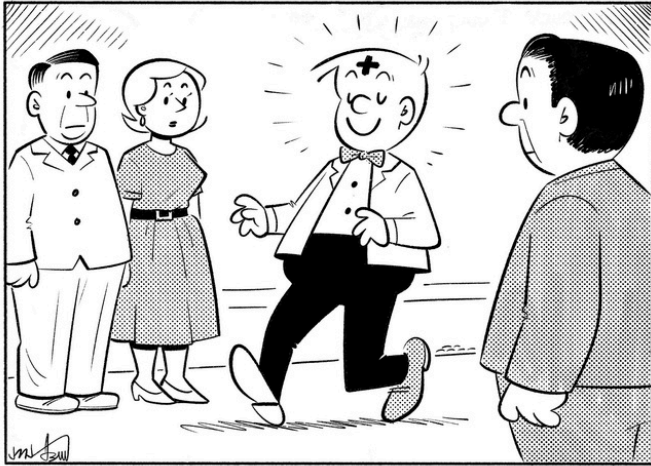
1. Visit [40daysforlife.com](http://40daysforlife.com) and register for an account.
2. Bring a friend. Bring a sign.
3. Come to Planned Parenthood at 626. East Battlefield Road, Springfield, MO 65807

For questions and details, please contact Sr. Janine at [jtran@dioscg.org](mailto:jtran@dioscg.org) or 417 - 866 - 0841

# LOVE



"There's a certain Wednesday during the year when you can easily tell who's Catholic."



"I doubt you need to **Ash** me which one that is."



During Mass on Ash Wednesday, the priest will place ashes on our forehead. This is a symbol to remind us of our mortality. From dust we have come, and to dust we will return.

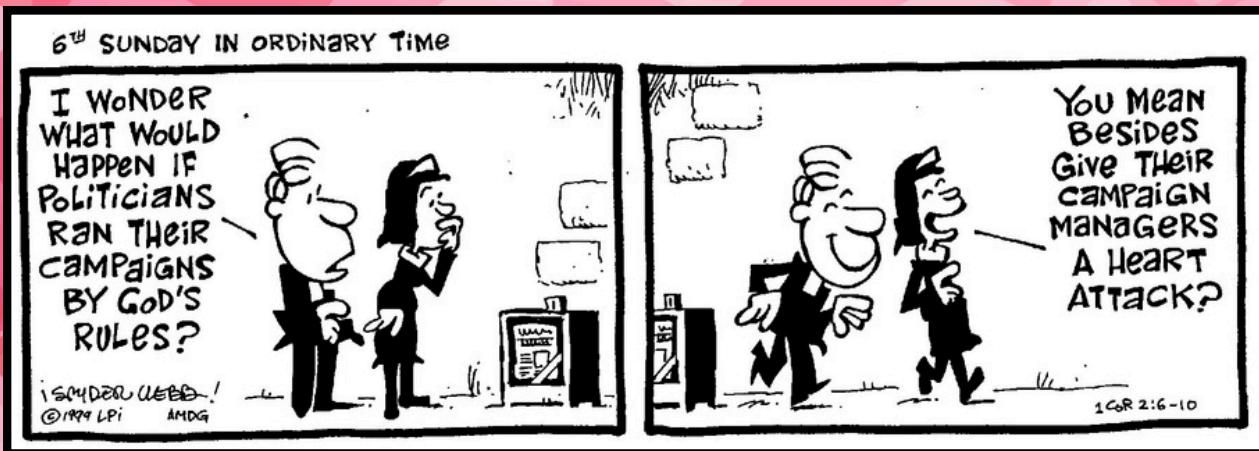
## CATHOLIC TRIVIA

### JUST FOR FUN

Question: What are the names of the three theological virtues of the Catholic Church?

Answer: Faith, Hope, and Love (Charity).

©LPI



## Readings for the week of February 15, 2026

### Sunday:

Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34/  
1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a,  
27-28, 33-34a, 37

### Monday:

Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76/  
Mk 8:11-13

### Tuesday:

Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19/  
Mk 8:14-21

### Wednesday:

Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and  
17/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

### Thursday:

Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/  
Lk 9:22-25

### Friday:

Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/  
Mt 9:14-15

### Saturday:

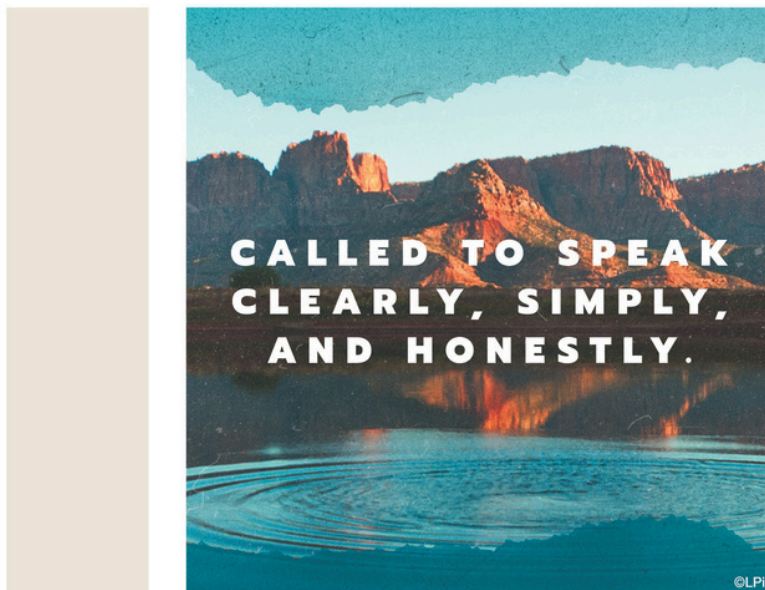
Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32

### Next Sunday:

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17/  
Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A few years into my priesthood, I hit a wall. I had taken on too many commitments: Masses, meetings, ministries, projects. I couldn't keep up. I was double-booking, forgetting things, running late, and letting people down. My boss at the time, a wise priest, and our shared secretary, noticed. For my birthday, the two gave me a stack of 100 flashcards, each with one word printed in a different language: "NO." It was funny, but also painfully true. If I couldn't say no, my yes was in danger.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says, **"Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the Evil One" (Matthew 5:37).** He's not just giving advice about polite speech. He's showing us something about the freedom of Christian discipleship. The follower of Christ is called to speak clearly, simply, and honestly. There is joy in that kind of freedom.

The Church Fathers often linked this kind of straightforward truthfulness with spiritual maturity. The devil is the father of lies, but Jesus is the Word made flesh. When we hedge, flatter, exaggerate, or avoid, we open space for the shadows to creep in. That little stack of flashcards reminded me that God does not want us enslaved to the expectations of others or to the fear of disappointing them. He wants us to enjoy the peace of saying yes and meaning it, and saying no, and meaning it, too.

**Lenten Challenge:** Practice one moment of honest, peaceful speech this week. Maybe it's a sincere "yes" to something important, or a humble "no" to something you cannot do. Let it be a quiet step into the freedom Jesus offers.

— *Father John Muir*

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

No one does he command to act unjustly,  
to none does he give license to sin. (Sir 15:20)

### Psalm:

Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Ps 119)

### Second Reading:

Rather, we speak of God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden,  
which God predetermined before the ages for our glory.  
(1 Cor 2:7)

### Gospel:

"I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses  
that of the scribes and Pharisees,  
you will not enter the kingdom of heaven." (Mt 5:20)

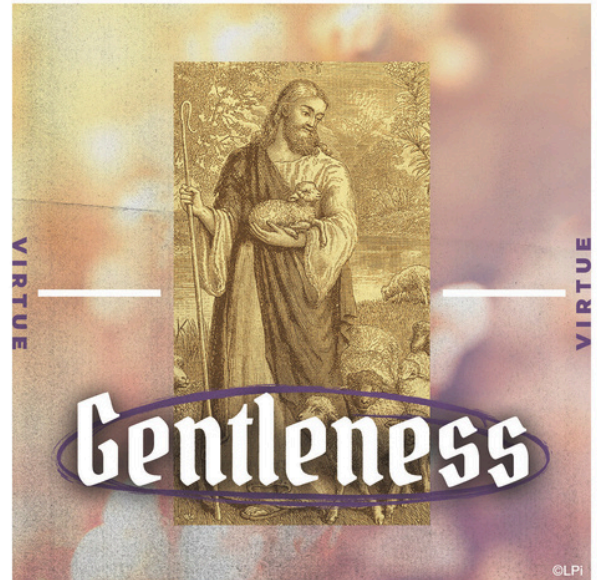
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus does not want us to live within the law — he wants the law to live within us. God's law, fulfilled by His Son, is rich soil. We must let it nourish the words and the decisions of our Christian life — only then will it flow forth into the world.

## Observances for the week of February 15, 2026

- Sunday:** 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**Monday:** Presidents' Day  
**Tuesday:** The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order  
**Wednesday:** Ash Wednesday  
**Saturday:** St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
**Next Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Lent



## Virtues, Explained!

Gentleness disposes us to receive the inspirations of the Spirit, who "reveals to men who Jesus is" (CCC 152). In cultivating a spirit of gentleness, we more closely resemble Christ, who was unfailingly gentle, even in the face of violence and death

## Blessing of Love

Heavenly Father,  
Ignite us with Your love.  
Reveal to us Your will,  
guide us in Your path.  
Pour Your blessings upon us,  
You who are the giver of every  
good thing.  
Help us to live, work, act, and  
speak  
in ways that bring honor and  
glory to You.  
Amen.

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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)

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Thursday 9:30 am - 7:00 pm

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- Please get in touch with the office if you need a door code or are having trouble with your own.

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