

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

*Say to daughter Zion,
"Behold, your king comes to you,
meek and riding on an ass."*

- Mt 21:5



PALM SUNDAY



Events

SATURDAY March 28

Sacrament of Reconciliation
3:00-4:30pm - Confessional

SUNDAY March 29

Coffee & Christ
9:15-10:15am - Faith Formation Rm

MONDAY March 30

No Events

TUESDAY March 31

Adult Bible Study
10:00-Noon - Faith Formation Rm

Centering Prayer
Resumes April 21st

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

OCIA
6:30-8:00pm - Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY April 1

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

PSR
Resumes April 8th

THURSDAY April 2

Parish Office closed



FRIDAY April 3

Parish Office closed



Stations of the Cross
Noon - in the garden
(lower level parking lot)

SATURDAY April 4



No AM Events

Mass Times

SATURDAY

5:00pm
7:00pm (Spanish)

SUNDAY

8:00am
10:30am

MONDAY

9:00am

TUESDAY

9:00am

WEDNESDAY

5:30pm

HOLY THURSDAY

7:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY

7:00pm

SATURDAY - EASTER VIGIL

9:00pm



Adoration

TUESDAY

Will resume 4/14

THURSDAY

Will resume 4/16

Important Links

[Click Here For PARISH CALENDAR](#)

[Click Here For MASS INTENTIONS](#)

[Click Here For FLOWER INTENTIONS](#)

Mass Intentions

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|----------------|---|
| Sat. | 3/28 | 5:00pm | Francis Hulshof - Fr. Dave's Dad † |
| Sat. | 3/28 | 7:00pm | Taney County Parish Family (Living) |
| Sun. | 3/29 | 8:00am | Lynda Linch † |
| Sun. | 3/29 | 10:30am | Mike and Veronica Axelson (Living) |
| Mon. | 3/30 | 9:00am | Deceased family members of John & Margaret Casey † |
| Tue. | 3/31 | 9:00am | Reverend Mother Teresa of Jesus (Special Intention-Living) |
| Wed. | 4/1 | 5:30pm | Kameryn Elizabeth Graczyk (Special Intention-Living) |
| Thur. | 4/2 | 7:00pm | Janet Hildreth † |



Our Lady of the Lake Schedule for Holy Week

**Holy Thursday - April 2nd
7:00PM**

*Adoration following Mass
in the Chapel until Midnight*

**Good Friday - April 3rd
Stations of the Cross in the Garden
Noon**

*(Outside lower-level parking lot)
(In case of inclement weather- in the Church)*

**Good Friday Service
7:00PM**

**Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil - April 4th
9:00PM - Bilingual**

(No 5:00PM or 7:00PM - MASS)

**Easter Sunday - April 5th
8:00AM
10:30AM**

Our Lady of the Cove

20 Kimberling Blvd. - Kimberling City

SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK

Holy Thursday

Thursday, April 2nd

7:00PM

*Adoration following Mass
in the Parish Hall until Midnight*

**Good Friday
Stations of the Cross**

Friday, April 3rd

3:00PM

**Good Friday Service
with Veneration of the Cross**

7:00PM

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 5th

8:00AM

10:00AM

Our Lady of the Ozarks

951 Swan Valley Dr. - Forsyth

SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK

Holy Thursday

Thursday, April 2nd

7:00PM

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 3rd

3:00PM

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 5th

8:30AM



*He
is
Risen*

Coffee & Christ Sundays

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



Coffee & Christ is an adult Catholic Christian faith education opportunity for learning and building community that meets on Sunday morning between the Masses.

Upcoming dates

March 29th

April 5th - Not meeting

April 12th



Over the next couple of weeks we will be watching a video from Bishop Greg Homeming as he talks about prayer, discernment and union.

Before he was a priest, Lismore's Catholic Bishop, Greg Homeming was a lawyer. His journey from lawyer to Carmelite monk, priest and bishop has seen him devote his life to study, prayer, self reflection and a desire to help people.

**Participants are always welcome!
There is no required attendance!**

UNDERSTAND MORE FULLY
THE GOSPEL OF SALVATION IN

Romans

AN 8-PART BIBLE STUDY FEATURING
ANDREW SWAFFORD
and JEFF CAVINS



Adult Bible Study Tuesdays

10:00am to Noon
Faith Formation Room

*We're excited to invite you to
Romans: The Gospel of Salvation,
an eight-part study about possibly the most
famous—and controversial—of St. Paul's letters.*

Join us!

March 31st - Romans 1-2: Paul's Gospel and the Universality of Sin

April 7th - Romans 3-4: Faith, Works, and Justification

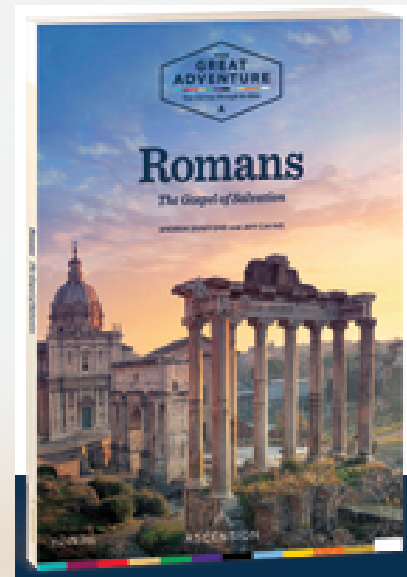
April 14th - Romans 5-6: Entering into the Paschal Mystery

Romans: The Gospel of Salvation is a new eight-week Bible study we are offering that will help you make sense of the difficult passages regarding faith, works of the law, and justification. It will give you an authentically Catholic, comprehensive, and simple way to understand this challenging epistle.

Paul's letter to the Romans has been at the center of reflection, conversion, and controversy from the very beginning.

**Indeed, many Catholics fear that Romans is too "Protestant."
But understood correctly, as St. Paul intended, Romans is authentically Catholic.**

Romans reveals that salvation is not merely the removal of a guilty verdict; it is about entering into Christ's life, death, and resurrection and sharing in his divine life. In Jesus Christ all the hopes and expectations of Israel are fulfilled, leading to the universal ("catholic") family of God.



Holy Week Begins



Palm Sunday

Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey

Holy Monday

Jesus freed the sacrificial animals & cleansed the temple

Holy Tuesday

Jesus taught at the temple

Holy Wednesday

Judas betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver



Maundy Thursday

Last supper with the disciples Jesus washes their feet



Good Friday

Jesus crucified on a cross for the sins of the world



Holy Saturday

Jesus body rested on the tomb



Resurrection Sunday

Jesus is Risen! His life, death, and resurrection paid for our sins and gives eternal life.

OCIA

We're down to the last week before the Easter Vigil, where many of the people who have been on their journey into the Catholic Faith these last several months, will be received into full communion with Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

For Elect:

- Caleb Newman - OLL*
- Garry Hunt - OLO*

Candidates:

- Nate Akley - OLL*
- Tommy Head -OLL*
- Daniella Lingner - OLL*
- Vanessa Parks - OLL*
- Gabriel Vuycankiat - OLL*
- Bonnie Grace Day - OLL*
- Alyson Sparks - OLL*
- Hector Buentello - OLL*
- Kimberly Huen -OLL*
- James Roach -OLO*
- Janet Johnson - OLO*
- Debbie Philpott - OLO*



Also, 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 between the Sanctuary doors or at the office and it will be given to them at the Easter Vigil.

Thank you! The OCIA Team

Welcome

Our Lady of the Lake

OCIA

MEMBERS



Candidate: Nate Ackley
Sponsor: Steve Hopf (NP)

Co-Sponsor Garrett Calhoun (left)

My name is Nathan Ackley, but you can just call me Nate. I am a Colorado native where I grew up loving all the adventures into the mountains. I am married to my beautiful wife Melinda where we spend most of our time reading many books, being with friends, and laughing with each other as we do life together. I love a good cup of coffee with a book. And I am grateful the Lord has blessed me with an eagerness to learn always and help me grow into who He wants me to be.



Candidate: Hector Buentello
Sponsor: Dan Schilling (left)

Greetings, my name is Hector Buentello. I am someone who values earnest faith, beauty, and meaningful reflection, and I am grateful for the ways God continues to work in my life. In my free time, I enjoy photography, painting, music, golf, writing, reading, and spending time outdoors. I also have a deep appreciation for art, aesthetics, history, and quiet time spent with God. I am thankful to be coming home to our holy faith and look forward to continuing to grow in faith, wisdom, and fellowship.



Elect: Caleb Newman
Sponsor: Craig Dochniak (left)
Godmother: Wendie Lapham

My name is Caleb Newman, I'm from Texas, was raised Baptist, and I am excited to finally enter the Catholic Church. Preparing for confirmation has been a fun and challenging experience (for a night shift worker), and I've met a lot of wonderful people in our parish over the last year. My goal in life is to walk with the Lord in anything he may call me to do, hopefully one day including becoming a husband and a father, if God wills. I like to write, sketch, and do other things that help me externalize the stories in my head.



Candidate: Bonnie Grace Day
Sponsor: Dorene Oesterreicher (left)

I'm Bonnie Grace Day, 5th generation Springfield (MO), but have lived in many US States. My adult son's name is Joshua. I am a retired singer/songwriter and had a career in public health. I attended 2 Bible Colleges and worked in ministry most of my life. Long time single, I spend time in Scripture, history, and natural health research, and care for several rescue.



Candidate: Alyson Sparks
Sponsor: Ofelia Garcia (NP)
Cristian Garduño - fiancé (left)

I'm originally from California, but I've been living in Branson for several years now. I'm a licensed esthetician and work at a spa here in town. In my free time, I love making jewelry, reading, and crocheting. I've always been religious, but I'm especially excited for this season of my life as I pursue the Catholic faith for truth, acceptance, and grace.

Welcome

Our Lady of the Lake

OCIA

MEMBERS



Candidate: Gabriel Vuycankiat
Sponsor: Veronica Eggemeyer (left)

My name is Gabriel Vuycankiat, and one year ago I attended my first Mass. I saw the Eucharist and instantly knew it was Jesus. Since then, it has been a year of prayer, struggle, and growth. I enjoy reading theology and history, and I love to camp.

“We should all strive to be ‘fools for Christ,’ who are willing to give up everything in order to follow Christ.” – St. Gabriel the Fool for Christ

Blessings,
Gabriel Vuycankiat



Candidate: Daniella Lingner
Sponsor: David Lingner (left)

I am a mom of two from the North Dallas area. I went to C of O and graduated in 2020, so while I love Texas, Branson now feels like home. I'm blessed to have a strong community of family and friends around me as I raise my two little girls.



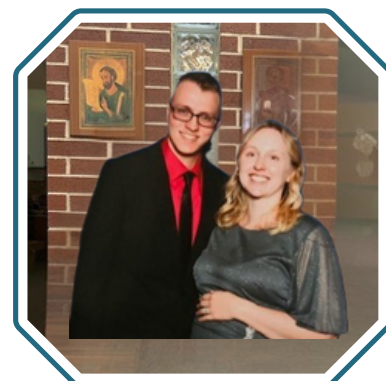
Candidate: Vanessa Parks
Sponsor: Al Waller (left)

“At 21 years old, I am grateful and excited to be entering the Catholic Church and beginning a new chapter in my life and faith. Originally from Newport Beach, California, my family and I moved to Branson five years ago, and during that time this community has truly become home to us. Over the past several years, I have come to appreciate the kindness, faith, and sense of family that make this area so special. I have also recently begun my career in real estate here in the Branson area, and I look forward to serving and building meaningful relationships within this community. Becoming part of this church family is a blessing I do not take lightly, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to grow in faith, learn from those around me, and walk this new journey as a member of the Catholic Church. I am excited for what the future holds and thankful to be surrounded by such a welcoming and faithful community.”



Candidate: Tommy Head
Sponsor: Terry Gingrich
Co-Sponsor Mario Lombardi (left)

My name is Thomas Head, feel free to call me Tom or Tommy. I'm a native to the area was born near, lived here all my life and will probably die here. I came to the Catholic faith looking for Christ and believe I have found him. I'm working to overcome my fears and self doubt and tend to be content to watch listen and learn. I work at Titanic as a narrator and have no problem being in the spotlight, though it isn't my preferred environment. I'm by nature a storyteller, love to build and beautify, and find God in nature; Saint Francis is my patron saint. I'm looking forward to seeing how God writes the next chapter in my life.



Candidate: Kimberly Huen
Sponsor: Michael Steep (left)

I'm Kimberly, and I was baptized and raised in Southern Baptist denomination. I've always longed for a deeper connection and understanding in traditions and community. I found that in the Catholic faith thanks to my Spouse and his family. I'm excited and looking forward to seeing all the growth me and my family make in this walk of faith



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[Click Here to Contact Parish Staff](#)

WORSHIP WITH US



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



[CLICK HERE FOR DAILY MASS READINGS](#)

Collection through March 22, 2026

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Envelopes:		\$22,282.00
Plate:		\$ 9,200.00
Green Envelopes:		\$ 6,547.74
Total:		\$38,029.74

OLL Games

Join us April 9th OLL Game Day
1:00pm Faith Formation Room

OLL Train - The Alligator Group
BIG Winner Joe -109
Ed -201 Judy E -276 Eva -286
Lil' Winner Remy -301



OLL Train - Rolling Stones
BIG Winner Julie J -154
Annie Marie -179 Mary -295
Rose Marie -309
Lil' Winner Helen -344



Swoop Crazy Niners
Big Winner Margaret -92
Kevin -135 Butch -185 Sharron -189
Dan -255 Judy H -256
Sharon S -300 Sharon A -314
Lil' Winner Jeanie 372

Mahjong
Sue -50
Cathy -25
Joyce -25
Monnie -0

Judy O Instructor

NO OLL Games on Holy Thursday ~ Next Game Day April 9th



Join us FOR ALL THE
FUN!



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.

Spots are **FILLING UP** fast.

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

OR GO TO:

<https://ollbranson.flocknote.com/signup/241552>

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

Spots are filling up fast

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

Bishop James Conley
 Bishop Edward Rice
 Fr. Leo Potalinghaus
 Dr. Scott Hahn
 Fr. Elvis Gonzalez
 De Ministris
 Mari Pablo
 Brian Miller
 Sr. Carolyn Nunes, FSCM

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

DIocese of SPRINGFIELD-CAPE GIRARDEAU

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!



Holy Week: A history of the Church's “Week of Holy Tears”

Holy Week is often called the most sacred stretch of days in the Christian year. But it is also, in a very real sense, a week of tears—tears shed by Jesus, by His disciples, and by the Church herself. These tears are not signs of defeat. They are the holy waters through which God prepares us for resurrection.

The earliest Christians in Jerusalem were the first to walk this path of holy tears. By the second and third centuries, they gathered at the very places where Jesus suffered, prayed, and died. Their observances were simple yet profoundly emotional: fasting, Scripture reading, and heartfelt lament for the Lord's Passion. The fourth-century pilgrim Egeria recorded how believers retraced Christ's steps with tears and devotion, showing that from the beginning, Holy Week was meant to move the heart as much as the mind.

It was in the fourth century when Christianity was legally recognized by the Roman Empire, Holy Week began to take on a more formal shape. The Church established specific days to commemorate key moments in Christ's passion. Palm Sunday emerged as the celebration of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, marked by the blessing and procession of palms. Holy Thursday honored the Last Supper and the institution of the Eucharist, while Good Friday became a day of fasting and solemn remembrance of Christ's crucifixion. Holy Saturday, a day of quiet anticipation, culminated in the Easter Vigil, the most important liturgy of the year.

During the Middle Ages, the Church's understanding of Holy Week as a time of holy tears deepened. Passion plays, processions, and devotional practices helped ordinary Christians enter emotionally into the Gospel story. The faithful knelt before the cross, kissed the wounds of Christ, and listened to the haunting chants of the Passion. These expressions were not meant to produce despair but to awaken compassion and conversion. The Church understood that tears shed for Christ open the soul to grace.

The Council of Trent in the 16th century standardized many Holy Week practices, ensuring consistency across the Catholic world. However, it was not until the 20th century that Holy Week underwent its most significant modern reform. In the 1950s, Pope Pius XII restored the ancient timing and structure of the Holy Week liturgies, returning the Easter Vigil to its rightful place after sunset and encouraging greater participation from the laity. These reforms revitalized the week's spiritual impact and reconnected Catholics with early Christian traditions.

Today, Holy Week remains a profound journey through the heart of the Christian story. From the joyful procession of Palm Sunday to the quiet reverence of Good Friday and the triumphant celebration of Easter, Catholics around the world enter into a sacred rhythm that has been shaped by nearly two millennia of faith. It reminds us that Christ's suffering is not distant history but a present gift. And it invites every believer to enter this “week of holy tears” so that, purified and renewed, we may share fully in the joy of Easter.

Stations & Soup



ALL ARE WELCOME

Every Friday during Lent

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

**March 27th
Parish Staff**

Everyone is invited to celebrate with Bishop Edward M. Rice

Chrism Mass



Monday, March 30
7 p.m.
St. Mary of the Annunciation Cathedral,
Cape Girardeau

Tuesday, March 31
7 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church,
Springfield



“May our Lenten journey lead us to the joy of the resurrection.

May peace reign in our world, especially in the Middle East.”

Bishop Edward M. Rice



March
PRAYER INTENTION 

2026 MIDWEST MARCH FOR LIFE



Join us at the

2026 MIDWEST MARCH FOR LIFE

Abortion takes the lives of millions of unborn children every year in the United States. Join with us as we march for life in Jefferson City.

We will have diocesan-chartered buses and mileage reimbursement—more details will be available soon!

HE IS RISEN, ALLELUIA!

COME JOIN

OUR LADY OF THE COVE FOR A RESURRECTION CELEBRATION

**APRIL 12TH
AFTER THE 10 AM MASS**

SAY HELLO TO THE NEWLY RECEIVED INTO THE CHURCH AT EASTER VIGIL.

GATHERING BEGINS IN THE SOCIAL HALL.



REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.

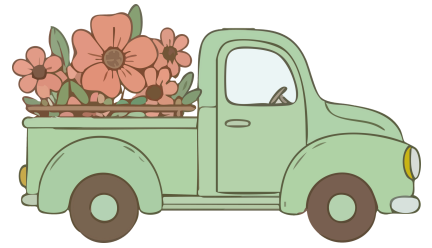
INCLUDES EASTER EGG HUNT





APRIL PSR CALENDAR

(Parish School of Religion)



SAINT OF THE MONTH

St. Catherine of Sienna



St. Catherine's feast day is April 29,

She is the patroness against fire, illness, the United States, Italy, miscarriages, people ridiculed for their faith, sexual temptation, and nurses.

Wednesday PSR K-12th

April 1st
No PSR

April 8th 5:30-7pm
Mass
Food/Class

April 15th 5:30-7pm
Mass
Food/Class

April 22nd 5:30-7pm
Mass
Food/Class

April 29th 5:30-7pm
Mass
Food/Class

SPECIAL EVENT



The Easter Triduum

Holy Thursday
April 2nd - 7:00PM

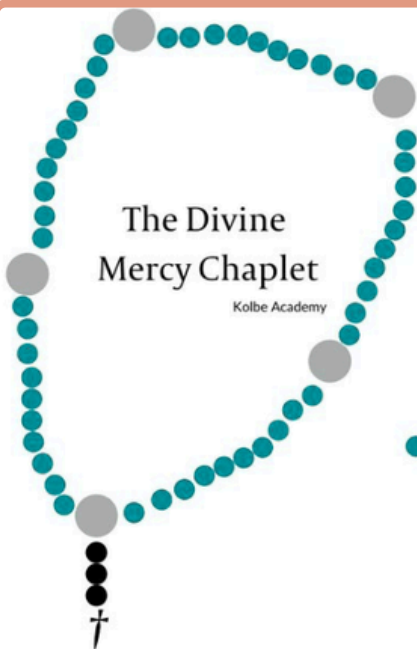
Good Friday Service
April 3rd - 7:00PM

Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil
April 4th - 9:00PM

Easter Sunday
April 5th
8:00AM
10:30AM

SERVICE PROJECT

Say a Divine Mercy as a Family



The Divine Mercy Chaplet
Kolbe Academy

† Make the Sign of the Cross

- Our Father
- Hail Mary
- The Apostles' Creed

● The Eternal Father
Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

● For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

3x at the end:
Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

MENU

4/8 - Nachos

4/15 - BBQ Chicken Sandwiches

4/22 - Sandwiches

4/29 - Pizza



ATTENTION PLEASE



Please be advised regarding the roads leading to and surrounding Our Lady of the Lake.



As you may know, multiple roads near the church are under construction. Please review the information below, as it will affect your access to Our Lady of the Lake, particularly during the week.

Hiawatha Heights Neighborhood Revitalization

Click on the link above. It will be continuously updated with the latest news, street closures, and progress milestones

Phasing & Construction Timeline

The revitalization project is expected to be complete by July 2026, with work carefully phased to minimize disruption.

Start of Construction: July 21, 2025

Estimated Completion: July 2026

Phase 1 (July - October)

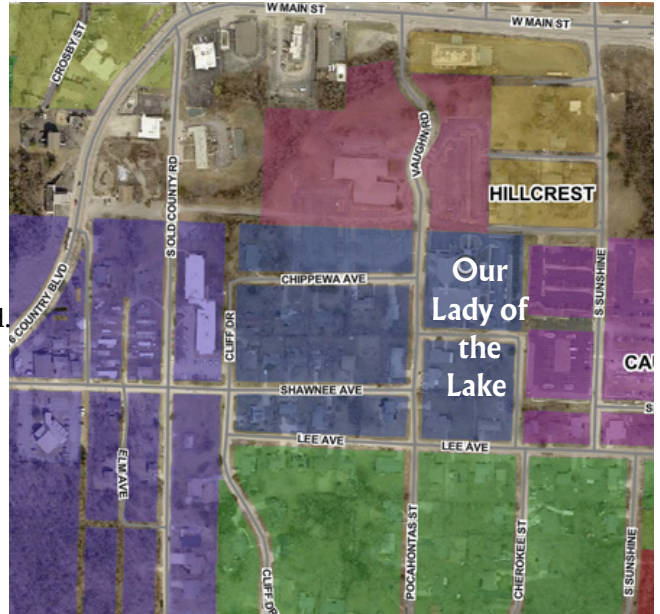
Phase 1 location: South Street, Oak Grove Street, Shawnee Avenue, Pocahontas Street, Stanley Boulevard, Lee Avenue, S Elm Street, & S Old County Road.

Phase 2 (October - February)

Phase 2 location: **Cliff Drive**

Phase 3 (February - June)

Phase 3 location: **Cliff Drive, Chippewa Avenue, Elm Street, South Sunshine Street, Lee Avenue, Cherokee Street, Vaughn Road**



All information provided by <https://www.bransonmo.gov>



April 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th

Register for the April Give 5 classes at www.OLLBranson.com/Give5 and spend your Thursdays 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 Branson Area Chamber on Gretna. 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>

PALM SUNDAY

©LPI

MAY GOD GUIDE your steps

"Why couldn't the grandma find her prayer book?"



THE FAITHFUL FUNNIES

"She forgot it was **Lent.**"



The 40 days before Easter are also known as "Lent," where we focus on praying, fasting, and giving alms. One could also lend books during the 40 days, though.

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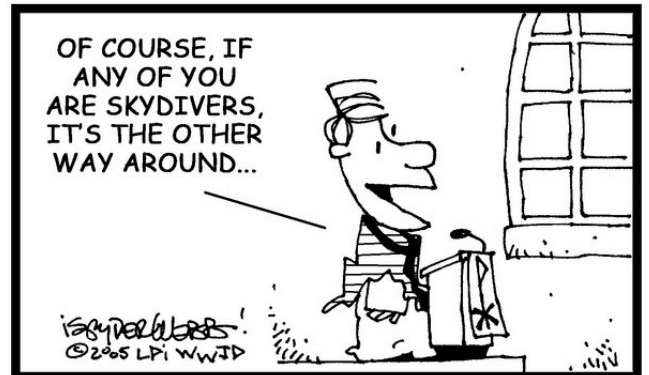
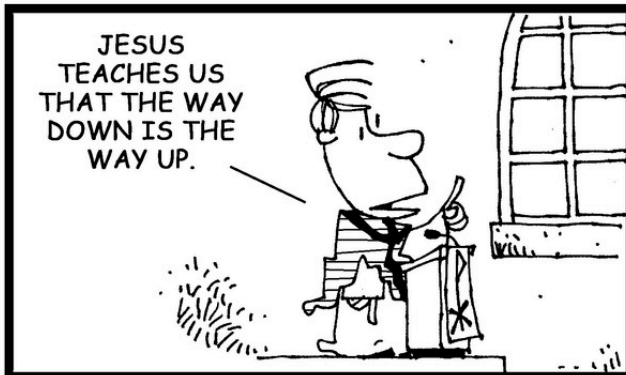
CATHOLIC TRIVIA JUST FOR FUN

Question: In addition to St. Sebastian, who is the patron saint of police officers?

Answer: St. Michael the Archangel.

©LPI

PALM SUNDAY



isoyder ubber!
©2005 LPI WWJD

HOLY THURSDAY



isoyder ubber!
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Readings for the week of March 29, 2026

Sunday:

Mt 21:1-11 (37)/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14-27:66 or 27:11-54

Monday:

Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday:

Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday:

Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday:

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday:

Is 52:13-53:12/Ps 31:2 and 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17 and 25/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday:

Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15-15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2)/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10

Next Sunday:

Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 Or Lk 24:13-35

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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Just prior to this week's Passion narrative in St. Matthew's Gospel, there is a small, striking story describing a woman's scandalous action toward Jesus: **"A woman came up to him with an alabaster jar of costly perfumed oil, and poured it on his head" (Matthew 26:7)**. The ointment was pure nard, worth more than 300 denarii. A year's wages. Maybe a dowry, maybe a family inheritance. In any case, she breaks it. She does not measure or ration. She pours it all out, irreversibly, over Jesus. Why does this image begin Holy Week?

Because what she does with the jar, Jesus will soon do with his life. The jar must be broken so the fragrance can be released. Jesus' body will be broken so his priceless divine and human love can be poured out. She gives everything, just as he is about to give everything. And He sees it: **"She has done a good thing for me" (Matthew 26:10)**. Her act is lavish, impractical, scandalous in its apparent wastefulness. And he loves it. It is what Holy Week is all about.

What jar are you still holding onto? Your time? Your comfort? Your plan for how life should go? Don't just wave palms today. Let yourself be broken open so your love, too, can be poured out.

Lenten Challenge: Offer something costly to Jesus this Holy Week — not out of guilt, but love. Your attention. Your forgiveness. Your time. Break the jar. Trust that nothing poured out for him is ever wasted.

— *Father John Muir*

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

I gave my back to those who beat me,
my cheeks to those who plucked my beard;
my face I did not shield
from buffets and spitting. (Is 50:6)

Psalm:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)

Second Reading:

He humbled himself,
becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.
Because of this, God greatly exalted him. (Phil 2:8-9)

Gospel:

The centurion and the men with him who were keeping watch over Jesus
feared greatly when they saw the earthquake
and all that was happening, and they said,
"Truly, this was the Son of God!" (Mt 26:54)

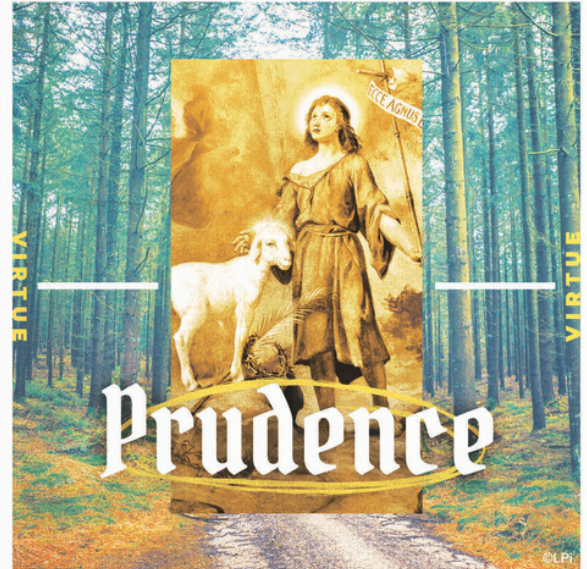
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

This week, we see things that break our heart —
God betrayed. This week, we see things that shake
our faith — God bleeding on a cross. This week,
this Holy Week, with all its difficult moments, can
change us, if we let it. Are we ready?

Observances for the week of March 29, 2026

- Sunday:** Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord;
Holy Week begins
- Wednesday:** April Fools' Day
- Thursday:** Holy Thursday
- Friday:** Good Friday
- Saturday:** Holy Saturday
- Next Sunday:** Easter Sunday



Virtues, Explained!

The virtue of prudence is like glasses for a soul made nearsighted by original sin. Prudence disposes our practical reason to not only discern what is good, but to choose the right way of achieving that good.

Blessing for Holy Week

Be with us this week, Lord,
journeying closer and closer to
Your pierced and Sacred Heart.
Immerse us in Your intense and
undying love.
Help us to encounter Your passion
in new ways that inform, surprise,
and inspire us.
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)

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.

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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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