

# OUR LADY OF THE LAKE

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

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026**



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. - Mt 2:10-11a



# The Epiphany of the Lord

January 3 - January 9



## Events

### SATURDAY Jan. 3

**WELCOME Women Meeting**  
9:00-11:00am - Parish Center

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

### SUNDAY Jan. 4

**Coffee & Christ**  
Resumes Jan. 11th

### MONDAY Jan. 5

No events today

### TUESDAY Jan. 6

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

### **OCIA**

6:30-8:00pm - Heritage Room

### WEDNESDAY Jan. 7

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

**Exposition, Adoration, Benediction**  
6:00-6:30pm in the church

### **PSR**

Resumes Jan. 14th

### THURSDAY Jan. 8

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

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

### FRIDAY Jan. 9

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

### SATURDAY Jan. 10

No AM events today

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## 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

No Adoration  
Will Resume Jan. 13th

### THURSDAY

No Adoration  
Will Resume Jan. 15th

## 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. 1/3 5:00pm Fr. Johny ~ 37th Anniversary of Ordination

Sat. 1/3 7:00pm Taney County Parish Family (Living)

Sun. 1/4 8:00am Ellen Jaap †

Sun. 1/4 10:30am Polly Davis †

Mon. 1/5 9:00am Deceased members of John & Margaret Casey Family †

Tue. 1/6 9:00am Maxwell Avery Mitchell †

Wed. 1/7 5:30pm George & Linda Mattes †

Thur. 1/8 9:00am Agnes Anderson (Special Intention-Living)



[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](#)

### Collection through Dec. 30, 2025

Envelopes:		\$58,306.81
Plate:		\$ 5,405.00
Green Envelopes:		\$18,006.30
Total:		\$81,718.11

### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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

# 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*



# Prayer and Adoration

**Deanery Four**

*St. Agnes Cathedral, Springfield*

**Thursday, January 22**

6:00pm - 7:00pm



## Diocesan Eucharistic Congress

**AUGUST 15, 2026**

WEST PLAINS CIVIC CENTER

REGISTRATION OPENS  
JANUARY 12, 2026!



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



<https://dioscg.org/diocesan-eucharistic-congress/>



# Coffee & Christ Sundays

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



We will not meet on  
Sunday, Jan. 4th

Jan. 11

## Episode 8 -The Last Supper and the Cross: The New Passover of Christ

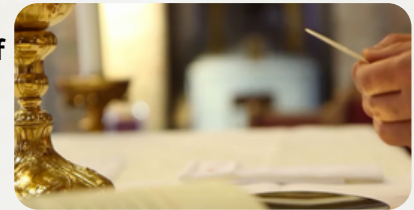
What is the connection between the Old Testament celebration of Passover and Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples-and how does that impact the Mass as we know it?



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.



# Adult Bible Study

## RESUMES

### Tuesday, January 6th

10:00am - Noon

Faith Formation Room



## Bible Roundtable: Season 5, Episode 1

Jesus fulfills an old prophecy and makes a new one. He offers a powerful prayer and hears an audible voice from Heaven. He rides into a joyful city, but weeps over its coming destruction.

And all of that's just Episode 1.

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



## *A tangible, intercessory prayer ritual imploring Mary's help*

I recently wrote an article highlighting Mary, the Holy Mother of God, with a special emphasis that she is also our Mother of Hope. When we pray a litany in honor of our Blessed Mother, one of her intercessory titles is Our Lady (Mother) of Hope -- because she accompanies us on our pilgrimage toward eternal life. Our Mother actively intercedes for us, leading us closer to her Son. She carries our prayers close to her heart, giving them to Jesus, and Jesus our mediator, takes them to the Father.

In that same article I mentioned how my wife and I seek out her aid when praying for those who have strayed away from the faith. We include the names of our adult children in our desire for them to be more zealous in the faith.

I was reminded in an article by Fr. Dan Reehill, on a Marian prayer ritual that is designed to make our prayers more "visible" in our homes. This is what Fr. Dan suggested:

He said, take a picture of your child(ren) or grandchild(ren), get a good statue of Our Lady. You should have one in your home already anyway, She doesn't have to be big, but she should be there with a crucifix, bible and your rosary, make a little altar. Place the picture of your child (or children) under the feet of Our Lady, and then say this prayer (Fr. Dan's words, not mine).

*"Blessed Mother, I have done as much as I could. We did our best but the world took over and the tsunami of the world got my kid and they are far from Jesus. I am now giving you your rightful position as that mother of my Child to take over where I left off and now you bring him/her back."*

Fr. Dan mentioned that Mary takes this seriously, very seriously.

Next you are to pray a prayer of consecration for your child to Our Lady, and you leave it in her hands. Finally, pray the rosary every day requesting Our Lady's intentions and ask her to pray for your intentions as well. She will do this. Fr. Dan has seen miracles happen through this exchange of prayer.

Looking for a new prayer ritual for the new year? Get out your picture of the Blessed Mother or a statue or icon of her and place it on your mantel or another place of prominence in your home. There is no need to be discreet. Then turn to our Mother of Hope and seek her aid. She will not disappoint you.

**Mary, Mother of Hope, pray for us. Amen.**



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## **Blood Drive**

# **Our Lady Of The Lake Catholic Church**

Parish Center  
202 Vaughn Drive  
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**Friday, January 16, 2026**  
**12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: OURLADYBranson to schedule an appointment.

Come to give Jan. 1-25 for chance to win trip for 2 to  
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an appointment.

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link to

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[www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=OURLADYBranson](http://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=OURLADYBranson)

CRHP 2.0  
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**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

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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. Agnes Cathedral  
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!



# JANUARY PSR CALENDAR



## Wednesday PSR K-12th

Jan. 7th  
No Class

Jan. 14 - 5:30-7:00pm  
Mass  
Food/Class

Jan. 21 - 5:30-7:00pm  
Mass  
Food/Class

Jan. 28 - 5:30 - 7:00pm  
Mass  
Food/Class



## SERVICE PROJECT

Decorate  
lunch bags  
for Elevate  
Branson



## SAINT OF THE MONTH



### Saint John Bosco

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

His feast day  
is on  
January 31

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

## SPECIAL EVENT

The Epiphany  
Tuesday, Jan 6th



## MENU

1/14 - English Muffin Breakfast

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

#### **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

#### **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.

### *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



SCAN HERE to learn more!



DIOCESE of SPRINGFIELD-CAPE GIRARDEAU

Visit [WWW.DIOSCG.ORG/DIOCESAN-EUCHARISTIC-CONGRESS](http://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!

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](http://dioscg.org/diocesan-eucharistic-congress)



CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

# 37TH ANNUAL JACK FROST 5K

## RUN/ WALK

Give-away & medal for all racers  
Gold medals to 1st place in each  
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**\$25** STUDENTS

**\$25** GROUP (10+)

**\$45** EARLY REGISTRATION

**\$50** DAY OF RACE

# SAT

## RACE BEGINS

JANUARY  
24, 2026

# 9 AM



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*Is your life stuck in a rut?*

*Is your faith feeling stale?*

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!**

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**7th annual**

**Catholic Men's Conference on**

**Saturday,**

**February 21, 2026,**

**at Springfield Catholic High School**



*OLL Games Resumes*

Join us on

**Thursday, January 8th**

**OLL Game Day**

**1:00pm Faith Formation Room**



**CATHOLIC TRIVIA –  
JUST FOR FUN**

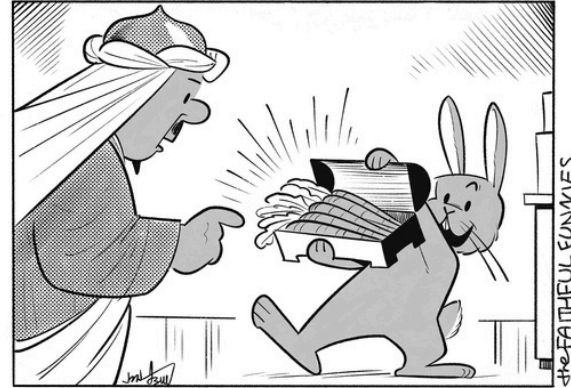
**Question:** Who are the  
four Gospel authors?

**Answer:**

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

©LPi

"I thought you said this was a chest  
of gold?"



"Yes! It's 14 carrots!"



The Magi offered Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Gold was a gift recognizing Jesus' Kingship, even as a humble baby.

©LPi

**EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

LOOK AT  
THIS STUPID  
SWEATER MY  
COUSIN SENT  
ME: THERE'S  
NO SUCH  
THING AS  
ONE SIZE  
FITS ALL.



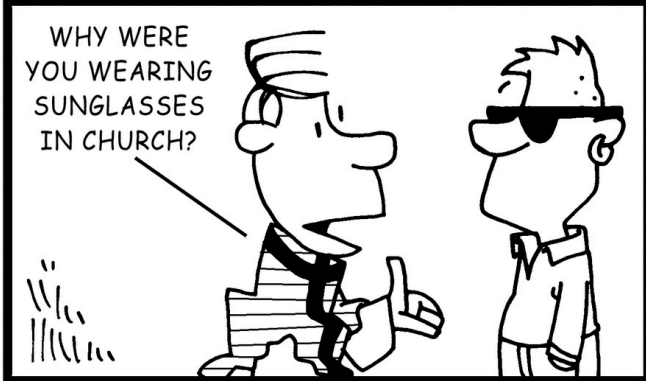
WELL,  
THERE'S  
JESUS...



is your wife!  
©2005 LPi WWJD

**EPIPHANY**

WHY WERE  
YOU WEARING  
SUNGLASSES  
IN CHURCH?



HEY, MAN, IF  
JESUS IS THE  
LIGHT OF THE  
WORLD, I WANT  
TO BE PREPARED.



Sydney Webb  
©LPi 2007

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

### Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

### Second Reading:

It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body. (Eph 3:5-6)

### Gospel:

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." (Mt 2:2)

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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

The journey of the Magi reflects how treacherous our Christian life on earth can be. Always, evil works against us — Satan lays traps. He sows confusion. May we, like the Magi, recognize the will of God as our guiding star.

## Observances for the week of January 4, 2026

- Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord  
**Monday:** St. John Neumann, Bishop  
**Tuesday:** St. André Bessette, Religious  
**Wednesday:** St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest  
**Next Sunday:** The Baptism of the Lord



## Virtues, Explained!

The virtue of love seeks the good of the other, a reflection of the love of God who created us for this very purpose. In practicing this virtue, we express the fullness of our identities as sons and daughters of God. In true Christian love, we find freedom.

## Epiphany Blessing

Dear God,  
It was You who inspired the Magi to follow the star to find You. Inspire us to seek You, as well. Bless our homes and families this season, make them places where we can encounter You through prayer and community. Amen.

## Readings for the week of January 4, 2026

### Sunday:

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/  
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

### Monday:

1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/  
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

### Tuesday:

1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/  
Mk 6:34-44

### Wednesday:

1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/  
Mk 6:45-52

### Thursday:

1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/  
Lk 4:14-22a

### Friday:

1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/  
Lk 5:12-16

### Saturday:

1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and  
9b/Jn 3:22-30

### Next Sunday:

Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/  
Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17



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The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for  
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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was 22, I went on a pilgrimage to Rome for the Jubilee Year of 2000. I was traveling light with just a backpack, one blue shirt and black pants, little money, and no Italian. I had a few close friends and one goal: to reach the Eternal City. Despite the challenges and deprivations, I felt alive in a way I had never known before.

When do you feel most alive? I'd wager it's not when you're most comfortable or surrounded by stuff. Rather, it's when your life is aimed at something great; when you're on a meaningful and challenging journey with good friends.

That's the image the Magi give us in today's Gospel. They set out from the East not with certainty, but with hope. They study the signs, discipline their attention, and journey together, offering the best they have when they find the newborn King.

The Church gives us their story at the start of the year to reawaken something in us. We are not meant to drift. We're meant to journey as pilgrims. The Jubilee Year of 2025 may have ended, but our pilgrimage has not. Like the magi, the closer we get to Christ, the more alive we become.

— *Father John Muir*

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** Of all the stars you could follow, which one does the voice — that one deep within you — tell you to chase? Point to it. And go forth.

**The Stars We Follow**  
Everyone follows a star.

It is human nature to seek. If we are rich, we want to be richer. If we are smart, we want to be smarter. If we are powerful, we want to be more powerful.

We cannot stay in one place, so to speak — to say, “I am what I am, I have what I have, and it is enough.” Even the very act of maintaining a status quo, be it health or wealth or spiritual goodness, requires action. It requires effort. It requires movement. This is human nature. There is nothing wrong with it. When we stop seeking, we die.

But what are we looking for? Where are we going?

I often wonder if the Magi knew what they were seeking — really, truly knew. They were seeking “the newborn king of the Jews,” yes, but did they understand who he was? *What* he was? I don’t see how they could have. They were wise men, but they were not prophets. They simply knew this was an endeavor they had to undertake. They knew it in their souls.

There really is very little that we know for certain about the Magi. We don’t know how many of them there were. We don’t know their religion. We don’t know where they came from. All we know for certain is that they listened to a voice they heard deep within themselves. And, heeding that voice, they went forth.

And what did they find? They found what we all seek, even if, foolishly, we seek it in riches or power.

They found the face of the Child.

So tell me this. Of all the stars you could follow, which one does the voice — that one deep within you— tell you to chase?

Point to it. And go forth.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

Magi, Three Kings, Three Wise Men... who were they?

### Answer:

We sing songs, give gifts, and move three mysterious men into our manger scenes. There’s a rich heritage in the Catholic Church of celebrating the magi, but their origins are steeped in mystery. The original Greek calls these men *magoi*. The word is translated elsewhere in Scripture to mean “magician,” but a similar word was used in ancient history to describe an entirely different set of people altogether. In what is now modern-day Iran, the ruling empire had a wealthy priestly caste known as the Magi. At the time of Christ, the Magi formed one of the ruling councils of the Parthian Empire. These priests interpreted dreams and read the stars to anticipate major events that could affect the fortunes of the empire.

We’re not exactly sure where the magi of the Gospels traveled from. Matthew simply says “the east.” History tells us that the ancient regions of Persia, Assyria, and Babylon all had a magi priesthood at the time of Christ. Whichever region they hailed from, they likely traveled over one thousand miles over the course of several months to arrive at the Holy Family. Unfortunately for the classic song, there is no concrete evidence these men were themselves kings, though they did bear gifts “from afar” at the prompting of their astronomical calculations.

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# WELCOME TO Our Lady of the Lake



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203 Vaughn Rd. Branson, MO 65616

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Office hours: M - F | 9:30am - 3:00pm

## CLERGY



**Fr. J. Friedel**

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417-334-2928 x 105  
JFriedel@diosc.org



**Fr. Johnny M. Auguthy**

Associate Pastor  
417-334-2928 x 101  
johnnyvc@diosc.org



**Fr Dhaneesh Thomas**

Associate Pastor  
417-334-2928  
Dhaneesh@diosc.org



**Deacon Dan Vaughn**

Permanent Deacon  
417-546-5208  
DcnDanVaughn@gmail.com

## OFFICE STAFF



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## MAINTENANCE



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**Dan Bosserman**

Maintenance Lead & Custodial Services  
417-334-2928  
Office@ollbranson.com

## 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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