



Aug. 3, 2025

Our Lady of the Lake

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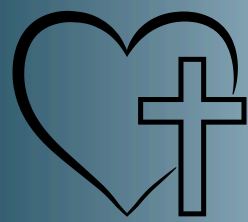
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18th Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

[Jesus] said to the crowd, "Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions." - Lk 12:15



18th Sunday of Ordinary Time

August 2 - August 9

Events

SATURDAY Aug. 2

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

SUNDAY Aug. 3

K of C Talent Show & Lasagna Dinner
Noon - Parish Center

TUESDAY Aug. 5

Adult Bible Study
10:00-12:00pm - Faith Formation Room

Bereavement Ministry

2:00-3:30pm - Heritage Room

Come & See

6:30-7:30pm - Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY Aug. 6

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

Exposition, Adoration & Benediction
6:00 - 7:00pm - In the Church

Music Practice
6:15 - 7:30pm - Music Room

THURSDAY Aug. 7

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

Knights of Columbus Meeting
6:30 - 8:00pm - Faith Formation Room

FRIDAY Aug. 8

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

SATURDAY Aug. 9

WELCOME Women Meeting
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 - 3pm - Chapel

THURSDAY

9:30am - 7pm - Chapel

Important Links

[Click Here For PARISH CALENDAR](#)

[Click Here For MASS INTENTIONS](#)

Mass Intentions available for September

[Click Here For FLOWER INTENTIONS](#)

Flower Intentions available for August

Mass Intentions

Sat.	8/2	5:00pm	Larry Schloss +
Sat.	8/2	7:00pm	Taney County Parish Family (Living)
Sun.	8/3	8:00am	Dee Walton +
Sun.	8/3	10:30am	Jane Hynes +
Mon.	8/4	9:00am	Isidore Nappl +
Tue.	8/5	9:00am	Brendan & Emily Axelson (Special Intention-Living)
Wed.	8/6	5:30pm	Nan Wannithantri +
Thur.	8/7	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 July 27, 2025

Envelopes:		\$45,836.92
Plate:		\$7,190.50
Green Envelopes:		\$15,987.44
Total:		\$69,014.86

Thank you to everyone who pledged & prayed for this year's DDF campaign.

Our parish is so close to reaching our goal of \$79,163.

If you have not yet made your pledge, please add your gift, whatever the amount, in unity with those who have already given

[Click here](#)
[DDF 2025 - DioSCG](#)



- DDF Supports These Ministries & More!
- Catholic Campus Ministry
 - Catechesis
 - Catholic Schools
 - Child and Youth Protection
 - Communications
 - Courage & EnCourage
 - Clergy Formation
 - Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
 - Diocesan Tribunal
 - Development & Properties
 - Permanent Deacon Formation
 - Ecumenical Office
 - Evangelization
 - Faith Formation
 - Family Life
 - Financial Services
 - Health Affairs
 - Hispanic Ministry
 - Liturgy & Worship
 - Media Relations
 - Missouri Catholic Conference
 - Natural Family Planning
 - Planned Giving
 - Project Rachel
 - Respect Life
 - Social Ministry
 - The Mirror
 - Vocations
 - Youth Ministry

Tuesday Morning Adult Bible Study



10:00am
Faith
Formation
Room

Upcoming Dates



Aug. 5th

The Chosen: S5 E7
The Upper Room Part I

Jesus arrives at the Last Supper. The disciples fear for their safety as Jesus' enemies close ranks around them.



Aug. 12th

The Chosen: S5 E8
The Upper Room Part II

Pilate summons Atticus to read him the riot act. The Sanhedrin boils over. The Last Supper ends.

**COME
SEE**



***Final Summer Session
Is This Week***

**Tuesday, August 5th
6:30 - 7:30pm**

**Sessions will be
held in the
Heritage Room,
(lower level of
the Church)**

**No registration
required, just
show up!**

This session is important for everyone who plans to attend OCIA this coming year, whether you've already been received, have questions and want to learn more about what the Church believes and teaches, or are committed to become a Christian Catholic through the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

**OCIA -Order of Christian Initiation for Adults
(previously RCIA)
Begins**

Tuesday, August 26, 6:30-8:00pm

Want to get involved with OCIA?

**Check out: OLLBRANSON.COM/OCIA
Under QUICK LINKS**

Join OCIA as a Team Memeber

CONNECT

LEARN

HELP

Give5 is a local program that invites active retirees to connect with local nonprofits, learn more about their community, and decide where their unique talents can be utilized for five hours per month to help non-profits in our area.

Classes are FREE for residents of Stone and Taney Counties!



OLLBranson.com/Give5
Or Call 417-334-2928

REGISTER TODAY FOR AN UPCOMING SESSION

TANEY COUNTY

Oct 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2025

April 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2026

STONE COUNTY

Sept 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2025

March 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2026

June 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2026

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Our Lady of the Lake
Catholic Church



MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Hey Deacon!



By Deacon Dan Vaughn

More about the end-of-life and Catholic funerals

Catholic funerals are not merely a farewell to the departed but a testament to a faith deeply rooted in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This faith shapes the Catholic approach to death, emphasizing not an end but a transition to a new existence in the afterlife. The nearly 1.2 billion Catholics worldwide share this profound belief, which honors the solemn and respectful nature of their funeral rites.

Central to Catholic doctrine is the belief in an afterlife where the soul's destiny is determined by its earthly deeds, also known as particular judgment. Heaven is the ultimate goal, a state of eternal communion with God, reserved for souls purified from sin. Hell, on the other hand, is the final abode for souls that have irrevocably rejected God's love. And then there is 'Purgatory' which occupies a unique place in Catholic theology—a state of purification for souls that, having repented their sins, require cleansing before entering heaven. This underscores the Catholic view of God's mercy and justice, offering hope for salvation even after death.

What is the Church stance when it comes to cremation?

The Catholic Church's stance on cremation has evolved, acknowledging it as an acceptable practice, provided it is done with respect for the deceased. This means ashes must be buried and not scattered. The preference against scattering ashes stems from the belief in the sanctity of the body, which, even in death, holds the promise of resurrection. And cremains should not be left in a home or a funeral home but interred in a sacred place.

What about organ donations and autopsies for medical research?

The Church's acceptance of organ donation and autopsies further reflects a commitment to charity and compassion, aligning with the values of love and service to others. By giving and sacrificing the vessel we occupy to help a fellow human is a compassionate act.

The subject of death and end-of-life is often left unspoken, but the reality is that we need to share our desires and our wishes when it comes to end of life issues. It's an opportunity to reflect upon our relationship with God and acknowledge our shortcomings but also God's blessings.

With that in mind, I offer this prayer that was recently shared by one of my Forsyth parishioners. The prayer dates to the mid-1800s and was found in the pocket of an unidentified Confederate soldier. It remains just as relative today as it did during the Civil War.

**I asked God for strength, that I might achieve.
I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.
I asked for health, that I might do great things.
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.**

**I asked for riches, that I might be happy.
I was given poverty, that I might be wise.
I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men.
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.**

**I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life.
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.
I got nothing I asked for—but everything I had hoped for.
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.
I am, among men, most richly blessed.**

OFFICE OF CHILD & YOUTH PROTECTION

Safe Environment Requirements for:

Clergy ◆ Employee ◆ Adult Volunteers*

*(which include the following ministries)

Knight of Columbus	OCIA	PSR
Welcome Women	Hospitality	Safety & Security
Ushers	Young Adult	Music Ministry
Help Desk	Hispanic	Eucharistic Ministers
Parish Office Volunteers	Homebound	Bible Study Leaders
Sacristans	Gift Shop Volunteers	Lectors
	Funeral Ministry	



Before engaging in diocesan, parish and school-sponsored activities for minors and vulnerable adults, all clergy, employees and adult volunteers are required to be in compliance with the diocesan Safe Environment Requirements which include:

- 1) A Background Screening
- 2) Safe Environment Training
- 3) Code of Conduct - **must be completed annually**

The Code of Conduct is **required annually** and is made available at the beginning of each fiscal year, **July 1**.

The Code of Conduct can be accessed through the diocesan webpage

<https://dioscg.org/child-youth-protection/>

Scroll down - towards the bottom of the page there's a *RESOURCES SECTION*

Select the Prevention and Protection tab.

The documents may be found there.

or through

VIRTUS: <https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/>

Select: Springfield-Cape Girardeau, MO (Diocese)

The Code of Conduct is to be read, signed, and submitted to the local Safe Environment Coordinator at the parish - Nickie Rivera

- For **new employees and volunteers**, to begin the process, an account must **first be created in VIRTUS**.
- There the Background Screening Application will be prompted and is now completed online through their VIRTUS account.
- The training, which includes "**Protecting God's Children**" and "**Mandated and Ethical Reporting**", are accessible through their VIRTUS account and are also completed online.

If you need assistance, please contact

Nickie Rivera

Please call, text, or email

417-251-1819 Cell

NickieRivera@ollbranson.com

Director of Formation

Any questions may be directed to the Associate Safe Environment Coordinator,

Shelly Ferry, sferry@dioscg.org or

the Director of Child and Youth Protection, Bill Holtmeyer,

billholtmeyer@dioscg.org

or at The Catholic Center, (417) 866-0841.

OLL Games



Join us on August 14th
OLL Game Day

Scores from July 31st!!!

OLL Train - The 4 Gals & Lil' Winner
BIG Winner is Pam -256
Sandy -280 Brenda -301
Julie -337
Lil' Winner is Curtis -422



OLL Train - The Birthday Table
BIG Winner is Ed -272
Marty -278 Sue -290
Judy E -299
Lil' Winner is Joe -370

Swoop - 8 Is Enough Plus 1
BIG Winner is Father Dhaneesh -96
Sharon A -125 Sharon P -177
Judy H -193 Dan -235
Sharron -292 RuthAnn -306 Sharon S -319
Lil' Winner Will -368



Thanks to Joe and Julie for sharing
their special day with us!



Mahjong - Harry -2 Steve -1 Margaret -1 Joyce -1
with the help of Judy O
The table is open to ALL and we could start a second
table. Come try your luck!!!

Father Dhaneesh's day off is Thursday...
when he joining in playing Swoop, we are beginning to understand
there is divine support from above as he usually WINS!
He has won three weeks in a row!!!
We start at 1:00pm in the Faith Formation Room and usually end
between 3:30 and 4:00pm each Thursday.
Join in when you are available and add to the fun and fellowship!
Hope to see you Thursday!



Knights of Columbus®

Knights' Corner ~ Council 6470

Lasagna Dinner & Talent Show

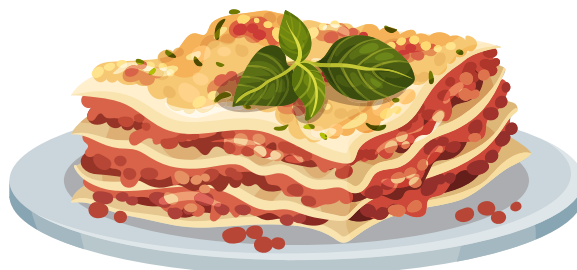


**August 3rd
Noon
Parish Center**



All proceeds to benefit the
K of C Seminarian Support Fund!

Talent Show
portion of event to
follow lunch.



Plan to come
be well
entertained
AND well fed!

Seminarian Support Fund

KofC Council 6470 is starting something new, and we're inviting YOU to be a part of it.

Our Council has historically supported our diocesan seminarians with their living expenses while in seminary, but we're looking to do more.



We are establishing a KofC Seminarian Support Fund to serve as a sort of endowment to support our diocesan seminarians. Our goal is raise over \$30,000 to establish a fund that will allow us to use the interest earned to provide more than four times the support we typically have been able to give annually, and to grow the fund to continually expand our giving potential.

With our initial contributions from an anonymous donor and our council's own contribution, we had a \$10,000 head start. Also, our June appeal has brought in just over **\$8,000** already!

That puts us well over half way to our goal! Thank you for your support and prayers for our success as we continue to raise money to develop this fund so that we can help support more seminarians in a more impactful way, for the foreseeable future. Vivat Jesus!

\$30,000 Goal

\$18,240 Raised



Want to help us reach our goal?

Make checks payable to:

K of C Council 6470

Memo: Seminarian Fund

Send checks to:

Our Lady of the Lake, Attn: KofC
203 Vaughn Dr. Branson, MO. 65616

Or, use the QR code to donate via Venmo, just make sure to leave a note about what it's for to help our Financial Secretary.

IT'S TIME FOR
Catholic-Night-Day

AT THE SPRINGFIELD CARDINALS!



\$12
SINGLE
TICKET

\$25
TICKET
& T-SHIRT

\$27 FOR 2X & 3X SHIRTS

UPDATED START TIME: 1:05 PM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3 | HAMMONS FIELD

SHIRT ORDER DEADLINE: JULY 18 | TICKET DEADLINE FOR PRE EVENT PICKUP: JULY 25

All t-shirts and any tickets purchased after July 25 will be available for pickup at Hammons Field on August 3.



[CCSOMO.ORG/CATHOLIC-NIGHT-CARDINALS](https://ccsomo.org/catholic-night-cardinals)



HOSTED BY:

Catholic Charities
of Southern Missouri



vitae
foundation

Springfield Pro-Life Event

Friday, August 22, 2025

Social 6 - 7p.m. | Dinner 7 - 9p.m.

\$75 per person

White River Conference Center

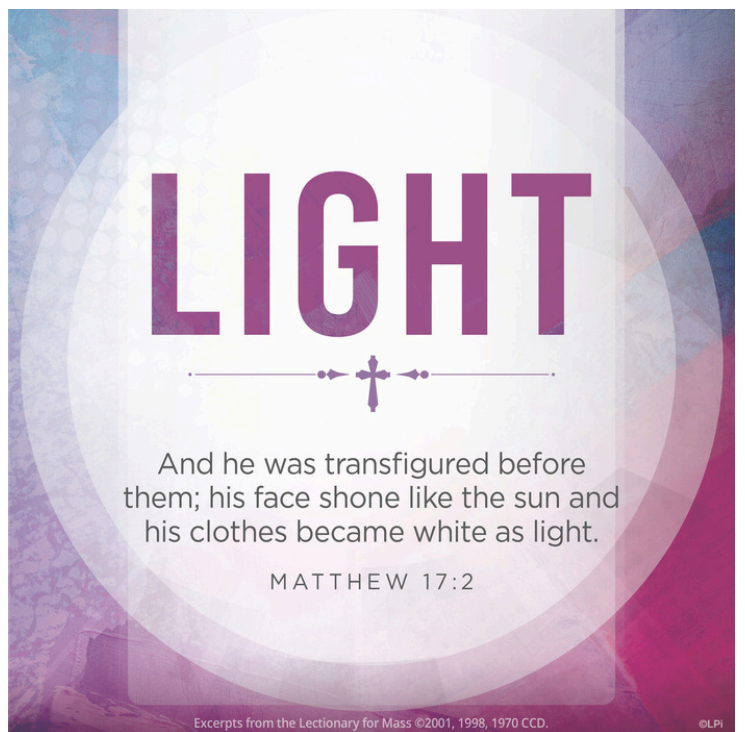
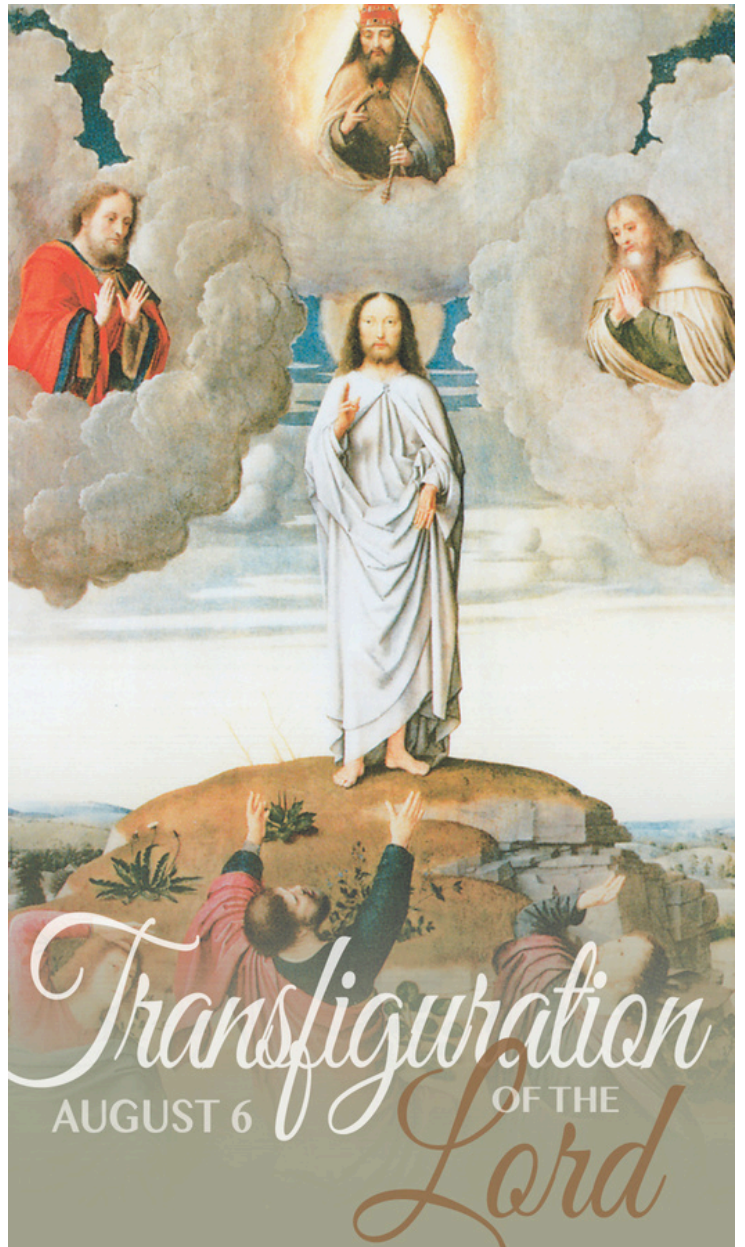
600 W. Sunshine St. | Springfield, Missouri



Keynote: Seth Dillon
CEO of *The Babylon Bee*

Seth Dillon is the CEO of *The Babylon Bee*, "fake news you can trust." Taking on the tone of a traditional news media publication, *The Bee* satirizes real-world events and public figures. Seth now speaks on college campuses and at conferences across the country about the effectiveness of humor, the moral imperative of mockery and the dangers of censorship.

All proceeds benefit Vitae Foundation.



"How does St. Dominic travel?"



"He takes a Greyhound."



St. Dominic is frequently depicted with a dog in art. When his mother was expecting, she had a dream about a dog with a torch in its mouth, inspiring the reflection that Dominic would be a great preacher (and he was)!

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Hope lights THE WAY

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



184 DEN
WEBB!
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WWJD

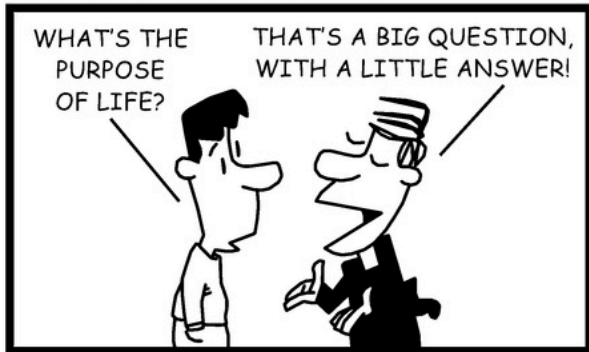
CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Question: How many times did Peter deny knowing Jesus?

Answer: Three times.

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18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

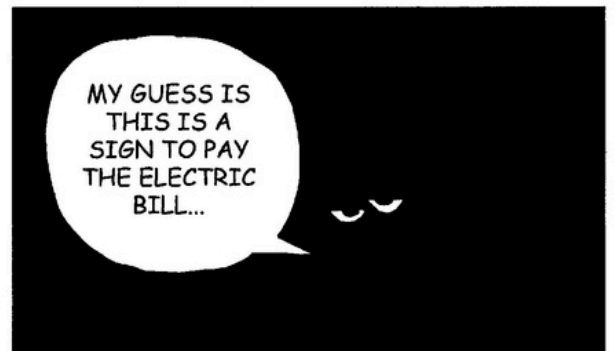


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TRANSFIGURATION



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WEBB!
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Common Childhood Ear, Nose and Throat Problems

SPEAKER *series*

From ear infections to tonsils and adenoids, learn what every parent needs to know. Dr. Travis Brawner will share his expert insights on the most common ENT issues children face, what to watch for, and when to seek help.

September 16, 2025

11:30 – 1:00 PM

Golden Corral

3551 Shepherd of the Hills Expy
Branson, MO 65616

\$10 registration is required

Come early to network



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(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: If I die tonight, the deadlines will go unmet, and no one will even notice. But God, when He meets me in the world to come, will surely ask me why I couldn't take 45 minutes to accept a gift He tried again and again to give me.

The Barn

It's 9:08 on a Saturday morning, and I am too darn busy for confession.

I've probably written before about how hard I find it to get to confession — I say 'probably' because I really can't remember. I whine about it so frequently that it's hard to tell if I've made it the subject of a written piece or if it is simply an oft-recited refrain from the Litany of Colleen's Perpetual Complaints.

During the week, it's tough to get to confession because I have little kids who are attached to me like Velcro, and I don't need them listening in on (and eventually repeating to everyone) my sins. On the weekend it's a little easier, but our parish doesn't offer it before or after Sunday Mass, just on Saturdays. Saturday is when I get most of my work done, so getting absolution usually comes at the expense of productivity.

And that, friends, right here, is my barn. Productivity. That's the proverbial storehouse of my earthly harvest. For the rich man in the parable, it's a literal barn, filled to bursting with sellable crops. For you it might be money or your job title or what your life looks like to other people on social media. For me, it's Getting Things Done. That's my barn, the repository that holds the whole of my worldly preoccupations.

And it's so full I want to tear it down and build a new one. A bigger one. One that can hold more worry, more time for work, more focus on output and crossing things off a to-do list. Vanity of vanities, indeed.

If I die tonight, the deadlines will go unmet, and no one will even notice. But God, when He meets me in the world to come, will surely ask me why I couldn't take 45 minutes to accept a gift He tried again and again to give me.

I have to burn the barn, friends. I don't want to, but I have to. I'm closing my laptop and going to church.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Does watching Mass on TV fulfill my Sunday obligation?

Answer:

In the age of instant communication, email, voice mail and teleconferencing, many people wonder if these media of communication can be used for sacraments. Many priests, I am sure, have had people ask about going to confession on the phone. While it may seem like a convenient way to do things, there are many reasons why we don't.

Watching the Mass on television can be a good thing, especially for those who are shut-in. But it really doesn't fulfill our obligation. The obligation to attend Mass is more than just simply listening to the Mass or following the prayers and the readings. Gathering together as a community of faith is important. Sacraments are community events where we encounter God and one another. When we gather together, we are most visibly the Church, the Body of Christ. Besides, television is a one-way medium. It allows us to watch without really being able to give a response. In faith, our response is as important as anything that we hear. We need to take an active part in the religious expression of our community.

Readings for the week of August 3, 2025

Sunday:

Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 (1)/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21

Monday:

Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/
Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday:

Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13/
Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday:

Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/
2 Pt 1:16-19/Lk 9:28b-36

Thursday:

Nm 20:1-13/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/
Mt 16:13-23

Friday:

Dt 4:32-40/Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16
and 21/Mt 16:24-28

Saturday:

Dt 6:4-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47
and 51/Mt 17:14-20

Next Sunday:

Wis 18:6-9/Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 (12b)/
Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12/Lk 12:32-48
or 12:35-40



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Recent studies suggest that millennials will be the first generation in America to be worse off than their parents in terms of financial earnings and job status. Many lament this. I propose that this week's Gospel provides a hopeful way to see the trend as good news.

The Lord Jesus says, **“Take care to guard against greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist in possessions” (Luke 12:15).** Greed damages us with the deception that we are what we possess. But to Jesus, this is simply not true. What makes us happy is who we are, who we become.

Does not the expectation that every generation should do better than their parents subtly mask the poison of greed? A similar attitude is mirrored in the man who demands that Jesus justly arrange his share of the family inheritance. Despite the injustice, Jesus will not play that game. In fact, he seems to prefer that the man have less than his parents. What good would having more be to this man if he becomes enslaved and miserable by greed? What good would it be for us to have more if it means we become much less?

In allowing the man to have less, Jesus opens a space for him to become more: a man free to love. In that much more meaningful sense, perhaps he was better off than his parents. Maybe the millennials will be, too.

— *Father John Muir*

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

For what profit comes to man from all the toil
and anxiety of heart
with which he has labored under the sun? (Eccl 2:22)

Psalm:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 90)

Second Reading:

If you were raised with Christ, seek what is above,
where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. (Col 3:1)

Gospel:

Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves
but are not rich in what matters to God." (Lk 12:21)

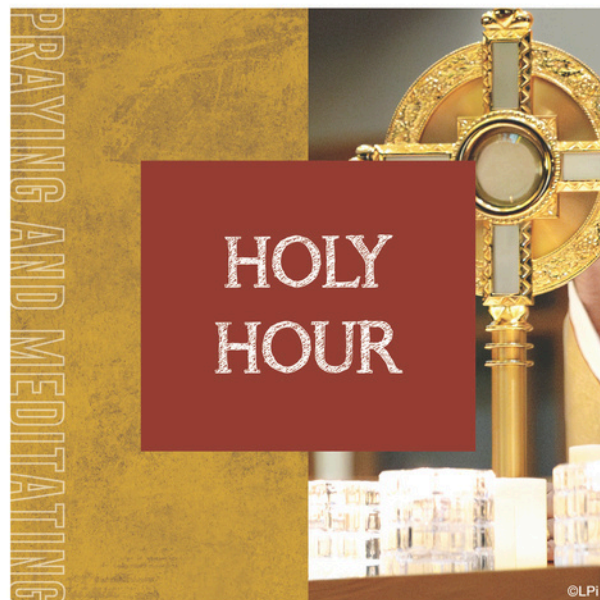
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus warns us that at any moment we can be called before God to face judgment. When we are, our life will be measured not in dollars or accomplishments, but in what matters to God. What do we have to show for our time spent on earth?

Observances for the week of August 3, 2025

Sunday:	18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. John Vianney, Priest
Tuesday:	The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major
Wednesday:	The Transfiguration of the Lord
Thursday:	St. Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs; St. Cajetan, Priest
Friday:	St. Dominic, Priest
Saturday:	St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and Martyr
Next Sunday:	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Devotions, *Explained!*

A holy hour is the practice of spending one hour's time in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, praying and meditating on the agony of Jesus Christ.

Prayer for Open Hands

Lord, I do not know what any day holds,
I cannot take for granted any of the gifts You have given.
Help me to use them, then, as You would have me.
Help me to live according to Your invitations.
Amen.

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Brian Miles ~ Parish Member

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292 River Drive
Branson, MO 65615



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MCSinBranson@aol.com

Our Lady of the Lake
Gift Shop

Open after Weekend Masses
or by appointment



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Fred & Mary Heiss
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Owners:

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GreenLawnFuneralhome.com

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203 Vaughn Rd. Branson, MO 65616

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

CLERGY



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Associate Pastor
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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.

The Diocese of Springfield - Cape Girardeau is committed to the mission and ministry of protecting our children and young people.

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