

951 Swan Valley Drive , Forsyth, MO 65653

phone: 417.546.5208 Website: [www.ourladyoftheozarks.com](http://www.ourladyoftheozarks.com)

Email: [ourladyoftheozarks@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyoftheozarks@gmail.com)

Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 8:00am to 2:00pm

**Weekend Mass Time:**

Sunday 8:30 am

**Weekday Mass Times:**

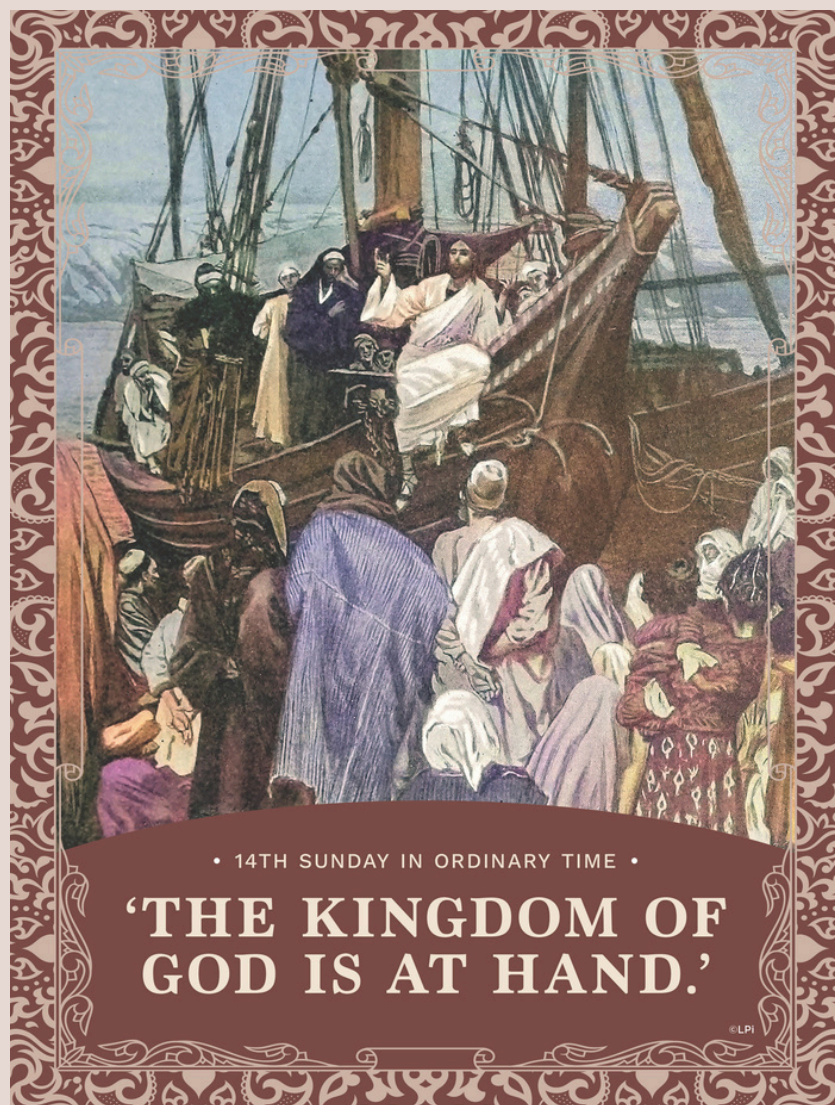
Wed & Fri - 9:00 am

**Confession:**

Sun - before Mass & Wed after Mass

**Holy Hour Adoration:**

Wed - after Mass



### *Welcome Blessings*

Whether you are visiting, recently moved here or are returning to your Catholic faith, we want to welcome you to Our Lady of the Ozarks.

Our parish is committed to inviting and supporting every parishioner to become a disciple of Christ, building His Kingdom through prayer, fellowship and service to others.

We look forward to meeting you and encourage you to connect with the people and ministries of our parish community. Please call the parish office and let the friendship begin.

Serving with the joy of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

#### **Parish Leadership**

**Father J Friedel**

Pastor

417-334-2928 ext 105

[FrJFriedel@ollbranson.com](mailto:FrJFriedel@ollbranson.com)

**Deacon Daniel Vaughn**

Parish Administrator

Pastoral Associate

417-546-5208 or 812-204-2625

[DcnDanVaughn@gmail.com](mailto:DcnDanVaughn@gmail.com)

**Father Johny M. Augusthy**

Associate Pastor

417-334-2928 X 101

[johnyvc@dioscg.org](mailto:johnyvc@dioscg.org)

**Father Dhaneesh Thomas**

Associate Pastor

417-334-2928

[Dhaneesh@dioscg.org](mailto:Dhaneesh@dioscg.org)

**Mike Rivera**

Bulletin

[mikerivera@ollbranson.com](mailto:mikerivera@ollbranson.com)

**Marilyn Guy**

Financial Administrator

**Nancy Loughner**

Office Associate

**Laura Cairns**

Music Ministry

**Chris Gillen**

Parish Pastoral Council President

**Barbara Peterson**

PCCW President

**Buck Hartley**

Grand Knight Council 7680

#### **Our Lady of the Ozarks Mission Statement**

We are called to walk with Christ, serving with joy, love and mercy. We bring our talents and shortcomings, our histories, and our hopes.

But most of all, we bring our shared faith and love of Jesus. We are blessed to belong to Our Lady of the Ozarks Catholic Church.

## Weekly Financial Report

6/30/2025

	Last Week	Month Total	YTD
<b>Income:</b>		<b>June</b>	
Envelopes	\$802.00	\$6,781.00	\$90,280.00
Plate (loose)	256.00	1,291.21	13,239.54
Maint. & Repair Fund	519.00	2,334.00	33,879.00
Diocesan Collections	545.00	5,796.60	21,896.94
K of C & PCCW			12,162.75
Trust Fund Withdrawal			
Other Income	47.33	617.33	16,768.57
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,169.33</b>	<b>16,820.14</b>	<b>188,226.80</b>
<b>Expense:</b>			
Salary, Benefits, Mileage		5,186.26	66,354.30
Maintenance		2,709.01	18,888.42
Telephone & Utilities		2,429.63	23,826.61
Insurance	800.00	1,600.00	22,024.36
Diocesan & Special Collections	3,545.00	8,796.60	26,054.94
Trust Fund Deposit		170.09	
Other Expenses	323.71	1,970.66	19,333.56
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>4,668.71</b>	<b>22,862.25</b>	<b>176,482.19</b>
<b>Increase (Decrease) Funds</b>	<b>-\$2,499.38</b>	<b>-\$6,042.11</b>	<b>\$11,744.61</b>
<b>Cash in Bank, 7/1/24</b>			<b>\$16,364.25</b>
<b>Cash in Bank, current</b>			<b>\$28,108.86</b>
<b>Unpaid Bills &amp; Designated Funds</b>			<b>\$21,241.95</b>

## Safe Environment - Report Abuse

If you suspect or have a concern regarding misconduct or abuse, use the Report Abuse online access via the Diocesan webpage, [www.dioscg.org](http://www.dioscg.org), then click on Report Abuse, and/or call the Director of Child and Youth Protection: William Holtmeyer, 417-866-0841

## Sacrament Preparation

**Have questions regarding the Sacraments or seeking information about the Catholic Church?**

**Please contact the Office / Dcn. Dan.**

**Marriage:** Requires at least six months advance notice for preparation and scheduling. (If you have been married before, an annulment may be necessary.)

**Infant/Youth Baptism:** Your family needs to be registered in the parish and it is necessary to have had class / catechesis regarding baptismal preparation.

**OCIA Adult Baptism/Confirmation:** Interested in becoming a Catholic or are a Catholic adult who has not been Confirmed? Let's talk about your next steps.

**Visitation of the Sick:** If you know someone who is homebound and desires Communion, call Deacon Dan. Anointing of the Sick: please call Our Lady of the Lake Church (417) 334-2928 and request to speak to a priest.

## Prayers Requested from Parishioners

We pray for those who are ill, those in despair, and the homebound. We ask for the heavenly intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. May she envelope them with her maternal protection.

**For parishioners; for health-related issues:** Denny & Darlene Bissell, Mary Bloomgren, Penny O'Connor, Kathy Strader, Leonard Gross, Carla Schmitz, Jim Schafer, and Debbie Davis

**For family & friends:** Carla Schmitz's nephew Bruce, Sandy Schumacher's daughter Stormy and Sandy's brother, Kirk, and their niece Lisa, Carolyn Townsend's husband Bud, Patt Strom's niece Shannon and granddaughter Jennifer, David and Carol Sanchez's nephew Jullian, and Gary Hickox's wife Sharon.

**Our homebound includes those in care facilities:** Janice Elledge, Ann Forster, Mary Lamp, Trini Scholefield, and Joyce Stenger.

Date	Mass Intention	Lectors	Gift Bear
7/6	Dee Walton +	Craig / Hunter	Jake and Toni Silvis
7/9	Kathy Strader (L)	Charlene	
7/11	Phil Harter +	Kay	
7/13	Parish Family (L)	Dennis / Marilyn	Norma and Mari McKee
7/16	Sang Lee Booth +	Nancy	
7/18	Theo Strom +	Marilyn	

## Parish Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event
Sun 7/6		No OCIA Faith Formation
Wed 7/9	9:35 am	Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hour
Thu 7/10	6:30 pm	KofC Council 7680 Mtg, Rosary 6:10 pm
Sun 7/13	9:45 am	OCIA / Parish Faith Formation - One Body, The Church
Wed 7/16	9:35 am	Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hour
Thu 7/17	9:00 am	PCCW tentative meeting
Sat, 8/23	10:00 am	Shirley Lang's funeral Mass

Check each week for updates as things do change.





## OFFICE OF CHILD & YOUTH PROTECTION – Please Read and Comply Safe Environment Requirements for Clergy, Employees and Adult Volunteers

Safe Environment Requirements for Clergy, Employees and Adult Volunteers

If you are a volunteer at the parish and are in a role that is considered to be around our youth and any vulnerable adult, you are required to be Virtus trained and sign your Annual Safe-Conduct Form. This means if you volunteer to serve – you need to sign and return the annual Safe Conduct form.



Please read and sign and return to the parish office. Hard copies will be in the gathering space. Thank you.

<https://dioscg.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-2026-Code-of-Conduct.Adults.pdf>



**American  
Red Cross**

American Red Cross Blood Drive  
Forsyth Community – Elks Lodge  
Friday, July 11, 2025  
10:00 am – 2:00 pm

*Together, we can save a life*

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive>



### Diocesan Development Fund (DDF) 2025 Update

Having completed Week 8 of the DDF Annual Appeal, OLO has recorded \$14,202 in financial pledges (90% of \$15,790) and 46 in pledge cards returned (85% of 54). I like to think we will meet our financial goal, but if not - we move on. However, I am concerned that we are lagging in our number of pledges. It is always my hope that we meet or exceed the parishioner participation goal set by the diocese. If you haven't made a pledge, even a small one, please consider doing so. Thank you.

## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

**August 1 @ 8:00 pm - August 3 @ 4:30 pm**

**For more information and to register Online: [www.stl-wwme.org](http://www.stl-wwme.org)**

Rediscover the spark that was there on your wedding day!

Rediscover the best friend you had when you were first married!

Join the millions of couples worldwide who have learned how to keep their marriage vibrant and alive!

The emphasis of Worldwide Marriage Encounter is on communication between husband and wife, who spend a weekend together away from the distractions and the tensions of everyday life, to concentrate on each other.



# Hey Deacon!

By Deacon Dan Vaughn

## Maybe the Statue of Liberty should have been Mother Mary

I caught a glimpse of a cable news story this 4th of July week regarding the Statue of Liberty, touching on the challenges with its delivery, assembly, and the renovations since its dedication in October 1886. The vision of Lady Liberty, a goddess holding a torch in one hand welcoming visitors to the land of freedom and opportunity, directed my heart to the true Lady Liberty, our Blessed Mother Mary.

This led me to do a little research on if there is a “Catholic” connection between the two ladies. Both express a welcoming and loving presence but that is where the similarities end. One is an iconic secular symbol of America’s freedom while the other is the protector of souls, the consolation of the world, the ransom of captives, the joy of the sick, the comfort of the afflicted, the mirror of justice, the solace of migrants, the mother of hope, the Holy Mother of God.

I found this beautiful poem on Catholic365.com within a commentary written by Richard Horrell. His sentiments (and I concur) are captured in this poem dedicated to Our Lady of Liberty.

### *The Woman Who Should Be There -- It Should Have Been Mary* A poem for Our Lady of Liberty



It should have been Mary, so gentle and bright,  
Crowned with the stars and clothed with the Light.  
The harbor would glow with her heavenly grace,  
The Queen of all nations, arms wide to embrace.

She would not boast, nor rule from pride,  
But lift our gaze to the Crucified.  
Her torch would burn with eternal flame,  
And every soul would know His name.

She'd whisper truth no tyrant could bend,  
And guide the lost like a faithful friend.  
Her robe would flow like waves of peace,  
A sign that God's mercy will never cease.

She wouldn't promise wealth or fame,  
But freedom through the Savior's Name.  
Not liberty made by man's decree—  
But freedom born on Calvary's Tree.

She would not stand for power or gain,  
But for souls set free from sin and pain.  
She'd say to the weary, the broken, the small:  
“Come to my Son — He welcomes you all.”



Maybe the statue's sculptors knew America wasn't ready for Mary. Maybe we underestimate their wisdom. Maybe they realized that Protestant America in the 1880s would have torn down the real Queen of Liberty. So instead, they gave us a shadow -- a beautiful form but without the fullness of faith. Fortunately, we, the spiritual children of Mary know better. We know it should have been Mary.

I believe that America's Woman of Liberty was never meant to be a goddess. She was always meant to be a Mother. Holy Mary, Mother of God and patron saint of America -- pray for us.

**Save the Date: Our Lady of the Ozarks (Forsyth)  
Fall Rummage and Bake Sale  
is scheduled for September, 25, 26 and 27th, 2025.**



In the past many of our parishioners have donated items for this sale. Our Lady of the Ozarks welcomes any donations and they have made bins available for your use.

These can be picked up at Our Lady of the Ozarks church ( 951 Swan Valley Drive , Forsyth) during the month of July on Monday, Wednesday, Friday during office hours or on Sunday after their 8:30 Mass.

These bins can be used to store your donated items which can be dropped off at Our Lady of the Ozarks during their set up hours starting on September 8 through September 19th from 9am - 1pm.

Please note that they will not be able to pick up items as they have in the past. Any questions can be directed to Barbara Peterson at 417-251-0041 or [barbsp@protonmail.com](mailto:barbsp@protonmail.com)



**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**  
**When God Speaks Like a Polish Grandmother**

A friend of mine had a Polish grandmother who was famous for giving her children some blunt advice every time they left the house: "Eyes straight ahead. Mind your own business."

Every mother knows her children best, and this mother knew hers liked to argue and sometimes liked to show off. She knew that could lead to trouble. She could not anticipate every scenario they would encounter each time they departed from her. All she could do was distill what she knew about life, safety, and manners into a few simple words, and hand them over to her children like a set of car keys or a hastily scribbled map.

In this way, a woman who rarely said "I love you" expressed her devotion. And long after she was dead and buried, her aging sons and daughters repeated these words to themselves, like a child wrapping himself in a warm blanket.

Jesus does much the same for us, in many portions of the Gospels. "Ask the master to send out laborers for his harvest... Carry no money...Eat what is set before you...Know that the Kingdom of God is at hand...Rejoice because your names are written in Heaven."

He knows us best — knows our strengths, but even more importantly, he knows our weaknesses. He doesn't always have the space to address each of these explicitly in the pages of Scripture, but what he can do is distill the truth of effective evangelization into a few simple words, and hand them over to us as food for our journey of discipleship. In this way, a God who addresses the entire world and every soul who ever lived also speaks intimately to each one of us.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS





# **Plan to attend Catholic Night At The Springfield Cardinals Sun., Aug. 3, 6:05 p.m.**

**Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri will host this fun night of faith and fellowship—plan to join along with Bishop Rice for a summer Sunday at the ballpark!**

**\$12 Single Ticket**

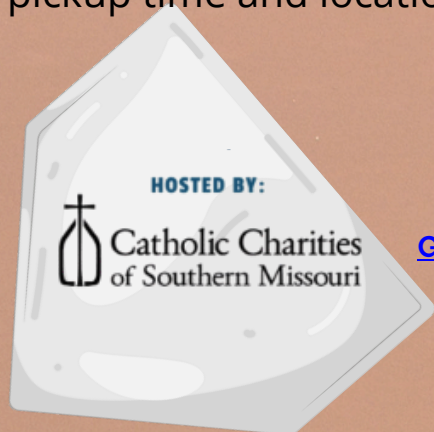
**\$25 Ticket & T-shirt**

**\$27 Ticket & T-shirt sizes 2X-3X**

***TICKET DEADLINE: AUGUST 1ST  
T-SHIRT ORDER DEADLINE: JULY 18TH***

Tickets purchased ***before July 25*** will be available for pickup at St. Anne's Campus (424 E. Monastery St.) starting July 29.

Tickets purchased ***after July 25*** and all t-shirts will be available at Hammons Field before the game. Stay tuned for more information about game day pickup time and location.



**[Get your tickets today! https://ccsomo.org/catholic-night-cardinals/](https://ccsomo.org/catholic-night-cardinals/)**





# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

Lo, I will spread prosperity over Jerusalem like a river,  
and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing torrent. (Is 66:12)

### Psalm:

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (Ps 66)

### Second Reading:

From now on, let no one make troubles for me;  
for I bear the marks of Jesus on my body. (Gal 6:17)

### Gospel:

Nevertheless, do not rejoice because the spirits  
are subject to you,  
but rejoice because your names are written in heaven." (Lk 10:20)

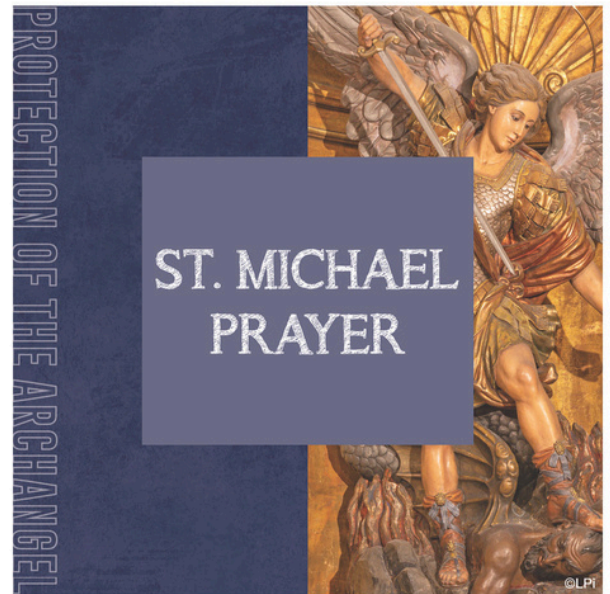
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

As he sends his disciples into the world  
to proclaim his name, Jesus tells them to  
be bold. He tells them to be flexible. To be  
forgiving. To be faithful. As we enter this  
week, let's remember these instructions. It's  
good advice, in any century.

## Observances for the week of July 6, 2025

<b>Sunday:</b>	14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
<b>Wednesday:</b>	St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
<b>Friday:</b>	St. Benedict, Abbot
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time



## Devotions, *Explained!*

The prayer to St. Michael, composed by Pope Leo XIII, invokes the protection of the archangel Michael in the ongoing spiritual battle for the souls of all mankind. It is commonly said at the end of the rosary and by some parishes after the conclusion of Mass.

## Prayer for Evangelization

As You reach out to the world,  
Lord, let us be Your hands!  
As You answer those crying, send us.  
Let us be Your people, answer to  
prayers prayed, comfort to the  
afflicted.  
May we be laborers in Your  
harvest.  
Amen.



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