

951 Swan Valley Drive , Forsyth, MO 65653

phone: 417.546.5208 Website: www.ourladyoftheozarks.com

Email: ourladyoftheozarks@gmail.com

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

Weekend Mass Time: Confession:

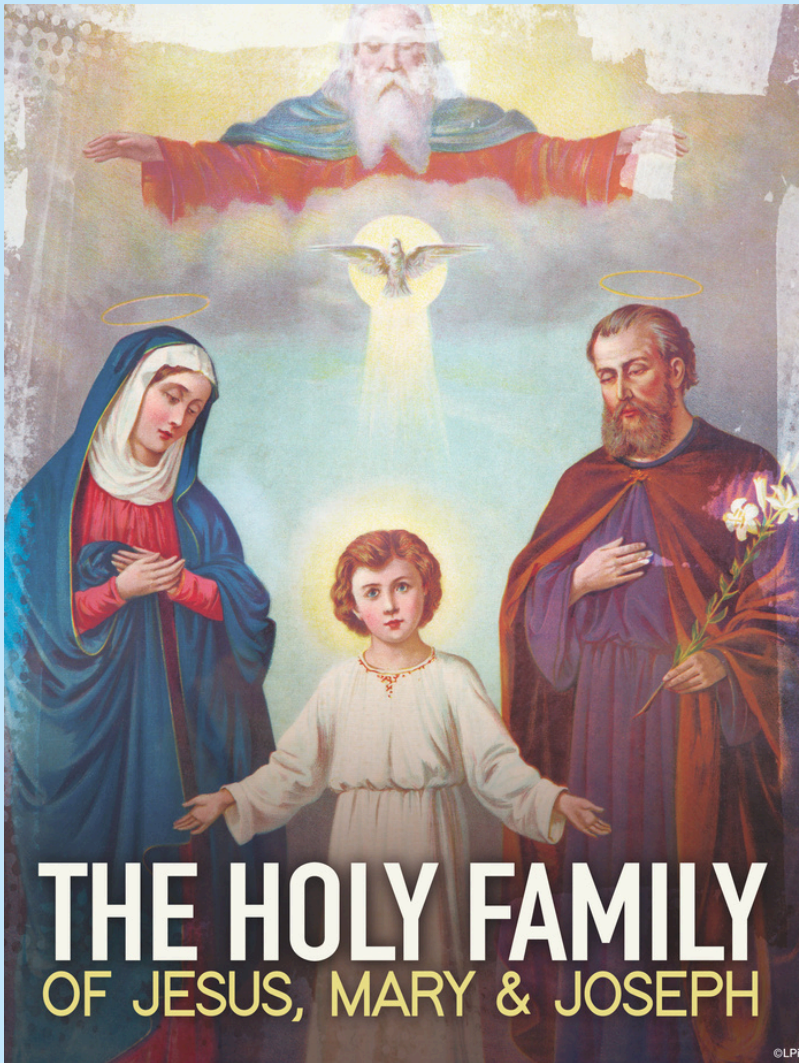
Sunday 8:30 am

Sun - before Mass & Wed after Mass

Weekday Mass Times: Holy Hour Adoration:

Wed & Fri - 9:00 am

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

Deacon Daniel Vaughn

Parish Administrator

Pastoral Associate

417-546-5208 or 812-204-2625

DcnDanVaughn@gmail.com

Father Johny M. Augusthy

Associate Pastor

417-334-2928 X 101

johnnyc@dioscg.org

Father Dhaneesh Thomas

Associate Pastor

417-334-2928

Dhaneesh@dioscg.org

Mike Rivera

Bulletin

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			
12/22/25			
	Last Week	Month Total	YTD
		December	
Income:			
Envelopes	\$2,217.00	\$7,819.00	\$46,418.83
Plate (loose)	293.00	931.00	6,113.70
Maint. & Repair Fund	396.00	2,846.00	16,488.00
Diocesan Collections	185.00	205.00	4,931.00
K of C & PCCW		539.73	13,439.73
Trust Fund Withdrawal			
Other Income	330.00	2,408.00	9,491.65
Total Income	3,421.00	14,748.73	96,882.91
Expense:			
Salary, Benefits, Mileage		3,008.50	30,271.95
Maintenance		214.50	5,505.59
Telephone & Utilities	99.93	1,331.25	7,636.14
Insurance		800.00	4,000.00
Diocesan & Special Collections	225.00	1,254.00	5,059.00
Trust Fund Deposit			14,605.00
Other Expenses	-229.25	252.59	9,876.72
Total Expenses	95.68	6,860.84	76,954.40
Increase (Decrease) Funds	\$3,325.32	\$7,887.89	\$19,928.51
Cash in Bank, 7/1/25			\$28,108.86
Cash in Bank, current			\$48,037.37
Unpaid Bills & Designated Funds			\$22,900.53

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: Mary Bloomgren, Kenny & Penny O'Connor, Kathy Strader, Debbie Davis, Gary Hickox, Tom Kinsella and Mary Little.

For family & friends: Sandy Schumacher's brother, Kirk and niece Lisa, Carolyn Townsend's husband Bud, Patt Strom's niece Shannon and granddaughter Jennifer, David and Carol Sanchez's nephew Julian, Gary Hickox's wife Sharon, and Carla Schmitz's brother in-law Roger.

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

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, then click on Report Abuse, and/or call the Director of Child and Youth Protection: William Holtmeyer, 417-866-0841

Date	Mass Intention	Lectors	Gift Bear
Sun 12/28	Joe Placzck + & Francisca Lampong+	Toni / Tom	Carolyn Carr, Gloria & Mike Obranovic
Thu 1/1	Sang Lee Booth +	Carla / Marilyn	The Pollard Family
Fri 1/2	1 st Friday Deceased Souls +	Kay	
Sun 1/4	Lester & Ronnie Droste +	Carla / Toni	
Wed 1/7	Phil Harter +	Kay	
Fri 1/9	Shirley Lang +	Marilyn	

Parish Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event
Wed 12/31	9:00 am	No Morning Mass, No Eucharistic Adoration
Thu 1/1	9:00 am	Holy Day obligation – Mary, Mother of God
Fri 1/2	9:00 am	First Friday Mass
Note: The week of Dec 28-Jan 2 the parish office will be closed.		
Wed 1/7	9:30 am	Eucharist Adoration Holy Hour
Thu 1/8	6:30 pm	KofC Council 7680 Mtg, Rosary at 6:10 pm
Sun 1/11	9:40 am	KofC Monthly Breakfast after Mass
Sun 1/11	10:00 am	Family Faith Formation : Now that we are Catholic, now what?

Check each week for updates as things do change.

Mary the Mother of God, our Mother of Hope

Mary has many titles. As my oldest granddaughter would say, Mary has a “gazillion titles” or so it seems. On January 1st, we honor her righteous title as Mother of God (Theotokos, meaning “God-bearer”). We know this title well as it is the oldest known title of Mary in the Church (since approximately 250 AD).

Mary holds a unique and irreplaceable place in the mystery of salvation. As the **Mother of God** (Theotókos), she is not only the mother of Jesus Christ -- true God and true man -- but also our spiritual mother, guiding us toward the fullness of hope in Christ. The Catechism of the Catholic Church affirms this profound truth, showing how Mary’s role is inseparably linked to our faith, hope, and salvation.

From the moment of the Annunciation, Mary’s “yes” to God (Luke 1:38) became the doorway through which the Savior entered the world. The Catechism teaches that “Mary is truly ‘Mother of God’ since she is the mother of the eternal Son of God made man” (CCC 495). This title is not merely honorary but expresses the reality that the One she bore is the divine Word made flesh. In her, heaven and earth meet.

But Mary’s motherhood extends beyond Bethlehem. At the foot of the Cross, Jesus entrusted her to the beloved disciple saying, “Behold, your mother” (John 19:27). The Church understands this moment as the gift of Mary to all believers. The Catechism explains that “Mary’s motherhood in the order of grace continues uninterrupted... until the eternal fulfillment of all the elect” (CCC 969). This is why she is also called **Mother of Hope** -- because she accompanies us on our pilgrimage toward eternal life.

Hope, in the Christian sense, is not mere optimism; it is the confident expectation of God’s promises. Mary embodies this hope perfectly. She believed the angel’s word before seeing its fulfillment. She trusted God’s plan even when it led her to Calvary. Her life is a living commentary on the Catechism’s teaching that “hope is the confident expectation of divine blessing and the beatific vision of God” (CCC 2090). Which brings me to my reason for highlighting Mary as the Mother of Hope.

As a parent of three adult children (lapsed Catholics) who are not quite as zealous for the faith as Beth (my wife) and I, we turn to Mary seeking her aid. We place our trust in Jesus through the intercession of his Blessed Mother in times when it seems hope seems silent. Mary’s example reminds us that hope is sustained by faith and nourished by love.

Mary’s role as Mother of God and Mother of Hope is not passive. She actively intercedes for us, leading us closer to her Son. The Catechism emphasizes that her maternal intercession “continues to bring us the gifts of eternal salvation” (CCC 969). Just as she once carried Christ into the world, she now carries our prayers to Him, encouraging us to persevere in hope until we see Him face to face.

In contemplating Mary, we see the perfect disciple --the one who listens, believes, and acts in trust. Her life invites us to entrust ourselves to God’s will, confident that He will bring all things to completion. As Mother of God, she gave us the Savior; as Mother of Hope, she walks with us until we are united with Him forever.

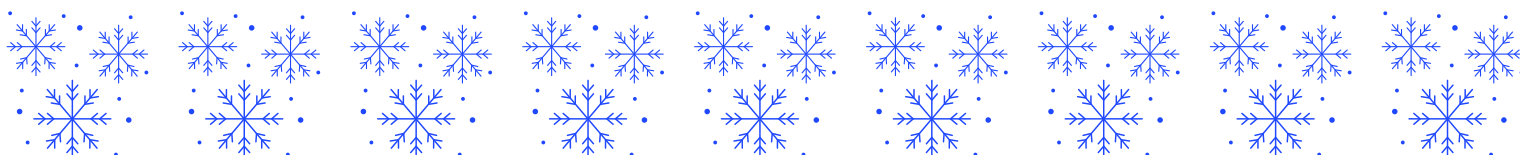


Mass Intention	
MASS FOR _____	☐ LIVING ☐ DECEASED
DATE IF REQUESTED _____	TIME _____
REQUESTED BY _____	
STIPEND _____	DATE RECEIVED _____
RECEIVED BY _____	
NO _____	F. J. REMY CO.

Taking requests for Mass Prayer Intentions for 2026

Catholic Mass intentions are specific prayers or purposes for which a priest offers the sacrifice of the Mass, a deeply meaningful practice for honoring the living or deceased, giving thanks, or seeking special graces, with the promise that the Mass is always for the whole Church but made particular through these requests. It is a profound spiritual act, uniting your personal prayers with the ultimate prayer of the Church, the Eucharist.

Mass intentions for 2026 can be requested now. A small offering stipend of \$10 each is suggested. Mass Intention envelopes are available on the side tables in the gathering space, or you can use any personal envelop and label it as "Mass Intention." Then drop it in the collection basket or give it to Nancy Loughner or Deacon Dan.



Mass Schedule For The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God Holy Day of Obligation

**New Year's Eve
Wednesday, Dec. 31**

Our Lady of the Cove
20 Kimberling Blvd. ~ Kimberling City
4:00PM

Our Lady of the Lake
203 Vaughn Dr. ~ Branson
5:30pm

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
(New Year's Day)
Thursday, Jan. 1**

Our Lady of the Ozarks
951 Swan Valley Dr. ~ Forsyth
9:00AM

Our Lady of the Lake
203 Vaughn Dr. ~ Branson
Noon



Knights Corner

Forsyth Council #7680

Next meeting is January 8th, 2026. Meeting starts at 6:30pm with Rosary at 6:10pm.

Knights Breakfast on January 11th, 2026 after Mass.
Come and enjoy a meal and fellowship,



Knights of Columbus Parish Breakfast



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-PROTECT YOUR FAMILY-
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OLO'S PARISH SCHOOL OF FORMATION & THE DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

To help prepare the faithful for the DEC, the Diocesan Office of Evangelization and Family Ministry has put together a seven-part monthly series (one per month) of inspirational and educational resources. Parishes are encouraged to incorporate these resources into their faith formation classes. Our Lady of the Ozark will be doing such, beginning on Sunday, January 18, after Mass in Marian Hall. We will meet two or three Sundays per month as per our regular PSR/faith formation schedule. We will do so through July. Deacon Dan will also offer to repeat the session on Mondays following the Sunday sessions. Pay attention to the parish calendar of events for what days and time. For January...

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

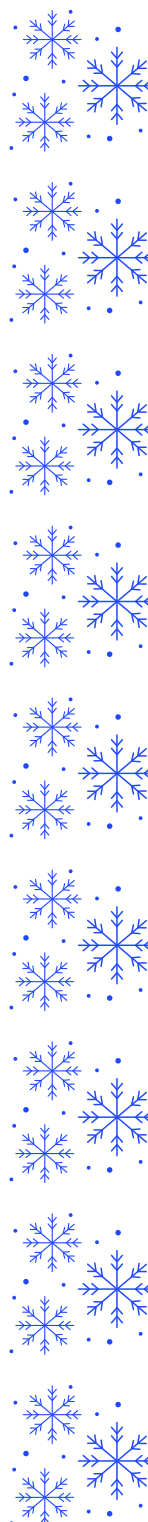
The Pelican and the Eucharist



70
YEARS
1948-2018

DIocese of Springfield-
CAPE GIRARDEAU

JANUARY resource page. Find more ideas at dioscrg.org/diocesan-eucharistic-congress



Walking Sticks on Sale:

Mike Stenger was a craftsman who made unique walking sticks. You have seen them in the Gathering Space by the East door. They make a unique gift! Walking sticks are on sale for \$10 each throughout this month of December. Please give payment to Marilyn or Barbara.

DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS



SCAN HERE
to learn more!



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, updates to the Congress and to help promote the Congress!

Bishop Rice is encouraging all parishioners to participate in activities that will spiritually prepare us for Eucharistic revival in our diocese and for participation in the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress (DEC). It will take place in West Plains on Saturday, August 15, 2026. Online registration will open on Monday, January 12. Seating at the Congress is limited and will be filled on a "first to register" basis.



WeShare - OLO's online Giving Platform



I recognized that many in our parish family are old school and prefer to give the traditional way with check or cash in their weekly church envelopes. Your donation is always appreciated. However, there are some of us, Deacon included, that prefer to make his tithe to the church using WeShare online giving. Yes, we do have an online giving platform. May 2026 be the year to make the electronic giving move.

It's easy to set it up with your checking account or even a credit card company. Have your donation drawn from your account on the same day each month, worry free.

Click on: [Give](#) and the weblink takes you to <https://www.ourladyoftheozarks.com/online-giving> or scan the QRCode below.

Question? Contact Deacon Dan or call WeShare's Customer Support team at 877-316-0260.



IT'S SAFE. IT'S SIMPLE. IT'S CONVENIENT.

Support Our Lady of the Ozarks today using your debit or credit card or checking or savings account.

- 1 Visit ourladyoftheozarks.com and click Give Online with WeShare.
- 2 Select the collection or event of your choice.
- 3 Set up your donation or payment. That's it!



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Forsyth Council #7680

MR. DON'S BARBER SHOP Don Carr and Wren Carr
173 Shadowrock Drive, Forsyth, MO
Tue — Fri 8:00 — 5:00 and Sat 8 — 12 Wren Carr
For Appt 294-1984

Dan Guy, ENROLLED AGENT
D&M Accounting Service
Highway 160, P.O. Box 808
Forsyth, Missouri 65653

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Forsyth, Mo 65653
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Learn more about senior living and senior care by calling 800-558-0653 or go to www.caring.com.

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OUR LADY OF THE OZARKS PARISH
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KHJM 89.1 FM Dexter & the Bootheel
KFSS 94.5 FM Joplin
KJCW 1100 AM Joplin
92.1 FM Carthage

Thus faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ. *Romans 10:17*

Donate online
<https://www.wesharegiving.org/app/giving/WeShare-20001679?tab=home>

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In Memory Of
This fund is for the memory of deceased par...
Stations of the Cross and Memorial...
Our Lady of the Ozarks is in the midst of rais...

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