



Our Lady of the Ozarks Catholic Church

951 Swan Valley Drive, Forsyth, MO 65653
417-546-5208 | ourladyoftheozarks@gmail.com
www.ourladyoftheozarks.com



Tradition + Community + Mission

January 18th 2026

+

2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Welcome!

Mass Schedule

Weekend Mass

Sunday | 8:30am

Weekday Masses

Wednesday | 9:00am

Friday 9:00am

Confession

Wednesday | After Mass

Sunday | Before Mass

Other | By Appointment

Holy Hour Adoration

Wednesday | After Mass

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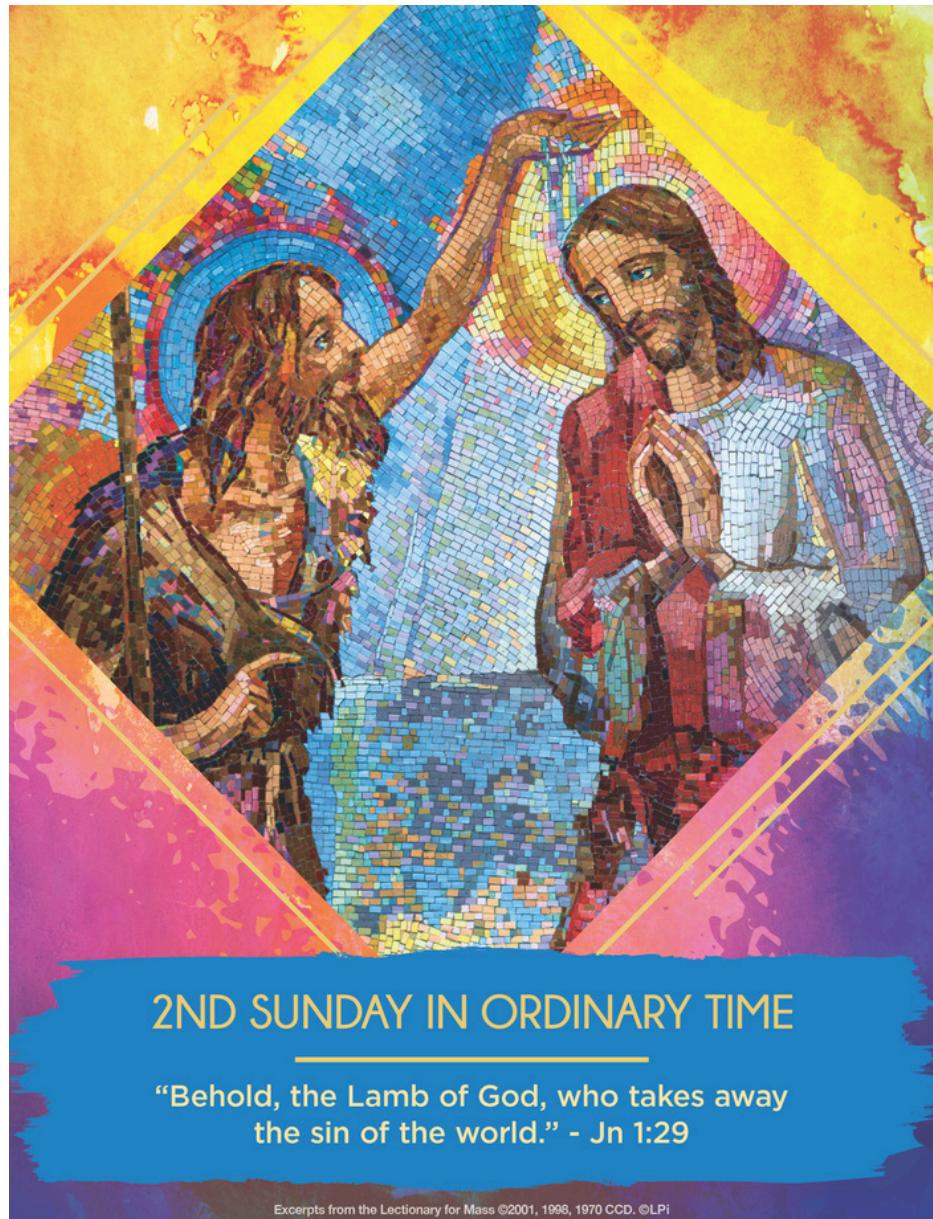


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Our Lady of the Ozarks Mission Statement

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

1/13/2026

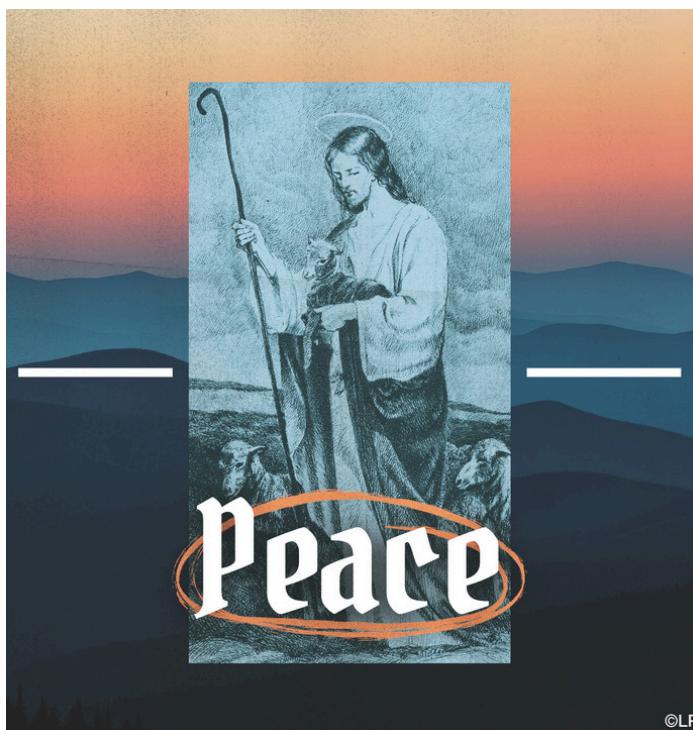
	Last Week	Month Total	YTD
Income:		January	
Envelopes	\$2,139.50	\$3,759.50	\$51,693.33
Plate (loose)	237.53	387.53	6,901.23
Maint. & Repair Fund	295.00	1,205.00	18,083.00
Diocesan Collections		50.00	5,578.00
K of C & PCCW			13,439.73
Trust Fund Withdrawal			
Other Income	20.00	762.00	10,412.55
Total Income	2,692.03	6,164.03	106,107.84
Expense:			
Salary, Benefits, Mileage	873.00	3,082.50	35,659.16
Maintenance	692.23	1,049.83	6,555.42
Telephone & Utilities	171.24	4,016.81	11,652.95
Insurance	800.00	800.00	4,800.00
Diocesan & Special Collections	832.00	832.00	5,891.00
Trust Fund Deposit			14,605.00
Other Expenses	634.52	1,349.01	11,389.67
Total Expenses	4,002.99	11,130.15	90,553.20
Increase (Decrease) Funds	-\$1,310.96	-\$4,966.12	\$15,554.64
Cash in Bank, 7/1/25			\$28,108.86
Cash in Bank, current			\$43,663.50
Unpaid Bills & Designated Funds			\$21,545.21

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.



Parish Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event
Sun 1/18	9:45 am	Family Faith Formation: Eucharist – the Catechism & St. John Paul II
Mon 1/19	10:00 am	Eucharistic Monday session (repeat of Sunday)
Wed 1/21	9:30 am	Eucharist Adoration Holy Hour
Sun 1/25	8:30 am	This Sunday & next – we welcome Fr. Dan Lueckenotte
Sun 1/25	9:45 am	Family Faith Formation - St. Carlo Acutis 35-minute documentary & discussion
Wed 1/28	9:30 am	Eucharist Adoration Holy Hour



Date	Mass Intention	Lectors	Gift Bear
Sun 1/18	Theo Strom +	Craig / Hunter	
Wed 1/21	Deceased members of the Sakowicz Family +	Kay	
Fri 1/23	Joseph Leonard +	Marilyn	
Sun 1/25	Carol & Chester Haraf +	Charlene / Tom	Jennings Family
Wed 1/28	Isidore Nepl +	Carla	
Fri 1/30	John Loughner +	Nancy	

Hey Deacon!

By Deacon Dan Vaughn

Why are non-Catholics prohibited from receiving Holy Communion at Mass?

The Catholic Church's discipline of limiting Holy Communion to Catholics is rooted in its understanding of what the Eucharist is and what receiving it expresses. According to Catholic teaching, the Eucharist is not simply a symbolic meal but the real presence of Jesus Christ—His Body and Blood—made present under the appearance of bread and wine. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states plainly that “the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life” (CCC 1324) and that in it, Christ Himself is “truly, really, and substantially contained” (CCC 1374).

Because of this profound belief, receiving Communion is considered an intimate act of union with Christ and with the Church that safeguards this sacrament. A non-Catholic who does not understand nor profess this belief would not be properly prepared to receive the Eucharist.

Receiving Communion is not only a personal expression of devotion; it is also a public declaration of full unity with the Catholic Church's faith, sacraments, and authority. The *Catechism* explains that “Communion signifies this union” (CCC 1398). To receive the Eucharist is to say, “I am in full communion with the Catholic Church.” When someone who is not Catholic receives Communion, the Church believes the outward sign would not match the inner reality, since important differences remain—especially regarding the nature of the Eucharist, the papacy, and sacramental life.

This is why the Church sees the restriction not as exclusion but as integrity. The sign must reflect the truth. Just as a wedding ring symbolizes a covenant that already exists, Communion symbolizes a unity that must already be real. If that unity is not yet present, the symbol becomes misleading.

The *Catechism* also emphasizes the need for proper spiritual disposition: “Anyone conscious of a grave sin must receive the sacrament of Reconciliation before coming to Communion” (CCC 1385). Catholics are formed within a sacramental system that prepares them for this responsibility. The Church cannot assume that non-Catholics share the same preparation or beliefs, and it would be pastorally irresponsible to treat the Eucharist as a gesture of hospitality rather than a sacred mystery.

Interestingly, the Church teaches that this discipline is actually part of its commitment to Christian unity. The *Catechism* acknowledges that “ecclesial communities derived from the Reformation... have not preserved the proper reality of the Eucharistic mystery” (CCC 1400). This is not a criticism of individuals but a recognition of real theological differences in other faiths. The Church believes that honest acknowledgment of these differences is more respectful than pretending they do not exist. The goal is genuine unity, not symbolic unity.

In short, non-Catholics are not prohibited from Communion because they are unwelcome, but because the Eucharist expresses a unity that Christians do not yet fully share. The Church hopes for the day when all followers of Christ can receive together, but until that unity is achieved, it maintains this discipline to protect the meaning of the sacrament and respect the convictions of all Christians.

January is Respect Life Month

January 22 - Special day of prayer & gathering

In all the Dioceses of the United States, January 22 is observed as a particular day of prayer for the full legal protection of unborn children.

In our diocese, Bishop Rice will be leading a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration with offering two prayer intentions – in the preparation of our Diocesan Eucharistic Congress and special prayers for the sanctity of all human life. The Holy Hour begins at 6 pm.

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

Prayer and Adoration

Deanery Four
St. Agnes Cathedral, Springfield

Thursday, January 22
6:00pm - 7:00pm



2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The Bissell's New Address

Deacon is a little tardy passing on this note of gratitude from Denny and Darlene, but also their new address in Texas. Denny and Darlene share...

As I sit here in Texas with tears in my eyes, "I Remember When" we lived in Forsyth, a town that we loved and felt loved! I remember the good times we had at the Elks Lodge, Our Lady of the Ozarks Church, and with our neighbors. Why? Because of the people! They celebrated with us in the good times, and most importantly, prayed for us and hugged us during our many bouts with sickness. How very special friends you are! We will always have those memories in our hearts and minds.

If you ever head this way, we do have one extra bedroom available on a first come first serve basis.

Our address is 475 River Fair Blvd. Unit 1601, Belton, Texas 76513.

UPCOMING MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CURSILLO WEEKENDS

The Cursillo® Movement pursues two purposes or objectives. The immediate purpose is to provide a conduit for living what is fundamental for being a Christian, namely, the on-going and total conversion of the person. The end purpose is to vertebrate Christianity in society by means of these persons who live what is fundamental for being Christian (the love of God and neighbor) in their daily lives.

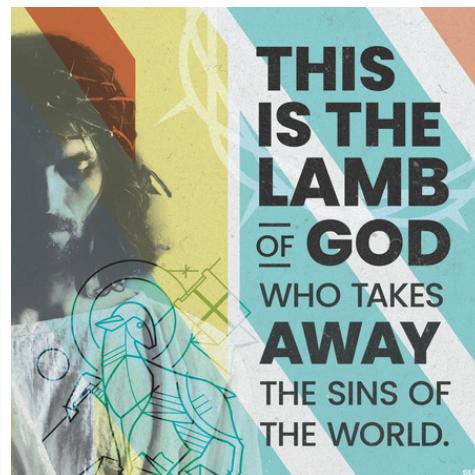
Simply explained, the purpose of the Cursillo Movement is that we become the Good News, and that our actions naturally turn out to be evangelical in our daily lives.

Upcoming Cursillo Weekends in the diocese:

Men's Weekend: Feb. 26-Mar. 1, 2026 in Fredericktown.

Women's Weekends: March 19-22, 2026 in Fredericktown; April 23-26, 2026 in Carthage.

For more information and to Register Online:
<https://dioscg.org/cursillo/>



The 7th Annual

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

In cooperation with the diocesan Office of Evangelization.

TAKING
FAITH TO THE
NEXT LEVEL!



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

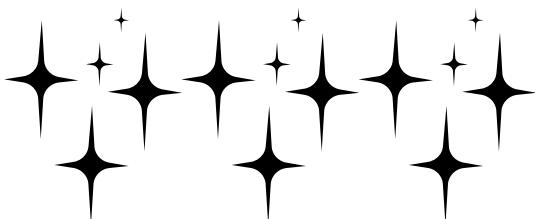


Doors open 7am. Mass 8am. Ends by 3:30pm.

Register for free now!

www.CatholicConference.men

f **t** **@SOMOMensCon**



We have Poinsettias desiring adoption

Christmas bells have rung and now is a great time to take home a memory.

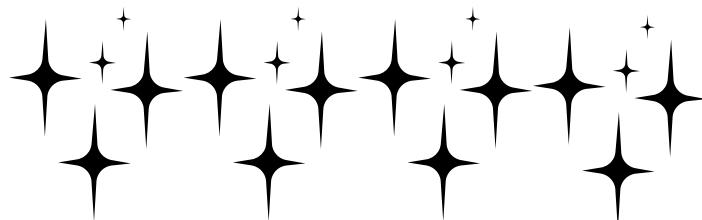
Many of our poinsettias are now available for adoption. We will still keep a few around the worship space for another week or so as we await the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. We have plenty to be adopted this weekend and more to come.

Please, take one or two plants home with you. The plants are in the gathering space on the table next to the restrooms.

Is your life stuck in a rut? Is your faith feeling stale?

Join hundreds of men for a day of life-changing motivation at the 7th annual Catholic Men's Conference on Saturday, February 21, 2026, at Catholic High School.

This year's Keynote speaker, Marcel LeJeune, will help you take your faith to the next level! He has decades of experience leading men closer to Christ — so they can lead those around them to Christ. No matter where you are in your faith journey, you will gain the knowledge and motivation you need to be a true disciple. We're building a culture of men who will transform our families & communities. Don't miss this opportunity. Register for free today by visiting www.CatholicConference.men.



Dynamic Catholic
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Welcome.
There is More to Life

**Women of
Our Lady of the Ozarks parish !**

**You are warmly invited to our next
2-day Dynamic Catholic
Welcome Retreat!**

**Our Lady of the Lake, Branson, MO
March 7 & 8, 2026!**

**Catholic women join together and share with
one another ways they have found
meaning, hope, peace and love in their lives
through Christ.**

**It's a great opportunity to deepen your
Lenten journey!**

**For more information call
Lisa Welko @ 417-830-3034**

SCAN TO
REGISTER



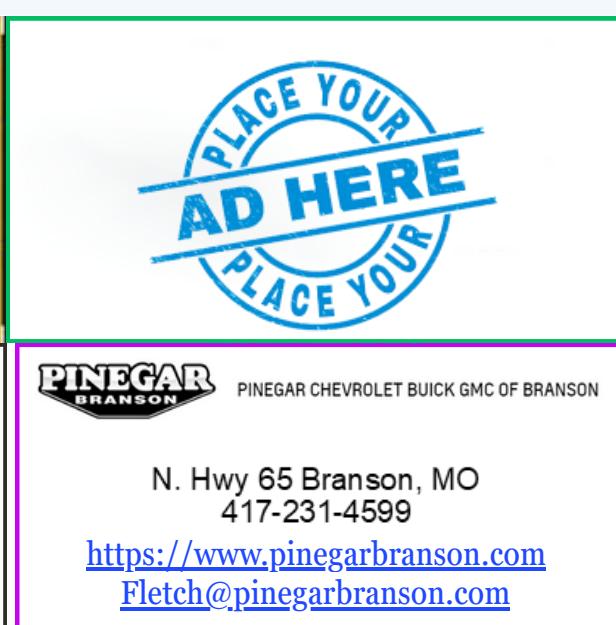
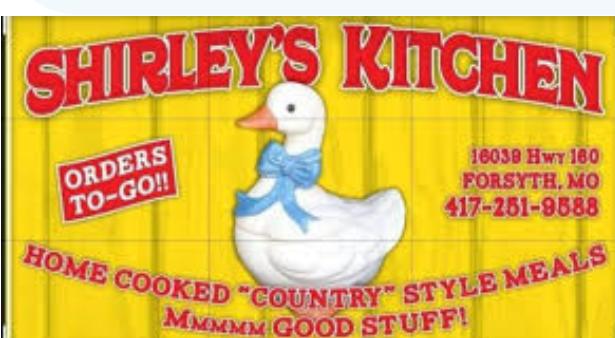
**OR GO TO:
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WOMENS-WELCOME-RETREAT**

Several women from your parish have previously
experienced this amazing Retreat,

DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

All couples celebrating their 1st, 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th or more years of sacramental marriage are invited to a special Diocesan Anniversary Celebration! Bishop Edward Rice will offer a blessing of couples during the celebration of the Holy Mass, followed by a reception with appetizers, cake, and punch. Family members are welcome too!

The registration deadline for this FREE event is Friday, January 23. The Springfield Mass will be celebrated on Sunday afternoon, February 8, at 1:30 pm at St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton parish. RSVP by completing the Online RSVP, or by calling Sharon in the Diocesan Family Life Office at (417) 866-0841.





It's time to sign up for the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress (DEC) that will take place in West Plains on Saturday, August 15, 2026. The cost for registration is only \$10 per individual with a maximum cost of \$25 per household.

We will travel to DEC by commercial bus/coach. It is a day trip, leaving Branson and Forsyth around 6:00 am in the morning and returning that evening.

Visit the official Diocesan Eucharistic Congress webpage to access the registration portal at <https://dioscg.org/diocesan-eucharistic-congress>.



Support the collection for the Church in Latin America
2nd Collection - Sunday, January 25

The bishops of the United States established this annual collection as a practical expression of unity and love for their brothers and sisters in Central and South America and the islands of the Caribbean. For more than 60 years, Catholics in the U.S. have answered the invitation to "share the faith" by supporting pastoral ministries that strengthen the Church in the present day and help pass on the Gospel to future generation.

Share your faith by supporting this collection.



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



Parish Leadership

Father J Friedel

Pastor

417-334-2928 ext 105

FrJFriedel@ollbranson.com

Father Johny M. Augusthy

Associate Pastor

417-334-2928 X 101

johnyvc@dioscg.org

Mike Rivera

Bulletin

mikerivera@ollbranson.com

Nancy Loughner

Office Associate

Chris Gillen

Parish Pastoral Council President

Buck Hartley

Grand Knight Council 7680

Deacon Daniel Vaughn

Parish Administrator

Pastoral Associate

417-546-5208 or 812-204-2625

DcnDanVaughn@gmail.com

Father Dhaneesh Thomas

Associate Pastor

417-334-2928

Dhaneesh@dioscg.org

Marilyn Guy

Financial Administrator

Laura Cairns

Music Ministry

Barbara Peterson

PCCW President

Our sunday liturgies are both inspiring and challenging, reminiscent of the winding roads of the Ozarks. We strive to foster friendships, cultivate new connections, and share our love for Jesus Christ!

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

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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



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page 8