

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

www.ourladyoftheozarks.com

Tradition + Community + Mission



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

Parish Leadership

Father J Friedel
Pastor
417-334-2928 ext 105
Fr.JFriedel@ollbranson.com

Father Johnny M. Augusthy
Associate Pastor
417-334-2928 X 101
johnyvc@dioscgo.org

Mike Rivera
Bulletin
mikerivera@ollbranson.com

Nancy Loughner
Office Associate

Barbara Peterson
PCCW President

Chris Gillen
Parish Pastoral Council President

Dcn 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@dioscgo.org

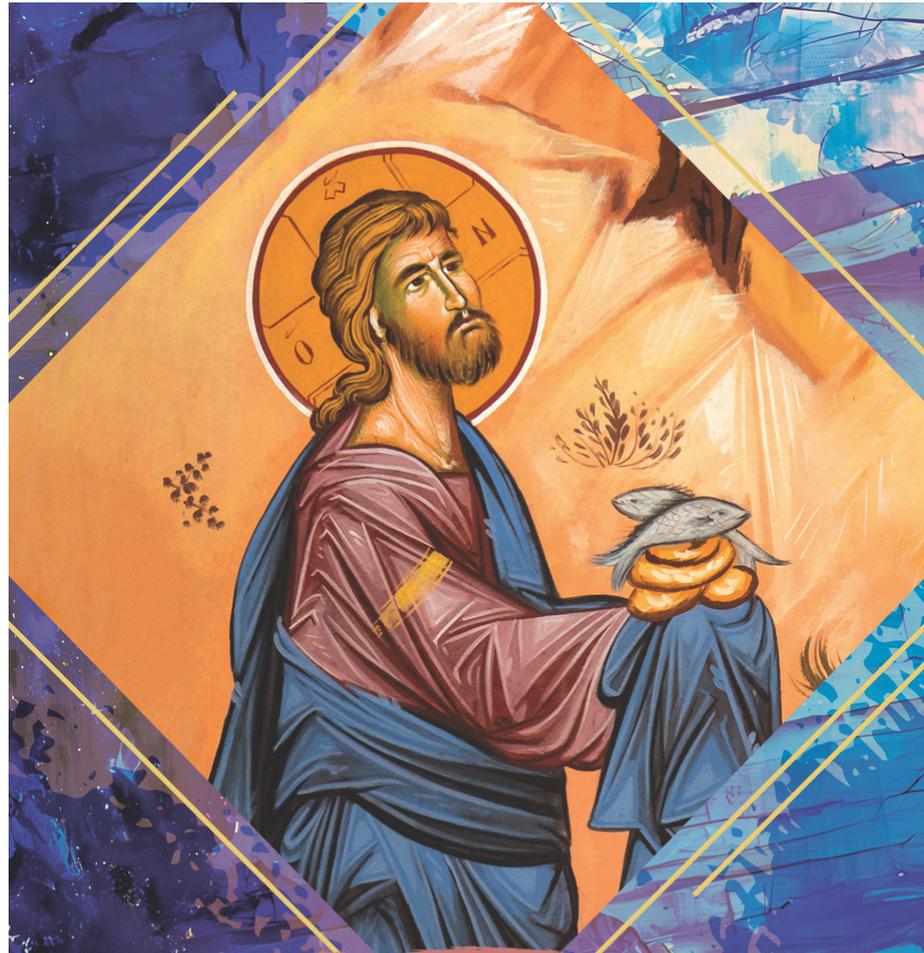
Marilyn Guy
Financial Administrator

Laura Cairns
Music Ministry

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.



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.” - Mt 5:16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD, ©LPI

PARISH POLICY FOR WINTER WEATHER CONDITIONS

Our policy for canceling Mass and other parish activities due to weather, and unsafe driving conditions is:

Weekdays: If the Forsyth Schools are closed, the Church is closed (weekday Masses also canceled). School closings are announced on TV, radio, and school website.

Sundays: If the Church is closed due to weather, a robocall will be sent to all parishioners who have authorized being called. Calls will be made between 6AM and 7AM. When in doubt, don't get out. We want you to stay safe and God does, too.



Weekly Financial Report			
2/3/2026			
	Last Week	Month To Date	Budget for Month
Regular Collections:		February	February
Envelopes	\$2,865.00	\$2,865.00	\$7,500.00
Plate (loose)	436.00	436.00	1,000.00
Maint. & Repair Fund	1,115.00	1,115.00	2,800.00
Total	\$ 4,416.00	\$ 4,416.00	\$ 11,300.00
Operating Expenses:			
Salary & Benefits	2,182.50	2,182.50	5,489.00
Maintenance	593.13	593.13	1,245.00
Telephone & Utilities	2,273.44	2,273.44	1,991.00
Insurance			800.00
Other Expenses	323.71	323.71	826.00
Total	\$ 5,372.78	\$ 5,372.78	\$ 10,351.00

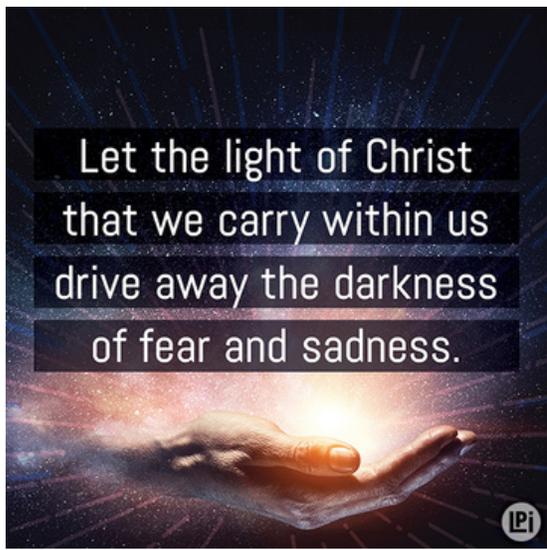


We pray for those who are ill, those in despair, and the homebound. We ask for the heavenly intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. May she envelope them with her maternal protection.

For parishioners; for health-related issues: Mary Bloomgren, Kenny & Penny O'Connor, Kathy Strader, Debbie Davis, Gary and Sharon Hickox, Tom and Ethel 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, Gary Hickox's wife Sharon, Carla Schmitz's brother-in-law Roger, and Donna Covelli's niece, Brianne Trenado. Prayers for successful medical treatment and restored health.

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 2/8	9:45 am	Faith Formation – Lenten Traditions of the Catholic Church
Wed 2/11	8:30 am	Rosary before 9 am Mass Special Healing Mass for the Sick
Wed 2/11	9:30:am	Eucharist Adoration Holy Hour – Litany prayer for the Sick
Wed 2/11	10:00 am	PCCW Meeting
Thu 2/12	6:30 pm	Knights Council 7680 Mtg – rosary at 6:10 pm

Date	Mass Intention	Lectors	Gift Bear
Sun 2/8	Parish Family	Toni / Kay	George and Deena Paterson
Wed 2/11	Phil Harter +	Kay	
Fri 2/13	Dee Walton +	Charlene	
Sun 2/15	Sang Lee Booth +	Hunter / Craig	Maurice & Dorothy Baker
Wed 2/18	Frieda Boehnke +	Marilyn / Charlene	Vicki Ploshay and Nancy Loughner
Fri 2/20	John Loughner +	Nancy	

Monthly Rosary Leaders Signup

There are still openings on our 4th Sunday of the month to lead our faithful Catholics in praying the rosary before Mass. Can you help? Think of it as one of your Lenten sacrifices. We are to pray, fast, and give alms. Sign up in the gathering area.



DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS – Registration is open



Please sign up for the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress (DEC). Over 500 participants have already registered in the first two weeks. Seating is limited to 3,000.

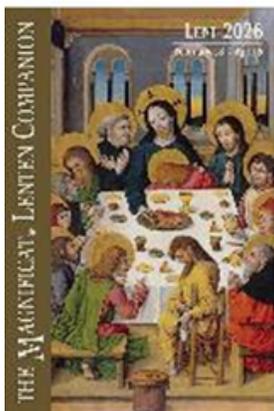
The Congress is being held in West Plains on Saturday, August 15, 2026. No need to be concerned about driving as Fr. J has OLL's staff coordinating the bus transportation from Branson / Forsyth. Plans are to leave around 6 am return around 8:30 pm.

The cost for registration is only \$10 per individual with a maximum cost of \$25 per household. Visit the official Diocesan Eucharistic Congress webpage to access the registration portal at <https://dioscg.org/diocesan-eucharistic-congress>.



**10 Days until Ash Wednesday
Mass, the Stations, and more**

The Christmas season rushed by, we've had a few weeks of ordinary time, and now it is time to put on our sackcloth and ashes. Ash Wednesday is February 18. We will have morning Mass at 9:00 am. Branson will have Mass at Noon and 7 pm. Our Magnificat Lenten Companion 2026 reflections booklets are in. We ask that take only one per family, unless from a practical standpoint your family could use two copies. Then please do so. The books are complimentary.



On Fridays during Lent, we will have Stations of the Cross at 4:00 in the worship space. We will use a rotation of different Stations' meditation each week. If interested in helping lead the Stations on a specific Friday, you are encouraged to sign up on the volunteers' list in the gathering space.

And don't forget to turn in your old psalms. We do recycle them for future ashes.



**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 vertebrae 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.

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/>



5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Understanding the differences between the Catholic Mass and a Protestant worship service.

Two weeks ago, I attended the funeral service of a very dear friend of our Forsyth parish and a friend to many throughout southwestern Missouri, Arliss Stillings. Arliss wasn't Catholic in the sense of professing our Catholic Creed, but he was a catholic child-of-God in the way he lived out the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Arliss' funeral service was held at the First Baptist Church in Forsyth. It was a beautiful testimony of his love for Jesus, his wife Linda, his family and friends, and the many lives he touched.

The ecumenical experience caused me to reflect upon some of the subtle and not so subtle differences between the Catholic Mass and a Protestant worship service – a topic that is discussed early on in the O.C.I.A. inquiry sessions. With this in mind, I offer the following refresher on some of the key differences.

The Heart of Worship: The Eucharist versus the Sermon

At the heart of the Catholic Mass is the Eucharist, which the Church teaches is the real presence of Christ -- His body, blood, soul, and divinity. The Mass is a sacrificial offering, the re-presentation of Christ's one sacrifice on Calvary in an unbloody manner. Everything in the liturgy, readings, prayers, music, gestures, leads toward the consecration and reception of the Eucharist. Because of this, the Mass follows a universal, structured liturgy found in the Roman Missal. Whether in Missouri or Manila, the order of the Mass is essentially the same, emphasizing continuity with the early Church and the unity of Catholics worldwide.

Most Protestant services, by contrast, center on the proclamation of Scripture through preaching. While many Protestant communities celebrate Communion, it is usually understood symbolically or as a memorial rather than a sacrament that confers grace. The frequency varies widely: some celebrate weekly, others monthly or only on special occasions. The service structure also varies greatly. Lutherans and Anglicans retain a more structured form of worship. Many other Protestant denominations, especially evangelical or non-denominational churches, use a flexible format shaped by the pastor and local congregation.

Scripture plays a central role in both the Catholic Mass and Protestant service, but in different ways. Catholics follow a fixed lectionary that cycles through much of the Bible over three years, ensuring a broad exposure to Scripture within the context of the liturgy. Protestant pastors often choose readings based on sermon series or themes, allowing for topical or explanatory preaching. Personal Bible study is emphasized strongly in many Protestant communities.

Leadership also differs. A Catholic Mass must be celebrated by an ordained priest who stands in apostolic succession and acts in persona Christi during the Eucharistic Prayer. Protestant leadership structures vary widely: pastors, ministers, elders, or even lay leaders may preside over worship, depending on the denomination. Most Protestant traditions do not claim apostolic succession in the Catholic sense.

Music and worship style reflects theological differences. Catholic music is meant to support the liturgy rather than dominate it, with chant, hymns, and sacred music traditionally preferred. Many Protestant services place a strong emphasis on congregational singing, often using contemporary worship bands, praise music, and extended musical sets.

Finally, Communion practices differ. Catholics reserve the Eucharist for those in full communion with the Church and in a state of grace. Many Protestant communities practice open communion, inviting all baptized Christians or sometimes all attendees to participate.

Despite these differences, both traditions seek to honor Christ and nourish the faith of believers. Understanding these distinctions helps foster deeper respect and more fruitful dialogue between Christians of all backgrounds.

EUCCHARISTIC REFLECTION – Reflection quote for this week

"Our communal worship at Mass must go together with our personal worship of Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration in order that our love may be complete." –Pope St. John Paul II

OFFICE OF RESPECT LIFE

Expanded Access to Physician-Assisted Suicide

In 2025, multiple states across the US took steps to expand access to physician-assisted suicide: Delaware enacted a law (effective Jan. 1, 2026) allowing terminally-ill adults to self-administer lethal medication; Illinois passed a bill that allows doctors to give terminally ill patients life-ending drugs if they request them, and the New York State Assembly passed the "Medical Aid in Dying Act," which is expected to be signed shortly by Gov. Kathy Hochul. In each of these cases, the US Catholic bishops have spoken out strongly against the measures and in defense of the dignity of every human life. The entire article is available at Catholic News Agency - <https://www.ewtnnews.com/world/us/2025-saw-expanded-access-to-physician-assisted-suicide?redirectedfrom=cna>.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide are always immoral (n. 2277): "An act or omission which, of itself or by intention, causes death in order to eliminate suffering constitutes a murder gravely contrary to the dignity of the human person and to the respect due to the living God, his Creator. The error of judgment into which one can fall in good faith does not change the nature of this murderous act, which must always be forbidden and excluded."

"What kind of deposit does Jesus make when He goes to the bank?"



"A Deposit of Faith."



The Deposit of Faith is the entirety of Divine Revelation, given once and for all by Christ and the Apostles, which is entrusted to the Catholic Church to be preserved and passed on.

GLP/

Church in Central and Eastern Europe
2nd Collection - Sunday, February 15

Each year, the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe (CCEE) assists Catholics, many of whom live in countries once dominated by the Soviet regime, with rebuilding their communities. This important collection supports 28 countries in a myriad of ways, from providing funds to rebuild church structures to supporting programs that lift up the dignity of the marginalized to offering scholarships that reinforce the intellectual life of the Church. By taking up this collection at Mass, you help to build the future for the faithful in this region.



Healing Mass

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is a rite where a priest anoints a seriously ill, elderly, or struggling person with blessed oil, offering spiritual healing, peace, and strength, and sometimes physical recovery, by uniting their suffering with Christ's, not just for those near death but for anyone needing God's healing grace, incorporating prayers and laying on of hands.

Anyone in need of this Sacrament is encouraged to attend one of these Masses

Our Lady of the Cove
Tuesday, February 10th 9:00am

Our Lady of the Ozarks
Wednesday, February 11th 9:00am

If you cannot attend, please contact the Parish office to schedule a time to receive this Sacrament

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.dioscrg.org.

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

Welcome.
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Our Lady of the Ozarks parish !**

**You are warmly invited to our next
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*Catholic women join together and share with
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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**



OR GO TO:
[OLLBRANSON.COM/
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Several women from your parish have previously
experienced this amazing Retreat.

NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK AND WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

**Man and woman, He Created them:
"Together with Purpose."**

The observances of National Marriage Week (Feb. 7-14) and World Marriage Day (Sunday, Feb. 8) are an opportunity to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family.



May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus.

That together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. – Rom 15:5-6

Offer up your prayer this week for all married couples, the widow, the widower, and all engaged couples.

Knights Corner

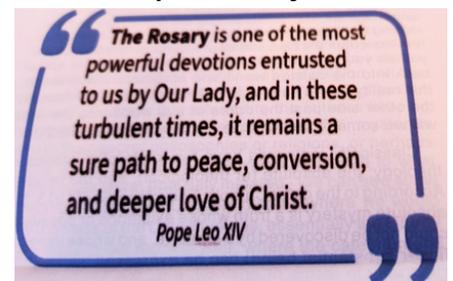


KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS

Forsyth Council #7680

**Next Knights business meeting is February
12th, 2026 at 6:30pm.**

**Rosary starts at 6:10pm. Come join us for the
Rosary.**



**Prayers for World Day of the Sick is February 11th
We will have special anointing of sick during
February 11th Mass**

World Day of the Sick is a special observance in the Catholic Church, held every year on February 11, on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. It was established in 1992 by Pope St. John Paul II as a day for the faithful to:

- Pray for those who are ill and suffering.
- Recognize and honor caregivers, healthcare workers, and volunteers.
- Reflect on the Christian call to show compassion and solidarity with the sick.

Our Wednesday Mass liturgy will include the Anointing of the Sick for those wishing to be anointed. After the conclusion of Mass, as we transition into Adoration Holy Hour, we will pray a litany for the sick.

WHY NOT

DRAW CLOSER

TO JESUS IN THE HOLY EUCHARIST?

Learn from the Catechism

#1328 - 1332

Get to know St. John Paul II's Mind

EE Ch. 1 The Mystery of Faith

Give Praise to God

through the "Salutaris Hostia" hymn

Reclaim Sunday for God & the Family

Get to Know Your Church

Watch an uplifting movie

For Greater Glory: The True Story of Cristiada

Buy/rent from your favorite streaming services

Contemplate Sacred Art

The Last Supper by Juan de Juanes



FEBRUARY resource page. Find more ideas at dioscg.org/diocesan-eucharistic-congress



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Parish Council of Catholic Women

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