

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

www.ourladyoftheozarks.com

Tradition + Community + Mission

Mass Schedule	Confession
Weekend Mass	Wednesday After Mass
Sunday 8:30am	Sunday Before Mass
Weekday Masses	Other By Appointment
Wednesday 9:00am	Holy Hour Adoration
Friday 9:00am	Wednesday After Mass



Parish Leadership

Father J Friedel

Pastor

417-334-2928 ext 105

FrJFriedel@ollbranson.com

Father Johnny M. Augusthy

Associate Pastor

417-334-2928 X 101

johnyvc@dioscrg.org

Father Dhaneesh Thomas

Associate Pastor

417-334-2928

Dhaneesh@dioscrg.org

Dcn Daniel Vaughn

Parish Administrator

Pastoral Associate

417-546-5208 or 812-204-2625

DcnDanVaughn@gmail.com

Mike Rivera

Bulletin

mikerivera@ollbranson.com

Nancy Loughner

Office Associate

Marilyn Guy

Financial Administrator

Barbara Peterson

PCCW President

Chris Gillen

Parish Pastoral Council President

Laura Cairns

Music Ministry

Buck Hartley

Grand Knight Council 7680

HOUSE



“In my Father’s house
there are many
dwelling places.”

JOHN 14:2

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

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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			
4/28/2026			
	Last Week	Month To Date	Budget for Month
		April	April
Regular Collections:			
Envelopes	\$730.00	\$7,952.50	\$7,500.00
Plate (loose)	81.00	840.00	1,000.00
Maint. & Repair Fund	161.00	2,674.00	2,800.00
Total	\$ 972.00	\$ 11,466.50	\$ 11,300.00
Operating Expenses:			
Salary & Benefits	2,304.71	5,656.52	5,526.00
Maintenance	21.49	372.78	1,195.00
Telephone & Utilities		4,702.03	1,991.00
Insurance		800.00	800.00
Other Expenses	179.19	822.13	1,126.00
Total	\$ 2,505.39	\$ 12,353.46	\$ 10,638.00




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, Mary Little and Eric Peterson.

For family & friends: Sandy Schumacher's brother, Kirk and niece Lisa, Carolyn Townsend's husband Bud, Patt Strom's niece Shannon and granddaughter Jennifer, Carla Schmitz's brother in-law Roger, Donna Covelli's niece, Brianne Trenado, Marilyn Guy's sister, Rosemary Pawloski, and Ann Forster's daughter, Susan Wright, and Leslie Floyd friend of James & JoAnn Roach.

Prayers for restored health and successful medical treatment.

For our homebound, including those in care facilities: Janice Elledge, Ann Forster, Leonard Gross, Mary Lamp, Trini Scholefield, Joyce Stenger and Norma McCoy Harris.



Rosary Leader

5/3 Jake
 5/6 Charlene
 5/8 Marilyn
 5/10 Barbara
 5/13 unassigned
 5/15 Buck

Parish Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event
Sun 5/3		2026 Diocesan Development Drive begins
Sun 5/3	9:45 am	PSR Faith Formation – Marian Devotion and the Rosary
Tue 5/5	7:00 pm	KofC Members' Benefits – Online Zoom presentation
Wed 5/6	9:35 am	Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hour
Wed 5/6	10:00am	PCCW Meeting
Mon 5/10	9:35 am	KofC Mother's Day Breakfast (free to all our motherly women)
Wed 5/13	9:35 am	No Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hour – Deacon away
Thu 5/14	6:30 pm	KofC Council 7680 Mtg, Rosary at 6:10 om

Check each week for updates as things do change.

Date	Mass Intention	Lectors	Gift Bear
Sun 5/3	Wilma Guy+	Dennis / Toni	Debbie Philpot, Vickie Ploshay, & Janet Johnson
Wed 5/6	Shirley Lang +	Kay	
Fri 5/8	Living and Deceased + members of Schumacher family.	Marilyn	
Sun 5/10	Parish Family	Tom / Carla	Dennis and Marcia Franko
Wed 5/13	Theo Strom +	Charlene	
Fri 5/15	Marvin Schmitz +	Nancy	

The first Thursday
of May is the
**NATIONAL DAY
OF PRAYER.**

This is a great
reminder to pray
for our nation, our
leaders, our media,
and each other!



**On this National Day of Prayer,
we join our hearts with believers
across our nation, lifting our voices
to God in unity.**

**Inspired by King David's prayer
of thanksgiving in 1 Chronicles 16,
we come before the Lord with
gratitude, repentance, and hope
for our country.**

Heavenly Father, Creator of heaven and
earth, We come before You today with
humble hearts, grateful for the gift of life,
faith, and freedom.

Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Redeemer,
You are the Way, the Truth, and the Life.
We entrust our nation to Your Sacred
Heart.

Heal our divisions, guide our leaders,
and inspire us to walk in justice, mercy,
and truth.

Holy Spirit, Breath of God, Renew the face
of our land. Stir in us a deeper love for
You and for one another.
Strengthen families, protect the vulnerable,
and ignite in every heart a desire for
holiness.

Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church,
intercede for us before your Son.
Wrap our nation in your mantle of
protection and lead us ever closer to Jesus.

Lord, on this day of prayer,
we commit ourselves to be
instruments of Your peace.

May our words build up, not tear down;
may our actions reflect Your love;
and may our lives bear witness to the hope
we have in You.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.





Hey Deacon!

By Deacon Dan Vaughn

Entering the Quiet: The Sacred Gift of Silence at Mass

In my role as Pastoral Associate at Our Lady of the Ozarks, I arrive early at the parish in preparation for Holy Mass. The church is very peaceful and surreal before the busyness of the day. It is not too long before parishioners and visitors begin to arrive. Some people will greet one another and share fellowship in the gathering space. Others will head directly to the stillness of the worship space for quiet reflection. Others may pray a rosary, individually or with the congregation. Then five to eight minutes or so before the start of Mass, a transformation takes place. We enter a different kind of space, one shaped not by noise, activity, or conversation, but by **holy silence**.

The Church teaches that silence is an essential part of the Mass. It is not simply a pause between spoken parts; it is a ritual action in its own right. Silence prepares us to hear God's Word, to confess our sins honestly, to offer our intentions, and to receive the Eucharist with reverence. But this liturgical silence begins long before the opening hymn. It begins the moment we walk in and genuflect to the tabernacle.

When we enter the church quietly, we give ourselves the gift of preparation. We allow our hearts to settle. We let go of distractions. We remember why we are here. This quiet is not only for our own sake, but also an act of charity toward others. Our silence helps create an atmosphere where every person can pray, reflect, and prepare to encounter Christ.

The Roman Missal identifies several distinct silences during the Mass, each with its own purpose. During the Penitential Act, silence allows us to acknowledge our sins honestly. After the priest says, "Let us pray," a pause is required so the faithful can form their intentions. It is only then that the Collect (the Opening Prayer) can truly "collect" the prayers of the people. In the Liturgy of the Word, silence before the readings, after the readings, and after the homily allows the Word of God to be received and pondered. These are not empty spaces; they are moments when the Holy Spirit works quietly in the heart.

Two of the most profound silences occur during the Eucharistic Prayer and after Holy Communion. As the priest elevates the Host, the profound hush that falls over the congregation is an expression of awe and wonder. Words fail to express Christ's Real Presence. This silence is an act of communal adoration, a shared recognition that we are standing on holy ground. When we return to our pews after receiving the Eucharist, the silence becomes intensely intimate. It is the "quiet room" of the heart where the communicant hosts the Divine Guest. It is in this stillness, that the "still, small voice of God" can be heard.

In the modern age, many find silence uncomfortable. Yet, the Church persists in its use because it knows that God is the friend of silence. As St. Faustina once noted, "A talkative soul is empty inside." The beauty of silence in the Mass is that it refills that emptiness. It provides the necessary friction against the rush of the world, creating a sanctuary in time where we can truly hear the heartbeat of the Church. By embracing these quiet moments, we do not simply observe a ritual; we enter into a living mystery where, in the absence of sound, the fullness of God is revealed.



LECTOR TRAINING

All lectors and those who have expressed interest in being a lector are asked to attend the half-hour training on May 17th following Mass.

Please let Kay Gerken, 417.335.0271 know if you will not be able to attend or if you have any questions.



Knights Corner

Forsyth Council #7680



May 10th - KofC Mothers Day Breakfast

* Breakfast complementary to all Mothers

May 14th - KofC meeting

* Rosary at 6:10pm. All parishioners are invited to come and pray the Rosary with us. Business meeting at 6:30pm

May 31st - Rosary

* Knights will lead the Rosary at 8am Mass, come and join us.



Diocesan Development Fund
The Bishop's Annual Appeal kicks off this Sunday, May 3

What is the Diocesan Development Fund (DDF)?

The Bishop's Annual Appeal, our Diocesan Development Fund Campaign (DDF), is the annual campaign for the diocese and takes place the first weekend of May. The funds raised through the campaign advance our mission through a host of ministries that assist our families, our parishes, and every diocesan ministry in the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau.

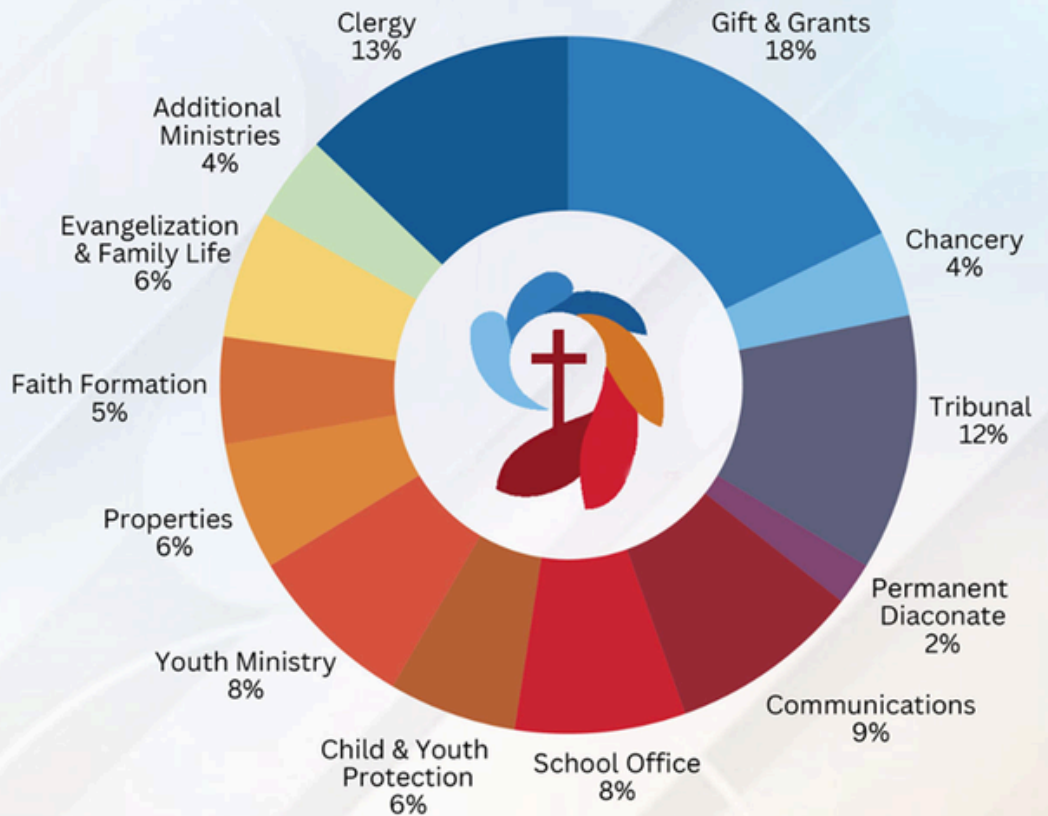
Our diocesan goal is approximately \$3 million. Our parish goal is \$15,645 -- the amount we gave last year. Our DDF chairs are George and Deena Patterson. This Sunday we will hear a brief testimony from Buck Hartley on how DDF is a win-win for our parish.

Diocesan DEVELOPMENT FUND

YEAR 2025-2026

How Funds are Utilized

Contributions to the Diocesan Development Fund directly support the ongoing operations of the Diocese, ensuring that 45 vital ministries continue to thrive. These ministries are managed through diocesan offices at The Catholic Center.



<https://dioscg.org/ddf-2026/>

Women's Day of Reflection

Join the women of Our Lady of the Ozarks

With Bishop Liebrecht and Lynn Melendez



Saturday, May 9, 2026

9 am to 3 pm

Bishop Liebrecht presents St. John Paul II, Mulieris Dignitatem "The Dignity and Vocation of Women" and

Lynn Melendez presents "I Am Not Equipped" based on the Gospel reading on feeding the 5000

Registration \$10.00 (includes lunch)

Deadline May 3rd

Contact Kay Gerken to register. Phone 417.335.0271 or Email: Kay@GerkenandAssociates.com. Make check payable to PCCW and mail to Kay Gerken, 480 Woodsong Lane, Branson, MO 65616

Donating online is easy!



Just aim your phone camera at the QR code and follow the link. Or go directly to -

<https://giving.myparishsoft.io/app/giving/WeShare-20001679?tab=home>

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Our Lady of the Ozarks
Parish Council of Catholic Women

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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

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