

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

FrJFriedel@ollbranson.com

Father Johny 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

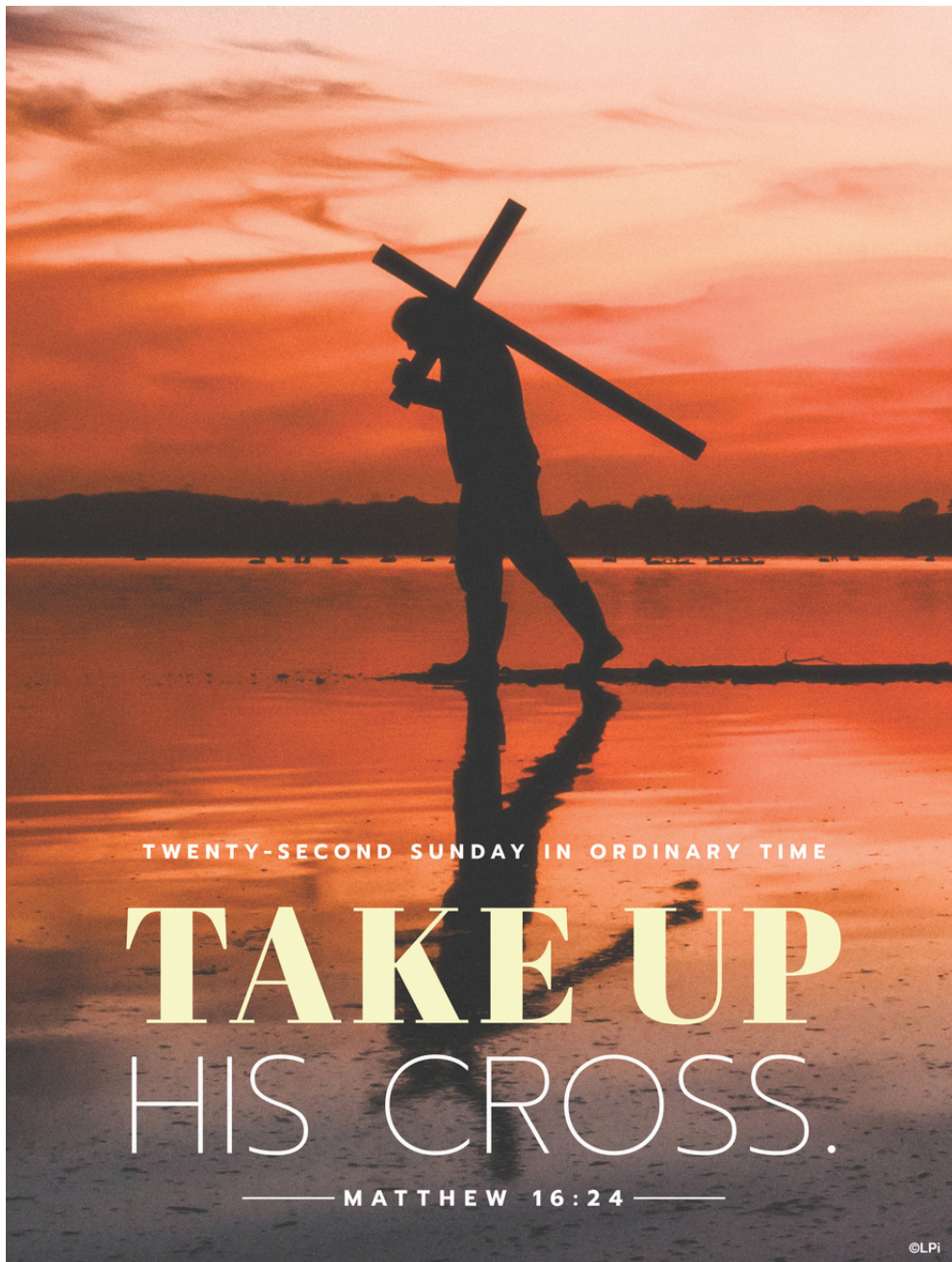
Parish Pastoral Council President

Laura Cairns

Music Ministry

Buck Hartley

Grand Knight Council 7680



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

8/28/2026

	Last Week	Month To Date	Budget for Month
Regular Collections:		August	August
Envelopes	\$3,972.00	\$8,531.00	\$7,840.00
Plate (loose)	165.00	843.00	1,000.00
Maint. & Repair Fund	1,095.00	3,549.00	2,930.00
Total	\$ 5,232.00	\$ 12,923.00	\$11,770.00
Operating Expenses:			
Salary & Benefits	2,375.61	5,664.61	6,608.00
Maintenance		2,020.58	1,410.00
Telephone & Utilities		1,787.96	2,032.00
Insurance		800.00	800.00
Other Expenses	503.19	1,367.20	891.00
Total	\$ 2,878.80	\$ 11,640.35	\$11,741.00

Diocesan Development Fund (DDF) Update

As of August 25, our parish family has pledged \$14,480 toward our \$15,645 goal (92 ½ %) from 45 households (88%) of our 51-household goal.



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 & Sharon Hickox, Mary Little, Norma McKee, and Delores Steinmetz.

For family & friends: Sandy Schumacher's brother, Kirk and niece Lisa, Bud Townsend - Carolyn's husband, Patt Strom's niece Shannon, granddaughter Jennifer, and daughter Patricia; Carla Schmitz's brother-in-law Roger, Donna Covelli's niece, Brianne Trenado, Marilyn Guy's sister, Rosemary Pawloski, Ann Forster's daughter, Susan Wright, JoAnn Roach's friend Leslie Floyd, Jackie Nieu Kirk's sister-in-law Diana Leonard, Pam Strunk's daughter, Crystal Harvey, Vickie Ploshay's brother Joe Ploshay, Dee Vincent, and Nancy Thomas' brother Tony.

For our homebound, including those in care facilities: Dorothy Althoff, Janice Elledge, Ann Forster, Leonard Gross, Mary Lamp, Fred & Verlene Matlage, Trini Scholefield, Joyce Stenger and Norma Harris.

Parish Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event
Sun 8/30	9:40 am	Parish Feast Day Brunch, Social & Bingo
Wed 9/2	9:30 am	Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hour
Wed 9/2	10:00 am	PCCW Meeting
Fri 9/4	9:35 am	First Friday After Mass Social
Sun 9/6	9:45 am	New Parishioners (last 12 months) – Follow-up Greeting and Q&A Social
Wed 9/9	9:30 am	No Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hour – Dcn. Dan at NADD Board Mtg.
Thu 9/10	6:30 pm	Knights Council #7680 Meeting, 6:10 pm Rosary
Fri 9/11	8:40 am	Rosary – 25th Anniversary of 911

Check each week for updates as things do change.

Date	Mass Intention	Lectors	Gift Bear
Sun 8/30	Phil Harter +	Dennis / Tom	The Knights of Columbus
Wed 9/2	Theo Strom +	Kathy	
Fri 9/4	First Fridat Deceased Souls+	Kay	
Sun 9/6	Marilyn Hein + and Marc Schoch+	Charlene / Carla	Marilyn Guy & Sandra Karthesier
Wed 9/9	Deceased members of Sakowicz Family +	Carla	
Fri 9/11	Dee Walton +	Marilyn	

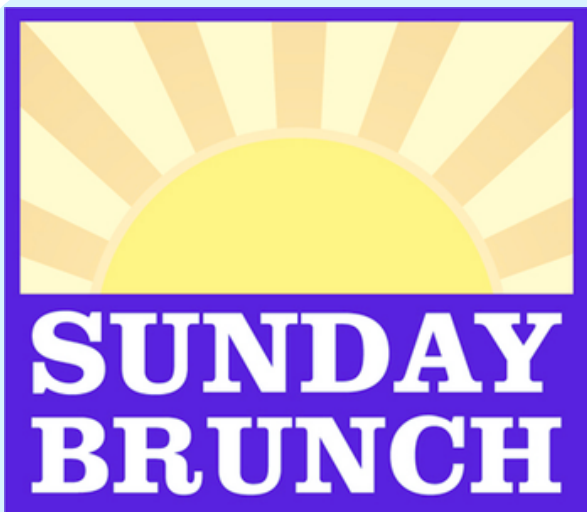
Knights Corner

Forsyth Council #7680



August KofC items :

- August 30th, The KofC will lead the Rosary at 8:00 am. before Mass, all parishioners are invited to come and pray the Rosary with us.
- September 10th, Rosary at 6:10pm, all parishioners are invited to come and pray the Rosary with us. Business meeting at 6:30pm.



**PARISH FEAST DAY
HOLY POTLUCK BRUNCH
today after Mass
FUN, FOOD, BINGO, DOOR
PRIZES**

The Rosary will be prayed on 1st Friday at 8:30 am for vocations.

Every Wednesday Mass the Rosary will be prayed at 8:30. All are invited.





Hey Deacon!

By Deacon Dan Vaughn

Our Spiritual Springboard: Highlighting 70 Years of Diocesan Blessings

To mark its 70th anniversary milestone, the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau recently hosted its first-ever Diocesan Eucharistic Congress at the West Plains Civic Center. Established on August 24, 1956, by Pope Pius XII, our diocese was carved from the St. Louis Archdiocese and Kansas City Diocese to serve the southern third of Missouri. Reflecting on this milestone celebration, Bishop Edward Rice called upon the faithful to join together, "so that we can truly be one church, east to west, united in the Eucharist."

Spanning 25,719 square miles across 39 counties, our unique diocese is anchored by two mother churches: the Cathedral of St. Agnes in Springfield (west) and St. Mary of the Annunciation Cathedral in Cape Girardeau (east). Living in a region where Catholics make up about 5% of the population, these seven decades have fostered a deeply tight-knit community known for local evangelization and strong ecumenical relationships.

The Legacy of Our Seven Shepherds

Our diocese has been uniquely nicknamed a spiritual "springboard" because its early leaders were repeatedly promoted to major global assignments. Over 70 years, these seven bishops have left profound, lasting marks on our history:

- Most Rev. Charles H. Helmsing (1956–1962) – As our first bishop, he built the initial diocesan infrastructure from scratch and dedicated his work to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
- Most Rev. Ignatius J. Strecker (1962–1969) – Guided the diocese through the historic renewals of Vatican II and established our first Parish Councils to empower lay leadership.
- Most Rev. William Baum (1970–1973) – Prioritized ecumenical dialogue before being named Archbishop of Washington, elevated to Cardinal, and helping draft the universal Catechism in Rome.
- Most Rev. Bernard Law (1973–1984) – Greatly expanded local ministries, social outreach, and established our diocesan newspaper, The Mirror, before being named Archbishop of Boston and later elevated to Cardinal.
- Most Rev. John J. Leibrecht (1984–2008) – Our beloved, longest-serving bishop guided us for 23 years. A passionate educator, he led national Catholic education initiatives and expanded parish facilities.
- Most Rev. James Vann Johnston, Jr. (2008–2015) – Focused heavily on spiritual preparation, local vocations, and a strategic plan to revitalize local Catholic identity.
- Most Rev. Edward M. Rice (2016–Present) – Our current bishop leads with a joyful focus on parish revitalization and priestly & religious vocations and called our historic Eucharistic Congress to anchor our people in the Real Presence.

Our Lady of the Ozarks: Roots in Forsyth

As our diocese grew, so did our own parish family. In the summer of 1963, local Catholics in Forsyth began celebrating the Eucharist in an empty storefront. Recognizing the need for a permanent home, the diocese purchased an abandoned feed store in 1964 and converted it into our first official church building. We expanded the original building in 1976, and Forsyth was officially raised from a mission to an independent parish in 1981. We moved into our beautiful present church and Marian Hall in early 2003.

Today, under the patronage of St. Rose Philippine Duchesne and Pope St. Pius X, our diocese serves over 65,000 Catholics across 66 parishes. As we look back on 70 years of diocesan blessings, we give thanks for the heroic priests, religious, and lay faithful, both across southern Missouri and right here in Forsyth, who built the vibrant community we enjoy today. May God continue to bless the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau and Our Lady of the Ozarks Parish. Happy Feast Day OLO!



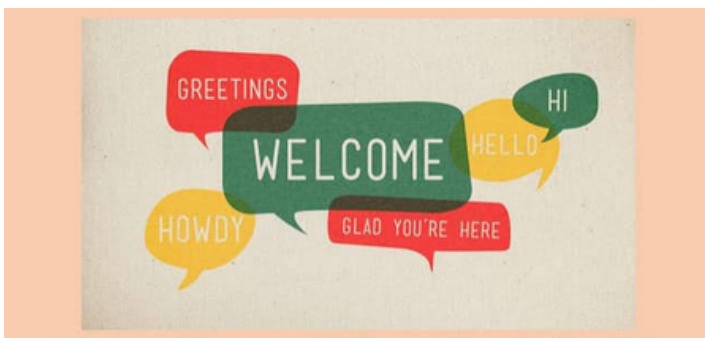
Parish Pastoral Council – New Members, New Evangelization, Fresh Directives

Deacon Dan is calling to order members of the Parish Pastoral Council for the 2026-2027 service year. Returning members are George and Deena Patterson (at-large), Donna Covelli (Welcoming), member of the PCCW, a member of the Knights Council, Jackie Nieu Kirk (Outreach), and a need of one more at-large member (open). BTW, all meetings are open.

We only met one time last year and Deacon Dan is on mission to make sure we meet four times a year, September, November, February, and April. We will meet during the day since that seems to work best. Thus, if you have a day job, you are lucky that you will not be badgered to serve. If you do wish to serve on the PPC, please reach out to Deacon Dan.

New Parishioners Meeting (since the Fall of 2025)

New Parishioner meeting is on Sunday September 6th after mass. Please stop in for a few minutes to give feedback on our welcome process and to let us know how we can help you. Also, we will answer any questions you may have related to parish life.



The Order of Christian Initiation Adults formerly R.C.I.A. Began last week, but it is never too late to enter the vineyard.

Do you have questions about the Catholic Church, the Catholic faith and Catholic way of life?

Are you wanting to know more but not sure what to do or who to ask? Or maybe you know someone that has expressed interest in learning more about our faith. An open invitation awaits acceptance.



Our Lady of the Ozarks will again team up with our big sister parish, Our Lady of the Lake in Branson, to discover the riches of the Catholic faith. The sessions began Tuesday, August 25. Sessions begin at 6:30 pm and go until 8:30 pm. (Fr. J is leading the first two sessions). If, this timeslot does not work with your schedule, reach out to Deacon Dan and he will work with you to develop a custom formation schedule here at Our Lady of the Ozarks. It is Fr. J's and Deacon Dan's desire to make our sessions convenient, meaningful, and fulfilling.

Virtues, Explained! Zeal

Zeal gets a bad rap these days, as we most often hear this word associated with extremists whose adherence to a belief system leads them to violence. In Scripture, we hear Paul condemn those whose “zeal for God” lacks discernment (Romans 10:2), so we know this was a problem in ancient times as well. But no one acting in violence or hatred is practicing virtuous zeal, which refers to an all-consuming love for the Lord: “Zeal for your house has consumed me,” writes the Psalmist (Psalm 69:10), referring to a religious devotion that has deprived him of all his worldly status.

If anyone’s “love” of God leads him to sin, he is not actually motivated by love of God. A burning and all-consuming love of God has, for its object, God Himself – and closeness with God is impeded by anything contrary to the teachings of Jesus Christ.

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Devotions, Explained! Imago Divina

Imago divina (Latin for “divine image”) is an extension of the ancient practice of lectio divina (“divine reading”). Imago divina is, in a sense, praying with one’s eyes, or using the medium of artwork to assist in lifting the mind to God. Believers have always connected with the divine through visual representations of faith. This can be seen in the frescoes that adorn the walls of the catacombs, in the glory of Rococo architecture, and in the stained glass windows of a simple country church. “Art is capable of making visible our need to go beyond what we see and it reveals our thirst for infinite beauty, for God,” said Pope Benedict in 2011.

In practicing imago divina, just like with lectio divina, the faithful “read” (or view), reflect, respond and rest with the image, inviting the Holy Spirit to move them accordingly.

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(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

To Carry the Cross

Carry the cross? Absolutely. I’m happy to! Hand it over. Here’s the thing: I just might...set it down for a second, from time to time. That’s okay, right?

How else am I supposed to have both hands free to gesture in anger? I can’t do that if I’m carrying the cross. Well, fine, then let me just shift its weight, so I can catch my breath and say what I think about this person who’s got it all wrong – I’ll just lean it against the wall here. No? Okay, fine, I won’t put it down! I’ll keep holding it. That’s better, actually. Then I can use it as a weapon.

What? Am I doing this “Christian” thing wrong?

“Whoever wishes to save his life will lose it,” Jesus tells us in today’s Gospel. “But whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”

This is not an affirmation of the paradox that if you no longer care about something, you can finally have it once and for all. It’s not a judgment about the worthlessness of life in this fallen world or the futility of trying to preserve that life.

It’s merely a statement about priorities.

When Peter says, “God forbid!” at the thought of suffering, God is not his priority. His own safety is.

When I say, “God forbid!” at anything that comes from the mouth of God, it’s a reminder to look at my hands – because they’ve probably put down the cross.

How merciful is our Lord – he never takes my cross from me, even when I walk far away from it. He always lets me pick it back up. In his dear and sweet goodness, he even helps me lift its weight. And he gestures, in case I’ve forgotten: “This way. Follow me.”



Red Cross Blood Drive

Forsyth's Elks Lodge

Friday, September 4 from 10 am – 2 pm

12951 US-160

Forsyth, MO 65653

Schedule a Blood, Platelet or Plasma Donation |

Walk-ins welcomed!

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



Register for the September Give 5 classes and spend your Tuesdays learning more about your community and discovering where your unique skills, talent, interests, and extra time can make a difference.

We meet at the Branson Chamber on Gretna.

September 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd.

8:30am to 3:30pm



To register -
Please use our QR Code
or use the website address below.

<https://www.ollbranson.com/give5>



Bins Available for your Rummage Sale Donations

Have items to donate to the rummage sale? Now is the time to start gathering and packing. Bins will be available in the entry way to Marian Hall for pick up. We will continue to restock bins if necessary until we run out. You can start to bring in your donations on September 20th.

PIE FILLING NEEDED

Marcia is once again ready to make pies for the bake sale. We could use extra PIE FILLING and are asking for donations of pie filling...can or two...apple, cherry blackberry, blueberry, peach, strawberry-rhubarb. (please no pumpkin or lemon as they do not hold up well without refrigeration). The "PIE FILLING Basket" will be in the Gathering Space... a huge THANK YOU!



Jewelry Donations for Rummage Sale

There is a "Treasure Chest" in the Gathering Space for any Jewelry you wish to donate to the rummage sale.



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Dan Guy, ENROLLED AGENT
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in you.

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FORSYTH



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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
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