



### THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD


**Pastor:**

Fr. Anthony Mersmann  
 pastor@sjolpe.org  
 Rectory: 620-475-3420

**Parish Office:**

Hours:  
 Wed. 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
 Fri. 9:00 am-Noon  
 PO Box 165, Olpe, KS 66865  
 620-475-3326  
 office@sjolpe.org

**Administrative Assistant:**

Diana Kuhlmann  
 diana@sjolpe.org  
 620-475-3784 or 620-794-1914

**Mass Schedule:**

Saturday - 5:00 pm  
 Sunday - 8:30 am  
 Wed., Thurs., & Fri. - 7:15 am  
 The rosary is recited before weekend Masses @  
 4:35 pm on Saturday evenings and 8:05 am on  
 Sunday mornings

**Confessions:**

Wed., Thurs., & Fri. - 6:30 am - 7:00 am  
 Saturday - 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm  
 Upon Request

**Adoration:**

Wednesdays: 8:00 am-7:00 pm in the Church

**Other Sacraments:**

Contact Parish Office

**Parish Contacts:**

Funeral Dinners: Linda Dieker, (620) 475-3567  
 Cemetery: Steve Redeker, (620) 475-3255  
 K of C: Danny Schneider, (620) 794-5889  
 Family Life: Kay Schmidt, (620) 475-3767  
 Outreach: Arlene Redeker, (620) 475-3414  
 Finance Council: Kevin Flott, (620) 412-3275  
 Pastoral Council: Kim Irwin, (620) 475-3295  
 Religious Ed: Lindsey Ratcliff, (214) 732-3813  
 St. Joseph School Endowment: Michael  
 Ratcliff, (620) 490-0388

**Sacristan 01/12/26 - 01/18/26**

Alan Nuessen

**Weekend Servers**

01/10: Maylee Ballinger, Daylen Ballinger  
 01/11: Isaac Arnold, Ava Rudolph,  
 Daniel Coughlin  
 01/17: Lilly Lienemann, Sarah Soyez  
 01/18: Augusta McGee, Sawyer McGee,  
 Bryer McGee  
 01/24: John Musick, Noah Nunley  
 01/25: Kaleb Arnold, Bryce Weeden,  
 Ace Dieker

Just a reminder that if your child is unable to  
 serve as scheduled, it is your responsibility to  
 find a replacement. Thank you very much for  
 your cooperation.

**Weekend Lectors/EMHCs**

01/10: LeAnn Eberle  
 01/11: Cass Coughlin  
 01/17: Lilly Skalsky  
 01/18: Shirley Langley  
 Barb Kuhlmann - EMHC  
 01/24: Jana Redeker  
 01/25: Lilly Skalsky


**St. Joseph Prayer List**

Collins Baldwin  
 Linda Barnard  
 Maya Bishop  
 Jeanette Reed Copeland  
 Vicki Dickson  
 Kauffman Dieker  
 Norman Geiger  
 Susan Haag  
 Sylvia Haag  
 Darren Heins  
 Kenneth Langley  
 Debbie Markowitz  
 Brian Martin  
 Sylvia Miller  
 Shea Mueting  
 James Nunley  
 Todd Orear  
 Twyla Owen  
 Olivia Pimpl  
 Mrs. Ken Redeker  
 Richard Scheve  
 Danny Schmidt  
 Jackie Schmidt  
 Greg Schonhardt  
 Mike Wecker  
 Clara Young

**United States Army:**

SGM Matthew S. Richter,  
 Sgt. Austin Burenheide,  
 Grant Fath,  
 Major Jacob Haag

**Marines:**

Lt. Col. James Bechtel

**Navy:**

Grace Coughlin

**Air Force:**

Megan DePauw

**Army National Guard:**

Sgt. Mason Harmon

Mass Intentions:

Sat. 01/10: 5:00 pm +Glen & Georgia Haag  
Sun. 01/11: 8:30 am For the Parish

Wed. 01/14: 7:15 pm +Charles Lutz  
Thurs. 01/15: 7:15 am +Louis & Bertha Trear  
Fri. 01/16: 7:15 am +Duane Schmidt  
Sat. 01/17: 5:00 pm +Jerry & Doris Redeker  
Sun. 01/18: 8:30 am For the Parish

What Goes Up Must Come Down!

Christmas decorations will be taken down THIS Sunday, January 11th, immediately following Mass. All helping hands are welcome and will be appreciated!



Knights' News



The Knights will be serving their warm biscuits and gravy breakfast **this** Sunday from 7:30 - 10:00 a.m. Please join us!

The next Knights of Columbus meeting is Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

The annual Stag is coming up on Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Stag tickets are now available for purchase. There is a limited number being sold so get yours before they're gone! For tickets, contact:

Ryan Arnold	785-410-0011
Les Barnhart	620-794-3943
Mike Cole	620-475-3285
Steve Kuhlmann	620-794-1915
Billy Redeker	620-341-3944
Doug Schmidt	620-343-0319
Danny Schneider	620-794-5889
Eric Schreiner	620-794-1921

- Danny Schneider,  
Grand Knight



The Cemetery Endowment Annual Meeting will be held at the Knights' Hall on Tuesday, February 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

Last Week's Collection:

Envelopes (25)	\$ 1,035.00
Plate	253.00
Capital Improvements	70.00
Solemnity of Mary	105.00
Christmas Offering	20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,483.00</b>



Hole-y Donuts

Next Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, donuts and beverages will be served in the Parish Life Center following Mass. Please plan to attend and enjoy a light breakfast and good fellowship.

Parish Life Center Lottery Tickets Update

You can still get the 2026-2027 lottery tickets by contacting Kim Irwin (520-237-5188) or the Parish Office. They are available for \$25 each! Please help spread the word to your family and friends.

They make great gifts for any occasion. The new season begins on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

THANK YOU to all who have been selling and/or purchasing tickets for the new season!

Thank You

How wonderful the Advent and Christmas seasons have been! While the Mass as the centerpiece is the most beautiful, the efforts expended to further enhance the liturgy through cleaning, decorating, speaking the Word, serving, singing, praying, and being present are very much appreciated! Thank you to everyone for every way you contributed. May God continue to bless our parish family in the new year.



The Advent season has come and gone. Your gifts of diapers and formula have been delivered to Shiloh House of Hope. We hope you know how much you are appreciated by the clients who come in on Monday through Thursday afternoons to shop for the items they need for their young children. Because of your generosity, we are usually able to supply what they need. So THANK YOU for your gifts! Sincerely,  
*Walking with Moms in Need*



# Around the Archdiocese

Retrouvaille helps couples heal and renew their hurting marriages. This program works to improve communication and help couples reconnect.

Retrouvaille presenters are not trained as marriage counselors, but rather couples sharing their personal stories of marital struggles and the tools they used to rediscover their love.

Retrouvaille's comprehensive 3-phase program has been a lifeline for hurting marriages. 48 years of success with marriages that are on the verge of divorce. 95% of couples recommend the program after completing the initial weekend and follow-up phases of the program.

January 23-25, 2026 - Registration closes Jan 21, 2026  
Questions? Call 816-679-4356 or email [Retrok@gmail.com](mailto:Retrok@gmail.com)  
Registration: [www.retrokc.com](http://www.retrokc.com)



**Retrouvaille**  
*Healing Marriage Weekend*




**9 Days for Life**  
*Novena*

Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life novena 9 Days for Life, Friday, January 16 – Saturday, January 24. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more by email or text message. Sign up at [9daysforlife.com](http://9daysforlife.com)!

## Christ's Peace House of Prayer

An Archdiocesan Retreat Center



This icon, "Blessed Silence," depicts Christ as a young, angelic messenger. His wings symbolize His divine mission as the eternal Word sent by the Father. The image reflects His first thirty years of hidden obedience and His abiding presence in sacred silence, inviting us to enter the stillness where God speaks in wisdom, prayer, and intimate encounter.

A sanctuary of peace to grow closer to God through prayer, reflection, and the beauty of His creation.

Nestled on 120 acres of rolling pastures and timberland, we are located just west of Leavenworth and one hour from Kansas City, Topeka and Lawrence.

Take time away in one of our cozy wooded cabins or peaceful guest rooms in the center.

### 2026 Retreat Schedule

February 20-22: Lenten Silent Retreat: Into the Desert  
March 27-29: Holy Week Silent Retreat: Behold the Man  
April 10-12: Into the Heart of Mercy  
May 29-31: Drawn into the Mystery: Praying with the Trinity  
June 26-28: Be Still and Know: Abiding in His Presence  
July 10-12: Fire Within: Kindled for Transforming Union  
August 14-16: Assumed into Glory: A Marian Consecration Retreat  
September 18-20: Journeying Toward God with Cardinal Newman  
October 16-18: Awakened to God: Responding to the Call  
November 6-8: Beyond the Veil: Rising from Grief to Hope  
December 4-6: Advent Silent Retreat: God Sent His Son  
January 8-10: Spiritual Reflection and Planning Retreat - 2027

**Suggested donation per night including meals:**  
Cabin/Courtyard Rooms: \$100 Single or \$150 Couples  
Single Guest Rooms/Hermitages: \$65  
*Reduced rates apply for two or more nights*

For more information, contact us at:  
[info@christspeace.com](mailto:info@christspeace.com) or call 913.773.8255  
22131 Meagher Road - Easton KS  
[www.christspeace.com](http://www.christspeace.com)

Scan the QR Code to Book a Private, Guided, Group or Sabbatical Retreat Today!





# Father's Corner



**From a Sermon by Saint Gregory of Nazianzus, bishop**

(Oratio 39 in Sancta Lumina, 14-16, 20: PG 36, 350-351, 354, 358-359)

## *The baptism of Christ*

Christ is bathed in light; let us also be bathed in light. Christ is baptized; let us also go down with him, and rise with him.

John is baptizing when Jesus draws near. Perhaps he comes to sanctify his baptizer; certainly he comes to bury sinful humanity in the waters. He comes to sanctify the Jordan for our sake and in readiness for us; he who is spirit and flesh comes to begin a new creation through the Spirit and water.

The Baptist protests; Jesus insists. Then John says: *I ought to be baptized by you*. He is the lamp in the presence of the sun, the voice in the presence of the Word, the friend in the presence of the Bridegroom, the greatest of all born of woman in the presence of the firstborn of all creation, the one who leapt in his mother's womb in the presence of him who was adored in the womb, the forerunner and future forerunner in the presence of him who has already come and is to come again. *I ought to be baptized by you*: we should also add, "and for you," for John is to be baptized in blood, washed clean like Peter, not only by the washing of his feet.

Jesus rises from the waters; the world rises with him. The heavens like Paradise with its flaming sword, closed by Adam for himself and his descendants, are rent open. The Spirit comes to him as to an equal, bearing witness to his Godhead. A voice bears witness to him from heaven, his place of origin. The Spirit descends in bodily form like the dove that so long ago announced the ending of the flood and so gives honor to the body that is one with God.

Today let us do honor to Christ's baptism and celebrate this feast in holiness. Be cleansed entirely and continue to be cleansed. Nothing gives such pleasure to God as the conversion and salvation of men, for whom his every word and every revelation exists. He wants you to become a living force for all mankind, lights shining in the world. You are to be radiant lights as you stand beside Christ, the great light, bathed in the glory of him who is the light of heaven. You are to enjoy more and more the pure and dazzling light of the Trinity, as now you have received—though not in its fullness—a ray of its splendor, proceeding from the one God, in Christ Jesus our Lord, to whom be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.