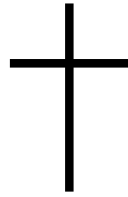


JANUARY 11, 2026

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

OUR LADY OF FATIMA  
CHRIST THE KING CHAPEL AT ULM



ST. LAWRENCE  
JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

“Four Churches. One Family. United in Mission. Rooted in Christ.”



He came up from the water and behold,  
the heavens were opened for him,  
and he saw the *Spirit of God*  
descending like a dove  
- Matthew 3:16

The  
*Baptism*  
of the Lord

A Family of Collaborating Parishes and Missions in Ouachita Parish

## Mass Schedule & Intentions:

### 11 Sunday | *Baptism of the Lord*

- OLF Sat, 4:30** + Gina Fontana  
+ Julius Fontana  
+ Angeleen Fontana  
+ Babing Tan
- JGS Sat, 4:30** + Vernita O'Pry  
+ Anita Castleberry  
+ Thurman Dickey  
+ Billy & Verna Young  
+ Stephen & Bernice Ducote
- OLF (Viet) 7:30a** For OLF Parishioners
- OLF 9:00a** For OLF Parishioners
- JGS 9:00a** + Leonard Nahlen
- SL 10:45a** + **Kath McIntosh**
- JGS 11:00a** + Sister Maria Smith
- JGS 5:00p** For JGS Parishioners
- CCM 7:30p** For ULM Students & Faculty

### 12 Monday

- JGS 5:30p** + Jay Rivers

### 13 Tuesday

- OLF 9:00a** + Gina Fontana  
+ Julius Fontana
- JGS 5:30p** + Johnny & Freddie Cascio & Family living and deceased  
+ Mary Duhon

### 14 Wednesday

- CCM 5:30p** For ULM Students & Faculty

### 15 Thursday

- OLF 8:30a** For OLF Students & Faculty
- JGS 5:30p** + Tommie M. Milam

### 16 Friday

- JGS 8:15a** + Mary Liberto
- OLF 6:00p** + Angeleen Fontana

Looking for readings?  
Visit [www.usccb.org/readings](http://www.usccb.org/readings)



## Sanctuary Candle:

January 11 - January 17

**JGS** In Memory of Sam Lasuzzo III  
From Claire Gray

## We Welcome All Visitors!

Thank you for worshipping with us today!  
If you want to learn more about our parish  
or have questions about the Catholic Faith,  
please email [NELAcatholics@gmail.com](mailto:NELAcatholics@gmail.com).

*We will be happy to answer your questions!*

**Welcome**

## Baptism of the Lord

*The Baptism that  
changed everything!*

Dear Friends:

At first glance, the readings for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord may seem to come from two different worlds: Peter preaching to a Roman centurion in the Acts of the Apostles, and John the Baptist baptizing Jesus in the Jordan River. But they belong together—and they tell one unified story. Cornelius was a Roman centurion, a Gentile, a pagan by Jewish standards.

When he invited Peter into his home, it broke a serious religious boundary. Jews were forbidden to enter pagan houses. Yet God intervened. Through a dream, God showed Peter that the Gospel was no longer meant only for the Jewish people but for the whole world. Peter then preached the first Christian sermon to Gentiles, boldly proclaiming what he now understood: “God shows no partiality.”

**That message mattered.** God began with Israel, but not for Israel alone. He chose a people so that the blessing might reach everyone. Even within Israel, God worked through individual prophets for the sake of the whole nation. In the same way, Peter’s ministry began with the Jews but expanded to the Gentiles, while Paul focused primarily on the Gentiles but never abandoned his own people. From the start, the Gospel was global.

What Peter preached to Cornelius was not an abstract philosophy. It wasn’t “God exists” or “be kind to others.” Those truths were already known. Peter preached something far more shocking: history. Real events. The life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. And that public life, Peter insists, began with John the Baptist.

That beginning was both small and mysterious. It didn’t happen in Rome or Jerusalem but in the Jordan River, outside a forgotten town. And it was mysterious because Jesus, who had no sin, submitted to a baptism meant for sinners. John resisted: “I need to be baptized by you.” Yet Jesus insisted. He stood in line with sinners. The sinless One chose solidarity with us. This humility wasn’t new. The Son of God had already become an infant for us, before that, an embryo. Later, He would wash feet and accept the Cross. It was all part of one plan: the greatest becoming the least so that the least could become great.

**When we are baptized, water cleanses us spiritually.  
But when Jesus was baptized, He changed the water itself.**

He made it the instrument of salvation. John’s baptism expressed repentance. Jesus’ Baptism gives the Holy Spirit. It removes original sin and places God’s own life within us.

That’s why Christians baptize infants. Baptism doesn’t wait for achievement; it gives a gift. It truly changes us. We can reject that life, but we cannot create it. Only God can.

And that should not surprise us.  
Because, here’s the real shock,  
**we’re not God.**

And that’s very good news.

*Fr. Peter*



## Making Ordinary Time EXTRAORDINARY

Ordinary Time may sound simple, but it is a powerful season of discipleship. During this season, Christ teaches us how to live the Gospel in everyday moments:

- At home, through patience, forgiveness, and love
- At work or school, by acting with integrity and kindness
- In our community, by serving others and living our faith openly

### FROM THE CATECHISM

**CCC 536** — “The Baptism of Jesus, on His part, was the acceptance and inauguration of His mission as God’s suffering Servant. He allows Himself to be numbered among sinners; He is already “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.” Already He is anticipating the “baptism” of His bloody death. Already He is coming to “fulfill all righteousness,” that is, He is submitting Himself entirely to His Father’s will: out of love He consents to this baptism of death for the remission of our sins. The Father’s voice responds to the Son’s acceptance, proclaiming His entire delight in His Son. The Spirit whom Jesus possessed in fullness from His conception comes to “rest on Him.” Jesus will be the source of the Spirit for all mankind. At His baptism “the heavens were opened” — the heavens that Adam’s sin had closed — and the waters were sanctified by the descent of Jesus and the Spirit, a prelude to the new creation.”

**CCC 1265** — “Baptism not only purifies from all sins, but also makes the neophyte ‘a new creature,’ an adopted son of God, who has become a ‘partaker of the divine nature,’ member of Christ and co-heir with Him, and a temple of the Holy Spirit.”

THIS IS MY  
BELOVED SON.  
MATTHEW 3:17

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent Him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?” Jesus said to him in reply, “Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then He allowed him. After Jesus was baptized, He came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon Him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

*Matthew 3:13-17*

## DEVOTIONS & SCRIPTURE STUDY

### Mondays

HS Girls Bible Study  
JGS 6:00p Youth Room

### Tuesdays

Men’s Bible Study — Deacon Tom  
JGS 6:30a Moore Hall  
Bible Study & Dinner  
OLF 6:00p Parish Hall

### Wednesdays

Women’s Bible Study — Elaine Elias  
JGS 1:00p Moore Hall

### Thursdays

Divine Mercy Chaplet  
JGS 4:45p Church  
Rosary  
JGS 5:00p Church  
Bible Study — Deacon Chris  
JGS 7:00p Zoom

### Fridays

Divine Mercy Chaplet (followed by  
Seven Sorrows Rosary on 1<sup>st</sup> Fridays)  
JGS 3:30p Tabernacle Area



## ADORATION

### EXPOSITION

#### Tuesday

JGS 6a-9p

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

SL 6-6:30p

#### Thursday

OLF 9:45a-12p

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Friday

OLF 6:30-7p



Church Open for personal prayer

#### Monday-Friday

JGS 8:30a-3:30p

# LORD, WE PRAY FOR:

## JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Jeff Albritton, Mary Ana, Gabriella Armstrong, John Baker, Judy Bell, Darlene Bergquist, Theresa Birden, Pat Blanchard, Pam Bratton, Travis Breard, Ginger Brown, Lana Caron, Donna Calhoun, Jane Calk, Anthony Canizaro, Tommy Canizaro, Jr., Brenda Carso, Elias "Eli" James Chase, Joyce Chase, Karmann Conlee, JoAnn Crone, Kitty Curry, Theresa Curry, Alison DeRouen, Charlotte Dickey, Gwen Dunn, Karen Embanato, Susan Erlemeier, Brian Fassett, Phyllis Fuller, Helen Geisler, Joan Gibb, Jordan Gibb, Faith Gremillion, Clint Guillory, Caiden Giovingo, Russ Givens, Catherine Gray, Louis Haas, Jane Hattaway, Philip Hayden, Beau Herlevic, Catherine Hightower, Tim Hudson, J. Michael Inzina, Lee Jacks, Debra Johnson, Jason M. Johnson, Diane Jones, Danette Keith, Jeri Kelly, Helen King, Mercer King, Melissa Kroper, Walter LaRose, Sr., Steve Lawrence, Michelle Lofton, Karen Luneau, Christian Makuch, Margaret Mansur, Ann May, Marley McClanahan, Ralph McCurdy, Bridget Tonore McFerrin, Raymond McKinney, Sr., Tobie McKown, Emma Medlin, Ed Miceli, Tommy Miceli, Connie Milam, Jerry Miller, Phyllis Monaco, Gloria Morgan, Larry Mullens, Ed Patrick, Russell Peterson, Dianna Petty, Joey Poland, Vada Powell, Charles Pritchard, Paula Pruett, Florine Robin, Lex & Lance Runk, William Ronquille, Pat Russell, Maggie Sewell, Cammi Shaffett, Mary Ann Sims, J. Randolph Smith, S.L. Southern Alpha Spence, Heather Talley, Doug Tarver, Bill Turnbough, Peggy Turnbough, Joan Vales, Marc VanDerKarr, Ken Teddy Varino, Lucy Wren Wilson, Quentin Wuerz, Mary Young

## OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Barbara Bryant, Shayne Carter, Mike Chambers, Frances Chisley, Hunter Joseph Day, Sally Ditta, Joey Ditta, Kay Faraci, Lauren Fontana, Nick D. Fontana, Alan Haney, Daniel Harris, Evelyn Horne, Do T.X. Huong, Norma Hutsell, Kim Johnston, Laurie Lay, Danny Lenard, Rowan Lenard, Teena Lenard, Joe Marsala, Tatiana McGary, Joselito Mercado, Martha Minten, Dr. Elnora Montgomery, Doyle Nelson, Maria Kimberlyle Nguyen, Su Nguyen, Pat Nichols, Nancy Pierron, Ed Ritter, Chuck Romano, Andrew Scurria, Janice Socha, Lou St. Amant, Keith Taylor, Mike Waterman, Linda Westbrooks, Elizabeth Williams, Melissa Winkler, Lucy Zaunbrecher

## ST. LAWRENCE

Verda Anders, Kent Bennett, James Brown, Ronnie Bryant, Dorothy Duncan, Jesse Fike, Jr., Betty Guillory, Laura Hardin, Maryellen Heidenreich, Felicia Jones, Dott Justice, Sarah Knick, Roger Lee, Jackson Murphy, Colby Neitz, Nadine Odom, Pat Oglesbee, Kay Patterson, Aimee Pfriemer, Paula Phillips, Edwin "Ed Popie" L. Ritter, Jr., Casey Sanders, Lana Seay, Shirley & Joe Slack, Beverly Henson Smith, William & Ann Wyatt

### Our Dearly Departed:

Leo Nelson, Carolyn Sandel, Connie Jungina, Gin Heflin, Merle Brennan, Warren Brennan, Anna Arthur, Sam Hightower

# SACRAMENTS

**Baptism:** Congratulations to our parents on the upcoming birth of your child. Call the Church Office at least three months before your baby's birth. We look forward to helping you and your godparents prepare for the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptism seminar is required.

**First Sacraments & Confirmation:** We joyfully support families as children prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. Preparation includes both catechesis and opportunities for spiritual growth, helping children encounter Christ more deeply through each sacrament.

**Matrimony:** We congratulate all of our newly engaged couples. Contact our office soon (at least six months prior to your desired wedding date). We look forward to helping you as you prepare to enter the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

**Vocations:** If you feel that you may be called to the priesthood or sisterhood, please call our office to schedule an appointment with Father Peter.

**Anointing of the Sick & Ministry to the Sick:** If you or your loved one is in a hospital, about to undergo surgery, or in a nursing home or homebound and would like to be visited or receive the sacraments, please call or email the church office to schedule.

**Funerals:** When death is imminent, or upon the death of a loved one, please make the church one of your first calls. We are here to support you.

## CONFESSION SCHEDULE

<b>Sunday</b>	
SL	11:45am
<b>Tuesday</b>	
JGS	4:00pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	
CCM	5:00pm
<b>Saturday</b>	
JGS	3:00pm
OLF	3:30pm

Or by appointment. Call the church office to schedule.

## FOR ALL PARISHIONERS OF OLF, SL, CCM, & JGS

### Baptism Seminar

JGS Moore Hall 6:30-8p  
• February 5

### Engaged Couples Weekend

JGS Parish Hall  
Fri 6-8:45p, Sat 9a-4p  
• February 6 & 7

Email [pa@jgschurch.org](mailto:pa@jgschurch.org) to register.



# NEWS & EVENTS

## JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

### Baptism Prep Class

Thursday, February 5, 6:30pm

### Bingo Every Third Thursday

Thursday, January 15, 11:00am

### Deacon Tom's Men's Bible Study

Tuesdays, 6:30am, Parlor Room

### Elaine's Bible Study

Wednesdays, 1:00pm, Parish Hall

### JGS SVDP Meals on Wheels

Saturday, January 31

### OCIA

Tuesdays, 6:30pm, Moore Hall

### Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meetings

Monday, 12:00pm, January 12



## CHRIST THE KING, ULM

### Game Night

Thursdays – 6:00pm

### Dollar Lunch

Thursdays – 11:00am-1:00pm



## OUR LADY OF FATIMA

### Altar Society

3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays, 5:30pm

### Bible Study & Dinner

Tuesdays – 6pm (Hall)

### Catholic Daughters of America

1<sup>st</sup> Mondays – 5:30pm (Hall)



## ST. LAWRENCE

### Adoration & Mass

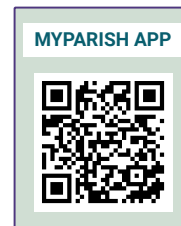
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays – 6pm & 6:30pm

### Knights of Columbus

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays – 6pm (Hall)

### Singles Group Lunch

Sundays, 12pm



STAY UP TO DATE:



[NELACatholics.org](http://NELACatholics.org)  
[Northeast Louisiana Catholics](https://www.facebook.com/NortheastLouisianaCatholics)

FOR BULLETIN INQUIRIES:

Contact:  
Jennifer Patterson  
Email:  
[PA@jgschurch.org](mailto:PA@jgschurch.org)

# LOOKING AHEAD

SAVE THE DATE

2026

FEBRUARY 18

Ash Wednesday

MARCH 29

Palm Sunday

APRIL 05

Easter Sunday



## ADULT FAITH FORMATION CORNER

GROW DEEPER IN YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Tuesday, January 13

6:30pm at JGS

The Sacraments of Marriage and Holy Orders | OCIA

Deacon Tom & Jo Ann Deal

Tuesday, January 20

6:30pm at JGS

The Sacrament of Confirmation

& The People of God | OCIA

Deacon Bill Goss

Tuesday, January 21

6:00pm at CCM

Exploring the Eucharistic Miracles of the World | AFF

Dr. Cheryl White

Tuesday, January 27

6:30pm at JGS

The Early Church & Church History | OCIA

Dr. Cheryl White

Tuesday, February 3

6:30pm at JGS

Christian Moral Living & Social Justice | OCIA

Deacon Chris Domingue & Kayla Hebert

Tuesday, February 10

6:30pm at JGS

A Consistent Ethic of Life & Social Justice | OCIA

Jarrad Faulk

Tuesday, February 17

6:30pm at JGS

Saying Yes to Jesus and Living Lent | OCIA

Delle Tyler

TO LEARN MORE SCAN HERE



NEWS & EVENTS

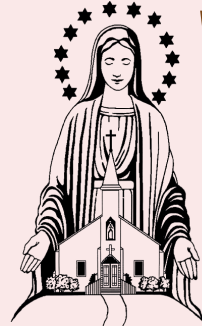
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Help beautify our church  
through the Flower Guild!

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318-450-5222 or  
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*Rekindle*



## WOMENS RETREAT

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## MEN'S ACTS RETREAT

FEBRUARY 19-22

**REGISTER  
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*Special Faith Formation*

# Exploring Eucharistic Miracles of the World

Wednesday, January 21  
ULM Catholic Campus Ministry  
911 University Ave | Monroe, LA

Mass 5:30 pm  
Presentation 6:00 pm  
by Dr. Cheryl White

## REGULAR COLLECTIONS

### OUR LADY OF FATIMA

	Actual	Budget	Overage (Shortage)
Dec 24-28	\$7,868	\$3,846	\$4,022
YTD	\$93,881	\$100,000	(\$6,119)

### ST. LAWRENCE

	Actual	Budget	Overage (Shortage)
Dec 21	\$1,328	\$1,567	(\$239)
YTD	\$47,440	\$39,175	\$8,265

### JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

	Actual	Budget	Overage (Shortage)
Dec 24-28			
YTD	Not available at time of print.		

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**January 17/18**  
**The Church in**  
**Latin America**

**January 31 & February 1**  
**Diocesan Catholic Schools**  
**Tuition Fund**

## GIVING

It is through your generosity that we are able to provide a comprehensive program of worship, faith formation, and evangelization. Thank you for your prayerful, intentional, and faithful donations.

### OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Make checks payable to Our Lady of Fatima.

### ST. LAWRENCE

Make checks payable to St. Lawrence Church.

### JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD



Scan QR code to give online.

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### CHRIST THE KING, ULM



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 olfmonroela.org

#### Christ the King Chapel at ULM

911 University Avenue, Monroe, LA 71203 |  
 318-343-4897 | ccm@ulm.edu  
 www.ulmccm.org



#### St. Lawrence Catholic Church

357 Swartz School Road, Monroe, LA, 71203  
 318-343-1618 | office.slcc.swartz@gmail.com

#### Jesus the Good Shepherd

2510 Emerson Street, Monroe, LA, 71201  
 318-325-7549 | receptionist@jgschurch.org  
 jgschurch.org

To contact Fr. Peter: Call 318-325-7549 or email pastoroffice@jgschurch.org

To contact Fr. Vu: Call 225-202-9087 or email Fr.Vu@jgschurch.org



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