

ST. MARY QUEEN OF ANGELS



415 South Windsor

Russell, KS 67665

Fr. Daryl Olmstead	405 S Lincoln	785-656-0336
Religious Ed/Parish Office	415 S Windsor	785-483-2871
Parish Center	415 S Windsor	785-483-2871
Office hours	8:30 am—12:30 pm Monday-Thursday	
Website Address	www.stmaryrussell.com	
Email:	smgoa@ruraltel.net	

PASTOR:

Fr. Daryl Olmstead

December 14, 2025

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Beverly Nichols, Chairperson, Dave Zachman, Vice Chairman,
Gail Ogle, Stacy Moore, Sarah Hurla, Mark Ptacek,
Tammi Buhrl, Nathan Myers, & Deb Strobel

FINANCE COUNCIL:

Dave Beagley, Chairman, Jane Cline, John Malone,
Jim Malone, & Mark Ptacek

COMMISSIONS:

Marge Schulte, Liturgy
Merlin Ney, Cemetery Board
Bruce Heier, Evangelization
Tammi Buhrl, Family Life/Christian Service
Beverly Nichols, Stewardship
Dave Zachman, Respect Life

CYO PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL:

Madi Wieger

PARISH STAFF:

Judy Larson—Administrative Assistant
Marcia Blundon—Bookkeeper
Bonita Ney—Religious Education Coordinator
Bruce Heier—Custodian
Curtis Sander--Music Coordinator

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Tues., Wed. 5:30 p.m.
Thurs., Fri. 7:30 a.m.

Holy Day

- as announced

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

We are happy to have you with us! Please call or stop by the parish office to register.

Welcome
To Our
Parish

SACRAMENTS:

Baptism—Personally contact the pastor prior to intended date.

Marriage—Personally contact the pastor at least six months prior to intended date.

Sick Calls/Anointing—Please call the parish office if someone is hospitalized or ill at home and would like us to visit with Holy Communion and/or the Sacrament of the Sick.

Reconciliation — Saturday — 4:30 p.m. or by appointment.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

With Christ as our model,
St. Mary, Queen of Angels Catholic Church
Strives to be a welcoming community of faith,
United in our diversity,
Guided by the Holy Spirit,
Nurtured by the sacraments,
Centered around the Eucharist,
And inspired by the gospel message.

We devote our time, talent and treasures to build the Kingdom of God.
We love and serve the Lord by serving one another.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 14TH, 2025

...more than a prophet. (Matthew 11:9) John the Baptist was a pivotal figure in the history of Israel. It had been five hundred long years since Malachi had issued his momentous prophecy concerning “the day of the Lord” (3:23). And when John came on the scene, many people recognized him as a prophet, a voice of hope-and perhaps even the fulfillment of that hope! They were so excited that they flocked to the desert to hear him and receive his baptism of repentance.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus makes it clear that John is even “more than a prophet” (Matthew 11:9). He is the final messenger, “Elijah,” the one who would return and prepare the way of the Lord (Malachi 3:1).

John’s appearance signaled a turning of the ages, the dawn of the long-awaited Messiah. We, too, are in our own turning of the ages as we await the coming of Jesus, our Messiah. So how can we make our hearts ready for him to come, both at Christmas and at the end of time?

One way, of course, is to confess our sins. But just as John was *more than a prophet*, God wants to do *more* for us than cleanse us of sin. He wants to go deeper into our hearts and heal our inner wounds and any attitudes that might be keeping us from fully welcoming Jesus.

For example, perhaps your life hasn’t turned out the way you envisioned, and you feel disappointed with God’s plan. Or you may blame the Lord for something bad that has happened in your life or for not answering a heartfelt prayer. Perhaps the burdens of life have weighed you down, and you’ve allowed yourself to become satisfied with superficial or rote prayer.

Whatever is burdening you, now is the time to cry out to the Lord for healing! He wants you to live in freedom, not under a cloud of grief or resentment or complacency. Remember John’s message: “The kingdom of heaven is at hand” (Matthew 3:2). God’s grace is at hand for you - today!

“Lord, search my heart and set me free!”

The Word Among Us

Date	Mass Intentions	Mass Readings
Saturday, December 13 - 5:30 p.m.	Maxine Scheck, Ann of B	Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10, James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11
Sunday, December 14 - 10:00 a.m.	For Our Parishioners	Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10, James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11
Monday, December 15	No Mass	Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a, Matthew 21:23-27
Tuesday, December 16 - 5:30 p.m.	Brad Yost	Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13, Matthew 21:28-32
Wednesday, December 17 - 5:30 p.m.	Candi Wagner, Ann of B	Genesis 49:2, 8-10, Matthew 1:1-17
Thursday, December 18 - 7:30 a.m.	Alan Vonfeldt	Jeremiah 23:5-8, Matthew 1:18-25
Friday, December 19 - 7:30 a.m.	Barb Scheck	Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a, Luke 1:5-25
Saturday, December 20 - 5:30 p.m.	For Our Parishioners	Isaiah 7:10-14, Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-24
Sunday, December 21 - 10:00 a.m.	Joann Malone, Ann of B	Isaiah 7:10-14, Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-24

Gorham Mass Schedule Sundays - 8:00 a.m. Christmas Eve - 4:00 p.m.  Prayer Requests Please pray for Leonard Hoch, Carol McAdoo, Florance Klein, Jim Vlcek, Judy Soukup (Kim Shumaker's mother) Helga Ziegler, Mary K Hurla (Andy Hurla's mother), George Sullivan (Tammy Ptacek's dad), Gary Flax, and all our friends and relatives who are ill or experiencing difficulties in their lives that they may know the healing presence of God. 		Stewardship of Treasure Contributions Weekend of December 6th, 7th and December 8th, 2025 <table><tr><td>Envelopes</td><td>\$ 1,706.00</td></tr><tr><td>Maintenance Fund</td><td>\$ 2,315.00</td></tr><tr><td>Loose Cash</td><td>\$ 357.00</td></tr><tr><td>Votive</td><td>\$ 108.00</td></tr><tr><td>Immaculate Conception</td><td>\$ 639.00</td></tr><tr><td>Online Giving</td><td>\$ 1,165.00</td></tr><tr><td>TOTAL DEPOSIT</td><td>\$6,290.00</td></tr><tr><td>CEMETERY</td><td>\$ 50.00</td></tr></table> QR Code for Online Giving 	Envelopes	\$ 1,706.00	Maintenance Fund	\$ 2,315.00	Loose Cash	\$ 357.00	Votive	\$ 108.00	Immaculate Conception	\$ 639.00	Online Giving	\$ 1,165.00	TOTAL DEPOSIT	\$6,290.00	CEMETERY	\$ 50.00
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Stewardship of Time and Talent

Liturgical Ministers	Saturday, December 20th - 5:30 p.m.	Sunday, December 21st- 10:00 a.m.
Hospitality/Ushers/Gifts	John & Rhonda Glassman	Gordon & Denise Dolechek
Lectors	Terri Middleton & Jeff Ochampaugh	Coleen Boxberger & Dave Zachman
Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Body: *Jim Malone & Keith Haberer Cup: Maureen Haberer, Melinda Cross & Cindy Balthazor	Body: *Dustin Dreher & Sherry Homeier Cup: Rich Krause, Tammy Krause & Yvonne Driscoll
Altar Servers	Sonya Orender & Madeleine Middleton	Peyton Sohm & Brooklyn Sohm
Organist/Instrumental/Cantors	Curtis Sander/Bonita Ney * Coleen Boxberger	Cheryl Seirer/Katy Hertel, Tegan Becker, Norah & Fiona Dreiling
Religious Ed. Teachers Preschool - First Grade	Sunday, December 14th Peyton Sohm & Tegan Becker	Sunday, December 21st Olivia Morgenstern & Morgan Finkenbinder
Counters	Sunday, December 14th Jon & Alice Quinday	Sunday, December 21st Steve & Luci Knopp
Liturgical Ministers	Wednesday, December 24th - 5:30 p.m. CHRISTMAS EVE	Thursday, December 25th- 10:00 a.m. MERRY CHRISTMAS
Hospitality/Ushers/Gifts	Volunteers	Cody & Rebecca Rogg Family
Lectors	Mike McGreevy & Linda Schulte	Melinda Cross & Cindy Balthazor
Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Body: *Melanie Banks & Deanna Myers Cup: Deb Bernard, Dan Bernard & Janna Norin	Body: *Alice Quinday Cup: Steve Knopp & Jon Quinday
Altar Servers	Bennett Myers, Steele Rogge & Colton Mullender	Damon Becker & Haven Becker
Organist/Instrumental/Cantors	Cheryl Seirer/Rachel Sipe	Curtis Sander/Craig Cline & Jim Malone
Religious Ed. Teachers Preschool - First Grade	Christmas Break	Christmas Break
Counters	Sunday, December 25th Glen & Marcia Blundon	Sunday, December 28th Gordon & Denise Dolechek

Birthday Wishes to:

Monday, December 15th Brooklyn McKenna & Patty Mead
 Tuesday, December 16th Ron Letsch & Peggy Norris (Happy 90th)
 Wednesday, December 17th Sharon Weigel
 Thursday, December 18th Sarah Hurla & Margaret Hertel
 Friday, December 19th Victor Lyczak
 Saturday, December 20th Tammi Buhrle & Cody Rogge



Anniversary Wishes to:

Friday, December 19th Mike & Sharon Weigel
 Saturday, December 20th Aaron & Linda Cole



2025-2026



Religious Education News

Dec. 17 7:15 p.m. -CCD Class
 Dec. 24 -NO CLASS - Merry Christmas
 Dec. 31 -NO CLASS - Happy New Year
 Jan. 7, 26 7:15 p.m. -CCD Class - CYO
 Jan 14, 26 7:15 p.m. -CCD Class

Advent Penance Service

Penance Service for ALL Parishioners will be on Sunday, December 14th at 3:00 p.m.

There will be several Priests here.

The Knights of Columbus will recite the rosary beginning at **9:40 a.m.** on **Sunday, Dec. 21st** before Mass.

Everyone is encouraged to participate.



Catholic Charities Mobile Outreach will be in Russell on **Thursday, December 18th from 9—10 a.m.** in St. Mary Queen of Angels parking lot.

NOTICE THE DATE (DAY) CHANGE Due To Christmas Holiday.

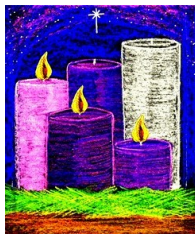
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

December 14	10:00 a.m.	-Rite of Acceptance within Mass
	3:00 pm.	- Penance Service
December 17	6:30 p.m.	-OCIA youth meeting
	7:15 p.m.	-OCIA adult meeting
	7:15 p.m.	-CCD classes
December 18	9-10 a.m.	-Catholic Charities in Parking Lot (Notice Day and Week Change in Dec)
December 21	9:40 a.m.	-Knights of Columbus Rosary
December 24	4:00 p.m.	-CHRISTMAS EVE Mass-Gorham
	5:30 p.m.	-CHRISTMAS EVE Mass-Russell
December 25	9:00 a.m.	-CHRISTMAS DAY Mass-Russell MERRY CHRISTMAS!
December 28	2-3:30 p.m.	-Sunday Services at Nursing Homes
December 30	6:15 p.m.	-Finance Council Meeting
December 31	4:00 p.m.	-New Years Eve Mass in Gorham
	5:30 p.m.	-New Years Eve Mass in Russell
January 1, 2026	9:00 a.m.	-New Years Mass in Russell -Happy New Years
January 2	7:30 a.m.	-First Friday Mass
	8:00 a.m.	-Adoration
	5:45 p.m.	-Benediction



Our prayers and sympathy to Christine and Todd Schoech, family and friends of James Zamrzla (Christine's father) who died on December 2nd, 2025.

The **3rd Week of Advent** in 2025 centers around Joy, known as Gaudete Sunday, falling on Sunday, **December 14, 2025**, when the pink candle is lit alongside the two purple candles; it's a time for rejoicing in the Lord's coming, with readings focusing on the signs of the Kingdom and the prophet John the Baptist, encouraging hope and active, joyful waiting.



With prayers and deepest
Sympathy

Our prayers and sympathy to Jeanie Munsch, family and friends of August Brock (Jeanie's brother) who died on December 6th, 2025.

YEAR END GIVING

Christmas and the Year End giving is not only a Catholic tradition, but Christmas marks the beginning of the ultimate Gift-God's gift of his only son, Jesus Christ. Christmas, of course, celebrates the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Tradition holds that the three kings or wise men followed the star to bring gifts to the newborn king, beginning a tradition of gift giving to the Christmas season we enjoy each and every year. Christmas and Year End is an opportunity to make a return to God of His many blessings including our material blessings.

Lighting: The main lighting system went out and has been replaced. Several lights and back up batteries are also being replaced.

Year End Giving

We appreciate your generosity in the past and would like to encourage you to continue your support, especially for the maintenance fund.



As we celebrate the **Rite of Acceptance** on **Sunday, December 14th**, as we welcome to our parish the following adults and youth.

Candidate

Monica Johnson
Bailey Mead
Amber Risher
Lucas Kenny
Megan Yarmer
Troy Yarmer
Trent Yarmer
Kinsey Zorn
Trey Zorn
Quintin Trevino

Sponsor

William Benson
Mary Mead
Austin McGamm
Cara Kenny
Jacki Blundon
Valarie Yarmer
Valarie Yarmer
Cassandra Dinkel
Marc Nichols
Nicole Dinkel

We also welcome **Miki Zorn** as she returns to the practice of her Catholic Faith.

Please remember all of these in your prayer today and the days ahead as they prepare to celebrate Easter Sacraments on **April 4, 2026**.



The Russell Knights of Columbus chose **Tim Scheck** as the **December Knight of the Month**.

Family of the Month is **Marc and Jessica Nichols**.

Please join us in congratulating Tim, Marc and Jessica in their Achievements.



Thank you for your service to the Knights of Columbus.



Thank you to all who visited the Knights of Columbus funnel cake trailer downtown for the Weihnachtsfest & Lighted Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 6th! The men working that evening included Bruce Heier, Gordon Dolechek, John Glassman, Glen Blundon, Vic Lyczak, John & Jim Malone, Andrew & Jeff Ochampaugh; they served hot chocolate along with 176 funnel cakes for a \$352 contribution to the Russell Food Pantry. The men of K of C Council 3034 thank you for your support of the funnel cake trailer throughout the year and wish everyone a blessed and Merry Christmas.



Please join us as we celebrate **Peggy Norris' 90th Birthday!**

Help us shower her with cards the week of December 15th.

Mail to: 869 E. 2nd St, Russell, KS 67665

Thank you! Lisa Wayne

We are getting quite a collection of dishes in the kitchen.

If you brought a dish to a funeral dinner or other event and you are missing your favorite cake pan or casserole dish check the collection in the kitchen, it might just be there.

