



Basilica of Saint Louis, King of France

THE OLD CATHEDRAL

FIRST CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER



FOUNDED IN 1770

PRESENT CHURCH DEDICATED IN 1834

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 8, 2026

PASTORAL STAFF

Archbishop of St. Louis
The Most Reverend
Mitchell T. Rozanski

Rector
Father Nicholas W. Smith
Director, Office of Sacred Worship

In Residence
Father Joseph Jiang

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses

5:30 PM (Sunday Vigil)
8:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 PM,
and 5:00 PM

Daily Masses

Monday through Friday
7:00 AM and 12:10 PM
Saturday - 7:00 AM

Live Stream Mass

7:00 AM Weekdays & 10:30 AM Sunday
Access live streams at oldcathedralstl.org

Devotions

Perpetual Help Devotions:
Tuesdays - 12:00 PM

SACRAMENTS

Confessions

Monday through Friday
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Saturday 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM

Marriage

Please arrange at least six months in
advance of the desired date.
To reserve a date, or for more
information, please contact
Tracy Marklein at 314-308-0091
tracymarklein@archstl.org

Baptisms

Sundays, following the 12:00 PM Mass
Please call 314-231-3250 to arrange

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 8

8:00 AM Mike Neubauer &
The Marilyn Wilda Family
10:30 AM Roland Croxton
(Live Streamed)
12:00 PM Loren Birnbaum
5:00 PM Parish Family

Monday, March 9

7:00 AM Roger & Deborah Wiersma
12:10 PM Cyndi Strube

Tuesday, March 10

7:00 AM Bobbie Lewis
12:10 PM Personal Intention of
Ronald Hirbe

Wednesday, March 11

7:00 AM The Ponciano Hernandez
Family
12:10 PM The Tremback Family

Thursday, March 12

7:00 AM Louis Eckelkamp III
12:10 PM Dave Schatz & Family

Friday, March 13

7:00 AM Lisa Actis
12:10 PM Jim Blum

Saturday, March 14

7:00 AM Nicholas Neubauer &
The Marilyn Wilda Family
5:30 PM Carol Filla

Sunday, March 15

8:00 AM Parish Family
10:30 AM Diane Vonhof
(Live Streamed)
12:00 PM John Abraham Johnson, Jr.
5:00 PM Lena Duffy

Basilica of Saint Louis, King of France

THE OLD CATHEDRAL

209 WALNUT STREET
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63102
314-231-3250

Email: oldcathedral@att.net

Website: oldcathedralstl.org



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 8, 2026

Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-15,
19b-26, 39a, 40-42
Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 42:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23
Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34
Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14
Next Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Eph 5:8-14/Jn
9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 8, 2026

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent
Monday: St. Frances of Rome, Religious
Tuesday: Lenten Weekday
Wednesday: Lenten Weekday
Thursday: Lenten Weekday
Friday: Lenten Weekday
Saturday: Lenten Weekday
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Lent



THANKS TO THE ACA
*for the many ways in which it
supports the works of the
Old Cathedral*

OLD CATHEDRAL WEEKLY GIVING

The Old Cathedral has long been
recognized as one of the most historic
and beautiful churches of its time.

Our parish is proud of its more than
240 year history as a vibrant
Roman Catholic Parish. Your
presence, prayer, and generous
kindness continue to make it so.

Your weekly donations
can be made by mail or in person,
or online at:

oldcathedralstl.org/give

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

Weekly Collection Thru 3/1/2026

Online Donations	\$ 6,476.00
Collection	\$ 1,185.00
Total	\$ 7,661.00



**Stations
OF THE CROSS**

**Every
Friday
During
Lent**
*After the
12:10pm
Mass*



OLD CATHEDRAL FIRST SUNDAY TOURS

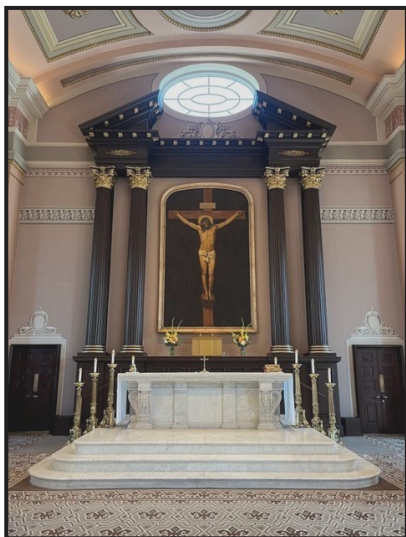
We are pleased to offer
Old Cathedral tours on the
first Sunday of the month
following the noon Mass.

Tour: May 3

April 5 Easter Sunday Tour Cancelled

For group tours of 10 or more
email oldcathedral@att.net
Please call for questions:
314-231-3250

MUSEUM HOURS
oldcathedralstl.org



FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Old Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors:

Is the Lord in our midst or not?

As much as we may be tempted to look back on the Israelites and wonder at their doubt in our first reading, if any of us have ever been truly thirsty, we will be moved to greater empathy for their plight. There are few things more troubling than not having enough water. We can go some amount of time without food, but water is a very urgent human need. And so, confronted with the horrific reality of being in a desert with no water, wondering if God has abandoned them no longer feels so surprising.

Our readings today invite us to grapple with moments we feel spiritually dry and begin to question God's providence. Especially in our modern context, we, too, are in a desert – not a physical but a spiritual one. We live in a world

where sources connecting us to that deeper, richer inner life can feel hard to notice, hard to get to, hard to find. Sometimes it can seem as though the number of people in our midst who are plagued by spiritual thirst is very high. And in these moments of suffering and longing and need, we may find ourselves asking the same question as the Israelites in our first reading: Is the Lord in our midst or not?

In this season of Lent, we are invited to bring our spiritual thirst to the Lord. We see in the Gospel that Jesus himself is the source of the living water that satisfies the spiritual thirsts in our lives. Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst, Jesus says. Just as God provided for the Israelites in the desert, so, too, he provides for us through his Son, Jesus, from whom blood and water poured as a fountain of grace. Here in this Mass, Jesus' self-offering on the cross becomes real and present to us. In the Eucharist, he continues to pour out his abundant life to refresh our souls.

But Jesus doesn't only give us himself. He also gives us the gift of his Spirit. Saint Paul reminds us that we will find our peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, and in the love of God [that] has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. When we receive the love of God through the Spirit, we are, to borrow a phrase from Pope Francis, "set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness" (Evangelii Gaudium, 1). Through the gift of the Spirit, we receive life-giving water in abundance.

Here in this sacred place, in this sacred time, let us acknowledge our thirst and our need for God. Let us not mask it or hide it with distractions or goods which cannot ultimately satisfy. We are invited today to bring our thirst to God and, like the Samaritan woman, simply ask: Lord, give me this water.

Just as the Lord was waiting for the woman at the well, Jesus will meet us here in our need and provide life-giving water for all our spiritual thirsts.

Blessings on your Lenten Season. Stay safe!

-Father Smith



Save the Date

Sunday, March 22 at 10:30am

Archdiocesan Bicentennial Mass

Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski

Archbishop Rozanski will celebrate our 10:30am Mass to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the diocese of St. Louis.

Cookies in the museum after Mass.

Lent is great for giving our witness

*The ability to give our witness
is a key skill in developing
an evangelizing mindset*

**Archbishop
Mitchell T. Rozanski**



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

One key skill in developing an evangelizing mindset is the ability to give one's witness. Several readings this week invite us to develop that skill.

The healing of Naaman by Elisha (2 Kings 5) invites us to give witness to the importance of place. Naaman is afflicted by leprosy. Elisha tells him to wash in the Jordan River. Naaman says, in effect: "No way! The rivers of Aram are just as good — or even better! What's so special about this place?" It's a cry we hear today, too: "Can't I pray anywhere? Why do I need to be in church?"

In the end, Elisha's reply wasn't an argument but a witness: Come and see. Our witness can be along the same lines: "Sure, you can pray anywhere. I do! Still, there's something different about being before the Blessed Sacrament. I'm not trying to win an argument here, I'm just telling you what my experience is: there's something different about that place." And there it is: You've given witness! And that witness plants a seed.

Azariah's prayer (Daniel 3) is an invitation to give witness in many ways. But I want to focus on something he says in that prayer: "Deliver us by your wonders, and bring glory to your name, O Lord."

The Lord did wonders for ancient Israel. The Lord did wonders for Azariah. What wonders has the Lord done in your life? Do you have one of those "only God could have done this" moments in your life? If you can share one of those, that's giving witness. And that witness plants a seed.

Jesus asks us to give witness to the power of forgiveness. In response to Peter's question — "How often must I forgive my brother?" — Jesus gives the parable of the unforgiving servant (Matthew 18). He concludes with a warning, but the warning is also an invitation: If you open your heart to forgive others, you also unlock the power of God's forgiveness toward you.

Let's be honest: Forgiving is not easy! But there's a joy and a freedom that comes from it. When we do the hard work of forgiving and experience the joy and freedom that follow, then we can give witness to the world: Outrage and vengeance aren't the only possibilities. The world needs someone to plant that seed!

Moses invited ancient Israel — and through them he invites us — to give witness to the joy of following the statutes and decrees of God's law: "Observe them carefully, for thus will you give evidence ... to the nations, who will hear of all these statutes and say, 'This great nation is truly a wise and intelligent people'" (Deuteronomy 4).

If we follow the teachings of Christ and the Church with resentment, that gives witness: "This is a drag. See how sad it makes us?" If we follow the teachings of Christ and the Church with joy, that gives a different kind of witness: "No, it's not easy. But it's so worth it! Look at the joy that comes — because we're not just 'following rules,' we're being conformed to the life of Christ."



OLD CATHEDRAL EASTER REMEMBRANCES

The beautiful flowers and plants that adorn our Cathedral are a special part of the celebration of Easter at the Basilica of Saint Louis, King of France.

We invite all parishioners and visitors to share in the experience by donating toward the cost of the flowers decorating the Cathedral throughout the Easter season.

Your name and the name of the person(s) being honored will be featured in the bulletin on Easter Sunday and the week following Easter.

**EASTER FLOWER REMEMBRANCES
\$10 EACH**

Wording as you wish it to appear in the bulletin:

Given by _____

Email _____ Phone (____) _____

Order Easter Remembrances as a memorial or in honor of someone special.

Name of person/family in whose memory, or in whose honor, you wish the Easter Remembrance to be dedicated.

In memory of _____ **OR In honor of** (those still living) _____

In memory of _____ **OR In honor of** (those still living) _____

In memory of _____ **OR In honor of** (those still living) _____

In memory of _____ **OR In honor of** (those still living) _____

In memory of _____ **OR In honor of** (those still living) _____

In memory of _____ **OR In honor of** (those still living) _____

TOTAL Number of Easter Remembrances _____ X \$10 Each = TOTAL Payment of \$ _____

ORDER DEADLINE: TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026

Please make checks payable to the Basilica of Saint Louis, King

2 Ways To Order Easter Remembrances

Completed forms and checks may be dropped into the offertory baskets and rectory mailbox

OR sent to: Basilica of Saint Louis, King

c/o Easter Remembrances, 209 Walnut Street, St. Louis, MO 63102