

OUR LADY QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE

Catholic Parish



September 13, 2026 — Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Call to Forgive

In today's Gospel, Peter asks Jesus a very human question: "*How many times must I forgive?*" He suggests seven times, thinking he is being generous. But Jesus responds with a number that has no limit—*seventy times seven times*. In other words, forgiveness is not about counting; it is about becoming like God. The **mercy of God** is limitless, and Jesus invites us to reflect that mercy in our relationships.

The parable of the unforgiving servant reveals the heart of the Gospel. We have been forgiven an immeasurable debt—our sins, our failures, our weaknesses. God has shown us compassion beyond measure. The **gift of forgiveness** we receive must become the forgiveness we offer. When we refuse to forgive, we close our hearts to the grace that God wants to pour into our lives.

But Jesus tells Peter today that we must forgive not seven times, but seventy times seven times. That means: every time. We are to be merciful as our Father in heaven is merciful. But why? Why does Jesus repeatedly warn that we can't expect forgiveness for our trespasses unless we're willing to forgive others their trespasses against us? Because, as Paul reminds us in today's Epistle, we are the Lord's. Each of us has been purchased by the blood of Christ shed for us on the Cross.

This week, the Church gives us two powerful feasts that illuminate this message.

On **September 14**, we celebrate the **Exaltation of the Holy Cross**. The Cross is the greatest sign of forgiveness. Jesus does not forgive us from a distance—He forgives us from the Cross, with open arms and a pierced heart. The **power of the Cross** reminds us that forgiveness is costly, but it is also life-giving.

On **September 15**, we honor **Our Lady of Sorrows**, who stood faithfully at the foot of the Cross. As we celebrate these feasts, may we allow the Cross and Mary's example to soften our hearts, heal old wounds, and make forgiveness possible.

Let us Pray: Lord Jesus, teach us to forgive as You forgive. Through the Holy Cross and the sorrows of Mary, heal our hearts and make us instruments of Your mercy. Amen.

With love and prayers, Fr. Charley

MASS SCHEDULE

Mass Schedule/Horario de Misas

Saturday/Sábado 5:00pm (Vigil)

Sunday/Domingo—8:00am & 10:00am

Rosary/Santo Rosario—Saturday/Sábado 4:30pm,

Sunday/Domingo 7:30am/9:25am

Weekday Mass Schedule/Horario Semanal de Misas

Tuesday/Martes; Wednesday/Miércoles; Thursday/Jueves &
Friday/Viernes—Chapel/La capilla

12 Noon/12 Mediodía Rosary/Santo Rosario—11:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confesiones

Saturday/Sábado - 3:30–4:30pm

First Friday-Healing Mass/Misa del primer viernes del mes — Misa de Sanación 12 pm/12 Mediodía

Exposition of the Holy Eucharist/Exposición del Santísimo
Sacramento 11:00am

First Saturday morning Mass/Misa del primer sábado del mes
8:00am

Adoration/Adoración Eucarística - 7:30am

WEEKLY READINGS

Weekly Readings can be found in the USCCB
bible@usccb.org

OLQU Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office regular hours are back to normal
Tuesday through Friday 9am to 3 pm.

Parishioner Photos

Thank you to all the parishioners who provided photos for use in the new parish directory. We are ready to return the photos to you; the loaned photos are available for pickup in the parish office.

Care Ministry

We need more Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for the sick and homebound. We are a team of 5, as well as 3 for Regency. It is a wonderful, meaningful and great blessing to be part of this ministry. If this is something you may be interested in for an hour or two once or twice a week or if you can fill in when needed, please pray about it. Training provided. Contact Susan Day at 978-877-2018, email her at susanday8704@gmail.com or contact the parish office.

The altar flowers are in memory of:

James Wise

By: The Harper Family



Altar Flowers may be donated in memory or in honor of a loved one, to mark a special occasion or simply to donate. Please contact the parish office at 256-852-0788 to schedule a date. The donation is \$150.

Wedding Anniversaries

Henry Lesesne & Beata Lesesne-Klosowska,
Joseph Marchalites & Carla Holder,
Richard & Janice Montelongo



Let us Pray for the Living and the Deceased

For the living:

Patricia Thomas, Mary Lou Zurowski, Paul Shea,
Helen Bill-Cash, Fred & Margaret Dorsey, Arthur Nussberger,
Carol Hall, Anthony Byrd, Martha Marsh, Frank Rodriques.

For the deceased:

Elizabeth Jones, sister-in-law of Damian Hochmuth, Cathy
Turner, sister of Kevin Turner



MASS INTENTIONS

If you wish to have a loved one remembered during the liturgy for any special occasion: a birthday, anniversary, get well, deceased etc. Contact the Parish office at 256-852-0788.

Sat.	Sept. 12	5:00PM	The Vu Family † Peter Tran †
Sun.	Sept. 13	8:00AM	Ed & Barbara Stluka †
		10:00AM	Enrique & Jill Ramos (I)
Tues.	Sept. 15	12:00PM	Wendy Stingel †
Wed.	Sept. 16	12:00PM	Ramona Viera †
Thurs.	Sept. 17	12:00PM	Francoise Moise †
Fri.	Sept. 18	12:00PM	Deacon Jim Bodine †
Sat.	Sept. 19	5:00PM	The Souls in Purgatory † Tom Heath †
Sun.	Sept 20	8:00AM	Ramona Rivers † Kenneth McGowan†
		10:00AM	John O'Brien † Alex & Justin Anderson (I)

Mass Intentions

We have daily dates available for those who wish to have a Mass requested for loved ones living or deceased. Contact the parish office at 256-852-0788. The stipend is \$10.00 per Mass and Mass Intention envelopes are on the tables in the Gathering Area..

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon. Sept 14	Monthly Chain Rosary	
Wed. Sept 16	Grief Ministry	12:45 pm
	St. Mary's Choir	6:30 pm
Thurs. Sept. 17	Charismatic Prayer Group	7:00 pm
Sun. Sept. 20	Vietnamese Mass	5:00 pm
Sun. Sept.27	Parish Picnic	12.00 pm

Funerals

Please contact the parish office before finalizing arrangements with the funeral home to make sure the day and time you want are available. The contact number is 256-852-0788.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

"Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matt. 19:14

MAGNIFIKID: the missalette is available for children ages 6—12 to use during the Mass and to take home afterward. It's found on the table by the center doors of the church.

"The Master Forgave Him"

The number seven is often mentioned in the Bible. It's the number that represents perfection. In today's Gospel, when Jesus tells Peter that he must forgive seventy-seven times, he is saying that we must always forgive without counting. In the Lord's prayer, forgiving others is the condition for our own forgiveness and it sets us free to love as God loves.

MagnifiKid! Vol. 23; Sept. 13, 2026; Pg.8-9.

PARENT NOTE: Young children, PreK thru 3rd grade, must be picked up from class at dismissal by a parent or family member.

Orientation: Sunday, Sept. 13th at 8:45 AM
We'll meet in Joy Hall after the 8 o'clock Mass.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults - O.C.I.A

Please join us if you or someone you know wants to:

- Learn more about the Catholic faith?
- Desire to be baptized?
- Complete First Holy Communion and/or Confirmation?
- Become Catholic from another Christian faith?

The process is designed to help participants make an informed decision and follow God's calling for their life.

Contact: Susan Turner at Susan@OLQU.org for more info.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

Saint John Paul II Catholic High School (JPPII) – A Special Journey Through Italy

Do you have a child in the 8th grade this year? Would you like to learn more about JPPII's mission of forming the whole student? If so, come visit our school on Tuesday, September 15, 2026 from 8:30 am to 10:45 am.

JPPII welcomes all current 8th-grade students and their parents/guardians to our **Future Falcon Day!**

JPPII welcomes all faiths. Various tuition assistance opportunities are offered.

Register online at <https://forms.gle/Yt7BgcrystwMsnV5A>.

Contact us at admissions2jp2falcons.org if you have any questions.

YOUTH MINISTRY * LITURGY MINISTRY * MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

Youth Ministry

Sun. September 27th
The Youth Group will organize a kickball game during the picnic.

Sun. October 25th
Education on the Rosary from 12:15 pm to 2:15 pm. Come learn about the Rosary with icebreakers, games, & crafts.

Youth Ministry Facilitators

The Youth Ministry is looking for Facilitators for Youth Group activities. The youth group meets once a month on the fourth Sunday after Religious Education. If you are interested in helping to facilitate activities and meetings for our youth, please contact Mark Blackburn at mark@olqu.org or call the office at 256-852-0788 for consideration. Our youth are precious to us as a community and our future. We have the opportunity to provide a rich Catholic environment that guides them throughout their lives. This is our chance to be a part of the future of the Catholic Church.

Lessons and Carols

The Music Ministry is starting rehearsals for December's Lessons and Carols. Anyone interested in singing for this event is invited. We are looking for instruments and voices to help celebrate the Advent/Christmas Season. We will meet once a month for rehearsals on a Saturday leading up to Lessons and Carols on December 16. Please contact Mark for information.

MINISTRIES * NEWS * EVENTS

Bulletin

Reminder: The bulletin is printed on Thursdays. Please make sure any information you wish to have in the bulletin is in the parish office 10 days prior to the date you want your news to be published.

Baptism

Henry Hayes Bickett, son of William & Kelsey Bickett, was baptized on Sunday, September 6. His Godparent is Meredith Bickett.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

If you knit, crochet, sew or quilt and would like to join the OLQU Prayer Shawl Ministry please contact Donna at 256-852-0788. Also Fr. Charley wants baby blankets to give to recently baptized babies. We need "WHITE" yarn either 3 ply or 4ply. If you can help there is a basket in the Gathering Area for the yarn. Thank you to everyone who has donated white yarn.

OLQU Office Contact Information

Reverend Charley Alookaran, Pastor

aocharley@olqu.org

Susan Turner, Director of Religious Education

susan@olqu.org

Shirley Bernal, Bookkeeper

bookkeeper@olqu.org

Juan Mark Blackburn SDS, Director of Music and Youth Ministry

mark@olqu.org | youthministry@olqu.org

Donna Pillarella, Parish Secretary

OLQU Parish Office Contact:

office@olqu.org / Telephone 256-852-0788

OLQU Parish Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Mission Statement: We, the Parish Family of Our Lady Queen of the Universe Catholic Church, through spiritual growth and service to others, seek to follow Mary's example of doing God's will by being a loving and open community centering on the Word, the Sacraments, and the Presence of Christ in our lives.

Councils, Commissions & Ministries

Ministry Coordinator: Eva Andrzejewski	256-430-3486
Finance Council: Fran Spinelli	256-830-4135
Adult Ed/Sacrament/OCIA: Susan Turner	256-852-0788
Agape Joy: Rafael Urrutia	915-227-9509
Altar Linens: Pat Spinelli	256-830-4135
Altar Servers: Jared Ebelhar	256-684-8385
Arts & Environment: Jill Ramos	256-585-4595
Baptism Preparation: Fr. Charley	256-852-0788
Building & Maintenance: Joe Andrzejewski	256-430-3486
Care Ministry: Susan Day	978-877-2018
Chain Rosary: David McClure	502-759-1939
Charismatic Prayer Group: Jeff Anderson	256-852-8734
Communications: Damian Hochmuth	256-890-1621
EMHC: Mark Blasckburn	256-852-0788
Fund Raising: Fran Spinelli	256-830-4135
Gardening: Marge Mullen	256-683-1663
Greeters: Jay Hammer	256-337-1016
Grief Ministry: Almareta Brislin	256-603-1213
IT & A/V Care: Jim Chaloupka	256-852-0788
Lawn Care: Orlando Herrera	256-990-7212
Lectors: Sybil Shearburn	256-679-7023
Life in Faith: Claudia McClure	256-337-6986
Marriage Preparation: Fr. Charley	256-852-0788
Loving Hands: Carol Lee	256-852-4095
Mass Coordinator: Pat Spinelli	256-830-4135
Men's Club: Roberto Ruiz	256-655-2509
Money Counters: Pat Spinelli	256-830-4135
Music Ministry: Mark Blackburn, Director	256-852-0788
Prayer Shawl: Donna Pillarella	256-852-0788
Regina Singles: Chad Bosch	256-698-2197
Religious Education: Susan Turner, Director	256-852-0788
Sacristans: Fr. Charley Alookaran	256-852-0788
Safety & Security: Kent Wieter	256-830-1183
Social: Orlando Herrera	256-990-7212
St. Andrew's Table: Joanna Acker	256-721-6922
St. Vincent de Paul: Luster Ingram	256-852-2899
Ushers: Jay Hammer	256-337-1016
Women's Group: Cindy Williams	256-509-7258
Youth Ministry: Mark Blackburn, Director	256-852-0788

"We will be the happiest people in the world if
we belong to God."
Mother Teresa

SOCIAL CONCERNS & FOOD PANTRY

St. SVdP

The pantry shelves are looking good! We have many needed items in stock and are truly grateful for your support! We need: canned peas, canned carrots, canned peas & carrots, canned mixed vegetables, soups, canned meats (Spam, chicken, Tuna, etc), jelly, Jello, pudding and cake mixes.

The pantry is open on Tuesday from 10 am—11:00 am.

Contact St. Vincent de Paul: help@olqusvdp.org.

General Information

Severe Weather When bad weather is forecasted for this area: icy roads, tornadoes etc, at a scheduled Mass time, please stay at home and be safe. Father Charley will close the church on these occasions.

OLQU Parish Registration Forms

We ask anyone who is new to the parish to fill out a form and join our parish family. We also request any parishioner who needs to update their family information, for example : cell phone numbers, no longer have a landline, a new residence or PO Box or a new member to your family, please take a form and give us updated information. We have many changes or disconnected phone numbers in our database. The forms are in the gathering area or come by the office.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

September 13	Building & Maintenance Fund
September 20	Seminarian Education Fund
	St. Vincent de Paul
September 27	Building Fund

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Weekly Estimated Expenses	\$	10,595.19
Weekly Collection Sept. 5/6	\$	6,851.50
Religious Education	\$	476.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	290.00
Building Fund	\$	112.00
Building & Maintenance	\$	260.00
Seminarian Education Fund	\$	215.00
Disaster Relief	\$	37.00
Assumption of Mary	\$	50.00