

St. Joseph Church

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From the Pastor's Pen...

Christ is Risen, Alleluia! He is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!

Many years ago, on a cool Wednesday morning, I got on the subway in a foreign city and was immediately met with a concerned look from a young woman. She pointed to her forehead and I realized she must have been asking about the smudge of ashes on my own brow. I began fumbling through my pocket French dictionary trying to figure out how to say “Ash Wednesday” in French. Before I could find the word for “ash” she simply smiled as she exclaimed “D'accord!” (“Okay!”) indicating that she understood! That was Ash Wednesday 2003. I was a seminarian on a personal pilgrimage in the French capital and I had just attended Mass and received the ashes at the legendary Cathedral of *Notre Dame* – probably the most famous of the fifty-nine cathedrals throughout France dedicated under the title of *Our Lady*, the Blessed Virgin Mary.

As I write this column, which you will read on Easter Sunday, I am saddened and shocked – with the rest of the world – to learn of the recent devastation wrought upon this iconic building by a fire of unknown origin (at the time of this writing). Still, as tragic as this new is, I think there is a profound message about the meaning of Easter in it! Please allow me to wander a bit on the connection:

From my earliest years, the gothic cathedral has always been an archetype of what I think I church should be! In many ways the structure itself – especially of Notre Dame – evokes a ship – the Barque of Peter – upon the waters of the world (the Cathedral actually sits upon an island (Isle de Cite) in the River Seine flowing through the French capital.). Like most medieval Cathedrals, Notre Dame took centuries to build, so also the Church of Christ – born from Jesus' pierced side upon Calvary, but developing through the ages to guide the faithful to her Divine Spouse even down to our own age. Like the Church, Notre Dame has witnessed ages of Faith, and ages of secularism. She has witnessed the holiness of devout kings like Louis IX and suffered through worldly – and even corrupt – churchmen concerned only for their personal advancement. In the mid-19th century, a major restoration of the Cathedral was spurred by her portrayal in Victor Hugo's popular novel, “*The Hunchback of Notre Dame*”. In Her time, the Church of Christ has seen revival and restoration after periods of apathy and even desecration.

Greek mythology tells the story of the Phoenix, a mystical bird which is known to re-generate from the ashes of its predecessor. It was one way the Greeks attempted to describe understand the concept of eternal life. In western civilization, the Phoenix has been adopted not only as a sign of hope in Eternal Life, but also as a symbol of the resilience of the human spirit. Though we don't subscribe to Greek mythology, we *may* find elements there which prefigure the Mystery of Our Lord's Resurrection – that Divine Mystery which is the reason for our Easter Celebration, which brings us back to that cool Paris morning sixteen years ago when I received the ashes as a sign of my own mortality and the call to repentance, and this within a large medieval church dedicated to the Mother of the One who has truly Risen from the grave. I don't pretend to know what good may come (or not) from the fire which devastated Notre Dame Cathedral during Holy Week 2019. I **do** know that the Church she symbolizes, the Church born from the Pierced Side of Jesus Christ, is called to share in the Eternal Life of her Divine Spouse. May the ashes of Paris' great cathedral lead us, members of Christ's Mystical Bride, not only to firm repentance, but to Joyful Hope in the power of His Resurrection, for we proclaim that **Christ is Risen, Alleluia! He is Risen, Indeed, Alleluia!** Happy Easter!

-Fr. Totton



Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

April 21, 2019

PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Joseph Totton

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PARISH SECRETARY

Penny Harrison

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

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Ed Fisher

Mike Roth

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HALL RENTAL

Call office at 816.473.2011 or

email:

stjosephchurch@centurytel.net

EASTER WEEK MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 8:00 a.m.

Tuesday -No Mass

CONFESSIONS

Sunday 7:30 a.m.

MISSION STATEMENT

We the members of Saint Joseph Catholic parish, will strive to be the reflection of Jesus in this particular time and place.



HE IS RISEN
alleluia

TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN: REPORT ABUSE

OMBUDSMAN: Jenifer Valenti – 816.812.2500

DIOCESAN VICTIM ADVOCATE: Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday-Easter Vigil April 20
8:00 p.m. For the People

Sunday-Easter Sunday April 21
8:00 a.m. James F. Rost†
by Carole Meade

Tuesday April 23
No Mass

Divine Mercy Sunday April 28
8:00 a.m. Fr. William Korte

Please remember in prayer those who have died.
Grant them eternal rest and peace, O Lord!
† Denotes Deceased

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

April 21- 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Wayne Weipert
Lectors: Doug Ottinger, Jim Ingle
Ministers: Marylou Euler, Wayne Weipert, Paul Pottier
Counters: Richard and Mary Ann LaFollette

April 28 Divine Mercy Sunday- 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Jim Ingle
Lectors: Scott Antle, Jay Pflugradt
Ministers: Wayne Weipert, Doug Ottinger, Paul Pottier
Counters: Richard and Mary Ann LaFollette

Weekend Collection - April 14, 2019

Envelopes: \$ 880.00
Plate: \$ 140.00
Hall rental \$ 100.00
Total Parish: \$ 1120.00

Fiscal Year Budget July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

April-to-Date: \$ 3,194.00
April Budget \$ 7,550.00
Year-to-Date: \$ 83,796.00
Year Budget: \$ 90,600.00

Thank You for your continued support of St. Joseph Parish.

Is your marriage going down the right road or is it a little off track?

Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage. Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers **hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer** ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. For more information about the upcoming Retrouvaille Weekend contact registration team: Local Telephone @ 800.470.2230 or visit our website: HelpOurMarriage.com.



Mark your Calendars

Parish Finance Council - TBA

Altar Society -Parish Hall after Donut Sunday—

Hand Linens -March/April: Nannette Wolford

Donut Sunday - May 5– Richard and Mary Ann LaFollette

Knights of Columbus Council #5067

Jay Pflugradt, Grand Knight
1st & 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m.
Rosary 3rd Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Recitation of Rosary

2nd Sunday of month beginning at 7:40 a.m.

Attend a FertilityCare™ System (Creighton Model)

Introductory Session!

Sessions are offered monthly at a variety of area locations and long distance. . This fulfills your marriage policy requirement, it's helpful for achieving and avoiding pregnancy, it has medical applications and it's better than IVF for infertility. Register online at www.fertilitycarekc.com, or call the

FertilityCare™ Center of Kansas City at

(816) 858- 0198.

Easter Opportunity...

to **Administer the Corporal Work of Mercy:**
Bury the dead and care for their resting places

Update: The presentation on the Lexington, MO cemeteries restoration and the mystery of the iron coffin will be presented by Don Coen (President of Machpelah Cemetery Association) at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 23, 2019.

To donate, checks made to the cemeteries can be made out to “**St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery**”. We ask donors that wish for their contributions to be used specifically for the Kessler Cemetery to note on the memo line of their check “**for Kessler Cemetery**”. Donations can be mailed to the following address:

*St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery
c/o St. Joseph Catholic Church
PO box 197
Easton, MO 64443*

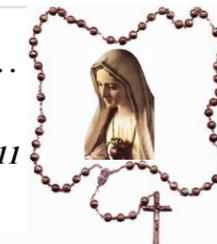


Prayer Corner

“To everything there is a season and time. .

for every purpose under heaven.”

—Ecc. 3-11



“...a time to heal. . .”

Ron Kretzer, Bob Everett, Mildred Ottinger, Lori Redmond, Nancy Totton, Bubba Miller, Amy Dobrowansky, the elderly and infirm, the chronically ill and their caregivers. For those who attend to the dying and grieving; for medical professionals and first responders; for the homeless, the lonely and those lost in this world; for those who harbor hatred and especially for those who have no one to pray for them. For those who suffer from wounds physically, emotionally and spiritually brought about from the abortion industry and its promoters.

“...a time to give thanks...”

For all blessings and graces received; for the miracles we see, and especially those we do not see; for life; for the gift of Faith and for the Church.

For our home bound parishioners:

Rosemary Ingle, Carolyn O’Brien, Josephine Jackson, Delores White, Eileen Grier, Brent LaFollette

Rachel’s Vineyard, a post-abortion healing ministry, has upcoming retreats in the Kansas City area in 2019.

May 5-6 July 26-28 October 25-27



For information, call 816-679-4973 or email rvkcmo@gmail.com.

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combating sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you *observe* or *suspect* sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected *sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult* to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Jenifer Valenti, at 816.812.2500 or JeniferValenti@att.net, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

Birthdays

Hubert Gregory April 22
Richard LaFollette April 22
Mel Clark April 26
John Huber April 26
Myles Adams April 27



Happy Birthdays!



DONUT SUNDAY

The 2019 Sign Up Sheet is on the back bulletin board.

Please sign up!

The Golden Anniversary Mass will be celebrated this year on Sunday, June 2 at 2:00 by Bishop Johnston at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. If you are celebrating 50 years of marriage this calendar year, 2019, and would like to be recognized, please call or email the office by May 23rd, and we will be in touch.

