

From Fr. Totton's Desk

Several years ago, after Mass where this Gospel passage was proclaimed, a parishioner stopped me and said that this parable *should* have been "an excellent opportunity for Jesus to encourage His disciples to share!" I was more than a little surprised at her boldness to presume to suggest that *Jesus* got it wrong! That's not to say that sharing isn't important - in fact, in multiple passages, the Lord encourages us to share, but that was clearly not the point He was trying to illustrate in *this* parable. Rather, He seems to emphasize the need to be vigilant, watchful, and the fact that each of us will be held responsible on a personal level, not merely as members of a collective group! The image of a lamp to be trimmed and maintained recalls the Light of Christ with which we are entrusted beginning at our Baptism. When you and I were baptized, we received a small candle, lit from the Easter Candle, with the exhortation: *Receive the Light of Christ, this light entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly, so that when the Lord comes, you might go out to meet Him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom.* The *Light of Christ* is the Grace given us so that we might share in God's very life! It's a gift freely given, but one which, if it is to remain burning, we must take care to maintain it. This is symbolized by the oil mentioned in the parable. When we are younger, our parents and godparents help to shield that light from the contrary winds of the culture, and from the wiles of the devil. As we grow older, and assume more responsibility for our own discipleship, we must implement safeguards: weekly Mass; a regular life of prayer; observance of the moral law; an authentic Christian discipleship on every front, to keep the flame of faith alive in our hearts. Sometimes, we are overwhelmed by the winds, or we neglect to see that our flask has extra oil, and the flame goes out, but even there, the Lord gives us the means of rekindling that fire through Sacramental Confession, and returning to His Love, even as we await His final coming. We can, *and we should*, rely upon the help of others to bolster us in our commitment to Christ, but at the end of the day, the Lord will call us, as individuals, to account for the Light He entrusted to us. When the Lord comes, may we go out to meet him, our lamps burning brightly, that He may welcome us into the Wedding Feast of the Heavenly Banquet.

Last weekend was Navy Reserve drill weekend, and the sailors at NOSC (Naval Operations Support Center) Kansas City welcomed a special guest, **Rear Admiral Scott Jerabek**, the flag sponsor of our center. At the end of his short session with chiefs and officers, Admiral Jerabek asked each of us to express his gratitude to our families for your sacrifice in allowing us to serve in the Navy Reserve. You are my family, and I realize that it represents a sacrifice to welcome (and learn the idiosyncrasies of) visiting priests while I am away. I wanted to be sure to convey the admiral's gratitude and add my own as well. Finally, on this veteran's day weekend, I would like to express my own gratitude to those who have served (or are currently serving) our nation in the defense of Freedom.

Next Sunday, November 19, St. Ann's Parish will be hosting the annual Plattsburg Community Thanksgiving service in conjunction with the Plattsburg Ministerial Alliance. This year we will be trying something different. We will gather at 5pm in St. Ann's Hall at 5pm for a potluck dinner immediately followed by an informal thanksgiving service in the hall. Even if you have not attended in the past, I would encourage you to join us if you are able. This is one of the few times during the year when the churches of Plattsburg gather together in a worshipful way. Since we are hosting, I hope we can provide a good turnout to welcome our neighbors.

Finally, for your planning purposes, I will celebrate Mass on Thanksgiving Morning, **Thursday, November 23 at 9am at St. Joseph Parish in Easton.** Last year I offered the Mass on Thanksgiving at St. Ann in Plattsburg. Since I cannot be in two places at one time, I hope to rotate this on an annual basis. I welcome parishioners from both parishes to join us for this special Mass.

Fr. Joseph W. Totton

Fr. Totton is asking to meet with all Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion on Saturday, November 18 after the 6pm Mass. Please plan to attend this meeting. If you will not be able to attend

Holiday Vendor and Craft Fair

Come visit us at St. Ann's Parish - Plattsburg

December 2nd from 10 am to 3 pm

Come and get a jump start on your holiday shopping at the Holiday Vendor and Craft Fair!

Over 20 booths will be there for you to purchase gifts for someone special (or for yourself).

St. Ann's Altar Society will be selling hot dogs, chili dogs, chips, cookies, brownies and drink.



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

Fr. Joseph Totton

Administrator

Mass Times

Saturday: 6 pm Sunday: 8 am
Confessions: 1/2 hr before Mass
Office 816-473-2011

P.O. Box 197

107 North Shortridge
Easton, MO 64443
816-294-9841 - Fr. Joe's cell

Mission Statement

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

Cemetery Board

Ed Fisher
Mike Roth
Steve White



The Parable Of The Ten Virgins

Matthew 25:1-13

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish & Finance Councils

Jim Adams
Stacy Brown
Jim Ingle
Rosalie Ingle
Tony Kauzlarich
Marge Kinney
Julie Moran
Dennis Ottinger
Jordan Roth
Mike Roth
Wayne Weipert

Email: stjosephchurch@centurytel.net
 Website: stjosepheaston.org
 Fr. Joe's email: fathertotton@gmail.com
 Office Manager: Marge Kinney
 Hall Rental: Marge Kinney

To Protect our Children:

To Report Abuse - Jenifer Valenti 816-812-2500
 Victims' Advocate - Kathleen Chastain 816-392-0011
chastain@diocesekcsj.org
 November 12, 2017



Ministry Schedule

November 12 - 8 am Mass

Greeter: Randy Moran

Lectors: Julie Moran & Jan Pottier

Ministers: Jim Ingle & Marylou Euler
Randy & Julie Moran

Counters: Randy and Julia Moran

November 19 - 8 am Mass

Greeter: Hubert Gregory

Lectors: Bonnie Gregory & Jim Barber

Ministers: Hubert Gregory, Wayne Weipert
Jim & Diane Barber

Counters: Richard & Mary Ann LaFollette

Mass Intentions



Saturday, Nov 11 + Chad Klein

By: Klein Family

Sunday, Nov 12 + Rollie Musser

By: Roxy Musser

Saturday, Nov 18 + Juanita Brown

By: Marge Kinney

Sunday, Nov 19 + John McLarney

By: Everett & Roth Families



BIRTHDAY

Carolyn O'Brien Nov 12th

Amber Kriley Nov 13th

Dylan Davidson Nov. 16th

ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations and Best Wishes Everyone!

November 11 is Veterans Day.

Let us remember our service men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedom, and thank our military and their families for their service.

Pray for God's strength and protection for all our Veterans.

Take time to thank a Veteran!



Mark your Calendars!

Parish & Finance Council: Jan 6 pm - Rectory
Altar Society: Parish Hall after Donut Sunday

Hand Linens: Nov/Dec: Jan Pottier

Donut Sunday: Dec 3 - Christmas Brunch - Altar Society

Knights of Columbus: 5067-1st & 3rd Thursday 7 pm

Rosary on 3rd Thursday 6:30 pm

Dan Morey, Grand Knight

Recitation of Rosary - 2nd weekend of the month
20 minutes before Mass



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 info.



Baptism October 28th

We are pleased to announce the Baptism of

Roper McCoy Edwards

&

Ruby Kate Edwards

Congratulations

Colton & Lindsey on the Baptism of your twins.

We welcome Roper & Ruby to our faith community at St. Joseph's.

Weekend Collection Nov 4 & 5, 2017

Envelopes: \$1,746 Plate: \$65 Holy Day: \$185

Fundraiser: \$5,266

Total Parish: \$7,262

2nd Collection: Dec 10 - Religious Retirement COLLECTIONS:

Nov To Date: \$ 7,262.00

Nov Budget: \$ 7,491.66

Year-To-Date: \$ 44,628.61

Year Budget: \$ 101,800.00

Thanksgiving Day Mass

Father Totton will be celebrating a Thanksgiving Day Mass on November 23rd at 9 am

St. Joseph Church - Easton.

Please plan on attending we have much to be thankful for!



Prayer Corner

"To everything there is a season and a time...for every purpose under Heaven." Ecc. 3-11

"...a time to heal..."

Jon Clark, Mildred Ottinger



BISCUITS AND GRAVY BREAKFAST

Thank you, thank you to all who came out and supported the Biscuits and Gravy Breakfast last Sunday for the benefit of St Joseph Cemetery.

We raised \$732 to help defray the costs of the resurfacing of the driveway.

Your generosity is overwhelming!

Mass Book open for 2018

"GIVE FROM THE HEART" 6th ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

\$14,293!!

You are an awesome parish community!

Our fundraiser goal was \$10,000 and we have surpassed it!

And the best part is we did with NO WORK!

This couldn't have been achieved without your help.

THANK YOU -- THANK YOU

Fr. Joe and the Parish and Finance Councils



2018 Annual Catholic Appeal

You should have received your invitation to participate in the 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) this past week. We have an opportunity to commit our support to diocesan programs and ministries that no one parish could provide on its own. Our theme,

"How can I make a return to the Lord for all the good He has done for me"

Appropriately recognizes our unity as the people of God to work together for the betterment of all. If you have not received your envelope there are pledge/donation envelopes in the pews. Please take one and fill out the pledge amount or your donation and mail.

Our goal is 100% participation.

No gift is too small.

Please join our effort.

Our parish goal is \$5,775

As of November 3rd our parish's pledged amount is \$1,250

