

From Fr. Totton's Desk

I have always been fascinated by the stories of Catholic converts - that is the means by which the Lord drew them into the fullness of the Faith in the Catholic Church. On occasion such stories involve a Catholic fiancée or spouse, sometimes they involve a child receiving Baptism or First Holy Communion, and sometimes, souls have been moved by the Hope of Eternal Life expressed by the Rite of Christian Burial. My overall favorite conversion story, however, involves three unlikely details: the military draft, boot camp and cigarettes! A good friend relates how, as a young man in the Vietnam era, he was subject to the draft, so he decided to enlist in the Marine Corps. Until that point, he had not been a member of any established church, though, like many of his contemporaries, he identified as "Christian". In boot camp the recruits were subject to rigorous conditions to prepare them for the challenge of combat - which was a near certainty for young Marines in those days. Sunday was the one day when they could spend a few hours in worship and classes in which they were not at the mercy of the drill instructor, *if* they chose to attend chapel services. My friend had gotten word that the Catholic chaplain allowed the recruits attending his instruction classes to smoke cigarettes and drink ("soda") pop. He reasoned that it might be nice to spend an hour or two in a more relaxed setting where he could smoke cigarettes and enjoy a cold pop, so he opted to attend Sunday Mass and the instructions offered by the Catholic chaplain. Reasoning that he would likely be sent into combat, and that he might meet his maker sooner rather than later, he thought he should probably make a spiritual commitment and he liked what he was learning about the Catholic Faith, so he elected to become Catholic before shipping out to Vietnam. His Catholic Faith became dearer to him than he ever imagined, and after the war, he continued to practice his new Faith which he eventually went on to share with his wife and their children (and grandchildren).

That story brought a smile to my face when I was a young seminarian, and I must have filed it away somewhere. My friend's witness, and that of many other veterans as well as active duty military personnel, has always inspired a certain sense of admiration for those who answer a call to serve our nation which is self-sacrificial, and not unlike the call to Christian discipleship. I have long felt called to serve our Lord while serving alongside men and women who have dedicated themselves to the service of our nation in the defense of freedom. For that reason, about a year ago, I approached Bishop Johnston to seek his permission that I might apply to become a chaplain in the Navy Reserve. After a period of prayerful discernment, he gave his blessing and I began the rather lengthy application process several months ago. On Monday I received word that I have been selected to become a chaplain in the Navy Reserve. Many have asked how this will affect my current assignment at St. Ann and St. Joseph Parishes. As a reservist, I will be required to complete some initial training. After that I will drill monthly with a local reserve unit (Navy or USMC) and attend annual training while continuing my civilian duties which include the administration of these two parishes. Periodic absences may require me to find substitute priests to cover Masses here from time to time, but I will continue to serve faithfully as your priest even as I seek to provide pastoral and sacramental care to those in uniform.

More details will follow as more information becomes available. In the meantime, please pray for all who serve our nation in the defense of freedom.

-Fr. Joseph Totton



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

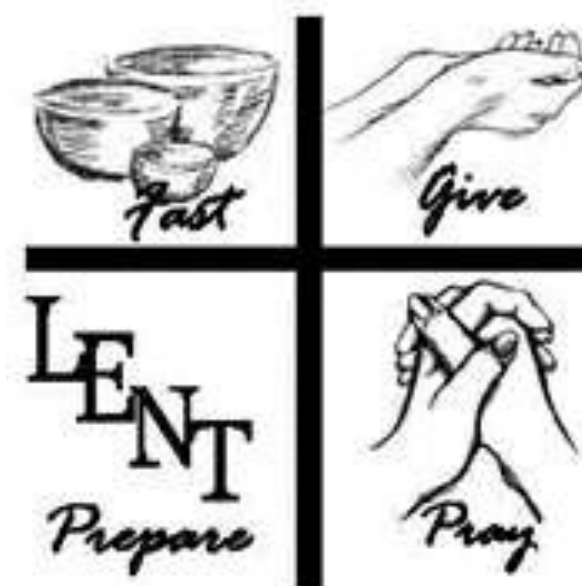
Fr. Joseph Totton
Administrator

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*

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*

4th Sunday of Lent

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
April 2, 2017

CALLING ALL VOICES

Christie Ottinger and Father Totton are looking to form a choir from both churches to sing

for the Holy Week Triduum at both churches.

Holy Thursday (St Ann, Plattsburg) , Good Friday (St. Joseph, Easton),
Easter Vigil (St. Ann, Plattsburg)

(you can come to all the services or only one or two - whatever fits your schedule)

If you are interested please e mail Christie at
cottinger@bishopleblondhs.com

All are welcome

Let's raise our voices in praise of our Lord!





Ministry Schedule

April 2- 8 am Mass

Greeter: Jim Ingle
Lectors: Scott Antle & Jim Barber
Ministers: Marylou Euler & Jim Ingle
 Jan & Paul Pottier
Counters: Tony Kauzlarich and Rudy Wolford

April 9 - 8 am Mass - Palm Sunday

Greeter: Randy Moran
Lectors: Doug Ottinger & Julie Moran
Ministers: Hubert Gregory & Doug Ottinger
 Randy & Julie Moran
Counters: Randy & Julie Moran

Mass Intentions



Saturday, April 1 + Dick Brennan

By: Steve & Pat Culver

Sunday, April 2 + Mary Carmichael

By: Ann Burton

Saturday, April 8 People of the Parish

By:

Sunday, April 9 + Robert Burton

By: Ann Burton



BIRTHDAY

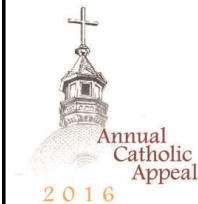
Jim Barber	April 3rd
Dennis Ottinger	April 6th
Jennifer Pflugrad	April 6th
Rudy Wolford	April 7th

Congratulations and Best Wishes Everyone!

Mark your Calendars!
Parish & Finance Council: May 6 pm - Rectory
Altar Society: Parish Hall after Donut Sunday
Hand Linens: March/April: Nannette Wolford
Donut Sunday: April 2 - Hubert & Bonnie Gregory
Knights of Columbus: 5067-1st & 3rd Thursday 7 pm
Rosary on 3rd Thursday 6:30 pm
Larry Tatro, Grand Knight
Recitation of Rosary - 2nd weekend of the month
20 minutes before Mass

SPRING CLEANING
 The Altar Society is having their annual spring cleaning of our church on
Saturday, April 8th beginning at 9 am.
 Bring your mops, buckets and a happy spirit.
 Easter is right around the corner!
 We need some men to help also!
 So plan on being here!

2017 Annual Catholic Appeal
 The diocese has received from our parish
\$5,390 from 34 families.
 Thank you for generous donations.



Weekend Collection March 25 & 26, 2017

Envelopes: \$1725 Plate: \$270 Mass Stipends: \$10
 2nd Collection - CRS: \$381 Hall Rental: \$100
 Rebate from Garbage Disposal Co.: \$58.05
 St Joseph Feast: \$475
Total Parish: \$3,019.05

2nd Collection: April 14 (Good Friday) - Holy Land COLLECTIONS:

March To Date: \$ 7,411.00
March Budget: \$ 7,191.52
Year-To-Date: 84,328.45
Year Budget: \$96,298.36

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



LENTEN FISH FRY

Knights of Columbus Council 5067 in St Joseph

will be having their Annual Fish Fry.

The fish fry will be held on all Fridays during Lent except Good Friday.

The Knights will start serving at 5 PM to 7:30 PM at their Council Hall, 1205 North 49th Terrace.

They will be serving a choice of:

Seafood Fettuccine Alfredo; Baked Fish; Fried Catfish.
 Their fabulous Cheesy potatoes, Cole Slaw and rolls.
 Tea and water will be provide with the meal.

Adult meal will be \$10.00 and children under 12 years old \$5.00.

For your convenience we are still offering drive thru pick up!!!!

If you have any questions or need directions please call [816-232-0321](tel:816-232-0321)

CATHOLIC CHARITIES KANSAS CITY- ST. JOSEPH

Dear Parishioners,
 We were pleased to receive your recent gift of \$344.75. Because of your gift to Catholic Charities of Kansas City - St. Joseph, we were able to fulfill our visions, *to transform a community as it empowers the vulnerable to lead lives of dignity and self-determination.*
 With your continued support, we can break the cycle of hopelessness and begin to guild a pathway our of poverty.
 We, and those we serve, greatly appreciate your generosity.
 God bless,
 Stephen Hilliard,
 Executive Director



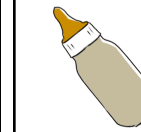
Prayer Corner
"To everything there is a season and a time...for every purpose under Heaven." Ecc. 3-11

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

Jon Clark, Barb Miller, Felicia Bober

For our Shut - Ins

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



PROTECT THE MIRACLE OF LIFE LENTEN PARISH CHALLENGE

If you haven't picked up your baby bottle or if you need another one they are in a container in the back of church.

We would like to have 100% participation!

Every time you add money to this little bottle, ask God how He would have you be a part of our outreach to bring hope and help to women and babies.

Thank you for helping St. Joseph Pregnancy Resource Center (PRC) protect the miracle of life.

In 2016 more than 165 babies were born to women who received their services.

Fill it with change, bills or checks and bring it back to church the weekend after Easter, April 22nd and 23rd.

If you need another bottle or didn't pick one up they are in the back of the church.



Season of Lent

During this Lenten season St. Ann's - Plattsburg will be having Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings at 6 pm.

Holy Thursday - St. Ann's Plattsburg - 7 pm

Good Friday - St Joseph's Easton - 7 pm

Easter Vigil - St. Ann's - 8 pm

Easter - St. Joseph's - 8 am

St. Ann's - 10 am

PURINA BASKETS ARE IN!!

Get your tickets at Donut Sunday today!
 Baskets will be on display in the hall today and after Easter they will be displayed in church until drawing on May 7th.
 More info next week.

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.