

In some cultures, the exchange of Christmas gifts happens on January 6, the Epiphany, rather than on December 25. This is done as a remembrance of the gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh; brought by the *Magi* who had come to pay homage to the new-born Christ Child. On the occasion of today’s feast, I would like to take the opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude for all the wonderful Christmas cards and gifts that I have received from parishioners over the past several weeks. They are a true reflection of the countless intangible blessings with which God has gifted me in entrusting me with ministry in such wonderful parishes.

There is a venerable custom on the Feast of the Epiphany of having one’s home blessed and marking the doors with blessed chalk. Unfortunately, I cannot personally bless each home, but I have blessed chalk and Holy Water for this purpose. Please feel free to take home a piece of chalk and gather as a family to pray for God’s blessing as you mark the (principal) doors of your own home according to the instructions below (If you would prefer not to write with chalk upon your plaster or woodwork, you may wish to chalk a piece of construction paper - black works best - and attach **that** to your interior lintel [or the wall above it]):

20 + C + M + B + 19

You may wish to repeat this process above the lintels of your interior doors—especially doors in common areas of the home. You may also sprinkle Holy Water throughout the house after you have chalked the door(s). The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi — **C**aspar, **M**elchior, and **B**althazar — who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase,

Christus Mansionem Benedicat:

“May Christ bless this house.” The “+” signs represent the cross, and the “20” at the beginning and the “19” at the end mark the year. Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request that Christ bless those homes so marked that he stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.

After the inscription has been made, make the sign of the cross. The following is recited out loud by a leader, preferably led by the father of the household:

Leader: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of His burial.

All: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for He has looked with favor on His lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is His Name. He has mercy on those who fear Him in every generation. He has shown the strength of His arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty. He has come to the help of His servant Israel for He has remembered His promise of mercy, the promise He made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever. Glory be to the Father, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

All: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of His burial.

Leader: We ask Your blessing, O Lord, almighty God, on our home so that in it there may be health, purity, victorious strength, humility, goodness and mildness, obedience to God's laws, and acts of thanks to God the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, and may this blessing remain upon this house, upon all who visit here and upon all who dwell in it. We ask this through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

(Note: The chalk, having been blessed, is now a sacramental and should be treated or disposed of with the same dignity as other objects that have been blessed such as a rosary, medal, etc. Unused chalk should be buried in the ground) - *Fr. Joseph Totton*



The Epiphany of the Lord

PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Joseph Totton
Phone: 816.294.9841
Email: fathertotton@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY

Penny Harrison

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Jim Adams
Jim Ingle
Rosalie Ingle
Tony Kauzlarich
Julie Moran
Jordan Roth
Mike Roth
Wayne Weipert
Michael Fisher

CEMETERY BOARD

Ed Fisher
Mike Roth
Steve White

HALL RENTAL

Call office at 816.473.2011 or
email:
stjosephchurch@centurytel.net

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 8:00 a.m.

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.

St. Joseph Church

P.O. Box 197—107 North Shortridge, Easton, MO 64443

Office Phone: 816.473.2011

Email: stjosephchurch@centurytel.net

Website: www.stjosepheaston.org

January 6, 2019



THE EPIPHANY of the Lord

“Since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel.” - Mt 2:6b

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

Sunday January 6
8:00 a.m. † Ron Neely (Requested by Roth Family)

Sunday January 13
8:00 a.m. Mary Curtis † by Nancy Roth

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

† Denotes Deceased

January Birthdays

Scott Antle January 8
Charlene Huber January 11
Brenda Cantrell January 13
Shawna Grier January 6



And Anniversaries

Steven and Rebekah McBlurg January 9
Michael and Victoria Kempf January 13

2019 Annual Catholic Appeal

We have an opportunity to commit our support to diocesan programs and ministries that no single parish could provide on its own. Our theme, “**The community of believers was of one heart and mind**” Acts 4:32, appropriately recognizes our unity as the people of God to work together for the betterment of all. Our goal is 100% participation. No gift is too small. Please join our efforts. The goal for St. Joseph’s parish is \$5,775. Our total so far is \$4155.00. Thank you for all your help and support of the 2019 Annual Catholic Appeal.

Parish Registration

If you are new to our Parish, we encourage you to register: Please introduce yourself to Fr. Totton after Mass, come to the Parish Office on Tuesday or Thursday, or log on to our Parish Website at: www.stjosepheaston.org and register.



The 2019 Sign Up Sheet is on the back bulletin board.
Please sign up!

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

January 6 - 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Jim Ingle
Lectors: Scott Antle, Jordan Roth
Ministers: Wayne Weipert, Jan Pottier, Paul Pottier
Counters: Tony Kauzlarich, Rudy Wolford

January 13 - 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Richard LaFollette
Lectors: Doug Ottinger, Jan Pottier
Ministers: Jim Ingle, Mary Lou Euler, Paul Pottier
Counters: Randy and Julie Moran

Weekend Collection - December 30, 2018 Christmas Collection– December 24, 2018

Envelopes: \$ 864.50
Plate: \$ 97.00
Mass stipends \$ 20.00
Building fund don. \$ 600.00
Book sales \$ 30.00
Total Parish: \$ 1,611.50

Holy Day/Christmas
Envelopes: \$760.00
Plate: \$793.00
Total Parish \$1553.00

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

December-to-Date: \$ 10,335.50
December Budget: \$ 7,550.00
Year-to-Date: \$ 60,213.50
Year Budget: \$ 90,600.00

LIGHT + LIFE: A JPPI FAMILY APOSTOLATE



Join us for a **Married Couples Retreat, March 22-24, 2019**, at Conception Abbey, 37174 State Highway VV, Conception, MO 64433. Discover anew your relationship with your spouse and Jesus! This retreat is a time for rest and

recommitment and is offered in a new, shorter retreat format with lower cost. More information and registration can be found at <https://kcsjfamily.org/light-life>.

Mark your Calendars—Parish Events

Parish & Finance Council
Tuesday, February 12 at 6 p.m. in Rectory

Altar Society
Parish Hall after Donut Sunday

Hand Linens
January/February: Jan Pottier

Donut Sunday - January 6
Nannette Wolford

Knights of Coumbus Council #5067
Jay Pflugardt, 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.

Cursillo Weekend



Every 6 months a 3-day Cursillo retreat takes place. Men and women in the parish are invited to take part. Several parishioners have made one and would be willing to sponsor a new member. If you want to find out about it please call Richard or Diane Hon 816.6823839.

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.



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 and those lost in this world; for those who harbor hatred and especially for those who have no one to pray for them.

For our homebound:

Lee Schwery, Levina Reuter, Msgr Bill Caldwell, Pauline Van Horn, Catherine Henley

Please notify the parish office of any new intentions or of any names that should be removed.

Bishop Johnston’s

Prayer Intention for this month:

“My January intention if for the homeless and those who have no immediate family to help them.”

Let us pray to the Lord...

Eucharistic Adoration at Good Shepherd Parish

Eucharistic Adoration Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament first and third Sundays of each month following 10:30 a.m. Mass, closing at Midnight. All are welcome. Please use the east door and ring the adoration doorbell and someone will let you in. 18601 N 169 Hwy, Smithville, MO 64089

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.