

From the Pastor’s Pen...

One of my first jobs was delivering the *Detroit Free Press*, the “*Motor City’s*” daily morning paper. I actually worked for my brother who owned the route (he was 11 - the minimum age required) but we shared the work, and the pay. Later, when I was in high school and college, I worked as a Delivery Driver for Pizza Hut. When I was first ordained, I made reference to both these jobs - When I was younger, I delivered the bad news of this world and now I deliver The Good News of Salvation; when I was younger I delivered comfort food (with little nutritional value) and now I am privileged to distribute the Living Bread, which came down from Heaven! I was reminded of this contrast by two recent news articles, one of them coming from an unlikely source, the other, a message of distress regardless of what channel it comes through.

The unlikely source of good news was ESPN - The premiere television channel for Sports which featured a piece on the story of Shelly Pennefather, one of the greatest women basketball players of all time, who renounced fame, wealth and notoriety to embrace the hidden and austere life of a Poor Clare Nun. To watch the video and read the entire article, you can access it at: https://www.espn.com/womens-college-basketball/story/_/id/27297631/happened-villanova-basketball-star-shelly-pennefather-made-deal-god The author, Elizabeth Merrill, does a beautiful job of telling a story which is difficult to understand even for most practicing Catholics. It’s a story about sacrifice and priorities, but it is ultimately a story about love! Sister Rose Marie of the Queen of Angels, as she is known in the cloister, fell in Love with Jesus and answered a call to become his spouse in a particularly deliberate way which challenges our view of what is important in this world.

The other news to which I refer has been reported by numerous media outlets - most of them specializing in Catholic or Christian news. It is the story of a Pew Research study which found that *less than 1/3 of self-proclaimed Catholics believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist*. To read the full report, you may access it at: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/08/05/transubstantiation-eucharist-u-s-catholics/> . What is probably most alarming about it is the fact that, even among those Catholics who *actually go to Mass each Sunday*, *1/3 of them DO NOT believe that Jesus is present, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Blessed Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist!* Furthermore, the study suggests that it is not for lack of teaching, for many of those who do not believe, are aware of what the Church teaches, and yet they do not believe it themselves! How did we get here? There is a latin phrase, “Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi” “the law of prayer is the law of belief.” *In other words: “how we pray impacts what we believe.”* How do we approach this august Mystery? It may ruffle a few feathers, but I will posit that belief in the Eucharist is significantly diminished by a casual approach to the Sacred Liturgy! If we believe that the Eucharist is Jesus and that Jesus is God, do we show it by our demeanor, by our dress, by our behavior in His Divine Presence? Do we reverently genuflect toward the tabernacle upon entering Church or do we awkwardly “curtsy” in the general direction of the altar or do nothing at all? Do we maintain a reverent, awe-filled silence before and after Mass or do we launch into mundane conversation as soon as the hymn is finished ? Do we decorate the church in a beautiful way which calls to mind the otherworldly nature of the sanctuary or do we try to make it as comfortable and commonplace (for ourselves) as the living room in our homes?

What did Ms. Pennefather discover that led her to forsake all the world had to offer – and the world offered her a lot! As I said, *she fell in love, and nothing else mattered! Her relationship with Jesus changed her whole life!* Most of us are not called to leave the world and join a cloistered, Poor Clare monastery. **Every one of us is invited into a relationship with Jesus—and the Eucharist is at the heart of that relationship!** May our conduct of that relationship take top priority in our lives. I have been blessed to hear the stories of many friends who are adult converts to the Catholic Church. What led them to the Church? Most of them tell me it is because they fell in love with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament; they longed to be fed by the Bread of Life! Is this your disposition? Or do you approach the altar, like so many, out of routine to “get” communion as if it were merely a participation medal or a party favor?

I would like to offer a word of encouragement to all who are reading this. If it has not been your practice until now, please consider taking the following steps to help restore Eucharistic wonder in your lives and in our Church. Begin receiving Holy Communion in the traditional manner whereby the priest places the host directly on your tongue. While the Church has allowed the faithful to receive Holy Communion in the hand, this exception was made under dubious conditions and, in my personal opinion, it has led to the diminishment in the belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. If you have the option and you are *physically able*, please consider kneeling to receive Holy Communion, as was done for centuries, a sign of reverence and homage due to our Divine Spouse. In any case, let us *never casually or mindlessly approach the altar as if we are doing something to please others, as if we don’t believe that God is present and that He comes to give himself to us in this most sublime gift.*

If you are among those who don’t believe what the Church teaches about Jesus’ Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist, you should refrain from presenting yourself for Holy Communion, set up a moment to speak with a priest and seek to resolve this serious inconsistency as soon as possible.

-Fr. Totton



St. Joseph Church

P.O. Box 197—107 North Shortridge, Easton, MO 64443
Office Phone: 816-473-2011

Please Note New Parish Email: stjosepheaston@gmail.com
Website: www.stjosepheaston.org

Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

August 18, 2019

PARISH PRIEST
Fr. Joseph Totton
Phone: 816-294-9841
Email: fathertotton@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY
Penny Harrison

HALL RENTAL
Contact **Mary Ann LaFollette**
816-294-6972
Lafollettes@aol.com

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

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.



The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary— feast day August 22

TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN: REPORT ABUSE
Diocesan OMBUDSMAN: 816.812.2500
DIOCESAN VICTIM ADVOCATE: Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday August 18
8:00 a.m. June O'Dell †
by the Pottier family

Tuesday August 20
7:00 a.m. Rosemary Ingle†

Sunday August 25
8:00 a.m. Louis Pottier †
by the Pottier family

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

Birthdays

Diane Barber August 18
Josephine Kriley August 23



The 11th Annual Partnering for Future Priests Dinner and Auction is coming up soon! This year's event will take place on **October 4th at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish** in St. Joseph.

The ticket price is \$50 per person with eight people to a table. We begin the evening with prayer and continue with a great evening of good food, great company and the opportunity to bid on one-of-a-kind items in silent and live auctions!

Donations for the auctions such as gift cards, crafts, quilts, and commitments for baked goods are being accepted at this time. We would also like your help by placing an ad to help promote your company, organization or parish in our program.

To donate and/or for questions please contact Hubert or Bonnie Gregory at 816-473-2016.

To register and pay securely online go to www.conception.edu/pfp.



WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

August 18 - 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Wayne Weipert
Lectors: Doug Ottinger, Jim Ingle
Ministers: Jan Pottier, Paul Pottier, Wayne Weipert
Counters: Richard and MaryAnn LaFollette

August 25- 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Jim Ingle
Lectors: Scott Antle, Jay Pflugradt
Ministers: Doug Ottinger, Paul Pottier, Wayne Weipert
Counters: Paul and Jan Pottier

Weekend Collection - August 11, 2019

Envelopes:	\$	1620
Plate:	\$	118
Hall rental	\$	100
Mass stipends	\$	30
Total Parish:	\$	1868

***Fiscal Year Budget July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020**

August-to-Date:	\$	2,993.00
August Budget	\$	7,900.00
Year-to-Date:	\$	8,037.00
Year Budget:	\$	94,720.00

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

Abortion Survivor and pro-life activist,

Gianna Jessen

will be in St. Joseph, Tuesday, September 10th

The Wonderfully Made dinner and program will be held at the World of Life Church, 3902 N. Riverside Road, St. Joseph, MO.

5:30-6:30 p.m. -dinner; suggested donation \$20

7:00 p.m. -Program begins

Table sponsorships available.

To RSVP go to www.stjosephprc.org/events/

Gianna Jessen, an American survivor of a failed saline abortion, delivers a powerful testimony of hope and God's love..

Mark your Calendars

Altar Society - Meets in the Parish Hall after Donut Sunday

Donut Sunday - September 1st

Knights of Columbus Council #5067

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

Recitation of Holy Rosary

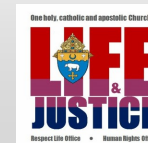
2nd Sunday of month beginning at 7:40 a.m.

2nd Collection-Diocesan Life and Justice office

Annual Life and Justice Campaign Parish Collection– August 17-18th

This will be our second collection this weekend. The Life and Justice Campaign supports local organizations dedicated to defending the dignity of the human person and the sanctity of human life.

To learn more, please visit
www.lifeandjusticekcsj.org



Thank You

Good bye and farewell to Fr. Totton

on this, his final full weekend in this parish.

Thank you for serving us all at St. Joseph Parish!

Please pray for us as we pray for you in your new assignment, Father!

The 2019 Annual Assembly of the **Missouri Catholic Conference** in our state capital, Jefferson City, is coming up **October 5th**. The keynote speaker this year will be David Bereit, Founder of 40 Days for Life. The breakout sessions will include speakers sharing their experiences in various social issues; criminal justice, education, immigration, pro-life and more. There is no cost to you, even the boxed luncheon is free! Bus transportation from Kansas City is available for minimal fee. Child care is available for free with registration.

For more information go to www.mocatholic.org



“What we love we shall grow to resemble.”—St. Bernard of Clairvaux, doctor and abbot, feast day- August 20

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, Wayne Totton, Ed Fisher, Amy Dobrowansky, Fr. Phil Luebbert, the elderly and infirm, the chronically ill and their caregivers. For the souls in purgatory. 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 the conversion of the enemies of the Good and of the Church; for the protection of children and the innocent. For the soul, friends and family of Rosemary Ingle.

“ . . . a time of war and a time of peace. . . ”

We pray for the safety of all our service men and women who serve our country.

Coram Deo, the Catholic young adult group for St. Joseph, is meeting on **Monday, August 19th**, for ***Mondays on the Bluff!*** Meet at River Bluff Brewing at **6:10pm** for pizza + drinks. Please bring a few bucks in cash to help pay for the pizza. All young adults aged 22-35 are invited to attend. We hope to see you there! Questions? Please contact Ally Goetz at agoetz@olog.org.

Please note our new email address:
stjosepheaston@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, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@omdbusmankcsj.org 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.