

Fr. Totton's Desk

Q: Do I 'HAVE' to go to Mass twice when Christmas Falls on a Monday?

A: The third commandment God gave to the Israelites through Moses is: "Keep Holy the Sabbath Day." Since the early days of the Church, our sabbath observance has coincided with Sunday, also called "The Lord's Day" in honor of Jesus' Resurrection. From that time, attendance at Sunday Mass has been the primary way in which we honor both the Divine Command and the Resurrection - the central episode of our Redemption. In addition to Sundays, the Church has designated certain feasts throughout the year as "Holy Days of Obligation" which we are obliged to observe, as much as possible, in the same way we observe Sunday. *Minimally*, this means attending Mass on those days. In the United States, these days include the *Immaculate Conception*, *Christmas*, the *Solemnity of Mary*, The *Assumption of Mary*, and *All Saint's Day*. Occasionally, it will happen that a Holy Day may fall on a Saturday or a Monday. Unless the local Bishops' conference commutes the *obligation* for that particular Solemnity, this means that we have the **opportunity to attend Mass twice within a 48 hour period!** Rather than seeing this as a burden, we should embrace the *opportunity* to gather as a family, to commemorate the specific mysteries which are highlighted on those occasions! We are presented with one such opportunity this year. Since *Christmas* falls on Monday, December 25, we have the opportunity to attend two Masses in close succession. Therefore, we will follow our regular weekend Mass schedule on December 23-24, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, with 3 added Masses on December 24-25, the Solemnity of the Nativity of our Lord. Please refer to the schedule below to plan your Mass attendance for this busy time:

	Saturday 12/23 (IV Advent)	Sunday 12/24 (IV Advent)	Christmas Eve Sunday 12/24	Christmas Day Monday 12/25
St. Ann, Plattsburg	4pm	10am	Midnight	10am
St. Joseph, Easton	6pm	8am	5pm vigil	(none)

Regarding **January 1, 2018**, please note the following: "*Whenever January 1, the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, or August 15, the solemnity of the Assumption, or November 1, the solemnity of All Saints, falls on a Saturday or on a Monday, the precept to attend Mass is abrogated.*" - Decree of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Though the obligation to attend Mass is abrogated for this Solemnity this year, I would *welcome and encourage* parishioners from both parishes to join me at St. Ann in Plattsburg for a special 10am Mass on Monday, January 1st.

Fr. Joseph W. Totton

Opportunities for Ministers

Ministry is the way in which the Church continues what Christ began and still intends, namely, the salvation of humanity and the transformation of the world. All baptized and confirmed Christians receive a call and gifts enabling them to participate in this mission. When lay people carry out Christ's work as priest, prophet, and king in their own proper way through public activity authorized by the Church, we call this lay ministry. Here are some of the ways you might be able to answer that call:

Lectors - Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

If you have a calling for any of the above ministries please see Fr. Joe Totton and he will arrange for training. We need your help - thank you for your cooperation.

Mass Book open for 2018



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

Fr. Joseph Totton

Administrator

P.O. Box 197

107 North Shortridge

Easton, MO 64443

816-294-9841 - Fr. Joe's cell

Mass Times

Saturday: 6 pm Sunday: 8 am

Confessions: 1/2 hr before Mass

Office 816-473-2011

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



2nd Sunday of Advent

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

December 10, 2017




December 10- 8 am Mass

Greeter: Randy Moran

Lectors: Julie Moran, Jim Ingle

Ministers: Randy Moran, Jan & Paul Pottier

Counters: Randy & Julie Moran


Mass Intentions


Saturday, Dec 9 + Eunice Grier
By: Joan Dixon

Sunday, Dec 10 + Irene Belzer
By: Bill & Marge Kinney

Saturday, Dec 16 + Brian Crouse
By: Steve & Pat Culver

Sunday, Dec 17 + Eunice Grier
By: Brint & Therese onnett



BIRTHDAY

Charles Curran	Dec 11
Sue Kauzlarich	Dec 13
Lauren Adams	Dec 16

ANNIVERSARY

Jay & Jennifer Pflugrad	Dec 14
Bill & Marge Kinney	Dec 16

Congratulations and Best Wishes Everyone!

**Happy Anniversary to
Paul & Jan Pottier Dec 4
(forgot last week – my apologies)**

Ministry Schedule


December 17- 8 am Mass

Greeter: Wayne Weipert

Lectors: Jim Barber & Jan Pottier

Ministers: Diane Barber, Marylou Euler & Jim Ingle

Counters: Richard & Mary Ann LaFollette



Mark your Calendars!

Parish & Finance Council: Jan 3, 2018 - 6 pm Rectory

Altar Society: Parish Hall after Donut Sunday

Hand Linens: Nov/Dec: Jan Pottier

Donut Sunday: Jan 7 - Jim & Rosalie Ingle


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.

Retirement Fund for Religious collection

December 9 & 10

Help care for elders

“Thanks to support from the Retirement Fund for Religious, we are now in a much better position to care for our elders,” write a religious sister.

Your donation helps her religious community and hundreds of others provide for aging members and plan for long-term needs.

Please give to next week’s Retirement Fund for Religious collection

Weekend Collection Dec 2 & 3, 2017

Envelopes: \$1,926 Plate: \$231 Hall Rental: \$100

Subscription: \$60

Total Parish: \$2,316


2nd Collection: Dec 10 - Religious Retirement COLLECTIONS:

Dec To Date: \$ 2,257.00

Dec Budget: \$ 7,491.66

Year-To-Date: \$ 51,885.30

Year Budget: \$101,800.00



2018 Annual Catholic Appeal

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

As the Holidays approach, we give thanks to God for all His blessings to us and our families. We especially thank the 19 out of 96 families who have shared their financial resources toward our parish’s goal of \$5,775 for the Annual Catholic Appeal.

So far we have received \$3,710 in pledges and contributions.

We are grateful for your listening to our call to give and we know that you feel a sense of accomplishment in sharing your blessings, with others in the family of the Church in Northwest Missouri.


CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

A special “Thank You” to the Christmas Brunch committee chairs: Lindee Corkins, Amber Kriley, Brenda Cantrell.

Also to their committee members: Regina Grier, Amy Adams, Julie Houser, Emily Davidson, Amanda Roth, Nancy Roth, Wilma Corkins and Kathy Barton

and all who brought breakfast food to share!


Great Food, Good Friends, Wonderful Fellowship!



PSR Students - Christmas Party Today in the church hall.

Classes will resume January 14, 2018

Enjoy your Christmas break!



Prayer Corner

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

“...a time to heal...”

Mildred Ottinger

For our Shut - Ins

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


Free On-Line Resources to make this your "Best Advent Ever!"

Dynamic Catholic is offering a **free** Advent subscription program to provide you with daily reflections delivered to your email inbox to help you keep a spiritual focus during this Advent Season.

I have already signed up myself and I encourage each of you to do likewise today to begin receiving these daily reflections.

Just type BestAdventEver.com into your internet browser and follow the instructions to sign up.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF ST. JOSEPH NEEDS YOUR HELP!



Catholic Charities

One of the Catholic Charities’ mission is to provide basic needs to families who can’t afford the essentials.

CC’s cupboards are in need of the following items: laundry soap, dish soap, bleach, paper towels, toilet tissue, Kleenex, deodorant, shampoo, soap, tooth paste, tooth brushes, diapers, baby wipes and other items for personal hygiene needs.

Just drop them in the box in the back of the church marked "Catholic Charities" at your convenience.



2018 Donut Sunday Sign Up Sheet

On the back bulletin board is the sign up sheet for Donut Sunday for 2018.

Please sign up!

As always thanks to

Bob & Carol Shaffer

for picking up the donuts and supplies.

You two are special!