

From Father Totton's Desk

One of the privileges afforded me during my years in the seminary was an extended pilgrimage "in the footsteps of St. Paul". Traditionally, the seminary had sent the seminarians to study for several weeks in the Holy Land. Because of elevated tensions at that time (2002-2003) the decision was made to modify the pilgrimage, and we went instead to trace the footsteps of St. Paul in Asia Minor (modern day Turkey), Greece and, finally, Rome. To this day I am grateful for having had this opportunity which so few people will ever get. It has truly given me a greater appreciation for the *reality* of the early Church in places like *Antioch, Ephesus, Troas, Iconium, Thessalonika, Corinth*, and, of course, *Rome*. To this day, when I read the Epistles of St. Paul, I can see the ancient cities where once fledgling Christian communities were.

As with any travel, part of the "joy" is to experience other cultures: food, language, customs, etc. Istanbul (once known as *Constantinople*) is, they say, "where east meets west." This fascinating city, in fact, straddles the geographic divide between the continents of Europe and Asia. The architecture was very "eastern" and yet a common sight in the city was the pastry shops called "patisserie" a French word meaning "pastry shop" where croissants were displayed alongside delectable Turkish delights confectioned from filo dough and a bounty of pistachios.

Though officially "secular", modern Turkey is the heir of a storied religious past which includes early and medieval Christianity as well as the Islamic rule of the Ottoman Empire. This is evidenced in a profound way in the iconic building known by the Greek moniker "*Hagia Sophia*" a term which translates into English as "Holy Wisdom". This historic 1,500-year-old edifice was constructed as a Christian cathedral and later converted into a mosque under Ottoman rule. The conquering Muslims destroyed much of the beautiful Christian iconography within this church and re-fitted it to be used a mosque. When I visited *Hagia Sophia* I was struck by the presence of a beautiful and ancient screen which evoked images of a high altar but, again, devoid of Christian imagery. The odd thing is that it appeared off-balance within the large semi-circular chapel it occupied. Upon further reflection I discovered that this screen, or prayer station, had been constructed to replace the original Christian High altar, and its primary purpose was to indicate the geographic direction of the city of Mecca!

As a Christian church, *Hagia Sophia* was built on an east-west axis with the sanctuary facing due east because of the ancient Christian custom of facing eastward – toward the rising sun, an early symbol of Jesus' Resurrection – for communal prayer. When the Muslims re-purposed this church as a mosque, they shifted the focus of their prayer towards an earthly city, Mecca, revered by Muslims as the focus of prayer indicated by Mohammed. At that moment it struck me, that, **as Christians, our prayer is directed towards a triumphant God who comes to us from outside this world** (as the sun is apart from the earth) and will return again "from the east" as it were.

The custom of "orienting" ("*oriens*" is the Latin term for "east") Christian churches is one of ancient origin which continues even to this day, though sometimes practical concerns (roadways, topography, etc.) intervene. You will note that both of our parishes are built in an east-west axis: St. Joseph faces east (by the way, it is sublime to watch the morning sun gradually illuminate the rose window in the sanctuary!); whereas, presumably because of the 7th St. grade, St. Ann faces west. Actual geography aside, the interior of our churches are ordered to convey a sense of "spiritual geography", a movement or procession "eastward" in anticipation of the Lord's coming which we commemorate in a particular way during the season of Advent.

Fr. Joseph W. Totton



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

Fr. Joseph Totton - Administrator

P.O. Box 197

107 North Shortridge

Easton, MO 64443

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

Mass Time
Sunday: 8 am
Confessions: Sunday at 7:30am
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



**Thirty-second Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

Parish & Finance Councils

Jim Adams

Jim Ingle

Rosalie Ingle

Tony Kauzlarich

Marge Kinney

Julie Moran

Jordan Roth

Mike Roth

Wayne Weipert

Email: stjosephchurch@centurytel.net

Website: stjosepheaston.org

Fr. Totton'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

Nov 11, 2018



Ministry Schedule

Nov 11- 8 am Mass

Greeter: Richard LaFollette

Lectors: Doug Ottinger & Jim Ingle

Ministers: Jim Ingle, Marylou Euler, Paul Pottier

Counters: Richard & Mary Ann LaFollette

Nov 18- 8 am Mass

Greeter: Hubert Gregory

Lectors: Bonnie Gregory & Jan Pottier

Ministers: Doug Ottinger, Wayne Weipert & Jim Ingle

Counters: Richard & Mary Ann LaFollette

Mass Intentions



Sunday, Nov 11 + Chad Klein

By: Klein Family

Sunday, Nov 18 + John McLarney

By: Everett & Roth Families



BIRTHDAY

Carolyn O'Brien Nov 12th

Amber Kriley Nov 13th

Dylan Davidson Nov 16th

ANNIVERSARY

Dan & Bonnie McPhee Nov 14th

Congratulations and Best Wishes Everyone!



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.

Volunteers needed to preserve our first cemetery

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 24th, at 1:00 p.m., at St. Joseph Catholic Church hall, Easton.

Reference the enclosed sheet in the bulletin for details. Michael Fisher of our parish will help to coordinate the volunteer group.



"GIVE FROM THE HEART" 7th ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

\$12,887!!

We did it!

This is what was raised in the past 5 weeks!
Thank you to all for your continued support of your parish!

Parish and Finance Councils



Mass Book open for 2019

PARISH REGISTRATION

If you are new to our Parish, we invite you to register: introduce yourself to Fr. Totton after Mass, Come to the Parish Office, or Go to our Parish Website at: stjosepheaston.org

Weekend Collection - Nov 4, 2018

Envelopes: \$1,725 Plate: \$83 Holy Day: \$240

Second Collection: Fund Raiser: \$5,149 Mass Stipends: \$80

Subscription: \$30

Total Parish: \$7,307

2nd Collection: Dec 9 - Religious Retirement

Budget is from July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

Oct To Date: \$ 7,277.00 this includes the fundraiser \$

Oct Budget: \$ 7,550.00

Year-To-Date: \$44,788.67

Year Budget: \$90,600.00

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



Mark your Calendars!

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

Hand Linens: Nov/Dec: Jan Pottier

Donut Sunday: Dec 2: Christmas Brunch - Altar Society

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

Rosary on 3rd Thursday 6:30 pm

Jay Pflugrad, Grand Knight

Fr. Joseph Totton, Chaplain

Recitation of Rosary - 2nd weekend of the month

2019 Annual Catholic Appeal

We have an opportunity to commit our support to diocesan programs and ministries that no one 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 \$2505

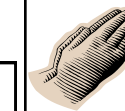
Thank you for all your help and support of the 2019 Annual Catholic Appeal.



2019 Donut Sunday Sign Up Sheet

On the back bulletin board is the sign up sheet for Donut Sunday for 2019.

Please sign up!

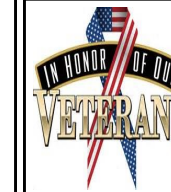


Prayer Corner

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

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

Mildred Ottinger, Lori Redmond, Nancy Totton, Bubba Miller, Amy Spriesterbach



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!



Thanksgiving Day Mass

Father Totton will be celebrating a Thanksgiving Day Mass on November 22nd at 9 am

St. Joseph Church - Easton

Please plan on attending we have

much to be thankful for!



March for Life

Washington D.C.

2019 MARCH FOR LIFE PILGRIMAGE

Registration is now open for the March for Life Pilgrimage to Washington DC, January 17-19.

This three-day trip will include

Mass each day,

Rally on the National Mall,

and participation in the 2019 March for Life.

Registration will remain open through Wednesday, December 12th. The current early-bird rate of \$285 per person will be available through Wed., October 31st.

The amount will increase slightly to \$315 after October 31st.

Registration forms available on-line at:

www.respectlifekcsj.org

- Pilgrims under the age of 18 must also complete a copy of the diocesan youth medical release form.
- All minors not traveling with an adult will be assigned a Virtus-certified adult chaperone.
- A space may be reserved for the pilgrimage by submitting a non-refundable deposit of \$100 at anytime. Total payment must be received by Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018.