

July 25 will mark the 50th Anniversary of Blessed Paul VI's landmark encyclical, *Humanae Vitae*, which reiterated the Church's long-standing prohibition of contraception, but *encourages* couples to use modern methods of *natural family planning* (NFP), should they have a good reason to avoid pregnancy at a particular time in their marriage. NFP is often mistaken for the old unreliable "rhythm method". Modern methods of NFP are based on Biology and offer an organic alternative to harmful chemical contraceptive methods. For more information on Natural Family Planning, please visit: www.fertilitycarekc.com or www.ccli.org

NFP, the Theology of the Body, and Our Marriage

Michael and Alysha Chambers

Many will tell you that the responsibility of being permanently faithful to one person is too great and that being open to life is too much of a burden. They say contraception brings with it freedom and life; however, we have found that it is in openness to God, to each other, and to new life that true freedom is obtained. This is what living Natural Family Planning (NFP) can help couples to experience.

Alysha was in college when she first heard NFP mentioned. All she knew then was that it existed and the Catholic Church considered it a good thing. Michael, a convert to Catholicism, grew up believing that contraception was good and that all couples should use it. Our first real understanding of what NFP is, and what the Church teaches came during our marriage preparation program. We learned that NFP at its core is simply knowledge of the physical changes one can observe in the woman's fertility cycle. It gives couples a way to measure and chart their fertility signs. We also learned how responsible parenthood is the virtuous application of this fertility knowledge.

One unexpected aspect of NFP that impressed us was how it fosters communication between spouses. Couples practicing NFP discuss the future of their family with every cycle. Knowing how to discuss such important matters has proven a great blessing to many marriages. Michael decided that blessing, by itself, was enough of a reason to learn NFP.

Another theme we discussed in marriage preparation was the Theology of the Body. It helped us understand who we are and how God created us. It is through our bodies that we express who we are spiritually. Also, because we were made in the image and likeness of God, our bodies are supposed to reflect who God is which means we are to act as He acts. How does God act? He loves. God's love is a total gift of self. God's love is life-giving. As husband and wife one way we love like God is through our sexuality. If NFP is studied in this context, our appreciation of each other as man and woman increases because the uniqueness and dignity that God has imprinted in our bodies is revealed. It was at this point that Michael realized NFP was not moral birth control; rather, it is a complete way of life honoring one's spouse's sexuality and fertility. It is loving naturally – the way God designed it.

In studying NFP in the context of the Theology of the Body, both of us have become more open to each other, to God, and to children. We truly believe that "children are the crown of marriage" and we pray that God will bless us with children some day. Until then, we will "make our plans but hold them lightly." For us, that means planning to use NFP both when we are attempting or delaying pregnancy, all the while striving to hear and do God's will!

Michael and Alysha Chambers, Diocese of Arlington, Va., were married September 24, 2005. This article first appeared in the Couple to Couple League's *Family Foundations* (Jan/Feb. 2006). It has been edited to fit this publication and is printed with permission.



SAVE THE DATE

St Ann Church Thursday, July 26th - 6pm

Fr. Totton will be joined by several priests in the celebration of a Solemn High Mass in the Extraordinary Form (Traditional Latin Mass).

Sunday, July 29th After 10 am Mass

Please join us for Pot Luck and Cookout - Knights will provide hot dogs, buns and drinks.

All other food will be pot luck, bring a dish to share. All are welcome!



ST. JOSEPH
CHURCH

Fr. Joseph Totton - Administrator

Mass Time
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

Fifteenth 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. 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

July 15, 2018



Ministry Schedule

July 15- 8 am Mass

Greeter: Hubert Gregory

Lectors: Jim Ingle & Jan Pottier

Ministers: Paul Pottier, Marylou Euler & Hubert Gregory

Counters: Richard and Mary Ann LaFollette

July 22- 8 am Mass

Greeter: Wayne Weipert

Lectors: Bonnie Gregory & Scott Antle

Ministers: Jim Ingle, Doug Ottinger, Wayne Weipert

Counters: Paul & Jan Pottier

Mass Intentions



Sunday, July 15 + Rose Ann West
By: West Girls

Sunday, July 22 + Art Spratt
By: Steve & Pat Culver



BIRTHDAY

Stacy Brown July 21st

ANNIVERSARY

Blaise & Amber Kriley July 16th

Scott & Lisa Antle July 19th

Congratulations and Best Wishes Everyone!

Weekend Collection - July 8, 2018

Envelopes: \$2,380 Plate: \$107

Total Parish: \$2,487

2nd Collection: July 22 - Missionary Plan of Cooperation

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

July To Date: \$ 4,358.00

July Budget: not approved

Year-To-Date: \$ 4,358.00

Year Budget: not approved

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

Mark your Calendars!



Parish & Finance Council: July 12 - 6 pm Rectory

Altar Society: Parish Hall after Donut Sunday

Hand Linens: July/August: Nannette Wolford

Donut Sunday: Aug 5: Richard & Mary Ann LaFollette

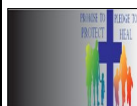
Knights of Columbus: 5067-1st & 3rd Thursday 7 pm

Rosary on 3rd Thursday 6:30 pm

Jay Pflugradt, 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.



Please join us in the celebration of Mary Fisher's 80th Birthday!

Mary's birthday is July 24, and the family is honoring her with a card shower and dessert reception!

The celebration will take place on Saturday, July 28, 2018 with a reception at the Church Hall from 4-6 pm.

Please come to enjoy some desserts, and share your favorite memories with Mary.

No gifts please!

Bring a card, or send them to:
12525 SE Fisher Rd.
Easton, MO 64443

Diocesan Visioning Process

You are invited to Share and Be Heard

Bishop Johnston recently instituted a "visioning" process to develop a Mutually Shared Vision for our diocese.

The purpose of the process is to create a compelling Vision Statement (unifying theme) for the diocese. It will include three priorities—major areas of focus—for the diocese for the next 3 years and six goals that will lead to specific outcomes in the next 2-3 years.

Bishop Johnston invites every member of our local church to participate in their regional listening sessions in July. The locations have been chosen to reach as much of the diocese as possible in the time frame available. You may attend any one of the sessions.

Throughout the process Bishop Johnston asks everyone to join him in prayer (prayer following) for the fruitfulness of this effort.

Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph Mutually Shared Vision Development Process Listening Sessions Locations

*Wednesday, July 18, 7-8:30 pm: St. Joseph, Mo., Our Lady of Guadalupe ***

*Tuesday, July 31, 7-8:30 pm: Liberty, Mo., St. James ***

*** These locations will hold the listening sessions in English and Spanish.*



Ice Cream Social

St James Catholic Church

Invites you to their Annual Altar Society Ice Cream Social on Saturday, July 21st 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the Church Hall.

Beefburgers, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Chips, Ice Cream, Desserts and a Drink

Adults \$9 Children (12 & under) \$4

Raffle Drawing: Grand Prize - Double rocking Chair from Cracker Barrel - 2nd Prize - \$75 3rd Prize - \$50

Good Food / Silent Auction / Raffle

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



Grace Evangelical Church, located at 5103 S. 50th Street in St. Joseph, Missouri, is hosting a Moonlight 5K (walk or run) on Friday, August 3, 2018 at 9 p.m.

Registration fee is \$25 with proceeds benefitting

Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

Funds will provide families in need with diapers, baby formula, baby food & birth certificates.

Go to www.iamathlete.com and type in Moonlight 5K or call 816.279.2090 and ask for Dyann Duncan.



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

"...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.

Remembrance Quilt

For my retirement

I have placed in a basket on the table in the back of church fabric blocks that you can write either well wishes, words of wisdom, along with your name and year and I will sew them all into a quilt. Directions included.

You can either embroider your words or you can use a fabric pen. **Must** be a fabric pen so it won't disappear after washing.

Blessings to all, Marge

Due back by August 5!

Missionaries of St Charles—Scalabrinians

Next weekend a representative of the Missionaries of St. Charles - Scalabrinians, Fr. Aldo Vendramin, will be in our parish preaching at all the Masses.

He will share with us the concerns and longings of the missionary activity that his Religious Order was entrusted in the Church: the care of migrant and refugee people. He is sent by the Catholic Mission Office with the purpose of reminding each baptized Catholic of our common responsibility to teach all nations about God's salvation plan in Christ Jesus.

A collection will be taken for the needs of the Missionaries of St. Charles Scalabrinians. Your generous donation will enable many missionary works to be accomplished in the world.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support .



YARD SALE - Good Shepherd Parish Smithville

Head to the huge Indoor Good Shepherd Garage Sale!

Thurs. July 19, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Fri. July 20, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sat. July 21, 8 – 11:30 a.m.

Kitchenware * Home Décor * Toys * Furniture * Homeschool Materials * Clothes for the Whole Family * Tools * Seasonal * DVDs * Books * Framed Art * SO MUCH MORE!

Plus – shop The Boutique for 'upscale' items!
Shop in air-conditioned comfort in the Parish Center.

Convenient parking in back by doors!