

From Fr. Totton's Desk

Render Unto Caesar...

Jesus said, "Show me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." (Matthew 19-21)

With this simple statement, Jesus acknowledges the legitimacy of civil government. That is not to say that the Emperor, King, President, Prime Minister or any other leader is perfect or sinless! Even the Pope, himself a head of state, sins. (infallibility is an entirely different matter than *impeccability* and only applies to a very strict set of circumstances, but that is a column for another time!) In other words, Jesus encourages us to be good citizens, even as we exercise our greater membership as subject of His Kingdom! The Catechism of the Catholic Church says: *As far as possible citizens should take an active part in public life.* (no. 1915). This includes paying taxes. It also includes voting, even running for public office and exercising other civic duties (like jury duty). In all these things, we exercise them *as disciples of Jesus and members of the Catholic Church*. We cannot be expected to "check our faith" at the voting booth, nor, should we be elected to serve, to renounce Christ upon taking public office! Rather, our faith must form our conscience, and our conscience must guide us in the exercise of all civic responsibilities. When laws are enacted which curtail the free exercise of our religion, we also have a sacred obligation to rectify these laws - using the legitimate means at our disposal. In our representative democracy, we have many such channels, but we may never forsake the Truth of the Gospel for political expediency.

I have always been struck (if you will forgive the pun) by the illustration that Jesus uses in looking at the coin and asking "whose image and inscription is this?" "Caesar's" they answered, "The render unto Caesar that which belongs to Caesar and unto God that which belongs to God!" Just as the coin in question bore the image of Caesar, so the souls of the Faithful are impressed with the image of God. Therefore, we belong to God! Our actions, our lives must be lived for him. The Catechism says, "*Baptism imprints on the soul an **indelible** spiritual sign, the character, which consecrates the baptized person for Christian worship.*" (CCC 1280). We can and should make use of our earthly citizenship in a legitimate way but also in a way that furthers the Kingdom of God whose image is impressed upon our soul. This is what Jesus means when he says that we are to render "unto God what belongs to God" (what bears His image!).

St. Paul provides for us an excellent example of using the privileges of one's citizenship to further the Kingdom of God. Paul enjoyed the privilege of Roman citizenship by special dispensation given to the population of the city of Tarsus. As such, he could appeal to the emperor in answering criminal charges (with which he was eventually charged). Therefore, he invoked the privileges of his citizenship to prolong his ordeal, and as he traveled, as a prisoner, to Rome to appeal to the Emperor, he built up and encouraged the members of the Church along the way! What are some ways that **you** can invoke the privilege of citizenship to advance the Kingdom of God, bearing in mind that, having been "stamped" with the image of God, you must ultimately render unto God what belongs to Him?

--
Fr. Joseph W. Totton

Fr. Totton is asking to meet with all Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion on Saturday, November 18 after the 6pm Mass. Please plan to attend this meeting. If you will not be able to attend on the above date and time, please contact Father directly by telephone or email.

A NEW ADDITION TO THE PARISH HALL

If you have noticed we have a new addition at the entrance of the hall.

On Sept 30th we had a wedding here. The bride had requested to use our church and hall.

When they set u p the hall they had a table that all the gifts were placed on.

When the reception was over the bride's mother asked me if we would like to have the table and gave me its history.

She and her husband were employees at TWA at Kansas City Airport.

When they closed up operations there the furniture from Howard Hughes' office was up for auction. They had purchased the table which now stands in our entranceway. The table was hand made for Mr. Hughes and kept in pristine condition. It is now a beautiful piece of furniture in our hall.

Thank you to the Ratzloff family.



ST. JOSEPH
CHURCH

Fr. Joseph Totton

Administrator

Mass Times

Saturday: 6 pm 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

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in
Ordinary Time

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

October 22, 2017



October 22 - 8 am Mass

Greeter: Hubert Gregory
Lectors: Bonnie Gregory & Jim Ingle
Ministers: Diane & Jim Barber
Hubert Gregory & Marylou Euler
Counters: Paul & Jan Pottier

Mass Intentions



Saturday, Oct 21 + Bob Sanders

By: Steve & Pat Culver

Sunday, Oct 22 + Mary Pottier

By: Pottier Family

Saturday, Oct 28 + Bob Burton

By: Steve & Pat Culver

Sunday, Oct 29 + Cecil Lasey

By: Roxy Musser



BIRTHDAY

Vern Ottinger October 28th

ANNIVERSARY

Keith & Brenda Cantrell October 24th

Congratulations and Best Wishes Everyone!



OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

In this month of October, let us consider this beautiful prayer of the Rosary as a means that we too can use in order to draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.

Now that fall is here, and vacations are done, children are back in school why not come 20 minutes early on the second Sunday of the month for

recitation of the Rosary.

Make it a family devotion!

Ministry Schedule

October 29 - 8 am Mass

Greeter: Wayne Weipert
Lectors: Julie Moran & Jan Pottier
Ministers: Wayne Weipert, Jim Ingle
Randy & Julie Moran
Counters: Jordan & Amanda Roth



Mark your Calendars!

Parish & Finance Council: Nov 9 6 pm - Rectory
Altar Society: Parish Hall after Donut Sunday

Hand Linens: Sept/Oct: Bonnie Gregory

Donut Sunday: Nov 5 - Knights of Columbus

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.

FRIED CHICKEN DINNER - OCT 22nd

Knights of Columbus Council 5067 will be having a Fried Chicken Dinner at their Hall on Oct 22, 2017.

Starting time will be at 11:30 to 2:00 pm.

Location of the Hall is 1205 N 49th Tr.

We will be serving two piece fried chicken with green beans, mash potatoes with gravy, roll and ice tea or water.

Price for the dinner is \$ 8.00 for adults
and children under 12 \$5.00

A drive through will be available.

Thanks again for your support of the Knights of Columbus 5067

Weekend Collection Oct 14 & 15, 2017

Envelopes: \$1,411 Plate: \$114 Mass Stipends: \$10
Fundraiser: \$2,185

Total Parish: \$3,720

2nd Collection: Parish Fundraiser month of Oct.
COLLECTIONS:

Oct To Date: \$ 9,516.80

Oct Budget: \$ 7,491.66

Year-To-Date: \$ 29,452.97

Year Budget: \$101,800.00



ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2018

You should have received your invitation to participate in the 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) this week.

We have an opportunity to commit our support to diocesan programs and ministries that no one parish could provide on its own.

Our theme,

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

Our goal is 100% participation.

No gift is too small - Please join our effort



Prayer Corner

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

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

Jon Clark, Mildred Ottinger

"a time to die...."

Juanita Brown

(Kevin Brown's mother)



BISCUITS AND GRAVY BREAKFAST NOVEMBER 5TH

Sunday, November 5th the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a biscuit and gravy breakfast.

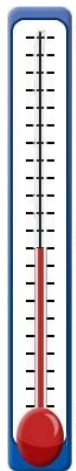
Everyone is invited to come!

There will be a **free will offering** for breakfast.

All proceeds will be forwarded to the Cemetery Fund to help defray the costs of repaving the cemetery road.

Come and support our cemetery

(We will also have donuts!)



"GIVE FROM THE HEART" 6th ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

It's that time again!

We are off to a great start!

Last weekend our first weekend we raised \$4,697!!

Parishioners can contribute in one sum or scatter donations over the next four week time span.
Monies will be deposited in our money market account and will be used for operating expenses as needed.

Last year we raised just over **\$16,733!!**

Let 's work towards or surpass last years' total!

We can do it!

Parish and Finance Councils



*Thank
You!*

A NOTE OF THANKS

On behalf of Hubert & Bonnie Gregory and

Partnering for Future Priest Auction and Dinner benefiting Conception Seminary College.
We would like to thank the Altar Society for purchasing dinner tickets and to the other parishioners for their donations to the Dinner Auction.

Also a big thank you to the parishioners who bought raffle tickets.

Sadly no one from our parish won but the donations were greatly appreciated.

Without your help this event would not have been so successful.

We can always count on the generosity of St. Joseph Church to help Conception Seminary.

Hubert & Bonnie Gregory