

*An Invitation to **Adventure***

For the last several weeks, I have used this column to share some reflections on the meaning of the liturgy and the direction of our liturgical prayer. This week, I am taking a bold step, and I invite you to join me on an adventure which I think will leave a positive and lasting impact on the liturgical life of our parish: Beginning next Sunday, December 2, the First Sunday of Advent, and continuing through the Epiphany, Sunday, January 6, we will celebrate Mass *Ad Orientem*, that is, the priest will stand in **front** of the altar, facing in the same direction as the people as he *leads* them in prayer directed toward God the Father. I know that this represents a significant shift in our practice and may take some getting used to. We will use this time of Advent and Christmas as a *period to experiment* with a return to this ancient practice. While I welcome feedback and input (written, verbal, etc.) on this practice, I would ask you to patiently wait until January before providing such feedback – *open yourselves* to the experience and see how it impacts your prayer life and your attendance at Mass before forming your opinion.

For those of you old enough to remember the Mass before the Second Vatican Council, you may fear (or hope!) that this shift represents a “turning back the clock”. I assure you that it does not. Our regular Sunday (*Ordinary Form*) Masses will continue to be conducted in an audible English, and those parts of the Mass which involve proclamation of the Word or greetings addressed to the people will be offered facing the people. On the other hand, for those parts of the Mass in which the priest addresses God, he will turn to face the altar. This has sometimes been mischaracterized as “the priest turning his back on the people” and while that statement may be *technically* true, it does not represent neglect nor disdain for the people any more than a classical conductor “turns his back” on the people at a symphony when he is addressing the members of the orchestra.

If you have not read the bulletin for the past several weeks, this may come as a rather sudden change and will little preparation. Please access previous bulletins on the parish [web-site](http://www.stannplattsburg.org/bulletins) (www.stannplattsburg.org/bulletins) for further explanation – begin with November 4. Great minds suggest that plenty of catechesis (teaching) should be provided prior to attempting such a shift. I have tried to be insightful, yet subtle, but I am also of the opinion that one can also err on the side of over-explanation which comes off as overly apologetic or has the effect of reducing the action to one or two practical reasons and reduces or eliminates the element of Mystery in our prayer. Parishes throughout the country which have adopted this direction for their liturgical prayer have reported it as a positive experience, helping their members to experience the Mass in a deeper dimension of prayer. It is my hope that this experience brings each of us to a greater appreciation for the Mass, and enables us to enter more fully, consciously, and actually into the Mystery of Divine Worship.

You legitimately may ask “where are we headed?” I would hope the ultimate answer to that question is: “Heaven”. In the meantime, I hope that this period of experimentation will facilitate an honest discussion about the direction of our prayer and whether or not this is something that we should consider adopting as a regular practice in our parish. We cannot have that conversation, however, until after we have experienced this practice at least through a short season of Advent and Christmas.

I would like to close with a sincere appeal to each of you: *Please, open yourselves to this experience; set aside pre-conceived notions about this form of prayer and enter into this time with a sense of adventure about where the Spirit is leading us to grow in our discipleship.*

-Fr. Joseph W. Totton



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

Fr. Joseph Totton - Administrator

Mass Time
Sunday: 8 am
Confessions: Sunday at 7:30am
Office 816-473-2011

P.O. Box 197
107 North Shortridge
Easton, MO 64443
816-294-9841 - Fr. Totton's cell
email: fathertotton@gmail.com

**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



**Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe**

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

Office Secretary: Penny Harrison

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 25, 2018



Nov 25- 8 am Mass

Greeter: Wayne Weipert

Lectors: Scott Antle, Jordan Roth

Ministers: Marylou Euler, Jan & Paul Pottier

Counters: Paul & Jan Pottier

Mass Intentions



Sunday, Nov 25 + Fred Murcer

By: Steve & Pat Culver

Sunday, Dec 2 + Susan Merrigan

By: Everett & Roth Families



BIRTHDAY

Scott Chambers	Nov 26th
Joan Mitchell	Nov 28th
Nicholas Kempf	Nov 28th
Zane Bembrick	Nov 29th
Paula Chambers	Dec 2nd

ANNIVERSARY

Joe & Charlene Huber	Nov 26th
Jack & Shari Klein	Nov 27th

Congratulations and Best Wishes Everyone!



NOVEMBER - REMEMBER THE HOLY SOULS

November is the time of the year that we remember the faithful departed of our parish families.

As is the custom here we have displayed the Book of Remembrance on the covered table in the back of church.

Please feel free to inscribe the name of any family member or friend who has died. (recently or in the distant past) This book will be displayed each year for the month of November. You can write as many names as you wish.

We will be praying for all listed in the book at every Mass.

Ministry Schedule

Dec 2- 8 am Mass

Greeter: Jim Ingle

Lectors: Doug Ottinger & Jan Pottier

Ministers: Wayne Weipert, Doug Ottinger & Marylou Euler

Counters: Tony Kauzlarich and Rudy Wolford



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.

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE FOR ST. ANN'S & ST. JOSEPH'S



Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday, December 8th
 St. Joseph - Easton - 9 am
 St. Ann - Plattsburg - 4 pm

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a holy day of obligation. Since it falls on a Saturday Fr. Totton will be having Mass at 9 am in Easton and 4 o'clock Mass in Plattsburg.

Christmas Eve Mass Schedule

St. Joseph, Easton - 5 pm (Nativity Pageant begins at 5 pm)
 St. Ann, Plattsburg - Midnight

Christmas Day Mass Schedule

10 am - St. Ann, Plattsburg



1st Saturday Mass and Confessions at MIR House
 Fr. Christian Malewski, Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish offers Confession at 7:00 am

Mass at 8:00 am every first Saturday of the month at Mir House of Prayer.

All are invited and welcome to attend.

Weekend Collection - Nov 18, 2018

Envelopes: \$725 Plate: \$94 Mass Stipends: \$0

Hall Rental: \$200

Total Parish: \$1,019

2nd Collection: Dec 9 - Religious Retirement

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

Nov To Date: \$11,409.25 This includes fund raising \$

Nov Budget: \$ 7,550.00

Year-To-Date: \$48,920.92

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
20 minutes before Mass

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 \$2705

Thank you for all your help and support of the



“GIVE FROM THE HEART”
7th ANNUAL FUNDRAISER
NEW UPDATE
\$13,887!!



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



CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

Everyone is invited to attend the annual

Christmas Brunch which will be

Sunday, December 2 following mass

in the parish hall.

There will not be a sign up sheet again this year so please plan to attend and bring a breakfast item of your choice (casserole, fruit, muffins, etc.).

Thank you

We hope to see you there!!



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.