

From the desk of Father Joe

Those of you who regularly read the column on the back of the bulletin probably noticed that the version of Bishop Johnston's letter which we published last week was slightly different than the letter I read from the pulpit. The blame lies entirely with me. Though we printed the correct edition of the letter in the bulletin, I mistakenly printed and read an earlier version at Mass last weekend. If you have not already read the letter, I would encourage you to do so. You can find the bishop's letter on-line at www.kcsjatholic.org/2018/08/lord-save-us/.

I am writing my column on Wednesday morning, August 29. Though I am on vacation, a priest is not to be excused from his regular prayer life, including the Liturgy of the Hours and the celebration of Mass – two formal ways by which the priest fulfills his obligation to pray daily for the flock entrusted to him, and to be united with Jesus in an intimate way. Today (Wednesday) is the feast of the **Beheading of St. John the Baptist**. You will recall that Jesus' cousin, John the Baptist, first acknowledged His Divine Presence when they were both infants in the wombs of their respective mothers (Luke 1:41). During his public preaching, John gave example to all who would follow Christ whom he proclaimed, saying about Jesus, "He must increase, I must decrease" (John 3:30). Finally, John was arrested by King Herod because he publicly denounced Herod's (very public) adultery with his sister-in-law, Herodias (Mark 6:17-29). John would not remain silent in the face of evil, even if such evil was accepted by the culture, or committed by a man of great power. Sadly, we in the Church have come to learn of deplorable actions which are both serious crimes and grave sins committed by men who should have been emulating John the Baptist, but instead used their position as priests – even bishops and cardinals – to cloak their vices and predilections. It is small wonder that these same men, who were compromised personally first, also refused to publicly preach on moral matters related to marriage and human sexuality.

Over twenty years ago, while using the fledgling internet to research vocations information and programs of priestly formation, I remember coming across a few sordid tales about such behavior. Based on my experience of the Church to that point, I was quick to dismiss these unbelievable stories as "anti-Catholic quackery". Two years before I was ordained, a combination earthquake, avalanche, tsunami, erupted which blew the lid off decades of sexual abuse on the part of priests. It was stomach-churning then, and it remains every bit as distressing to this day. However, we were assured that the Bishops of the United States were honorable and responsible men and that they would take care of it. Little did we know that one of the most public spokesmen for this effort, Theodore McCarrick, had an entire beach house full of his own sexual skeletons. Now information has come out that, despite multiple attempts to pass information regarding this man up the chain of command, he continued to rise through the ranks of the hierarchy and continued to wield significant influence in the Church throughout the world all the way up until he was stripped of his Cardinal's red hat last month. I pray that a true investigation will bring to justice **all** who covered up for McCarrick and result in a purge which will bring some healing to the wounds of the Church, and begin to restore our trust in the hierarchy.

As I have said on several occasions, I wonder why anybody remains. **Jesus Christ** is still the only answer anybody can give for staying in the Church. Perhaps it is cold comfort, but even our Lord chose Judas (whom He knew would betray Him) as one of the twelve. Perhaps he did this to strengthen his little flock so that we would always be mindful of the true nature of the Church, the Mystical Body of Christ. Our Lady of Victory, Pray for us, St. Michael the Archangel, Defend us in battle!

--
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. Joe'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*



**Twenty-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. 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
Sept 2, 2018



Ministry Schedule

Sept 2 - 8 am Mass

Greeter: Richard LaFollette

Lectors: Scott Antle & Jan Pottier

Ministers: Doug Ottinger, Jim Ingle, Paul Pottier

Counters: Tony Kauzlarich and Rudy Wolford

Sept 9 - 8 am Mass

Greeter: Hubert Gregory

Lectors: Bonnie Gregory & Jim Ingle

Ministers: Wayne Weipert, Jim Ingle, Marylou Euler

Counters: Richard & Mary Ann LaFollette

Mass Intentions



Sunday, Sept 2 + Susan Merrigan

By: Everett & Roth Families

Sunday, Sept 9 + George & Rita Burns

By: Steve & Pat Culver



BIRTHDAY

Declan Kriley	Sept 3rd
Mary Ann LaFollette	Sept 4th
Parker Chambers	Sept 5th

ANNIVERSARY

Joe & Toni Hamera Sept 7th

Congratulations and Best Wishes Everyone!



LeBlond Carnival
September 21st-23rd.
21st: 6-midnight.
22nd: Noon- Midnight.
23rd: Noon-5pm.

Tickets are now on sale.

They can be purchased from any LeBlond Family or in the LB office 3529 Frederick.

Tickets are \$2 for 1 ticket or \$40 for a book of tickets. Proceeds go towards LeBlond's general operating fund.

For more information contact Chelsea Teater, Advancement Director, at cteater@bishopleblondhs.com or 816-279-1629.

It's a GREAT day to be an Eagle!



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.

SEVEN DOLORS CATHOLIC CHURCH

AUTUMN FOOD AND FUN

Saturday, September 15th, beginning at 4:00pm

We have chosen this date for our new gathering and fundraiser, as it is the Feast Day of Our Lady of Sorrows for which our church was named.

Come join us for some good food and family fun!

Picnic Style Dinner for \$10

(includes 4 tickets to play any games).

Grilled Hamburger or Two Grilled Hot Dogs/Chili Dogs,
Baked Beans, variety of Chips, Homemade Desserts,
Ice Tea or Ice Water.

Bingo—Dessert Walk—Pop Toss—Jingle Board

For Sale on Grounds: Soda—Bottled Water—Ice Cream
Silent Auction —Country Store —Grindstone Winery —
Wine/Beer

12750 Hurlingen Road, Easton, MO 64443 (

10 miles east of St. Joseph, Frederick Avenue/Highway 6 to
Route P Highway)

<https://facebook.com/Hurlingen Picnic>

Partnering for Future Priests 2018 Dinner & Auction

It's time to start planning for the 10th Annual Partnering for Future Priests Dinner & Auction. Join us in celebrating our Catholic faith while enjoying beautifully prepared food, great company, and the opportunity to bid on one-of-a-kind items in both the silent and live auctions.

This year's event will take place on **October 5** at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in St. Joseph, MO.

The ticket price is \$50 per person with eight people to a table. This annual event is now entering its 10th year and we couldn't have made it this far without you. We would like to thank you for your generous support these past nine years and hope you will be able to help us again this year.

Whether you purchase tickets to attend the dinner and auction, place an ad in our event program or donate items to our live and/or silent auction or baked good store we could use your help. Any donations please call

**PFP Pre-event Promoter(s),
Hubert & Bonnie Gregory at 816-473-2016.**

**You can also register and pay securely online at
<https://www.conception.edu/pfp>.**



Mark your Calendars!

**Parish & Finance Council: Sept 13 - 6 pm Rectory
Altar Society: Parish Hall after Donut Sunday**

Hand Linens: July/August: Nannette Wolford

Donut Sunday: Sept 2: Nannette Wolford

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



LABOR DAY BLESSING

O God, you asked St. Joseph to accept your will that his wife-to-be would have a Son.

St. Joseph accepted your will and worked with Jesus as his father and teacher.

We seek your blessing upon all the work of our hands, and we dedicate our work to your greater glory.

We ask your blessing upon all workers, especially those who work to make our lives easier and more enjoyable.

We ask all this through the intercession of St. Joseph, patron saint of workers, in the name of Jesus your Son, in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

St. Joseph the Worker, pray for us.



Prayer Corner

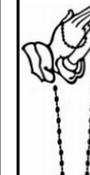
"To everything there is a season and a time...for every purpose under Heaven." Ecc. 3-11

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

**Mildred Ottinger, Lori Redmond, Nancy Totton,
Bubba Miller, Amy Spriesterbach, Douglas Bembrick**

For our Shut - Ins

**Rosemary Ingle, Carolyn O'Brien,
Josephine Jackson, Delores White, Eileen Grier,
Brent LaFollette**



Novena for Our Nation Began Aug. 15!

Everyone from around the nation is encouraged to join ranks as, united, we pray the very powerful 54 Day Rosary Novena from the Feast of the Assumption on August 15 to the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7:
www.novenaforournation.com.

Starting on August 15 pray the Joyful Rosary,

day 2 pray the Sorrowful Rosary,

day 3 the Glorious Rosary.

Then start over on day 4 continuing until you have completed a rosary each day for 27 days in petition for our Nation.

Then follow with another 27 days of thanksgiving the same as the first 27 days ending on October 7 the day of the Coast to Coast Rosary Rally: (Rosary Coast to Coast).

**Rosary Novena will be held at St. Ann's - Plattsburg
as follows:**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 7:30am

Tuesday 5:30pm

Everyone is invited to participate.

Weekend Collection - August 26, 2018

Envelopes: \$1555 Plate: \$145 Hall Rental: \$130

Total Parish: \$1,830

**2nd Collection: Sept 16: Latin America
Apostolate**

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

August To Date: \$6,793.25

August Budget: \$7,550.00

Year-To-Date: \$15,068.25

Year Budget: \$90,600.00

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