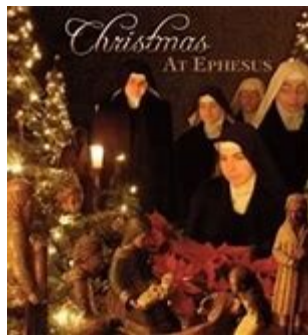


Fr. Totton's Desk

Merry Christmas! The Sunday within the Octave of Christmas is accorded to the Holy Family of Nazareth. Of course, it's a natural celebration as we see the tenderness of the Holy Family displayed in our church during this Christmas Season. As we ponder this Mystery, there is a slight tension between the reality of family life and the ideal presented by the Holy Family. The Holy Family, for example, is composed of the Incarnate God and His Immaculate Mother, with St. Joseph, a holy and upright man, though, like the rest of us, subject to sin. One may joke, therefore, that if anything goes wrong in that home, the blame lies entirely with Joseph. Our own families, however, are composed entirely of human beings subject to sin (original sin with its attendant *concupiscence* and actual sin)! Nevertheless, we should not underestimate the healing power of God's Grace given us in the Sacraments. Therefore, when we, as a family, fall short of the ideal of the Holy Family, we should not despair. Instead, let us return to the source of Grace – the Infant Child in the manger who seeks to share His Divine Life with us through the Sacraments of the Church. I encourage you, especially this weekend, to reflect upon your own experience of family life – your “family of origin” (parents, siblings...) or your “family of vocation” (spouse, children...) and how it, in some way reflects the Holy Family of Nazareth. In His recent letter on the Family, Pope Francis encourages the Church to accompany families, especially the marginalized those who are experiencing difficulties in family life. Please consider browsing the following helpful resources for marriage and family life. National Resources: <http://www.foryourmarriage.org> Local Resources: <http://kcsjfamily.org>

In an effort to provide more support to divorced Catholics, the diocesan Family Life office is introducing a new program, “Journey to Hope: An Evening for Divorced Catholics”. The local introductory evening will be held on Monday, January 22 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in St. Joseph beginning at 6:30pm. For more information call 816-714-237 or go online to <http://kcsjfamily.org/calendar/2018-01-22/introduction-journey-hope>.

Later this week, I depart for Newport, Rhode Island to attend the *Direct Commissioned Officers Indoctrination Course* at the Naval Officer Training Command. This two week course is intended as an “on-ramp” for staff officers (Medical, Nursing, Legal, Chaplains, etc.) in the Navy Reserve. Given the large volume of material to cover in the short space of two weeks, it is sure to be a very busy time. Please keep me and my shipmates in your prayers during this time. While I am away, Fr. Ron Will, CPpS will be covering weekend Masses here. I know you will extend a heartfelt welcome to him during this time. Thank you.
– Fr. Totton



CAROLING AT EPHEBUS

In a Rare and Exclusive Fundraising Event,
The Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles
are opening their home and gift of song to the public!

December 30th and 31st 2-5 pm

8005 NW 316th Street, Gower

Come and share Christmas at the Priory!

The fire will be stoked, the beautiful decorations up, and there will be plenty of homemade cookies
And hot cocoa (made with fresh milk from our own Jersey cows!)

See the Priory, including the new church under construction, and please be generous in helping us
complete this beautiful edifice for the Glory of God, and the much-needed
space for the growing community and many guests!



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 Times

Saturday: 6 pm Sunday: 8 am

Confessions: 1/2 hr before Mass

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



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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

December 31, 2017



Ministry Schedule

December 31 - 8 am Mass
Greeter: Hubert Gregory
Lectors: Jim Barber & Bonnie Gregory
Ministers: Jim Ingle, Hubert Gregory, Diane Barber
Counters: Jordan & Amanda Roth

January 7- 8 am Mass
Greeter: Wayne Weipert
Lectors: Scott Antle & Jan Pottier
Ministers: Hubert Gregory, Paul Pottier & Wayne Weipert
Counters: Tony Kauzlarich & Rudy Wolford

Mass Intentions



Saturday, Dec 30 + George Burns
 By: Steve & Pat Culver

Sunday, Dec 31 + Earl Vandewater
 By: Marge & Bill Kinney

Saturday, Jan 6 + Mary Ellen Burton
 By: Ann Burton

Sunday, Jan 7 + Ron Neely
 By: Roth Family



BIRTHDAY

Jim Ingle	Dec 31
Colton Edwards	Dec 31
Marge Kinney	Jan 2nd
Dorothy Kretzer	Jan 2nd
Fr. Totton	Jan 4th
Katie Bishop	Jan 6th
Toni Hamera	Jan 6th
Erin Kempf	Jan 6th

Anniversary

Brint & Theresa Connett Jan 4th

Congratulations and Best Wishes Everyone!

Mark your Calendars!
Parish & Finance Council: Jan 3, 2018 - 6 pm Rectory
Altar Society: Parish Hall after Donut Sunday
Hand Linens: Jan/Feb: Jan Pottier
Donut Sunday: Jan 7 - Joan & Miles Mitchell & Mary McPhee
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.

Christmas Decorations

We would like to thank the Klein and Ingle families for putting up the Christmas trees and crèche. They also put decorations on the windowsills.. Look up at the choir loft and see the beautiful garland with lights and new bows.


Thank you also to Therese Connett for putting up the swags (twice because of the wind storm) attached to the porch lights.

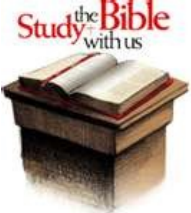
Thank you to the Altar Society for the beautiful Poinsettias.


Everything is beautiful for the coming of our Lord!


Weekend Collection Dec 23 & 24, 2017


Envelopes: \$1,326 Plate: \$186
 Holy Day: Christmas Eve: \$806
Total Parish: \$2,318
2nd Collection: Dec 30 & 31 - Subscription Sunday
For the Catholic Key
COLLECTIONS:
Dec To Date: \$ 7,711.00
Dec Budget: \$ 7,491.66
Year-To-Date: \$ 57,343.77
Year Budget: \$101,800.00
Thank You for your continued support of St. Joseph Parish.


2018 Annual Catholic Appeal
"How can I make a return to the Lord for all the good He has done for me"
 Thanks to the 20 our of 96 families who have contributed to the Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA)
 So far we have received \$3810 in pledges and contributions.
 We are trying to achieve 100% participation; thus far we have reached 66% of our goal of \$5,775 for the Annual Catholic Appeal.


 News from St Francis Church, St. Joseph
JOIN THE ADVENTURE BIBLE TIMELINE GROUP BEGINNING JANUARY 8th and 9th
 Mondays at 9:00am and/or Tuesdays at 7:00pm
 in the Parish Center, 2618 Seneca St. St. Joseph
 You will learn WHY the New Testament lies hidden in the Old Testament, and understand how the Old Testament is unveiled in the New Testament! It's a terrific program to learn about Jesus, "our history and relatives"!
 Purchasing a book will make it possible to have the sessions available to you personally through your e-mail account as many times as you'd like during the full year-- and you can still enjoy the discussion and relationship with your weekly group in the Parish Center!
 You could also have your family and friends enjoy the sessions at your own home with the program as well!
 Call Jim Lindsay for information: 816-232-8614.



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


2018 Donut Sunday Sign Up Sheet
 On the back bulletin board is the sign up sheet for Donut Sunday for 2018.
 Please sign up!


Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
 Monday, January 1st
 Fr. Totton will be celebrating Mass at 10 am in St. Ann's - Plattsburg
 What a wonderful way to start the New Year honoring Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

SUBSCRIPTION SUNDAY FOR THE CATHOLIC KEY
If you would like a subscription to the Catholic Key they are having the weekend, of Dec 30 and 31 a subscription drive.
The amount is \$25 for the year.
Please put your check or cash in a plain envelope with your name and address
And "SUBSCRIPTION: \$25"
on the front of the envelope
and we will forward the checks to the diocese.
Please put your envelopes in the second collection.
Thank you for your cooperation.

2018 ENVELOPES
 Your 2018 church envelopes are on the back table for you to pick up.
 Every registered parishioner or family is assigned an envelope number.
 If your envelope is not there please see Marge.
 All envelopes are on the back table in alphabetical order.


HAPPY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR
FR. JOSEPH TOTTON & MARGE