



Consecrating The Diocese Of Kansas City-St. Joseph To The Immaculate Heart Of Mary
"Behold, your mother!" John 19:27

Dear Friends in Christ,

One of the hidden and dangerous temptations of the Christian life is to think we can manage on our own, and call upon God only when we need reinforcements. It's probably a combination of pride, hubris, and simple forgetfulness. There are several "patron saints" for this condition. Here are a couple of them: Saint Peter, who famously said to Jesus, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you" (Mt 26:35); and Saint Martha, who was "anxious and troubled about many things," while overlooking the "one thing necessary" (cf. Lk 10: 41-42).

Jesus was under no illusions about how weak we all are, knowing the zeal of the enemy to divide and destroy us, going so far as to reassure Saint Peter and the other apostles: "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail; and when you have turned again, strengthen your brethren" (Lk 22:31-32). Saint Paul adds in his letter to the Ephesians, "For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places" (Eph 6:12).

If this sounds scary, it should, but we should not give in to fear if we trust in God and follow his commands. First, we must remain "in Christ." We do this by allowing him to remain in us. This is principally realized through the faith-filled reception of the sacraments, especially Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist. Similarly, we remain in Christ by living the moral life laid out for us by his Church so as not to break our communion with Jesus. We also follow the words of Saint Paul in the sentences immediately following the quote above from Ephesians: "Therefore take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day . . ." (v. 13). He goes on to be specific about what is included in the "armor of God" in the verses that follow.

Another gift from Jesus to help us in the spiritual battle is something, or rather someone, we can easily overlook: his Mother, the Mother of the Church (our Mother), Mary. Throughout the liturgical year, the mystery of the Mother of God is set before us to contemplate. In God's wisdom and choice, he entrusted his eternally begotten Son to Mary of Nazareth, and Jesus entrusted us to her as members of his mystical Body: "Behold, your mother!" (Jn 19:27). Throughout two thousand years of Christian history, Mary has been the special advocate, powerful intercessor, and protector of Christians against the devil and the spiritual hosts of wickedness. Her heart is also turned to the many who do not yet know her Son and still live without the guiding light of Christ.

This year, 2017, marks the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Mary to the three shepherd children at Fatima in Portugal. The Catholic Church confirmed that these supernatural events are worthy of acceptance by the faithful (although they add nothing to Divine Revelation which concluded with the death of the last apostle). The secrets that Mary revealed to the children at Fatima served to be prophetic for the century that followed. Mary's plea was for humanity to turn back to God in faith, repentance, and prayer (especially the Holy Rosary) for mercy and peace. To refuse would mean disaster in this life, and possibly hell in the next. She also specifically predicted the Second World War and the rise of atheistic Communism and the errors it would spread throughout the world, including the persecution of the Church and an assault on the dignity of the human person.

As your bishop, I am often reminded that my labors, and yours, in service of the Kingdom of God are inadequate. To trust in our own efforts alone is to set ourselves up to be "sifted" by the devil. We should not see our lives merely as something we create on our own. We need supernatural help—individually and as a diocese. That is why I have decided that I will consecrate our diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on the anniversary of the first appearance of Mary at Fatima, this May 13, 2017. As the Father entrusted his Son to the Heart of Mary, so we will entrust ourselves as his members, the Church of Kansas City-St. Joseph, to the Heart of Mary. In doing this, we will ask Mary to be our help to never be separated from the Sacred Heart of her Son, and that our lives and work, like hers, will always be aligned with God's holy will.

I will consecrate our diocese, and I intend for our pastors to lead all of our faithful in these prayers of consecration in all of our parishes. In the weeks that follow, I will provide more information and guidance on how we might all prepare as individuals, as families, and as a diocese.

In a simple sense, to "consecrate" something is to set it apart for a holy purpose. As we journey through our time in history, we do so as a people of hope, confident in the love of Christ. As his disciples, let us follow his example and always rest on the heart of Mary.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ James V. Johnston, Jr.
Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph



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



Confirmation was bestowed on May 6, 2017 by
+ James V. Johnston, Jr.
Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph
at St. Ann Church, Plattsburg
Confirmation Candidates with their Saint's Name



Blake Antle	St. Sebastian
Shelbi Kempf	St. Joan of Arc
Karli Miller	St. Lucy
Tucker White	St. Sebastian

Congratulations!

4th Sunday of Easter

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
May 7, 2017



May 7 - 8 am Mass

Greeter: Jim Ingle
Lectors: Doug Ottinger & Jan Pottier
Ministers: Wayne Weipert, Jim Ingle
 Jan & Paul Pottier
Counters: Tony Kauzlarich & Rudy Wolford

Mass Intentions



Saturday, May 6 + Bob Sanders

By: Steve & Pat Culver

Sunday, May 7 + Ron Neely

By: Pottier Family

Saturday, May 13 People of the Parish

By:

Sunday, May 14 + Dick Roth

By: Roth Family



BIRTHDAY

Michael Fisher May 10th

ANNIVERSARY

Bob & Carol Shaffer May 12th

Congratulations and Best Wishes Everyone!



Congratulations!

The following children
will receive their First Communion
Sunday, May 7th:

Clara Mink

Reece Dixon

Let us all keep them in our prayers.

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven.
Whoever eats of this bread will live forever."



Ministry Schedule

May 14- 8 am Mass

Greeter: Hubert Gregory
Lectors: Bonnie Gregory & Jim Barber
Ministers: Hubert Gregory, Marylou Euler
 Diane & Jim Barber
Counters: Randy & Julie Moran



Mark your Calendars!

Parish & Finance Council: May 11 - 6 pm - Rectory
Altar Society: Parish Hall after Donut Sunday

Hand Linens: May/June: Jan Pottier

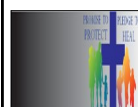
Donut Sunday: May 7 - John McPhee & Wayne Weipert

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

Rosary on 3rd Thursday 6:30 pm

Larry Tatro, 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.



Last Chance to get Raffle Tickets for the Basket Raffle

The Altar Society and St. Joseph Cemetery are sponsoring a Basket Raffle.

Purina Cat and Dog Basket - Nestle Products Basket

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5

Pick up your tickets on either table in the back of church.

The winning tickets will be drawn on May 7th at Donut Sunday

Proceeds will be 50/50 Altar Society and Cemetery.

Please make checks payable to St. Joseph Church

Weekend Collection April 29 & 30, 2017

Envelopes: \$1,146 Plate: \$184 Raffle: \$40

Mass Stipends: \$20 Reimbursement: \$95

Total Parish: \$1,485

2nd Collection: May 27 & 28 - St Joseph Cemetery COLLECTIONS:

April To Date: \$11,310.12

April Budget: \$ 7,191.52

Year-To-Date: \$95,641.741

Year Budget: \$96,298.36

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

Transitional Diaconate Ordination

Mr. Bill Fox will be ordained as a transitional deacon at

10am on Saturday, May 13, 2017 at the

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Kansas City, MO.
You will remember Bill from the time he spent in our parish last summer before returning to Holy Apostles Seminary.

This is the final major step Bill will take before being ordained a priest (God-willing) in 2018.

This ceremony is open to the public and the faithful are welcome to attend.

DIACONATE OFFICE

This May the Diaconate office will begin the process of Inquiry and Application for the next group of men who are interested in becoming Permanent Deacons. A number of Information and Discernment Sessions will be scheduled in June.

If you know of a man who may be interested in serving the church and would like to learn more about becoming a Deacon have him contact Deacon Paul Muller at muller@diocesekcsj.org or call 816-714-2302 at the Catholic Center.

All inquiries should be directed to the Diaconate office .



CALLING ALL GRADUATES!

We are looking for graduates of kindergarten, middle school, high school, college (Bachelors, Masters and Doctorates).

Please email Marge at stjosephchurch@centurytel.net so your name will be listed in our bulletin..

(If you know which college you will be attending please list it.



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, Barb Miller, Felicia Bober,
Mildred Ottinger, Jane Everett and Flo McLarney**

For our Shut - Ins

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



. On the weekend of May 20th and 21st, the Little Sisters of the Poor will be visiting our Parish. The Sisters operate a home for the elderly poor in Kansas City, which is one of 195 Homes operated by the Little Sisters

of the Poor in 30 countries throughout the world.

They have ministered to thousands of our own Greater Kansas City elderly for the past 130 years. Your support will enable them to continue their mission of caring for their Residents in a spirit of joy and dignity. Any assistance you are able to give is sincerely appreciated. God bless you!

www.littlesistersofthepoorkansascity.org

ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY BOARD

Second Collection - May 27th and 28th

As we get ready to celebrate Memorial Day let us not forget to honor our loved ones buried in the cemetery. We should also direct our attention to our outstanding property. It is through the tireless work of the board members that it is maintained so beautifully.

To be assured of improving and maintaining it we will be having a second collection.

Also, keep in mind that donations can be given at any time of year.

Let us be generous in supporting St. Joseph's Cemetery,