

From the Pastor’s Pen...

Following the *Consecration*, whereby, at the words of Jesus, the bread and wine are transubstantiated into the Body and Blood of Jesus, a series of prayers continues which highlights the nature of Mass as the Sacrifice at which Jesus is both priest and victim. In fact, these prayers invoke those acts of sacrificial worship in the Old Testament which were merely a foreshadowing of this True Sacrifice, the One by which man is truly reconciled to God:

*Be pleased to look upon these offerings with a serene and kindly countenance, and to accept them, as once you were pleased to accept the gifts of your servant **Abel** the Just, the sacrifice of **Abraham**, our father in faith, and the offering of your high priest **Melchizedek**, a holy sacrifice, a spotless victim.*

Let us now briefly look at these sacrifices which are recalled here: “The gifts of your servant Abel, the Just” refers to Genesis 4 which contrasts the sacrifices offered by the first sons of Adam and Eve – Cain and Abel. Cain was the firstborn, and he was a tiller of the soil. Cain “brought before the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel brought some of the *firstlings* of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard.” Both brothers brought something to offer the Lord. It cannot be that God – who is pure spirit (particularly prior to the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity) – was more pleased by the meat of animals than by the veggies and grains which were the fruit of the land! Subtly, however, we see that Abel offered the Lord his *firstlings* (some translations say “choicest of his flocks and herds”) whereas Cain is described as bringing merely “an offering.” A few lines later, the Lord clarifies with cryptic words: “*If you act rightly, acceptance but if you do not act rightly, sin is a croucher at the door*” These words are difficult to understand, but they seem to indicate that the Lord was displeased not by Cain’s offering *per se*, but by his disposition in offering it. He may have kept the choicest grains and vegetables for himself and given the Lord those which were blemished, but whatever the fruits looked like, his heart was marred by selfishness, whereas his brother, Abel, offered *the firstlings*, that is the best, and he did so with great generosity! This is a cautionary tale to remind us that when we approach to offer *this Sacrifice* (which we can only offer because we are incorporated into the Mystical Body of Christ, the Church) we must do so not begrudgingly, or with any malice in our hearts, but with boundless generosity.

“*The Sacrifice of Abraham, our Father in Faith*” actually refers to our first reading for this weekend’s Mass. In a mysterious way, the Lord appeared to Abraham – notice that it refers to “three men” (an early reference to the Holy Trinity) – who sets into motion an act of great hospitality:

“Sir, if I may ask you this favor, please do not go on past your servant. Let some water be brought, that you may bathe your feet, and then rest yourselves under the tree. Now that you have come this close to your servant, let me bring you a little food, that you may refresh yourselves; and afterward you may go on your way.” He then sets about preparing a great feast which he sets before this Divine visitor, even picking out “a tender, choice steer from his herd.” While the meal aspect of his service is emphasized, the story clearly has overtones of an animal sacrifice.

“And the offering of your high priest, Melchizedek, a holy sacrifice, a spotless victim.” Since I have already outlined the “offering of Melchizedek” I will only remind you here again, that this mysterious priest offered only “bread and wine” the very elements which our Lord would use at His Last Supper, gifts which he would change into His own Body and Blood, the very Sacrifice that we offer, and from which we are nourished with Eternal Life.

- Fr. Totton



St. Joseph Church

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Office Phone: 816-473-2011
Please Note New Parish Email: stjosepheaston@gmail.com
Website: www.stjosepheaston.org

Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

July 21, 2019

PARISH PRIEST
Fr. Joseph Totton
Phone: 816-294-9841
Email: fathertotton@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY
Penny Harrison

HALL RENTAL
Contact **Mary Ann LaFollette**
816-294-6972
Lafollettes@aol.com

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL
Jim Adams
Jim Ingle
Rosalie Ingle
Tony Kauzlarich
Julie Moran
Jordan Roth
Mike Roth
Wayne Weipert
Michael Fisher

CEMETERY BOARD
Ed Fisher
Mike Roth
Steve White

MASS SCHEDULE
Sunday 8:00 a.m.
Tuesday 7:00 a.m.

CONFESSIONS
Sunday 7:30 a.m.

MISSION STATEMENT
We the members of Saint Joseph Catholic parish, will strive to be the reflection of Jesus in this particular time and place.



TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN: REPORT ABUSE
Diocesan OMBUDSMAN: 816.812.2500
DIOCESAN VICTIM ADVOCATE: Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday July 21

8:00 a.m. Mike Grier †
by the Connett family

Tuesday July 23

7:00 a.m. Msgr. Rick Dierkes†

Sunday July 28

8:00 a.m. Carolyn Barton †
by Ann Miller

Please remember in prayer those who have died.
Grant them eternal rest and peace, O Lord!
† Denotes Deceased

Happy Birthdays!

Stacey Brown July 21
Fred Corkins July 23
Emily Crouse July 23
Mary Fisher July 24
Doug Ottinger July 25
Dixon Reese July 26



Are you or a loved one suffering from abortion? Find hope and allow God to heal your heart by attending a **Rachel's Vineyard** weekend retreat. The second of three 2019 retreats to be held in the Kansas City area will be on July 26-28.

For more information or to register, please call Teresa O'Donnell at (816) 679-4973 or email rvkcmo@gmail.com or visit www.rachelsvineyardkc.org.



WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

July 21 - 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Hubert Gregory
Lectors: Bonnie Gregory, Jan Pottier
Ministers: Doug Ottinger, Wayne Weipert, Jim Ingle
Counters: Richard and Mary Ann LaFollette

July 28- 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Wayne Weipert
Lectors: Scott Antle, Jim Ingle
Ministers: Marylou Euler, Jan and Paul Pottier
Counters: Paul and Jan Pottier

Weekend Collection - July 14, 2019

Envelopes: \$ 1035
Plate: \$ 78
Total Parish: \$ 1113

*Fiscal Year Budget July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

July-to-Date: \$ 2,653.00
July Budget \$ *
Year-to-Date: \$ 2,653.00
Year Budget: \$ *

*(the 2019-2020 fiscal year is awaiting final approval)

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

1st Annual

"In His

Presence"

Eucharistic Adoration Conference

Coronation of Our Lady of Peace Parish

13000 Bennington Ave., Grandview, MO

Saturday, September 14th 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Only \$10.00 with lunch included

Hosted by the Office of Divine Worship

Register at

<https://kcsjatholic.org/office/divine-worship/>



Mark your Calendars

Altar Society - Meets in the Parish Hall after Donut Sunday

Donut Sunday - August 4

Knights of Columbus Council #5067

Jay Pflugradt, Grand Knight
1st & 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m.
Rosary 3rd Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Recitation of Holy Rosary

2nd Sunday of month beginning at 7:40 a.m.

Please note our new email address:
stjosepheaston@gmail.com

Is your marriage going down the right road or is it a little off track?

Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage. Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers **hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer** ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. For more information about the upcoming Retrouvaille Weekend contact registration team: Local Telephone @ 800.470.2230 or visit our website: HelpOurMarriage.com.

A Message from Fr. Phil Luebbert

"In 2015 while I was in Plattsburg I was diagnosed with Merkel Cell Carcinoma, a newly discovered, dangerous form of skin cancer that attacks the cells. I had surgery in September 2015, however the cancer later returned. I had radiation and chemo therapies last year that reduced the cancer to a small area, but it has come back again and I am taking a second series of chemo therapy. The surgeon told me earlier in the year that with the advanced forms of treatment in current medical technology, I may be able to live some more years. I pray for a complete cure. I ask the prayers of my friends, that if it be the Lord's will I may keep fighting back the cancer, doing the Lord's work. Every day I thank the Lord for letting me be a priest one more day, and offer Mass again." Please Pray for Fr. Phil.

Fr. Phil Luebbert– Chaplain
Little Sisters of the Poor
8300 East 88th Terr. Apt# 3006
Kansas City, MO 64138

Prayer Corner

"To everything there is a season and time. .

for every purpose under heaven."

—Ecc. 3-11



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

Ron Kretzer, Bob Everett, Mildred Ottinger, Lori Redmond, Nancy Totton, Wayne Totton, Ed Fisher, Amy Dobrowansky, Fr. Phil Luebbert, the elderly and infirm, the chronically ill and their caregivers. For those who attend to the dying and grieving; for medical professionals and first responders; for the homeless, the lonely and those lost in this world; for those who harbor hatred and especially for those who have no one to pray for them. For the conversion of the enemies of the Good and of the Church; for the protection of children and the innocent.

For our home bound parishioners:

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

20th Annual Midwest Catholic Family Conference

Century II Convention Center, Wichita, KS

August 2-4, 2019

"My Soul Magnifies the Lord"

Speakers include Steve Ray, Fr. Donald Calloway, Dr. Ray Guarendi,

Tim Staples and Stephanie Gray.

For more information:
www.catholicfamilyconference.org



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, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombusmankcsj.org 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 information.