

From the Pastor’s Pen...

"Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head."

This is our Lord’s response along the way as a man professes his desire to follow him. It seems a curious response, a challenge even. Jesus does not refuse the man’s desire, but He issues a challenge to let the man know of the difficulties that lie ahead, and the fact that we have no earthly home.

With the recent release of the film *Tolkien*, a cinematic snapshot of one brief period in the life of the Twentieth Century’s greatest contribution to English Literature, John Ronald Reuel Tolkien, I decided to re-visit his breakout work, *The Hobbit*. The author once wrote: “I am in fact a Hobbit in all but size.” As I read the book again, I began to identify, on at least one score, with Tolkien as he identified with his protagonist, the endearing Bilbo Baggins: “...I do not travel much.” While I **cannot** say, “I do not travel much” I recently discovered that when I *am away*, I long to be home, to sleep in my own bed, to have a place to hang my biretta (or my ballcap), a place where surroundings are familiar and I don’t have to think about how to translate what I want to say or page through a dictionary to divine the meaning of someone else’s words. Nevertheless, I am reminded that, however hobbit-like my disposition may be, I am also a disciple, a follower of Jesus who said, “the some of man has nowhere to rest his head.”

Mr. Baggins’ adventure is filled with encounters, both delightful and terrifying. Along the way he meets many different types of persons. Thankfully, my recent trip was short on hostility, but I did meet a number of good people along the way. I would like to tell you about a couple of them. The names, when used, have been changed in the interest of prudence.

William is a career Naval officer who married his college sweetheart shortly after graduating from the Naval Academy. Since his wife is Catholic, they were married before a priest and have raised their children in the Church—having been active in many a base chapel. For nearly 20 years, he has attended Mass with his family, and he was excited to tell me that he has finally decided to become Catholic. Since he is in his final duty station, he and his wife have established membership in a local civilian parish and he is beginning the RCIA process in the fall. It was a special privilege to hear him tell the story of how the Lord, through the example of others, has been drawing him into the Church.

PFC Smith is a young soldier from Los Angeles. He joined the Army because he was inspired by the service of his parents and many of his aunts and uncles. He was excited to be detailed to his first duty station in Europe, but he is also looking forward to returning to L.A. during his upcoming leave. As a high school student, he began offering hair cuts to homeless people on Skid Row which eventually led to him establishing a non-profit organization called FAMILY an acronym for “Forget About Myself, I Love You”. His enthusiasm has inspired many others to join him and the organization now puts on large events not only to provide grooming services, but also basic necessities like food and clothing. He told me about the transformation he notices in people when they encounter someone who sees past their unfortunate circumstances and recognizes their human dignity! A haircut is an outward transformation, but he attests to stories of true inner transformation that he has witnessed. I asked him if he planned to make a career in the Army. He said he wouldn’t rule it out, but he thought he could see himself doing more social work in the future.

Alvin is a Navy Reservist who immigrated to the United States from Venezuela fifteen years ago. An incredibly detailed petty officer who is very good at what he does in the Navy and in his civilian job, Alvin also strikes me as the type of person who has never met a stranger. He goes out of his way to make everybody feel welcome. I asked him about his home country and the cultural and political strife which is now going on there. While he expressed sadness about the situation there, he is both proud and pleased to be a citizen of the United States, an important reminder of the blessings we have, as we look forward to celebrating the 243rd birthday of our Nation later this week. Nevertheless, Alvin’s plight reminds me of what Jesus says in the Gospel: “Foxes have dens, birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head.” In other words, I am reminded that, as disciples of the Lord, we have no earthly city. We are pilgrims on a journey, hobbits on an adventure.



—Fr. Joseph W. Totton



St. Joseph Church

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Thirteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

June 30, 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 June 30
8:00 a.m. Mike Gates †

Tuesday July 2
7:00 a.m. Elmer L. Petty†

Sunday July 7
8:00 a.m. James F. Rost †
by Carole Meade

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

Birthdays

JoAnne Bower July 1
Mandy Klein July 1
Johnathan Ottinger July 2



The Catholic young adult group for St. Joseph, *Coram Deo*, is meeting on **Thursday, July 11th**! Meet at Our Lady of Guadalupe at **6:10pm**. Our event has yet to be determined. All young adults aged 22-35 are invited to attend. We hope to see you there! Questions? Please contact Ally Goetz at agoetz@olog.org.

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

June 30 - 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Hubert Gregory
Lectors: Jordan Roth, Jan Pottier
Ministers: Jim Ingle, Marylou Euler, Paul Pottier
Counters: Jordan and Amanda Roth

July 7- 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Jim Ingle
Lectors: Scott Antle, Jordan Roth
Ministers: Wayne Weipert, Jan and Paul Pottier
Counters: Tony Kauzlarich, Rudy Wolford

Weekend Collection - June 23, 2019

Envelopes: \$ 670
Plate: \$ 110
Total Parish: \$ 780

Fiscal Year Budget July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

June-to-Date: \$ 5,290.00
June Budget \$ 7,550.00
Year-to-Date: \$ 99,734.00
Year Budget: \$ 90,600.00

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

6th Annual Pitching for Priests Softball Game

Proceeds help fund priestly formation in the KC/St. Joseph diocese and the Archdiocese of KC/KS. Priests from KC/St. Joseph VS. Priests from the Archdiocese.

Friday, July 5th at 7:00 p.m.

Tailgating begins at 4:00 p.m.

Community America Ballpark– T-bones Stadium

1800 Village West Pkwy, KC KS 66111

Sponsored by Catholic Radio Network



To purchase tickets go to

<https://catholicradionetwork.ticketspice.com/pitching-for-priests-2019>

Mark your Calendars

Altar Society - Meets in the Parish Hall after Donut Sunday

Donut Sunday - July 7

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.

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.



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



First Saturday Devotion

Mass and Confessions at Mir House of Prayer.
Fr. Christian Malewski, Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, offers Confession at 7:00 a.m. and Mass at 8:00 a.m. every first Saturday of the month at Mir House of Prayer, 6492 NE Hwy 6 in St. Joseph.

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, Bubba Miller, Amy Dobrowansky, 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

The parish office will be open on Monday, the 1st of July and CLOSED on Thursday, the 4th. Please submit any bulletin announcements by noon on Monday.

Have a safe and blessed Fourth of July celebration!



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, at 816.812.2500 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.