Annunciation by Denise Levertoy

We know the scene:

the room, variously furnished, almost always a lectern, a book; always the tall lily.

Arrived on solemn grandeur of great wings, the angelic ambassador, standing or hovering, whom she acknowledges, a guest.

But we are told of meek obedience. No one mentions courage.

The engendering Spirit did not enter her without consent.

God waited.

She was free to accept or to refuse, choice integral to humanness.

Aren't there annunciations of one sort or another in most lives?

Some unwillingly undertake great destinies, enact them in sullen pride, uncomprehending.

More often those moments when roads of light and storm open from darkness in a man or woman, are turned away from in dread, in a wave of weakness, in despair and with relief.

Ordinary lives continue.

God does not smite them.

But the gates close, the pathway vanishes.

She had been a child who played, ate, slept like any other child—but unlike others, wept only for pity, laughed in joy not triumph.

Compassion and intelligence fused in her, indivisible.

Called to a destiny more momentous than any in all of Time, she did not quail, only asked a simple, 'How can this be?' and gravely, courteously, took to heart the angel's reply, the astounding ministry she was offered:

to bear in her womb Infinite weight and lightness; to carry in hidden, finite inwardness, nine months of Eternity; to contain in slender vase of being, the sum of power—in narrow flesh, the sum of light.

Then bring to birth, push out into air, a Man-child needing, like any other, milk and love—but who was God.

This was the moment no one speaks of, when she could still refuse.

A breath unbreathed,
Spirit,
suspended,
waiting

She did not cry, 'I cannot. I am not worthy,'
Nor, 'I have not the strength.'
She did not submit with gritted teeth,
raging, coerced.
Bravest of all humans,
consent illumined her.
The room filled with its light,
the lily glowed in it,
and the iridescent wings.
Consent,
courage unparalleled,
opened her utterly.



St. Joseph Church

P.O. Box 197—107 North Shortridge, Easton, MO 64443 Office Phone: 816.473.2011

Email: <u>stjosephchurch@centurytel.net</u> Website: www.stjosepheaston.org

March 24, 2019

Third Sunday of Lent

PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Joseph Totton Phone: 816.294.9841

Email: fathertotton@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY

Penny Harrison

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

HALL RENTAL

Call office at 816.473.2011 or email: stjosephchurch@centurytel.net

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.



Feast of the Annunciation-March 25

To Protect our Children: Report Abuse Ombudsman: Jenifer Valenti – 816.812.2500

DIOCESAN VICTIM ADVOCATE: Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org



Sunday 8:00 a.m. March 24 Mary Pottier †

by Pottier family

Tuesday

March 26

7:00 a.m.

George and Rita Burns† by Steve Culver

Sunday 8:00 a.m. March 31

For the People

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

Fr. Totton has begun offering a Tuesday

morning Mass

At St. Joseph Parish

7:00 a.m.

Birthdays

Steven McClurg

March 24





Unplanned, the movie of the true conversion story of Abby Johnson, former clinic director for Planned Parenthood who became pro-life because of her experiences, will be coming to St. Joseph.

Showing at the Regal movie theater beginning March 28-April 4 at 9:30 p.m.

For more information, please visit Unplannedfilm.com.

Congratulations to

Carson Sebastian White David Gabriel Barton Gracie Lucy Mink Emma Helena Klein **Emily Vitus Crouse** Laynie Theresa Davidson Brooklyn Marie Adams



Confirmation

All will be confirmed as soldiers for Christ today, Sunday, March 24th, at the Cathedral. Please keep them in your prayers! Come, Holy Spirit!



March 24-8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: **Hubert Gregory**

Lectors: Bonnie Gregory, Jan Pottier

Jim Ingle, Wayne Weipert, Doug Ottinger Ministers:

Counters: Paul and Jan Pottier

March 31 - 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Wayne Weipert

Lectors: Scott Antle, Jordan Roth Marylou Euler, Jan and Paul Pottier Ministers:

Jordan and Amanda Roth **Counters:**

Weekend Collection - March 17, 2019

\$ 990.00 Envelopes: Plate: \$ 159.00 Hall rental \$ 100.00 Total Parish: \$ 1249.00

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

March-to-Date: \$ 4,196.00 March Budget \$ 7,550.00 \$ 77,581.00 Year-to-Date: Year Budget: \$ 90.600.00

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

Lenten Opportunity...

to Administer the Corporal Work of Mercy:

Bury the dead and care for their resting places

Update: Another Kessler Cemetery cleanup is planned for Saturday. March 30th. Meet at the church hall at 8:45 a.m. to carpool. Please bring tools that could be used: hatchet, knee pads, saws, leaf rakes,

To donate, checks made to the cemeteries can be made out to "St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery". We ask donors that wish for their contributions to be used specifically for the Kessler Cemetery to note on the memo line of their check "for Kessler Ceme**tery**". Donations can be mailed to the following address:

> St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery c/o St. Joseph Catholic Church

PO box 197

Easton, MO 64443



Mark your Calendars—Parish Events

Altar Society

Parish Hall after Donut Sunday—

Hand Linens - March/April: Nannette Wolford

Donut Sunday - April 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 Rosary

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

Second collection for Catholic Relief Services-March 31st



Baby Bottles to be filled with change for donations to the

Pregnancy Resource Center

are available at the back of church today for you to take home to fill with your sacrificial monetary offerings this Lent. Thank you!

Lenten Enrichment Offering: Queen of Heaven

Beginning March 13th, Deacon Josh Fultz and his wife, Mandy, will be conducting a weekly class and discussion group on the Blessed Virgin Mary. The class, which runs through May 1st, will be held in St. Joseph

Rectory in Easton from 7-8 p.m. each Wednesday. If you would like more information, please contact Deacon Josh at 816-390-2757 email jdfultz@yahoo.com



LENTEN FISH FRY

Knights of Columbus Council 5067 in St Joseph

will be having their Annual Fish Fry,

beginning March 8th.

The fish fry will be held on all Fridays during Lent except Good Friday.

The Knights will start serving at 5 PM to 7:30 PM at their Council Hall, 1205 North 49th Terrace.

Adult meal will be \$10.00 and children under 12 years old \$5.00

Prayer Corner

"To everything there is a season and time.

for every purpose under heaven." —Ecc. 3-1.



". . .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 and those lost in this world; for those who harbor hatred and especially for those who have no one to pray for them. For those who suffer from addictions, that they make seek support and come to know God's healing.

"...a time of war and a time of peace..."

We pray for the safety of all our service men and women who serve our country.

An informational meeting about Troops of St. George

Wednesday, April 3rd after the 6 p.m. Mass

St. Ann, Plattsburg.

All fathers of young sons interested in forming a troop at St. Ann are invited to attend a brief meeting in the parish hall. The Troops of Saint George is a fraternal Catholic nonprofit apostolate for priests, men, and young men looking for a life of adventure coupled with virtue.



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 Jenifer Valenti@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 information.