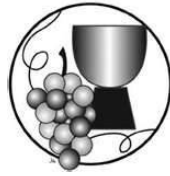


From the Pastor's Pen...

Who is *Melchizedek*...?



Perhaps this question has come to your mind at least once or twice at Mass recently! Years ago a parishioner had heard the mention of this unusual name at Mass and stopped me afterward to ask me about it. Beginning this week, I would like to spend a little time exploring the stories behind some of the individuals named in the *Roman Canon* - the First Eucharistic Prayer - used at Mass. As a warm-up, I would point out that there are four options which may be used for the Eucharistic Prayer at Mass, but the First Eucharistic Prayer, called the *Roman Canon* was the standard Eucharistic prayer used in the Latin Rite of the Catholic Church for nearly fifteen-hundred years. It contains rich imagery which helps to focus us on the sacrificial nature of our act of Worship, and Melchizedek is at the heart of this rich imagery.

Much ink has been spilt in considering the question of this enigmatic biblical character, but for our purposes, let us look at his first appearance in Sacred Scripture: He is first described in the Book of Genesis as a “priest of God Most High.”:

*When Abram returned from his defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were allied with him, the king of Sodom went out to greet him in the Valley of Shaveh. Melchizedek, king of Salem, brought out **bread and wine**. He was a priest of God Most High. He blessed Abram with these words: “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, the creator of heaven and earth; And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your foes into your hand.” Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything. (Genesis 14:18)*

The Psalmist also refers to this mysterious figure: “*The LORD has sworn and will not waver: ‘You are a priest forever in the manner of Melchizedek.’*” (Psalm 110:4)

Beginning at the conclusion of chapter 6 and continuing through chapter 7, the Letter to the Hebrews makes significant reference to Melchizedek as an ancient type pre-figuring Christ: *Without father, mother, or ancestry, without beginning of days or end of life, thus made to resemble the Son of God, he remains a priest forever. (Hebrews 7:3)* The author goes on to indicate that the Jewish Levitical priesthood has been superseded by the priesthood of Jesus Christ who is both Priest and Victim (the Lamb of God) who offers himself as a Sacrifice and nourishes us with the fruit of that same sacrifice under the appearance of bread and wine. No doubt this is why the mysterious figure *Melchizedek* is mentioned in this ancient Eucharistic Prayer by which the Church not only transforms the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus, but takes part in that same sacrifice of worship. In the coming weeks, I hope to profile other individuals named in this beautiful prayer to highlight the participation of real people in God’s Plan of Salvation History.

-Fr. Totton



Third Sunday of Easter

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

EASTER WEEK 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.

St. Joseph Church

P.O. Box 197—107 North Shortridge, Easton, MO 64443
Office Phone: 816.473.2011
Email: stjosephchurch@centurytel.net
Website: www.stjosepheaston.org

May 5, 2019

O Mary,
conceived
without sin,
pray for us
who have
recourse to
thee.



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

Mass for the Intentions of the Week

Sunday May 5
8:00 a.m. James F. Rost†
by Carole Meade

Tuesday May 7
7:00 a.m. Mike and Lorena Hothaus+
By Steve Culver

Sunday May 12
8:00 a.m. Dick Roth†
by Roth family

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



Birthdays

Wilma Corkins May 5
Michael Fisher May 10

Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Shaffer May 12

We will honor our Blessed Mother!



Following the 8:00 a.m.
Mass

Mother's Day, May 12th



Baccalaureate for East Buchanan High School
Wednesday, May 15 at 6:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church in Gower

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

May 5 - 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Hubert Gregory
Lectors: Jordan Roth, Jan Pottier
Ministers: Jim Ingle, Marylou Euler, Paul Pottier
Counters: Tony Kauzlarich and Rudy Wolford

May 12 - 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Richard LaFollette
Lectors: Doug Ottinger, Jim Ingle
Ministers: Wayne Weipert Marylou Euler, Paul Pottier
Counters: Jan and Paul Pottier

Weekend Collection - April 28, 2019

Envelopes: \$ 990.00
Plate: \$ 38.00

Total Parish: \$ 1,028.00

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

April-to-Date: \$ 7,691.00
April Budget \$ 7,550.00
Year-to-Date: \$ 88,293.00
Year Budget: \$ 90,600.00

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

(Penny will out of the office in the coming week, so updates will be suspended until 5/18. Thank you!)

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: HelpOur-Marriage.com.



Mark your Calendars

Parish Finance Council - TBA

Altar Society -Parish Hall after Donut Sunday—

Donut Sunday - May 5— Richard and Mary Ann LaFollette

Knights of Columbus Council #5067

Jay Pflugrad, 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.

May Crowning— May 12 following Mass.



Doug Barry from RADIX and EWTN, will be in St. Joseph at the Cathedral, 519 North 10th Street, for a parish mission, Sunday, May 5th and Monday, May 6th. at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Barry will be speaking about and encouraging all to be BATTLE READY, ready spiritually, mentally and physically for the spiritual fight that we all face.

Easter season—the perfect time to bring new life into your marriage by learning **Natural Family Planning!** A course in the Sympto-Thermal Method of NFP begins at 6:30pm on Mon., May 13, at St. Andrew Parish, 6415 NE Antioch Rd, Gladstone, MO. Call Christina or Michael Paoletti at 816-507-1591 or send email to

jchristinapaoletti@gmail.com for more info.



Online pre-registration for these classes required at:
www.ccli.org

Rachel's Vineyard, a post-abortion healing ministry, has upcoming retreats in the Kansas City area in 2019.

May 5-6 July 26-28 October 25-27

For information, call 816-679-4973 or email: rvkcmo@gmail.com.

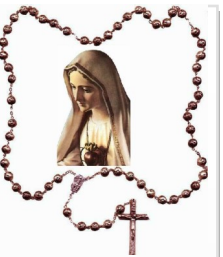


Prayer Corner

"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 those who suffer from wounds physically, emotionally and spiritually brought about from the abortion industry and its promoters.

"...in thanksgiving..."

For our priests, for our married couples, for those who sacrifice for us with humility, compassion and commitment.

For our home bound parishioners:

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

Upon his beatification by Pope John Paul II in Rome on 4 June 1995, Blessed Damien was granted a memorial feast day, which is celebrated on 10 May. Father Damien was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on 11 October 2009. The Catholic Encyclopedia calls him "the Apostle of the Lepers."

"Without the Blessed Sacrament a position like mine would be intolerable."

- St. Damien, pray for us

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.