

The Deceiver and the Human Heart

by Neal Lozano, Heart of the Father Ministries

When the enemy first appeared, he disguised himself as a serpent, one of God’s creatures. He remained hidden, obscured by darkness, until Jesus exposed him.

The father of lies’ strategy remains the same: stay hidden so the source and nature of the lies are not identified. But even if exposed, he has a secondary strategy: draw attention away from God and onto himself, seek worshipers, distort the image of God and lead people to think he has more power than he does.

The third temptation of Jesus in the desert demonstrates this strategy:

***Matthew 4:8** “Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them; 9 and he said to him, ‘All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.’”*

To put it another way, the first strategy is to rob us of relationship with God and lead us to mistrust God’s goodness in order to keep us from knowing God as a good father. The second strategy is for the enemy to take God’s place, bring us under his kingdom rule, and replace faith with fear.

People often want to tell me stories about the devil and his work. I really do not want to hear it, unless the person is telling me about the victory Jesus brought to him in a time of need. Speaking about the power of the devil can detract from our trust in the goodness of God. We need to be careful about curiosity. Curiosity about the devil can lead us to welcome his presence through fear, superstition, or confusion. Discernment is not only about discerning evil but also discerning the good. If we give him too much attention and become devil-conscious we are falling into his subtle trap of drawing attention away from God.

Once we are aware of the influence of evil spirits we need to be disciplined in the way we think about them, always keeping our eyes turned to the Father.

It is very helpful to keep in mind that the root of evil is within the heart of man. St. John Paul II said it well:

"The wisdom of Christ makes you capable of pushing on to discover the deepest source of evil existing in the world. And it stirs us to proclaim to all men the truth we have learned from the Master's lips (Mk 7:21), that evil comes "from within people, from their hearts." So the root of evil is within man. The remedy, therefore, must also begin in the heart. And it is precisely here that our Lord wishes to lead us."

Demons are fallen angels; they have intellect and will and have no bodies to limit them. They become present where we focus our thoughts. In our hearts, the demons find unrepentant sin, fear, unresolved trauma—doors we have opened to the spirit world—and they are drawn like flies to manure. Then, these demons work to increase the darkness, and confine us in it. They seek a place of rest inside us, a home where they belong. Being spirits, they do not take up space within us; they become attached to the evil in our hearts. They become present within us, intermingled with our darkness. Their presence becomes familiar and is part of the scenery of our lives.

The source of evil in humanity remains the human heart that has fallen into sin and separation from God. A spirit of hatred is not a little demon called hatred; it is an evil spirit that has attached itself to hatred in our hearts. Hatred is an aspect of a fallen angel and the place where it wants to “rest”. Once welcomed, repentance may not be enough to dislodge the access we gave the evil spirit. But by responding more fully, using the additional keys of Forgiveness, Renunciation, Authority, and Father’s Blessing, we can experience deliverance and great freedom.

Deliverance and healing require an understanding of the human heart more than they require understanding of evil spirits. We can learn more by observing what evil spirits do within people, than by learning about the spirits themselves. We need to remember what Jesus told us about them: the devil is the father of sin but the source of evil in this world is the human heart. And in the heart, evil will be battled and defeated. When the obstacles to God’s love are removed from our hearts, we can be truly free to experience the Father’s love and affirmation.



St. Joseph Church

P.O. Box 197—107 North Shortridge, Easton, MO 64443
Office Phone: 816-473-2011

Please Note New Parish Email: stjosepheaston@gmail.com
Website: www.stjosepheaston.org

Twenty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 1, 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.



OUR LADY OF SORROWS, PRAY FOR US!

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 September 1

8:00 a.m. Susan Merrigan †
by the Everett and Roth families

Tuesday September 3

7:00 a.m. Hugh "Butch" Hamilton†
by Penny Harrison

Sunday September 8

8:00 a.m. Rose Ann West †
by the West girls

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

Birthdays

*thankful
grateful
blessed*

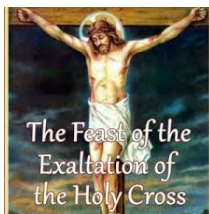
Declan Kriley	September 3
Mary Ann LaFollette	September 4
Parker Chambers	September 5

Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hamera
September 7

The Mir House of Prayer invites you to participate in the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on Saturday, September 14th at 7:00 p.m. and the Seven Sorrows of Mary on Sunday, September 15th at 5:00 p.m. followed by Benediction.

The Mir House of Prayer is located at 6492 NE State Route 6, St. Joseph, MO 64607



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.

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

September 1 - 8 a.m. Mass

Greeter: Wayne Weipert
Lectors: Jordan Roth, Jan Pottier
Ministers: Marylou Euler, Paul Pottier, Jim Ingle
Counters: Tony Kauzlarich, Dick Crowell

September 8- 8 a.m. Mass

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

Weekend Collection - August 25, 2019

Envelopes:	\$	1050
Plate:	\$	93
Building Fund	\$	100
Total Parish:	\$	1243

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

August-to-Date:	\$	5,252.00
August Budget	\$	7,900.00
Year-to-Date:	\$	10,296.00
Year Budget:	\$	94,720.00

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

The next Freedom in Christ series based on the book Unbound: A Practical Guide to Deliverance by Neal Lozano

is scheduled to begin Sunday, October 6th at St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, 6415 NE Antioch Rd, Gladstone, MO in the Fr. Pilecki Room. The 8-part series will be held on Sundays the 6th, the 13th, the 20th and the 27th in October, concluding on a retreat November 1-3 at the Franciscan Retreat Center in Independence. The cost of the workbook, materials and retreat is \$145. Limited availability. Registration due by Oct. 1st. For more information and to register email unbound.kc@gmail.com or call 816-365-3673 or 816-289-2506.

A short article written by Neal Lozano is on the back page of the bulletin.

UNBOUND
deliverance. freedom. belonging.

Mark your Calendars

Altar Society - Meets in the Parish Hall after Donut Sunday

Donut Sunday - September 1st

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.



Volunteer Opportunities

There are multiple opportunities throughout the year to volunteer at Catholic Charities KCSJ. If you are looking for something rewarding to do with your free time or can only help occasionally on certain project, we are the place for you. Different times of the year find us working on various projects and often people are looking for service hour opportunities.

To find out what our specific needs are, please contact Linda Hopkins, Volunteer Coordinator at 816-659-8205 or lhopkins@ccharities.com.

The 11th Annual Partnering for Future Priests Dinner and Auction is coming up soon! This year's event will take place on **October 4th at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish** in St. Joseph.

The ticket price is \$50 per person with eight people to a table. We begin the evening with prayer and continue with a great evening of good food, great company and the opportunity to bid on one-of-a-kind items in silent and live auctions!

Donations for the auctions such as gift cards, crafts, quilts, and commitments for baked goods are being accepted at this time. We would also like your help by placing an ad to help promote your company, organization or parish in our program.

To donate and/or for questions please contact Hubert or Bonnie Gregory at 816-473-2016.

To register and pay securely online go to www.conception.edu/pfp.



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 the souls in purgatory. 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 Fr. Totton and Fr. Schneider in this time of transition.

" . . . 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.

Keep in touch with Fr. Totton! His new address is:

Fr. Joseph Totton
PO Box 109
Independence, MO 64051-0109



"We make Idols of our concepts but Wisdom is borne of wonder."- St. Gregory the Great

Feast day- September 3rd.

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.