

People, Look East!

...thus begins a familiar Advent hymn. It might also describe a call for us to re-orient our worship.

In last week's bulletin, I shared about my experience visiting *Hagia Sophia*, the ancient Christian Basilica in Istanbul. I was surprised by the positive reaction that I received from parishioners who were interested in, even fascinated by, such an ancient church half a world away! In comparison with our churches today – even those which are “old” by North American standards – there is something truly “otherworldly” about a place like Hagia Sophia, St. Peter's Basilica in Rome or even Paris' gothic Notre Dame Cathedral. The very design of the architecture is intended to transport us to another time and place. It is intended, I dare say, to transport us to another dimension altogether. As I have stated in earlier bulletin columns, when we are at Mass, we are simultaneously present at Calvary, at the Lord's Supper and before the very Throne of the Lamb in Heaven!

When I was a student at Conception Seminary College, the monks were in the process of a months-long renovation of their century-old Abbey Basilica. In the final days prior to the re-dedication, they were giving informal tours and I remember hearing a lady, a non-Catholic who was working with the visiting “bloodmobile”, comment: “WOW! If something on earth can be so beautiful, imagine what heaven must look like!” To this day, her words have left an impression upon me. Our churches, however humble and simple they may be, *should* have the ability to convey the grandeur of the action which takes place therein. Where we have lost this, we should seek to recover it, not only by restoring the grandeur to our church buildings, but also by restoring grandeur and meaning, where lost, to our liturgical celebrations.

Those of you who lived through the Second Vatican Council will remember the breakneck pace with which changes followed the closing of the Council. It must have been an exciting – and perhaps disorienting – time to experience so many changes so quickly, and with very little time to reflect. As with anything, two people may have even remember the same event in two entirely different ways. Once I asked my Dad about how he experienced the changes at Mass (he had served the Latin Mass as a boy and was 20 years old when the council began) He kind of shrugged his shoulders and said, “the Fathers knew best...I guess.” Others embraced the changes with a greater enthusiasm and still others dug in their heels and called for a moratorium on change altogether.

Today I would like to reflect on a significant change which was made – almost universally and almost instantly – which was *not even called for by the Second Vatican Council*, but one which is often attributed to that Council. This change involves the shifting in the position of the priest at the altar. Prior to “Vatican II” almost every priest celebrating Mass would stand at the altar in a common direction with the people addressing their prayers to God (a position sometimes called “*Ad-Orientem*” which means “toward the ‘east’”). Within a short time following the Council, it became almost universal practice for the priest to stand behind the altar facing the people, which has given some the mistaken impression that the priest, rather than God, is the focus of the Mass. Since Mass is not entertainment, but Divine Worship, and the object of our worship is God, we might wish to revisit the question of posture and direction of the priest. In fact, two years ago, **Robert Cardinal Sarah**, the Church's chief liturgist, made this plea:

I believe that it is very important that we return as soon as possible to a common orientation, of priests and the faithful turned together in the same direction—Eastwards or at least towards the apse—to the Lord who comes, in those parts of the liturgical rites when we are addressing God. This practice is permitted by current liturgical legislation. It is perfectly legitimate in the modern rite. Indeed, I think it is a very important step in ensuring that in our celebrations the Lord is truly at the center.

I have read many encouraging articles written by priests and lay people who have experienced a return to the ancient practice recommended by Cardinal Sarah. I wish I had room to share them all with you. The popular author, **Fr. Dwight Longenecker** offers the following advice to help his readers understand such a shift in direction:

At the heart of the Christian experience is repentance and conversion of life. The word metanoia or repentance actually means “turning in a new direction.” Therefore, at Mass when we orient ourselves toward the tabernacle, toward the Lord's presence, we are turning in a new direction—turning away from ourselves and toward him. There are various times within the celebration of the liturgy when the priest can turn toward the East with the people: during the penitential rite, the Gloria, the prayers of the faithful and the prayer of consecration.

The full text of Fr. Longenecker's article is worth a read. It may be found online at: www.aleteia.org/2016/06/09/mass-whats-the-point/. Finally, I would direct your attention to a brief video regarding *Ad-Orientem* worship which I have posted on our parish website. You can also access it directly at <https://youtu.be/0CWgpwZzeFI>.

-Fr. Joseph W. Totton



ST. ANN'S PARISH

Sunday, November 18, 2018

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

This week's Mass & Confession Times:

Saturday: 4:00 pm Sunday: 10 am

Confessions: Tuesday 5:30pm Saturday 3pm

Tuesday 6pm Traditional Latin Mass

followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, 8 am: Thursday 9am at Easton

Friday: NO MASS

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Faith Formation Team

Teresa Marie Koch—Leader
Roxanne Durando
Greg Kittelson
Terry Miller

Knights of Columbus

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Parish Council

Paul Broderick
Randy Dalinghaus
Carole Harris
Diane Hon
Marge Kinney
Julie Moran
Eric Niemann
Claudia Ziegler

Altar Society

Loretta Broderick, President
Pat Clingan, Vice President
Shirley Schwery, Secretary
Lori Broderick, Treasurer

Email: stann001@centurytel.net
Website: www.stannplattsburg.org
Business Manager: Marge Kinney

Hall Rental: Leave a message on the office phone

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



Ministry Schedule

Bill Lueckenotte coordinates scheduling for liturgical ministries. If you anticipate scheduling concerns for the next quarter, please contact him via email bjlueckenotte@gmail.com or telephone (816) 304-6221. Once scheduled, you are responsible to arrange your own replacement / substitute.

Saturday, Nov 17: 4 pm

Sacristan Kasandra Lueckenotte
Server Oskar, Zak, & Eli Kittelson
Lector Clare Pelzel & Judy McKowen
EMHC Elaine Stoll & Bill Lueckenotte
Usher Open

Sunday, Nov 18: 10 am

Sacristan Charlotte Richey
Server Philip Richey, Carter Watton, Ryder Dalinghaus, & Mark Durando
Lector Mary Ann Downey & Dino Durando
EMHC Pat Clingan & Mary Ann Garton
Usher Mindy Beall, Eric Whitlow, Vince Seiler, & Herman Gillotte

NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Oakridge: Mary Ann Garton

MONEY COUNTERS: Karen Trotter & Chris Koch

Saturday, Nov 24: 4 pm

Sacristan Sophia Durando
Server Oskar, Jesse, & Eli Kittelson
Lector Clare Pelzel & Judy McKowen
EMHC Judy McKowen & Charlie Harper
Usher Open

Sunday, Nov 25: 10 am

Sacristan Veronica Durando
Server Mark & Paul Durando, Jon Friedl & Carter Watton
Lector Terry Miller & Paul Broderick
EMHC Mary Ann Downey & Karen Trotter
Usher Vince Seiler, Herman Gillotte, Eric Niemann & JC Roberts

NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Oakridge: Mary Ann Garton

MONEY COUNTERS: Paul & Lori Broderick



Saturday, Nov 17: 4 pm + Jean Gassman

By: Bradley & Jan Wolf

Sunday, Nov 18: 10 am People of the Parish

Tuesday, Nov 20: Private Intention

Wednesday, Nov 21: + Rev. Peter Cuong

By: Yen Khang Van

Thursday, Nov 22: 9AM St. Joseph - Easton

Friday, Nov 23: NO MASS

Saturday, Nov 24: 4 pm People of the Parish

Sunday, Nov 25: 10 am + Anthony Rizzo

By: Lee & Barbara Schwery

Weekend Collection Nov 10 & 11, 2018

Envelopes: \$ 1,319 Plate: \$155 Candles: \$11
Mass Stipends: \$5 Natl Catholic Register: \$2 Refund: \$7.53

Total Parish: \$1,499.53

2nd Collection: Dec 8 & 9 - Religious Retirement

Collections:

Nov to Date: \$ 4,500.00

Nov Budget: \$11,831.42

Year-To-Date: \$ 43,635.68

Yearly Budget: \$141,977.48

Thank you for supporting St. Ann's Parish

MEETINGS and EVENTS

Parish Council Mtg - Jan 16, 2019 6 pm Church Hall

Adoration: 1st Friday of month - Dec 7 - 8:30am - Noon

Altar Society Meeting - To be determined

Knights of Columbus: 3rd Tues. of the month 6:45 pm

Donut Sunday - Nov 25th - Volunteers needed

LEGION OF MARY will be meeting on Monday

evenings at the home of Sherry Kutz.

Please see Terry or Carleen Miller for directions.

2019 Annual Catholic Appeal

We have an opportunity to commit our support to diocesan programs and ministries that no one parish could provide on its own.

Our theme, "**The community of believers was of one heart and mind**" Acts 4:32,

Appropriately recognizes our unity as the people of God to work together for the betterment of all

Our overall goal is 100% participation.

No gift is too small. Please join our efforts.

The (monetary) goal for St. Ann's parish is \$11,850

Our generous gifts/pledges to date total: \$8,260

Thank you for all your help and support of the 2019

Annual Catholic Appeal.



2019 MARCH FOR LIFE PILGRIMAGE

Registration is now open for the March for Life Pilgrimage to Washington DC, January 17-19.

This three-day trip will include bus transport, daily Mass Rally on the National Mall, and participation in the 2019 March for Life.

Registration will remain open through Wednesday, December 12th.

Registration is \$315 for the full trip. Registration forms available on-line at: www.respectlifekcsj.org

Total payment must be received by Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation!

If you have a child in 2nd grade who has not yet received First Holy Communion or if you have a child in any grade of High School who has not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation, please contact Fr. Totton at fathertotton@gmail.com or 816-294-9841 to make arrangements for classes / preparation.

NOVEMBER - REMEMBER OUR DEAD

November is the time of the year that we remember all the faithful departed of our parish families.

As is the custom here we have displayed the **Book of the Dead** on a covered table in the back of church.

Please feel free to inscribe the name of any family member or friend who has died. (They need not be Catholic nor have died this year.)

This book will be displayed each year for the month of November. You can write as many names as you wish. We will be praying for all listed in the book at every Mass.

Prayer Corner



"To everything there is a season and time... for every purpose under heaven." Ecc. 3:11

"...a time to heal."

JB Lile, Tricia Wolf, Breanna Beall, Nancy Totton, Amy Spriesterbach, Loretta Broderick, Lori Eckles, Meryle Young, Tonia Vigilante

"...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, especially:

Capt. Matthew Solomon

Sgt. Jeremy S. Clingan

Pvt. Hal Lehr

Thanksgiving Table Prayer

O Gracious God, we give you thanks for your overflowing generosity to us.

Thank you for the blessings of the food we eat and especially for this feast today.

Thank you for our home and family and friends, especially for the presence of those gathered here.

Thank you for our health, our work and our play.

Please send help to those who are hungry, alone, sick and suffering from natural disasters, war and violence.

Open our hearts to your love.

We ask your blessing through Christ your son. Amen.

May you all enjoy a very Happy Thanksgiving with your family and friends.



Thanksgiving Day Mass

Father will celebrate Mass on Thanksgiving Day

Thursday Nov. 22nd - 9 am

St. Joseph's - Easton

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 JeniferValenti@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 chas-



PARISH REGISTRATION

If you are new to our Parish, please register.

Registration forms are available in the narthex.

Please return the form and introduce

yourself to Fr. Totton after Mass.

Welcome!

You may also register on the parish website

www.stannplattsburg.org under "Contact Us" tab.