

## From Fr. Totton's Desk

After Dinner on Thanksgiving, as I drove my parents home, my Dad commented, as we passed the local McDonald's, that there were a few cars in the parking lot. I remarked that I remembered a time not so long ago when McDonald's was closed on Thanksgiving - one of the two days of the year when they did not open (the other being Christmas). For years, sit-down restaurants have provided an alternative for (smaller) families who wanted to celebrate without going to all the trouble of cooking their Thanksgiving Day Feast. Since McDonald's is not exactly known for turkey and McStuffing, I suspect their decision to open on Thanksgiving was simply following the lead of so many retail stores which have opened to get an early jump on "Black Friday". This set me to thinking about cultural trends and whether we, as Christians, allow ourselves to be *formed* by the culture around us or whether we, by our own witness, seek to *shape* the culture around us.

Those who are older than I will remember a time "not so long ago" when Sunday's were observed as a day of rest. The Lord gave the command to Moses: "Keep Holy the Sabbath". The Jewish people did this through worship and rest. In the early Church, in light of Jesus' Resurrection, this observance was transferred from Saturday to Sunday, but observed in much the same way, with Divine Worship and a general rest from work. This is the reason we are asked to gather, as a community, for Sunday Mass, but our Sunday observance should also include a deliberate refrain from *unnecessary* work. *This requires that we make an honest distinction between essential services and non-essential commerce.* Essential services would include Emergency Medicine, Law Enforcement, Fire Protection and the like. Non-essential commerce includes retail shopping, entertainments, etc. Obviously, there are some gray areas in these question - travel is a good example of this, particularly for those who must commute long distances to make a living; foodservice represents another gray area as it may be necessary for those who are travelling or are otherwise unable to prepare a meal for themselves for whatever reason.

The Advent season is a time for us to slow down, step back, quiet down and prayerfully prepare for the coming of the Lord. For this reason, I would like to issue a challenge to you - and to myself - for this Advent season: Examine your current practice in terms of observing Sunday as The Lord's Day *and* a day of rest. This requires that we examine our own practice *not only* with regards to work, but also considering our use of services which require *other* people to work on Sunday. When you plan out your week, make provisions to take care of all non-essential commerce (grocery shopping, Christmas shopping, etc.) *before* Sunday. If it is possible, cook meals at home, gather with family, visit relatives and friends, interact by playing card games or board games. Gather in prayer around an Advent Wreath, take some time to share personal reflections on the readings from Sunday's Mass. Again, I readily admit that there may be exceptions to these, but let them be **just that - exceptions!** One may object, "But there just isn't enough time in the week to get everything done!" To that objection, I would respond that God will not be outdone in generosity. When we give him the "precious little" that we have to offer, he has promised to multiply even that "thirty, and sixty and a hundred fold in this life."

I am convinced that if we are deliberate about these practical details of keeping the Lord's Day "holy" it truly will produce much spiritual fruit in our own lives, helping us to grow in our relationship with God and with one another.

Fr. Joseph W. Totton

Next weekend we welcome Fr. Justin Hoye to our parish.

Fr. Hoye will be hearing confessions and celebrating weekend Masses at St. Ann and St. Joseph Parishes on Saturday, December 9 and Sunday, December 10.



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### Legion of Mary

Sherry Kutz, President  
Hank Lagerman, Vice President  
Carleen Miller, Secretary  
Eileen Lagerman, Treasurer

### Faith Formation Team

Teresa Marie Koch—Leader  
Roxanne Durando  
Greg Kittelson  
Terry Miller

### Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight  
Steve Van Horn



# ST. ANN'S PARISH

Sunday, December 3, 2017

## First Sunday of Advent

*This Week's Mass Times:*

*Tuesday 6pm Traditional Latin Mass*

*Wednesday & Thursday: 8 am*

*Holy Day of Obligation - Immaculate Conception*

*Thursday, Dec 7: 6 pm St. Joseph, Easton*

*Friday, Dec 8: 6 pm St. Ann, Plattsburg*

*Saturday: 4:00 pm Sunday: 10 am*

*Confessions: Saturday 3pm*

*Tuesday 5:30pm*

*...or by appointment: please call 816-294-9841*

*Adoration: Weekly after Tuesday evening Mass*

*1st Friday of the month: 8:30 am - 12*

### Parish Council

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

### Altar Society

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

Email: [stann001@centurytel.net](mailto:stann001@centurytel.net)

Website: [www.stannplattsburg.org](http://www.stannplattsburg.org)

Business Manager: Marge Kinney

Coordinator of PSR - Roxanne Durando  
(816) 724-9478

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](mailto:chastain@diocesekcsj.org)



# Ministry Schedule

## Saturday, Dec 2: 4 pm

**Ushers:** Open  
**Lectors:** Judy McKowen & Clare Pelzel  
**EMHC:** Charlie Harper & Elaine Stoll

## Sunday, Dec 3: 10 am

**Ushers:** Eric Niemann & Herman Gillotte  
**Lectors:** Dino Durando & Mary Ann Downey  
**EMHC:** Vince & Joan Seiler

## MONEY COUNTERS

Mary Hale & Cathy Hanson

## NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Anne Martin

## Saturday, Dec 9: 4 pm

**Ushers:** Open  
**Lectors:** Clare Pelzel & Judy McKowen  
**EMHC:** Elaine Stoll & Della Mallen

## Sunday, Dec 10: 10 am

**Ushers:** Eric Whitlow & Mindy Beall  
**Lectors:** Terry Miller & Karen Trotter  
**EMHC:** Chris & Christine Broderick

## MONEY COUNTERS

Karen Trotter & Chris Koch

## NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Eric Niemann

## Mass Intentions

**Saturday, Dec 2:** + Frances McCartney  
By: Steve & Sue Tinnen  
**Sunday, Dec 3:** People of the Parish  
By:  
**Tuesday, Dec 5: 6 pm** Private Intention  
By:  
**Wednesday, Dec 6:** + Bernice M. Mycka  
By:  
**Thursday, Dec 7:** + Frances McCartney  
By: Steve & Sue Tinnen  
**Friday, Dec 8: 6 pm** People of the Parish  
By:  
**Saturday, Dec 9:** + Joe & Leo Koechner  
By: Della Mallen  
**Sunday, Dec 10:** People of the Parish  
By:

## MEETINGS

**Parish Council:** Thurs. Dec 14, Parish Hall - 6:00pm  
**Adoration:** 1st Friday of month - Dec 1 8:30am - Noon  
**Altar Society Meeting - Parish Hall**  
**Knights of Columbus:** 3rd Tues. of the month 6:45 pm  
**Church Cleaning:** Dec - Group 3 - Home School Moms  
**Donut Sunday:** Dec 17th - Knights of Columbus  
**LEGION OF MARY** will be meeting on Monday evenings at the home of Sherry Kutz. Please see Terry or Carleen Miller for directions.



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](mailto: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 [chastain@diocesekcsj.org](mailto:chastain@diocesekcsj.org) for more info.

## Weekend Collection Nov 25 & 26, 2017

Envelopes: \$1,535 Plate: \$163 Candles: \$28  
Nat'l Catholic Register: \$2 Donuts: \$11  
**Total Parish: \$1,739**

## Next 2nd Collection: Dec 9 & 10

### Religious Retirement

### Collections:

**Nov to Date: \$ 8,249.00**  
**Nov Budget: \$ 11,165.55**  
**Year-To-Date: \$ 47,266.49**  
**Yearly Budget: \$133,986.00**

Thank you for supporting St. Ann's Parish



## 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal

**"How can I make a return to the Lord for all the good He has done for me"**

As the Holidays approach, we give thanks to God for all His blessings to us and our families. We especially thank the 23 out of 150 families who have shared their financial resources toward our parish's goal for the Annual Catholic Appeal. We are grateful for your listening to our call to give and we know that you feel a sense of accomplishment in sharing your blessings with others in the family of the Church in Northwest Missouri.

Our goal is 100% participation.

No gift is too small. Please join our effort.

Our parish goal is \$11,850

As of this date we have pledged \$7,310

## Free On-Line Resources to make this your "Best Advent Ever!"

Dynamic Catholic is offering a **free** Advent subscription program to provide you with daily reflections delivered to your email inbox to help you keep a spiritual focus during this Advent Season.

I have already signed up myself and I encourage each of you to do likewise today to begin receiving these daily reflections.

Just type **BestAdventEver.com** into your internet browser and follow the instructions to sign up.

## Prayer Corner



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

*"...a time to heal.."*

**JB Lile, Samantha Stringfellow,  
Tricia Wolf, Ashley Parton, Breanna Beall**



Immaculate Conception December 8 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the annual feast commemorating the conception of Mary in her mother's womb. Immaculate Mary is the patron saint of the United States.

It is a holy day of obligation with Masses at:

**Dec 7th**

**St Joseph Church - Easton, 6 pm.**

**Dec 8th**

**St Ann Church - Plattsburg, 6 pm**



## Nativity Scene Exhibit

Holy Family Parish is hosting an amazing Nativity Exhibit this Advent with over 100 nativity sets on display from over 30 countries.

This is a great opportunity to view the nativity through the eyes of many cultures, materials and art forms.

The exhibit is free and self-guided.

Dates and times: 12/8: 1:00-2:00 p.m. & 7-8 p.m.

12/9, 12/16, 12/23: 6-7 p.m.

12/10, 12/17: 9:30-10:30 a.m. & 12-1 p.m.

Located at Holy Family Catholic Church (919 NE 96th St., KCMO 64155) in the library, at the bottom of the stairs.

For more information call the parish at 816-436-9200.

## RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Your donation works for aging religious.

"I read that roughly 95 percent of donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious aid senior religious," a donor writes.

"That's wonderful when we truly want our donations to work."

Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please support next week's collection for the Retirement

**MASS BOOK OPEN FOR 2018**