

From Fr. Totton's Desk

This weekend's readings speak to us in plain language about the Sacrament of Marriage. In our days, this topic can be difficult to address because Marriage, as it was created by God, is under attack from many sides. I would like to use my column this weekend to revisit the basic Christian concept of Marriage as a Sacramental reality which reveals to us the Love that God has for His Creation, the Love that Jesus has for His Church. Before I proceed, however, I must acknowledge that for some who may be reading this, this teaching is difficult because our culture, a post-Christian culture teaches us contrary things regarding marriage. If you find these words difficult, I beg you to read the complete column, and take your concerns to the Lord in prayer. If you wish to speak with me directly, please do not hesitate to contact me (my contact information is on the front of the bulletin.)

The eternal teaching of the Church on marriage is that it is a relationship between man and woman which is permanent ("what God has joined together, no human being must separate") faithful ("the two shall become one flesh") and fruitful ("be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth..."). In contrast to this Biblical understanding of marriage, we live in a world which sees marriage as provisional and contractual (50% of marriages end in divorce) and where offspring are often seen as an optional "accessory" where chemical or surgical means are employed which render a couple's union (temporarily or permanently) sterile. It is all the more difficult to live the Biblical understanding of marriage if we find ourselves surrounded by a world which has a completely different understanding of marriage.

Since 50% of marriages end in divorce (and this number is the same among self-professed Catholics as it is among the general population) chances are we all know someone who has been divorced. Some of you reading this fall into that category. There are many reasons that couples separate and eventually divorce. It may be owing to a lack of trust due to an instance or a pattern of infidelity or to abusive behavior on the part of one or both parties. When these differences are considered irreconcilable, a civil divorce is sought and the contract is dissolved. However, if the Church witnessed a marriage, the Church, based on Jesus' own words, considers the couple to be married before God even if the state has declared the contract cancelled. There is a formal process by which one may seek a review of the circumstances of one's marriage in order for the Church to make a determination of whether all the necessary elements of marriage were present to begin with. If the Church determines that something was lacking, she will grant a decree of nullity (commonly called an *annulment* that may allow the two parties to enter into Sacramental marriage with other parties) and to continue to live a full Sacramental life in the Church. If you have been divorced and have entered into a second marriage, or your wish to re-marry, please contact me, or any priest, to inquire about the annulment process. Though it is a juridical process, many have also experienced it as a moment of reflection and an opportunity to receive God's Mercy. To be clear, **a Christian, once married, may not divorce and attempt a second marriage without the benefit of an annulment as long as the prior spouse is living.**

Just as Christians marry and divorce at the same rate as the culture, so also Christians, including Mass-going Catholics, contracept at roughly the same rate as the general population. And this despite the clear moral teaching of the Catholic Church that artificial contraception (through barriers or chemicals) and surgical sterilization are a grave offense before God. Again, many of you reading this may be employing some of these methods as a means of avoiding pregnancy or spacing your children. If that is the case, I beg of you to learn what the Church teaches in this regard. You will find a treasure trove of resources for your understanding and education at www.onemoresoul.com or www.kcsfamily.org. Minimally, I would encourage everybody to read the prophetic encyclical, *Humanae Vitae*, written by Blessed Pope Paul VI 50 years ago. You can find the full text at www.scborromeo.org/docs/humanae_vitae.pdf. If you are free, I would encourage you to attend a screening of the new documentary *Unprotected* which is being shown at 3 sites in our diocese next week (October 15, 16, 17) see further information in this week's bulletin.

Twenty years ago, I discovered the truth of *Humanae Vitae* and it changed my entire understanding of marriage and of the Church. At that time, I was already studying in the seminary, but when I discovered **why** the Church teaches what she does on this controversial topic, this unlocked a key to understanding the prophetic wisdom of the Church's teaching authority (*magisterium*) on an entire host of subjects. My prayer is that you, my spiritual children, may come to a similar discovery and that it provides you with a fresh lens with which to view the world in light of God's plan for us. - Fr. Totton



ST. ANN'S PARISH

Sunday, October 7, 2018

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday: 4:00 pm Sunday: 10 am

Confessions: Saturday 3pm

Tuesday 6pm Traditional Latin Mass

Wednesday & Thursday & Friday: 8 am

Rosary Novena will be held as follows:

Monday, Wednesday - Friday: 7:30am

Tuesday 5:30pm

700 W Maple St.
Plattsburg, MO 64477
Office Phone: 816-539-2634
Email: stann001@centurytel.net

Father Joseph Totton, Administrator
Phone: 816-294-9841
Email: fathertotton@gmail.com

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



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 has volunteered to coordinate scheduling for liturgical ministries beginning with the September Schedule. If you know of a particular date on which you are unavailable to serve at Mass in any capacity, please contact him via email bjlueckenotte@gmail.com or telephone (816) 304-6221.

Saturday, Oct 6: 4 pm

Sacristan Charlotte Richey
Server Philip Richey, Jesse & Eli Kittelson
Lector Clare Pelzel & Bill Lueckenotte
EMHC Judy McKowen & Charlie Harper
Usher Open

Sunday, Oct 7: 10 am

Sacristan Rachel Friedl
Server Michael & Jon Friedl, Mark Durando & Ryder Dalinghaus
Lector Karen Trotter & Terry Miller
EMHC Joan & Vince Seiler
Usher: Mindy Beall, Eric Whitlow, Eric Niemann & Herman Gillotte

NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Oakridge: Anne Martin

MONEY COUNTERS: Eric Niemann & Volunteer

Saturday, Oct 13: 4 pm

Sacristan Kasandra Lueckenotte
Server Billy Lueckenotte, Zak & Eli Kittelson
Lector Clare Pelzel & Judy McKowen
EMHC Della Stoll & Della Mallen
Usher Open

Sunday, Oct 14: 10 am

Sacristan Veronica Durando
Server Carter Watton, Jon Friedl, Paul Durando & Philip Richey
Lector Karen Trotter & Dino Durando
EMHC Chris & Christine Broderick
Usher Vince Seiler, JC Roberts, Eric Niemann & Herman Gillotte

NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Oakridge: Mary Ann Garton

MONEY COUNTERS: Mary Hale & Cathy Hanson



Saturday, Oct 6: 4 pm People of the Parish

Sunday, Oct 7: 10 am + Jean Gassman

By: Al & Shirley Schwery

Tuesday, Oct 9: Private Intention

Wednesday, Oct 10: + Mary Ellen Mallen

By: Joe & Karen Trotter

Thursday, Oct 11: + James Maples

By: Gerry Hales

Friday, Oct 12: + Norman Thorson

By: Vince & Joan Seiler

Saturday, Oct 13: 4 pm + Pat Luckenbill

By: Tricia Wolf

Sunday, Oct 14: 10 am People of the Parish

1st Saturday Mass and Confessions at Mir House of Prayer.

Fr. Christian Malewski,

Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, offers Confession at 7:00 am and Mass at 8:00 am every first Saturday of the month at Mir House of Prayer, 6492 NE Hwy 6 in St. Joseph

Weekend Collection Sept 29 & 30, 2018

Envelopes: \$1,303 Plate: \$172 Candles: \$11

Mass Stipends: \$40

Total Parish: \$1,526

2nd Collection: Oct 20 & 21: Mission Sunday

Collections:

Sept to Date: \$ 9,650.00

Sept Budget: \$11,831.42

Year-To-Date: \$ 30,734.62

Yearly Budget: \$141,977.48

Thank you for supporting St. Ann's Parish

MEETINGS and Events

Parish Council Mtg - Oct 17 6 pm Church Hall

Adoration: 1st Friday of month - Oct 5 - 8:30am - Noon

Altar Society Meeting - To be determined

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

Oct 28th - Donut Sunday

LEGION OF MARY will be meeting on Monday

evenings at the home of Sherry Kutz.

Please see Terry or Carleen Miller for directions.



Novena for Our Nation Began Aug. 15!

Everyone from around the nation is encouraged to join ranks as, united, we pray the very powerful 54 Day Rosary Novena from the Feast of the Assumption on August 15 to the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7:

www.novenaforournation.com.

Starting on August 15 pray the Joyful Rosary, day 2 pray the Sorrowful Rosary, day 3 the Glorious Rosary. Then start over on day 4 continuing until you have completed a rosary each day for 27 days in petition for our Nation.

Then follow with another 27 days of thanksgiving the same as the first 27 days ending on October 7 the day of the Coast to Coast Rosary Rally:

(Rosary Coast to Coast).



Coming in October to the

Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph!

Join us for a viewing of this powerful documentary, followed by a Q & A panel discussion at the following locations:

Mon, Oct 15, 7pm @ St. Michael the Archangel High School, Lee's Summit

Tue, Oct 16, 7pm @ Tivoli Theater, Westport

Wed, Oct 17, 7:30pm @ Ron Houston Center for Performing Arts, Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville

UNPROTECTED:

-A Controversial Conversation-

Come and participate in the conversation surrounding one of the most controversial topics of our generation.

Celebrate the 50th anniversary of Humanae Vitae by bringing family and friends to a viewing of this powerful documentary and then share your thoughts and ask questions during the panel discussion.

There is no cost to attend, but free-will donations will be accepted to cover licensing fees and venue costs.

To ensure you have a space for the showings at St. Michael's HS and Tivoli Theater, **please reserve your free tickets please contact Marriage Family Life Office at**

(816) 714-2373 or email: family@diocesekcsj.org



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

For our shut-ins

Lee Schwery, Levina Reuter, Msgr Bill Caldwell, Pauline Van Horn, Catherine Henley

Donate to Hurricane Relief Efforts

Support individuals and families impacted by Hurricane Florence. Catholic Charities USA forwards 100 percent of funds raised to Catholic Charities agencies that serve affected communities. To donate, text CCUSADISASTER to 71777. You may also donate by phone by calling 1-800-919-9338 or log on to: www.catholiccharitiesusa.org



WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Come and celebrate your Marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend.

It's a positive, simple, common sense private experience between husband and wife that revitalizes marriage. A weekend renews the romance and excitement you experienced during your dating days.

The next Weekends in Kansas City are

November 9-11, 2018.

For more information or to apply, please visit our website:

www.wmme4youandme.org

or call Tony & Barb Zimmerman, 816-741-4066

or email tonybarbz@prodigy.net

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 chastain@diocesekcsj.org for more info.