

Saint Ann Parish

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From the Pastor's Desk

Three Temples in Singapore

A "temple," in the most generic sense of the word, is a place of encounter with a divine being. It is usually also a place where one may offer a sacrifice to that being as an act of worship, prayer and communion. I would like to tell you the tale of three temples I recently encountered on a single day in Singapore.

For reasons too complicated to explain in this brief column, I found myself on an extended layover on that island nation of 5 million citizens. While there, I researched some basic facts about this little country and discovered a lot that I would like to share! Among the highlights: Crime is taken very seriously in Singapore to the extent that drug traffickers are subject to capital punishment and chewing gum (without a doctor's prescription) is illegal, as a result crime is very low and there is a general courtesy and respect shown for both people and property; about 1/3 of Singaporeans practice Buddhism while 18% are Christians and about 14% are Muslim with other religions (or none) practiced by the remaining 1/3 of the population. The people professing these various creeds seem to live a rather harmonious existence; finally, over the past two decades, Singapore has experienced a tremendous economic growth which has put it on parity, if not above, many of its Western peers.

One morning, I set out to find a Catholic Church in which to pray before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Thankfully, it wasn't that difficult, and I took a taxi to visit the "Novena Church" – so called because of the popular Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help conducted by the Redemptorist Priests in residence there. The Church building itself was an impressive gothic stone structure with soaring vaulted ceilings and realistic images in stained glass. It would rival a number of medieval churches of Europe for its beauty and design, and could easily be described as a "large" church by Kansas City standards. The most curious point, however, is the date on the cornerstone: **2017!** The parish offers a robust liturgical and devotional schedule. I was surprised to discover a standing-room-only crowd for a midday Mass at Noon on a Thursday! I was also edified by the truly "universal" character of those in attendance for there were Chinese, Filipinos, Malays, Indians and Caucasians all worshipping together (the liturgy was in English, the official language of Singapore).

During my time in Singapore, I wanted to visit one of the many Buddhist temples, since I don't know when I will ever have the chance to do so again, and I wanted to get a sense – even an outsider's sense – of what they do when they go to the temple. I chose a Chinese Buddhist monastery which, though constructed in the 20th Century, had been built to resemble an ancient temple. To say the least, the experience was very foreign, and I don't have the proper background to understand it (I also don't understand Chinese!) Prior to visiting, however, I sent a message to a friend from Navy Chaplains' School who is a (Korean) Buddhist priest, simply asking for etiquette out of respect for those in attendance. Her response is worth sharing because I think it is something that can be applied to our conduct in Church as well: *Maintain mindfulness and keep your mind open; Wear appropriate clothing; Respect all people in the temple, young and old; Speak well to people in the manner of a "Bodhisattva" (of course, we would substitute "Jesus" here!); Avoid thinking you already have great understanding, or that the dharma speech (homily) does not apply to you; Do not bring food or drink into the meditation hall; turn off cell phones; be on time.*

The final "temple" upon which I would like to reflect is not a deliberate temple in the sense of the buildings described above, but you shall see its relevance in comparison with the other two. Only a few steps from the Novena Church is a complex of shopping centers – multiple buildings, each containing five or six levels and many corridors, connected by short passageways and tunnels, all grouped under the heading of "Shops at Novena Square". In this urban mega-mall, one could find most of the major Western retailers we would find in any shopping center in the United States, and a few dozen others from Europe and Asia that I had never heard of, along with restaurants, food courts, kiosks and all that one would expect in a modern shopping center! There's even an entire multi-level mall – *Velocity – dedicated to specialty sporting goods retailers! During business hours, consumers fill the corridors and frequent the nooks and crannies in search of an elusive happiness that the goods of this world cannot satisfy. This, and many like it – throughout Singapore (and there are MANY!) – and throughout the world, is a temple to consumerism. You will recall that I mentioned above the prosperity of Singapore. I offer my reflection on this third "temple" not as a condemnation of capitalism, for it is a system which, properly tempered by Christian values, is compatible with both human dignity and human freedom. Nevertheless, we must always be vigilant to keep our priorities straight! Jesus himself said, "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:21) In the weeks ahead, let us begin thinking about our priorities. Let us prepare to enter the Lenten season with a sense of detachment from earthly goods (though not to the neglect of truly basic needs like food, shelter, clothing, etc.) mindful of the advice of St. John, who wrote:*

"Do not love the world or the things of the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world. And the World passes away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever." (1 John 2:15).

~Fr. Joseph Totton

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 17, 2019

PASTOR

Fr. Joseph Totton, Administrator
 Phone: 816.294.9841
 Email: fathertotton@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY

Penny Harrison

PARISH COUNCIL

Paul Broderick
 Randy Dalinghaus
 Carole Harris
 Diane Hon
 Julie Moran
 Eric Niemann
 Bill Lueckenotte

ALTAR SOCIETY

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

LEGION OF MARY

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

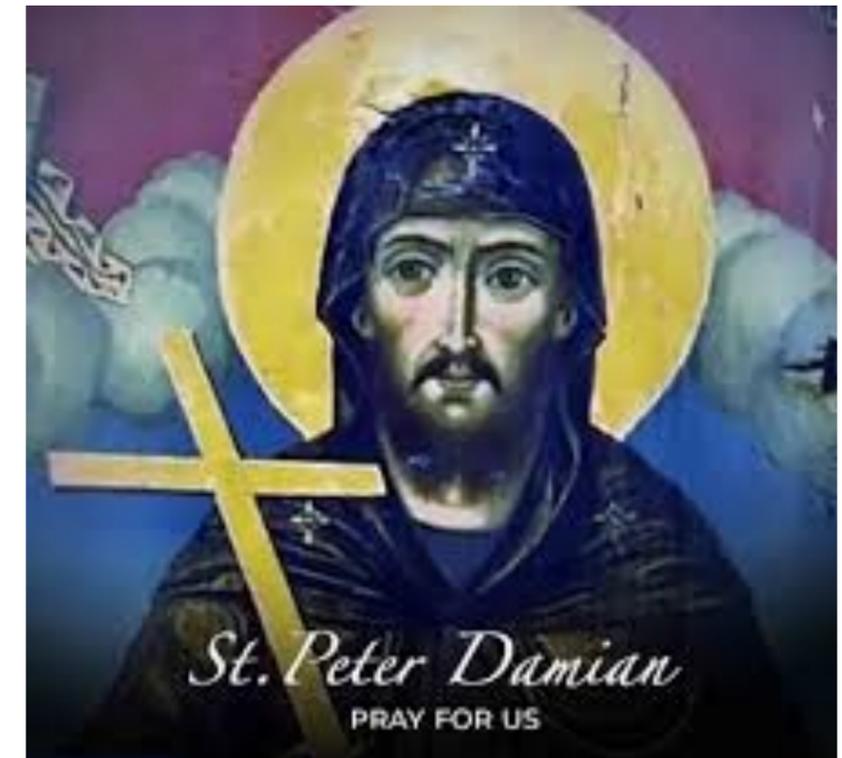
Steve Van Horn, Grand Knight

FAITH FORMATION TEAM

Teresa Marie Koch, Leader
 Roxanne Durando
 Greg Kittelson
 Terry Miller

HALL RENTAL

Please leave a message on the office phone or email: stannplattsburg@gmail.com



February 21– feast day of St. Peter Damian, Doctor of the Church

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses

Saturday.....4:00 p.m.
 Sunday.....10:00 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday.....3:00 p.m.

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday (Ordinary Form).....6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, Thursday, Friday.....8:00 a.m.

ADORATION

First Friday Adoration March 1st
 8:30am—Noon

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

Saturday, February 16, 4 pm

SACRISTAN: Kasandra Lueckenotte
SERVERS: Oskar Kittleson, Eli Kittleson, Billy Lueckenotte
LECTORS: Judy McKowen, Steve Tinnen
EMHC: (None During Flu Season)
USHERS: Open

Sunday, February 17, 10 am

SACRISTAN: Veronica Durando
SERVERS: Mark Durando, Philip Richey
LECTORS: Mary Ann Downey, Vince Seiler
EMHC: (None During Flu Season)
USHERS: Herman Gillotte, Eric Niemann, J.C. Roberts, Vince Seiler

NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Oakridge: Mary Ann Garton

MONEY COUNTERS:

Karen Trotter, Chris Koch

Saturday, February 23, 4 pm

SACRISTAN: Mary Lueckenotte
SERVERS: Oskar Kittleson, Eli Kittleson, Zak Kittleson
LECTORS: Clare Pelzel, Judy McKowen,
EMHC: (None During Flu Season)
USHERS: Open

Sunday, February 24, 10 am

SACRISTAN: Charlotte Richey
SERVERS: Mark and Paul Durando, Philip Richey, Carter Watton
LECTORS: Dino Durando, Paul Broderick
EMHC: (None During Flu Season)
USHERS: Herman Gillotte, Eric Niemann, Eric Whitlow, Mindy Beall

NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Oakridge: Mary Ann Garton

MONEY COUNTERS:

Paul and Lori Broderick

Bill Lueckenotte coordinates scheduling for liturgical ministries. If you anticipate scheduling concerns for the next quarter, please contact him via email bjluecke-notte@gmail.com or telephone 816.304.6221. Once scheduled, you are responsible to arrange your own replacement/substitute.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday February 16
 4:00 p.m. For the People
Sunday February 17
 10:00 a.m. James Maples†
 by Joan and Vince Seiler
Tuesday February 19
 8:00 a.m. Mary Ellen Mallen†
 by John and Helen Pipes
Wednesday February 20
 8:00 a.m. Don Pelzel†
 by Charles and Betty Harper
Thursday February 21
 Helen O'Connor†
 by James and Pat Baker
Friday February 22
 Special Intention
Saturday February 23
 4:00 p.m. Charlotte Ballard†
 by Barb and Lee Schwery
Sunday February 24
 10:00 a.m. For the People

† Denotes Deceased

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

Choir forming for Lent and Holy Week

We will rehearse weekly on Wednesday evenings at 7pm. Unless otherwise noted, rehearsals will take place in the choir loft.



We will sing at Mass on Ash Wednesday, alternating Sundays during Lent, Good Friday Service and Easter Sunday.

If you plan to participate, please call Roxanne Durando at 816.724.9478 so that we can plan for materials.



RETREAT FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Friday, March 22, 2019 - 9:00am to Sunday, March 24, 2019 - 11:30am

Conception Abbey Retreat Center

go to: www.kcsjfamily.org/calendar/2019-03-22/light-life

or call 816.714.2373 for more information

PARISH SUPPORT

Weekend Collection — February 9-10		Overall Parish Collections:	
Envelopes:	\$1474	Jan to Date:	\$15,270
Plate:	\$ 135	Feb Budget:	\$11,831
Candles:	\$ 26		
Maintenance Fund	\$ 100		
Total Parish:	\$1875	Year-to-Date	\$87,961.00
		Yearly Budget:	\$141,977
		(Our Fiscal Year runs from July through June)	

Thank you for supporting your Parish.

Contribution Statements for Income Tax Purposes...

Parishioners requesting a contribution statement for 2018 are kindly requested to send an email to stannplattsburg@gmail.com or leave a message on the parish voicemail at 816-539-2634. We will make every effort to issue statements in a timely manner.

Meetings and Events

Altar Society	TBA	
Legion of Mary	Monday	6:00 p.m.
Adoration	First Friday	8:30 a.m.— Noon
Parish Choir	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.
Knights of Columbus:	Third Tuesday	6:45 p.m.
Parish Council:	TBA	

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 information.

Prayer Corner

"To everything there is a season and time... for every purpose under heaven."

—Ecc. 3-11



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

Philip Kramer, Brenda Iams, JB Lile, Tricia Wolf, Breanna Beall, Nancy Totton, Amy Dobrowsky, Loretta Broderick, Lori Eckles, Meryle Young, Tonia Vigilante, 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 and those lost in this world; for those who harbor hatred and especially for those who have no one to pray for them.

Please notify the parish office of any new intentions or of any names that should be removed.

"I believe, I adore, I hope and I love you. I beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love you."

Bishop Johnston's Prayer Intention for February

Please join me in prayer: my February intention is for those who experience profound loneliness.



The incorrupt heart of St. Jean Vianney, patron of parish priests, will be visiting the Cathedral of St. Joseph, 519 N. 10th Street in St. Joseph, on March 19, the Feast of St. Joseph, 2019.

The Shrine of Ars, France, has made this major relic available for a national tour in the United States. The Knights of Columbus is hosting this tour and welcomes you to this special opportunity to offer veneration to a saint who is a model of holiness and integrity for clergy and laity alike.

The day will begin with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 8:00 a.m.; reception of the relic and Veneration follows throughout the day until 8:00 p.m.

Confessions will be made available. Evening Vespers begin at 5:30 p.m.

For more information about St. Jean Vianney and the relic tour, please visit www.kofc.org/vianney.