

Welcome to

Holy Trinity Parish

407 Cherry St.
Weston, MO 64098
www.holytrinitycatholic.org

Twelve Apostles Parish

Church: 17900 Humphrey's Rd.
Platte City, MO 64079
Office/mail address: 407 Cherry, Weston, MO 64098
www.twelveapostlescatholic.org

Telephone: 816-640-2206

Mass Times:

Saturday 5:00 PM – Twelve Apostles Church
Sunday 7:30 AM – Holy Trinity Church
9:00 AM – Twelve Apostles Church
10:45 AM – Holy Trinity Church

Weekday Mass times are listed inside the bulletin.

Confessions heard on Saturdays: 3:15-3:45 PM at Holy Trinity
4:15-4:45 PM at XII Apostles
on First Fridays after 8am Mass & anytime by appt.

Anointing of the Sick: Please contact the pastor, preferably before going to the hospital, to receive this Sacrament.

Parish Staff:

Father Steven C. Rogers - x203, pastorHT-XII@kc.rr.com
Mrs. Julie Hoffman, Secretary/Bookkeeper - x201
secyHT-XII@kc.rr.com
Mrs. Susanna Bartee, Holy Trinity Dir. of Rel. Ed.-x200;
dreHT@kc.rr.com
Ms. Katie Troup -x304, DRE-XII Apostles: dreXII@kc.rr.com
Youth Minister--both parishes: ymht-xii@kc.rr.com
Mrs. Judy Sloan, Child Care Coordinator (offered during
7:30am & 10:45am Masses at Holy Trinity)
Mrs. Darlene Darby, Office Assistant, x202
Mr. Gary Loveless, Holy Trinity Custodian/Maintenance
Mr. Bob Ralston, XII Apostles Custodian/Maintenance
Mrs. Maureen Vernon, Parishes' Safe Environment Coordinator

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), 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 Mary Bultmann at 816-714-2387 or bultmann@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

Office Hours: M, W, Th, F – 9AM-Noon, 1-4PM (closed Tuesdays)

PSR Office Hours: M & W–10AM-Noon, 1-4PM

Bulletin deadline: 8am Wednesday.

Please notify us of change of address, phone, email, etc.

New Parishioners: Welcome! Holy Trinity and Twelve Apostles have been serving the northern Platte County area since 1842 and 2008, respectively. We welcome all guests and newcomers to our parish families. Newcomers are asked to register at the earliest opportunity. Forms are available in the back of church, on our websites, or from the parish office. We look forward to knowing you!

Is A Wedding or Baptism in Your Plans? Congratulations! Remember: sacramental preparation is required prior to these events. You must be a registered parishioner for the past year or have a letter from your previous pastor before dates are scheduled.

Weddings: Parishioners wanting to be married should contact Fr. Rogers nine months in advance.

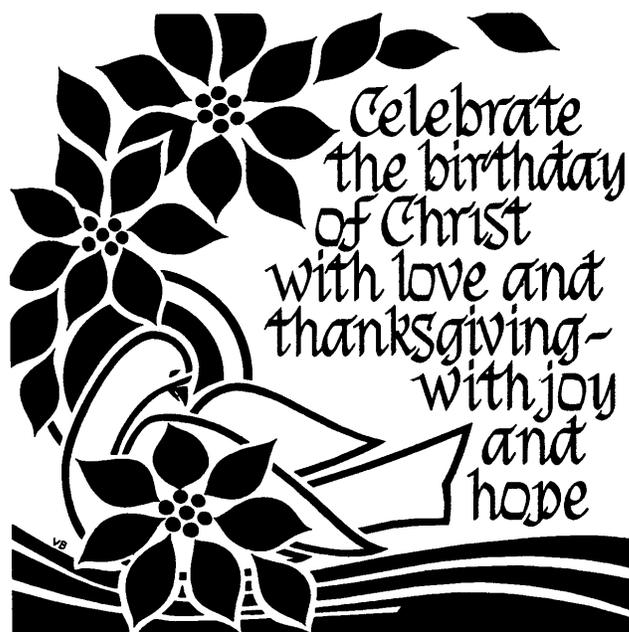
Baptism: Expectant parents should contact Fr. Rogers comfortably prior to the baby's birth for baptism preparation.

First Penance/Eucharist, Confirmation: Children preparing for these sacraments must have completed the prior year of religious education.

Third Sunday of Advent December 14, 2014

In today's second reading Paul concludes his letter to the Christian community at Thessalonica by providing it with actions to take as its members wait for the return of the Lord. The first action is to rejoice always and give thanks in all circumstances. This sounds easy but it's not. The two words that make this task difficult are "always" and "all". This means giving thanks and rejoicing even when our circumstances are not always moments of joy and thanksgiving, or when we are confronted with a broken world. Prayerful stewards rejoice and give thanks in all circumstances because they are people of hope. A good reflection this week would be how the season of Advent can give you reason to hope.

International Catholic Stewardship Council Dec 2014



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Second Sunday of Advent 12-14-2014

Readings: p. 40 in *Breaking Bread*

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, Dec 13

5:00pm—XII Fr. Linus Link, rip

Sunday, Dec 14

7:30am-HT People of Holy Trinity

9:00am-XII People of Twelve Apostles

10:45am-HT Phillip Amanna, Sr., rip

Mon., Dec. 15, 8am—HT Bernadette Youngblood, rip

Wed, Dec. 17, 8:00am—HT Private Intention

Thurs, Dec. 18, 6pm—XIII Judy Morrissey, rip

Fri, Dec. 19, 8:00am—HT Private Intention

Saturday, Dec 20

5:00pm—XII People of Twelve Apostles

Sunday, Dec 21

7:30am-HT People of Holy Trinity

9:00am-XII Private Intention

10:45am-HT Jim Hoffman, rip

RETIRED RELIGIOUS COLLECTION TODAY

Never counting the cost, some 35,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others. Many worked for years for small stipends, leaving their religious communities without adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides funding for their nursing care and more. More info at www.retiredreligious.org. **Please give generously to those who have given a lifetime. Envelopes are available in your support pack or on the table with the bulletins.**

OUR PENANCE SERVICE THIS SUNDAY

Holy Trinity/Twelve Apostles' Advent Communal Penance Service will be held at Twelve Apostles this Sunday, December 14, at 2PM. Several confessors in addition to Father Rogers will be available to hear confessions. More Penance services are listed below.



OTHER PENANCE SERVICES AROUND THE AREA:

Sunday, Dec. 14, 1 PM	St. Francis de Sales, 900 Ida St., Lansing, KS
Sunday, Dec. 14, 4PM	St. Lawrence, 211 W. Riley, Easton, KS
Sunday, Dec. 14, 7PM	St. Therese, 7207 Hwy 9 NW, Parkville, MO
Mon, Dec. 15, 7PM	Annunciation, 701 N Jefferson, Kearney, MO
Wed, Dec. 17, 6:30PM	St. Gabriel, 4737 N Cleveland, KCMO
Thu, Dec. 18, 7PM	Immaculate Conception, 711 N 5 th , Leavenworth
Sunday, Dec. 21, 1PM	Good Shepherd, 18601 N 169 Hwy, Smithville, MO
Sunday, Dec. 21, 4pm	Holy Angels, 15410 Leavenworth Rd., Basehor, KS



POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS: Poinsettias to decorate our churches for the Christmas season may be dedicated in honor of a loved one for an offering of \$20. To donate a poinsettia, put your name, the name of the person/s you are honoring, and your donation in an envelope and put it in the collection or mail to the parish office **by this Friday, December 19**. Thank you.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

New ENDOW classes for women coming soon. See the bulletin insert for more information.

Vatican II — There were 16 documents produced by the Second Vatican Council. Through a careful and deliberate reading of the Council's four major constitutions, and a survey of the other 12 documents, students will learn the Council's teachings and how to apply them to daily life. This course will also aid the student in understanding the situation of the Church at the advent of the Council and examine the subsequent implementation of the documents following the Council. Major elements of the life of the Church today are the result of the Council, and this purposeful study will help us to understand the renewal of the liturgy, updating of canon law, restoration of the ancient catechumenate (RCIA) and the creation of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Register for this class at <http://mybhi.org/vaticanii/> or call 816-714-2331. This 4-week course costs \$25 or \$40 (married couple) and will come to **Twelve Apostles Parish (Platte City)** on January 14, 21, and 28, and February 4 from 6:30pm to 9:00pm with our resident historian Dr. Claude Sasso.

Is this for me? If the memory of an abortion still hurts, **Project Rachel** offers a program to help you. Whether your abortion was recent or long ago, whether you are a woman or a man, we are here to help. No judging, just gentle guidance. Programs will be starting in February 2015. For details, call **816-591-3804** or email projectrachel@diocesekcsj.org. **Free and CONFIDENTIAL.** Learn more at www.projectrachelkc.com. Also, if this is a cause close to your heart and you would like to share your gifts, please contact us.

Living With The Grief Of Suicide

Thursday, January 22 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

At Sophia Center, Atchison, KS

Suicide grips hearts and minds with a vice that will not let go, and with feelings of overwhelming sadness, grief and loss. Come join certified grief counselor, Sister Loretta McGuire, OS B, for a day of sharing.

For more information or to register, call 913-360-6151 or visit Sophia Spirituality Center's website at www.sophiaspiritualitycenter.com

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES – PHILADELPHIA, PA

Pope Francis has officially announced his intention to attend the World Meeting of Families to be held September 22-27, 2015, in Philadelphia, PA. Our diocese will be working with a travel company to make pilgrimage packages available to those who wish to attend this event with a group. Details will be sent to parishes soon.

From the Diocesan Human Rights Office:

WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN PRISON MINISTRY?

To become a Volunteer in Corrections, or to learn about our *new* parish "Volunteers In Prayer (VIP)" program, please contact Brooklynn at 816-756-1850 (x 532) or bsalazar@diocesekcsj.org.

The 22nd annual "SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS" Benefit Dinner is dedicated to Our Lady of Knock and is scheduled for **Friday, January 30, 2015**. This event benefits seminarians from the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas, the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph and Conception Seminary College. It promises to be an evening filled with fun and laughter, celebrating our Catholic faith, dining on wonderful food, and socializing with our priests and seminarians! We have two wonderful speakers: Archbishop James P. Keleher, Archbishop Emeritus, of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, and Fr. Donald P. Farnan of St. Thomas More Parish in the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph who will eulogize Bishop Raymond Boland. S.O.S. will be held at the **Sheraton Hotel at Crown Center, 2345 McGee Street, Kansas City, Missouri**. The ticket price is \$150.00 per person at tables of ten people. To reserve your place, or an entire table, or donate to the marketplace or VIP silent auction, contact: Martha Hodes at 913-207-9893 or mmmh66@sbcglobal.net.

HOLY TRINITY NEWS



YOUTH CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICE:

All youth of reading age through high school are invited and encouraged to join us for this special choir offering at the 5:00pm Christmas Eve Mass. Final practice this Wednesday, Dec. 17, 7:00-8:15PM.

MIDNIGHT MASS CHOIR: Adults who would like to sing at Midnight Mass are invited to practice this Wednesday, December 17, from 8:15—9:00pm, in the choir loft.

CHANGE FOR LIFE: One last plea for all baby bottles to be returned with or without money—we need to return them to the Parkville Women Clinic! Thanks to all who gave!

Conception Abbey New Year's Retreat: New Years with Pope Francis: Tues. eve. - Thurs noon, Dec 30—Jan. 1, 2015

Our annual New Year's retreat will focus on passages from Pope Francis that will inspire and help us review and set the tone for the New Year. Join **Archbishop Jerome Hanus, Fr Peter Ullrich and Karen Ceckowski** as we reflect and challenge ourselves in meaningful 2015 resolutions. You'll find ample time for quiet reflection and prayer, have the opportunity to celebrate Reconciliation, and enjoy a festive New Year's reception. (*Suggested offering for lodging, meals, conferences and reception: \$160 for single accommodations, \$130 per person for double accommodations*). For reservations contact the Abbey Guest Center: phone 660-944-2809 or email guests@conception.edu.

Guardian Angels 25th Annual Christmas Concert & Carols

Sunday, December 21, 2014 at 2:00 pm

Pre-concert music begins at 1:30 pm

4240 Mercier, Kansas City, MO 64111

Questions: Call 816.931.4351

(Free will donations graciously accepted.)

KATIE'S CORNER--YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Grades 9-12: This week: The Good Book

Has your Bible been gathering dust on your shelf? Ever wonder why we have a Bible, what it's use is? What's the best way to figure out what to read and not be confused? Let us help you! December 14, 6:30-8pm, XII Apostles



Confirmation—Next Session:

December 14: 4:30-6:30pm at XII Apostles

December 14: 9:00-10:30am at Holy Trinity

Grades 7-12:

How good are you at tic-tac-toe? Join us as we play Holy Word Squares - a variation of tic-tac-toe based off the game show Hollywood Squares. Lots of prizes (more than just candy this time, too, because it's also the last session of the semester). December 21, 6:30-8:00pm, at Holy Trinity.

TWELVE APOSTLES NEWS

PSR: Everyone is invited to join us this Sunday, December 14, at 10:20am for the PARISH Rosary led by the 7th grade.

Practices for our Christmas pageant are Sundays, Dec. 14 and 21, at the church, immediately following PSR classes.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETS THIS MONDAY—7PM.

FUND RAISING REMINDER: Join us for "ad inserting" this Wednesday, December 17, starting at 8:30 AM, CITIZEN newspaper office, 1110 Branch St., Platte City. Questions, call Loretta @ 431-6304.



KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST NEXT SUNDAY—at Northland Career Center. 10am - 11:30am. Free will offering.

WATCH FOR INFO COMING SOON about photography appointments (Jan 22-27) for our new photo-directory!



ANGEL TREE GIFTS: please return unwrapped gifts to the cradle under the tree at XII Apostles or under the tree in the parish hall at Holy Trinity by **THIS Sunday, Dec. 14**. Sponsored by our Parish Schools of Religion.

Please join St. Therese Little Flower Catholic Church, 5814 Euclid, Thursday, January 1, 2015, 10am, for **annual Mass dedicated to Kansas City Police Officers who have died in the line of duty**. Trail of Heroes bench dedication in memory of Sgt. Frank McNamara. Chris Cakes (\$5) and Roasterie coffee follows in church hall. Contact Cristen Huntz, 816-444-5406 for further information.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Longest Married Couple 2015



The search is on. The 5th Annual Longest Married Couple Project in the U.S. as well as each of the 50 states and territories has started. If you know a couple with a long marriage, please nominate them for this honor. This annual search is sponsored by **Worldwide Marriage Encounter**. To nominate a couple, contact Dick & Diane Baumbach at: wwmelmc2015@gmail.com. Include the name of the couple, their wedding date and where they currently reside, plus a contact phone or email address of the individual nominating the couple. Nominations must be received by January 10th, 2015. For more information, go to wwme.org

Marriage Help – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information about or to register for the February program beginning with a weekend on Feb 27-March 1 2015 email: retrokc@gmail.com or visit the website at www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 800-470-2230.



FROM THE DESK OF FATHER STEVEN C. ROGERS.....

While in seminary, I met a woman who changed my life. Her name was Sister Zoe. She was a woman who answered God's call from an early age and lived out her earthly life as a sister with the Daughters of Charity. Sister Zoe was pragmatic and unpretentious. She was unaffected and unassuming. If you asked her, Sister Zoe would tell you she loved God. She loved the Saints. She loved history, specifically the history of the Catholic Church, but she was honest and she would say she didn't always love the Church. Sometimes, the Church made her angry. Sometimes, the Church made her sad. Still, Sister Zoe was forever faithful.

In her vocation as a professor of Church History, she helped to mold men for the priesthood. In her many years at Kenrick Glennon School of Theology, she helped numerous men to discern their true vocation. She was direct and she did not tolerate nonsense. She operated on the principle of "move or be moved!" Nothing and no one could pull the wool over her eyes, she would say, nothing and no one got in her way. She was an agent of the truth. For Sister there was no other way to be, no other way to live.

As a Daughter of Charity, each year the sisters remake their vows. At midnight the night before, their vows expire, and then during the day on the twenty fifth of March, each sister chooses whether they will make vows or chose to move on. It is their choice. The voice of God directs their response. This practice helps the Sisters to be truthful and genuine. This gives the Sisters a chance to confront their true vocation. Of course, most of the sisters renew their vows because this practice helps them to confront their truth. With the truth, they can clearly hear the voice of God and be prepared by the Holy Spirit to renew and fulfill their commitment to serve.

Sister Zoe was a force to be reckoned with. Moved by the voice of God, Sister Zoe had a voice that could not be ignored. She lived to a ripe old age and every day of her life she testified to the power and profundity of God. She did not mince her words. She spoke her mind; she spoke the truth.

Sr. Zoe knew well that people don't like the truth, they can't handle the truth. The truth makes people feel uncomfortable; they fear they won't be accepted. People associate the truth with the wilderness and the desert. Too often people choose to live in darkness rather than face the truth. They don't want to know the truth, to see or hear the truth, much less confront the truth, specifically the truth of their own life and true vocation.

Sr. Zoe didn't need anyone's permission to speak the truth. She considered "the truth" to be her vocation. She was called to call others to the truth. She testified to the truth with her very life. In the seminary, Sister Zoe was the voice of truth. The truth was always on her lips, on her mind and in her heart. Whenever you encountered Sr. Zoe, you encountered the truth.

Whenever Sister expressed the truth to someone in her direct manner, they would react, "Who do you think you are?" or "How dare you!" Sr. Zoe always responded, "I know who I am, and you need to know only this: I will poke a hole straight through you and think nothing of it! I know the kind of person you are. I know the person God created you to be. I know the kind of person you will become." Sr. Zoe was bold, brazen and blatant. She had grit. "You don't like hearing the truth, but it is the only thing that will save you! The truth is the only thing that will set you free, especially from yourself!"

No one could argue the truth with Sr. Zoe. She had a knowing. She was gifted. She was prophetic. She was a lot like John the Baptist. It was rumored she ate locusts for breakfast, without honey. She sharpened her teeth on the truth and she would bite if provoked and she was always provoked.

Often, confronting the truth face to face is like having a hole pierced straight through you. It certainly isn't a pleasant experience, but at the same time it is a life-giving experience. It is a necessary experience if we are to have eternal life. We have to confront the truth, our own truth. We have to confront our truth with God, with others and with our self.

In confronting the truth, each of us must confront our true vocation. Sister Zoe honored her calling, she embraced her vocation. A vocation is a terrible thing to waste. The truth is a terrible thing to waste. We all have a vocation. We all have the truth. My vocation, my truth, and your vocation and your truth, are very much the same. Bottom line, each of us has the vocation to give glory to God with our lives, to testify and witness to the person, presence, profundity and promises of Jesus Christ. That's the truth.

As we navigate throughout life and relationship, quite often our true vocation takes a back seat to all the other capacities and careers we hold, to all the activities and inclinations that compete for our attention and affection. Too often we are so committed to those things that we exchange everything of importance to maintain them. Too often we honor the things that get in the way of the truth, that get in the way of our vocation to praise God and give him glory and honor in all that we do, say, think and feel.

We all have the same testimony and the same calling as John the Baptist had: we are all supposed to be voices crying out loud enough to be heard above the demands and difficulties of the world. Many souls are lost in the wilderness of confusion, hopelessness, pain, heartache and despair. Many souls are lost in the desert because they won't confront the truth. Many souls are lost because they won't confront their true vocation to give glory to God.

Both John the Baptist and Sister Zoe were a voice crying out in the desert. Both testified to the Light of Christ by challenging others with: "Where is your life right now? Listen! Jesus Christ is coming to meet you where you are. Stop wandering around. Change, repent, do whatever is necessary to look for Jesus so that you can find him. He is coming to you!"

Each of us has a voice. Each of us has a vocation. Each of us has Christ within us. Our very lives are the voice. Even if our vocal chords do not utter a single word, the way we live in the light is how we speak the truth of the light. The better we live the truth, the louder and clearer is our message. What other people choose to do with our message is up to them, but it is up to us to speak the truth so they are given that choice.

In Christ,

Father Steven C. Rogers