

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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2014

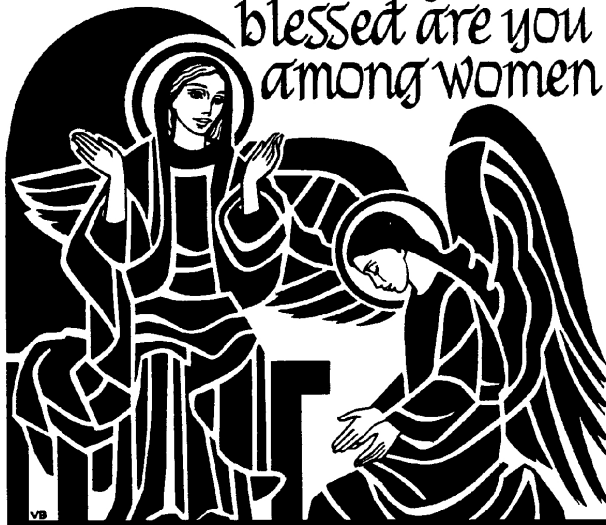
In today's Gospel reading we hear proclaimed the story of the Annunciation, when the angel of the Lord announced to Mary that she would give birth to Christ through the intercession of the Holy Spirit. Mary allowed God's messenger to speak to her. She was attentive, not afraid to enter into a dialogue, then unconditionally obedient. Mary's acceptance of this mystery is a stewardship model for us.

Good stewards remain open to the incursions of divine life into the normal course of their daily lives. How open are we to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our own lives?

What might we do this last week of Advent to be more attentive to the Lord?

International Catholic Stewardship Council Dec 2014

The Lord is with you -
blessed are you
among women



© Virginia Broderick

Fourth Sunday of Advent 12-21-2014

Readings: p. 42 in *Breaking Bread*

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

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

Mon, Dec. 22, 8am—HT Private Intention



MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS:

Christmas Eve: Wednesday, December 24

4:00PM - at XII Apostles - for the People of Twelve Apostles.
(Children's Christmas Pageant at 3:15pm.)

5:00PM - at Holy Trinity - for Barbara O'Malley, rip, ann.
(Children's Choir—music begins at 4:30pm)

6:00PM - at XII Apostles—for the People of Twelve Apostles
(music begins at 5:40pm)

7:00PM - at Holy Trinity—for the People of Holy Trinity
(music begins at 6:30pm)

Midnight - at Holy Trinity—for Jim & Brian Hoffman, rip
(music begins at 11:30pm)

Christmas Day: Thursday, Dec 25

9:00AM - XII Apostles – for the People of Twelve Apostles
(music begins at 8:40am)

10:30AM - Holy Trinity — for the People of Holy Trinity
(music begins at 10:10am.)

Fri, Dec 26—NO MASS on FRIDAY this week

Saturday, December 28

5:00pm--XII Judy Morrissey, rip

Sunday, December 28

7:30am-HT For Parishioners of Holy Trinity

9:00am—XII For Parishioners of XII Apostles

10:45am-HT In honor of St. Stephen

'TIS THE SEASON

Bulletin items for next Sunday, December 28, are due by 8am this Monday, December 22.

The parish office will be closed Tuesday through Friday of this week.

The Christmas Mass schedule is listed above.

2014 donations: As the end of the year approaches, we want to remind you of the following: for a donation to be credited to your record for 2014, it needs to be made by December 31. If you are giving electronically, the donation needs to be made before 3 p.m. CST on 12/30, with a settle date of 12/31. If you have any questions, please contact us.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

ENDOW – Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women Letter to Women (8 weeks)— Begins January 6, Tuesday nights 5:30 – 7:30pm. Facilitated by Mary Ann Cutolo at 13025 N. Foxglove Ct., Platte City. *Letter to Women* invites your group to explore Pope John Paul II's 1995 letter to all the women of the world. This study reaffirms the dignity of all human persons as it upholds the special place women occupy in the family, the Church, and the world. *Letter to Women* is the introductory book that sets the stage for all the studies in the Endow series.

Finding Meaning in Suffering (8 weeks)— Begins January 14th, Wednesday nights 6:45 – 8:30pm. Facilitated by Donna Webb; meeting at 12700 N Overbrook Dr., Platte City. *Finding Meaning in Suffering* answers one of humanity's most vexing questions, how to make sense of suffering. In this 1984 apostolic letter, Pope John Paul II explains that it is only in Christ that we can hope to find meaning and purposes in our sufferings. Far from depressing, this letter is tinged with joy and hope and leaves the reader with a lighter heart and peaceful sense of being cared for even in the most trying circumstances.

Discover Your Dignity: A Woman's Journey through Life – Part 1 (8 weeks) – Begins January 20th, Tuesday mornings 9:30 – 11:15. Facilitated by Donna Webb; meeting at 12700 N. Overbrook Dr., Platte City. *This is the first of a two-part series which invites women to ponder how the hectic reality of our life, with its obligations, home and work demands, and relationship issues, intersects with the Divine reality.*

Registration for all Endow classes is online at Endow-groups.org. For more information contact Mary Ann Cutolo at 816-806-4109, maryann@themamaginas.com or Donna Webb at 402-613-3829, dwebbjoy@gmail.com

33 Days for Men - Consecration to Jesus through Mary.

If you missed the last session, you have another opportunity. Sessions are on Sunday mornings after 9:00 Mass at XII Apostles in the church basement. First of six classes is January 11. For more information contact Jeremy Shroyer at 305-5982, Scott Webb at 506-6121, or Chris Barmann at 589-9148.

ANGEL TREES: Thank you to everyone who took an ornament and brought gifts for the Angel Trees. Between the two parishes, all 137 ornaments were taken!! Items were given to Hillcrest Transitional Housing, Parkville Women's Clinic, United Services, and Unbound (formerly known as CFCA). Thank you again for your generosity!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS for all

Do More, Be a Knight: Current 1st Degree members are encouraged to complete their 2nd and 3rd Degree (Knighthood) Ceremonials on Sunday, January 25, 2015, from Noon to 2 p.m. at St. Mark Parish, 3736 S Lee's Summit Rd, Independence, MO 64055. If planning to attend, contact Steve Steiger (816) 431-6506 (Day or Night) scsteiger@yahoo.com to confirm your attendance.

Come to the Pancake Breakfast at the Northland Career Center in Platte City this Sunday 21 December from 1000 to 1130 — thank you! And thanks to all the Knights who volunteer their time. The next Pancake Breakfast will be on 18 January 2015 from 0830 to 1000 at Holy Trinity Parish Hall in Weston.

Next Meeting of the Knights of Columbus Council 12288 will be the third Thursday 15 January 2015 at 7 pm at XII Apostles.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Jim Rooney, Grand Knight

HOLY TRINITY NEWS

NEW SERVICE MUSIC at 10:45 Mass—we have begun using new “service music”. Please join us! You will find this music (the Mass of Spirit and Grace) at **#931 9 38 in your missalette.**

CAN YOU HELP US GET READY FOR CHRISTMAS?

All hands are invited to help decorate Holy Trinity Church for the Christmas season this Sunday after 10:45 Mass. We'll be setting up Christmas trees, the stable and putting lanterns in the windows. Please join us!



WE REJOICE IN THE BAPTISMS of **Madeline Rose Hoffman**, daughter of Greg and Audrey Hoffman, and **Hogan Michael Cox**, son of Dustin and Audra Cox, on Sunday, December 14, 2014. May these new children of God and their families always know God's many blessings.

FINAL COMMUNAL ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES IN

THE AREA:

Sunday, Dec. 21, 1PM Good Shepherd, 18601 N
169 Hwy, Smithville, MO
Sunday, Dec. 21, 4pm Holy Angels, 15410 Leavenworth Rd., Basehor, KS



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.

KATIE'S CORNER--YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Grades 7-12:



Youth Group

How good are you at tic-tac-toe? Join us as we play Holy Word Squares - a variation of tic-tac-toe based on 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.

Spring Schedules have gone out! If you have not received one, please contact Katie, or download your own - holyltrinitycatholic.org/youth or twelveapostlescatholic.org/youth

Confirmation: Interview times are set up online. Sign up for one before January 15!

Merry Christmas!!

TWELVE APOSTLES NEWS



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE and SAUSAGE BREAKFAST THIS SUNDAY—

at Northland Career Center, 10am-11:30am.

Free will offering goes to the charitable works of the Knights of Columbus. Come fill your tummy before you head off to the rest of your day!

Final practices for our Christmas pageant this Sunday, Dec. 21, at the church, immediately following PSR classes.

All are invited to come see the performance at 3:15pm (before 4pm Mass) on Christmas Eve, this Wednesday, December 24.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

THIS Sunday, December 21, 2014



Lord, thank you for the blessings of our parish Mission. Our hearts are open wide to all your graces. We feel and share in a special way the excitement of this blessed Christmas Season. Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Adult Adoration 5:00 – 6:00 pm

DECORATE XII APOSTLES FOR HIS COMING—

Sunday, December 21, 6 PM (following Adoration) AND Tuesday, December 23, 9 AM. Prepare His house and our hearts. Please stop by if you can. All are welcome.



WE REJOICE IN THE BAPTISM of **Maxwell Robert Magnuson**, son of Matthew and Angela Magnuson, on Saturday, December 13, 2014. May this new child of God always remain close to Him.

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

AED training: Twelve Apostles is the recipient of an AED (automated external defibrillator), thanks to a grant and the generosity of the Women's Group and Knights of Columbus. AED training will take place on Tuesday, January 13, 6:30pm, at the NRAD ambulance office conference room (behind Jeff's True Value Hardware) in Platte City. All interested adults, age 18 & older, are invited to attend.

Marriage Help – You Can Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. 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](tel:800-470-2230).

200+ Nativity Sets on Display: at Holy Family Parish, 919 NE 96th St., KC MO, in the downstairs library. After Masses Dec 20-21, 27-28, Jan 1. Free event. To arrange a group tour, call John at 816-436-9200 or email john@holylfamily.com.



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

Years ago Department stores celebrated Christmas in a big and bold way. The flagship stores of large chains would pull out all the stops to entertain valued patrons and celebrate the reason for the season. Back then everyone was a valued customer. Store windows were dressed with storybook animated characters come to life to bring Christmas joy to everyone who passed by whether they were a customer or not. The bigger the store, the bigger and brighter the displays and offerings.

Breakfast with Santa, complete with a Kodak moment, was a necessity for every youngster. Lunch with Rudolph was a sight to behold. Dinner with the Sugar Plum Fairy captured the magic of the season. A chorus of high-stepping reindeer and dancing bears unwrapped the season of giving. Back then, Santa's Elves worked harder than any personal shopper does today and for a whole lot less. Gigantic Christmas trees were adorned with ornaments the world over. Tinsel and twinkles decked every aisle. The songs of the season greeted children of all ages and merriment filled the air. Just to be a small part of the spectacle set off thrills and screams for anyone lucky enough to be included.

My friend Mary Susan was such a lucky person. All the major department stores wanted her to be part of their Christmas line-up. Mary Susan is an accomplished puppeteer, especially when it comes to manipulating the strings of her sawdust and sequined creations. She has performed all over the world entertaining audiences with her flare and style. Original from concept through completion, Mary Susan has the ability to capture the human spirit in her adorable creations and bring them to life in ways that leave the audience thinking and gasping in disbelief. She brings life to inanimate objects. She can take a box of rocks and make them dance and sing and people believe it. Her work is perfect for the Christmas season.

One Christmas Mary Susan asked me to assist her in bringing the magic of marionettes to life in her Christmas show. She had been hired as the featured act on the main stage at a famous department store. How could I refuse! It was an experience that I will never forget. We rehearsed for weeks before and she passed onto me the tricks of the trade. She taught me a lot but, in my case, the student will never surpass the master. Her timing is impeccable. Her precision is exact. She has an intimate connection with her characters and her spirit translates through each string as she animates their every move. Mary Susan is a good business-woman and she can manipulate everything behind the scenes as well.

After a couple weeks of performing the Christmas Show, Mary Susan asked me to learn how to work her favorite marionette Suzette. Suzette was a very complicated marionette to manipulate. She had numerous strings which helped her to perform challenging acrobatics that required timing and precision. Suzette was a trapeze artist who performed high wire stunts. I felt it was a true honor to be asked and I worked extra hard to learn Suzette's routine, but on the day I was to debut with Suzette, I panicked. Suzette was the star of the show and I did not deserve to share in her limelight. Mary Susan and I had finished performing with the Tinsel Monkeys and I told her I was not ready to bring Suzette to life. Not missing a beat, Mary Susan grabbed Suzette and went on stage. She instructed me to watch from the wings of the stage.

Suzette came to life and so did Mary Susan. As the trapeze swung from left to right, Suzette sparkled and they lit up the room. Swinging, hanging from her knees to standing straight up on the bar, Suzette was graceful and beautiful. It was easy to see why she was Mary Susan's favorite; she had been with for many years. Her joy was infectious. As the music swelled, Suzette prepared for her big move, a full on handstand with her legs high in the air. Not an easy thing to do. It was a bold and impressive move that always brought thrills and screams of delight from the audience.

Just as Mary Susan pulled the strings for her big move, the lead string on Suzette's head snapped and the momentum pulled apart the connection between her neck and head. As Mary Susan helped Suzette mount her handstand, Suzette's little porcelain doll-like head flew off her shoulders and landed on a branch of a snow-covered Christmas tree adorning the stage. What would normally be a favorable reaction from the audience gave way to gasps and screams of horror. There was shock and there was awe. Trauma gave way to hilarity. Parents couldn't contain themselves and their children joined in on the moment. Snickers gave way to guffaws and the audience rolled and roared with delight.

There is nothing worse than a headless marionette swinging wildly on a trapeze. There is nothing worse for a puppeteer than to have an audience turn. Mary Susan finished just as she started without missing a beat. Applause broke out and Mary Susan walked over to the Christmas tree and snatched up the head of Suzette with one stroke. Then Mary Susan turned to the audience and cinched the deal, "Suzette has been over-worked these days and she is a little under the weather! I told her not to perform today but she insisted she had to. I thought she did a marvelous job even though she wasn't up to it." Applause! Applause! Applause! Everyone had a good time.

Often, the stress of the season can overwhelm us, and the hustle and bustle of the Christmas can cause us to lose our focus, especially when someone else is pulling our strings. Shopping and gifting requires time and precision in order for us to meet everyone's demands and expectations. At times, it is like working a high wire act without a net. We can lose our heads. What is supposed to be exciting and thrilling can easily turn on us and when it does, we become afraid of disaster and debacle.

Don't fret thinking you are not ready or that you are not up to it or you're not feeling it this year. Relax, in the end everyone is going to have a good time. Christmas is CHRISTMAS! That is the reason for our joy. Christ is with us! It isn't about what we have done or haven't done, or how well we have performed. Enjoy! Jesus is delighted because we are with him to celebrate his birthday. Jesus will say, "I thought they did a marvelous job!" Merry Christmas!



In Christ,

Father Steven C. Rogers