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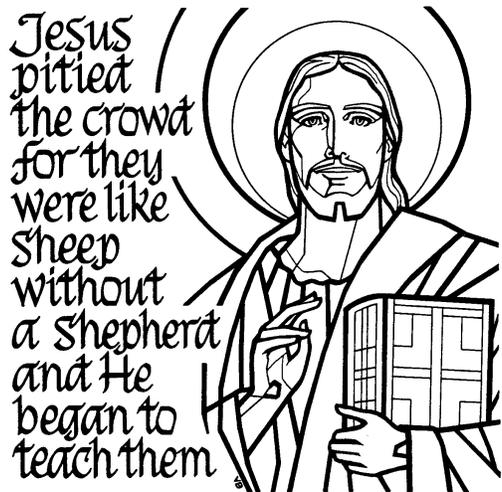
Holy Trinity Parish

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



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 19, 2015

The Letter to the Ephesians reminds us that Christ is creating a new world order: one that brings about relationships based on love, peace, reconciliation, hope and unity. As a Eucharistic community, we are stewards of Christ's new creation. How are we promoting peace and reconciliation? How are we showing love for our neighbors? What are we doing to encourage unity and understanding among those with whom we gather around the Lord's Table each week?

International Catholic Stewardship Council July 2015

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: Saturdays: 3:15-3:45 PM at Holy Trinity; 4:15-4:45 PM at XII Apostles; 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, Office Manager - 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
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), 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 Bonnie Kane at 816.392.0011 or kane@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.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 19 July 2015
Readings: p. 189 in *Breaking Bread*

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 18

5:00pm--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

Sunday, July 19

7:30am-HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

9:00am--XII Wilfrid & Anna Kneib +

10:45am-HT Mary Thebo +

NO WEEKDAY MASSES THIS WEEK or Mon., 7/27—
Father will be away from the office until July 29.

Saturday, July 25

5:00pm--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

Sunday, July 26

7:30am-HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

9:00am--XII Sharon Graham

10:45am-HT Rev. Charles Miller+ (Pastor 1942-56)

Thank you, from *Rhonda Schneringer*, VBS Director:

After a week of climbing Mt. Everest and learning to conquer challenges with God's mighty power, VBS is over for 2015. I want to say thanks to a few people.

First, to the families who participated. In this hectic world of competing priorities, it's a big commitment to bring your children to VBS every evening. Thank you for making that commitment.

Second, to the parish members of Holy Trinity and Twelve Apostles. Many of you provided food, drinks, decorations, encouragement and prayers. Thank you.

Finally, to the volunteers. What a special blessing you are.

From teens to seniors and every age in between! Thanks to station leaders

Kathy Anderson, Elly Anderson, Camellia Barmann, Shannon Demory, Stewart Wittell, TJ Miller and Angie Magnuson. Thanks to helpers **Janessa Barmann, Stephanie Carroll, Hannah Valentine, Rachel Valentine, Shirley Goode, Ann Harris, and Mary Ann Sadler.**

(And our parishes thank YOU, Rhonda, for organizing it — we so appreciate your gift of time and talent!)



God Sightings

AROUND THE AREA: St. Rose of Lima (Savannah, MO) invites you to their annual Ice Cream Social this Sunday, July 19, 4-7pm. Join them for pork sandwich, polish sausage, or hot dog meals with all the fixin's, plus ice cream & cake. Ages 6+ \$6.00; ages 2-5-\$3. Raffle, Silent Auction and more. Sponsored by St. Rose of Lima Altar Society.

ARE YOU REGISTERED IN A PARISH?

If you are an adult who regularly attends Mass at Twelve Apostles or Holy Trinity but have not registered, you may do so by filling out a registration form (found in the back of the churches or on our websites) and returning it to the parish office. We look forward to knowing you!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Women of Faith: The group Women of Faith meets every Wednesday at 8:30am to read and discuss a particular book or writing to enhance our faith and prayer life. On Wednesday, July 22, we will begin *The Screwtape Letters* by C. S. Lewis. Questions? Please email Mary Ann Sadler: maryannsadler@gmail.com.

Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom continues Sunday at XII Apostles.

The One Thing Is Three from the Hearts Afire Program - **Stage Two: Wisdom and Works of Mercy** will be offered this fall. **All are welcome!** It's NOT necessary to have completed Stage One (*33 Days to Morning Glory* and *Consoling the Heart of Jesus*), but is helpful if you've done one or the other. Meetings will be at 12700 N. Overbrook Dr., Platte City, on Tuesdays, 1-2:30pm, beginning August 25. Materials for both parts of Stage 2 (*The One Thing Is Three* book, workbook, and *You Did It to Me* book) cost approximately \$48. Please email Donna Webb at dwebbjoy@gmail.com or text/call 402-613-382 if you plan to attend so that your materials can be purchased - or if you would like more information.

"COPING WITH LIFE ALONE" - Peer-To-Peer Grief Support

"COPING WITH LIFE ALONE®" is a Beginning Experience® grief support program that meets each week for 7 weeks.

The program helps those who have lost a love relationship, due to death, divorce, or separation, move through the experience of grief and loss into a future with renewed hope.

UPCOMING PROGRAM DATES AND LOCATIONS:

—Topeka--beginning August 28 at Mother Teresa Church. Contact Angie at (785) 220-7773, for information and registration.

—Kansas City, MO--beginning August 20 at St. Patrick's Church, KC North. Contact Cathy at (816)540-4644 for info and registration.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS for all.....

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CALENDAR

July 19--1st (Admission) Degree Ceremonial, Kearney, MO
August 2--Ice Cream Social, Holy Trinity; Council No.12288 will be assisting.

August 9-16--Knights of Columbus Family Week

August 9--1st (Admission), 2nd and 3rd Degree Ceremonials, Harrisonville, MO

August 11--1st (Admission) Degree Ceremonial, Lee's Summit

August 12--Twelve Apostles Council No.16189 monthly meal, Rosary and meeting

August 13--Bob Evans Restaurant Fundraiser

August 20--Holy Trinity Council No.12288 monthly Rosary, meeting and meal

August 23--2nd, 3rd Degree Ceremonials, Kansas City, KS

No Coupons Necessary at Bob Evans Restaurants--The Knights of Columbus in Missouri have formed a partnership with ALL Bob Evans Restaurants in the State of Missouri. **On the 2ND THURSDAY of every month, ANYONE and EVERYONE** is invited to either eat in or carry-out at ANY Bob Evans Restaurant in Missouri from 6:00AM-9:00PM. When you pay your bill, tell them you are there to support the Fundraising Program of the Knights of Columbus. **Bob Evans will then donate 15% of your total bill to the "Columbian Charities of Missouri,"** which is the fundraising foundation of our organization. This program is open to ANYONE who wants to participate--not just members of the Knights; not just members of the Catholic Church. Please tell EVERYONE YOU COME IN CONTACT WITH about this great fundraiser.

HOLY TRINITY NEWS



Two weeks till our Ice Cream Social! (Aug 2, 4-7pm)

Raffle tickets may be turned in, along with the monies, by means of the collection basket, by mail, or drop by the office. If you need more, they are available at the office or after Mass. If you are not able to buy/sell all of yours, please return the blanks so we may use them for others.

—**Baskets to fill for the Country Store** are available in the back of church.

—**Non-perishable items (Bingo prizes, etc.)** may be dropped off at the parish hall during office hours or Sunday mornings.

3rd/final notice: Items left behind in the church/hall are on the table in back of church—please check. **We'll donate them after today.**



Funeral Luncheon Ministry Team Update:

Thank you to all who have returned a Volunteer Survey and offered to serve on a Team. These have been updated and copies of the Team Rosters may be found in the Holy Trinity vestibule or in the Parish Hall.

If you did not return a volunteer form and are interested in joining a team, we will be happy to have you! Please call Susan Wurtenberger at 386-0117 with any questions or needs.

LEMONADE & COOKIES! Join the Women's Guild for cookies & lemonade after Masses next Sunday as they celebrate the feast of St. Martha, their patron saint.



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

1) *Are you Mission minded? Would you like to serve your community in new and exciting ways? Hillcrest Platte County has several open positions and is currently looking for the right person for the job. We are looking for a maintenance manager, resident manager and a take charge kind of person to help develop and administer a new emergency assistance program at Hillcrest. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in joining the Hillcrest Team, please send resume or letter of interest to Donice@hillcrestplatte.org.*

2) **Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph is now hiring a full time staff accountant.** This position is responsible for recording revenue on a monthly basis for numerous programs; for weekly & monthly billing of program and service fees. Additional duties include depositing and accurately recording cash receipts on a daily basis, while also monitoring accounts receivable. Inspired by the Gospel mandate, **Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph** works to transform lives and communities with hope-filled care, services and advocacy. All staff members also engage in direct contact with agency clients on a regular basis.

For a complete job description and more great opportunities, visit the **Careers** page at www.catholiccharities-kcsj.org.



KATIE'S CORNER-- YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Grades incoming 7th grade - high school grads: Join us for Youth Group - July 26, 1:30-3pm at Holy Trinity.

Confirmation registration available now!

Register before August 2 for early bird savings! Register online: www.holytrinitycatholic.org/Confirmation or www.twelveapostlescatholic.org/Confirmation.

To get paper forms, please contact Katie Troup at ymht-xii@kc.rr.com

TWELVE APOSTLES NEWS

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

THIS Sunday, July 19, 2015

Come away by yourselves. Receive strength to begin again. Spend a time of rest with Him in this quiet place.

Adoration 5:00 – 6:00 pm



Parish School of Religion (PSR) classes are available for children ages Pre-K through 8th grade on Sunday mornings beginning September 13. Families must be registered members of Twelve Apostles parish.

Online Registration is now available! Just go to our website: twelveapostlescatholic.org/PSR

Updated PSR Fees: Due to increasing costs of materials, we need to increase PSR fees, the first increase in 15-20 years. As always, if you need financial assistance, please let us know.

New fees: 1 child: \$50; 2 children: \$70; 3 or more children: \$80; 2nd grade—extra fee for sacramental materials: \$25.

Please help us get ready by registering early! We had 150+ students last year and there's a lot to prepare! Early Bird deadline: August 2. After August 2, fees increase by \$25.

Your Help Needed!!!! We are in need of 10 MORE volunteers for next year's Parish School of Religion (PSR)!

Catechists come from all walks of life and all ages: women, men, parents, godparents, grandparents, and singles. Catechists do not need to be expert teachers or brilliant theologians. They are **ordinary people** - just like you and me - sharing the love of God and the truths of our faith to the next generation. We provide teacher textbooks that include lesson plans. We have co-teachers so you do not have to be available every Sunday.

Grades where teachers are needed: Kindergarten, 1st grade, 3rd grade, 4th grade, 5th grade, and 6th grade.

Are you hesitating saying yes? Not sure if you're cut out for this rewarding ministry? Please call Katie Troup at 816-640-2206 x304 or email dreht-xii@kc.rr.com for questions, answers, discussions and encouragement. **Expressing interest does not equal signing up.**

Make a joyful noise!

The 5:00 p.m. Choir is in need of substitute piano players or guitarists to fill in when needed.

We are also looking for new members who would love to offer their talents. We practice before Mass on Saturday evenings and hold a few extra practices throughout the year for special masses, e.g., Easter, Christmas, Confirmation, First Communion. Please consider this important ministry. Please contact Karla Stahl at nstahl1@kc.rr.com.

Building Fund Update:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| June 2015 building fund receipts: | \$8,450.44 |
| Minimum monthly loan payment: | \$9,000.00 |
| June 2015 Interest payment: | \$4,968.98 |
| Building Loan balance: | \$1,625,708.58 |

Thank you to all who are assisting Twelve Apostles in servicing the debt for our beautiful church with your building fund donations. All building fund donations received each month are forwarded towards our loan. Your continued help is needed. Building Fund envelopes (gold) can be found in your envelope packs or on the table in the back of the church. Thank you!

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

Seminary formation and education can be both a blessing and a curse. Academic, spiritual, and character formation, when it is done well, challenges and stretches a person. It is a crucial practice to help men study for, and discern, the priesthood. Formation defines limits, and at the same time identifies new horizons. For one to be fully present to the here and now, and daily explore the beyond and after, is time consuming. Formation is about life, learning, and relationships. It can be perplexing, fascinating, and mind boggling. It can form a man. It can reform a man. It can him build up. It can tear him down. It takes patience, lots of patience. It takes time, lots of time. It takes courage, lots of courage. It takes prayer, lots of prayer.

There is a popular phrase used by many spiritual directors in seminaries, "Die to self; let Christ rise in you." I have to admit, this particular dictum did not speak to me during those early years of formation. "Die to self." It still echoes in the hallways of my mind. The process is daunting and lengthy. One needs help. In seminary, help comes through spiritual direction.

Spiritual directors can be aloof and intimidating, tenacious, and stubborn, persistent like small-minded boot camp sergeants. For them, "Die to self," is more like a "do or die" directive, rather than a healthy discernment process. "Die to self!" It's not pretty, or very appealing, particularly when driven down one's throat like a corrective mandate issued to minions and scumbags destined to clean latrines with a shared well-worn toothbrush.

Dying to self is not an easy undertaking, especially when there are many powerful people scrutinizing and ensuring the outcome. Their job is to deliver results, "You'll eat it, sleep it, and work it, until you DIE! Now drop and give me 50!" They could add stress to anxiety and overwhelm, "Just hurry up and die! Die already! Don't make us make you die." Dying to self seems counterproductive. It is God who created us. It is God who blessed us with who we are, our personality, and gifts. It is God who called us. It is God who sustains us and redeems us. Why would God go through all that trouble just to watch us destroy what he created?

I decided the best way to survive those early years was to let the "Die to Self," phrase die. In desperation, I tried to find a spiritual director cut from a different cloth, but there were none. So, confronting destiny, I chose the meanest most vicious spiritual director of all. He was known for making Bishops cry out loud, in public. He had a no holds barred reputation, callous and cruel. Throwing down the gauntlet, he challenged, "What do you want from me?" Spiritual direction was required, but to give an answer of "nothing, SIR" would have been a death sentence. I replied, "Well, I have a lot to learn." Interrupting, he blurted out, "Look, Son, I am not your NANNY! I am not your MOMMY! You've got a lot to learn, NO! You've got a lot to teach, YES! That's your work, not MINE. Dismissed!!!"

So I focused more on what to do with myself, and less on killing off what I brought to the table. I decided to refine and polish what God had created, rather than to start over from the cold dead ashes. "Die to self!" The phrase has far greater meaning to me now, but it is daunting to say the least, to begin there, especially with all those people watching.

I learned quickly, formation wasn't just about me. At the same time I was working on me, God was working on me, and many others around me, spiritual directors included. Resistance was futile. I decided to work behind the scenes as an advocate for seminarians who chose to "die to self" at the hands of a formation brigade. I opened my door to meet with them, to support and encourage them, to embrace the blessings and gifts God had given them. Men studying for the priesthood need a lot of encouragement and help.

To be an advocate for seminarians is a full time job. Added on top of being a full time student, time can be easily compromised and depleted. In such a role, sleep is the first thing to flee from the formation schedule. Needs and demands are too great. Activating promise and potential takes an enormous amount of tenacity and spirit. You have to go, Go, GO! I reassured myself I was doing a good thing, so I charged myself to knuckle under, and do whatever it took to help others, and survive the system. I was not going to roll over and die. I was not going to let anyone else die, either. I went on a search and rescue mission, and told myself, "You can sleep when you are dead!"

It takes a lot of energy, patience, intuition, kindness, intelligence, mercy, and precious time to be an advocate for others, especially men studying for the priesthood. Dying to self brings out the neediness in people; they fear there is no peace in death. Convinced the Church struggled greatly due to a lack of priests, I feared that if I would sleep, someone would die. On the other hand, if I didn't sleep, I would die. What a predicament! The scale of advocacy is always out of balance. It tips in favor of the other, never you. "Die to self!" To be properly formed or reformed, one needs their sleep. If you are going to die to self, you need your sleep. If you aren't going to die to self, you need your sleep.

As life and relationships go, I found the only time outside of fulfilling demands, duties and obligations was in the wee hours of the morning. That's not quality time, but it was the only time rationed. That's a very narrow window of opportunity, little chance to succeed. I would do all I could do to rescue and encourage others during normal hours, but what was left for me came out of the abnormal. Encouragement helped others to sleep, but that meant I had to drill myself like an aloof sergeant to work without sleeping, "You can sleep when you are dead!"

It is a vicious cycle. All my friends in seminary loved to sleep. They slept during Morning Prayer. They slept during Mass. They slept during class. They slept between meals. The only time they didn't sleep was in the evening hours, when they called on me, their advocate, for help, for encouragement. They called on me for academic help. They called on me for character encouragement. They called on me for spiritual encouragement. They couldn't sleep until they got help. They couldn't "die to self" unless someone helped them do it, and get it done. It was maddening. It was exhausting. It was overwhelming. Still, I had convinced myself it was necessary. It is what God wanted. That's when, "Die to self," started to take on a completely different meaning.

Everyone feels overwhelmed at times. To whatever ministry we are called, whether it is raising children, or caring for an elderly spouse, or parent, or working a job, or volunteering, it is necessary to take time out for ourselves, a vacation and a holiday, for nourishment and rest and recuperation. Yes, each of us has a vocation, an avocation, and a ministry. It takes time. It takes blessings and gifts. It takes insight. It takes spirit and tenacity. All ministry takes energy to reveal God's love. It takes energy to remain enthusiastic in serving others. But how can we get recharged with new energy if we don't take time to sit still, rest, pray and sleep. How can we care about others when we don't take good care of ourselves? Jesus lives within us, but before we can give him to others, we must first let him give himself to us. "Die to self!"

Daily we encounter people who are like sheep without a shepherd; they are seeking Jesus whether they realize it or not. They want the unconditional and merciful love that he has to give. They want help and encouragement. They want healing and peace. Jesus wants to help them, but if we who are his hands and feet and voice are too weak, weary, worn out and sleepy from all the demands and hardships and uncertainties of life and the human condition, then what? Jesus says, "Come to me all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest!" Jesus invites us to rest with him, until we become more like him. "Die to self, let Christ rise in you."

In Christ,

Father Steven C. Rogers