

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

Second Sunday of Advent December 6, 2015



© Virginia Broderick

In today's second reading, Saint Paul prays with joy and confidence for his friends in the Christian community at Philippi. He is encouraged that the community has partnered with him to proclaim the Gospel. He sees Christ's active presence and plan of salvation at work in the community. God's overarching plan is unclear to us. But when we see evidence of God working through others, doesn't it give us reason to believe that Christ is alive among us? Does the witness of others help our own prayer lives? Does it inspire us to promote the Gospel? During this second week of Advent take time to reflect on how you see Christ's presence in your community.

International Catholic Stewardship Council December 2015

Mass Times:

Saturday 5:00 PM – Twelve Apostles Church
Sunday 7:30 AM – Holy Trinity Church
9:00 AM – Twelve Apostles Church
10:45AM – 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 Kathleen Chastain at 816.392.0011 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsi.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.

Second Sunday of Advent - 6 Dec 2015
Readings: p. 33 in *Breaking Bread*

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 5

5:00p m--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

Sunday, December 6

7:30am-HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

9:00am--XII Private Intention

10:45am-HT Private Intention

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

HOLY DAY MASSES

Monday, Dec. 7, at 6:00pm at Twelve Apostles
Tuesday, December 8, at 6:30AM, at Twelve Apostles
Tuesday, December 8, at 7:00pm at Holy Trinity

Wed, Dec 9, 8am—HT Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thu, Dec 10, 6pm—XII Private Intention

Fri, Dec 11, 8am—HT Private Intention

Saturday, December 12

5:00pm--XII +Special Intention

Sunday, December 13

7:30am-HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

9:00am--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

10:45am-HT Private Intention

PLEASE NOTE —

We have a special Mass schedule this week,
for the holy day of obligation:

Masses for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, will be held:

Monday, Dec. 7, 6:00pm, at Twelve Apostles
 Tuesday, Dec, 8, 6:30AM, at Twelve Apostles
 Tuesday, December 8, at 7pm at Holy Trinity



COLLECTION for RETIRED RELIGIOUS NEXT WEEK

Support elderly religious. A parishioner writes, "As a Catholic school student from grades K-12, I was formed to be the person I am by many religious brothers and sisters, and I am forever grateful." Show your appreciation for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives, Please give generously to next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

There are envelopes for this collection in your envelope support packs, as well as on the bulletin table this weekend and next.



Giving is such an important part of the Advent season as we prepare to receive God's greatest gift through the birth of Jesus. Please join our parishes in blessing others in our community by participating in the Giving Trees. Holy Trinity's tree is in the Parish Hall and XII Apostles' tree is in the church vestibule. Simply choose an ornament, purchase the item indicated, attach the ornament to the unwrapped gift, and return to the tree no later than December 20. Thank you.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation at Holy Trinity will meet Dec 6 & 20, at 9am, to finish our study of Matthew.

Women of Faith book club meets Wednesdays, 8:30am at Holy Trinity.

Next RCIA session is this Wednesday, Dec 9, at the home of Chris and Jan Patterson.

"The Mystery of God: Who God Is and Why He Matters"

The AFF team will offer this new series during Advent at Twelve Apostles (after 9AM Mass). Bishop Robert Barron reaches into our rich Catholic intellectual tradition to uncover a clear yet sophisticated understanding of "God." See more at <http://mysteryofgod.wordonfire.org/>. We'll meet 10:15 -11:45 AM in XII Apostles basement on **December 6, 13 and 20**. For more info, contact Jeff Witsken, witsken@hotmail.com or (816) 431-6298.



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 Monday, December 21**. Thanks.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS for all....

Catholic Men Invited to Become Members of the Knights of Columbus.

There are several opportunities to join the Knights of Columbus in December. Catholic gentlemen, 18 or older, wishing to become members of the Knights either at Holy Trinity or XII Apostles may do so on one of the following: 1) Tues, Dec 1, 7PM, Gladstone, MO; 2) Thu, Dec 10, 6:30PM, Holy Family, KCMO; 3) Sun, Dec 13, 6PM, Tonganoxie, KS; 4) Mon, Dec 14, 7:00PM, O'Hara Council, KCMO (south of the river).

Contact either Grand Knight Jim Rooney of Holy Trinity Council No. 12288 at (816) 674-4268 or Grand Knight Steve Steiger of XII Apostles Council No. 16189 at (816) 431-6506 for membership and general information about the Knights of Columbus, or if you wish to attend one of the ceremonials listed above.

Twelve Apostles Council No.16189 will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, December 9, at 6:45PM in the lower level of Twelve Apostles. All current and former members are invited.

The second order of **Twelve Apostles Knights of Columbus Council shirts** has arrived and is ready to be picked up. We are still taking additional orders. Call Financial Secretary Michael Robertson at (573) 268-6209 to make arrangements to pick up your order, make payment, or to place an order.

SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN JANUARY 2016:

January 10, 2016--Pancake and sausage breakfast--Twelve Apostles Knights @ Northland Career Center

January 11--1st Degree Ceremonial at St. Therese Parish in Parkville, MO, for all eligible practicing Catholic men wishing to become members

January 13--Rosary, meeting and social of Twelve Apostles Council No. 16189

January, 2016--Date To Be Announced--Free Throw Championship for ALL

boys and girls, ages 9-14--Twelve Apostles Council No. 16189

January 17--2nd and 3rd Degree Ceremonials at Olathe, KS.

January 31--2nd and 3rd Degree Ceremonials at Conception, MO, and at Leawood, KS. A 1st Degree will also be conducted at Leawood for prospective members who wish to join the Knights.

HOLY TRINITY NEWS



Monthly Rosary/Chaplet of Divine Mercy

THIS Sunday, at 10:05am in the church. We offer our prayers for the protection of the unborn. All are welcome to join us.

Children's Christmas Choir continues:

Please join in this long-standing tradition at Holy Trinity's 5:30pm Christmas Eve Mass. Children of reading age through high school are invited to practice with the adult choir leaders on the following Wednesday evenings from 7pm until 8:30 p.m. in the church: December 9, December 16. Children are also welcome to sing a solo, in a group, or play an instrument before Mass. Let the choir director know if you would like to do so.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST NEXT SUNDAY

The Knights of Columbus will serve a pancake and sausage breakfast after both Masses next Sunday, December 13, in the parish hall. Open to all. A free will offering will be welcome.

Please keep in mind the wonderful works that are achieved through your weekly gift: our PSR programs, our Youth Group, and Adult Faith Formation offerings, as well as our ongoing operating expenses. Many, many thanks.

Youth Group's 13th annual Christmas Cookie Sale

@ Masonic Lodge, 5th & Main St., Weston

Sat., Dec. 5- till 8pm;

Sun., Dec. 6, Noon-4 (OR while supplies last)



A HUGE THANK YOU to all who donated cookies for our 13th annual Christmas Cookies-by-the-Pound sale! We couldn't do it without you!

KATIE'S CORNER-- YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS



Confirmation:

Next session

December 6, 9:00am, Holy Trinity

December 6, 3:00pm, XII Apostles

Find the drawing of the woman praying with a ridiculously long Rosary. Tell Katie or Jim the page # for a special prize!

YOUTH GROUP Grades 7-12:

Sunday, December 13, 1:30-3pm at XII Apostles.

Facing the Final Judgment. Where do you think you'll end up? Heaven, Hell, or Purgatory? Wanna find the best way to help you get to Heaven? Come find out!!

Coming soon: Spring calendar. Keep your eye on your mailbox!

TWELVE APOSTLES NEWS

PSR NEWS:

Parents: Join us for the next PAC meeting. We will be discussing how to help your children at Mass. Come with your questions and ideas to share with others. December 13 immediately following the Rosary. Donuts and Coffee provided.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Advent 2015

We have entered Advent, a season of grace when we take another step and travel deeper into His love.

Twelve Apostles Parish is providing us special times this Advent season of special preparation when we come to His presence in Adoration to sit quietly and welcome our Savior more deeply into our lives.

He awaits us in these times of Advent Adoration:

Sun, December 6	5 PM – 6 PM
Thu, December 10	3 PM – 8:30 PM (Closing with Benediction at 8:30 PM)
Thu, December 17	3 PM – 8:30 PM (Closing with Benediction at 8:30 PM)
Sun, December 20	5 PM – 6 PM

Come and just 'be' in His presence to prepare our hearts for your coming.

Christmas Pageant and Children's Choir

Once again, our children are invited to participate in a Children's Choir for the 3:30pm Christmas Eve Mass and the Christmas pageant to be held at 3:00pm (before Mass).

Children age K-8 are encouraged to share their time and talent by participating in one or both of these activities. **Practices will be held in the church on Sundays, Nov. 29, Dec 6, Dec 13, and Dec 20, immediately following PSR classes.**

Any questions: for choir, contact Karla Stahl at 816-858-5817 or e-mail nstahl1@kc.rr.com; for pageant, contact Jeanne Witsken at 816-431-6298 or e-mail Witsken@hotmail.com.



ONE STOP SHOP



Looking for Advent items, Christmas, Birthday, any occasion Gifts? All are available at Twelve Apostles in your Narthex Display Case.

Make a selection today.

Proceeds support your Parish. Thank You.

Save Best Choice Barcode labels: XII Apostles' Women's Group is collecting Best Choice labels to earn rewards for the parish. Please cut off the barcodes from Best Choice labels and deposit them in the marked box in the back of the Church.

2016 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL:

The 2016 Annual Catholic Appeal (in past years, the Bishop's Annual Appeal) is critical to the health of our work as the Body of Christ in this Diocese. **"Blessed are the Merciful for they will be shown mercy"** (Matthew 5:7) is Jesus' promise to those who respond to His love through charity to those who can't stand alone. Please be generous to those *you* serve through the programs and ministries funded by the **2016 Annual Catholic Appeal**. Go on-line to www.kcsjgives.org or use the form in the Catholic Key. To make a gift of appreciated stock, mutual fund shares or gifts of grain, call Greg Vranicar at 816.714.2363.

OUR PENANCE SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY

2:00PM at Twelve Apostles

Holy Trinity/Twelve Apostles' Advent Communal Penance Service will be held at Twelve Apostles **next Sunday, December 13, at 2:00PM.** Several confessors in addition to Father Rogers will be available to hear confessions. Penance services around the area are listed below.



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Sunday, Dec. 6, 1 PM St. Francis de Sales, 900 Ida St., Lansing, KS
Sunday, Dec. 6, 2PM Good Shepherd, 18601 N 169 HWY, Smithville
Wed, Dec. 9, 7:00PM St. Charles, 900 NE Shady Lane Drive, KCMO

Sunday, Dec. 13, 2PM Holy Trinity & XII Apostles @ XII Apostles

Sunday, Dec. 13, 4PM Sacred Heart, 1405 2nd Ave, Leavenworth, KS
Sunday, Dec. 13, 7PM St. Therese, 7207 Hwy 9 NW, Parkville, MO
Tues, Dec. 15, 7PM Holy Family, 919 NE 96th St, KCMO
Tues, Dec. 15, 7PM St. James, 309 S. Stewart Rd., Liberty, MO
Tues, Dec. 15, 7:30PM Holy Angels, 15410 Leavenworth Rd., Basehor, KS
Tel: 913-724-1665 (During Parish Mission)
Thu, Dec. 17, 7pm Immaculate Conception/St. Joseph @ St. Joseph, 306 N. Broadway, Leavenworth, KS.

Confessions are also heard every Saturday 3:15-3:45PM at Holy Trinity, and 4:15-4:45PM at Twelve Apostles, or any time by appointment.

Living Mercy in the Jubilee Year of Mercy

- from the US Council of Catholic Bishops

The Jubilee Year of Mercy begins on December 8, 2015, the fiftieth anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council. Here are a few important themes for reflection during this important year.

Jesus is the "face" of the Father's mercy

Jesus of Nazareth, Pope Francis writes in *Misericordiae Vultus*, the Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, is the "face" of the Father's mercy—he reveals the mercy of God by his words, actions, and person. We follow Jesus' example when we open ourselves to the Father's mercy by looking "sincerely" into the eyes of our brothers and sisters, including those "who are denied their dignity." How have you experienced the Father's mercy in your own life? How might Jesus be calling you to look "sincerely" into the eyes of those who are denied their dignity?

Mercy is "the beating heart of the Gospel" Pope Francis writes: "It is absolutely essential for the Church and for the credibility of her message that she herself live and testify to mercy." Mercy, he says, is "the beating heart of the Gospel" (*Misericordiae Vultus*). To live mercy, we must rediscover both the spiritual works of mercy (counsel the doubtful, instruct the ignorant, admonish sinners, comfort the afflicted, forgive offences, bear patiently those who do us ill, and pray for the living and the dead), and the corporal works of mercy (feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, heal the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead). Which spiritual works of mercy might Christ be calling you to practice? Which corporal works of mercy?

Mercy "demands justice"

"True mercy, the mercy God gives to us and teaches us, demands justice, it demands that the poor find the way to be poor no longer," Pope Francis notes. "It asks us, the Church, us, the City of Rome, it asks the institutions — to ensure that no one ever again stand in need of a soupkitchen, of makeshift-lodgings, of a service of legal assistance in order to have his legitimate right recognized to live and to work, to be fully a person" (Address to Jesuit Refugee Services, 9/10/13). In your own life, and in your faith community, how do you work for justice? Do you seek to address the root causes

RETREATS

At Conception Abbey—Conception, MO

Preparing for Christmas: "God With Us: Rediscovering the Meaning of Christmas. Friday evening – Sunday noon, December 11-13, 2015.

Again this year we offer an Advent "book retreat weekend." We will use the beautifully illustrated book, "**God With Us: Rediscovering the Meaning of Christmas.**" It contains reflections by familiar authors on the days of the season from the beginning of Advent through Epiphany. We will use the book on the weekend and you will get your own copy to take home and continue reading during the Advent-Christmas season. The AGC team will guide the weekend, which will include time for quiet reading, prayer and conversation. Join the monks in praying the Liturgy of the Hours and in celebrating the Eucharist. (*Suggested offering for lodging, meals, conferences, your personal copy of the Advent book, and reception: \$170 for single accommodations, \$150 per person for double accommodations*). For reservations contact the Abbey Guest Center: phone 660-944-2809 or email guests@conception.edu.

New Year's Retreat. Wednesday evening-Friday noon, December 30, 2015 – January 1, 2016.

Our annual New Year's retreat is a favorite among our frequent guests. Spend time reflecting on the passing of time and the graces of the year ending while looking ahead with hope to the year beginning. You'll find ample time for quiet reflection and prayer, a holy hour on New Year's eve, 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.

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At Sophia Center – Atchison, KS

Healing the Child Within

January 8 – 10 7pm, Friday – 1pm, Sunday

If you are seeking to understand the impact of your past life on your present experience, this retreat may lead you to some of the answers. This retreat is led by Sister Marie Ballmann, OSB, a member of the Sophia Center staff, coordinator of the Retreat in Daily Life program and spiritual director. For more information or to register, call 913-360-6173 or visit Sophia Spirituality Center's website at www.sophiaspiritualitycenter.com

Touched by God's Mercy

Friday, January 22 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Pope Francis has designated the year as a Jubilee Year of Mercy. Come and explore what this Year of Mercy can mean for us individually and as a church. Sister Bridget Dickason, OSB, director of Women's Keeler Center in Kansas City, Kansas and a certified spiritual director will lead this retreat.

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

Living with the Grief of Suicide

Thursday, January 28 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Suicide grips hearts and minds with a vise that will not let go, and with feelings of overwhelming sadness, grief and loss. Come join certified grief counselor, Sister Loretta McGuire, OSB, for a day of sharing. For more information or to register, call 913-360-6151 or visit Sophia Center's website at www.sophiaspiritualitycenter.com