

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

Feast of the Holy Family December 27, 2015

The ultimate aim of Saint Paul's Letter to the Colossians is to teach the community how to deepen its relationship with Christ Jesus. His list of virtues summarizes the ideals of communal stewardship: compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. For Paul, practicing these virtues opens our hearts to Christ as individuals and as a worshipping community. This is how the Christian community ought to live. This is how its members should behave in their dealings with others, Particularly with fellow believers. As we approach the new year, how might we embrace one or more of these virtues more fully in our parish community in order to deepen our relationship with Jesus?



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.

Feast of the Holy Family - 27 Dec 2015
Readings: p. 53 in *Breaking Bread*

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 26

5:00pm--XII Private Intention

Sunday, December 27

7:30am-HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

9:00am--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

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

Mon, Dec 28, 8am (HT) Private Intention

Wed, Dec 30, 8am (HT) Private Intention

Masses for the holy day of obligation:

Feast of Mary, Mother of God:

Thursday, December 31, 5pm—XII Apostles—for world peace

Friday, January 1, 9am—Holy Trinity — for world peace

Saturday, January 2

5:00pm--XII Private Intention

Sunday, January 3

7:30am-HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

9:00am--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

10:45am-HT Private Intention

YEAR END OFFICE NOTES

Early Bulletin deadlines: Items for the Jan. 3 bulletin are due by Noon this Monday, December 28.

Please note the special Mass schedule for New Year's — Feast of Mary, Mother of God, a holy day of obligation.

The parish office will close at Noon this Thursday, New Year's Eve and be closed Friday, New Year's Day.

2015 donations: As the end of the year approaches, we remind you of the following: for a donation to be credited to your record for 2015, it needs to be in the office by Noon on 12/31. **If you are giving electronically, the donation needs to be made before 3 pm CT on Tuesday, 12/29, with a settle date of 12/31.** If you have any questions, please contact us.

SUBSCRIPTION SUNDAY for the *Catholic Key* is Jan 3:

Next Sunday is Subscription Sunday for our diocesan newspaper, the *Catholic Key*. **If you would like to have the paper mailed to your home, a subscription is \$25.** There is an envelope for this in your support pack and also on the table with the bulletins.

Every parish is obligated to pay for subscriptions numbering at least 35% of its parish households. Your paid subscription helps your parish meet its obligation. (Additional subscriptions for which our parishes must pay are sent to some of our volunteers &/or set out for anyone to take.)

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

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

ENDOW - Educating on the Nature & Dignity of Women

Four opportunities for women's study groups begin in January:

Monday mornings, 9:45 - 11:15, **God Is Love** (Platte City)

Wednesday mornings, 8:30 - 10, **Letter to Women** (Weston)

Monday evenings, 7:00 - 8:30, **On the Dignity and Vocation of Women** (Farley)

Tuesday evenings, 5:45 - 7:30, **God Is Love** (Platte City)

Each study consists of 8 sessions and the cost is \$25. For more information and to register online, go to Endow-groups.org

Psalms - The School of Prayer

Video from the Great Adventure Catholic Bible Study followed by discussion. Tuesdays 1 - 2:30, beginning January 12; 11 sessions, at 12700 N Overbrook Dr in Platte City. *To join and purchase materials, contact Donna Webb at 402-613-3829 or dwebbjoy@gmail.com*



FOOD COLLECTION: Next weekend is the monthly food collection for United Services food pantry (located in Tracy). This organization gives food and other items to those in our community who need it. Most needed: oatmeal, cereal, peanut butter, tuna, canned chicken, crackers, soup, "box meals," pasta, pasta sauce, snacks, juice, and personal hygiene and cleaning items. Any non-perishable item will be appreciated. Place your items in the marked box located at the back of both churches. Thanks for your generosity.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS for all.....

Twelve Apostles Knights of Columbus Council No.16189 will conduct its **FIRST pancake and sausage breakfast** on Sunday, January 10, at the Northland Career Center cafeteria in Platte City. Being a new council, we are in need of volunteers (members and wives) to help, and of financial donations for equipment and supplies for the four breakfasts that we have scheduled in early 2016.

Contact Chairman Paul Bobowski at (816) 668-7199 or at skibos@embarqmail.com if you can assist our council in any way.

We hope that everyone will attend and enjoy our delicious food.

SAVE THE DATES:

January 11--1st (Admission) Degree Ceremonial at St. Therese Parish in Parkville, MO, for all eligible Catholic men wishing to become members of the Knights of Columbus

January 13--Meeting and Social of Twelve Apostles Council No.16189 in Platte City

January, 2016--Date To Be Announced--Free Throw Championship for ALL boys and girls, ages 9-14, in Platte City--Twelve Apostles Council No.16189. Jim Begani will be serving as Chairman.

January 30--Knights of Columbus Night at the Missouri Mavericks Professional Hockey game. EVERYONE (Knights and their guests) is invited. Contact Steve Steiger at (816) 431-6506 or at scsteiger@yahoo.com for ticket information at reduced prices.

HOLY TRINITY NEWS



ROSARY FOR THE UNBORN —

Our first-of-the-month rosary will be offered in the church at 10:05AM next Sunday. Our prayer intention for the monthly rosary is for the protection of the lives of the unborn. All are invited to join us in prayer.

All adults of Holy Trinity Parish are cordially invited to an

Epiphany Party

Sunday, January 3rd

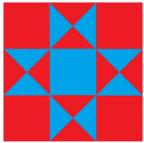
5:00 to 7:00 pm

Holy Trinity Parish Hall

Meat, potatoes, rolls, and drinks provided.

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Kindly RSVP by Monday, Dec. 28 to 816-640-2206 or secyHT-XII@kc.rr.com



Mark your 2016 calendars—

Twelve Apostles-Holy Trinity Quilt Group

will meet monthly, every 2nd Monday, at Holy Trinity, from 11am-3pm (potluck lunch).

We will begin our ministry by **working on blankets for the homeless during this Year of**

Mercy. If anyone has old blankets, flannel sheets, old jeans, corduroy, or batting to donate, or a donation towards our work, please contact Lori Mathews at 816-807-3220, lori.mathews4@gmail.com, or bring to our gatherings.

Living Mercy in the Jubilee Year of Mercy The Jubilee Year of Mercy announced by Pope Francis began on December 8, 2015.

We are called to offer God's mercy to others this year, as well as to recognize it in our own lives. Our focus for December has been the spiritual work of mercy "To Counsel the Doubtful."

January's focus will be the corporal work of mercy "**To Shelter the Homeless.**" Watch for more information in next weekend's bulletin about the ways we might perform this work of mercy in our lives and in our parishes.



There will be a **Potluck on Sunday, January 10, at 5pm, at Holy Trinity, with a guest speaker, a parishioner who volunteers with Uplift.** Uplift is a Kansas City organization that serves the homeless. Come hear about the good that is being done for those in need and learn more about how you might help.



POTLUCK DINNER

TWELVE APOSTLES NEWS

Our prayerful condolences are offered to Polly & Julie Wallis on the death of husband/father Frank "Ray" Wallis. May he rest in peace and may God comfort those who mourn him.

PHOTO-DIRECTORIES HAVE ARRIVED

If you had your picture taken for our photo-directory, you will find a copy with your name on it in the narthex. Thanks to everyone who participated for your willing smiles!!

Charity is the sweet and holy bond which links the soul with its Creator: it binds God with man and man with God.

—Saint Catherine of Siena

Please contribute generously to "**Blessed Are the Merciful**", the **2016 Annual Catholic Appeal** (in past years, the Bishop's Annual Appeal) in support of parish and diocesan programs and ministries. Go on-line to www.kcsjgives.org for more information or use the form available 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.

St. Pius X High School will administer the High School Placement Test on Saturday, January 9, 2016. We will open at 8:00 a.m., serving refreshments, and testing will begin at 8:30 a.m. Testing will end around 12:30 p.m. Your student will need: · \$15.00 test fee (cash or check made out to St. Pius X), Two #2 pencils with erasers; Calculators are not permitted

There will be an informational meeting at 9:00 a.m. for parents the morning of January 9 as well. This is a great opportunity to ask any remaining questions that you may have about St. Pius X or the enrollment process.

To register your student for the test please go to www.stpiusxhs-kc.com/placementtest or contact Missy Petit at 816-453-3450 x 116 for 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. The sessions focus on topics of the grief process, changes in family and other relationships, trust, and coping with memories.

The next sessions will be held at St. Thomas More Hall, lower level, 11822 Holmes Road, Kansas City, MO 64131 on Sunday afternoons, from January 10 - February 21, 2016, 1:30-3:30pm. For additional information, or to register, please call Cathy at (816) 540-4644, or Donna at (816) 305-3760.

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN....

There is a fascinating cast of characters that appear on the family stage every time we gather for a celebration, especially Christmas. The lineup covers the gamut of old personalities and new oddities, eccentrics and exemplars, curmudgeons and cranks, oddballs, screwballs, darlings and dears, trouble makers and peacemakers. The numbers are impressive, that we can all manage to gather under one roof is probably the most peculiar part of the whole celebration.

At least on Christmas day, the family gauntlet is lowered long enough to share and enjoy a meal together and exchange the joy and spirit of Christmas. It is as if an automatic truce has been called between all the factions and the wall caused by grievances, annoyances, inconveniences, and hardships is lowered for the sake of the family celebration of Christmas.

It is good that we can come together to rejoice on the birthday of the Lord. It is good that we all recognize our common need for peace and for joy and for rejoicing together. It is even better that we can all recognize that peace is possible with the right attitude mixed with a joyous spirit, and that each of us has the power within to change our dispositions and temperaments, and to quiet our wants and desires to make way for the others.

It makes for a good couple of hours. Really good. No one stares at the back of someone else's head. No one rolls their eyes. No one glares or glances at another to sneer and jeer about someone else in the room. There are no snickers or scoffs in the corners. No one watches the clock or paces the floor. No one speaks out of turn. No one is ignored. No one withdraws to a cell phone or any electronic device. Everyone makes an effort to get along and exchange more than just a few presents or gifts. People laugh. People dance. People chatter and sing. People embrace. It is a beautiful scene taken right out of the movies or right from the cover of an old-fashioned Christmas card. Now that's what Christmas is all about.

I wish everyday was Christmas. Sadly, I have come to know that there is a narrow and shallow threshold to all family affairs. The dreaded clock eventually strikes twelve, the day ends, the spirit of Christmas waxes and wanes and quickly fades out of sight. There is a lull in the air and a hole in our hearts. The streets are empty and dark.

I have noticed that as soon as our bellies are full and the trash cans are filled to the brim with remnants of wrapping paper, empty boxes, and my sister's cranberry concoction (I could not pass up another opportunity to beleaguer that special treat) and the Butterball has been reduced to a droopy carcass, the lights on the Christmas tree don't burn so bright. The angelic tones that once were heralded with great joy from high atop the Christmas tree suddenly become off key noise. The tinsel angel becomes pitchy, and she stops glimmering and glowing.

There is no singing, no dancing, no embracing. Hope for snow becomes much talked about dread for the blasted white mess. Everyone scatters. They gather their stuff and go. Sought after treasured gifts become just more stuff in the way. Children cry for no reason. Curmudgeons go back into their caves and hibernate for the winter. The darlings and dears turn into troublemakers and eccentrics. The peacemakers fret-n-fuss about all the should haves, would haves, could haves. The screwballs swear off all

family affairs in the future. Strangely, only the oddballs hold on to the spirit, smiles and songs of Christmas. It is good to be an oddball. I love Christmas! I could do Christmas every day.

I think it only fitting that we recognize the celebration of Christmas is quickly followed by the celebration of the Feast of the Holy Family. It is rather ironic, I think, that in those few short days between these two feasts, many families go on a diet. They fast on everything including family, in fact, celebrating family in any way is the last thing on their minds. They quickly return to the hubbub of life and the doldrums of relationship. That is until the start of the next Christmas season. It's maddening! It's no wonder that there are conflicts and problems jumbled with pain and trouble on top of the madness.

I say let's make 2016 different. Let's hold on tightly to the good times, good food and good memories we have shared this Christmas, and recall each day the wonder and awe of the season, of God, of family and friends, and of the Church. Instead of seeing what is lacking in our families or in our friends or what is missing or troublesome in our own lives, let's celebrate the precious gifts we have received in each other.

The celebration of the Holy Family reminds us that every family is called to be holy; every family is called to find strength and understanding in, with, and through each of its members. That when we recognize the presence of others in our lives and open our hearts and minds to them, we are opening our world to Jesus, Mary and Joseph. No one is perfect. Life isn't always a bowl of cherries. Family is family. Yes, families can be made up of the best and worst of the human condition. Aren't we all works in progress? Every one of us belongs to a family. It would be great if we all belonged in the family.

This year, let's bring the best out of each other and allow them to bring out the best in us. Yes, we will need a healthy, happy and holy spirit to do that, but, after all, isn't that what we just celebrated and received at Christmas? Lucky for us, we have the Holy Family to show us how. We can embrace the Holy Family and our own family and ready ourselves to receive the Magi on the feast of the Epiphany. Ah-HA! I think we've got it. The celebrations of life and relationship go on and on and on, family goes on and on. Thanks be to God! Open wide your doors and hearts and minds to family and let them know they are loved each and every day of the coming year.

In Christ,

Father Steven C. Nege

