

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 Epiphany January 3, 2016



© Virginia Broderick

Today we hear Saint Paul proclaim that he exercises stewardship of "God's grace" for the benefit of the Christian community. Earlier in this letter to the Ephesians, he prayed they would come to realize the actual value of "these riches" of God's grace they inherited. This letter was written to remind, encourage, and spiritually motivate this Eucharistic community to appreciate just how immeasurably wealthy they had become to inherit a life in Christ. What value do we place on our life in Christ? If someone asked us to put a price on this life in today's currency, how would we respond? \$100 million? \$100 billion? Priceless? Do we live as though our life in Christ is priceless?

International Catholic Stewardship Council E-news January 2016

#### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Epiphany - 3 Jan 2016**  
**Readings: p. 57 in *Breaking Bread***

**MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, January 2**

**5:00pm**--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

**Sunday, January 3**

**7:30am**--HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

**9:00am**--XII +Diane Cook

**10:45am**--HT Private Intention

**NO 8AM MASS AT HOLY TRINITY THIS MONDAY**  
**Monday, January 4, 9AM—Funeral Mass at XII Apostles**

Wed, Jan 6, 8am (HT) Bernice Block

Thu, Jan 7, 6pm (XII) - Private Intention

Fri, Jan 8, 8am (HT) - Private Intention

**Saturday, January 9**

**5:00pm**--XII Private Intention

**Sunday, January 10**

**7:30am**--HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

**9:00am**--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

**10:45am**--HT Private Intention

**TODAY IS SUBSCRIPTION SUNDAY**  
**for the *Catholic Key***

This 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.)



**Mark your 2016 calendars—**  
**Twelve Apostles-Holy Trinity Quilt Group** will meet monthly, every 2nd Monday, at Holy Trinity, from 11am-3pm (w/ a potluck lunch).

**SPECIAL QUILTING TIMES/DATES IN JANUARY!!**

We will begin our ministry by working on blankets for the homeless during this Year of Mercy. **“Shelter the Homeless”** is our parish work of mercy for January so, in addition to meeting on the second Monday, January 11, from 11-3, we will **ALSO meet for special sessions on Sunday, Jan. 17, 2-7pm and Monday, January 18, 10am –6pm!!! Meals will be provided! Join us for any amount of time that you are available. We need people to cut, pin, iron, etc., as well as for sewing, so anyone is welcome to join us.** If you have old blankets, flannel sheets, old jeans, corduroy, or batting to donate, or a donation towards our work (or have any questions), please contact Lori Mathews at 816-807-3220, lori.mathews4@gmail.com, or bring to our gatherings.

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

**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](http://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](mailto:dwebbjoy@gmail.com)*

**Marriage & Family** (Bishop Helmsing course)

Delve into the Church's life-giving teaching on marriage—the foundational human relationship. You'll learn the meaning of human sexuality, the origin of marriage “in the beginning,” and its sacramental nature. The Church's teaching on marriage, sexuality, and family reveals the true beauty of married love as an image of Divine love. Understand your calling to follow Christ as husband and wife, mother and father.

**Location, Date, and Time:**

Twelve Apostles Church, Wednesdays, January 13, 20, 27, and February 3, 6:30-9:00 pm.

The cost is \$25/person. Register at [mybhi.org](http://mybhi.org)

**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](mailto: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--Rosary, 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 17--2nd and 3rd Degree Ceremonials at Olathe, KS.

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 for ticket information at reduced prices.

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



### ROSARY FOR THE UNBORN —

Our first-of-the-month rosary will be offered in the church at 10:05AM this 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 this Sunday, January 3**  
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. Thanks to all who have RSVPed!  
**If you didn't have a chance to RSVP but are able to make it, you are most welcome! Please join us!**

**Women's Guild meets this Monday, Jan. 4, at 7pm.**

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



POTLUCK DINNER

There will be a **Potluck on Sunday, January 10, at 5:00pm, at Holy Trinity, with 3 guest speakers, 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. All members of both parishes are invited. Bring a dish of any kind to share.

### **KATIE'S CORNER YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS**

#### **Confirmation—next session:**

January 10—9am at Holy Trinity; 3pm at Twelve Apostles.

#### **Chaperones are still needed for the Confirmation retreat**

January 15-16 (at Conception Abbey). Contact Katie if you can help.

#### **Youth Group—grades 7-12:**

*New Year, New You*

1:30—3:00pm, at XII Apostles.

**Join us for a New Year's Party! Games & prizes galore!!**

## TWELVE APOSTLES NEWS

**Our prayerful condolences** are offered to Natasa Letherman and daughters, Hanna and Audrey, on the sudden passing of their husband/father, Jack Letherman. Jack's funeral will be at 9am this Monday at Twelve Apostles. May he rest in peace and may God comfort all who mourn him.

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

**THIS Sunday, January 3, 2016**

Father, help me to recall how you have blessed me.  
Give me faith to entrust this new year of mercy to you.  
Adoration 5:00 – 6:00 pm



**PSR News:** Families Pre-K– 8: mark your calendars for our Epiphany party and Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast—next Sunday, January 10, during PSR classtime.

### **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!!



### **PANCAKE BREAKFAST NEXT SUNDAY**

**All are invited to join us for Twelve Apostles Knights of Columbus Council 16189's FIRST pancake and sausage breakfast** on Sunday, January 10, at the Northland Career Center cafeteria in Platte City — 10am till 11:30am. A free will offering will be welcome.

**THANK YOU'S:** Thank you to all the children who participated in our Christmas Pageant and Choir: Julia Babcock, Myla Bailey, Ryan Bar-mann, Olivia Boddicker, Hudson Demory, Reece Demory, Antonio Laguna, MJ Mumbower, Maddie Mumbower, Mason Mumbower, Cierra Poldberg, Ember Poldberg, Blair Shroyer, Jack Shroyer, Lauren Shupe, Ethan Smith, Cate Welch, and Clare Welch. To our special guests choir alumni Michelle and Destinee Legault. You all did an amazing job. To all the parents, grandparents, friends and neighbors who got the children to the practices after PSR classes and helped them learn the music outside of practices. To Valerie Bailey for all her help during the practices, to the mothers who sat with the choir during Mass. To Jeanne Witsken for directing the pageant and Mary Gates for playing the piano. Thank you! From *Karla Stahl*

### **Thank you Holy Trinity and Twelve Apostles!**



The Christmas banquet for inmates of Lansing Correctional was truly a work of mercy. Our two parishes provided over 1000 personal items for the inmate gift bags. Perhaps more importantly, we also made sure that each of the children of the inmates, regardless of their age, had a wonderful gift from their Dad to open that day.

Gina Hanna, of Beauty for Ashes Ministry, prepared a two-minute video to share some of the special moments at the banquet with us. She said, "I hope this video captures the impact that you and your parishes had on these men and their families. It was such a blessing to partner with you this year."

To view the video, please go to one of our websites:

[www.holytrinitycatholic.org](http://www.holytrinitycatholic.org) or  
[www.twelveapostlescatholic.org](http://www.twelveapostlescatholic.org).

## FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN....

My good friend Carolyn is Jewish. She loves to celebrate Christmas. She has a Christmas tree in every room of her very large house. In several rooms she has several Christmas trees. She has more ornaments on her trees than all of Hallmark, and maybe even more than all of Germany, where she gets most of her ornaments. She also has a collection of Nativity sets. She loves the baby Jesus. She lights candles and plays traditional Christmas hymns throughout the season.

Carolyn starts decorating her house for Christmas on the first day of Hanukkah when she lights a candle on her menorah. She loves Christmas and she loves Hanukkah. She fully celebrates her Jewish heritage and goes to Synagogue every chance she gets, and she fully celebrates Christmas because she loves the message of Christmas. There have been many Christmases where we have eaten turkey and dressing and matzo ball soup seasoned with plenty of schmaltz, complete with a side of shrimp fried rice and egg rolls for good luck.

Carolyn has an active mind. She works to be in the know. She wants to know everything and can ask a thousand questions per minute. Carolyn is the quintessential yenta. She can't sit still. She is busy, on the go, not just with her own business, everybody else's business too. This keeps her ahead of the game. She likes to win. She looks to the moon and the stars for signs from God as to what is going to happen to her and her family. She reads nature and watches the weather to reveal the events of life and relationships. She turns to the Torah for guidance. She beats her Bible for understanding and revelation.

Every year she travels to a spiritualist camp in central Florida to a small town called Cassadaga. There she meets with psychics, mediums, clairvoyants, telepathists, astrologists, diviners, seers and mystics. She is desperate to know what is going to happen. Carolyn says traveling to Florida is a whole lot cheaper for her than nightly dialing a 1-800 number for the Déjà-vu psychic hotline.

She always travels there in late September just in time for the high holy days. She wants to know the good news before anyone else. She has made a sojourn to Cassadaga for over the past thirty years now. She loves it that the psychics know her by name, "I don't know how they do it, but they always call me by name." Still, they always ask her for her credit card number.

Carolyn stays in Cassadaga for ten days and has several appointments each day. She records the sessions and plays them over and over, while on the plane, in her car, when she isn't playing Christmas music, in her mind, and everywhere else she goes the following year. Often she reports, "I saw over thirty psychics and they all said something different. You would think they would have said the same thing, but they don't for some reason. I thought some knew what they were talking about, but some don't have a clue."

I have always suggested that she is wasting her money, but she declares it's well worth it, "Just because I don't understand it doesn't mean it isn't going to happen, or hasn't happened sometime in my life!" For a while she was obsessed with her past lives. None of the psychics ever spoke of her being born into royalty. None of them has ever told her that in a past life she was Cleopatra. Her interest in past lives faded rather fast. Today, she is more interested in the future, on rare occasion, the present. Her mind is forever in the cosmos and the clouds.

Last Saturday, she called to wish me a Merry Christmas. I hadn't seen her in a couple years and out of the blue I hear from her. She said, "This morning when I awoke I had what you would call an 'a-HA' moment. I just had to call you and tell you about it. I think maybe you're onto something here."

Carolyn has had many moments in her life, but I would not classify any of them as 'A-ha' moments, she can't even spell the word Epiphany. Well, that is, until now. Carolyn was stark raving joyous over a light bulb popping on over her head. Something was happening to her, but she didn't know it until she awoke. "I had a dream about those three Magi, those Oriental scientists, no, those astrologists!"

I had no idea where she was going with this. She said, "You know, those three Kings." Of course, I knew of the three Kings, I just didn't have a clue what was going on in Carolyn's brain. "That's me!" she said. "I am like one of the three Kings!"

"Okay, sure, uh, how are you like one of the Kings!?" I asked. Carolyn responded, "I have been searching for all the answers. I have traveled far and wide. I have followed many a star. They knew. Now I know. That had gifts to bring. I have many gifts. They discovered the baby Jesus. I love the baby Jesus. They came to pay homage to the baby Jesus. I have baby Jesus all over my house, thirty-seven of them. They had a moment of discovery, and so have I. That's why we celebrate Christmas."

I have to admit, Carolyn made me smile. "Yes, Carolyn, Jesus is why we celebrate Christmas. Baby Jesus is the savior of the world." The phone went dead. "Carolyn. Carolyn. Hello. Hello!" "Steven, I've got to go. I am going to be late for Synagogue! Bye! Love you. Mean it. BYE!"

At first, I was taken aback, but then I started to laugh out loud. That's how it is in our own lives. That's what the Epiphany is all about. We recognize baby Jesus at Christmas and then forget about him the rest of the year and in the year to come. We may have had an 'A-ha' moment with baby Jesus, but we can we say we have had an Epiphany?

Surely, after our pilgrimage through Christmas, and the joy of the arrival of baby Jesus, our lives have been changed. Yes, that's the discovery worth living for and celebrating all the days of our lives. So, then, why isn't it?

The Magi didn't just recognize baby Jesus as the world's savior and then forget about him. The Magi didn't have an epiphany about the Kingship of Jesus and then close their eyes and ears to him. And they certainly didn't close their mouths and never proclaim his glory. Without a doubt, the Magi worshipped Jesus from that moment forward.

The Magi come to us once again this Christmas and show us the way to the baby Jesus and to Christ Crucified and to the Risen Christ, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Let's celebrate this discovery, this knowing, every day of our lives. Happy Epiphany.

In Christ,

*Father Steven C. Rege*

