

Welcome to

## Holy Trinity Parish

407 Cherry St.  
Weston, MO 64098  
www.holytrinitycatholic.org

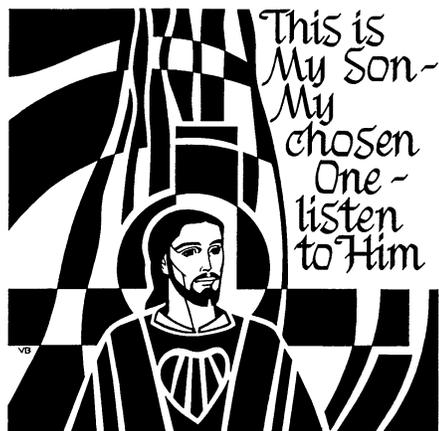
## Twelve Apostles Parish

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 Lent

February 21, 2016



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In today's second reading we learn that one of Saint Paul's principles of Christian living is to watch and imitate other followers of Christ. There is a pattern for Christian living that Saint Paul wants others to discover and then imitate. This pattern includes a life of prayer, selflessness, sacrifice, and caring for others, including our family of faith. Good stewards choose their friends wisely. They cultivate friendships with other Christian stewards, spend time with them, observe how they live, ask questions about their faith and learn from them. Who are your friends? Are they good stewards of their faith? Are they those who can help you on your own journey of faith?

International Catholic Stewardship Council E-news February 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.

**Second Sunday of Lent - 21 Feb 2016**  
**Readings: p. 77 in *Breaking Bread***

**MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, February 20**

5:00pm--XII Special Intention +

**Sunday, February 21**

7:30am-HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

9:00am--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

10:45am-HT Private Intention

**Mon, Feb 22, 8am (HT)** Private Intention

**Wed, Feb 24, 8am (HT)** Private Intention

**Thu, Feb 25, 6pm (XII)** Private Intention

**Fri, Feb 26, 8am (HT)** Private Intention

**Saturday, February 27**

5:00pm--XII Private Intention

**Sunday, February 28**

7:30am-HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

9:00am--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

10:45am-HT Private Intention



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** Friday, Feb 26 at 7PM, at Twelve Apostles—led by members of Twelve Apostles Knights of Columbus. (Stations alternate each Friday between the two parishes.)

A woman, Veronica, wipes Jesus' face.

**Chaplet of Divine Mercy in prayer/song continue**

~Holy Trinity — following Masses (next week, at 10:45 Mass, we will begin BEFORE Mass, at 10:25)

~XII Apostles — 20 minutes prior to Masses

**AS YOU ARRIVE:** Prayer sheets and pamphlets are found on the table in the middle aisle of Holy Trinity and in the narthex of XII Apostles...please take and keep. His boundless mercies are explained in the pamphlets.

**DIVINE MERCY devotion** began in the 1930's because of over 600 revelations received by Polish Sister Maria Faustina and which she recorded in her spiritual diary. Our merciful Savior has given us new ways to receive His grace:

- The Image of The Divine Mercy
- The Chaplet prayed any time, especially at 3 o'clock hour
- The 9-day Novena leading up to Divine Mercy Sunday
- The Feast of Divine Mercy (Sunday following Easter)

**Mercy in Action | Feed the Hungry. Shelter the Homeless. Give Alms.**



During this Jubilee Year, Catholics are called to remember and perform

Corporal Works of Mercy. These include feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless and giving alms to the poor. **The Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Fund (CCEAF)** second collection is an opportunity to do so, by supporting our efforts to provide urgently needed food, rental and utility assistance to thousands of our brothers and sisters living in poverty throughout northwest Missouri. Join us in showing others the mercy of God through this authentic act of love. **Please prayerfully consider making a gift to the CCEAF second collection THIS WEEKEND.**

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

**Lenten Study on Divine Mercy** starts Sunday, February 28, 9AM, at Holy Trinity! For more info or to sign up please contact Jacci Kleman at 806-576-9023, [jacci.kleman@gmail.com](mailto:jacci.kleman@gmail.com) or Cathi O'Malley 816-916-0446, [cathi.theomalley@gmail.com](mailto:cathi.theomalley@gmail.com). **Divine Mercy In The Second Greatest Story Ever Told** is a 10-session film journey featuring Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC. Fr. Gaitley interweaves the history of Poland, the message of St. Faustina, the appearance of Mary at Fatima, the witness of St. Maximilian Kolbe, and the world-changing papacy of St. John Paul II into a tapestry of wonder and beauty.

**20s & 30s Group** will begin a 3-week study on Pope John Paul II's **Theology of the Body** this Monday, February 22 (continuing Feb. 29, & March 7), facilitated by Mark and Katie Martinez. Free child care at Seven Bridges Club-house; drop off at 6 pm, class at 6:15 at the home of Chris & Katie Barmann, 17605 N. Braeburn Court, Platte City.

**Bishop Helmsing Institute classes: Hebrews & Catholic Letters**

In Hebrews and the Catholic Letters, you'll learn first-hand what it means to be a follower of Christ. Here you get a glimpse into how the apostles taught the early Christians about being Christian. \$20/person. Offered at **St. James (5815 Pryor Ave., St. Joseph)** on Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., to **St. Andrew the Apostle Church (6415 NE Antioch Rd., Gladstone)** on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>, Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and to **The Catholic Center (20 W. Ninth St., Kansas City)** on Mar. 19<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Register for this class at <http://mybhi.org/hebrews-catholic-letters-course/>

**Day of Enrichment for Married and Engaged Couples**

**Saturday, February 27, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** Savior Pastoral Center, KCK **Is it possible to raise moral kids in today's world?** Yes! Come and explore the practical tools you can use to increase the chances that your children will own your faith and moral values. **For Better...Forever! Come hear about "GIFT,"** the four factors that can help any married couple experience a truly joyful, passionate, grace-filled relationship **Cost: \$25.00 per individual or \$35.00 per couple. To register: [www.archkck.org/popcak2016](http://www.archkck.org/popcak2016)**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS for all.....**

**OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE KNIGHTS**--Eligible Catholic men may join the Knights of Columbus Council of either Holy Trinity or Twelve Apostles on any one of the following: Sun, Feb 21; Tues, Mar 1; Sun, Mar 13; Mon, Mar 14; Sat, Apr 2, or Sun, Apr 10. **2nd & 3rd DEGREE CEREMONIALS**--Current 1st Degree members have the opportunity to receive their 2nd and 3rd Degrees on any one of the following: Sun Feb. 21; Sun Mar 13; Sat, April 2, or Sun, April 10. **A 4th Degree Ceremonial** will be conducted on April 9 in KC, MO, and April 16 in Leawood, KS. Contact Steve Steiger (816) 431-6506 for more info on any of the above.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**--Volunteers from the Knights are needed at BOTH of the following events: (1) XII Apostles Pancake breakfast Feb 28. Contact Paul Bobowski at (816) 668-7199; (2) Sacrament of Confirmation on February 29 at Twelve Apostles Church. We need Parking Attendants, Greeters and Ushers to help welcome Bishop Johnston and all other visitors. Call Steve Steiger at (816) 431-6506 if you wish to Chair or volunteer for this important event.

**CONGRATULATIONS & WELCOME** to the following new members of XII Apostles Council 16189: Tim Eaton, Kirk Teufel, Greg Dorsey, and Mark Magennis.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**--Twelve Apostles Council No.16189 will be lead the Stations of the Cross this Friday, Feb 26. Contact Jeff Holmes at (636) 288-3532 or at [jeffhms89@gmail.com](mailto:jeffhms89@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer to help.

**Twelve Apostles Council No.16189 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship Winners**--Congratulations to the following students: **BOYS' DIVISION**--Age 9--Daniel Bunge; Age 10--Devin Reid; Age 11--Parker Hall; Age 12--Brett Guesnier; Age 13--Trey Butcher; Age 14--No Participants; **GIRLS' DIVISION**--Age 9--Morgan Uthe; Age 10--Alex Beeman; Age 11--Samantha Teufel; Age 12 & 13--No Participants; Age 14--Meghan Amos; Thank you to all Boys and Girls who participated in the competition.

**2016 Annual Membership Dues Now Payable**--Please contact one of the following Council Financial Secretaries in confidence if you wish to discuss payment or non-payment of your Membership Dues: Terry Morrison (Holy Trinity 12288) at (816) 668-8872, or Michael Robertson (XII Apostles 16189) at (573) 268-6209.

## HOLY TRINITY NEWS

### **PANCAKES THIS SUNDAY!**

K of C Pancake and Sausage Breakfast on Sunday 21 Feb in the Parish Hall following Sunday Masses. Free will offerings raise funds for the Knights of Columbus' charitable projects.



**FISH FRY HELP NEEDED:** Workers and donations of food are needed for the Women's Guild Fish Fry on March 4. To see what is needed and/or sign up, go to the following link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050544aca9229-fish> or email Mary Esther: [stevnmar44@aol.com](mailto:stevnmar44@aol.com). Thank you!

### **Mark your calendars with these Year of Mercy dates:**

Sunday, March 6, Noon - Potluck at Holy Trinity for "Give Drink to the Thirsty" work of mercy -- Students from St. Pius X will present a program on water issues and needs in Guatemala  
Sunday afternoon, April 3 - time TBA - Divine Mercy Sunday celebration at XII Apostles;  
Saturday, May 14, 6pm at XII Apostles -- cookout and program -- focus on "To Feed the Hungry"

**QUILT GROUP** will meet for special sessions next week-end to wrap up the jeans quilts we have been making for the homeless. All interested are invited to join us next Saturday, Feb. 27, at Holy Trinity, anytime from 10am to 6pm, or Sunday, Feb. 28, Noon-6pm.

**JOB OPENINGS:** Catholic Cemeteries Associated, a ministry of the Diocese of KC- St. Joseph, is currently in search of full-time Family Service Counselors. These motivated and energetic individuals will be responsible for informing and assisting individuals and families in our faith community with their burial decisions, either at the time of need or on a pre-need basis. Family Service Counselors will be based at our Mt. Olivet office, 7601 Blue Ridge Blvd., KC,MO, and will work at the three Kansas City Catholic Cemeteries: Mt. Olivet, Mount St. Mary's and Resurrection. Apply at <http://app.hireology.com/s/109102>.

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

### **Youth group: Grades 7-12**

Grades 7-12: February 28, 1:30-3pm at Holy Trinity. Join us for Family Feud. We will have a competition WITH PRIZES!! Come see what you can win!

Grades 6-12 and parents: Join us for an informational meeting on Camp Savio and Camp Bosco. March 6, 3:00pm, Holy Trinity. These are the summer camps your child can attend this summer.

### **Confirmation: Remaining Sessions**

Sunday, February 21, 6-8pm, Holy Trinity, Dinner in the Upper Room  
Sunday, February 28, 3:30-4:30pm, XII Apostles, Practice (This time is different from what was originally published.)

**Monday, February 29, 7:00pm Confirmation.** Candidates and Sponsors need to be present at 5:30pm. We will have light snacks available when you arrive. There will be a cake and punch reception after Mass.



HT/XII

Youth Group

## TWELVE APOSTLES NEWS

### **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

THIS Sunday, February 21, 2016  
5:00 - 6:00 PM

### **THURSDAY LENTEN ADORATION**

in this Year of Mercy  
February 25, 2016, 3:00 - 7:30 PM  
7:30 -- Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament  
God is LOVE & MERCY: Come, let us adore.



**LENT, CONFIRMATION & EASTER GIFT ITEMS AVAILABLE** for your convenience at the gift case in the narthex.



**Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast** next Sunday, Feb. 28, at Northland Career Center -10am till 11:15 or until all are served.

### **Coming Up!**

### **Holy Trinity Women's Guild Fish Fry**

Friday, March 4, 5:00-7:00 pm  
Holy Trinity Parish Hall, 407 Cherry, Weston



Pre-Sales: \$8/Adults; \$5/Children (12 & under); \$25/Family (parents and dependent children)  
At-the-Door Sales: \$10/Adults; \$30/Family

Tickets will be available after all Masses (including Twelve Apostles) the last two weekends in February.



### **EASTER VIGIL CHOIR MEMBERS WANTED:**

Members of all choirs from both our parishes are invited to sing for the Easter Vigil (Saturday, March 26, at 8pm at Twelve Apostles). We will practice on Wednesdays, March 2, 9, & 16, at XII Apostles at 7pm. Questions? Please call Barb Bopp, who will lead the choir, at 816-665-5775.

### **DIVINE MERCY EVENTS IN LEAVENWORTH**

St Joseph Church, Leavenworth KS, Fri March 4, 7:00PM.  
Speaker Robyn Horn will share the insights, wisdoms and encouragements of Divine Mercy with detail on St. Faustina's diary. Robyn has dedicated herself to bringing this message across our country for many years. Those who have heard her were enlightened to understand Divine Mercy and why the Catholic Church has embraced it since 2002. Free will offering for St. Joseph's & for Robyn's expenses. AND

Ladies Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 5, at the Fort Leavenworth Post. Robyn will again present the Divine Mercy message. Retreat includes opportunities for Confession, Adoration, Mass. Lunch included. Please contact Darcy Mendenhall: [dmen62@msn.co](mailto:dmen62@msn.co), or Cathi O'Malley: [cathi.theomalley@gmail.com](mailto:cathi.theomalley@gmail.com) for more information.

### **ST. PIUS X HIGH SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO CONSIDER:**

Just a few of the many reasons why you should consider St. Pius X High School for your child:

- ✓ We offer daily prayer and a value-centered approach in every class.
- ✓ We have high expectations for student behavior and achievement.
- ✓ Over 90% of our students are involved in one or more extra-curricular activities.

Visit our website: [www.stpiusxhs-kc.com](http://www.stpiusxhs-kc.com) or contact us at 816-453-3450 for more information.

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

She's always been defiant, a rebel for every cause and a rebel against every cause. Obstinacy is in her blood. She says she inherited it from her father and mother, the worst of both. It isn't just a trait or a mood, it has become her way of life. She sees only through the lens of half-empty.

The nurses on her floor avoid her as much as possible, they stay clear of her pigheadedness. They want to like her, but she won't let them in. They want to get close, but she keeps them at bay. She judges them before they judge her. She won't trust any of them. She doesn't trust herself. She doesn't want to redeem them; she can't redeem herself.

Janelle, or Dill as her older brother used to call her when she was a young girl, doesn't have to say a word; she grunts and gives them the look. She looks in their opposite direction, but still burns them with her cold, calculated contempt. Her eyes roll up into her head and she sighs forcefully, "Stupid girls!"

Her emotional baggage is full, stuffed to the brim. She resists cramming anything else into her bulging baggage for fear it would burst and then God and everyone else would see her dirty underthings. She never leaves home without them. Emotionally she wears her dirty laundry on the outside, but she tries desperately to conceal it, her wild years of drugs, sex, and rock-n-roll. Her imagination is on fast-forward; her past is her present. She fears she cannot erase the troubling tattoos on her heart or the stains on her soul.

Born in the early fifties, Janelle is a woman lost in the 70's. Her reputation precedes her; she follows it like MapQuest on her journey throughout life and relationship. Her bags are always packed. Her posture says "Get out of my way" and her body language speaks loudly, "Stop the world! I want to get off." She toils and spins and gets nowhere.

No one in her life has dared to love her liked she wanted to be loved. She doesn't dare love herself. She grew up watching her grandmother and mother, they taught her that. "Why is my way always the wrong way?" she asks.

When she was Dill, she went to Church, she loved going to Mass. She went to Catholic school from grade school through high school. She was immersed in being religious, she even thought of becoming a Nun. God and the Church were important to her way back then, in the sixties, before the world became her oyster, in the seventies.

Obstinacy clicked fast in Dill's brain the day Mother Superior, Mary John Janet of the Word Incarnate, swatted her hard and scolded her before God and the whole student body for having hiked her tartan plaid school girl skirt up to an "inappropriate and unacceptable length to entertain juvenile delinquents and hoodlums, sinners of the worst kind." Janelle still mocks Mother Superior to this day like it happened just yesterday. That's the day Dill became Janelle, and Janelle grabbed her oyster by the shell and decided to never look back, at God, the Church, Mother Superior, or herself. Sure, there were many other things that put her stubbornness into motion, but she hinges all of them to that high school moment and that blasted Nun. That's all she sees when she looks back.

Looking back is what drives her drinking. Train wrecks are intriguing. When she looks back she can only see what went wrong, she cannot see what went right. Obstinacy, that is non-compliance, pigheadedness and inflexibility, is her catharsis. Janelle can't help but to look back; Janelle can't help but drink. She drinks a lot, and obstinacy has become her excuse. Still, she says, "I am a good person!" She is right, she is a good person. She protects this side of her. She won't let God or others see this side of her. She hides it in her dirty laundry. She insists her way is right, it is better, but she can't convince anyone of it, she can't convince herself.

Janelle has forgotten the number of times she has been married. She married first in the Church, even though she didn't want the Church or God to have anything to do with it. She did it to please her Daddy. He wouldn't pay for her wedding if she were married outside of the Church. She was broke, and she needed Daddy. That marriage lasted less than a year. Four months later she married again, while in Las Vegas. It lasted less than a week. She admits she got caught up in another rebellious moment. There was something about that Elvis impersonator and minister that compelled her to do it.

She was curious and gave in because it was so wrong. She insists wrong is her right. She swore she'd never be married again, before God or anybody. Six months later, she got hitched to another guy she had met while in Vegas on her short-lived honeymoon. They exchanged vows at the Renaissance Festival in Bonner Springs, Kansas. Friar Tuck and his band of fools made that day festive and fun for her but it wasn't real, at least, not to her. Janelle liked that because it wasn't binding, she wasn't trapped by codes or protocols, dogmas or doctrines. She declared her freedom from all of that nonsense and she was free to do it her way, whether it was right or wrong.

"Why is my way the wrong way?" she asks. She confuses obstinacy with obedience. It is her way is what entraps her to this day, and she can't look back without realizing that. That reality drives her to drink more. Still, she says, "I am a good person!" And she is right. She is a good person. And yet, she still rebels

Every year this time of year, something sparks a conversation deep within her. "Come back to me!" She has this conversation with herself. She is too ashamed to have it with God or anyone else. She reminds herself, "Repent and believe in the Gospel!" When she hears "repent" she starts to rebel. It is a difficult conversation for her to have. She knows she can't get to living "I'm a good person" without repentance, without allowing God to take her feet out of the fire, the very fire she kindles and keeps burning. "Why is my way always the wrong way?"

Janelle needs Lent. Lent is a time of consciously focusing on our need for Jesus to shed his light into our areas of darkness. When we let Jesus enlighten us so that we repent, (which means change), and we seek forgiveness, and we open ourselves to the Holy Spirit's power to change us, we become more like Christ. We shine more brilliantly with him. And we enter more fully into his ministry of redeeming the world, even those who have offended us, or mistreated us, or betrayed us. It's the only way to join Jesus in Easter Victory. Our trials are his blood being shed again. Our pains are his pains. We are on the cross with Jesus. We can embrace this intimacy for the sake of those who have scourged us and betrayed us.

Recognizing, "Still, I am a good person" is the starting place of conversion. God's love can help us change. We too quickly give up on God, we give up on others and give up on ourselves. We are drawn to the ways of the world and all its oysters, only to discover that when we look back we only see what went wrong, we cannot see what went right. It is in our trials and sacrifices of life and relationship where our love changes us and the world.

We are to dare to love ourselves and others with Jesus all the way to Calvary. By loving those who don't love us, forgiving those who mistreat us, and working hard to replace obstinacy with obedience, and working hard to replace discontent with peace, and working hard to replace evil with the Kingdom of God, we reveal the light of Christ to those who live in darkness. When we live in the light of Christ, we proclaim God's way is the only way. By listening to Jesus, we let his light consume the darkness that still lingers within us. Then, the people around us experience more of Jesus, because they meet him in us, in our actions, in our compassion, in our forgiveness. This is God's mercy in motion. This is evangelization.

Last November, Janelle went to her high school reunion for the first time; she had never been before, too much baggage. She put on her best face, stood up to her fears and took a walk down memory lane. Suddenly, she began to shake and sweat profusely. She found herself face-to-face with Mother Superior Mary John Janet. She gasped thinking, "I thought she was dead!"

"Dill, is that you? Oh my goodness, it is so good to see you!" Sister embraced Janelle with a warm hug. "I think of you all the time. You were a bright star in my life as a teacher. I was so impressed with you and your love of God and the Church. You made my job easy. My goodness, look at you now. It is wonderful to see what you have become!" Taken aback, Janelle said, "It is good to see you Sister, uh, Mother Superior." "Oh, not anymore, that was then, I am just a Sister now," she said, "I like it better that way!" They both laughed out loud. "So do I Sister, so do I!" Janelle asked, "Was I a bad girl in High School, way back then, Sister?" "Oh, no! My heavens, you were such a good person!"

Life isn't always what our fears tell us it is, or the world's oyster promises it to be. Here's proof, some people can look back and see what went right. That's God mercy in motion. God is rich in mercy. Let us respond to his mercy and get our feet out of the fires we kindle and flame. Repent and believe in the Gospel.

In Christ,

*Father Steven C. Neje*