

Welcome to

Holy Trinity Parish

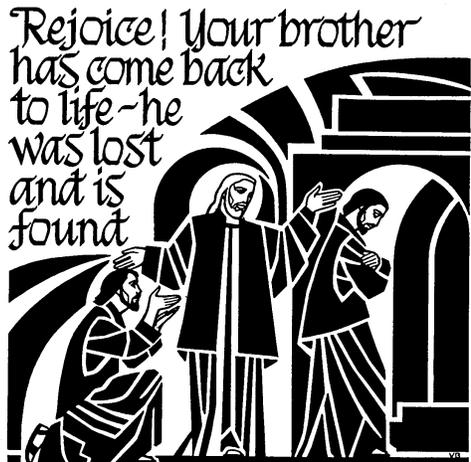
407 Cherry St.
Weston, MO 64098
www.holytrinitycatholic.org

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent March 6, 2016



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Today we hear one of the most beloved stories in the Gospel of Luke, Jesus' parable of the Prodigal Son. Reconciliation is a prominent theme. Seeing the younger son returning to him, the son who left the family and squandered his inheritance, the compassionate father runs to embrace him. Jesus offers us a vision of a loving God who is merciful and forgiving, welcoming us back when we remorsefully return to him. When was a time that I left God's presence through my own sinfulness? Did I humbly and sorrowfully repent of my actions? How am I using this time of Lent to humbly atone for my sins? Will I eagerly celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation in the next few weeks to experience God's loving embrace and forgiveness?

International Catholic Stewardship Council E-news March 2016

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 Kathleen Chastain at 816.392.0011 or victimadvocate@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.

Fourth Sunday of Lent - 6 March 2016
Readings: p. 84 in *Breaking Bread*

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 5

5:00pm--XII Private Intention

Sunday, March 6

7:30am-HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

9:00am--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

10:45am-HT +James Purnell

Mon, Mar 7, 8am (HT) Holy Souls in Purgatory

Wed, Mar 9, 8am (HT) Private Intention

Thu, Mar 10, 6pm (XII) +Special Intention

Fri, Mar 11, 8am (HT) Private Intention

Saturday, March 12

5:00pm--XII +Special Intention

Sunday, March 13

7:30am-HT +Mark Harris

9:00am--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

10:45am-HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION TODAY

This week, our parish will take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection. This collection supports six Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. The funds from this collection help provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and Christ's love and respect to all people. Please give generously to the Catholic Relief Services Collection and **help Jesus in disguise.**



EASTER FLOWERS

To donate an Easter Flower in memory of a loved one, to decorate our churches for Easter, please put their name and yours in an envelope with a suggested donation of \$15 and place in the collection basket or bring to the office **by Monday, March 21.** Thank you.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Friday, March 11, at 7:00PM, at Twelve Apostles—led by members of Twelve Apostles' Women's Group.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy in prayer/song continue

~Holy Trinity— following 7:30 Mass;

before 10:45 MASS—**TODAY AT 10:15AM.**

~XII Apostles — 20 minutes prior to Masses

Prayer pamphlets at entrances --
Join in praying this meditative devotion.

Mercy is God's Love poured out upon us. *'Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet (Diary 699). My mercy is greater than your sins, and those of the entire world (Diary 1485).'* Through the passion and death of Jesus, an infinite ocean of mercy was made available for all of us.



NEXT SUNDAY —
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
"Spring forward" one hour next Saturday night!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Lenten Study on Divine Mercy — 2nd session (of 10) this Sunday, 9AM, at Holy Trinity! For more info or to sign up please contact Jacci Kleman at 806-576-9023, jacci.kleman@gmail.com or Cathi O'Malley at 816-916-0446, cathi.theomalley@gmail.com.

20s & 30s Group concludes a 3-week study on Pope John Paul II's **Theology of the Body** this Monday, March 7, facilitated by Mark & Katie Martinez. Free child care at Seven Bridges Clubhouse; drop off at 6 pm, class at 6:15 at the home of Chris & Katie Barmann, 17605 N. Braeburn Court, Platte City.



EASTER VIGIL CHOIR MEMBERS INVITED:

All interested members of 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 9 & 16, at 7pm at XII Apostles. Questions? Please call Barb Bopp, who will lead the choir, at 816-665-5775.

Liturgical Ministers and "footwashees" are needed for Holy Week services. Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil will be at XII Apostles; Good Friday at Holy Trinity. Emails have been sent to our Liturgical Ministers, with a link to a sign-up page, or contact the parish office if you would like to volunteer. Any one who would like to have their feet washed during Holy Thursday liturgy, please contact the parish office or sign up at www.tinyurl.com/holyweek2016. Please note practice times as well.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS for all....

OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE KNIGHTS--Eligible Catholic men may join the Knights of Columbus either at Holy Trinity or at Twelve Apostles on ONE of the following dates: (1) Sunday, March 13, Topeka, KS; (2) Monday, March 14, St. Therese Parkville, MO; (3) Saturday, April 2, Lawrence, KS; (4) Sunday, April 10 in KCK; (5) Thursday, April 14, Holy Family Parish, Kansas City (North), MO.

2ND AND 3RD DEGREE CEREMONIALS--Current 1st Degree members of the Knights of Columbus can receive their 2nd (Formation) and 3rd (Knighthood) Degrees on ONE of the following dates: (1) Sunday, March 13 at Topeka, KS; (2) Saturday, April 2 in Lawrence, KS; (3) Sunday, April 10 in Kansas City, KS.

Contact Steve Steiger at (816) 431-6506 for information. He will take all Prospective and Current Members who are interested in attending any of the above ceremonials listed in Items 1 & 2 above.

The Annual Fourth (4th) Degree Ceremonial for western Missouri will be conducted on April 9 in Kansas City, MO; and will also be conducted in Leawood, KS, on April 16. Contact Steve Steiger: info above.

MEETING NOTICE-- XII Apostles Knights Council 16189, Wed., March 9; Rosary 6:45; Meeting & Social 7pm--lower level, XII Apostles. Guest speaker (7pm) Lou Warner, Hillcrest Ministries & Thrift Shop.

PARISH GROUNDS AND HIGHWAY CLEANUP--Twelve Apostles Council No.16189 will be cleaning the grounds of Twelve Apostles Church and Humphrey's Road for Palm Sunday and Easter at 10:00 AM on Sunday, March 13 immediately following the 9:00 AM Mass. Volunteers should contact Chairman Bob Bailey at (816) 858-3789 or at BOB497237@aol.com. We should be finished by 11:15 AM.

HOLY TRINITY NEWS

Holy Trinity Women's Guild meets this Monday, March 7, at 7pm, in the parish hall. All women of the parish are invited.

Weston Community Prayer Breakfast next Saturday, March 12, at 8am, at Weston Christian Church (Washington & Spring.) No charge, but a free will offering will be taken up for the charitable works of the Weston Ministerial Alliance.

Join us this Sunday, March 6, at 12 Noon - for a potluck at Holy Trinity featuring our work of mercy this month "Give Drink to the Thirsty" -- our program speakers will be:

- Students from St. Pius X will present a program on water issues and needs in Guatemala
- Keith Stutterheim will talk about Catholic Relief Services' water program
- Peg & Rogers Strickland will talk about an upcoming Guatemala Mission Trip

Bring a dish to share and join us for food, song, fellowship, and learning! All are welcome. (Check out this week's *Catholic Key* for an article about our last two months' works of mercy focus.)

Mark your calendars for our next events:

Sunday aft., April 3 - Divine Mercy Sunday celebration at XII Apostles
Sat., May 14, 6pm, XII Apostles—cookout; program "Feed the Hungry"

Informational Meeting for July Guatemala Mission Trip

Are you interested in a mission trip to Guatemala? An informational meeting will be held Sunday, March 6, 2016, at 2:30 p.m. at the Weston United Methodist Church, 533 Main, Weston. The trip will be July 8-18, 2016. Anyone interested in this or future trips is welcome to attend. Sponsored by Side By Side International. For more information contact p.b.strickland@earthlink.net.

HUGE thank you to all who helped with the Confirmation ceremony; it was a great success! To our pastor, Father Rogers, for his help & support; the Knights of Columbus, led by Steve Steiger, for helping with parking, ushering, and passing out programs; to the women's group, led by Mary Calvert, for the wonderful cake and punch reception; to the choir members, led by Karla Stahl, for the beautiful music; to Jerre Robertson and Jan Patterson for being sacristans; to Jim Sullivan for helping teach the classes; to the sponsors for agreeing on this life-long commitment; and mostly to all the parents for helping bring the candidates to this point in their lives, you have done a wonderful job, I have enjoyed spending time with your children -
THANK YOU! ~Katie Troup

KATIE'S CORNER YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Youth group: Grades 7-12

Grades 7-12 join us this Sunday, March 6, 1:30-3pm at Holy Trinity for an update on **Stella**, the child we sponsor through Unbound. We will be enjoying games and treats from Stella's home country of Colombia. We will also spend time writing her letters. Come early and you can get lunch from the Mercy Potluck, and hear a program on what St. Pius X students are doing for a mission trip.

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.

Next Sunday, join us for Pizza with Jesus. There will be pizza. And there will be Jesus. How can it get any better than that?
March 13, 5-7pm at XII Apostles



TWELVE APOSTLES NEWS



Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast
THIS Sunday, March 6, at Northland Career Center -9:50am till 11:15 or until all are served. A free will offering is welcome for the charitable activities of the Knights.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

THIS Sunday, March 6, 2016

5:00 – 6:00 PM

THURSDAY LENTEN ADORATION

in this Year of Mercy

March 10, 2016 3:00 – 7:30 PM

7:30 -- Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

In this **Year of Mercy** Lenten Season, His Mercy, His Love and His Peace are being poured over you as you sit at His feet. Come, let us adore.



Women's Group meeting this Tuesday, March 8, 6:30pm, lower level of the church. All women of the parish are invited.

'USHER/ GREETER' MEETING for ALL interested:

CURRENT ushers and all parishioners, male & female, interested in joining this Ministry are encouraged to meet **TUESDAY, MARCH 8 @ 7:00 pm at XII Apostles Church**. This ministry will be looking to implement additional & traditional procedures for Mass services. Parishioner Mark Reichert has kindly agreed to help implement these steps. Further details will be shared at the meeting to which all interested are invited.

PSR NEWS: Parents, please join us next Sunday, March 13, for the Parish Rosary at 10:20am. Stay afterwards for the Parents as Catechists (PAC) meeting.

Annual DCCW Lenten collection of hygiene essentials for shelters caring for women & children, for example, shampoo, lotion, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, comb, deodorant, socks. Put in large clear ziplock bags; leave in narthex for next 3 Sundays. Mary Calvert will deliver on March 30. Three agencies will benefit: Synergy Center, Hope House, and Rose Brooks. Questions? Call Mary 816-863-9511.

CHURCH CLEANING SATURDAY MARCH 12, AT 9AM, by Members of Team 3: Shannon Demory, Meredith Domann, Joan Remmers, Tammy Glick, & Janet Regan. Any others welcome!



WE REJOICE IN THE BAPTISM of **Lainie Mae Feek**, daughter of Cameron and Kalee Feek on February 6, 2016. May this new child of God and her family always know God's love and mercy.

LENTE PENANCE SERVICES: Our parishes' Lenten Communal Penance Service will take place next Sunday, March 13, at 2pm, at Holy Trinity. Additional priests will be on hand to assist Fr. Rogers.

Other services in the area:

Every Wednesday, 6-7pm, Sacred Heart, 1401 2nd Ave, Leavenworth
Tuesday, March 8, 7pm, Annunciation, 701 N Jefferson, Kearney
Wednesday, March 9, 7pm, St. Charles, 900 NE Shady Lane Drive, KCMO
Thursday, March 10, 7pm, Holy Family, 919 NW 96th St., KCMO
Sunday, March 13, 7pm, St. Therese, 7207 NW Hwy 9, Parkville
Tuesday, March 15, 7pm, St. James, 309 S Stewart Rd., Liberty
Friday, March 18, 7pm, Immaculate Conception, 711 N. 5th, Leavenworth

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN.....

Often throughout his life of 27 years so far, there have been numerous instances where Joshua has reverted to thinking, "I am not worthy." Not being worthy haunts him like a repeating nightmare. Even in the moments when he stands near the edge of success, unworthiness ricochets and reverberates in his soul, causing him to stagger and spill and blunder. He is a gifted man with much to offer. He could ace all of his final exams, but he is the one who oversleeps and misses his chance. Joshua wrangles with unworthiness; it wreaks havoc on his heart. The trauma of it replicates in whatever comes his way. The trauma isn't something he can confront, and it isn't something he can avoid. Joshua is forever slipping and sliding into the abyss of unworthiness and defeat.

Joshua is the oldest son in his family. His sister and younger brother have particular needs and can't provide much for themselves. They need a lot of help just to navigate the basics. His mother and father are hard workers and rely heavily on Joshua to manage the fort they call home. They would do anything and everything to provide for their children's future. They both work in and outside of the home, night and day, weekends and holidays, usually meeting each other coming or going. When they aren't working their real jobs, they volunteer with the Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts, at school, in the community. They are active members of everything.

For downtime and recreation, they clean the church and straighten-up the hymnals in the pews each week. Although they helped the church purchase new pews five years ago with special compartments for music books, pencils and sacred ephemera, the task takes them several hours to complete. It is the only quiet time they know. Still it is overwhelming at times. Hymnals are like socks in the laundry. Where do they go? Two or three always go missing and later show up in the strangest of places. They find them usually well after they have been replaced with the new music issue. It is like finding a wayward Waldo.

Joshua, being like his parents, takes on everything; he says no to nothing. He burns the midnight oil and the candle at both ends and yet when asked to do more, he always says yes. He doesn't comprehend the axiom where the last straw breaks the camel's back. Instead, he pushes and pulls himself into doing more and then some. He feels it is his duty. It is his obligation. It is his responsibility. It is his cross. It is his charge. It is his debt to pay. It is his commitment. It is his way of showing gratitude. It is his liability. It is his job. It is his assignment. It is his mission. Sadly, Joshua is motivated by negative thoughts of unworthiness. Joshua overcompensates. He overreacts. He overcorrects. He overplays.

Being burned-out at 27 and not knowing it is a tragedy. Trajectory aggravates the trauma he avoids. Trauma excites his feelings of unworthiness. Unworthiness fatigues Joshua before he begins, even before he says yes. To not know if he is coming or going, or if he has been there already, makes Joshua even more competitive and destructive at the same time. He is bitter, but thinks he is sweet. He works hard, but accomplishes nothing. He smiles, yet he is sad. He chases a life he believes he's supposed to live. He runs from the life that would make him truly happy. He spins. He spills. He slides. He suffers.

Joshua has existed in the void of unworthiness from near the time he was born. Some say it's first-born syndrome. His parents say, "He's always been this way!" Joshua says, "I've always been this way!" They say it like it is the preferred way to be. All great people must have been born this way. Joshua chases greatness, only greatness doesn't know where to find him. Joshua is always short on time. He is short on spirit. He is short on success. Chasing rainbows is futile; there is no pot of gold, at least, not for the one who races in all directions. Is it hard work or meaningless activity? Unworthiness can disguise itself in busyness. Unworthiness can hide in activity. Unworthiness shrouds itself in saying yes and no. We say yes to the wrong things and no to the right things. Joshua knows this about himself, "I've always been this way!" But still, Joshua doesn't know how to change it. He won't confront it. He tries to control it.

In some ways, Joshua is just like his parents, but in many other ways, he is nothing like them. Joshua's parents work hard to provide for him and his brother and sister. They worked hard to send him through Rockhurst University, to give him an advantage, a better future

grounded in a head start. But Joshua blames his parents for his feelings of unworthiness. He doesn't want to be like them in any way, shape, form or fashion. For Joshua they are wrong. He is right. He says the only gift they have ever given him is making him bull headed, determined. Joshua believes the only way to ride herd is to take the bull by the horn and crush him, beat him, control him and defeat him. Only Joshua doesn't realize he is the bull and that's why he is unsuccessful. He only defeats himself; he can't ride herd. Right out of college, Joshua decided that in order for him to succeed like all the other people he had come to know, he had to fight dirty. He had to be deliberate and cunning; he had to annihilate his opponents before they could even get out of the chute. Even though he had been taught it was unethical and dishonest, he took to breaking the rules; rules don't apply to people who get ahead. He took to hateful rhetoric instead of artful discourse. He started hitting below the belt. He sharpened his skills taking cheap shots at vulnerable and sensitive people, people much like his brother and sister. He morphed into his motto, "A 'win' is a win."

For Josh, God has no place outside the church and he doesn't believe in going to church. Joshua says he doesn't have work to get to heaven. He is going to create his own vision of heaven. He says, "That's what a degree in theology is for!" To get a jump on others, he randomly attacks those unprepared for the damage. He gossips about others in public, at local bars, at work and at play, to gain favor, and to get the upper hand on his competition, the younger and the weaker. He thinks he is clever and crafty, but to others he is nasty and obnoxious. Joshua takes pride in himself, "I'll never feel bad about myself again!" For his parents, "He's always been this way" has turned to, "We never taught him that!"

His parents love him. They pray for Joshua. Joshua rolls his eyes and shrugs his shoulders. He turns on the speed and cranks up the volume to get away from becoming them and to tune them out. Yet, he cannot confront or avoid the trauma that haunts him. "What is it that will make me worthy? If I knew what's wrong with me, I'd fix it!" He doesn't. He can't. At 27, Joshua is drowning in the abyss of unworthiness, but he thinks he is succeeding every time he comes up for air. He is unaware that in actuality, he is down for the count. He has spun out of control because he offers others everything, but gives them nothing. In return, he has nothing, but feels he has given everything.

In Mass, we pray, "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the Word and my soul shall be healed." Joshua needs healing. Joshua needs God. Joshua needs the Church.

Jesus illustrates in the parable of the Prodigal Son, that we are all worthy, but not because of what we do, but rather, it is because of what Jesus did for us. Jesus shows us it is not what the son does that made his return home acceptable; it is what the father does. He loves his child. He loves him unconditionally. He loves him even while he is far away, even while he is slipping, and sliding and spilling all over the place, and falling down the slippery slope into the abyss of unworthiness. In the end, it is the gift of the father's unconditional love that saves him, a love given even while the son rejects it.

Often, we chase what we want, and reject what we need. What God wills is for us to be restored to a fully loving, give-and-take relationship with him and his family. We receive the Eucharist as a gift of unity with God and with his whole family. In the Eucharist, relationships are healed, people are healed. We can't heal our self; we need God. Being healed by God, no longer are we compelled to be nasty or obnoxious, to push or pull, to annihilate or destroy. We are no longer beholden to cheating others or gossiping about them to win favor.

In the Holy Eucharist, we don't tear at others or break them apart. In the Eucharist we become whole, complete, we take on meaning and purpose. In the Eucharist we become worthy. When God makes us worthy by his love, we honor our father and mother, and we help neighbor. We open our hearts and embrace our cross. We become the love we receive. We receive the gift of unity with God and with his whole family, the Church. And when our work is done, we cross the threshold of new life with Jesus Christ. Now that's success!

In Christ,

Father Steven C. Neje