

# Stepping Stones

News for Our Family

About Our Journey

Toward Our Home

COMMITMENT  
WEEKEND  
JUNE 11-12

Site of Our Future Home

Holy Family Parish

www.holyfamily.com

May 2011

## Questions and Answers About the Next Step

### Why is “Take the Next Step” called a campaign extension, rather than a new campaign?

Whether people consider this an extension or a new campaign isn't as crucial as that they “take the next step” to be a better disciple – different for each parishioner.

While some will get involved for the first time, hopefully most will pledge again and others will complete their unfinished pledges.

We are asking parishioners to look at the “whole picture,” encompassing **all** their God-given gifts. We strongly hope that some will renew and strengthen their faith by attending Mass more frequently, getting involved in social activities, attending Bible studies and/or support groups, etc.

### Since I cannot give much, why should I bother?

Only 450 families contributed to the current capital campaign. If the other 500 families would contribute something – no matter how small – what great things we could achieve! Nothing is too small a contribution.

We don't *have* to give anything. We should ask, “How much do we want to give?” That means giving as much as we can, as often as we can, from the heart as a faith response because we are generous stewards who want to share our time, talent and treasure with others.

### We have a set amount of money to give.

### How should we divide this between the building fund (capital appeal) and the annual appeal?

While this is not an easy decision, the commitment box contains items to help you pray and think about it. Take time to read the scripture and reflection questions. There is no set rhyme or reason necessary for your decision. As a household, you will need to decide on your commitment.

### Would it help to add another Mass?

Adding a Mass seems like a solution because we *assume* people would equally distribute themselves at each Mass. However, they currently **aren't** doing this with three Mass options. Why should we assume they will do it with four?

In almost every parish, the last Mass scheduled on Sunday morning is the heaviest attended one. This is why our 11 a.m. continues to be a packed house, and will continue to be, no matter how many Masses we add.

Another Mass would add stress to the music ministry, liturgical ministers and the pastor. Canon Law states a priest is to celebrate only three Masses a weekend so that each Mass is a prayerful experience.

### Will present giving support maintenance of additional property?

We do not know what utilities or maintenance will cost. A decision has not been made as to what will first be built there. We will first do site development. Results from “Take the Next Step” will determine when the land can be developed.

### What does the term “site development” mean?

This entails building water, sewage and electrical lines, roads and parking, grading, etc.

### When will we begin site development?

We would love to begin site development at the end of this 18-month campaign. This hinges on the amount raised and meeting the diocesan requirements of:

- 1.) 70 percent of the total project cost in pledges, pre-project savings and sale of property;
- 2.) The amount of actual loaned funds shall not exceed 50 percent of the project cost;

- 3.) Construction shall not commence until the parish has 50 percent of the total project cost in cash;

- 4.) Parish must be able to support a debt repayment schedule which will not exceed 15 years. *(More on back cover.)*

*‘Holy Family matters because it is family. If you come to this parish ready to enter into parish life and participate, you will be welcomed by the loving arms of the many extended family members here.’*

*Amy Gilmore*

# 'Holy Family matters because. . . .'

A MESSAGE FROM  
FATHER MATTHEW

Last time I told you how Marie Genz suggested a new name for our parish newsletter in 2009.

I also challenged you to think about how you would personally complete the sentence:

**"Holy Family matters because . . ."**

It is not too late to communicate your response to us.

Perhaps you also remember that I left you hanging as to how I would complete that sentence. So to bring an end to the suspense, my response eventually follows.

*"With shrinking congregations, churches must inspire"* was a headline that caught my attention back in December 2010. Local Kansas City writer Bill Tammeus, who happens to be Presbyterian, penned the article for the National Catholic Reporter, published in Kansas City.

Tammeus cited a Pew Forum on Religious and Public Life survey that found one out of every three adult Americans raised Catholic has left the church.

Among other things, Tammeus concluded that the Catholic Church, and all churches, if they are to remain a credible voice in the world, must above all else be a voice of inspiration for those who attend church on any given Sunday.



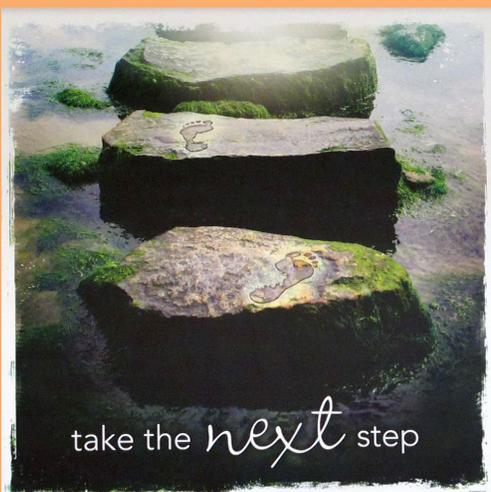
To do that, "Churches must offer people what only the church can offer to help them find: a healing, saving, comforting, challenging, relationship with God which calls forth lives of gratitude expressed in acts of ministry to a wounded world."

*Holy Family matters to me, because I think we serve as an oasis in people's lives – giving them what only a church can help them find: a healing, saving, comforting, challenging, relationship with God which calls forth lives of gratitude expressed in acts of ministry to a wounded world.*

Every day I get to work with a great group of people. Our staff mission statement states, "We offer opportunities to make a positive difference. We are passionate about creating a welcoming environment where all are empowered to celebrate, grow and live our faith."

I certainly enjoy being part of this oasis – and I am grateful every day for the gifts and talents God has blessed me with that allow me to make my contribution to help bring it about.

So, as our "guest speaker" Apollos would certainly have us reflect on: what step do you need to take to ensure Holy Family is a special place for all of us now and in the future?



***Do you have any questions about 'Take the Next Step' not answered in this newsletter or a previous one?***

**Please feel free to ask by:**

- E-mailing [patty@holyfamily.com](mailto:patty@holyfamily.com)
- Posting them on [www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyKCMO](http://www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyKCMO)  
(If you belong to Facebook and "like" Holy Family.)
- Mailing us at 919 NE 96th Street, Kansas City, Mo. 64155
- Dropping in the box by the parish offices or in the collection

**Commitment Weekend – June 11-12**

**Bring stewardship commitment boxes filled with completed materials to church.**

## *Northland Poised for Growth*

While the economy may have slowed growth in the Northland, large areas of land to the west of North Oak Trafficway are ripe for growth. This development will eventually bring new parishioners to Holy Family.

The Kansas City Business Journal reported in February on collaboration between private and public groups that will lead to opening roughly 15,000 acres to development. The area, comparable to the size of Liberty, lies along the U.S. Highway 169 corridor north of Missouri Highway 152. It is thought it will support growth for 75,000 people or more.

It has been modeled on the 3,000-acre Shoal Creek development west of Liberty. Hunt Midwest Real Estate Development and MD Management own the majority of this land.

The collaboration resulted in a commitment to construct free-flow interchanges on Highway 169 at 96th and 108th Streets. The city will begin construction at 96th Street in 2012 and at 108th Street in 2013. From North Oak to 169, 96th Street will become Tiffany Springs Parkway (to eventually connect to the existing Tiffany Springs Parkway further west). The interchange at 108th will be constructed along with the Shoal Creek Parkway, a four-lane road from Holly Street to North Oak. The city is providing 20 percent of the cost through Public Improvements Advisory Committee (PIAC) funds. The remainder will be paid by the Federal Surface Transportation Program.

While the area is blessed with good highways, such as Highway 152 and Interstates 435 and 29, the area lacks east-west roads.

When the 169 corridor is developed depends on two sewer projects that have yet to be designed, the First Creek and Second Creek Watersheds. Cost for the projects will run from \$60 to \$75 million. Two main pump stations will likely be financed through city bonds.

Jobs are also moving to the area. Several businesses have moved into the former TWA overhaul base, including Jet Midwest, Nordic Windpower and Smith Electric Vehicles. Eventually Nordic Windpower will move into the KCI Intermodal Business Centre with plans for 200 jobs. Ford will bring a new line to its Claycomo Plant.

*This information was compiled from a letter to area residents from Councilman Russ Johnson and articles from the Kansas City Business Journal and Gladstone Dispatch.*



Discipleship

And Mission

By Patty Whelchel

DIRECTOR OF STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

## WHY ME?

I am blessed to have belonged to Holy Family all my adult life.

It comes naturally to contribute to this parish community, to grow in my faith, to raise my family here, to celebrate sacraments. My husband went through RCIA at Holy Family and unfortunately we buried him from here as well. My daughter has received all her sacraments here from baptism to marriage! I have many connections to this parish, permanent ties and great friendships. I'm even blessed to work here.

*Yet, as I accepted this new position and looked at the challenges ahead, I asked myself many questions. Maybe some of the same questions you ask. With the changes in my life, I realize more than ever that tomorrow is never a guarantee. We don't know what tomorrow will bring, where life will take us or what God has planned for each of us or Holy Family.*

What I do know is that being fortunate enough to get up each day to build the kingdom of God and tend to His flock is very fulfilling – I am blessed. Then I remember, nothing is guaranteed.

What happens if the day comes and I have to leave Holy Family? Where will I go? Where will I worship? I have given so much of myself to this place. Will I be blessed to worship with another welcoming community? Be blessed with a pastor who has a gift for speaking? Worship with great song? Will I ever see the completion at 106th and Woodland?

It is my responsibility, as it is for each one of us, to care for what God has given us, the space where we worship and do God's work. I reflect on the many blessings I have because of this parish and its people. If I am not here while great things continue to happen, I know I played a part in making them happen for others. We should follow in the footsteps of those who started this parish for us over 30 years ago, who continue to build the kingdom of God. Then I can rest assured knowing that if I find myself worshipping elsewhere, I know those before me had the same commitment to their faith to build the kingdom of God, stone by stone!

*So, if you haven't already, think about how you would answer these questions:*

Is it about me or Him? Why should I sacrifice my time, talents and treasure — or are they His? Am I living my life the way God has planned for me? Have I taken the time to pray about my journey?

If I met Jesus today, would He say: "Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy?"  
*(Matthew 25:21)*

April 2011

# Stepping Stones

A publication communicating the progress of

## Holy Family Parish

919 N.E. 96th Street  
Kansas City, Mo. 64155

816-436-9200

[www.holyfamily.com](http://www.holyfamily.com)

[www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyKCMO](http://www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyKCMO)

### *Parish Staff*

**Father Matthew Brumleve**

Pastor

**Marie Relic**

Parish Manager

**Mary Ludwig-Whipple**

Parish Secretary

**Patty Whelehel**

Director of Stewardship and Development

**Heather Neds**

Director of Youth Ministries

**Peggy Petersen**

Pastoral Associate

**Ember Riley**

Director of Religious Education

**John Winkels**

Director of Liturgy

**Dee Carver**

Maintenance Supervisor

**Suzanne Hill**

Communications Coordinator

### *Our Mission*

Holy Family Catholic Church is a vibrant, spirit-filled faith community. Following the example of the Holy Family, we seek God by celebrating, growing and living our faith.

*Adopted April 14, 2010*

*Holy Family Parish Copyright 2011*

## More Questions and Answers

### **What is the condition of the current parish budget?**

We are doing very well, despite the economic climate. Contributions have exceeded expectations and expenses have been under budget, providing a net gain. The finance committee and parish manager Marie Relic keep a close eye on expenses.

### **Why is it taking so long to get something built?**

This economy makes it difficult to realize our dreams now. A new church is one of the most costly buildings per square foot to construct. If we want to see something built on the new site in the near future, we may want to consider building something else first.

## *Holy Family matters because. . .*

*'When I walk in the church I feel like I'm home. I get a warm and comforting feeling that I have not felt with other parishes . . . I have been a Catholic for my entire life so I've been to several parishes and the members of Holy Family are like no other.'*

**Jennifer Fernandez**

*'In this setting I am fed, clothed in kindness and learn more about my faith. I'm blessed to share what I know about my faith with others. I am grateful to watch my kids learn and grow in their faith here. I am strengthened by the friendships I have made with people who are diverse – but united in this faith. Holy Family IS my family and my second home.'*

**Mindy Lehman**



Holy Family Parish  
919 NE 96th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64155  
816-436-9200

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Kansas City, MO  
Permit No. 2437