

Stepping Stones

News for Our Family

About Our Journey

Toward Our Home

Site of Our Future Home

Holy Family Parish

www.holyfamily.com

December 2011

New Lot/New Exit Project

WHAT'S BEEN THE HOLD UP?

Why is it taking so long to get our new exit and parking lot completed?

“It’s been one thing after another. We thought it would be an easy thing,” parish manager Marie Relic said.

The facilities committee and Marie spent months gathering information, meeting with engineers from Lutjen (a survey, planning, engineering and landscape architecture firm), the diocesan building committee and the City of Kansas City’s plan commission and board of zoning and adjustments.

The City of Kansas City placed several obstacles in our way, requiring additional permits, redoing plans, etc. That included landscaping/buffer changes, a micro-storm drainage study to determine run-off, approval of the new entrance – even after one branch of the city had already approved original plans with the entrance in them.

But Marie found Wayne Roy, diocesan property manager, “great to deal with.”

Finally, in September, the parish was able to get bids out. McConnell and Associates was selected as contractor.

Permits were pulled and the performance bond was signed on October 14. Grading and demolition of the sidewalk leading to the parish hall began Thursday, October 18.

McConnell ran into unexpected problems as the project progressed. While excavating, workers found a storm sewer drainage pipe that was too high and needed to be lowered. The project went back to the city, which required another permit to replace the storm pipe.

Rock under the storm pipe had to be removed before the pipe could be replaced. About 27-cubic-yards of rock was removed. While removing rock, workers discovered a sanitary sewer pipe. Fortunately, it was not damaged in the excavation. Rain stopped work for several days at one time.

Lutjen alerted Marie to a new concern at the beginning of December. The firm had observed lawsuits against property owners for not installing truncated domes. Truncated domes help people with visual disabilities determine the boundary between sidewalk and street. At Holy Family they alert people to the slope. They can be felt underfoot and with the white canes blind people use.

Three truncated domes were added to the project for an additional cost of \$500. One was placed in the upper lot and two in the lower lot near handicapped parking spots.

Base asphalt was laid Thursday, December 8, through Monday, December 12. Prior to the weekend,

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Changes. . . .

Please enter lot through the old drive and exit through the new drive.

Handicapped parking is located at the southeast corner of the upper lot and at the east end of the lower lot.

Please use the sidewalk to enter church. This is for your safety. The circle drive is for drop off and pick up.

Please don't park in the grass.



New Exit, Lot Address Current Needs

Holy Family has taken “the next step.”

While that step is not a new church, it is a new exit and parking lot.

In 2011, staff, parish council, facilities and stewardship met several times to plan for the future. Those plans included modifying the 96th Street property to meet current needs.

The project provides 66 additional parking spots, islands to retain storm water and improve traffic flow, and a new drainage system that captures water from the upper lot and pipes it directly to the pond.

The upper lot has storm sewer grates on the south edge. Green space between the two lots allow for snow piles there, rather than the lot.

That lot has nine handicapped parking places and the lower lot eight places for both cars and vans.

On the upper level, sidewalks have been built so handicapped people do not have to step up on a curb and so all parishioners do not need to cross traffic to enter church.

Sidewalks on the lower level have also been built to accommodate the handicapped. People may enter the building at the back door and take the elevator upstairs or come directly into the parish hall for events there.

The lot and sidewalk provide a circle drive near church doors so that as people drop off or pick up people, they have no interference from those driving out of the lot.

“This is a lot safer for the handicapped,” parish manager Marie Relic explained.

Traffic should flow better as the old entrance/exit will be used as an entrance and the new driveway will be used as the exit, with lanes for both west and east traffic. The new exit has been designed to provide a better line of sight for safety reasons.

Lutjen – a survey, planning, engineering and landscape architecture firm – provided expertise with drawings, the city approval process, construction documents and the bid process. It also served as construction management. Traffic engineering is one of its specialties.

McConnell and Associates was pavement contractor. Hagen Electric repaired existing lights and installed new ones in the lower lot.

Due to your generosity, Holy Family was able to borrow money from its building fund to pay for the project, rather than borrowing from the diocese.

Project costs include about \$375,000 for the new lot, \$46,000 to resurface the old lot – which needed to be done regardless. *(Resurfacing will be done next spring.)* The unexpected cost to lower the storm sewer pipe was \$15,350.





Discipleship And Mission

By *Patty Whelchel*

DIRECTOR OF STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

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Advent has come and gone. Yet, waiting and watching for the new exit and parking lot addition is still fresh in our minds.

Maybe this was a shock as you came for Christmas Mass. If that didn't throw you for a loop, maybe you wondered who changed the words to Mass.

Change is upon us. Yet, we all come to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ! We come together every week to share the greatest gift of all, the Body and Blood of our Lord. We are truly blessed as we listen to scriptures and celebrate Eucharist as a community.

As disciples, good stewards, we realize everything we have comes from God. Take time to thank God for His many blessings. Return God's gifts with increase. The Christmas season allows us to do this many times over. Allow our gifts to benefit those less fortunate, to reflect our care for people of the world who have little. Give to make a difference!

Take time to take care of yourself. Look around and notice how God moves amid your life each day

as an advocate of hope through people and situations you encounter. Uncover places in yourself needing a good dose of encouragement.

Let us give thanks for everyone who has shared gifts with Holy Family Parish. These gifts have allowed us to provide great worship, meaningful programs and improve the parking and traffic flow situation – among other things.

It is never too late to make a gift of giving to the mission of this parish! As we look to 2012, we hold on to our dream of someday building at 106th and Woodland. This, too, will happen in time with the sharing of our God-given gifts.

Allow the Christmas season to remind us of the importance of faith in our lives. Use what the parish provides us to grow in faith. Take advantage of the opportunities before us! We always have the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit to give us what we need for our life's journey.

Please take the time to visit our website at www.holyfamily.com, read the parish bulletin, open our e-mails and visit our Facebook page! Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns, as I would very much enjoy a visit!

Peace be with you And with your spirit!

Slow Project

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asphalt was laid in the upper lot in areas that had been damaged when curbs were installed. On that Monday, the entrance and lower lot were completed. This was finished just in time as asphalt plants closed later in the week.

We may park on the base until the surface asphalt is laid in the spring after temperatures get high enough for the asphalt plant to open.

“Remember,” wrote Chris Hanson of McConnell and Associates, **“it is just the base lift and is not real pretty. It will look a lot better when we surface the new and existing lots next spring.”**

Where the base asphalt meets the curb, there is a small lip. That will not be there when surface asphalt is added.

Please watch your step in those areas.

It's not too late to 'Take the Next Step'

Questions?

**E-mail Patty at
patty@holyfamily.com.**

**Follow our progress at
www.holyfamily.com
and click on the
campaign link or
go directly to**

www.holyfamily.com/Campaign/index.asp

**Everyone may view our Facebook page at
www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyKCMO
You need not have an account.**



THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING TO SPEND CHRISTMAS WITH US AT HOLY FAMILY!

Christmas is a time to rejoice in all that is new around us. So, we continue to rejoice (and struggle!) with the new words in the Mass. And we continue to rejoice (and struggle!) with how God continues to increase our numbers.

Many of you parked on the new addition to our parking lot. We are grateful God blesses us with people willing to give of their treasure to help us deal with our growth. Know that it is never too late, nor is there ever a gift too small to help us in our endeavors.



Father Matthew

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT HOLY FAMILY!

PARISH CALENDAR

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30 – FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY, NOON MASS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31 – MASS, 5 P.M.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1 – MASS, 8:30, 11 A.M.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8 – KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST

WEEKEND, JANUARY 14-15 – STEWARDSHIP WEEKEND

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25 – LONG-TERM CARE/FINANCIAL PLANNING FORUM, 12:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29 – WELCOME EVENT, NOON.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31 – LONG-TERM CARE/FINANCIAL PLANNING FORUM, 6-7:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 – MARDI GRAS APPRECIATION DINNER, 6 P.M.

WEEKEND, FEBRUARY 11-12 – STEWARDSHIP WEEKEND

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 – KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 – ASH WEDNESDAY, 6:30 A.M., NOON, ECUMENICAL SERVICE, 7 P.M.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25 – PARISH RETREAT, CENTERING PRAYER, 8:30 A.M., LED BY ROB CARR

LENTEN THURSDAY OFFERINGS

JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL THURSDAY EVENING EVENTS DURING LENT. A SIMPLE SOUP AND SALAD SUPPER WILL BE SERVED EACH EVENING AT 6 P.M.

THURSDAY, MARCH 1 – RETREAT LEAD BY THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF LEAVENWORTH, 6:30 P.M.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8 – MIKE MATTHEWS AND DOUG LANGNER OF ST. JAMES PLACE, DAWN BLUSHER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF LOVE INC, 6:30 P.M.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15 – Parish reconciliation service, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22 – Jim McConnell of Water With Blessings, 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 29 – TBA

