



HOLY FAMILY MATTERS

www.holyfamily.com

May 2015

Volume 24



Six people entered into new life with Christ at the Easter Vigil. Pictured from left are Ann Deyo, Katy Scholdberg, Melanie Villanueva, Brent Lytle, Steven Tritsch, Hannah Wilson and Peggy Petersen, pastoral associate.

Christ be our light!

As Christians have done for centuries, Holy Family lit a fire at the beginning of the Easter Vigil, reminding us that Christ is our light. The Easter candle was lit from this fire. Those gathered shared the fire with one another. Carrying individual flames, they entered the dark church.

Bernadette Farrell's song "Christ, Be Our Light" contains the words: *"This is the night of new beginnings. ... This is the night filled with God's glory, promise of our new birth."*

Six people experienced new beginnings, a new birth at the Easter Vigil. One Catholic adult received the sacrament of confirmation. Three people made their profession of faith, entering into full communion with the church through the sacraments of Eucharist and confirmation. Two received the sacraments of initiation – baptism, confirmation and Holy Communion.

CONFIRMED

Kathryn Lynn Adele Scholdberg "was born and raised in a Catholic family. I was baptized and had my first Communion here at Holy Family. After moving briefly to Colorado, my relationship with the church became more distant."

Continue Reading on Page 6

Faith matters

It's why we believe

Faith is the thread that wove throughout Michelle Jeffries' experience with a high-risk pregnancy and the death of her infant daughter Madeline Sophia.

Michelle joined the Catholic Church at last year's Easter Vigil. Her husband Scott is a cradle Catholic. Their daughter Olivia, now three, was also baptized that night.

"God couldn't have prepared me better with a church family. That was huge. What a blessed time to be in RCIA before a big tragedy."

When Olivia was born, her blood mixed with Michelle's blood. That's common during delivery. However, Olivia's blood had Antigen c (lower case c) that she had inherited from Scott, while Michelle's had Antigen C (upper case C). Michelle's body identified this blood as foreign and created Antibody c (lower case c) to kill Antigen c.

Often the consequence is that a baby is born jaundiced, but sometimes it's more severe.

While this was not a problem for Olivia, it was when Michelle carried Madeline. During Michelle's pregnancy with Madeline, her blood was drawn monthly and tested for Antibody c. She had ultrasounds on a regular basis.

When Michelle had an ultrasound on November 20, Madeline appeared fine. Soon thereafter Michelle started getting very sick. She was gaining weight rapidly and developed vision problems. Concerned, she went to the doctor, but nothing was found amiss.

A week later, Michelle's feet were swelling and Antibody c had spiked. She had significant weight gain since the last visit. After another ultrasound, she could see fear in the doctor's face. Madeline had swollen and accumulated fluid, as well. Michelle's condition was "mirroring" Madeline's. "Mirror syndrome" is a rare condition in pregnant women.

Michelle had become sensitized to Madeline's blood. Antibody c crossed the placenta, attacking Madeline's blood. Madeline became anemic. Her heart started pumping

harder to compensate, leading to excess fluid around her lungs. Madeline had developed *hydrops fetalis*, a prenatal form of heart failure. Usually, it leads to miscarriage. Doctors didn't recognize this immediately, because usually the baby swells from the abdomen on up. Madeline swelled from the chest up.

Since Michelle was mirroring Madeline's condition, her health began to deteriorate. Her oxygen level and urine output dropped. Michelle was retaining fluid, just as Madeline was.

"She was getting sick and I was getting sick," Michelle said.

By December 12, Michelle was admitted to Overland Park Regional Medical Center, which has an antepartum unit for high-risk pregnancies and a highly recognized neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Doctors were waiting for her when she arrived and began to treat her immediately with steroids.

Michelle was fortunate to have expert doctors in perinatology and obstetrics who recognized her rare condition. Brent Finley, M.D., was familiar with mirror syndrome and consulted with Louis Ridgeway, M.D. Michelle's case was only the second or third case seen at the hospital.

Dr. Finley changed his shift to be with her on Saturday and consulted with doctors in Denver. He called Dr. Ridgeway, who was at a Chiefs game, to discuss the situation.

Michelle was assigned to bed rest, but after carefully watching Madeline with ultrasound and seeing Michelle deteriorate further, the doctors decided to deliver the baby on December 15.

"I'm glad God was guiding me," Michelle said.

Michelle was awake during the C-section, which made her feel less afraid since her oxygen levels were low. She was determined to get through it and prayed during the surgery.

Madeline Sophia was born at 11:22 a.m. that day. Michelle saw Madeline briefly before she was whisked off to NICU.

Doctors watched Michelle closely. She was still not recovering. Her oxygen levels were not rising. She was not losing the excess fluids.

They were concerned that she had developed a blood clot in her lungs. She was sent for radioactive imaging. While Scott had been with her through everything else, she



FAITH: 'SOMETHING GREATER HERE'

"God showed there is something greater beyond here. The peace with God was amazing – the peace with people in the midst of death."

Prior to the problems with Madeline, Michelle discussed heaven and hell with Scott.

She said to him, "I hope I go to heaven." Scott replied, "You have a one-way ticket." She asked, "Have I done enough? Have I done God's will?"

"I just wanted to know if I was going to heaven," she said of the conversation.

Michelle carried a rosary with her during the ordeal, which sparked conversations about faith.

She found a connection with nurse practitioner

Susan Thrasher, a Catholic. Michelle told Susan how she had come to be Catholic.

Susan was "amazed at my faith," so much she had a Mass said for Madeline and sent Michelle the book "33 Days to Morning Glory," a self-guided retreat.

One thing she realized as she spoke with Susan is "As sick as I was, I should have felt worse. I never felt as bad as they thought I should."

"Great spiritual people were praying with me during the process. God showed himself in the midst. (Madeline's) soul served a purpose."

"I don't know emotionally how I would do it without God. I felt the Holy Spirit was with me."

had to go through this alone.

"It was the first time I was alone," she noted. She was very frightened and didn't want to know if she had a blood clot.

She prayed, "God, don't take me away from my husband and daughters." She also didn't want her mother to lose her daughter. At this lowest point, she realized she needed to trust God.

When she returned to her room, a nurse named Aubrey came to see her on her day off. Aubrey was on duty when Michelle first came to the hospital. She brushed Michelle's hair and teeth and brought her a gift of lotion. She told Michelle that her mother was praying for her. She made Michelle laugh. More than that, she perked Michelle up. After Aubrey's visit, Michelle began recovering.

"She was like an angel. It was the first time Aubrey had ever done this. I thank God for her at the right time in my life. I had a miraculous recovery. Someone I don't know came to my rescue. She really protected me. ... She was really so instrumental. "

Aubrey found a Catholic doctor who was also a Eucharistic minister to give Michelle Communion.

In the meantime, Christopher Stapley, D.O., a neonatalist, told Michelle and Scott that Madeline had hydrops fetalis. Most babies with it die in utero.

After Michelle was released, she and Scott kept vigil with Madeline.

"She fought that week like you wouldn't believe," Michelle said.

But on December 22, Madeline looked worse. Michelle sensed it was time for the baby to go to God – even before the doctor told her.

She described Dr. Stapley as "phenomenal," telling him, "You gave me a week. That was more than anyone could ask for. God blessed us tremendously."

As Madeline was dying, Michelle and Scott were

finally able to hold her. Previously, all they could do was lightly touch her through the maze of cords and tubes.

"That was the most beautiful thing, to be able touch the baby while still alive," she added.

The hospital chaplain called Fr. Phil. While he was on his way, and Michelle was holding and rocking Madeline, she heard "Amazing Grace" in her head. At the same time, without communicating to one another, Scott was on his phone looking up the words to the song.

When Father Phil arrived, he baptized Madeline and sang "Amazing Grace" to her. Michelle held Madeline as she took her last breath. He got to the hospital just in time.

Everyone in the hospital was drawn to Fr. Phil. The experience was a "really, really spiritual thing."

Michelle hopes that experience "will deepen other people's faith while ours was deepening."

When it came time to plan Madeline's funeral, it planned itself. During Advent, she had been using the Little Blue Book that she received at Holy Family. One day she was taken with Matthew 11: 28-30.

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for your selves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

Michelle's mother gave them the verse Philippians 4:13. "I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me."

Someone gave them a baby prayer that they also read at the funeral.

"God gave me incredible peace. I can't imagine not having God in my life."

She had learned, "In the midst of everything, it will all work out. 'God, you are in control.' God takes care of people. It was sad, but a closeness with God that I can't really put in words."

‘I WAS BLESSED’

Jan Stefanov Looks Back on His Life

“I enjoyed everything I did. I am surprised looking back ... how successful I was. I was blessed.”

Jan Stefanov grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. He grew interested in art at the encouragement of his first grade teacher, a nun.

As the first son of Slovakian parents, Jan was expected to become a priest. He grew up knowing that he – their first son – was to be given back to God.

Jan was ordained a priest in 1954, after studies at St. Francis Seminary in Milwaukee, Wis. After ordination, he received a Master of Arts degree in history from John Carroll University in Cleveland in that same year. During the next several summers, he attended summer sessions at various colleges and art institutes. He received a Master of Arts degree in art from Notre Dame in 1966.

His first assignments were in the Diocese of Lincoln, Neb. While serving in that diocese, he met Bishop John Cody, coadjutor bishop of Kansas City. Jan told Bishop Cody that he was interested in becoming a teacher.

Later, Bishop Cody was apostolic administrator in the St. Joseph diocese after Bishop LaBlond became ill. When it came time to start what would become St. Pius X High School, Cody called, asking Jan to join the staff.

At that time, parishes north of the river were in the St. Joseph Diocese. His first parish assignment was at St. Charles Borromeo.

Jan and three Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth were the first teachers. He recalled that one of them was Sr. John Berchmans, who served as principal. The order sent good sisters to serve St. Pius, he said.

He taught art and history. He started the art department from scratch, building up the

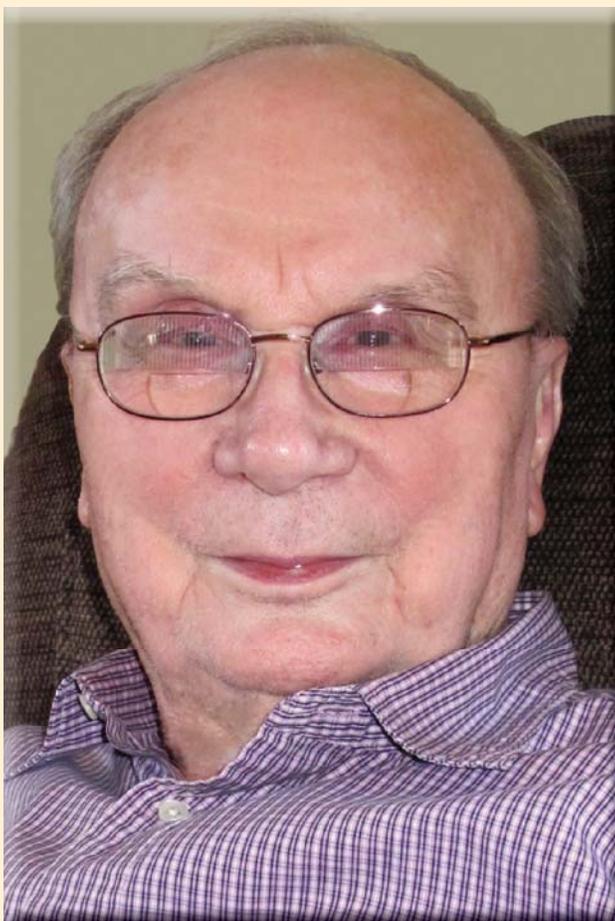
equipment and supplies over time.

The school opened in the fall of 1955 in the then-St. Michael’s Grade School building, now St. Gabriel the Archangel. The grade school was new and not completely full. It had room for the less than 50 high school students.

In 1956, Bishop Cody became bishop of the newly formed Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. In that spring, the bishop broke ground for the new school. Students and faculty moved into the school during the second semester of the 1956/57 school year. It was dedicated in April 1957.

Jan liked teaching. He influenced a number of students to become professional artists. They have thanked him for help he gave them and the “push in that direction.”

Once former students wanted him to come to a class reunion. While he was unable to do so, they came to his house to say “hello.”

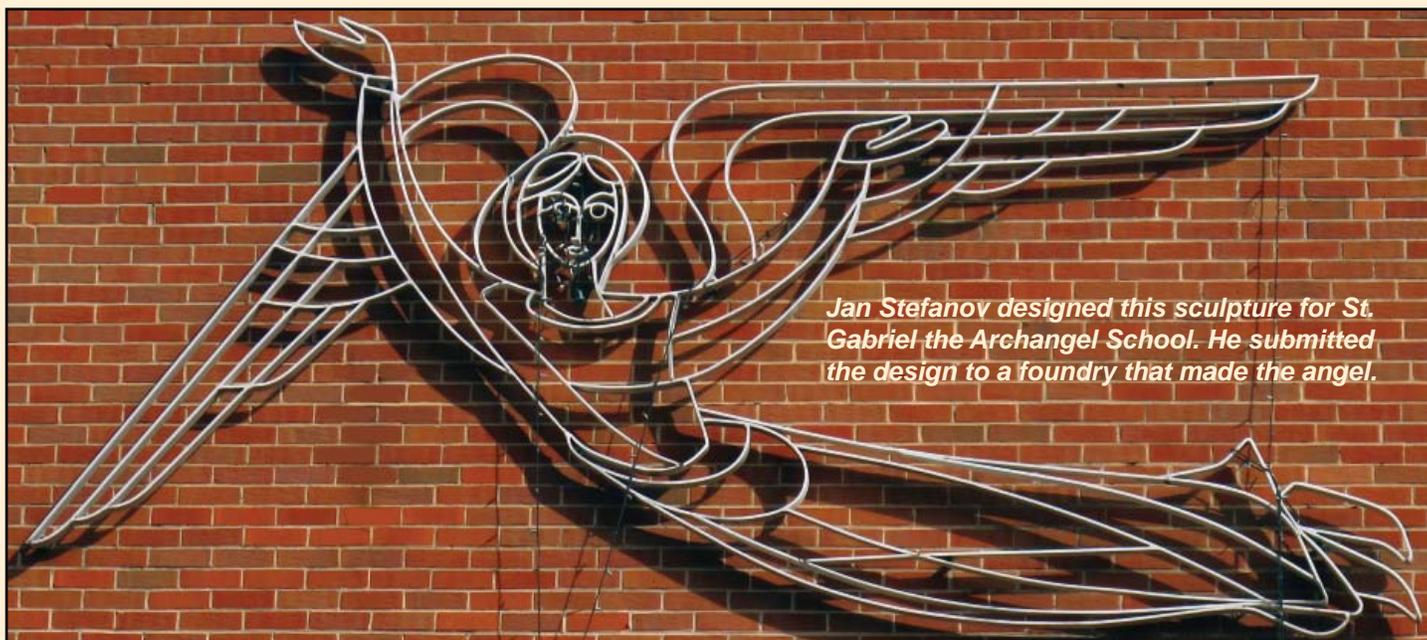


He was surprised that they still wanted to see him. “After all those years, who would care?” Apparently *they* did!

Jan’s favorite mediums were watercolors and ceramics. Two of his best-known works are an aluminum sculpture that he designed for the side of St. Gabriel and a mural he painted for St. Charles. While the sculpture remains at St. Gabriel, the mural is missing. No one knows what has happened to it.

He designed the sculpture in 1958 after seeing a “flat open area” on the school. “I decided we needed to have something there. I figured nothing better than St. Gabriel himself,” Jan said.

After teaching high school for several years, Jan asked Bishop Helmsing if he could go study for a



Jan Stefanov designed this sculpture for St. Gabriel the Archangel School. He submitted the design to a foundry that made the angel.

doctorate degree. The bishop agreed, but stipulated that Jan was to pay his own way. So, in the spring of 1967, he said goodbye to St. Pius and started classes that fall at the University of Missouri’s College of Education. He eventually earned a doctorate in social foundations of education – a multi-disciplinary degree, which included study of the history, sociology, philosophy and psychology of education, among other disciplines.

Jan continued teaching as a graduate assistant while taking classes. He spent several semesters doing research for his dissertation, “The Training of Teachers at the University of Missouri until 1930: A History.” The university published an abbreviated special version for the U.S. Bicentennial.

“I was surprised they picked mine,” he said.

One summer during a break from research, he taught art classes to students participating in Upward Bound, a program encouraging low-income students to complete secondary education and go on to college. Unfortunately, his car filled with art supplies was stolen. He had no money to replace the supplies and no time to spend on art. He left art behind at that point.

While he was working on his doctorate, he decided to leave the priesthood, realizing it had never been his calling.

A mutual friend introduced Jan to Helen Rutte, a nurse working at the Mid-Missouri Mental Health Center, where she was serving as director of staff development. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for 16 years.

They married in 1971. He graduated in May 1972.

Times were tough for a Ph.D. in education when he graduated. He had wanted to teach at a college, but funding had been cut for public colleges and universities.

Catholic colleges and universities were unaccustomed to former priests seeking jobs.

Jan and Helen moved to Washington, D.C., in search of work.

“In Washington, you can always find a job,” he said.

They joined a group of former priests, some from Kansas City, who met regularly to integrate themselves into life there. They helped one another find housing and jobs.

“It was a real community. We met monthly until people got integrated,” he said.

Jan found a job with the AARP in 1973, which merged later with the National Retired Teachers Association.

This was a time of growth for the AARP. In 1991, he was promoted as the first director of national and international activities, then a new position. He worked with the AARP president, board of directors and national committees.

When the Iron Curtain fell, he began working with people overseas. While the goal was not to begin AARP in these countries, it was to educate people so that they could develop their own programs for older people. They had to learn how to handle finances and to lobby legislatively – “all things we take for granted.”

Jan worked for AARP until the end of 1998, when he retired.

“I stayed in until I was 70 because I loved my job,” he said.

After he retired, Jan and Helen returned to the Kansas City area. They have been Holy Family parishioners since 2006. Jan is homebound due to myasthenia gravis and Parkinson’s.

A Night of New Beginnings

Five Enter the Church, One Confirmed

Continued from Front Page

Katy and her husband Sam were married in the Catholic Church, but they didn't attend regularly. "When my daughter Emma was born, I decided it was time to come back. We were welcomed back to Holy Family by all. After having (Emma) baptized, I wanted to renew my faith, so I joined RCIA to be confirmed."

Her sponsor was **Holly Messina**.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Ann Virginia Francis Deyo's grandfather was Catholic. When she was four, he introduced her "to Jesus on the cross with the inscription INRI (Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews). I learned to pray with him at his home. Later in high school, I attended Notre Dame de Sion and learned to pray the rosary. I never actually joined the Catholic Church, even though I knew so much about it."

Later when she married, she joined a Protestant church with her husband. When he died unexpectedly, "I came to Holy Family with my friend, seeking solace in my grief. Many of my questions were answered when I heard the messages in the homilies. I loved the music and the people I met who have become my church family."

Ann's sponsor was **Donna Brownell**.

Steven Lee Patrick Tritsch learned about the faith through his wife Melissa, a cradle Catholic. "We have been attending Catholic services in many parishes in the metro area. After relocating to the Missouri side, and attending Holy Family, I decided it was time to become a member of the Catholic faith."

"Melissa has always encouraged me to look within myself and keep an open mind in regard to Catholic ritual and sacraments. After visiting with Fr. Phil and (receiving) instruction at RCIA, it was time to convert."

Steven's sponsor was **Rozanne Prather**.

Melanie Villanueva learned about the Catholic faith through her husband Omar and his family.

"My husband and I would like to raise our two children (William and Sophia) with a strong faith and within a community of believers. As a mother, it is important for me to be a role model for my children."

Her sponsor was **Pat Wewers**.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Brent Allen Christopher Lytle became acquainted with the Catholic faith by attending church with his girlfriend – now fiancée – Elena Relic.

"I am attracted to the Catholic Church because my soon-to-be family is active in the church. This allowed me to learn bits and pieces about the faith, which spurred my interest early on. I started RCIA to learn more about the history and traditions of the church. Through that process, my feeling that I wanted to be a part of the Catholic community was confirmed."

Brent's sponsor was **Marie Relic**.

Hannah Marie Frances Wilson has always considered herself a Christian. "I just never was confirmed as one. When I met my fiancé Paul (Prather), I found out he was Catholic and so I started going to Mass at Holy Family with him three years ago. I always knew that I wanted to be baptized, and join the church, so meeting him was my motivation."

She was attracted to the Catholic faith because "I've always had a calling to have a relationship with God. When I started to learn about the Catholic faith, I really enjoyed and appreciated all of the traditions and symbolism. Joining the church has made me feel like a true part of a community and I couldn't be happier."

Her sponsor was **Jenna Prather**.



Milestones

50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Life was never the same for Sandi Shaw after her 18th birthday.

Her best friend worked with her future husband Jim and she set them up on a blind date for that evening. "She thought we'd have something in common," Sandi said.

Jim and Sandi dated almost two years before they married on May 1, 1965, the first Saturday after Lent. Sandi recalled, "It was hot. 80-85 degrees."

Prior to their wedding, they looked at houses in Kansas, where they had both grown up. One was so small the refrigerator wouldn't fit in the kitchen and would have to go in the living room. Jim joked that he wasn't going to get married to live in a house like that, so they started looking for houses in the Northland.

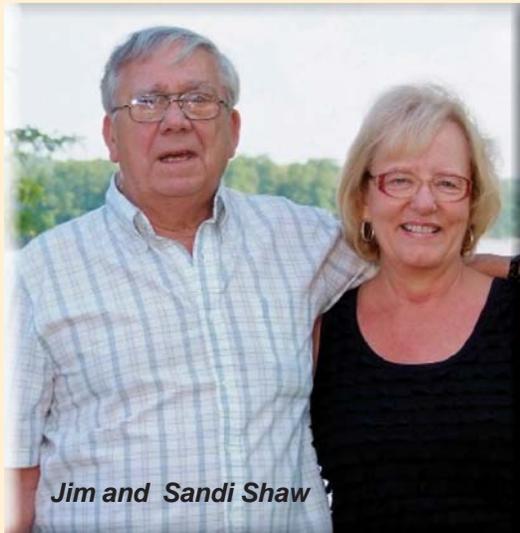
When they met, Jim was in sales at a hardware store. By the time he retired, he was a chemical salesperson. He retired several years before she did.

Sandi worked as an inventory manager for an over-the-road truck parts company before retiring.

"It was a good company. I enjoyed the work. I never thought I would buy parts, especially for trucks!" she said.

The Shaws had two children, Tim and Jennifer.

Tim and his wife Julie have two children, Elizabeth, 11, and James, 9. They are Holy Family parishioners.



Jennifer died when she was 31 and her son Wyatt was 2½. He lives in Council Bluffs, Iowa, with his father. Sandi has stayed very close to Wyatt and visits him frequently. Although he is now 16, he still makes time to be with her when she visits. Sandi sees a lot of Jennifer living on through Wyatt and granddaughter Elizabeth.

Jim has restored two old cars, a 1930 Model A and a 1937 Ford V8. He completely rebuilt both cars. The V8 is Dalmatian green, a color that Sandi selected, based on the car's original color. They

get many positive comments about their cars.

During the spring, summer and fall, Jim and Sandi are involved with car club tours and activities. They enjoy the company of the other people in the clubs.

Sandi is a founding parishioner of Holy Family. Since retiring, she has become active with the St. Joseph's Women's Group, serving as secretary. She waters plants in the church and serves on the art and environment committee. She helps iron the large banners that hang in church during the various liturgical seasons.

"We talk about the good and blessed life we've had, except for the loss of our daughter," Sandi said. About being married 50 years, Sandi noted, "I consider it a big achievement."

JOSHUA BARLETT TO RECEIVE HOLY ORDERS

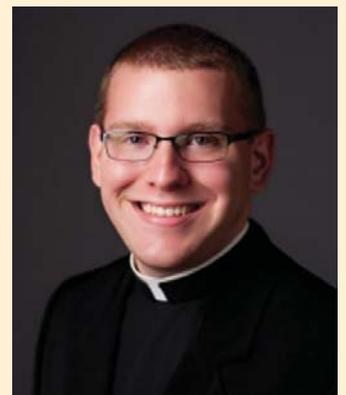
Joshua Barlett will be ordained as a priest of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph on **Saturday, May 23, at 10 a.m.** at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. His first Mass is **Sunday, May 24, at 9 a.m.** at Christ the King Parish. All are welcome to attend both.

He will preside at a Mass of Thanksgiving at Holy Family on **Sunday, June 14, at the 8:30 a.m. Mass.**

Deacon Barlett attended minor seminary at Conception Seminary College, where he studied philosophy. During those years, he worked three summers at Holy Family. He graduated from Conception in 2011, continuing his studies at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. There, he completed Bachelor of Sacred Theology and Master of Divinity degrees in affiliation with the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome.

He was ordained a transitional deacon last May, serving at Christ the King Parish in Kansas City during the summer and during the past Christmas and Easter seasons.

Deacon Barlett is thankful to Holy Family for the prayers and support over the last years.



GROWING IN FAITH

Confirmation Candidates Share What They Learned at Confirmation Retreats

One of Holy Family's missions is to help parishioners *grow in faith*.

Twenty-six confirmation candidates recently attended retreats to help them do just that. Most youth attended a "Search" retreat that Rob Lickteig, youth/young adult minister organized. Two attended the diocesan "Made for Greatness" retreat.

The youth share here how they grew in faith at the retreat they attended.

Michael Baker – "On the retreat, I learned a bit about how a person should define themselves, how a Christian shouldn't just be defined by one thing, and that we are all distinct in that respect. In talks about Christian living, I was reminded that following the path that God has planned for you takes strength. The path may not always seem clear and being the person God wants you to be may not always be easy.

"In our talks about faith, I was reminded that if anything, we should have faith in God. I was also reminded that we also need to hold some faith in ourselves. I think that the things we talked about helped me to have a better understanding of my relationship with God."

Arturo Gonzales – "Something I learned at the confirmation retreat is that God is always there for you and He's always trying to talk to you. You just have to listen. He loves you for who you are and he will always love you. He always wants the best for you.

"God is the best person to take advice from. He never judges you and he always knows what's best. Though it may seem like you are alone at times, God will never leave you. He will give you challenges to overcome, but the challenges will never be more than you can handle."

Sam Gaudin – "I learned at the retreat that prayer is so important throughout life at good

and bad times. The Mass experience was really a moving moment for me during retreat. This retreat has helped confirm for me that God will always be standing by my side and I by His."

Dillon Swafford – "I learned that it is my choice whether I should carry on my faith with God. I have to take responsibility and make it happen by going to church. I also learned that no matter what, God has a plan for me and I must trust Him."

Tara Hunt – "I learned that we are just starting our journey in our faith. The message was to 'Search' for us with help from God. It was fun to be around my peers who were all going through the same thing as me. The retreat was fun and I learned many things."

John Sosa – "I learned that being one with God helps you a lot more in life. Faith is one of the very few things in life that lasts forever."

Angie O'Toole – "In all the stories that we heard, God has shown his grace to many people. We all just have to be open to what God has to show us and accept it. I also learned that God is with me through both the bad and the good times."

Jackson Elder – "The confirmation retreat 'Search' helped me grow in my faith. The main thing that helped me grow with my relation to God and parish were the ministry, that of Rob and the adults, as well as the peer ministers. Their guidance and experiences helped to fuel a sort of drive for faith, tradition and God.

"The talks of experiences shared in adults and teens alike were moving. They gave off the emotion, true feelings

toward the parish and their ever-growing faith in our Lord.

"In going to 'Search,' my trust, faith, forgiveness and friendship were all escalated greatly with my peers and with God. Search was a great experience and I would be easily motivated to return and help new candidates with their



Teens Talk

faith journey through this time of transfer into adulthood we call confirmation.

“I’m very grateful to my peers, my parents, and my sponsor, Michael Jaromin, for encouraging me to go. I know I am ready for confirmation.”

Donnie Lee – “I went on the ‘Made for Greatness’ retreat through the diocese and I learned a lot. First, it was about getting out of your comfort zone and being able to have fun. Being able to go to Mass and have confession after Mass was a good way to help me grow in faith.

“Another thing that I learned is that praying is usually always the answer when you’re going through a tough time. And when you pray, I feel like you’re always one step closer to God.”

Lake Hall – “I learned through the course of the entire retreat that people can get along, no matter who they are, what their interests are or how their life is going. I would consider myself a ‘nerd,’ someone who doesn’t really spend his time doing what other guys my age would do. Someone who would rather binge watch “Doctor Who” on Netflix than watch whoever’s in the playoffs of whatever sport is being played. Yet, I felt that people actually liked being around me during the retreat and in the confirmation classes.”

Alex Beffa – “During the confirmation retreat I learned about faith in God through tough times and being a part of the living church. There were specific speakers who gave us real life examples on how God helps us in many ways even in our darkest of times.

“Also, I learned about who I am and how that will help me throughout life. We should not care what anyone thinks of us on the outside. What matters to God is on the inside.”

Cassie Hoover – “While on this retreat I learned a lot about my faith. Peers who went through confirmation last year gave us speeches about topics like the living church and all about the Catholic faith. I thought it was really cool how people not much older than us were talking about all the things they’ve learned about their faith.

“One that really stood out to me was one person that bravely gave a speech about losing and regaining his faith after hard times. These speeches and many other parts of the retreat helped me to grow in faith.”

Ross Hayworth – “I loved attending the confirmation retreat. I learned about more techniques of prayer. I feel I can pray in different places and it is more natural to me than ever before. Through prayer, I feel I am closer to the Lord and through confession, I felt relieved of my sins and my failings. I now feel more at ease going to confession

and see the value in the sacrament.”

Morgan Herman – “The confirmation retreat made me realize that I am ready for confirmation. I know this because I am ready to become a young adult in the church community. I learned that without faith we don’t go anywhere in life.”

Liam Schrader – “I didn’t really learn anything at the retreat. It was just a really fun experience. The people were really cool and the faith talk was really good and inspiring.”

Ben Marlow – “A few things I learned at the confirmation retreat was that if you don’t hold on or keep your faith, it can lead to a lot of chaos and distress in your life. A big thing I got out of the retreat was finding yourself in terms of who you really are and what you as a Christian want to accomplish throughout your life.

“The confirmation retreat helped me grow in my faith by teaching me about the central aspects of becoming a committed member of the Catholic Church. Having a lot of faith and hope can lead you to success and give you reassurance and confidence in the choices you make. Overall, growing in your faith allows you to become stronger as a person mentally, physically and emotionally.”

Jackson Taphorn – “The confirmation retreat was a great faith experience. Everything you do has to do with the Bible. Most of the activities you do are fun and exciting. With each activity you do on the retreat you improve your faith in God.

“The confirmation retreat is something everyone should do. You will make a lot of new friends and bond with the friends you already have. The best part about the retreat is no technology. The confirmation retreat made me have more faith and I’m glad I went.”

New Guide Book Arriving

This summer you will receive an updated Holy Family Guide Book and Directory in the mail. Browse through it and see what Holy Family offers. We have something that’s right for you.

It has opportunities for service outreach and spiritual outreach ministries. You may wish to serve your parish in worship, music, prayer and other Sunday ministry opportunities. Like working with kids? Check out children and youth ministries. Want to know more about your faith or want to help with adult education programs? Check out the adult education section. Look under activities and organizations for service opportunities.

If you are interested in serving on the Stewardship Council or Service Outreach Committee, contact Patty Whelchel, director of stewardship and development. You may reach her at patty@holyfamily.com or 436-9200, ext. 30.



HOLY FAMILY

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

www.holyfamily.com

www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyKCMO * twitter.com/HFKCMO

plus.google.com/104060153141115107319/



Hit-It-A-Ton

Join Christian Colón to help feed the hungry at St. James Place.

Donate via the link (lower left-hand corner) on our homepage or use envelopes located in the parish hall.



Knights of Columbus



Second Sunday Breakfasts

DURING STEWARDSHIP WEEKEND

MAY MENU

Pancakes, Biscuits and Gravy,
Bacon, Eggs, Sausage, Hash
Browns, Fruit

JUNE, JULY, AUGUST MENU

Rolls and Fruit

SEASONAL CALENDAR

MONDAY, MAY 11, 6:30 P. M.

MOVIE NIGHT, PARISH HALL

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 8:30 A.M.

*JOSHUA BARLETT, MASS OF THANKSGIVING
AT HOLY FAMILY*

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

*HOLY FAMILY HOOVERS TO OUTPACE POVERTY
SEE PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS*

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 6:30 P.M.

MOVIE NIGHT, PARISH HALL

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 3 P.M.

REZOUND! HANDBELL ENSEMBLE CONCERT

JULY 13-17, 9 A.M.-NOON

VBS: EVEREST

JULY 20-22, 9 A.M.-NOON

ALTAR SERVER CAMP

Check the bulletin, parish website and Facebook for more information on events.



AT HOLY FAMILY

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 3 P.M.

Rezound! is an auditioned community handbell ensemble from the Kansas City area. Founded in 2001, Rezound! is dedicated to promoting the art and skill of handbell ringing in performance.



SPREADING THE WORD

BY SUZANNE HILL, EDITOR

The Holy Family Hoofers will once again join Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph to Outpace Poverty this year. It's a way for us to live our faith. I am leading Holy Family's team again.

This year's 3K event is **Saturday, June 20**, and starts on the north lawn of Liberty Memorial. Registration begins at 7 a.m. and the walk begins at 8 a.m. You may walk, run or jog all the event or part of it. The event includes a continental breakfast, music, live entertainment, balloon artists and face painting. Sluggerrr and KC Wolf will be there to help cheer us on.

Proceeds from Outpace Poverty 2015 benefits Catholic Charities, which provides many programs and services. Catholic Charities' mission is to transform lives and communities through hope-filled care, services and advocacy.

Core services focus on stabilizing urgent needs for food, housing and basic necessities first; then working one-to-one with individuals and families to move forward toward a permanent path out of poverty.



Last year we had 16 walkers and raised over \$1,000. Wouldn't it be great to have a larger team and raise more money?

If you would like to participate either by giving or walking or both, go to www.outpacepoverty.org/HFHoofers.

HOLY FAMILY HAS AN APP!

The app's activity or home page is geared to parents interested in children and youth programs, but all parishioners will find the app useful. Because it serves dual audiences, you will find both youth and parish calendars, as well as youth and parish Facebook pages. It offers easy access to bulletins, a prayer wall, Today's Readings, the parish website, online giving and more.

The app is available through iTunes and the Google Play stores. Search for Holy Family Catholic Church in the iTunes Store. To find it in the Play Store, search for Holy Family Catholic Church Kansas City.

VBS: JULY 13-17

One of the biggest events at Holy Family is our Vacation Bible School. This year's theme is "Everest: Conquering Challenges With God's Mighty Power."

All parishioners are welcome to attend the ending program on Friday, July 17, at 11 am. in the church. Be ready to see what our children have learned during this week. It's always a delightful program.

STATEMENT OF PARISH FUNDS ON DEPOSIT

March 31, 2015

Building Fund (Parish Accounts)	\$223,731.53
Building Fund (Diocesan Account)	\$1,119,706.59
Emergency Reserves (Diocesan Account)	\$121,138.28
Sound System (Diocesan Account)	\$36,245.88
Total Funds on Deposit	\$1,500,822.28

Holy Family Matters

A quarterly publication of
Holy Family Parish
919 N.E. 96th Street
Kansas City, Mo. 64155
816-436-9200

www.holyfamily.com

www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyKCMO

PARISH STAFF

Father Philip Egan
Pastor

Dee Carver
Maintenance Supervisor

Suzanne Hill
Communications Coordinator
Editor, Writer, Photographer
Holy Family Matters

Mike Jaromin
Administrative Assistant

Mindy Lehman
Director of Religious Education

Robert Lickteig
Youth/Young Adult Minister

Peggy Petersen
Pastoral Associate

Marie Relic
Business Manager

Patty Whelchel
Director of Stewardship and Development

John Winkels
Director of Liturgy and Music

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 2015

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

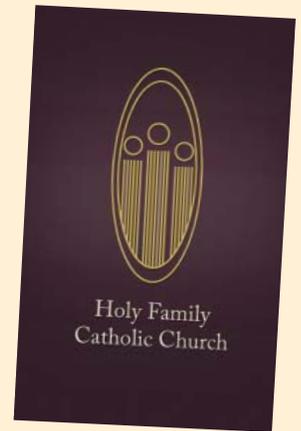
Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Kansas City, MO
Permit No. 2437

INSIDE THIS EDITION

- Faith Matters Page 2
Michelle Jeffries
- 'I Was Blessed' Page 4
Jan Stefanov Looks Back
- Milestone Page 7
Jim and Sandi Shaw 50th Anniversary
- To Receive Holy Orders Page 7
Joshua Barlett
- Teens Talk Page 8
Sharing What They Learned
- Events and Activities Page 10
Breakfasts, Handbell Concerts, Etc.
- Spreading the Word Page 11
Outpace Poverty, Parish App, VBS

THE HOLY FAMILY APP

Available free
through the
iTunes and Google Play
Stores for iPhones and
Android phones



TO LEARN MORE, SEE 'SPREADING THE WORD' ON PAGE 11

Now Available for Your Smart Phone

This QR (Quick Response) code is for use with our giving page and your Smart Phone. It takes you instantly to the mobile version of the giving page. Scan to pay fees or donate to Holy Family.



If you have previously logged in on a computer, you will continue to use that same information.