



In-Home Gatherings Focus on Justice

Joan Sandford, Coeditor

The Justice In-Home Gatherings were very successful! Those who attended enjoyed enlightening discussions and the opportunity to get to know other parishioners. Below is some information and considerations that came out of those meetings.

Besides the justice ministries that Saint Thomas More Parish and School have adopted, many parishioners are involved in other great causes on their own and mentioned opportunities that can be found there. Saint Thomas More Parish is a leader in service within our Diocese—service is our true hallmark. There are hundreds of parishioners who are involved in serving others through a large array of parish, Diocesan and community charities that include both the Kansas City area and international ministries. There are 150

who have offered their help with the Helping Hands of STM and 100 STM parishioner volunteers at Saint Joseph Health Center. While it is difficult to know all of the opportunities, the Justice Ministry Team has updated a booklet that contains numerous volunteer opportunities and contact information. This booklet is available at the Parish Office. The same information will be made available on our new website that will be launched sometime this summer.

Beyond these listings, our new website will also feature the ability to subscribe to an STM volunteer opportunities newsletter email service. For those who are not e-mailers, continue to watch the parish bulletin, or better yet, this is where community can

play a part: for those who use email, let a neighbor know what is going on and invite them to participate with you! Sometimes all that is needed is one personal invitation to get someone new started in a ministry.

We are **all** called to further the mission of Jesus. We are **all** called to step beyond ourselves, to get out of our daily routines



300 parishioners attended gatherings at parishioner homes to learn about and discuss how we live out our mission through a commitment to social justice.

and comfort zones, to help others. What talents and skills do you have? The “tithe” is often considered only financially. How do you tithe of your time?

Get pro-active! Observe what is going on around you and ask how you can help. Watch for opportunities close to home and beyond. You can also contact Kristi Powell, our Volunteers Coordinator, at 942-2492 x209 or kpowell@stmkc.com for suggestions of opportunities. And, if you need to be on the receiving end of physical assistance, call Megan at (816) 942-3229 or Catherine at (913) 685-4242, because there are 150 people waiting to help with many varied tasks who would probably love to have prayers offered for them in exchange! †

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Our Mission

The mission of Saint Thomas More Parish is to provide a welcoming, inclusive, and loving community by proclaiming and living God's Word through worship, education, and social justice.

More News

...is a quarterly newsletter of the Saint Thomas More Parish community in Kansas City, Missouri and is mailed to all active, registered parishioners. Submissions are open to all parish groups

Submissions

...can be sent to the editor. The Fall issue is to be delivered August 7, 2009. Submissions are due July 7, 2009. E-mail submissions are preferred. Photo submissions should include information about what and/or who is depicted and can be in electronic or printed form.

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Helping Our Neighbors in Need

David Butel, Pastoral Associate

With the economic downturn, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of people calling Saint Thomas More Parish needing assistance with rent and utility bills. One difference I have noticed is that more professional people who have lost their jobs are, for the first time in their lives, in need of some assistance to cover their bills. As you can imagine, it is very difficult for most people to call in and ask for help. Through the months of January, February, and March, we have helped 26 families with their rent, gas, water, or electric bills. To the right is the story of one woman that we were able to help get back on her feet.

We have a budget of \$20,000 for Emergency Assistance, and we are also in the process of setting up a Neighbors in Need fund to help with special cases, especially parishioners of Saint Thomas More, who are finding life difficult because of the economic crisis. Some of the proceeds from the Men of STM golf tournament will be designated for this fund.

Our goal for the Emergency Assistance Program is to help people who are caught in a difficult situation deal with the current

crisis and get stabilized. I want to thank Judy Byron, Charlotte Humphrey, Ursula Dunnewind and Nancy Connell for helping with this important outreach ministry.

One Woman's Story

Amy's husband abandoned her and their two children, ages 4 and 9. He took the family car, so Amy had no transportation. When she came to see us, she had put herself through a six-week program sponsored by the Federal Employment Council to improve her job skills and had four job interviews lined up. She pawned her wedding ring to help pay her rent, however, the amount that she still owed was \$1656.34. We were able to pay \$200 toward her rent and worked with other organizations to cover the rest.

Guatemala Trips Planned

Phil Smith

Twenty-five Saint Thomas More parishioners will be leaving July 5 on the first of 2 trips to our sister parish in San Andrés, Itzapa in Guatemala. Thirty-five parishioners will follow on July 18. For this year's trips, we are looking forward to working on many projects and developing life-long relationships with our brothers and sisters in Guatemala.

Adding a Third Trip?

With this year's huge sign-up for trips (we had to turn people away on trip # 2), we are hoping to add a 3rd trip. Current plans are for the 3rd trip to be a spring break trip in 2010.

Thanks to everyone for their prayers and support of this important mission. †



Beanie Babies are a hit with the children of San Andrés, Itzapa.

Dinner With Father Don



Father Don delivers his "State of the Parish" address.

About 140 people came to hear Father Don's "State of the Parish" address in early March. The Pastoral Council hosted a dinner, invited parish ministry leaders to speak about how they are living up to the Parish Mission Statement to be inclusive, and accepted written questions from participants that they answered later. The next State of the Parish address will be held in November.



Meet Our New Initiates



Scott Albright: I am engaged and soon to be married to the love of my life, Lisa Jorgensen. I am looking forward to joining her in raising two beautiful daughters, Lillie and Emma. I am deeply committed to continuing my journey of faith as a foundation to further strengthen and sustain my family.



Jesse M. Auld III: I am married to Peggy Auld, and we have two sons, Jack, age 10 and Brian, age 7. Both of our sons are students at Saint Thomas More School. I am the Director of Dining Services at Town Village of Leawood. I was baptized Episcopal, and I wish to become a Roman Catholic to strengthen my personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and to become a stronger role model for my family within the Catholic Church.



Peggy Bondon: I have been married for 34 years to Jack, and we have two grown children. I was baptized as a Methodist, but my husband and children are Catholic. I want to become a Catholic so I can celebrate fully with my family, and receive Communion during my daughter's upcoming wedding Mass.

(Continued on p.5)

Community LINC

Frank Janner

Items needed for graduating LINC family

The parishioners who volunteered to prepare apartments for homeless families at LINC are looking forward with excitement to our first assignment. We are scheduled to work on an apartment toward the end of April, when a family graduates from the program. A variety of items are needed to prepare an apartment: household supplies, food for a month, furnishings, small appliances, etc. If you are able to provide such items, please call Frank Janner at 942-9621.

2008 at LINC

2008 was a productive year for Community LINC. Apartments were provided to 45 homeless families representing 173 people, including 124 children. That equates to 35,000 bed nights. 76% of families graduating from the program made the transition to a permanent home. That's

almost 8 out of 10 families, which is better than any other transitional housing program for families in Jackson County. Over the last two years, 89% of those who graduated continue to have a home.

LINC fund-raisers: you can help

Two major fund raising events are coming up. On Friday, May 15, please come to Suburban Lawn and Garden in Martin City for one of their Charity Fridays. Ten percent of their sales that evening will be donated to Community LINC. Save October 17 for the annual auction and dinner. The 20th Anniversary gala was a blast last year! †

For more information about these items and our parish's involvement with Community LINC, contact Frank Janner at 942-9621

Seton Center

Rita Tiehen

Food drive

June 6-7 is the next large food drive for Seton Center. We will be handing out bags at the Masses the weekend before, and will need volunteers in More Hall to sort and box food.

Back-to-School drive

The Back-to-School drive is July 25-26. We are collecting

donations of new school supplies, new socks and underwear and gently-used clothing. Watch the bulletin for details. †

If you are interested in helping with the Back-to-School drive, contact Rita at rtiehen@kc.rr.com or 941-0586. We will have a meeting soon to get organized.

Serving a Meal at reStart, Inc. Is a Big Hit!

Ronda Porter

Did you know that Saint Thomas More Parish serves meals at reStart, Inc. on the second Friday of each month? reStart, Inc. is an interfaith ministry with homeless persons that is committed to providing shelter and supportive services to homeless men, women, youth and families with the goal of helping persons move toward independence and self-sufficiency. Below is **a reflection by Kevin Cunningham** on his experience of serving a meal at reStart recently.

"The Peace Club from Saint James Academy could not have been more moved or proud of their efforts in providing a meal at reStart. They are actually looking for additional opportunities to do this again. We ended up with some no-shows from the club, but four of them and I were enough to handle the meal.

We actually brought too much food, so we ended up stocking the shelves and refrigerator. We ended up with an inflated number of guests to expect. Sunny Delight trumped the chocolate milk, as we ended up taking 1½ gallons back (no

room in the refrigerator).

Everything from earlier e-mails came true: the people we served were big on ham, tuna salad, pickles and grapes. To think of it, onions were a resounding hit. The team actually had sliced twelve onions. I made them put them between Styro-foam plates and double bag them, leaving the onions outside so as not to stink up the place. We served them all. What an unexpected surprise! We actually left bananas and oranges, along with three loaves of sandwiches for the morning. That was very much appreciated! When we made the sandwiches, we put the cheese on them.

Because of my travels, I grab the soaps, shampoos, and conditioners from every hotel I can. The Peace Club made individual baggies for everyone, and we actually had over 50 extra. This was an amazing hit; everyone had soap, etc. they could call their own. I say this as it was something personal we were able to leave with them.

Again, the evening was successful on so many levels. Thank you for letting us be a part of the team." †

Respect Life

The STM Respect Life Committee

Truth Illuminated

Are you a high schooler looking to get involved in a fun group? Truth Illuminated is that group! It is just starting at Saint Thomas More so you can help shape what you would like the group to be. It is **your** group! The basis is that it is a youth group dedicated to respecting life at all ages and stages. Hopefully we can do some really neat things like traveling to a national conference, organizing speakers, helping with a diaper drive, getting involved in Lobby Days and going on the March for Life! We are having a pizza party at More Hall on Thursday, May 7, from 7-8PM in More Hall C. We'll be drawing for 2 Royals tickets at the end of the night! Contact Katie Reichenberger at KatFHSU@hotmail.com or (816) 522-0318.

In recent months

The past few months have involved a lot of assaults on our mission to respect life from conception to natural death. First the Mexico City order and then the removal of the limits on embryonic stem cell research. It makes these times particularly vital in the fight for Life.

Some of the Respect Life Committee attended the **Valentine's Ball** hosted by Kansans for Life. Michelle and Pedro Armesto told their story of how she was forced into a late-term abortion by her parents and Pedro tried to rescue her.

Missouri Right to Life organized a **Lobby Day and rally at the State Capitol** in Jefferson City on March 10. Over 800 people turned out and visited with our elected representatives to advocate for pro-life legislation. The keynote speaker at the rally was Jill Stanek, a courageous former nurse who blew the whistle about infants left to die after surviving abortions in a Christian hospital.



The outgoing STM 8th graders were treated to a lasagna lunch and pro-life t-shirts as a thank you for helping put up crosses on the lawn in October. Above you can see them sporting their shirts!

Coming Up

We have a couple events coming up. **Carnations will be for sale** on Mother's Day weekend. The **National Right to Life Annual Convention** is June 18-20 in Charlotte, NC. They have a teen conference, complete with breakout sessions and a dance, and an adult one, with breakout sessions and a banquet. There will be some parishioners people making the trip so contact Katie Reichenberger if you're interested in attending. (Her contact information is below.)

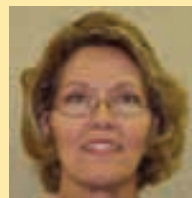
Red Respect Life **polo shirts** are also available for purchase. †

If you are interested in getting involved, attending the National Right to Life Convention, or buying a polo shirt, please join The Respect Life Committee for our Wednesday, May 6 meeting in More Hall C at 7PM or contact Katie Reichenberger at KatFHSU@hotmail.com or (816) 522-0318. Even if you are not interested in getting involved, please keep us in prayers!

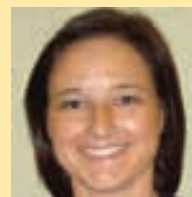
Meet Our New Initiates



Brewster Ellis: My wife is Catholic. I felt drawn to the Catholic Church so I sought out Fr. Ernie Davis, a former Episcopal priest. It felt good. Then I met the Little Sisters of the Poor, particularly Sr. Michale Teresa. I was captivated. So my wife and I started once a week meetings with a close friend. For her it was to get re-connected; for me it was to learn more. It felt right and came easy. It is where I belong.



Regina Graves: I have two grown children, and I have recently been blessed with an infant grandson. I was raised in the One Cup Church of Christ with doctrine that resembles the Mennonite religion. I have been fortunate to have many friends who are Catholic. They represented their religion faithfully and joyfully and made an impact on my life. I want to express my religion with rich traditions and rituals, which are abundant in the Catholic Church.



Angela Harris: I am a wife, mother, sister, and friend. I am looking for a faithful community for our family to be a part of. I am excited about being baptized with my girls, Olivia and Vanessa, and about our family sharing such a strong bond.

(Continued on p.7)

Stewardship Through the Three C's

Mike Chalmers, STM Stewardship Cabinet

Having emerged out of the final phases of our Lenten journey and having passed through Holy Week, we see a lot of correlation in the cycle of life that surrounds us. Approaching the cross of Calvary and mourning the death of Christ; we get to experience His joyous resurrection. As well, Spring and its vibrant rebirth is upon us, bringing us out of the long doldrums of winter. During this time, it is both joyous and sobering to reflect on the process of transformation taking place around us and our role as a part of it.

In one of the Lenten Gospels, Christ said, "...unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will be my servant. The Father will honor whoever serves me." This reading, the significant events of Holy Week and the changing of the seasons all provide us

"Many of us have heard the terms 'tithing' and 'stewardship;' often these terms are used interchangeably, but they do not mean the same thing...stewardship is defined as taking responsibility for something we do not own."

with a road map for building a great parish through stewardship. Many of us have heard the terms "tithing" and "stewardship;" often these terms are used interchangeably, but they do not mean the same thing. While it is true that both might achieve similar results for a parish financially; they will not have the same outcome of building a vibrant parish community. Think of it in terms of the following: for breakfast—the chicken participates, the pig is committed. Tithing is often referred to as giving the first tenth portion of what we own (i.e., it is participatory), while stewardship is defined as taking responsibility for something we

do not own (i.e., total commitment). Based on feedback that our parishioners have provided to the parish leadership groups regarding what we want to be as a parish, we must continue to be committed to stewardship. Stewardship is comprised of the 3 C's as taught and lived by Christ – Compassion, Conversion, and Conviction.

Compassion

A sympathetic consciousness of others' distress with a desire to alleviate it.

Is there any word that more adequately sums up Christ and the Catholic spirit than this definition? Compassion was demonstrated by Christ through His words, His deeds and His ultimate sacrifice at Calvary. As

our parish mission states, it is our goal to be "a welcoming, inclusive and loving community." As Father Don recently explained in his Pastor's Pen, it is our responsibility to be open to and love all people, but to be firm in our commitment to our beliefs. Christ's miracles

were driven by His compassion for all people (including society's outcasts, the unclean and unjust). As people and a parish community of Christ, our journey must begin with compassion. As Christ stated in Matthew, "Whatever you do for the least of my people, you do for me." Stewardship begins with compassion because only through compassion can we truly experience conversion.

"...unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit."

Conversion

The process of being converted.

First, conversion is a process that takes time and requires a commitment to see it through. It is also defined as the recognition and choice to seize an opportunity to turn in a different direction due to some powerful influence, emotion or experience in life. Ultimately, conversion is the manifestation of compassion that is shared freely with others through action. As we are taught throughout the Bible, experiencing the compassion of Christ in a very real and personal way will lead to a life-altering conversion of mind, body and spirit.

"Whoever loves his life loses it and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life."

Conviction

A strong persuasion or belief.

The interesting thing about the conversion process is the resulting impact that is felt in a person's life. Conviction is like tossing a rock in a small pond and seeing the ripples that are sent out from the point of impact. It is the passion and energy that is contagious within a group of friends, a family, a parish and eventually a broader community. Ultimately, it is the power of our conviction that allows us to share our experiences and ideas with others.

"Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will be my servant."

Stewardship at STM

What we write about today as we continue our journey of faith and spiritual growth is something that we have seen at STM during the past eighteen months, something that we see today and something that we hope to continue to see in the future. Stewardship

is not just an aspiration that is a state of mind; it is a transformation that is manifesting itself into a state of reality at STM. As we continue to participate in the cycle of life, please find an hour each week to pray that God will continue to place the compassion in our hearts that leads to the continued conversion of our parish so that we might have the conviction to lovingly

share our time, talents and treasures through stewardship with all of Christ's community.

"The Father will honor whoever serves me." †

The STM Stewardship Cabinet

If you are interest in furthering the efforts of one of the Stewardship teams, contact one of the people below.

Jim O'Sullivan	josullivan@midwesttrust.com	(913) 469-1075
Jerry Haake	jerryhaake@aol.com	942-5380
Mike Kleinman	mkleinman@kc.rr.com	941-8033
Blake Mulvany	blake@stmkc.com	941-7953

The next meeting of the Stewardship Cabinet is Thursday, May 14, at 6PM in More Hall

Youth Confirmation

Cassie Gaughan, Youth Confirmation Coordinator

Confirmation Calendar

Confirmation Rehearsal

Sunday, May 3: rehearsal with youth and sponsors will take place after 5PM Mass in Flanagan Hall until possibly 7:45PM.

Confirmation Ceremony

Friday, May 15: Confirmation Ceremony with the Bishop at 7PM in Flanagan Hall. Youth will be asked to meet in the gymnasium for a group photo that will be taken at 6:45PM. Reception will be held in More Hall.

Youth Confirmation for 2010

Orientation has already taken place for high school youth who would like to be confirmed next spring. For more information about joining this process, contact Cassie at 942-2492 or cassie@stmkc.com.

School Auction November 14th

Tina Cotton

Save the Date! Many changes are in store for this year's auction, starting with the month. Here is some info to put on your calendar: the auction will be on Saturday, November 14, 2009 with the theme of "The Fall Ball - A Season of Change."

Volunteers needed

Please contact Chris and Tina Cotton at tcotton1@kc.rr.com or (816) 943-4044 to get involved. This event takes many volunteers with various skills and time commitments!

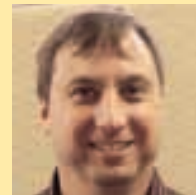
Meet Our New Initiates



Vincent Harris: I am a loving husband to Angela Harris and father to Olivia and Vanessa Harris. I am becoming a Catholic to deepen my faith and to grow with my family.



Dave Herbert: I was born, raised, baptized and confirmed Episcopalian. My 20 yr. mortgage banking career was recently interrupted, but through my spiritual connection to That Man is You and the Catholic Business Network, I secured a position with First National Bank as a residential mortgage lender. I am becoming Roman Catholic to bring my family closer to God through increased spirituality.



Michael Schnitker: I am a 45 year old father of three children, and married for 18 years to my wife, Teresa. We've been a part of the Saint Thomas More community for 17 years. Our oldest graduated 2 years ago from here, and two of our kids go to the school now. I'm seeking Baptism to deepen my faith in God through the Catholic Church and through the faith community here at STM, who have always made me feel welcome.



Chris Sholl: I am 40 yrs. old. I grew up as a Methodist. I'm married to my beautiful wife, Marcia. I work for

MODOT.

(Chris Sholl continued on p.9)

Vacation Bible School

Shara Lewis, Children's Ministries Coordinator

Summertime is a time to.

- Make new friends!
- Sing songs!
- Play zany games!
- Enjoy sunshine and nature!
- Explore and discover!



Grab your hiking boots and join us for a week of high-action games, awesome music, wacky skits, Bible stories, and cool crafts! This will be held June 22-26 (Monday-Friday, 9AM-Noon. †

Register today! Call Shara Lewis at 686-4923 or stop in at the Parish Office to register or volunteer or for more information. You can also register online by clicking on the Vacation Bible School link on www.stmkc.com. Discovery Canyon is the place to be this summer!

Sunday Nursery

Shara Lewis, Children's Ministries Coordinator

The Sunday morning child care program is still up and running strong. Due to the construction, we are now located behind the school, in the small white, freestanding building (inside the movement classroom.). We offer child-care during the 9A.M. and 10:30A.M. Masses. Every week, we fill this space with games, toys, music, and coloring, and of course, tiny friends! If your little one is just not ready to sit through Mass, come visit us! We are also currently recruiting adult volunteers to work 1-2 Masses each month. †

If you would like more information, contact Shara Lewis at shara@stmkc.com.

High School Youth Dodgeball Tournament!

Who:

Open to all high school youth

When & where:

Saturday, June 13 in the STM School Gym.

How much:

\$30 for a team of six or
\$5 per individual

To sign up:

Contact Katie Reichenberger at KatFHSU@hotmail.com or (816) 522-0318. †

Baby-sitting

Joan Sandford, Coeditor

Looking for an occasional baby-sitter? Kristi Powell has organized American Red Cross Baby-sitting Certification for Saint Thomas More youth. She has set up three classes thus far that have been very well attended, including thirty youth. They learn emergency procedures like infant and toddler CPR and everyday skills like changing diapers and feeding babies. They also learn basic safety information and developmental steps. Some of the youth who have completed this training are on a parish baby-sitting list that is available at the Parish Office. To help insure the safety of these youth, the list is given only to parishioners. †



Baby-sitters learn CPR at the American Red Cross Baby-sitting Certification for Saint Thomas More youth

Blood Drive

Record breaking blood drive!

The March 10 blood drive had the greatest number of blood donors ever for Saint Thomas More. Ninety-one people attempted to give blood and the Community Blood Center received 68 usable units for area hospitals. Thanks to everyone who participated!

Next blood drive Wednesday, June 17

The next Saint Thomas More Blood Drive will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 3-7PM. The summer months have the greatest need for blood and have the smallest number of donors. Please take some time from your busy schedules to donate blood at our next drive. **To sign up online**, go to esavealifenow.org and use the sponsor code "stthomas-more" or you may call Linda Heiman at 942-0052 or Teresa Schnitker at 941-8171. Walk-ins are also welcome—just be sure to bring a photo ID. †

Knights of Columbus

John Kelly & Larry LeFebvre

Our Council is Growing

Saint Thomas More Council 14270 now counts more than 100 men as Knights, and continues to grow. Congratulations to Brother Knights Andrew "Lee" Jones and Larry LeFebvre, who became the council's newest Fourth Degree Knights in a ceremony on March 28.

March and April

On March 29, the council celebrated Fifth Sunday and Founders Day by sitting together at the 7:30A.M. Mass and having breakfast at Waid's afterward. The next Fifth Sunday will be May 31.

Awards were presented at STM School on April 9 to the winners of the Free Throw Contest, Essay Contest, and Poster Contest. The Spring Mixer for 7th & 8th grade students was held on April 17 in Flanagan Hall.

Second Annual Family Fun Knight planned

The Saint Thomas More Knights of Columbus are planning their second annual "Family Fun Knight," scheduled for Friday, June 26, 6-10PM. Like last year, the festivities will be held in More Hall and outside. Enjoy grilled hot dogs,

hamburgers, Italian sausage, salads, deserts and beverages. Beer and soft drinks will be available for a nominal donation. There will be games for kids of all ages and cash prizes for the winners. Those who want to exercise their vocal chords will have the opportunity to perform karaoke.

Tickets will be the same as last year: \$5 per person or \$20 per family, and will be available at Masses and at the Parish Office beginning in May.

Additional information will be in the Church Bulletin, but mark your calendars now for this fun evening of good food and fellowship. The Knights are planning on making this year's event bigger and better. All proceeds are donated to charitable causes sponsored by our parish. If you would like to help out or have questions, contact Larry LeFebvre at 591-9904.

Family Day at Worlds of Fun

Knights of Columbus Family Day at Worlds of Fun is August 15. Fliers are available in the parish office. †

For information about joining the Knights of Columbus, contact Gene Twellman at 942-1473 or gtwellman@cs.com.

Exciting New Web Site Under Construction

Bob Sandford, Coeditor

Since the last edition of More News, much work has been done on the new web site. At the current rate, it should be ready to go "live" some time in June. It will have a number of exciting new features, including the ability to sign up for e-delivery of the bulletin, More News, a pastor's letter, a volunteer opportunities newsletter, and an educational opportunities newsletter

as well as an event photo gallery.

The site will also be set up so parish groups can easily administer their own pages on the site. If you are part of a parish group that would like make use of the site to find new members and communicate with current ones, contact myself, Bob Sandford at 942-2492x212 or bob@stmkc.com. †

Meet Our New Initiates

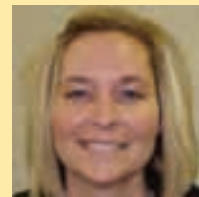
(Chris Sholl, continued from p. 7)

When I was growing up, I was involved in church, but as I got older I backed away from religion. I now realize that I have been missing something in my life. Becoming Catholic is something that I have wanted to be, because of the structure and community, and most of all to have my marriage blest.



Paul Terry: I am 44 years old and have worked for the U.S. Government for the past 20 years. I have an

older brother, younger sister, and my parents live within walking distance of Saint Thomas More. Although my family has lived within the confines of the parish since 1985, my spiritual journey to become a Catholic might have begun as early as 1997, when it was my privilege to visit Vatican City. I was raised in the Southern Baptist Church until the age of 10 or 11 and a recent search for balance in my life led me to make the initial inquiry into attending RCIA classes.



Carrie Anne Zellmer: I am married to Steve Zellmer, and we have two children—Trevor

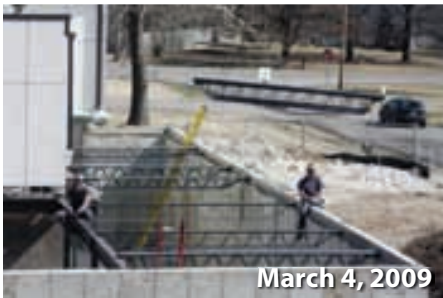
Warren Zellmer, age 4 and Dominic Adam Zellmer, age 1. Trevor and Dominic will be baptized with me at the Easter Vigil. Trevor is currently attending Saint Thomas More Preschool. I am employed as a Children's Services Specialist through Missouri Social Services. I want my family to have a strong relationship with God, so I chose the Catholic faith to provide a strong religious foundation for my family. †

Interested in becoming Catholic?

Contact Mary Kay Whitacre, our R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Coordinator at (816) 942-2492 x209 or marykay@stmkc.com.

Construction So Far

Photos by Bob Sandford, Coeditor



Construction Information
See www.stmkc.com

Coming Events

Date	Event
May 1 Friday	May Crowning at 8:15AM School Mass Noon Dismissal at STM School
3 Sunday	Confirmation Rehearsal, 6PM RCIA Potluck, 6PM
7 Saturday	Youth Pizza Party, 7PM
8 Friday	Men of STM Golf Tournament and Dinner
10 Sunday	Mothers Day Donate Diapers for moms Carnations sold by Respect Life Committee
11 Monday	8th Grade Retreat
13 Wednesday	8th Grade Graduation, at Nativity
14 Thursday	Stewardship Cabinet meeting, 6PM
15 Friday	Confirmation, 7PM, Flanagan Hall
22 Friday	Noon Dismissal at STM School
24 Sunday	Ascension Sunday
29 Friday	STM School Fun Day
31 Sunday	Pentecost Sunday Baptism Preparation, 1PM, Office Living Room
June 5 June 5	Last day of STM School
6 Sunday	Mission Co-op Sunday Seton Center "In the Bag" Food Drive
13 Saturday	Youth Dodgeball Tournament
17 Wednesday	Blood Drive, 3-7PM, More Hall
22-26 Mon-Fri	Vacation Bible School, 9AM-noon
26 Friday	Knights of Columbus Family Fun Night
July 5 Sunday	1st Guatemala travelers leave
18 Saturday	2nd Guatemala travelers leave
26 Sunday	Seton Center Back-to-School Drive
August 15 Saturday	Knights of Columbus Day at Worlds of Fun
18 Tuesday	1st Day of STM School, noon dismissal
September 5 Saturday	Labor of Love Walk for Guatemala
10 Thursday	Liturgical Update with Father Paul Turner
12 Saturday	Parish Picnic
November 14 Saturday	School Auction

Easter Vigil





ST. THOMAS MORE
PARISH

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