



The Angelus

Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral • Kansas City, Missouri

Vol.73, No.11 • November 2004

New branches in faith formation at the Cathedral

During the dean selection process, the community of Christians at the Cathedral placed faith formation as the number one priority of desired ministries here. This translates to more, and in depth, Christian education, for us and for our children. This year, Advent marks not only a new church year but a “new beginnings” of faith formation at the Cathedral!

In just a few weeks, the Cathedral will embark upon several new or changed formats, structures and programs in formation. The Sunday morning schedule will have a new look and feel as we seek to strengthen and grow our formation programs for everyone beginning November 28. We will see

- New times for Children’s Church School and Adult Christian Education at 9:15 a.m., allowing children and adults to participate in Christian formation classes and activities at the same time
- Offering of a new Children’s Chapel at 10:15 a.m.
- New time for Grace Choraliers’ rehearsal at 10:15 a.m.
- Welcoming older children in the 10:15 a.m. service
- New middle school youth group/confirmation class at 9:15 a.m.

This new schedule provides benefits to everyone, especially:

- Sunday school teachers: who will be able to participate in the entire liturgy at 10:15 a.m.
- The clergy: who can regularly visit classrooms to interact with our young people
- Parents: because they can more fully participate in formation offerings, fulfill their needs and desires for Christian formation and will be more available to support the Church School activities
- The Cathedral family: with everyone in formation at the same time, the Cathedral has the flexibility to smoothly bring everyone together during other times of the year to learn and grow together.

These innovative, educational and spiritual opportu-

nities will begin in the Advent season. During the four weeks of Advent, everyone will be together engaging in intergenerational activities in preparation for the great celebration of Christmas. Regular Adult Education and Church School classes will not meet during Advent.

A new offering for children is a children’s chapel, to be offered on Sundays at 10:15 a.m. beginning November 28, for children age three to those in second grade. This chapel concept combines the Cathedral’s number one goal with the Dean’s vision for “everyone in formation at the same time and everyone in worship at the same time.”

In the chapel, the children will participate in a service much like the “adult” service, with the Liturgy of the Word delivered to their level of maturity and understanding. The chapel will be located in Haden Hall. The service will include prayers and music from our hymnal and The Book of Common Prayer, using scripture as prescribed in the lectionary.

The service engages the children and includes much of Rite II liturgy with instructional points to help the children enjoy and understand Episcopal rituals. The children will assume and learn many of the roles filled by adults in regular Rite II services. Chapel services will be weekly for about 35-40 minutes a session. The children will join their family in the nave at the Passing of the Peace.

Older children, in grades three through sixth, will be welcomed as weekly participants in the 10:15 a.m. service. Educational studies have shown that one of the best ways of learning how to do something is “to just do it.” It is our sincere belief that these school age children, by being in church for the entire service, will be able to understand and fully participate in our rituals rather quickly. To facilitate this learning, an instructional Eucharist class is planned for the children in the first quarter of 2005.

(continued on page 7)

A SUMMARY OF OUR NEW SCHEDULE

DATES	TIMES	ACTIVITY
November 28, December 5, 12, 19	9:15 a.m.-10:00 a.m.	<i>New Beginnings:</i> Intergenerational Programs in Founders’ Hall (Haden Hall on December 5)
	10:15-11:00 a.m.	Children ages 3 to 2nd grade in Children’s Chapel Grace Choraliers
Beginning January 2005	9:15 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Children’s Church School through grade 5 Middle school youth group/confirmation class (grades 6-8) Adult formation classes
	10:15 a.m.	Adults, youth and children in 3rd grade and above in Nave Children ages 3 to 2nd grade in Children’s Chapel Grace Choraliers

From the Dean

Soon we will be celebrating our first Advent and Christmastide as priest and people. If we all check our diaries from last year, most of us will find entries like: "Too crazy this year! Christmas way out of hand! I am exhausted! Never again!"

As individuals, as parents, as followers of Christ, we are concerned with how to truly celebrate Christmas in a holy fashion, keeping the joy of gift giving and magic of the season, without having it all escalate into a celebration of commercialism and stress. So as your favorite stores begin to deck the halls for the shopping season, let me offer these thoughts about the real season.

Christmas is not *one* day, but *twelve* days. It is a season, with each day being as joyous as the next. This principle is the basis for the following points. (By the way, when our children learn that there are Twelve Days of Christmas, they have wonderful conversations with friends who observe Eight Days of Hanukkah.)

1. Much stress comes from squeezing all gift giving, visiting, and traveling into a 36 or 48 hour period. Remember, there are 12 days. Try spreading out the gift giving. Linda Sue and I can testify to this, as it has been our practice to give one or two gifts each day. This both extends the joy of the season and makes it less likely that children and adults are overwhelmed with too much, too fast.

2. In addition to gift giving for twelve days, plan special activities. Maybe each family member gets one day to choose something fun. A trip to the zoo to see the cold weather animals, a special meal or restaurant choice, going to a movie, playing new games, taking a nap (#1 parents' choice) or a drive to see decorations.

Name those parts of your Christmas celebrations that you are unhappy with, and transform them into something joyous and life-giving.

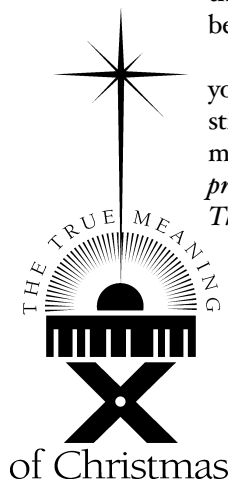
3. Learn about St. Nicholas (whose feast is December 6), the ancestor of Santa.

As your children question whether Santa is real, describe Santa in the way you wish them to understand him. At some point, invite your children to be "Santa-like" or "St. Nicholas-like." Introduce them to the joy of doing a good deed or giv-

ing a gift in *secret*.
4. Another benefit of the Twelve Days is that they naturally lose momentum, and by the twelfth day, everyone has had a good Christmas. Contrast this with the great let down on December 26 if your gift giving and celebrating is over.

5. The great end of Christmastide is January 6 - the Feast of the Epiphany, when the Wise Men visit the Child. When you set up your creche, place the three Kings elsewhere (off to the east) and move them closer to the manger each day.

On the Epiphany, sing "We Three Kings," and begin to take down the decorations. A good theme is this: now that the *celebration* of Christmas is over, the *work* of Christmas is beginning.



6. I respectfully caution you against letting holiday stress be reflected in statements like: "Look how many presents these kids have. They're too spoiled." Children hear and remember these words, and may come to believe it is their fault that you are so stressed out.

7. If your gift giving is excessive, recognize it for what it is: an expression (not a substitution) for the great love you have for your child. Christmas is magical as well as holy, when hope reigns supreme in our world. For twelve days, let us lavish love in many forms upon our families and friends. Who can be spoiled from being loved too much?

8. Finally, remember proportionality: also be lavish in giving to those in need. Be creative in bringing the whole family into this practice of reaching out in significant ways. There is no better time of the year to learn about the joy of giving than Christmastide, as we receive heaven's greatest gift.

I realize that your family has traditions and customs that are written in stone, and you may not be optimistic that there is much you can change at this point.

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As individuals, as parents, as followers of Christ, we are concerned with how to truly celebrate Christmas in a holy fashion, keeping the joy of gift giving and magic of the season, without having it all escalate into a celebration of commercialism and stress.

As a word of encouragement, let me suggest that you go ahead and raise your concern of "too much, too fast" with your extended family. You might find them quite receptive, because they share your feelings.

When Linda Sue and I talked with our parents, they were delighted by our suggestions to spread things out over twelve days, and they have been very supportive. As a result, our stress was greatly relieved, our joy has

greatly increased, and it feels good to have a more intentional faith aspect to our Christmas celebration.

By explaining your motives, both stress-wise and faith-wise, you will at the least give your extended family a lot to think about.

I have experienced the power of this holy season to heal, forgive, convey hope, and change lives. Name those parts of your Christmas celebrations that you are unhappy with, and transform them into something joyous and life-giving. "For unto us a child is born."

With my love,
Terry+

The Angelus

A laypersons' newspaper published in the interest of Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral.

THE ANGELUS SMALL GROUP CONTRIBUTORS:

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Submissions from parishioners and small groups are welcome and encouraged. All entries are requested by the 15th day of the month prior to publication via fax: (816) 474-5856 or e-mail: communications@ghtc-kc.org

Nominations for the Vestry being received until November 30

At January's Annual Meeting, new members of the Vestry will be elected. Nominations are now being received until November 30. A committee appointed by the Dean will select a slate of candidates from those nominated, which will be shared with the congregation in January. Please get the permission of the person you are nominating, put the nomination in writing and send it to the Cathedral office.

Recently, I asked the Vestry's help in creating a description of what makes a good Vestry member. Many thoughtful responses were received, below are the qualities we should look for in our Vestry members.

An ideal Vestry member is

- Keenly interested in the well-being of Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral:
 - the congregation
 - the clergy and staff
 - the buildings and grounds
 - the greater church
 - the community.
- Regularly attends services and various events.
- Spiritually attuned.
- "Known to the treasurer," giving substantially to the work of the parish.

A person serving on our Vestry

- Has at least a basic set of business skills e.g. the ability to understand financial information.

- Has a sense of humor.
- Has the ability to distinguish between *being* a Vestry member and *servi*ng on the Vestry; willing to serve on at least one parish committee.
- Should have sufficient time to dedicate to the work of the Vestry.
- Should be of a positive nature but understand that the Vestry's work can be difficult and very unpleasant.
- Must have the courage to speak one's mind even when his or her positions are in the minority.
- Must listen to opposing opinions, be open to change, and accept the greater will.

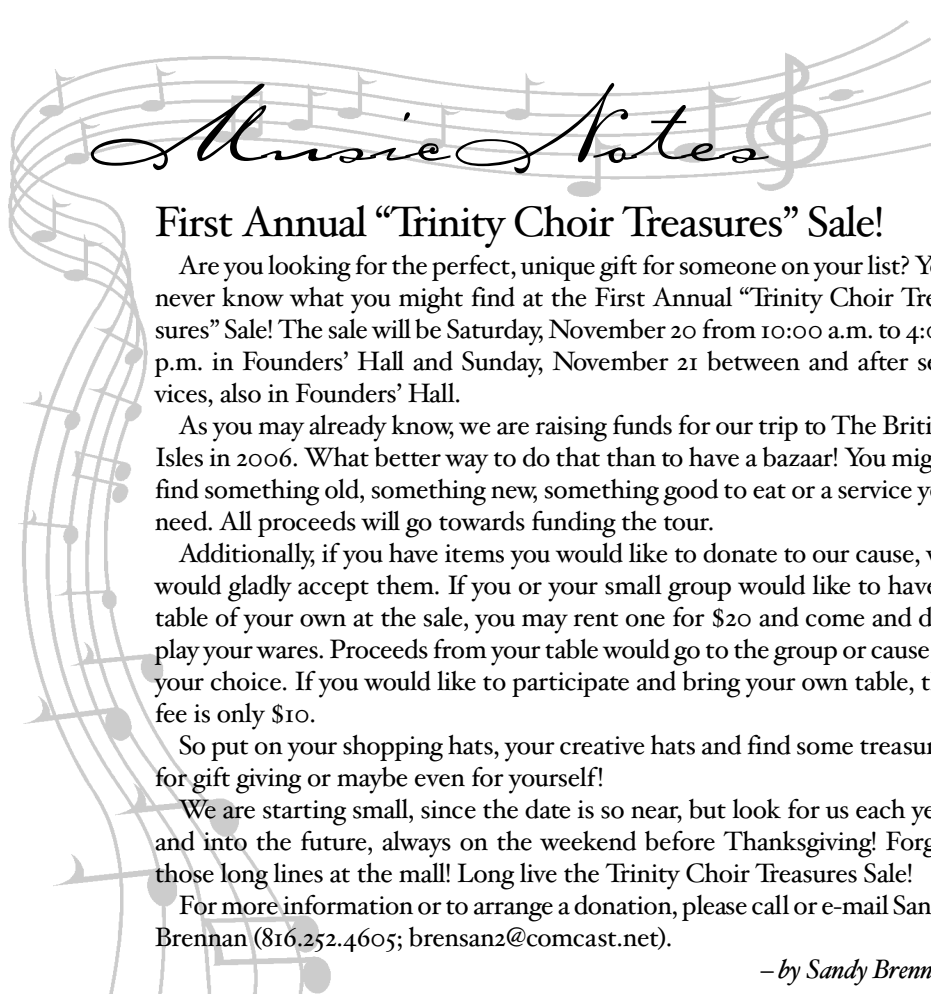
A good Vestry member is able and willing:

- To leave behind "constituencies" and personal agendas, in favor of doing what is best for our church.
- To share one's talents and abilities and one's honest opinions. And then,
 - To listen to others' opinions with an open heart and mind.
 - To be a good steward of the church's resources, both human and financial.
 - To know enough of the Cathedral's history to be buoyed by a strong sense of accomplishment and community, yet not enough to be unwilling to change.
 - To understand and be faithful to the concept of confidentiality.

A member of the Cathedral Vestry

- is positive and enthusiastic about God's ministry in Kansas City and the surrounding communities
- is supportive of and trusts the clergy and staff of the Cathedral to do their work and to serve the best interests of the parish, diocese, and national Episcopal community
- is willing to listen respectfully to all parishioners, seek to serve their needs, try to find common ground when there are disagreements,
- is aware that whenever two or more are gathered in His name, He is there also.

— by the Very Rev. Terry White, Dean



Music Notes

First Annual "Trinity Choir Treasures" Sale!

Are you looking for the perfect, unique gift for someone on your list? You never know what you might find at the First Annual "Trinity Choir Treasures" Sale! The sale will be Saturday, November 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Founders' Hall and Sunday, November 21 between and after services, also in Founders' Hall.

As you may already know, we are raising funds for our trip to The British Isles in 2006. What better way to do that than to have a bazaar! You might find something old, something new, something good to eat or a service you need. All proceeds will go towards funding the tour.

Additionally, if you have items you would like to donate to our cause, we would gladly accept them. If you or your small group would like to have a table of your own at the sale, you may rent one for \$20 and come and display your wares. Proceeds from your table would go to the group or cause of your choice. If you would like to participate and bring your own table, the fee is only \$10.

So put on your shopping hats, your creative hats and find some treasures for gift giving or maybe even for yourself!

We are starting small, since the date is so near, but look for us each year and into the future, always on the weekend before Thanksgiving! Forget those long lines at the mall! Long live the Trinity Choir Treasures Sale!

For more information or to arrange a donation, please call or e-mail Sandy Brennan (816.252.4605; brensanz@comcast.net).

— by Sandy Brennan

Submit your Vestry nominations in writing to the Cathedral office by November 30.

PO Box 412048
Kansas City, Missouri 64141
816.474.5856 fax
twhite@ghtc-kc.org

Join us as we dedicate the

LOUISE BARTON CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL LIBRARY

November 7, 2004 • 11:45 a.m.

In honor of the library dedication, coffee hour
will be in Haden Hall and all children's books
will be 25% off at the Cathedral Bookstore.



November forums

November 7 • The Dean's Forum • The
Very Rev. Terry White

November 14 • Voices of the Century • Join
us as Voices of the Century, a Kansas City
area leadership organization of current and
former foster care youth, presents the world
premiere of an original play about what is like
to grow up in the foster care system. The play
is written by a former Kansas City area fos-
ter child. There will be time for questions
and answers after the play.

November 21 • History of St. Luke's Hos-
pital: An Institution of the Episcopal Church
and The Presence of Care • Edward T.
Matheny, Jr. • St. Luke's began as All Saints'
Hospital and has been linked with the Dio-
cese of West Missouri of the Episcopal
Church since its beginning. Join GHTC
member, Ed Matheny, Jr., as he describes the
growth of St. Luke's from a single location to
a sprawling campus throughout Kansas City
and in towns on both sides of the state line.
The new edition of his book is available in
the Cathedral bookstore and portions of the
proceeds will benefit the church. A book
signing will take place after the Forum.

November 28 • See page one for information
about Sunday morning activities for Advent.



Thanksgiving Day Eucharist and Family Meal

Please join us November 25 for a spe-
cial Thanksgiving Eucharist at 10:15 a.m.

followed by a family-style turkey dinner to follow. The Kansas City Community Kitchen
will provide turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, and gravy for as many as would like to come.

Guests are asked to RSVP with the Cathedral Office and bring a side dish to comple-
ment the traditional staples provided by KCCCK. If you do not have crowd at home to
cook for, or if you do have a crowd at home and do not want to cook, join us for a warm
and friendly Thanksgiving at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral.

— by the Rev. Benjamin J. Newland, Associate Priest

*O MOST merciful Father, who of thy gracious goodness hast heard
the devout prayers of thy Church, and turned our dearth and scar-
city into cheapness and plenty; We give thee humble thanks for this
thy special bounty; beseeching thee to continue thy loving-kindness
unto us, that our land may yield us her fruits of increase, to thy glory
and our comfort; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

— from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer

Planned giving

“The Minister of the Congregation is di-
rected to instruct the people, from time to
time, about the duty of Christian parents to
make prudent provision for the well-being
of their families, and of all persons to make
wills, while they are in health, arranging for
the disposal of their temporal goods, not ne-
glecting, if they are able, to leave bequests
for religious and charitable uses” (The Book
of Common Prayer, p.445).

It is never too early and not too compli-
cated to have a Last Will and Testament, and
if you have a will, it is easy to keep current.
Remember, the state in which you live will
be only too happy to decide for you what will
happen to your money and possessions once
you enter Paradise without having drawn up
a will. Be a good steward. And, thank you for
remembering Grace and Holy Trinity Cathed-
ral in your will.

The Dean is seeking at least five people
willing to serve on a Planned Giving Com-
mittee to promote and educate parishioners
about the various ways one can provide fi-
nancial support to the Cathedral. If inter-
ested, please call the Cathedral office or email
Father White at twwhite@ghtc-kc.org

A history of Thanksgiving Day

Agricultural festivals are well known to our area of the Midwest. It is a time of
harvest and celebration of earth's bounty and grateful recognition of those who have
worked so diligently in providing the harvest.

Colonists in Massachusetts and Virginia began our harvest tradition. The first
Thanksgiving in New England was celebrated in Plymouth less than a year after the
Plymouth colonists had settled in America. In 1621, the settlers expected a good corn
harvest and they arranged for a festival to give thanks to God for the progress the
colony had made.

In the following years, there was no set date for Thanksgiving, and it became a
moveable feast day. Then, in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last
Thursday in November as “a day of thanksgiving and praise in our beneficent Father.”
And so it was for 75 years. In 1939 President Franklin D. Roosevelt set it one week
earlier, to help business by lengthening the shopping period before Christmas. Finally,
in 1941 Congress ruled that the fourth Thursday of November would be observed as
Thanksgiving Day and would be a legal federal holiday.

— by Jan Frizzle

Flower memorials and thanksgivings

Sunday, October 3, 2004 • The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the birthday of Ric Sweeting and for the wedding anniversary of Janet and Ric Sweeting; and in memory of John Edward Dewese by Jeannette, Jennifer and John. At the baptismal font, flowers are given in thanksgiving for the birthday of Bryant Johnson by his parents, Valerie and Jeffrey Johnson; and in thanksgiving for her grandchildren Whitney and Starr Terrell and James and Marguerite Sloan by Mrs. Herbert A. Sloan.

Sunday, October 10, 2004 • The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for Lee Fowler and Toni Telander; and in memory of Charline and Charles J. Schmelzer, II by Charles, Susan and Jonathan Schmelzer and Charline, Jason, Vicki, and Wyatt Franz; also in loving memory of her husband, by Mrs. Sanford Collins. Memorial candles are given in loving memory of his grandfather, Jesse N. Johnson, by Leo Crabbs, Jr.

Sunday, October 17, 2004 • The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of their granddaughter, Natalie Day McMullen, by Larry

and Marilyn McMullen; and in thanksgiving for the birthday of Valerie Johnson, by Jeff, Bryant and Eliza Johnson. Memorial candles are given in loving memory of Faith Ganakopulos by Bonnie and Paul Lowrey; and as a thanksgiving by Mrs. Evelyn Toner.

Sunday, October 24, 2004 • The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of his father, Harold Robert Hall, by Bruce Hall; and in loving memory of The Very Reverend Eugene G. Malcolm, by Ferne Malcolm Welles. At the baptismal font, flowers are given in loving memory of their grandmother, Mary Gentry Shaw, by Page Branton Reed and Leslie Branton Hoffecker. In the Chapel, flowers are given in loving memory of her husband Kenneth E. Arnold, and their beloved son, Charles R. Arnold, by Mrs. Mildred Arnold. Memorial candles are given in loving memory of Patricia Lenahan, by Bonnie and Paul Lowrey.

Sunday, October 31, 2004 • The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for Jason and Jenny McDowell; and in loving memory of his wife, Lorraine Knaub Fisher, by Bill Fisher.

View Cloud of Unknowing

On Saturday, November 6, the Cathedral's Centering Prayer Group will host a viewing of a new series of videos on the *Cloud of Unknowing*. The *Cloud* is a 14th century English spiritual classic which itself draws on centuries of Christian contemplative tradition.

The videos feature Father William Meninger of Saint Benedict's Monastery, Snowmass, Co., who is a renowned expert on the *Cloud* and has lectured all over the world on this topic. Meninger brings the material to life and deepens our understanding of the wisdom which informs the practice of contemplative prayer.

We will meet from 12 noon to 5:00 p.m. in the Common Room. The video series is comprised of five presentations of about 30 minutes each and the sixth presentation is about an hour in length, with total viewing time being 3.5 hours. There will be short breaks for snacks and discussion. If you have a copy of the *Cloud of Unknowing*, you are encouraged to bring it with you but this is NOT a requirement.

Please RSVP to the Cathedral office if you plan to attend.

—by Ruth Evans

Caring for older family members

The Cathedral community will have an opportunity November 14 to hear a presentation by Linda Birkenmeier to support and inform those who may be caring for older members of their family now or in the future.

Linda comes to us from The Senior's Choice, an agency that offers help to seniors and others who are not ready to leave their home for an institutional setting or live with relatives, but because of illness or chronic conditions need support to remain at home. They provide one-on-one care in the comfort of one's own home.

Acquainted with the demands many people face when caring for parents, Linda will speak to the common experiences of longer-term care giving on the caregivers themselves while offering suggestions and support for those active in the care of others. Whether with a parent, friend or family member who needs help, caregivers themselves often feel overwhelmed in their continuing efforts to care for those they love.

As our community's population grows older, more and more of us find ourselves looking for answers and help as we take care of others. There has been some discussion among members of the congregation about the possibility of starting a small group to offer support and ministry for members of the Cathedral family who face such responsibilities.

Part of the presentation time will be used to determine interest in such a group and how to proceed together on a more regular basis.

Linda's presentation will be held in Founder's Hall at 12 noon on November 14 and a simple lunch will be provided. If you are interested in being a member of such a group you may also contact me at bhall@ghtc-kc.org or through the Cathedral office.

—by the Rev. Bruce Hall, Deacon

Cathedral's financial status

Giving at the Cathedral has continued to come in close to budget. Nevertheless, due to a deficit budget passed this year, it has been necessary to take additional money from the endowment to pay expenses. Please continue to pay your 2004 pledge and prayerfully consider increasing your pledge for 2005. If you are not pledging now, this is a good time to begin.

—by Doyle White, treasurer

SEPT MTD	BUDGETED MTD	ACTUAL MTD
INCOME	\$ 85,286	\$ 74,197
EXPENSES	\$ 118,125	\$ 105,998
NET TOTAL	\$ (32,839)	\$ (31,801)
SEPT YTD	BUDGETED YTD	ACTUAL YTD
INCOME	\$ 871,622	\$ 915,181
EXPENSES	\$ 968,963	\$ 970,730
VARIANCE	\$ (97,341)	\$ (55,549)

November is national adoption month

An estimated 1,200 children are involved in the foster care system in Jackson County and an additional 10,000 children in the Missouri statewide foster care system. An estimated 350 of the Jackson County children and approximately 1,900 children across the State of Missouri are part of a national group of 125,000 children who are waiting and available for permanent adoptive homes. (Approximately 750 Kansas children are also waiting for adoptive homes).

Parental rights for the adoptable children have been severed due to parental death, neglect, abandonment, abuse or other problems that make it impossible for them to return to their biological home. Most of the children are school-age or teenagers and many are from minority cultures.

A number of the children are part of sibling groups who desire to stay together. Some of the children have emotional, behavioral, learning, physical, or mental disabilities. What they all share in common is the need for the love, care, stability and hope that only a permanent family can provide.

Unlike many adoption programs for infants, adoption is an option for single, married, and older adult applicants. You do not need to own a home or be wealthy in order to adopt. Families are needed in both rural and urban areas. The only costs involved in adopting a waiting Missouri child are the fees that the adoptive family pays their personal attorney related to

the court finalization of the adoption; and reimbursement, if necessary, may be available to assist with this expense.

Adoption subsidies may also be available from the State to pay for special needs related to the care of an adopted child. The primary requirement is that you can provide a healthy, loving, and nurturing environment for a child and that you have the physical, financial and emotional resources and parenting abilities to match the specific needs of a particular child.

For additional information on adopting a Missouri waiting child, please contact The Children's Division, formerly known as Division of Family Services, at (816) 889-2042 or visit Missouri's adoption website, including some photo profiles at <http://www.adoptuskids.org/states/mo>.

Kansas families may contact Coming Home Kansas, Kansas, state adoption agency, at (877) 530-5275 or visit Kansas, adoption website, also with some photo profiles at <http://www.cominghomekansas.org>.

Both Kansas and Missouri offer extensive informational and educational training for interested prospective families. Missouri requires an in-home consultation prior to beginning the training.

Cathedral members Ferne Malcolm Welles and David Pierson can also provide members with additional information.

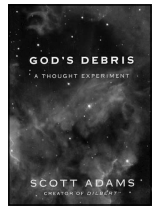
- by David Pierson

Book Discussion Group

GOD'S DEBRIS
by Scott Adams

November 16 • 7:00 p.m.
Common Room

For further information,
please call 816.741.0992.



News from Guild of the Christ Child

Comfort food needed

If you have a favorite recipe for comfort food and are looking for an excuse to prepare it, here's your chance! Guild of the Christ Child provides meals to families with new babies and we are expecting LOTS of new babies in the upcoming months. Please consider sharing this joyous ministry with us by volunteering to prepare and deliver a meal to a newborn's family. Call Angela

Michka at 816.753.4742 for more information. We will put you on our volunteer list and call you when there is a need.



Heroes in our midst

Thanks to everyone who attended the Infant/Child CPR Training class October 9. In a little over three hours, 11 parishioners learned CPR, rescue techniques for choking victims, and how to use the AED. Special thanks to Jeanette Coletti and Lucy Ann Fleischman for arranging the class, and Virgil Burke for his expert instruction.

Cathedral member seen around town



photo donated by Robin Rusconi

Cathedral member Liam, son of Jae McKewon and Robin Rusconi, is being featured in an advertisement appearing on city buses throughout the city.

World Community Day

November 5, 2004

10:00 a.m. • Haden Hall

A day for all Christian women to share in a common worship experience, focusing on issues of peace and justice.

An ingathering of "cream of" soups and plastic forks, spoons and cups will be collected for the Kansas City Community Kitchen.