Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

Alleluia, alleluia.
Dear Parishioners,

We’re at that time of year. Lots of things to be busy with as the season changes and annual events happen. And it only gets busier from here on out.

The eighth graders of the parish were busy Saturday at their ‘Day of the Spirit’ in preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation they will receive on January 27, 2018. If you’re at the 5pm Saturday Mass I don’t have to tell you this as they are at the liturgy with you. The retreat day has developed under the leadership of Janet Caschetta, the Director of the Youth Catechesis Program, our School Principal, Kathleen Gorman, and the Crossroads High School Ministry Team, Katie Hayes and Katie Nicholson, as well as several teachers, catechists and adult volunteers. There are weeks of preparation involving high school students who take leadership positions throughout the afternoon. Being confirmed just a few years before this year’s class, the high school students share their faith and witness to how their faith makes a difference in their day-to-day lives. We are grateful to them and to all the adults who played a part in ministering to our young people for this Day of the Spirit.

This coming week we have the triduum of All Hallows Eve, October 31, All Saints, November 1 and All Souls, November 2. Originally intended to imitate the saints by dressing up like them, Halloween has become overly secularized. It is now the second largest holiday for outdoor decorations and it comes with costumes and make-up of every stripe. It can be innocent fun, as when our first graders pair up with the eighth graders and come in matching costumes. It can be ghoulish, as when teens get mesmerized by zombies and ghosts and blood and gore and cemeteries and on and on. And then there is the candy, the treats that take the fear out of the tricks. It’s a day playing on the very serious and often painful reality of death and dying.

This is why it is important to gather in prayer on All Saints and All Souls Day. Left to our own devices we mere mortals might be tempted to see death as all loss and the sufferings of life as meaningless. The mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus is the focus of every Mass. Death is defeated in the resurrection of Jesus and suffering is transformed in the new life that comes when the body and blood of Jesus is truly present when we are gathered at the altar.

SJC has a wonderful tradition of gathering on All Souls Day and remembering all those who have died that we have prayed for throughout the year. Every family is invited to come forward when their loved one’s name is spoken. Around the altar are three sets of risers to hold the lit candles that those who mourn are invited to place there. Once all the names have been read out loud, everyone who grieves the loss of a loved one is invited to come forward and place a lit candle in their memory. After the liturgy everyone is invited to take a candle home as a memory of the support of the wider community who share in their loss. Please join us.

If you want your loved one remembered at a weekly Mass offered for all ‘Our Beloved Dead’ please fill out an envelope and write their name on it. The envelopes can be found near the Easter candle and the Book of the Dead, where you are also invited to inscribe their names so they can be remembered throughout the month of November.

Looking ahead to a week from Monday, on November 6, Cardinal Cupich will be with us to pray with those who have lost loved ones to suicide. While it will not be a Mass, it will be an opportunity to be a community that prays together for those who have gone to God. Please see the next page in the bulletin for more detailed information.

Life is changed, not ended.

Until the Breaking of the Bread,

Fr. David

The culture of encounter means recognizing that we are all children of God, despite our differences.

Pope Francis @Pontifex October 26
Month of All Souls
The origins of the Solemnity of All Saints (November 1) and the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day, November 2) are connected. From the beginnings of the Church, Christians have cherished the memory of those martyred for the faith and those who lived a life of virtue as icons of Jesus Christ. The martyrs and saints became venerated as disciples and imitators of Christ. All the saints are celebrated each year on November 1; however, most Christian traditions of honoring the dead are linked with All Souls Day on November 2. On this day, we remember our own loved ones who have gone before us in faith. These tributes extend beyond the day itself and last through the month of November, the Month of All Souls.

The Books of Life
In keeping with the important observance of this month, our parish Books of Life will be placed along the north wall of our church. These books, one for each month, list the names of every person who has been buried from St. John of the Cross Parish and their date of death. As a parish that is rooted in faith in our Lord Jesus, let us prayerfully recall these deceased members of our community. Take time to look through the books. Find the names of those you know and offer a prayer for them.

The Book of Remembrance
During the month of November, the Month of All Souls, parishioners and visitors to St. John of the Cross Parish are invited to write the names of their beloved dead in The Book of Remembrance found by the baptismal font. The Book of Remembrance will remain there through the month of November. Unlike the Books of Life, which list only deceased parishioners of St. John of the Cross, our Book of Remembrance may include the names of all our deceased loved ones.

Our Beloved Dead
If you would like your loved ones remembered throughout the coming year, complete an All Souls envelope which can be found at the lectern near the baptismal font during the month of November. These envelopes will then be placed in a basket under our altar, and we will remember them at Mass each week as Our Beloved Dead. Remembering all of those who have gone before us, “marked with the sign of faith,” helps us better understand and appreciate our faith in the Christ, our risen Lord, who conquers sin and death and brings new life to all.

We pray for all who have died in the peace of Christ that they may find in the presence of God, light, happiness and peace.

Please join us
Thursday, November 2 at 7pm to celebrate the Feast of All Souls.
Our Mass of Remembrance will commemorate parishioners and loved ones who have died during the past year. As the names of all deceased are read aloud, families will be invited to place a votive candle at the altar as we prayerfully remember them.

LOSS
Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide
Evening of Remembrance Prayer Service
Monday, November 6 5:30pm at SJC Church
Cardinal Cupich, Celebrant
RSVP: (312) 655-7283
Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide (LOSS) is a non-denominational program that supports individuals who are grieving the loss of a loved one by suicide. LOSS offers a safe, non-judgmental environment where survivors of suicide can openly talk about feelings and experiences and helps survivors to find community, direction and resources for healing.

Solemnity of All Saints, November 1
Mass Times: 6:30am, 7:45am, 9:15 School Mass, and 6:30pm.
Together we pray for our loved ones and friends who have died during the past year. Comfort us in our loss and sorrow, O Lord. Be our refuge and our strength. Lift us from the depths of grief into the peace and light of your presence. Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, by dying has destroyed our death, and by rising restored our life. Enable us to press on toward him so that after our earthly course is run, he may reunite us with those we love, when every tear will be wiped away. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Harry Abbott
Sue Anderson
Margaret Anderson
Linda Auer
Don Babka
Dennis Baker
Virginia Barber
Rita Barnes
Mary Alice Bartell
Bill Beauchamp
Joyce Belasick
William Berg
Monica Beske
Theresa Bigus
Mary Bilotta
Joe Bosco
Don Bradley
James Brennan
Louise Broucek
Rita Brown
Ted Bruce
Tracy Anna Bryant
Lillian Bukiet
Judith Burke
GloriAnn Byrd
Helen Therese Callaghan
Christina Camnato
Patrick Carmody
Frances Carroll
Paul Cervony
Nancy Chebuhar
Vincent Cione
John Clarke
William Cochran
Sallie Colmer
Charles Comes
Nancy Cottone
John Coyne
Soledad Cruz
Beatrice Culhane
Thomas Cusack
Mary Custardo
Robert Daggy
Joan Dambra
Donald Dame
Sixta DeArdila
Helen Delaney
Walter Delaney
Henry DeMatteo
Ed DeRosa
Cheryl DiForti
Frank Dine
Anne Donnersberger
Margaret Dorigan
Merle Duff
Robert Eckland
Raul Esquivel
Marie Estephane
Stephen Fecskes
Hugh Feehan
Regina Feeley
Mildred Fitzgerald
Margaret Fletcher
Yolanda Formentini
Geraldine Forsyth
Elizabeth Fox
Danny Gacek
John Gannon
John Garvey
Erlin Gibbons
Joseph Gilum
Joseph Grazulis Sr.
Russell Gunderson
Karyn Haney
Bill Hansen
Robert “Jim” Hartnett
Terry Hawkins
Randall Hemauer
Ada Hickey
George Higgins
Lois Hillon
Mary Horvath
Jack Hughes
Robert Jacobs
Mary Jane Kamholz
Frank “Jim” Kane
James Kaspar
Dianne Kassis
Helen Kastenholz
Daniel Kelly
DeeMarie Kimont
Bernadine Kramer
John Kravcik
Therese Kraynak
Donnie Kruse
Genevieve Kuznic
Mary Jo Lancione
Marie Lech
Jack Lenahan
Vlado Lenoch
Fr. Ronald Lewinski
Dorothy Lorden
John Luka
Art Lyons
Leonard Maliszewski
Cooper Mann
Kimberly Maroney
Angela Marsik
Peggy McCarron
Nora McDonnell
Margaret McElvogue
Bill McGee
Mary Kay McGorey
Sr. Jane McKirchy
MaryLou Merritt
John Misantoni
Robert Mohr
Roy Muchna
Patricia Muldowney
Eileen Murphy
Evelyn Murphy
Alfred Nellig
Gregory Nelson
Jerry Novak
Delaney O’Connell
Catherine O’Donnell
Baz O’Hagen
Frances Olivero
Rev. Arthur Olsen
John O’Malley
Roberta Paganelli
Donald Palaschak
Daniel Pallat
Kenneth Pawlowicz
Louis James Perona
Maria Pertile
Florence Pigatto
Marge Pipal
Dorothy Portner
Judy Post
Sam Principe
Eleanor Pype
Italo Quagliani
Dolores Rafferty
Angie Rall
Maurice Redmond
Arlene Grace Rehak
Betsy Reiff
William Ritchie Jr.
Murtha Rooney
Patricia Ross
Eileen Runge
Steven Sapienza
Mary Scally
Ted Schultz
Richard Sikes Sr.
Jeannette Simek
Kimberly Skarr
Frances Skemp
Richard Smith
Cade Spartz
Marilynn Spinazola
Evan Staldman
Celeste Stanton
Richard Staten
Richard Swin
Ron Tamer
Salvatore Terracina
John Tevenan
Kenneth Topolinski
Frank Trifilio
Rita Uckerman
Andrea Ulcek
Jacqueline Walsh
Lorraine Walters
Dorothy Wawrzyniak
Monica Westell
Leonard Wilcoer
Tina Zagroba
Janeen Zordani
May the love of God and the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ bless and console us and gently wipe every tear from our eyes: in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Lord God, you are attentive to the voice of our pleading. Let us find in your Son comfort in our sadness, certainty in our doubt, and courage to live through this hour. Make our faith strong through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For all who have suffered the loss of a child, we pray that Christ may be their support. Compassionate God, soothe the hearts of N. and N., and grant that through the prayers of Mary, who grieved by the Cross of her Son, you may enlighten their faith, give hope to their hearts, and peace to their lives.

Lord, grant mercy to all the members of this family and comfort them with the hope that one day we will all live with you, with your Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

As long as we live, they too will live; for they are now are apart of us; as we remember them.

May God give us peace in our sorrow, consolation in our grief, and strength to accept his will in all things. Amen.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
Living the Gospel

To test Jesus the Pharisees questioned him about “which commandment in the law is the greatest.” Each Pharisee, no doubt, had some commandment governing religious practice he judged to be the most important. Jesus’ answer to the Pharisees takes his hearers beyond any individual commandment or practice to the foundation of them all: loving God with one’s whole being and loving neighbor as oneself. Keeping religious laws—no matter how meticulously—means nothing if the motivation for our actions is not love for God and others. Law and love cannot be separated if either is to bring deepened relationships and unity, harmony and justice, which are ultimately the goal of both law and love. The law of love is a law of hearts turned toward Other and others.

In a crime-laden society such as ours we tend not to trust the stranger—the one we meet on the street or the one who might come to our door. On the one hand, we must be careful and protect ourselves and our loved ones. On the other hand, we must be genuinely sensitive to others’ needs. If someone comes to our door and needs to use the phone, we can offer to make the call for them; if we see something happening that is wrong, we can take responsibility and call the police or other agency; we can do something so simple as hold a store door open for someone who is package-laden. In these and countless other ways each day we not only do our love for our neighbor, but in those acts we also show our love for God. This is our most important priority: to love God in the neighbor we meet every day.

Background on the Gospel

This week’s Gospel follows close behind the Gospel read last Sunday. It is the last of three questions put to Jesus by Jewish religious leaders who are trying to trick him into saying something that might get him arrested. This reminds us that the context for today’s reading is the mounting tension between Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem.

The Herodians and the Pharisees asked the first question, which was about taxes. The Sadducees asked the second question, which was about the Resurrection (see Matthew 22:22-33). The third question, considered in today’s Gospel, is asked by a Pharisee who asks Jesus about the greatest of the commandments.

The question requires Jesus to interpret the Law of Moses. The Mosaic Law consists of the Ten Commandments and many additional rules, numbering over six hundred. Adherence to the Mosaic Law, for a devout Jew, is an expression of faithfulness to God’s covenant with Israel. The ranking of the Commandments was regularly debated among the teachers of the Law.

Jesus answers the Pharisees’ question with a two-fold summary. Jesus says that all of the commandments can be summarized in two commandments: love God and love your neighbor. Both of these were central elements of the religious tradition Jesus learned from his Jewish community. Indeed these continue to be central aspects of contemporary Jewish religious understanding. Jesus’ response to his questioners proposed an integral connection between these two aspects of the Jewish Law. Love of God finds its expression in our love for our neighbor. Loyola Press

As we have been loved, so must we love.

May we show loving concern for those who come to us for guidance and help, love and support. May we grow in our love for each other and in our outreach to those in need.
Thank You Note to SJC

Dear Friends,

As you might have seen, Sr. Donna, myself and 6 mothers from Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation (PBMR) were on the launch of Megyn Kelly’s new show in New York. It is funny how these things happen. Someone from here in Chicago knew a reporter from NBCU in New York and mysteriously that developed into the trip to NYC.

I cannot think of a better person than Sr. Donna Liette to carry the message that mothers and children are hurting, not only from lack of resources, but from the lack of being loved. So often these mothers carry a burden of shame, guilt and hopelessness. Sr. Donna interrupts those feelings with her unconditional love.

As we made our way to NYC we didn't know what to expect. But we kept saying over and over that the message we want to give this broad audience is: that our mothers/families and children need to know that they have not been forgotten. There is nothing worse than to feel as though no one is listening or that no one cares—being left alone with your pain, feeling eclipsed. I think we delivered that message well from the responses we are receiving now from viewers and businesses.

PBMR works tirelessly to reach out to those who have been impacted by violence and incarceration. We are not heroes, we are just doing what we are called to do—love God and love one another—with no expectations.

Frankly, the real heroes are those we hear about in Las Vegas who, in the midst of the violence, stopped to help the dying and wounded. We sometimes miss the incredible goodness of people amidst the tales of violence and pain.

Danny is a young man who is frequently seen at PBMR. I find him an amazing person. He has had his issues: he has been locked up, been shot twice, then two years ago, the apartment he and his family were staying in caught fire. It was an early morning fire. Danny and his younger brother escaped by jumping out the second floor window. He broke his leg and arm. His brother was also hurt in the fall. Even in the dense smoke they worked to ensure that everyone was out of the apartment before they jumped. However, they didn't know that their little sister was still in the apartment, hiding in the corner. She died in the fire.

As you can imagine, he has struggled with grief and guilt. Being the older brother, he felt responsible. He carries a lot of trauma. Little by little he has opened up and shared some of his pain. He and I have talked about his little sister; he has been able to put words to the guilt he carries. Today, he is participating in a group at the hospital called “Healing Hurt People,” which aims to bring together hurting people in order to help them overcome their trauma. He is just one of the many of our young men who continually struggle to overcome all the trauma in their lives. Now he is an ambassador of healing and reconciliation.

Recently he gave me one of his pieces of art that he creates at an art studio—he does glass blowing. It is an amazing creation which reminds me that out of pain and hurt new life is possible.

I cannot begin to thank you enough for your generosity. You have been willing to journey along with us through your prayers and financial support so that no one is forgotten or left alone in their pain. Your support and generosity is what allows us to continue this work.

In gratitude,
Fr. Dave Kelly

We are called to love God and love one another.

PBMR in the News
Watch Sr. Donna from Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation on NBC News.
PBMR is a SJC Sharing Partnership.
Go to our parish website: www.stjohnofthecross.org/outreach

Let us all work together to promote peace among peoples and guarantee respect for human rights.
Pope Francis @Pontifex October 24
The best legacy children can receive from parents is faith.

YC Classes

Sunday 10:15-11:30am - Oct 29, Nov 5, 12, Dec 3, 10, 17
Monday 6:15-7:30pm - Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, Dec 4, 11, 18
Adapted Catechesis - Sun 9:00-10:00am - Nov 5, Dec 3, 17
Family Faith Connections - Noon to 1:30pm - Nov 5, Dec 3
7th and 8th gr Small Groups - in homes Nov 5; on campus either Nov 12 or 13

Second graders learn about our church at SJC by coloring all the different areas of the sanctuary and discovering the purpose and use of each of them. Students receive their First Eucharist in May.

Let yourself be guided by the tenderness of God so that you may transform the world with your faith.
Pope Francis @Pontifex October 19

YC Catechists use active learning tools to help our youth understand our faith. The children matched one half of a beatitude with the other and used a cloth line to get them connected. They took “Blessed are the poor in spirit” and found “for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” This activity uses several of the different learning styles that aid youth in understanding – visual, logical, aural, verbal and physical.

YC: Excellence in Religious Education

Fr. Bill led 200 7th grade youth in a beautiful Commitment Ceremony this month in which the youth are accepted into the Confirmation preparation program. They offered their promise to be engaged in learning and growing in faith as they journey in small faith sharing groups to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. May God bless their journey.
This week our students celebrated Red Ribbon Week the nation’s oldest and largest drug prevention program. This week gives young people the opportunity to pledge to live a drug-free life and focus on healthy lifestyle choices. The nationwide theme this year is “Your Future is Key, so Stay Drug Free.”

On Monday our students were given red leis to wear all week to symbolize “Lei off of unhealthy behaviors.” Throughout the week the student wore ties and bracelets to take a stand against not being tied down to unhealthy behaviors. On another day they wore their hair in crazy styles to show they won’t let unhealthy deeds mess with their heads. Many of our students look forward to and participate in this fabulous week dedicated to teaching our children to stay drug free.

Harvest Saturday is Just Around the Corner
- Flyer Day—Saturday, November 4 from 9-11am. Distribute flyers to homes in Western Springs.
- Box Night—Friday, November 10 from 6:00-7:30pm (for Confirmation candidates) Assemble the boxes that will hold the food donations. No need to sign up.
- Harvest Saturday—November 11 Pick up food donations, sort and box the food, or help to deliver it to food pantries. Check in starts at 8:30am, and we will celebrate Mass at 9am in the Parish Center. No need to sign up to volunteer but if you are going to be a driver, please sign up at www.stjohnofthecross.org/harvestsaturday. Questions? Contact Wendy Duquette at wsdukes@sbcglobal.net

Identity Retreat
Our team of teen leaders have been working hard to plan this year’s Freshmen/Sophomore Retreat! This new and exciting combined effort among SJC, St. Cletus, and St. Francis Xavier parishes gives teens the opportunity to meet lots of other high schoolers learning about their faith. All freshmen and sophomores are invited to join our youth ministries for a weekend of prayer, reflection, and community on January 12-14, 2018 at Dickson Valley Camp in Newark, IL. Registration can be found at www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/retreats

Holy Fire
Crossroads brought 7th graders to the Holy Fire conference in Chicago last weekend. It was a great day of faith, friendship, and fun!

Catholic Parenting Renewal
(some CPR for parents!) How do we Prioritize Faith in a Secular World? Sunday, November 12 from 10:15-11:30am in the Parish Center. This session will be led BY parents FOR parents. Mark your calendar for future dates: 1/21 at 10:15am; 2/11 at 10:15am; 3/4 at 6:30pm.

Last Call for Boys Basketball!
Registration closes at Noon on October 31. Register at www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/sports/

Father of Light and Wisdom, thank you for giving me a mind that can know and a heart that can love. Help me to keep learning every day of my life-- no matter what the subject may be. Let me be convinced that all knowledge leads to you, and let me know how to find you and love you in all the things you have made. Encourage me when life’s busy-ness gets difficult and when I am tempted to give up. Enlighten me when my mind is slow and help me to grasp the truth held out to me. Grant me the grace to put my knowledge to use in building the kingdom of God on earth so that I may enter the kingdom of God in heaven. Amen.

This Week at SJC
October 30 Pre School Halloween Parties 10:15-11:15am
October 31 1st/8th Grade Halloween Parade 1:30pm
All School Halloween Parties 2:15-3:15pm
November 1 All School Liturgy 9:15am
November 2 5-8th Grade Dismissal 12pm
Parent/Teacher Conferences 1-8pm
November 3 No School
Parent/Teacher Conferences 9am–3pm
November 3 Confirmation Sponsor Night 6:30pm

St. John of the Cross Parish  October 29, 2017  30th Sunday in Ordinary Time  Page 9
please join us
'Tis the Season to be Grateful fashion show

Thursday, November 16th

6:30pm Reception
heavy appetizers & open bar

8:30pm Runway Show
trendsetting fashion in traditional runway style

9:30pm Post Show
dessert, coffee & lite shopping

Drury Lane
100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace

event details

General Admission Ticket $75
Traditional Runway Fashion Show
Two Hour Open Bar
Heavy Appetizers & Dessert/Coffee Service
Silent Auction
Basket Raffle
Light Shopping

RSVP on our parish website or at the Parish Center.
Raffle tickets will be sold in the Parish Center after Masses next weekend!

VIP Ticket Price $85
*Limited tickets available
Want the best seat in the house?
Ticket price includes general admission perks
PLUS front row seating

Grand Raffle Ticket Prices
$5/per ticket or $25/per booklet (6 tickets)

Grand Raffle
First Prize: $1000
Second Prize: $500
Third Prize: $250
Parish News

The Faith Communities of Western Springs invite you to
An Evening of Taizé Prayer
St. John of the Cross Church
Tuesday, November 7 at 7pm

Adoration: Be Still and Know the Lord
Listen for that still, small voice as God’s presence in the Blessed Sacrament draws you ever-more deeply into relationship. It is by simply being present that you come to discover the grace that is leading you in your desire to know and understand God’s will.

Come and pray before the Blessed Sacrament on Mondays in the Mary Chapel between 2:30-9pm. The Divine Chaplet is prayed at 2:30pm and the Rosary at 8:45pm. Special intentions are offered during the Rosary. The remaining time is spent in silence and solitude before our Savior.

If you would like to be a part of the Adoration Team helping to lead group prayer at 2:30 or 8:45 please call Dan Kelly at 708-246-1971.

Job Search Assistance
Quarterly Resume Review on Saturday, November 4 from 9:30-11:30am at St. Cletus. Come in for a helpful one-on-one conversation with a HR or other search related professional for some ideas and suggestions that may enhance or refresh your resume. Looking for some helpful job search strategies? Need some coaching with your elevator speech? This is a great opportunity for you or someone you know in a job search. Interfaith Career Network offers job support through various programs throughout the month. For further information, please visit the ICN website at www.interfaithcareernetwork.org

Scout Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, November 19 after the morning Masses
All are invited to enjoy fellowship and a delicious pancake breakfast cooked by our Parish Scouts and the Men’s Club. Tickets are $7 for adults and $4 for children ages 5-10. Kids under 5 are free. All tickets purchased before the 19th are discounted $1. Drop off your ticket money/check and contact information in an envelope at the Parish Center office. Call Scout Leader John Spitkovsky at 708-579-3316 with any questions.

Annual Scout Wreath Sale
Parish Scouts are accepting orders for Christmas wreaths, garland, and other decorations through November 1. Stop in the Parish Center for an order form or go to our parish website. Proceeds from the sale benefit scouting activities throughout the year. The Scouts will be in the Parish Center lobby after Masses this weekend to take your order.

Jesus gave us the light which shines in the darkness. Defend and protect this light: it is the greatest treasure entrusted to you.
Pope Francis @Pontifex October 23
Caring for Loved Ones at Life’s End

An old Irish proverb says, “It is in the shelter of each other that people live.” Indeed, we are created to depend upon one another and walk together in suffering. But when family members or friends approach life’s end, we may not know how best to “shelter” them. Here are some concrete ways we can compassionately care for them.

1. **Invite God In**: Pope Francis has said, “Praying in difficult situations is like opening the door to the Lord, in order that he might enter.” The dying process is a sacred time—a final season to seek closure in this life and prepare for the next in the hope of sharing in Christ’s Resurrection. As you enter into this season with your friend or family member, ask God to accompany both of you.

2. **Listen**: Try to discover your loved one’s values and how best to honor his or her wishes. This requires true empathy. It can be hard not to assume he or she wants the same thing you think you would want if you were in the same situation. Listen with a non-judgmental ear so your loved one feels free to speak openly.

3. **Inform Yourself**: Be aware that wishes for refusing ordinary or proportionate treatment—or for pursuing assisted suicide—are usually rooted in fears of dependency, helplessness or pain. Make yourself available to discuss these or any concerns. Know that hospice care focuses on alleviating pain and other symptoms, meeting basic needs, and providing comfort. Seek to understand the Catholic Church’s teaching on end-of-life care, which can help you provide authentically loving support that respects life.

4. **Be Steadfast in Compassion**: As Pope Francis reminds us, “Compassion means suffer with.” Your friend or family member will likely face ups and downs. Recognize these as part of a natural process. Surround him or her with love, support, and companionship that are “anchored in unconditional respect for their human dignity, beginning with respect for the inherent value of their lives.” The patient’s suffering can be alleviated by your empathy as well as by quality hospice care by medical personnel.

5. **Help Them Achieve Closure**: Help your family member or friend define the unfinished personal projects, financial concerns, unresolved relationships, or other matters that occupy his or her mind. Due to changing circumstances, some goals may need to be reframed. Creating and accomplishing this list of unfinished business can help the person discover a sense of purpose and feel more at peace.

6. **Provide Opportunities for Resolution**: Ira Byock, hospice medical director, illustrated in his book *The 4 Most Important Things* how saying, “I love you,” “I’m sorry,” “I forgive you,” and “Thank you” can promote much needed healing during the dying process. You can help ensure a peaceful transition for your loved one by facilitating opportunities for reconciliation with others and for mutual expressions of love and gratitude. Consider offering to invite a priest to hear his or her confession and to administer the Eucharist as viaticum and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, all of which heal the soul and prepare us to meet the Lord.

7. **Reminisce**: Our appetites diminish as our bodies experience a decreased need for food and fluids when we near life’s end. Provide smaller amounts of your family member or friend’s favorite foods. Even if unable to eat them, he or she may still enjoy the aromas and reminisce with you about special memories they evoke.

8. **Provide a Peaceful Presence**: There comes a time of natural withdrawal from surroundings when dying persons may lose interest in many activities that used to be enjoyable. Your own quiet, patient presence can provide important support as your loved one prepares emotionally and spiritually for his or her passing. Hearing can become very acute, so placing the phone in another room, playing favorite music, reading a favorite passage, praying together, or simply sitting quietly with him or her can all be very soothing.

9. **Show Tenderness**: Those who are dying remain in need of the tenderness of personal human contact. Ask if you might gently brush your loved one’s hair, apply lotion to her hands or feet, or simply hold his hand. Tell stories, laugh, and share memories to reassure the person he or she is a cherished gift, not a burden in any way.

10. **Bear Their Transition Patiendy**: Transition, the time immediately preceding death, may bring rapid physical changes, such as in breathing patterns, as well as changes in mental or emotional states. Try to be patient, and allow the “how” and “when” of death to be between God and your loved one. Ask God for the wisdom to know what final words to say—if any—and when. As you are able, give your loved one permission to make the transition. For example, you might say, “I love you. It’s okay to go home now.” Accompanying a loved one in his or her last days is enormously important work, but we do not need to fear our own limitations. Pope Francis tells us, “God comes to assist us in our weakness. And his help consists in helping us accept his presence and closeness to us. Day after day, touched by his compassion, we also can become compassionate towards others.”

As Pope Francis reminds us, Compassion means suffer with.
For the past several weeks adults and their sponsors have been meeting to inquire about becoming Catholic. For those who choose to continue the process of becoming Catholic, they will be officially welcomed into the next phase of their preparation in the RCIA, the Catechumenate.

This year all of those in our parish seeking to become Catholic have been baptized in a different Christian faith tradition. Because they are already one with us in baptism, they will be welcomed as Candidates. Over the next several months they will be preparing to be received into full communion of the Catholic Church through the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Unlike previous years, this year we do not have any Catechumens, those who are seeking baptism.

In the Rite of Welcome, the Candidates publically declare their intent to be received into full communion. During this Rite, the presider (on behalf of the SJC community) will greet them at the door of church welcoming them with joy. After being welcomed and greeted by the presider, they will be invited to listen to the proclamation of scripture, to gather with us for prayer and to join us in love and service. The Candidates and their parish sponsors will come into the nave (the main body of the church) to be signed with the cross. The presider will trace the sign of the cross on their foreheads and the sponsors and RCIA team will assist in the signing of each of the senses (i.e., ears, eyes, lips, shoulders, hands, and feet) to strengthen them with this sign of Christ’s love.

After the homily, each candidate will be presented with a Bible and the gathered community will pray for them. Because they have been baptized, the Candidates will not be dismissed, but will stay with us for the remainder of the celebration of Eucharist.

It is with great joy that we will welcome these individuals into the Catechumenate. As they begin to study and reflect on the teachings and rituals of our Catholic faith, we, the SJC faith community, will pray for them as we look forward to the day they will share fully with us at the Lord’s Table.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
Special Collection for Mexico and Puerto Rico This Weekend
A second collection will be taken at all Masses this weekend to assist those affected by natural disasters that have occurred over the last few weeks, including Hurricane Maria and the earthquakes in Mexico.

Food Pantry Collection
Please help fill our narthex with nonperishable food and household paper products. This month our donations will be delivered to neighbor parish, St. Cletus. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Grief Support for Children, Teens and Families
Family Night is a monthly grief support program open to children, teens and families who have experienced the death of a family member or close friend. November 2 from 6-7:30pm in Hinsdale. Call Rosie at 630-856-6993 for more information or to register.

Thank You Gardening Angels
We thank all those who have volunteered to plant, water, weed, mulch and clean up our parish gardens throughout the seasons. You have once again done an amazing job!! Our appreciation goes to: Jan Grabacki (Chief Angel), Ann Gornik, Dave Grabacki, Mary Symington, Randy Ferrari, Joyce Ferrari, Jeanne Fec, Diane Ziarno, Christine Cook, Marianne Johnson, Emmett McKerr, Kate Payant, Elle Simek, Grace O’Malley, Mitchell Young, and Leah Miles. Bulbs are even planted for the spring!

For the Love of Jerusalem
All are welcome to come to an interfaith event at Grace Lutheran Church of LaGrange on Sunday, November 12 from 1-3:30PM Listen to guest speakers, Rabbi Brant Rosen, Rev. Mark Swanson and Sheikh Hassan Aly, explore what Jerusalem means to Jews, Christians and Muslims. Round table discussions and Q & A time too. RSVP online for lunch (12:15-1pm) by November 9 or childcare at gracelg.org/Jerusalem.

Petitions Delivered to Lourdes & Fatima
Several of our parishioners who will be traveling to Lourdes and Fatima will place your petitions at the Grotto at Lourdes and the Fatima Shrine. Please drop off your petitions in two envelopes marked Lourdes or Fatima to the Parish Center before November 1.

Apparitions of the Virgin Mary reported in Lourdes, France, in 1858 and in Fatima, Portugal, in 1917. In Lourdes, 14-year-old Bernadette Soubirous witnessed the first of many visions near the Grotto of Massabielle. In Fatima, three shepherd children, Lucia dos Santos and her cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto, saw apparitions of the Virgin Mary. Millions of pilgrims visit Lourdes and Fatima annually to retrace these events and in hopes of miraculous healing.

Be courageous witnesses to Christ in the places where you live and work. 
Pope Francis @Pontifex October 25

Monday, October 30
9:30am Spiritual Journeying
10:30am Step 11 Christian Meditation
1:00pm Little Rock Scripture Study
2:30pm Adoration
YC Classes
7:00pm Boy Scouts
7:00pm RCIA
7:00pm Seasons of Hope Grief Support

Tuesday, October 31
9:05am Tuesdays with Mary Rosary
7:30pm Christian Meditation Group

Wednesday, November 1
Feast of All Saints Holy Day
6:30am Mass
7:45am Mass
9:15am School Mass
9:30am Wednesday Morning Bible Study
2:30pm Christian Meditation
3:30pm St. John of the Cross Study Group
3:45pm Cherub Choir Rehearsal

6:30pm Mass
7:00pm Chicago Catholic Scripture School
7:30pm Traditional Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 2
9:00am Women’s Club Flourish
1:00pm School Parent Teacher Conferences
3:45pm Youth Choir Rehearsal
6:30pm 8th Grade Sponsor Night

7:00pm All Souls Mass of Remembrance
7:00pm Divorce & Beyond Support Group

Friday, November 3
8:00am Archdiocesan Teacher Retreat
8:00am School Parent Teacher Conferences
6:30pm 8th Grade Sponsor Night

Saturday, November 4
7:00am Christian Meditation
Crossroads Flyer Day

Sunday, November 5
Women's Club Coat Drive
YC Classes
10:00am RCIA Luncheon
12:00pm Crossroads Update Meeting
1:00pm Family Faith Connections
1:30pm Baptisms
6:00pm Crossroads Freshmen Experience

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 5 at 2am. We “fall back” by setting our clocks back one hour (i.e., regaining one hour).
### Mass & Reconciliation Schedule & Intentions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Mass or Intentions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, October 30</strong></td>
<td>7:45am</td>
<td>Dorothy Rydzewski; Patrick McNamara</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, October 31</strong></td>
<td>7:45am</td>
<td>Gilda DiMeo; Fr. Bill Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, November 1</strong></td>
<td>6:30am</td>
<td>Byrd Kelly; Bill McGee</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:45am</td>
<td>Marie Capellani; Dave O’Brien</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:15am</td>
<td>School Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, November 2</strong></td>
<td>7:45am</td>
<td>Anthony Jacyno; Greg Nelson; Deceased Members of the Sawak Family</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>All Souls Day Mass of Remembrance</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, November 3</strong></td>
<td>7:45am</td>
<td>Communion Service</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, November 4</strong></td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Delaney O’Connell; Deceased Members of the Maier &amp; Gora Families; Patrick McNamara</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>Byrd Kelly; Joan Jung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, November 5</strong></td>
<td>7:30am</td>
<td>Joe &amp; Joseph Jr. Hathaway; Norbert Patek</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Virginia Rachford; Thomas Foody</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:45am</td>
<td>John Ryan; Joseph Szczera</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:15pm</td>
<td>David Kutz; Elizabeth Pardilla</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>Dolores Harrell; Jack Hughes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Italics: Living Intention**

- Pray for Our Loved Ones Serving Our Country
  - Staff Sgt. Steven Foody, son of Sandra Foody
  - Sergeant Sebastian Grabacki, son of David & Jan Grabacki
  - Sr A Joshua Tischler USAF Pararescue, grandson of Betty & Frank Madler & Mary Tischler
  - Lance Corporal Daniel Pett, nephew of Kathryn Stitemetz
  - Capt. James Maicke, grandson of Phil & Mike Maicke
  - Sgt. Robert Marburger, son of David and Kathleen Marburger
  - Staff Sgt. Larry Waszak, grandson of Bruno and Barbara Gacek
  - Petty Officer 3rd Class Mathew Strafaci, grandson of Sandra & Jim Strafaci
  - Lance Corporal David Strafaci, grandson of Sandra & Jim Strafaci
  - Seaman Emily Strafaci, granddaughter of Sandra & Jim Strafaci
  - Sgt. Michael Grabarek, relative of the LeFevoure and Schilaci families
  - PFC Michael Frazee, grandson of Kay and John Johnson
  - Spc. Douglas Junius, grandson of Ann Junius and son of Sue Junius
  - PFC Kevin Lawinger, grandson of Roe and Bob Lawinger

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**Marriage Banns**

- Colleen Nicholson & William Dawson

**Pray for Our Sick**

- Ginny Beutell
- Kathleen Carpenter
- Crystal Deters
- Nick Dombrowski
- Fr. David Dowdle
- Lynn Freking
- Thomas Halm
- Alice Hogan
- Kay Holden
- Karen Hult
- Dan Hussey
- Virginia Jakubczak
- Mona Khalil
- Cathy Laske
- Erin Lively
- Carol Martin
- Marty McGuire
- Olivia Murphy
- Deacon Pablo Perez
- Geno Pesce
- Terry Pepin
- Frank Pipal
- Marie Principe
- Joe Pustejovsky
- Joel Rivera
- Rachael Schopp
- Cathy Siciliano
- Pete Smykowski
- Claudine Snow
- Brooks Tonn
- Don Vollmer
- Sharon Wildman

**Pray for Our Beloved Dead**

- Eleanor Pyne, mother of Robert and Diana, grandmother of 3
- John Tevenan, uncle of Elizabeth Russell-Jones, brother of Sheila Peebles
- Richard Smith, father of Diane Campion
- Joe Bosco, father of Janice Hemauer, grandfather of 3
- Patricia Muldowney, mother of Patrick and Thomas
- John Coyne, father of Carol, Tom, James, and Michael
- Rev. Arthur Olsen
- Margaret Dorgan

**On Friday, November 3 there will be a Communion Service at 7:45am. On that day Morning Mass at St. Cletus is at 8am and at St. Francis Xavier at 7:45am.**

---

**Rev. David P. Dowdle, Pastor**
ddowdle@stjohnofthecross.org

**Rev. William J. Vollmer, Assoc Pastor**
bvollmer@stjohnofthecross.org

**Deacon John Schopp, Deacon**
john.schopp@newhemispheres.com

**Bill Bright, Director of Outreach**
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**Janet Caschetta, Director of YC**
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**Kathleen Gorman, Principal**
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**Katie Hayes, Dir of Crossroads**
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**Jessica Koch, Director of Music**
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**MJJ Martin, Director of Operations**
mjmartin@stjohnofthecross.org

**Katie Nicholson, Crossroads Coord**
knicolson@stjohnofthecross.org

**Steven Weigand, Pastoral Assoc**
sweigand@stjohnofthecross.org
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