The Christian Churches of Western Springs invite you to begin Holy Week together on Palm Sunday with a Blessing of the Palms. Join Fr. Bill and the other village clergy on March 25 from 8:15-8:30am at the Tower Green of Western Springs. Rain Location: Grand Avenue Community Center, 4211 Grand Avenue.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 17-18</td>
<td><strong>Fifth Sunday of Lent</strong>&lt;br&gt;Crossroads Easter Basket Service Project 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20</td>
<td>Parish Reconciliation Service 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>Lenten Yoga &amp; Meditation 2pm and 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>Stations of the Cross 6pm Church</td>
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<td>March 24</td>
<td>Extended Confession Time after morning Mass</td>
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<td>March 24-25</td>
<td><strong>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</strong>&lt;br&gt;Saturday 5:00pm Vigil&lt;br&gt;Sunday 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:45am, 12:30pm, 5:00pm&lt;br&gt;Return Rice Bowls to church or Parish Center&lt;br&gt;Ecumenical Service at the WS Tower Green 8:15-8:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 29</td>
<td><strong>Holy Thursday</strong>&lt;br&gt;Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper 7pm&lt;br&gt;Adoration until 11pm in Church</td>
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<td>March 30</td>
<td><strong>Good Friday</strong>&lt;br&gt;Stations of the Cross 12pm&lt;br&gt;Passion of the Lord 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 31</td>
<td><strong>Holy Saturday</strong>&lt;br&gt;Blessing of Easter Baskets 11am Parish Center&lt;br&gt;Easter Vigil 7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td><strong>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord</strong>&lt;br&gt;7:30am&lt;br&gt;9:00am&lt;br&gt;9:15am First Floor Multi-Purpose Room in School&lt;br&gt;10:45am&lt;br&gt;11:00am First Floor Multi-Purpose Room in School&lt;br&gt;12:30pm&lt;br&gt;No 5:00 p.m. Mass on Easter Sunday</td>
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*We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.* Romans 6:4

In the sacraments we experience the truth that God desires to touch our hearts and transform our lives with his love. The Sacraments of Initiation are transforming, drawing us into the Church and giving us grace to follow God’s will. Cleansed of sin in Baptism, strengthened by the Holy Spirit in Confirmation, and nurtured by Jesus in the Eucharist, our lives change and we have a new life within us. Using ordinary elements of bread, wine, water, candles, oil, and white garments, we encounter in a physical way the invisible reality of God’s grace.

How do the sacraments nourish my life? Where in my spiritual journey do I most experience “newness of life?”

**Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, continue your work of transformation in my life.** - Loyola Press
Opportunities for Reconciliation in Lent

Parish Reconciliation Service:
Tuesday, March 20 at 7pm in church
Hear God’s word proclaimed, then take part in an examination of conscience. 6 priests from our parish and elsewhere will assist with individual confession and absolution as you are ready. Perfect for all ages.

Private Confessions:
Saturday, March 24 after the 8am Mass
Additional priests will be available to hear confessions. (The sacrament of reconciliation is available every Saturday after the morning Mass, except Holy Saturday.)

Fast & Abstinence
Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent. Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. The special Paschal fast, as well as abstinence, are prescribed for Good Friday and encouraged for Holy Saturday.

Reception Following the Easter Vigil
All are Welcome
As has been our tradition, parishioners are asked to bake homemade desserts for the Easter Vigil Reception. Bring your favorite baked goods to the Parish Center on Holy Saturday until noon. Put your desserts in non-returnable containers, i.e., wrapped on paper plates or in ziplock bags. Please label anything with nuts or items that are gluten free. Any questions can be directed to Steve Weigand in the Parish Center.

Our Offertory Collections on Holy Thursday & Good Friday
On Holy Thursday (as on Thanksgiving) the offertory collection will support our parish Caritas Needy Family Fund. Using the Latin word for “charity” as its name, this fund provides financial support to our parishioners, who through unplanned circumstances face difficulty meeting a critical financial obligation. If you are unable to attend the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday, but still wish to donate to this important collection, you may drop it at the parish center marked for the Caritas SJC Needy Family Fund or go to the Giving tab on our parish website.

Once a year on Good Friday, we are called to support Christians in the Holy Land as requested by Pope Francis. Our Good Friday donations support the work of the Franciscans in the Holy Land, housing and feeding the poor, providing religious formation and education, maintaining shrines and parishes, and conducting pastoral ministry. For more information, visit MyFranciscan.org.

Morning Light
As first light streams through my window and birds are singing to the dawn I rejoice that you have granted me another day of life. Let me use your gift to laugh, to love, to show compassion, to work, to pray and to give. Grant that I will reflect your light in all I do and say this day. Maryknoll
Pictured below are our parish elect being greeted by Bishop Manz at the cathedral at the Rite of Election. In a few short weeks Andrew, Gretchen, Kristi, Jennifer and Jilen will be received in full communion with the Church as they celebrate and receive the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil. Please remember our elect and all those preparing to be received into the Church in prayer.

WE STAND WITH YOU. WE PRAY FOR YOU. O HOLY CHILD OF GOD.
During Lent we reflect on the role we each have in building up God’s one human family.

- Use your CRS Rice Bowl and Lenten Calendar to guide your Lenten prayer, fasting and almsgiving.
- Read the Stories of Hope and daily reflections to inspire your Lenten journey—and guide your Lenten almsgiving.
- Prepare simple meatless meals on Fridays throughout Lent, in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world.

Learn more on our parish website.

Encounter Alefa

Alefa is a mother, grandmother and farmer. She provides for her three children, three grandchildren and husband by selling her crops. If they fail during one of Malawi’s rainy seasons—or in a drought—her family goes hungry. One particularly difficult year, Alefa was forced to sell some of her land to make ends meet.

She knew she had to start planting crops that could withstand Malawi’s changing climate. So, she attended a CRS-sponsored seed fair, where farmers learn the best crops to plant for the upcoming year, and receive vouchers so they can choose the seeds and supplies they need. Besides rice, Alefa bought corn, cabbage and tomato seeds. This way, she can continue farming rice but also feel confident that, even if her rice fails, she will have other crops to sell.

“This harvest will provide food, shelter and education for my family,” she says. In a few short months, Alefa will be growing corn and harvesting hope.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

Catholic social teaching inspires and guides how we are to live and work in the world. In this principle, Option for the Poor and Vulnerable, Jesus tells us to give special care to those who are most in need. He reminds us of our Christian duty to listen closely to those who often go unheard and to help those most vulnerable.

CRS IN MALAWI

Landlocked Malawi ranks among the world’s most densely populated and least developed countries. Malawi ranks 173rd among the 188 countries on the Human Development Index. More than half of the country lives below the poverty line.

Malawi was hard hit by the HIV and AIDS pandemic but over the last few years has seen HIV/AIDS prevalence rates decrease. Catholic Relief Services continues to work with our partners to help people improve their lives through increased food production, improved health, income and access to water and sanitation.
Living the Gospel

“The end is near!” says the placard held by the one who firmly believes in the approaching apocalypse. Many claim to know when a disaster will strike, or when God will send his judgment upon the earth. Some look for signs and discern meaning from natural events. An earthquake might mean the foundations of the world are being shaken, in preparation for God’s judgment. Terrible and violent storms are understood as God’s anger poured out on an unrepentant people. God’s activity is often discerned (rightly or wrongly) by interpreting events in daily life.

In today’s gospel two Greeks (certainly not Jews) attempt to meet Jesus, who rightly perceives this to be the conclusion of his ministry. If even the Greeks (that is, Gentiles) are now coming to see him, the end is near! Death is at the ready. Jesus then begins an eloquent teaching on the necessity of death for bearing fruit, and no mention is made that the Greeks ever met Jesus. Instead, they serve merely as a narrative tool to usher in the final days of Jesus. It’s true that the ancients did not have the knowledge about biology that we have today. Upon hearing the metaphor of a seed dying to produce much fruit, many in a modern audience might critique the analogy. For we know that a seed does not truly die, but the soil, moisture, and light cause an organic change. Still we do not want to lose the message in spite of the metaphor. Only by his death will Jesus’ ministry truly bear fruit. That is the necessary next step. His death is necessary because this is the purpose for which Jesus came. There is no sidestepping or dodging this inevitable end, which is ratified by a voice from heaven. The end is near. ©Living Liturgy

Background on the Gospel

Today’s Gospel reading is taken from the Gospel of John. We are reading much further into John’s Gospel than we have for the past two weeks. Chapter 12 of John’s Gospel is a preparation for the beginning of the passion narrative to follow. Jesus has just raised Lazarus from the dead—an important sign in John’s Gospel, which inspired many people to believe in Jesus. This event also marks the turning point in Jesus’ conflict with the Jewish authorities. John’s Gospel tells us that the Sanhedrin met after this event and made plans to kill Jesus. In the 12th chapter of John’s Gospel, Jesus is anointed at Bethany and enters Jerusalem in triumph. We again see evidence of the significance of the raising of Lazarus to this event; John reports that the crowds also gathered to see Lazarus.

Following his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, Jesus predicted his suffering, death, and Resurrection and prepared his disciples to believe in the salvation that his death would accomplish. Using the metaphor of the grain of wheat, Jesus presented the idea that his dying would be beneficial. He also taught that those who would be his disciples must follow his example of sacrifice. This theme will be repeated in John’s account of the Last Supper, when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples as an example of how they must serve one another.

The final section of today’s Gospel might be read as John’s parallel to the agony in the garden. Unlike the Synoptic Gospels, the Gospel of John does not record Jesus’ anguished prayer in the garden of Gethsemane before his arrest. Although comparable words are found in today’s reading, Jesus gives a confident response to the question he raises when asking God to save him from his impending death. After announcing his conviction that it is for this purpose that he came, a voice from heaven speaks, as if in answer to Jesus’ prayer. This voice, like the one heard at Jesus’ baptism and at Jesus’ Transfiguration—events reported in the Synoptic Gospels but not in John’s Gospel—affirms that God welcomes the sacrifice that Jesus will make on behalf of others. In John’s Gospel, Jesus teaches that this voice was sent for the sake of those who would believe in him.

In today’s Gospel, we also hear Jesus speak about the cosmic framework against which we are to understand his passion, death, and Resurrection. Through his death and Resurrection, Jesus conquered Satan, the ruler of this world. In this way the world is judged, but the judgment is not condemnation. Instead, through Jesus’ dying and rising, salvation is brought to the world. Loyola Press

©Living Liturgy
Prayer

We make the sign of the cross in the hope that we might know its height and its depth, its width and its breadth, and the life to which it invites us.

Come, O Life-giving creator, and rattle the door latch of my slumbering heart.
Awaken me as you breathe upon a winter-wrapped earth, gently calling to life virgin Spring.
Awaken in these fortified days of Lenten prayer and discipline my youthful dream of holiness.
Call me from the prison of my numerous past defeats and my narrow patterns of being to make my ordinary life extra-ordinarily alive through the passion of my love.
Show to me during these Lenten days how to take the daily things of life and by submerging them in the sacred to infuse them with a great love for you, O God, and for others.
Guide me to perform simple acts of love and prayer, the real works of reform and renewal of this overture to the spring of the Spirit.
O Father of Jesus, Mother of Christ, help me not to waste these precious Lenten days of my soul's spiritual springtime.

PRAYER FOR PARISH GROUPS

Creator God, in the cross you have broken open for us the crown of life. Give us love for what you command and a longing for what you promise, so that amid this world's changes, our hearts may be awakened to a world of lasting joy.

Knowing you as my friend, I simply say, Jesus, I love you.
When I am tired, I'll still try to say, Jesus, I love you.
When I find it hard to forgive, I'll remember to say, Jesus, I love you.
When darkness comes and I don't know where you are, I'll find you by saying, Jesus, I love you.
What trouble can shake me, what suffering can overcome me, if I always repeat, Jesus, I love you.
For the joys you give me, for the graces you grant me, my thanks will always be, Jesus, I love you.
And when the evening of life comes and you invite me home, let me say one last time, Jesus, I love you.

Life can be hard. Sometimes guidance isn't enough. Instead, we need a miracle. The miracle of peace. A changed heart. A healed relationship. A new way of looking at something or someone. Forgiveness. Reconciliation. For ourselves or for others. Dare we ask? Yes, for scripture reminds us constantly to pray and reassures us that God indeed hears our prayers.
Food Pantry Collection in the Church Narthex
In March our food pantry donations will be delivered to St. Blase in Summit. Over 1000 families receive food each month from the pantry which frequently runs out of food to distribute to those in need. When you come to Mass please bring one or two food items to share with the St. Blase Food Pantry. Their greatest needs include: macaroni and cheese, rice, beans, soups—but any food item will be appreciated. Thank you for your care and generosity to those living in poverty in our area.

Spotlight on Interfaith Community Partners
St. John of the Cross Parish is one of 14 area churches that partners with Interfaith Community Partners to help seniors live independently. The mission of ICP is to maximize the independence and well-being of older adults by enabling connections with others in their community.

Last year 108 ICP volunteers provided transportation to 288 care partners (seniors) totaling 3,833 rides to the grocery, hair salon, bank, church, or the doctor—all life-enhancing, important errands. Each year the need for transportation increases.

More than a ride, the grateful care partners connect with the volunteer drivers as they share stories and develop friendships. In order to live in their own home, transportation is one of the top concerns among able seniors without family living nearby. ICP also connects with the seniors by providing library service, holiday meals, and spring flower arrangements.

Our parish has been instrumental in the success of ICP. With parishioner Bob Grecco serving as President of the Board of Directors, 19 parishioners volunteer on a regular basis, providing almost 700 rides or 5,187 transportation miles last year.

If you are a senior in need of transportation please call ICP at 708-354-9328 to learn more. If you are interested in becoming an ICP volunteer, call or visit interfaithcommunitypartners.org. You can also learn more by talking to some of our parish ICP volunteers who are active in our parish faith community: Bob & Ginny Grecco, Jack DeMars, Carl Eigelsbach, Joyce Ferrari, Sharon Gardner, Susan Gibbons, Ann-Marie Hickey, Kathleen King, John Krivicich, William Krug, Ed Lange, Jeanette Martin, Alexandria Meccia, Terese Rehmer, Karen Swinehart, Mary Symington, Elaine Thompson and Kerri Watson.

Volunteers Needed for Parish Garden Angels
Our Garden Angels Group is seeking help for the 2018 season. Volunteers are needed to prepare the gardens, plant, water and weed. You can help for a project or two like Spring Clean Up in April or Planting Days in May or consider being on our team of regular gardeners throughout the season.

Volunteers can be of all ages including Confirmation candidates and Crossroads teens. It doesn’t matter if you don’t know a flower from a weed—Your energy and enthusiasm is really all we need!!

If you would like to be a part of this dedicated and energetic group or have additional questions contact: Head Angel: Jan Grabacki at 331-903-3135 (Home) or 630-204-5264 (Cell) or via email at beaconjan@aol.com.
The best legacy children can receive from parents is faith.

John Grossman talks with our 7th grade youth about the importance of being Christ to others, reaching out to those in need and living as the hands of goodness in the world.

Lord Jesus fill my heart with your love so you can do your work through me. Amen.

Easter Basket Service Project
All parish 3rd & 4th graders and Crossroads teens are invited to join us TODAY from 6-7pm in the Parish Center to make Easter Baskets for underprivileged children. Please bring small toys and candy to fill the baskets. Come and be a part of this rewarding fun event!
Recently our Parish School first graders planned and led our all school Liturgy. They reminded our school community that of all the gifts God can give us, there is nothing greater in this life than God’s love. When we are patient and kind towards one another, it shows the world what Jesus is like. As followers of Jesus, our 1st graders shared examples of how we can all spread God’s love with others every day.

God has created us to love and be loved and this is the beginning of prayer—to know that he loves me, that I have been created for greater things. 

Mother Theresa
Living Stations of the Cross
Good Friday at Noon in Church
All are welcome to pray the Stations of the Cross led by our parish high school teens.
All parish teens are invited to participate in our Living Stations of the Cross dramatization. Teens serve as lectors or actors during the service, and there are some non-speaking roles. Rehearsals will be held on March 22 from 6-7:30pm, March 25 from 2:45-4:15pm, and on Good Friday from 10am until noon. Contact Liam at 708-506-0387 to join us for this prayerful experience!

Easter Basket Service Project
All parish 3rd & 4th graders and Crossroads teens are invited to join us TODAY from 6-7pm in the Parish Center to make Easter Baskets for underprivileged children. Please bring small toys and candy to fill the baskets. Come and be a part of this rewarding fun event!

Contact Teen Leaders:
Brandt Siegfried bsiegfried13@gmail.com
Topher Fryzel topher0900@yahoo.com
or
Katie Hayes khayes@stjohnofthecross.org
with questions.

Girls’ Church League Basketball
High school girls of the parish are invited to join our Church League Team. Registration forms are on our website. Games begin April 7!

St. John of the Cross Parish  Fifth Sunday of Lent  March 18, 2018  Page 12
The poet, Rumi, suggests that we live with a deep secret that sometimes we know, then not, and then know again. That’s a good description of faith. Faith isn’t something you nail down and possess once and for all. It goes this way: Sometimes you walk on water and sometimes you sink like a stone.

The Gospels testify to this, most graphically, in the story of Peter walking on the water: Jesus asks Peter to step out of a boat and walk across the water to him. At first it works; Peter, unthinking, walks on the water, then becoming more conscious of what he is doing he sinks like a stone. We see this too in the massive fluctuations in belief that Jesus’ disciples experience during the “forty days” after the resurrection. Jesus would appear to them, they would trust he was alive, then he would disappear again, and they would lose their trust and go back to the lives they’d led before they met him: fishing and the sea. The post-resurrection narratives illustrate the dynamics of faith pretty clearly: You believe it. Then you distrust. Then you believe it again. At least, so it seems on the surface.

We see another example of this in the story of Peter betraying Jesus. In Mark’s Gospel, Jesus tells us that there is a secret which separates those who have faith from those who don’t: To you is given the secret of the kingdom, but to those outside everything exists in parables. That sounds like Gnosticism, that is, the idea that there’s a secret code somewhere (e.g., The Di Vinci Code) that some know and some don’t and you are in or out depending upon whether you know it or not. But that’s not what Jesus is saying here. His secret is an open one, accessible to all: the meaning of the cross. Anyone who understands this will understand the rest of what Jesus means, and vice versa. We are in or out, depending upon whether or not we can grasp and accept the meaning of Jesus’ death.

But, being in or out isn’t a once and for all thing. Rather, we move in and out! After Peter denied Jesus, we’re told: “he went outside”. This is intended both literally and metaphorically. After his denial, Peter stepped outside a gate into the night to be away from the crowd, but he also stepped outside the meaning of his faith.

Our faith also bounces up and down for another reason, we misunderstand how it works: Take for example the Rich Young Man who approaches Jesus with this question: “Good master, what must I do to possess eternal life?” That’s an interesting choice of a verb: to possess. Eternal life as a possession? Jesus’ gentle correction of the young man’s verb teaches us something vital about faith. Jesus says to him: “Now if you wish to receive eternal life”, meaning that faith and eternal life are not something you possess so that they can be stored and guarded like grain in a barn, money in a bank, or jewelry in a box. They can only be received, like the air we breathe. Air is free, is everywhere, and our health doesn’t depend upon its presence, for it’s always there, but rather upon the state of our lungs (and mood) at any given moment. Sometimes we breathe deeply and appreciatively; but, sometimes, for various reasons, we breathe badly, gasp for breath, are out of breath, or are choking for air. Like breathing, faith too has its modalities.

And so, we need to understand our faith not as a possession or as something we achieve once and for all, which can be lost only by some huge, dramatic, life-changing shift inside of us, where we move from belief to atheism. “Faith isn’t some constant state of belief,” suggests Abraham Heschel, “but rather a sort of faithfulness, a loyalty to the moments when we’ve had faith.”

And that teases out something else: To be real, faith need not be explicitly religious, but can express itself simply in faithfulness, loyalty, and trust. For example, in a powerful memoir written as she was dying of cancer, The Bright Hour, Annie Riggs shares her strong, but implicit, faith as she calmly faces her death. Not given to explicit religious faith, she is challenged at one point by a nurse who says to her: “Faith, you gotta have it, and you’re gonna need it!” The comment triggers a reflection on her part about what she does or doesn’t believe in. She comes to peace with the question and her own stake in it with these words: “For me, faith involves staring into the abyss, seeing that it is dark and full of the unknown - and being okay with that.”

We need to trust the unknown, knowing that we will be okay, no matter that on a given day we might feel like we are walking on water or sinking like a stone. Faith is deeper than our feelings.

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser
Easter Book Study at SJC
To Know Christ Jesus by Frank Sheed

All are welcome to a book study that takes an up close and personal study of our Risen Lord as he is presented in the Gospels. The group will be facilitated by Madonna Muscarello on Tuesdays beginning April 17 from 10am-11:30am through May 8 in the Parish Center. Call the Parish Center office to register. Purchase your book in advance through Amazon and read the first 100 pages before the first session. Pick up your study guide with an introduction to the book and study questions at the Parish Center. Questions can be directed to Madonna at gracious@gmail.com.

SJC Sponsored Programs at The Well
1515 N. Ogden Avenue in LaGrange Park
Free for SJC Parishioners
Call the Parish Center to Register

Inspiration in a Time of Climate Change
Marya Grathwahl, OSF and Helen Prejean, CSJ
Saturday, Apr. 21 9:30am – Noon—On this Earth Day, Franciscan Sister Marya Grathwahl, founder of Earth Hope, will receive the 2017 Sacred Universe Award. Join us as Marya and Sister Helen Prejean, world-renowned writer and speaker, weave stories of justice, oneness, and hope for our Universe. Free to parishioners of co-sponsoring parish SJC. Pre-registration greatly appreciated.

Untying the Knots – Polarization in America
NEW DATE: Originally Scheduled for March 24
Saturday, June 2 from 9:00 – 12:30pm
— Facilitator: Mike McGillicuddy—Trust is eroding, lifelong friendships are fraying, families are becoming estranged and faith traditions are impacted by polarization, as well. In this interactive workshop, Mike will invite participants to step outside their comfort zones, explore the worldviews of others with curiosity and humility, while refraining from persuasion and judgement. The focus is on identifying and building upon what we have in common rather than debating the contested issues that divide us. Mike McGillicuddy holds a bachelor’s degree in Theology from Christian Brothers University in Memphis, a master’s degree in Industrial Relations from Loyola University of Chicago, and master’s degrees in both Sociology and Social Work from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Better Angels Workshop
There’s a lot of stress these days among family members and friends who are divided politically, and the current polarized public conversation doesn’t help. Please join Better Angels, better-angels.org, for a workshop to sharpen skills for having respectful conversations, ones that clarify differences, search for common ground, and affirm the importance of relationships. When: Saturday, April 7th from 10:00am to 12:30pm. Where: SJC Parish Center. The workshop is free of charge, but advance registration is required. Please register with an email to michael.mcgillicuddy@gmail.com.
Mass & Reconciliation Schedule & Intentions

**Monday, March 19**  
_Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary_  
7:45am Jeremiah & Mary Albertson; Jacque Walsh & Jack Walsh; Robert Neri

**Tuesday, March 20**  
_Lenten Weekday_  
7:45am Ada Hickey; Bob Cosgrove; Our Beloved Dead

**Wednesday, March 21**  
_Lenten Weekday_  
7:45am James and Chris Baldwin; Francis Reilly

**Thursday, March 22**  
_Lenten Weekday_  
7:45am Peggy Dine; Jim Ryan

**Friday, March 23**  
_Lenten Weekday St. Turibius of Mogrovejo_  
7:45am Patricia Wadman; Edward Nevera

**Saturday, March 24**  
8:00am Deceased members of Joseph Frank family; Mary Alice Scally  
~ Confessions after Morning Mass ~  
5:00pm Robert Plechaty; Michael Durschmid

**Sunday, March 25**  
_Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord_  
7:30am Bruno Shukis; Ada Hickey  
9:00am Raul Esquivel; Jacqueline Walsh  
10:45am Lorraine Luther; Amelia Marchese  
12:30pm Karen Nawrocki; Oscar Pardillo  
~ This Mass starts 15 minutes later than usual ~  
5:00pm Donnie Kruse; Estella Kronk

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Pray for Our Sick  
Fawwaz Al-Zyoud  
Charlene Behrends  
Kathleen Carpenter  
Crystal Deters  
Lynn Freking  
Rich Gamache  
Thomas Halm  
Kay Holden  
Karen Hult  
Virginia Jakubczak  
Cheri Jeffrey  
Kevin Jesswein  
Cathy Laskey  
Susan Fec Lederer  
Bill Lenz  
Erin Lively  
Palma Martorano  
Marty McGuire  
Rev. Jerry Mulcahy  
Olivia Murphy  
Kathy Pecis  
Deacon Pablo Perez  
Geno Pesce  
Terry Pepin  
Frank Pipal  
Marie Princep  
Joe Pustejovsky  
Beth Scanlan  
Rachael Schopp  
Julie Schurba  
Claudine Snow  
Maggie Stott  
Shawn Sweeney  
Don Vollmer  
Sharon Wildman

Pray for Our Beloved Dead  
William Sheridan, brother of Mary Novotny  
Joseph Hlavin, father of James, Peter, Karen Helm, Justin, grandfather of 8  
Albert Januska, father of Paul, grandfather of 2  
Ruth Peters, mother of Janes and Joann Pollack

Marriage Banns  
Stacie Pelletier & John Hamilton  
Robyn Hund & Christopher Betz

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Attention all Altar Servers, Communion Ministers, and Lectors:  
Please remember to check your “Junk Mail/Spam” accounts on occasion. It has come to our attention that emails from our Ministry Scheduler Pro (MSP) software sometimes are caught by your email carrier in these accounts, even when that has never been the case. Email carriers periodically update their spam filters which may cause this occurrence. We are usually unable to assist you in these situations. If you have problems with receiving messages, please check that your email address is correct in your online profile or call the MSP Help number, 888-622-0949. The MSP staff are very helpful in resolving issues.

Our MSP system is the primary communication tool we use in scheduling and in seeking volunteers for all our Masses and our special services such as those for the upcoming Triduum celebrations and Easter Sunday. Please check your mobile app or computer to see which slots still need to be filled for these important dates. If you have any other questions, please contact Pat Surdyk (psurdyk@stjohnofthecross.org). Thank you!

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Stay in the Know! Like SJC on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/sjcwesternsprings
The best legacy children can receive from parents is faith.

Registration is Open for Fall 2018
Parents of all youth Kindergarten through 8th grade:
Please stop in the School Multi-Purpose Room today
Sunday, March 18 from 9am until 11:30am
OR
Monday, March 19 from 6pm until 8pm
to register your child in YC for next fall.
New families should bring their child’s baptism certificate if not baptized at SJC.

Consider becoming part of the YC team as a Catechist or Classroom Aide and share your faith with the youth of our parish. Learn more on our website.