The SPIRIT of the LORD is upon me for he sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor.
Welcome to St. John of the Cross Parish!

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

Rev. Joseph McDonnell, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Filbert Ngwila, Associate Pastor
fnwgila@stjohnofthecross.org

Deacon Tom & Mary Kay McGorey, Senior Deacon
Deacon Joe & Mary Pepitone, Senior Deacon
Deacon John & Mary Ellen Schopp, Deacon

Bill Bright, Outreach
bbright@stjohnofthecross.org

Janet Caschetta, Youth Catechesis
jcashetta@stjohnofthecross.org

Jim Clauer, Worship
jclauer@stjohnofthecross.org

Kathleen Gorman, School Principal
gorman@sjc.pvt.k12.il.us

Katie Hayes, Crossroads High School Ministry
khayes@stjohnofthecross.org

Jessica Koch, Music
jkoch@stjohnofthecross.org

MJ Martin, Operations
mjmartin@stjohnofthecross.org

Join us at Mass:
Weekends: Saturday 5:00 p.m., Sunday 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
(No 12:15 p.m. Mass during the summer months.)
Weekdays: Saturday 8:00 a.m., Monday-Wednesday 6:30 a.m., 7:45 a.m., Thursday-Friday 7:45 a.m.

Baptism Preparation: Parents and parents-to-be meet with a trained baptism couple on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Call the Parish Center to register. Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays at noon during the summer and 1:30 p.m. during the school year. (Note, due to the July 4 holiday the next baptism meeting will be Thursday, July 12 at 7 p.m.)

During the 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. Mass, the parish offers free babysitting in the Garden Room of the rectory.

Parish Office: The Parish Center is located just south of church. Our front doors face Wolf Road. The office is open 7 days a week. Specific hours are listed on our website. After hours, if there is an emergency or an immediate need for a priest, call the main office number and follow the voice prompt. A priest will respond as quickly as possible.

Parish Center
5005 South Wolf Road
708-246-4404
www.stjohnofthecross.org

Parish School 708-246-4454
708 51st Street

YC Office 708-246-6760
708 51st Street

www.stjohnofthecross.org

New Parishioners are invited to register at the Parish Center office. We have a Welcome Gift Bag containing our directory and other introductory parish information waiting for you. Stop in our office soon so we can become acquainted.

Visit our parish website (www.stjohnofthecross.org) to learn about the many ministries and activities at our parish. We invite you to become involved and take advantage of the many spiritual, social, and outreach opportunities. We are at your service as you live out your baptismal commitment. Contact us with any questions.

www.stjohnofthecross  Go to our parish website to learn more  2
Reflecting on Living the Gospel
Mark 6:1-6a

This Sunday’s gospel shows us a Jesus who also was confronted with human rejection. “Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him?” Some who heard Jesus could not get beyond the familiar details such as his occupation and his relatives to believe that he was more than this. They saw but they didn’t believe. Where does a prophet have honor? Where is a prophet heard? Not among kin or in familiar surroundings; not among those who lack faith. Herein lies the paradox: to have faith, we must be familiar with Jesus. The very stumbling block for the people in the gospel is the necessary stepping stone to hear Jesus’ word and accept him. Faith-filled familiarity frees us to see ourselves as we are (those in need of Jesus) and to see Jesus as he truly is (a prophet with power to save). What opens us to encounter and accept Jesus is faith. Through faith we encounter Jesus as One who is trustworthy, One who loves us, One who wants to teach us the Good News of salvation in all its truth and wisdom.

If we take seriously our own commitment to live religious values and a life of faith, there will be times when we ourselves are faced with misunderstanding, rejection, and ridicule. Sometimes this is most painful when, like Jesus, the rejection comes from those closest to us. Indeed, the extent of resistance may be the measure of our commitment. Our faith commitment is best lived out in the simple, everyday opportunities to live as Jesus did that come our way. For example, when our children need time and direction, we surrender to their needs even when we are dog tired. Or when a friend needs help, we surrender to that need, even when we already have crowded schedules. Surrendering to these everyday ways of gospel living is a sign we have come close to Jesus and deepens our faith in him.

Closing Prayers
May we deepen our faith in Jesus as trustworthy and in his word as true.
May we courageously live the truth of the Gospel and become more familiar with Jesus’ abiding presence.
Our Father . . .

For Reflection:
· I have grown in my familiarity with Jesus through . . .
· I am willing to be a prophet without honor for . . .

Meditation
Fr. Richard Rohr

Free will is a real source of power and self-esteem that nobody can take from us. When we go down to that place of pure intentionality and inner choice, no jail can imprison us.

We must rediscover the gift of free will. I think its loss is at the bottom of the deconstruction of our society. It is at the bottom of our cynicism. Mature conscience only develops inside of free will, even the freedom to make mistakes and then take responsibility for them—from which we all grow.

Grace and freedom are totally correlative terms. You cannot have one without the other. Grace creates deep inner freedom and our very freedom to fail becomes another deep experience of grace, mercy, and acceptance.

Starter Prayer:
"I have come to do your will, O God."

Faith professed must also be faith lived. During this Year of Sunday Mass, Question of the Week provides a guide for believers in developing that realization and in putting their faith to work. Each week we will include a question which can serve as the spark for a discussion of faith at home, at parish meetings, in the classroom, or as a personal reflection. For more on the Year of Sunday Mass and the Strategic Pastoral Plan Reflecting Christ’s Light: go to:
www.archchicago.org

July 8, 2012

In the Gospel Jesus returns to his home town and in this instance familiarity seems not so helpful. It is often difficult to witness to Christ among our own family. Yet, we are to love the ones given us.

At Mass today, how might I ‘forgive those who trespass against me’, even those in my own family?
No one enjoys freedom more than a forgiven person. To be unburdened of a haunting past that we regret or to be released from earlier missteps that seemed to doom our future—that is a real sense of freedom that flows from forgiveness. Make no mistake about it, every time we celebrate Mass together we meet the God who forgives us in Jesus Christ, “This is the chalice of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.” At Mass, we know unmistakably and unforgettably that God forgives us.

The other side of forgiving belongs to us. Every Mass challenges us to forgive as we have been forgiven: “So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.” Matthew 5:23–24)
This weekend we have a strong group of teens & adults departing to serve on behalf of our parish in Mission, South Dakota. Please keep their travels, community, prayer, service & simple living in your prayers this week. We are grateful for the service of: Taylor Bastyr, Frank Zimmerman, Justin Hinshaw, Catherine Dine, Matt Pesch, Kate Foody, Maggie Moran, Meghan McAuliffe, Connor Delaney, Mary VanSpankeren, Michael Thomas, Aaron Bubis, Joe Gazdacka, Gene Swiontek and Monica Barc.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF TEENAGERS:

YOUR INFLUENCE ON YOUR TEENAGER IS THE STRONGEST INDICATOR OF THE FAITH LIFE THEY WILL LEAD AS AN ADULT!

Please continue to encourage & push your teen to try something new to grow & learn more about their faith. Here are some wonderful places they can share their talents and grow at the same time, while gaining leadership skills and making friendships with other faith-filled teens!

Day of the Spirit Team is growing...and is in need of musically talented teens!

Our Frosh-Soph Retreat Team will lead a fantastic retreat.

Our Freshmen Experience team is looking for a couple more teens to share their knowledge & experience with our incoming freshmen!

Information about these leadership roles can be found at www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/leadership
**This Week at SJC**

**Monday, July 9**
- 10:30 a.m. 11th Step Christian Meditation
- 2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
- 2:30 p.m. Spiritual Journaling

**Tuesday, July 10**
- 7:00 p.m. Rosary

**Wednesday, July 11**
- 1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation
- 7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

**Thursday, July 12**
- 7:00 p.m. Baptism Prep Meeting

**Saturday, July 14**
- 7:00 a.m. Christian Meditation

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**Baptism Preparation Meeting Thursday, July 12, Parish Center**

Godparents as well as new babies are most welcome to attend with parents. Please call the Parish Center if you are coming or if you have any questions.

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**SJC Shawl Ministry**

The lovely summer weather does not diminish our need for shawls. We will gather at the Parish Center at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, July 11.

We have patterns, yarn and assistance if needed. Please join us to knit, pick-up or drop off shawls or learn about the ministry.

Questions: Please call Sheila Gallagher at 708-246-7836.

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**SJC Job Opportunity**

St. John of the Cross Parish is seeking an Adult Formation Director to foster and promote faith formation of adults in our parish community. The Director develops, plans, and coordinates enrichment and formation experiences in collaboration with the Pastor, Pastoral Staff, and Ministry Advisory Group.

For more detailed job description, please go to our parish website: [www.stjohnofthecross.org](http://www.stjohnofthecross.org). Qualified interested applicants are encouraged to send their resume and cover letter to: MJ Martin, Director of Operations at [mjmartin@stjohnofthecross.org](mailto:mjmartin@stjohnofthecross.org)

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**SJC Sports Camps**

**2012 Summer Basketball Camps**

*(For boys & girls entering grades 3 – 8)*

(July 23 – 27  
July 30 – August 3  
Grades 3-5th: 8:00 – 10:00 a.m  
Grades 6-8th: 10:00 a.m. – noon)

Fee: $85 per session if registered by July 20th  
$95 per session at the door  
Includes a T-shirt and basketball  
Camps will be held at SJC

To register, go to the SJC School website ([www.stjohnofthecross.org/school](http://www.stjohnofthecross.org/school)) under “Athletics” and choose “Basketball Camp.”

Complete the registration form and return it with the fee (payable to St. John of the Cross) to SJC Parish School,  
Attn: Donna Webster, 708 51st Street, Western Springs, IL  60558

For questions, contact Brian Shannon at 708-494-3333.

**High School Age Cheerleading**

Coaches are needed for SJC’s new cheerleading squad for the 2012-2013 school year!

If interested please contact Amy Pacella at [pacella4@att.net](mailto:pacella4@att.net)
Dear Parishioners,

I appreciated receiving St. John of the Cross’ $1200 Sharing check. The gift may seem ordinary but it really symbolizes our common bond and willingness to live out the Gospel mandate I was in prison and you visited me. This has been a good month for us at Kolbe House.

On June 10th we celebrated the Sixth anniversary of Fr. Larry Craig’s death and the dedication of the final phase of the Santuario. This area of Assumption Church is the spiritual center of Kolbe House’s ministry. We have now fulfilled this part of what Larry wanted.

The theme of the new art work is Mano con Mano/Hand with Hand. There are almost two hundred hands that were made by prisoners, families of men and women in prison/jail, families of persons who have been a victim of a crime, Kolbe House volunteers, Assumption Parishioners, and parishioners of St. John of the Cross. All of the hands, our hands, reach up to touch the wounded hands of Christ. We are joined together.

LIFEWORK was started June 1st. This is Kolbe House’s experiment in training and providing employment for two men who are out of prison and have had a difficult time finding steady employment.

Know that I feel honored and blessed by all of the support that the people of St. John of the Cross continue to give to us.

Your brother in the Lord,
Reverend Arturo Perez Rodriguez
Director

Looking for Your First Professional Job?
Interfaith Career Network Is Here to Help

Join us when the First Presbyterian Church of La Grange will host a three-week job support skills workshop for college students and recent grads to help you put together your career search strategy. The workshop will begin Tuesday, July 10, 2012 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Topics will include elevator speech preparation, keys to successful networking, social media and the job search, resume tips and more.

First Presbyterian Church of La Grange is located at 150 South Ashland Avenue. Meetings will be held in Westminster Hall. Please enter church on Catherine Avenue.

This workshop is open to all and there is no fee for attending. Hope you will join us!

For further information, please call the church office at 708.354.0771.

Interfaith Career Network offers job support through various programs throughout the month. For further information, please visit our website: www.interfaithcareernetwork.org

The Lord is faithful in all his words:
let us give thanks and praise!

Saints of Today and Yesterday (9th century)

Saint Hugh the Pilgrim
Hugh was born to devout but poor parents near Autun, France. A young man of great purity and innocence, he resolved to leave behind the little he possessed to devote himself to God as a pilgrim. Setting out barefooted, he journeyed to the vicinity of Varzy, where, overcome by exhaustion, he cried out for water. A blind woman answered that there was an excellent fountain nearby where he could quench his thirst. Hugh thereupon promised the woman that if she had faith she would be healed. When he made the sign of the cross upon her eyes, her eyesight was restored. It was near Varzy that Hugh, traversing a dense forest, found a deserted sight known as Nanvigne. He discovered there a small chapel dedicated to the eastern saint Simeon Stylites. Settling as a hermit at Nanvigne, Hugh strove to imitate the deep asceticism of St. Simeon, devoting himself to night watches of prayer and fasting. Each day, from midnight onward, he frequented the chapel to recite the divine office, the Psalms, hymns, and other prayers. Miracles were attributed to his prayers during his life and after his death.

When I submit to the holy will of my God,
A deep peace floods my soul.
Sometimes the simple act of naming something can be immensely helpful. Before we can put a name on something we stand more helpless before its effects, not really knowing what's happening to us.

Many of us, for example, are familiar with the book, The Future Church: How Ten Trends are Revolutionizing the Catholic Church, by John Allen. The things he names in this book, even when they don't affect us directly, still help shape us for the better. As journalist who travels the world as the Vatican analyst for both CNN television and the National Catholic Reporter, John Allen is able to provide us with a wider, global perspective on church issues than is generally afforded to those of us whose vision is more emotionally mired in our own local and national issues. Heartaches at home can make us blind to the wider concerns of the planet; just as seeing the concerns and pains of others first-hand can put our own concerns and pain into a healthier perspective. John Allen's global frame of reference, as outlined in the mega-trends he names in his book, helps us keep our own ecclesial concerns in a healthier perspective.

So here is my own attempt to name some things: Several years ago in an interview, John Allen asked me to draw up a list of what I considered to be the ten major faith and church struggles of our time. I took this as a healthy challenge and the list that follows, no doubt less global in perspective than Allen's ten trends (My vision, I fear, speaks more for Western and secularized cultures than for the world at large), is my own attempt to name the key faith and ecclesial struggles we deal with today.

What are the ten major faith and church struggles of our time, at least as manifest within the more highly secularized parts of our world?

1) The struggle with the atheism of our everyday consciousness, that is, the struggle to have a vital sense of God within a secular culture which, for good and for bad, is the most powerful narcotic ever perpetrated on this planet ... the struggle to be conscious of God outside of church and explicit religious activity.

2) The struggle to live in torn, divided, and highly-polarized communities, as wounded persons ourselves, and carry that tension without resentment and without giving it back in kind ... the struggle inside of our own wounded selves to be healers and peace-makers rather than ourselves contributing to the tension.

3) The struggle to live, love, and forgive beyond the infectious ideologies that we daily inhale, that is, the struggle for true sincerity, to genuinely know and follow our own hearts and minds beyond what is prescribed to us by the right and the left ... the struggle to be neither liberal or conservative but rather men and women of true compassion.

4) The struggle to carry our sexuality without undue frigidity and without irresponsibility, the struggle for a healthy sexuality that can both properly revere and properly delight in this great power ... the struggle to carry our sexuality in such a way so as to radiate both chastity and passion.

5) The struggle for interiority and prayer inside of a culture that in its thirst for information and distraction constitutes a virtual conspiracy against depth and solitude, the eclipse of silence in our world ... the struggle to move our eyes beyond our digital screens towards a deeper horizon.

6) The struggle to deal healthily with "the dragon" of personal grandiosity, ambition, and pathological restlessness, inside of a culture that daily over-stimulates them, the struggle to healthily cope with both affirmation and rejection ... the struggle inside of a restless and over-stimulated environment to habitually find the delicate balance between depression and inflation.

7) The struggle to not be motivated by paranoia, fear, narrowness, and over-protectionism in the face of terrorism and overpowering complexity ... the struggle to not let our need for clarity and security trump compassion and truth.

8) The struggle with moral loneliness inside a religious, cultural, political and moral Diaspora ... the struggle to find soul mate who meet us and sleep with us inside our moral center.

9) The struggle to link faith to justice ... the struggle to get a letter of reference from the poor, to institutionally connect the gospel to the streets, to remain on the side of the poor.

10) The struggle for community and church, the struggle inside a culture of excessive individuality to find the healthy line between individuality and community, spirituality and ecclesiology ... the struggle as adult children of the Enlightenment to be both mature and committed, spiritual and ecclesial.

What's the value in a list of this sort? It's important to name things and to name them properly; although, admittedly, simply naming a disease doesn't of itself bring about a cure. However, as James Hillman used to quip, a symptom suffers most when it doesn't know where it belongs.

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX.
He can be contacted through his website [www.ronrolheiser.com](http://www.ronrolheiser.com).
Wedding Banns
Todd Bialas & Laura Crabb

Would you like to Join the Children’s Liturgy of the Word?
Volunteers are needed for Children's Liturgy of the Word at Saturday evening and Sunday Mass. Preparation materials and training are provided. Please help us to continue to offer this wonderful ministry. The commitment is only once a month but the reward is great!

Please call Megan O'Brien at 708-784-0732.

For News & Resources Visit:
Archdiocese of Chicago website:
www.archchicago.org
USCCB: US Catholic Council of Bishops website:
www.usccb.org

Readings for the Week
Monday:  Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday:  Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Mt 10:1-7
Thursday:  Hos 11:1-4, 8c-9; Mt 10:7-15
Friday:  Hos 14:2-10; Mt 10:16-23
Saturday:  Is 6:1-8; Mt 10:24-33
Sunday:  Am 7:12-15; Ps 85; Eph 1:3-14 [3-10]; Mk 6:7-13

Mass Intentions
Monday, July 9
6:30 Joe Tiberi
7:45 Ahaus Family; Peter Glen

Tuesday, July 10
6:30 Caroline and Tony Beltrame
7:45 Bill Moore; Frances Grady

Wednesday, July 11, St. Benedict
6:30 Patricia Wilson
7:45 Helen & Max Kirsh; Our Beloved Dead

Thursday, July 12
7:45 Mark Koscielski; Henry R. Pype

Friday, July 13, St. Henry
7:45 Margaret Prost; Peter Glen

Saturday, July 14, Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
8:00 Libby Chapman; Rita & John Tiberi
5:00 Bruno Ziemba; Muriel Albertson

Sunday, July 15, Fifteenth Sunday Ordinary
7:30 SJC Parishioners and Holy Cross Parishioners (Uganda)
9:00 Don Spiering; Alvina Rizzo
10:45 Florence Hagedorn; Lillian Hanson
5:00 Frances Grady; Ron & Sandy Lehner

Italics—Living

Lord Hear Our Prayer
Pray for our Sick

God of love,
ever caring, ever strong,stand by us in our time of need.Watch over ______ who is sick,Look after him/her in every danger, andgrant him/her your healing and peace.
We ask this in the name of Jesus.  Amen.

Mary Bartucci
Garth Christie
Ashley Davis
George Florian
David Harrington
Karen Hult
Ruth Ilg
Emily Johanss
Adriane Kane
Jacob Kenny
Betty Knott
Cathy Laskey
Greg LaValle
Yvonne Lowry
Meredith Mangold
Thomas Martin
Olga Matusik
Mack Nelson
Elmina Ngwila
Nancy Olin
Greg Palaschak
Andrew Park
Matthew Pecis
Raymond Prince
Rosemary Rissler
Nick Saldana
Bruce Soifert
Bob Sturenfeldt
Norma Sumpay

Thomas Martin
Olga Matusik
Mack Nelson
Elmina Ngwila
Nancy Olin
Greg Palaschak
Andrew Park
Matthew Pecis
Raymond Prince
Rosemary Rissler
Nick Saldana
Bruce Soifert
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www.usccb.org

www.stjohnofthecross Go to our parish website to learn more
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Register for 2012-13 YC

Stop by the YC Office to register for next year, the only way we can reserve a stop for your child is with a completed family registration form. But it’s easy!! Complete the pre-printed form at our office!

TO REGISTER STOP BY TODAY!
Office Hours through July 13th

Monday thru Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Open Late for Registration Wednesday, July 11th until 7:00 pm
We will be CLOSED the last two weeks in July while the school has maintenance completed.

Pass on the Faith you received to others!!
This is the year for you to grow spiritually by sharing with our students!
The wonderful volunteers teaching children welcome you to join this beautiful ministry.

Youth Catechesis Office * yc@stjohnofthecross.org * 708-246-6760 *
stjohnofthecross.org/y

VBS 2012

Thanks to all the VBS participants, volunteers & organizers for a GREAT VBS! Reach for the SKY!!