Welcome Back Students and Faculty!!

5005 S. WOLF ROAD WESTERN SPRINGS 60558
708-246-4404
WWW.STJOHNOFTHECROSS.ORG
Dear Parishioners,

Did you feel the energy surge last Wednesday? When the 649 students returned to the campus to begin another school year? On the last day of school there is a palpable drop in the energy (and noise!) level, and on the first day of school there is very definitely a palpable up-tick in the energy on the parish grounds. There is more car traffic, more door traffic, and more phone traffic. And a lot of happy kids are back to school! Thank you for your generous support of the mission of Catholic education.

Kids were excited to be back and so were the faculty and staff. We have 100 new students primarily, of course, in kindergarten and pre-kindergarten. There has been a dramatic increase in the pre-school numbers this year. For the first time in several years we are up (a few) students overall, after many years of graduating more students than new students entering. There were nearly 70 parents at the new school family meeting the previous week. (From what I can tell, the real estate market has begun to loosen a bit and young families are able to move to our parish. One new family has come to us from Australia due to a job change. The majority have come from the city. Four of the parents are graduates of the school who now have their own children enrolled.)

Frank DiPompeo and his staff of Joe, Martin, Richard and Andy have once again put the building in tip-top shape to provide the students a learning environment that is clean and safe. The major improvement to the building this year was the installation of a wood gym floor. The Athletic Association had been accumulating savings for a number of years and the last two Memorial Games proceeds were contributed as well. A very generous donor contributed the balance necessary to pay for the entire project. Over the past two years the gym has received a new ceiling, new lighting, new wall pads and a new floor. The chimney was repaired and the blue stone behind the large crucifix on the front of the school was also repaired. (Structural damage had loosened the slabs, making them a threat to falling off.)

We also welcomed ten new faculty and staff. The entire faculty had spent the previous week in staff development meetings. The use of technology continues to be integrated into teaching methodology and resources. We are blessed with dedicated teachers who are able to get the best out of each and every student.

So we’re off to another year of learning and growing. Our Youth Catechesis program will begin in another couple of weeks. We have right around 1200 students enrolled in that excellent program. We could use a few more catechists so if you are willing to share your faith with children, we will gladly provide you with more supporting materials that you will ever need. Many catechists have a ‘buddy system’ and share the responsibility with another adult. If you are willing to help out I’m sure our director, Janet Caschetta, and her very capable staff of coordinators will be able to find a spot to use your gifts.

Thank you for your very generous contributions over the past few weeks to the CARITAS fund that provides financial assistance for parish families. Because of your generosity, several families will be assisted in the months ahead. I am humbled by your trust and am grateful I can serve those in need because of your compassion.

Peace,
Fr. David
Vocation: Are You Called to the Priesthood?

Contact:
Fr. Brian Welter,
Vocation Director
312-534-8298
bwelter@archchicago.org
http://www.ChicagoPriest.com

SIGN — QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

How have I experienced God's love in my life?
How do I actively practice my Catholic faith and participate in my parish?
In what way does the Gospel message excite and challenge me?
Do I desire a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ?
What do I desire that relationship to look like?
What attracts me to the priesthood?
Do I desire to offer my life for the mission of Jesus Christ and his Church?
Can I name any fears or places of resistance?

ATTEND EXPLORING PRIESTHOOD WEEKEND
Meet at Mundelein Seminary with priests, seminarians and other men who are considering a call to the priesthood.

October 5-7, 2012
January 11-13, 2013
April, 12-14, 2013

- Practical steps in discerning one's vocation
- Becoming more fully a disciple of Jesus Christ
- Vocational journeys of priests and how they came to understand God's call
- Prayer opportunities including the celebration of the Eucharist and Night Prayer
- What life is like in a seminary, including main components: academic, human, spiritual, and pastoral formation, presented by a seminarian
- Additional opportunities to talk candidly with seminarians about their lives and vocations

Lord,
What is the life you are calling me to live?
Who is it that you are calling me to be?
Send your Spirit to guide me on the right path.

www.stjohnofthecross.org Go to our parish website to learn more!
Reflecting on Living the Gospel

In this Sunday’s gospel it is not the crowd that murmurs, but Jesus’ own disciples. They have heard Jesus speak the most sublime mystery: he is giving them his own flesh and blood for food and drink. Now they are faced with a dilemma and a decision. Stay or go? Only intimacy with Jesus such as the Twelve experienced can bring anyone to stay with Jesus despite the challenge of what he says. When the disciples hear Jesus’ words, they voice what many feel: “This saying is hard.” And indeed it is! Ironically, the choice to stay with Jesus requires a prior and deep relationship with him. But it is staying with him and eating his flesh and drinking his blood that nourishes that relationship. The choice that confronts those disciples confronts us: will we accept the hard saying; will we build a deep relationship with Jesus so that the hard saying is softened; will we stay with Jesus or not?

From experience we know that choosing to stay with Jesus—even though it brings nourishment and life—costs us. Just as Jesus risked losing his disciples and standing alone because he spoke radical words of life, so too we risk standing alone when we choose to follow Jesus, also speaking radical words of life. Choosing to stay with Jesus, then, moves us to live the Gospel; when we choose to stay we die (to “old” or “foreign” gods); but at the same time we gain life. Sometimes we follow Jesus even without full understanding or complete conviction. But, like Peter, we know that there is none other to whom we would rather go. We stay. Our staying is one other manifestation of the rhythm of dying and rising that is the paschal mystery. By staying we choose to die to ourselves (and our desire to understand the mystery) and become one with “the Holy One of God.”

Closing Prayers
May we choose daily to follow Jesus faithfully.
May our eating and drinking

For Reflection:
· Times when I have found Jesus’ sayings “hard” are . . .
· The reasons why I choose to stay with Jesus are . . .

Meditation
Rev. Richard Rohr

The simplest spiritual discipline is some degree of solitude and silence. But it’s the hardest, because none of us want to be with someone we don’t love. Besides that, we invariably feel bored with ourselves, and all of our loneliness comes to the surface.

We won’t have the courage to go into that terrifying place without Love to protect us and lead us, without the light and love of God overriding our own self-doubt. Such silence is the most spacious and empowering technique in the world, yet it’s not a technique at all. It’s precisely the refusal of all technique.

Adapted from Radical Grace: Daily Meditations, p. 106, day 114

Prayer:
Listen to the stillness, the language of God.

Year of Sunday Mass: Question of the Week

When many disciples departed from Jesus, Peter stayed with him not because Peter understood everything but because he had come to believe that Jesus was the Holy One of God.

With the Mass as the fundamental resource of my life in Christ, how can I stay loyal to him, even as others move away or even as I face what seem to be insurmountable struggles in my life?
Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life
A Live-Streamed Presentation by Richard Rohr, OFM

Friday, September 21: 6-8 p.m.
Saturday, September 22: 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
The Well ~ A Ministry of the Congregation of St. Joseph
1515 W Ogden Avenue, LaGrange Park

The first half of our lives is centered on establishing our identities, building our world, and moving up. As we transition into the second half of life, however, our worlds often fall apart in certain ways and we begin to search for meaning. In this event we will explore how experiences of failure and suffering are integral steps on the path to spiritual growth and maturity. We will also explore the counterintuitive and inspiring concept that is through falling down that we can truly begin to understand what it means to go “up.”

Richard Rohr, OFM, is a Franciscan priest of the New Mexico province and acts as a founding director of the Center for Action and Contemplation. Rohr also founded the New Jerusalem Community in Cincinnati. He is an internationally known speaker, has authored more than 20 books, and contributes to numerous spiritual periodicals.

Because our parish co-sponsors this event at The Well, the cost of attending the presentation is waived for SJC parishioners. You are only asked to cover the cost of your lunch ($10) which you may pay that day. To reserve a seat, please leave your name, phone, and email with the parish center receptionist. 708-246-4404.

Adult Formation: Presentation by Richard Rohr, OFM

Adult Formation: Rediscovering Vatican II Lecture Series

Please join Catholic Theological Union in a series of lectures as we celebrate and reflect on the 50th anniversary of the convening of the Second Vatican Council by Pope John XXIII in October of 1962.

The lectures will take place on Wednesday evenings, September 12 through December 5, from 7 to 8:15 p.m. on the second floor of the Academic Center located at 5326 S. Cornell, Chicago. The lectures are open to guests for $10 per lecture. You may pay at the door. Come to one or all of the lectures. To ensure a spot, register after August 27th by phone at 773-371-5432 or email at bernardincenter@ctu.edu. Complimentary parking is available in the CTU garage.

This lecture series will first set the event of Vatican II within its historical context and will offer a brief overview of what happened in the Council's four sessions from 1962 until 1965. It will then reflect on issues emerging from the four major Constitutions that the Council produced--documents on the Liturgy, Revelation, the Church, and the Church in the Modern World--and from selected additional documents, such as those on the Laity, Missionary Activity Priesthood, Religious Life, Non-Christian Religions, and Religious Freedom.

September 12  Big Perspectives on a Big Meeting: Vatican II in Context, Stephen Bevans, S.V.D.
September 19  Vatican II and the Church, Antonio Sison, C.P.P.S.
September 26  Vatican II and Revelation, Donald Senior, C.P.
October 3    Vatican II and the Liturgy, Ed Foley, Capuchin
October 10   Vatican II and the Church in the World, Robert Schreiter, C.P.P.S.
October 24   Vatican II and the Laity, Carmen Nanko Fernandez
October 31   Vatican II and Ordained Ministry, James Bacik
November 7   Vatican II and Religious Life, Barbara Reid, O.P.
November 14  Vatican II and the Church’s Mission, Stephen Bevans, S.V.D.
November 28  Vatican II, Ecumenism and Religious Freedom, Jeff Gros
December 5   Vatican II and Other Religious Ways, Scott Alexander

If you are unable to attend in person, the lectures will be available online beginning October 1, 2012 at Learn@CTU.

www.stjohnofthecross.org  Go to our parish website to learn more!
5 Ways to Show Your Spouse You Care

1. Express appreciation for the little things your husband or wife does for you, like washing your laundry, grilling the steaks or taking out the garbage on trash night.
2. Bring her flowers. An oldie but goodie, it’s a small act that shows you’re thinking of her and she’ll remember that every time she sees or smells them. Gals, wash his car.
3. Even if you’re busy, stop to give your husband or wife a kiss or a hug.
4. Lighten their load. Taking over bath time duty or snow shoveling in your husband or wife’s place helps express how much you love them.
5. Listen to your spouse. If, in passing, your husband or wife mentions a restaurant they’d like to try or a destination they’d like to visit, store that information away. Surprise them later with a dinner or activity you know they’ll love and that shows you listen and care about them.

Go to http://www.familyministries.org/resources to learn more ways to enrich your marriage.

Read “Why Marriage Matters” on the home page of our parish website.

Celebrate your Wedding Anniversary with Us!
Beginning in September.....

Each month couples celebrating their wedding anniversary that month are invited to share a photo of themselves, a copy of their wedding invitation or marriage ceremony program with our parish. These will be posted together in the main kiosk in the church narthex. Mementos can be dropped off at the Parish Center or given to one of the priests after Mass. All items will be returned at the end of the month. Married and engaged couples will be remembered in prayer regularly at Mass.
Special Needs Religious Education Offered

SPRED (Special Needs Religious Education) for children ages 6-10 years old is being offered at neighboring Divine Providence Parish. This program is offered to all children with a developmental disability in our vicariate. For more information please call Ms. Christine Schweih-DeFoe, Director of Religious Education at 708-562-3422 or divprovvre@dpovr.org. She will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Divine Providence Parish
2550 Mayfair
Westchester
708-562-3422

As the summer is coming to an end,
you are cordially invited to join us for

A Morning of Meditation
How to Meditate with Your Children

All are invited:
Parents, grandparents, teachers, catechists, meditators
Those who want to learn to meditate, and
Those who want to know more about meditation.

Saturday, September 8, 2012, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
St. John of the Cross Parish Center
5005 South Wolf Road, Western Springs, IL

Sponsored by the Christian Meditation group (wccm.org)
Freewill offering accepted.
Reservations are requested but not required.

Contact:
Mary – 708-246-5108 or mary105105@gmail.com

www.stjohnofthecross.org Go to our parish website to learn more!
KNOW THE MASS, ONE WORD AT A TIME

**Acclaim**

To acclaim someone is to speak directly to them in praise and recognition, and often in a public way. Real acclaim doesn’t happen too often, but when it does, it’s unmistakable. Something wells up in us that must come out and be directed to the one we want to praise and recognize. This happens at Mass.

We acclaim the merciful Lord *(Lord, have mercy)*, the Lord who will speak to us in the Gospel *(Gospel acclamation)*, the all-holy Trinity in heaven *(Holy, holy, holy)*, the Lord Jesus Redeemer (memorial acclamation after the consecration), the Triune God who has saved us *(the Great Amen acclamation)*, and Jesus the Lamb who frees us from sin *(the Lamb of God acclamation)*. When we feel, when we know that God’s abundant mercy has touched and transformed our lives, how can we not acclaim the Lord?

**Archdiocese of Chicago + Strategic Pastoral Plan**

**YEAR OF SUNDAY MASS / YEAR OF FAITH**

Visit our website at www.LTP.LOUIS J. CAMELI ©2012

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God of love, you sent us your only Son as the gift of life.

Reawaken in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love, that we may bear faithful witness to the truth of the Gospel and the power of your word, through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen

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**This Week at SJC**

**Monday, August 27**
9:30 a.m. Senior Club Committee Mtg.
10:30 a.m. 11th Step Christian Meditation
2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
2:30 p.m. Spiritual Journaling

**Tuesday, August 28**
6:30 p.m. YC Volunteer Meeting

**Wednesday, August 29**
2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation
7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

**Friday, August 31**
9:15 a.m. School Liturgy

**Saturday,**
7:00 a.m. Christian Meditation

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For News & Resources Visit:
Archdiocese of Chicago website:
www.archchicago.org

USCCB: US Catholic Council of Bishops website:
www.usccb.org

www.stjohnofthecross.org Go to our parish website to learn more!
Our Attitude Towards Wealth

The rich are getting richer, and we are almost beyond surprise at how rich that is.

Every day, our newspapers, our televisions, and the internet, report financial compensations that, even just a generation ago, were unimaginable: Corporate executives receiving a hundred million dollar bonuses, an athlete signing a contract for a hundred million dollars, entertainers signing contracts for tens of millions, people in information technology earning billions, and ordinary folks everywhere joining the millionaire club.

And what's our reaction? Difficult to judge. We express indignation and protest that this is out of proportion, even as we nurse a not-so-secret envy: I wish it was me!

We adore the rich and famous, pure and simple, and in the end, despite our envy, we grant them their due: Good for them! They worked for it. They have the talent. They deserve all they get!

But how should we view being rich from a faith perspective? Jesus warned that riches are dangerous, dangerous to the soul and dangerous to society. So what should be our attitude towards having wealth, both as this pertains to the very rich and as it pertains to us?

First, it is good to avoid a number of things: To begin with, we must never idealize poverty and see wealth as a bad thing in itself. God is rich, not poor, and heaven will not be a place of poverty. Poverty is something to be overcome, eradicated. The poor don't enjoy being poor. Next, we must avoid too-quickly politicizing both poverty and wealth. Our lens must always be moral rather than political, though obviously both wealth and poverty have huge political implications. Finally, before attacking the possession of wealth, we must ensure that we are free from embittered moralizing which, whatever its moral guise, is little more than envy.

What principles should guide us in terms of an attitude towards wealth?

Underlying everything else, we must always keep in mind Jesus’ warning that the possession of wealth is dangerous, that it is hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. Moreover that warning should be a huge aid in helping us to accept some other principles:

First: The possession of wealth is not a bad thing of itself; it is how we use it and what it can do to our hearts that can be bad. Jesus makes a distinction between the generous rich and the miserly rich. The former are good because they imitate God, the latter are bad. When we are generous, particularly in a very prodigious way, riches won’t close our hearts. But the reverse is also true. All miserliness, all stinginess, all lack of generosity closes our hearts in ways that make it hard to enter the kingdom of heaven, or genuine human community to put in purely human terms.

And so the challenge for all of us who are rich in any way is to continually give our wealth away. We need to do this, not because the poor need what we give them, though they do; we need to do this so that we can remain healthy. Philanthropy, of every kind, is more about the health of the one giving than the health of the one receiving. The generous rich can inherit the kingdom, the miserly rich cannot. The poor are everyone's ticket into heaven - and to human health.

Finally, this too must always be kept in mind as we view wealth, both our own and that of the very rich. What we have is not our own, it's given to us in trust. God is the sole owner of all that is and the world properly belongs to everyone. What we claim as our own, private property, is what has been given to us in trust, to steward for the good of everyone. It's not really ours.

Further still, we need to remember that it wasn't just our own ingenuity and hard work that gave us what we view as our own. The fruits of our labor are also the fruits of other peoples' labor. We too easily lose sight of that. Here's how Bill Gates Sr. puts it: "Society has an enormous claim upon the fortunes of the wealthy. This is rooted not only in most religious traditions, but also in an honest accounting of society's substantial investment in creating fertile ground for wealth-creation. Judaism, Christianity, and Islam all affirm the right of individual ownership and private property, but there are moral limits imposed on absolute private ownership of wealth and property. Each tradition affirms that we are not individuals alone but exist in community - a community that makes claims on us. The notion that 'it is all mine' is a violation of these teachings and traditions. Society's claim on individual accumulated wealth is ... rooted in the recognition of society's direct and indirect investment in the individual's success. In other words, we didn't get there on our own." (Sojourners, January-February, 2003)

Indeed, none of us did! If we remember that we will more easily be generous.

Father Ron Rolheiser, OMI

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.
Our 2012-13 school year kicked off on a very positive note this week. Students, faculty, and parents united in the parking lot on Wednesday for our annual tailgate. It was a bittersweet morning for many, as parents hugged their children as they sent them into the building to embark on another year of faith based learning. The first day of school tailgate has become an ongoing tradition at St. John’s as it gives the parents an opportunity to greet their child’s teacher before classes begin for the year.

What’s New At SJC
As the school opened its doors, we welcomed 6 new teachers and 3 aides who enter St. John with a wealth of knowledge and experience. The school is also pleased to introduce new IPad’s and ITouch devices in all of the classrooms from preschool to grade 8, our new gym floor is a beautiful upgrade, and the football and cheerleading program has taken off in full swing with 166 students involved in the new program, while our cross country team is running at 57 students.

This Week at SJC
August 27, 2012 – Pre School Begins
August 31, 2012 – All School Liturgy, 9:15 a.m.

The Lord is Calling You!
Here I am Lord!

Help Needed for Religious Education!
Be a faith sharer and give of your time this year at YC!
It is a rewarding and satisfying experience!
We cannot do his work without you!
Please prayerfully consider this ministry!

Adults - High School Teens
All are Welcome, you don’t need to have children in our program to share your faith! Just a LOVE for Christ!

NEEDED:
Sunday mornings 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Co-Catechists and Aides
Monday evenings 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Co-Catechists and Aides
Family Faith Connections
One Sunday afternoon a month (Nov-April)
Preschool Catechist
Sacramental Catechist

Call the YC Office to discover the graces that Our Lord is calling you to.

Catechist Meetings
Grades K-6 ~ August 28th
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Grade 8 ~ September 5
7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

AUGUST Office Hours
Mondays 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Tues thru Thurs 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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

www.stjohnofthecross.org  Go to our parish website to learn more!
Crossroads

Calendar — Online Registration Has Begun!
Aug. 26 DOS team mtg noon
Sept. 1 Crossroads Registrations DUE!
Sept. 9 Soph-Jun-Sen Kickoff Event
Sept. 23 Freshmen Experience Kick-off

I WANT YOU, adults of our Parish!

In the past week we have had two adults sign-on to help our Youth Ministry. One is going to join our Freshmen Experience Team & the other is going to be a Parent Connections Coordinator for his Daughter’s home group!

The more adults we get involved in our youth ministry, the more we can actively engage our teens & their families in becoming disciples of Christ.

Check out our Mission Statement online at www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads (scroll to bottom of main page to read it)

My role is to engage our parish in guiding our teens in their faith & the only way I can do this is with YOUR HELP!

Descriptions of various adult roles can be found at: www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/leadership

Send questions or concerns to me!

Katie Hayes, Director of Youth Ministry
708-246-4404 ext. 140 or khayes@stjohnofthecross.org

Crossroads Youth Ministry Registration is NOW OPEN!

Parents of high school teens can log onto our website at www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads

Click on the Registration box to fill out our registration form.

Included in the registration is information about liturgical trainings & joining the teen choir and the Crossroads Teen Advisory!

Our fall parent meeting will also be a part of registration!

FUN FACT:
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sharing Parish is just 10 miles from the Kentucky/Tennessee Border!

Our Kairos 11 retreatants and team enjoyed a great deal of time together since their retreat.

Hanging out and being together continued to build their friendships. These friendships are based in the common belief of God and God’s goodness in their life, despite struggles that have and will be faced.

The first challenge for most was the need to say “goodbye” as many of the young adults left for college. Groups of teens would wake up early and gather at departing teens homes for farewells. A foundation has been made and they will continue to grow together, wherever they are in school.

This weekend retreat, with months of prayer & preparations, was able to flourish because of the efforts of ADULTS:
Tim Colletti, Ryan & Mary Kiefer,
Megan Mattucci, Terri Simeoni
Katherine Valenta
Maureen Windmoeller

We give MANY THANKS TO these adults who accompanied the teens on retreat & the numerous parents who served the teens behind the scenes!

www.stjohnofthecross.org
The Contemporary Ensemble and the Traditional Choir are now accepting new members!
The Contemporary Ensemble is a group of singers and instrumentalists (guitars, flutes, you name it!) who provide contemporary style music at the Saturday 5:00 p.m. Mass. Rehearsals meet on Thursday evenings, 7:30 -9:30 p.m., beginning September 6th.

The Traditional Choir sings music in a variety of styles including Classical masterworks and traditional hymns and leads singing at the 10:45 a.m. Sunday Mass. Rehearsals meet on Wednesday evenings, 7:30–9:30 p.m., beginning September 5th.

Contact Jessica Koch to find out more or to try us on for size at our first rehearsal without obligation! jkoch@stjohnofthecross.org (708) 246-4404, ext. 136

Children’s Choir Start up Dates!!
Did you know that St. John of the Cross has two choirs available to all children in the parish?

**Cherub Choir** serves children in grades 1-3 and practices on **Wednesdays** from 3:45 – 4:30 p.m. in the church. The start date is **Sept. 12**th with registration and a brief meeting at 4:20.

**Youth Choir** serves students in grades 4-8, and practices on **Thursdays** from 3:45 – 4:30 in the church. The start date is **Sept. 13**th with registration and a brief meeting at 4:20.

Mark your calendars as you schedule your kids for fall activities!

Questions?
Contact Ann Bourjaily-Maney at (708)246-4171 or bourjiman@sbcglobal.net

**Sunday Night Choir – “5 Alive”**
Are you a high school/college aged person looking for a way to get involved in music at St. John of the Cross? St. John’s Sunday night 5:00 p.m. Mass is looking for you! The choir sings on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month with a rehearsal just before Mass at 4:00 p.m. No regular commitment is needed – you only come when it works for you! Start date is Sept. 16.

Questions? Call or email Ann Bourjaily-Maney at (708)246-4171 or bourjiman@sbcglobal.net

www.stjohnofthecross Go to our parish website to learn more!
SJC Clubs

SJC MEN’S CLUB
All men of the parish are invited to our annual
Cookout and Bags Tournament
Friday September 7th at 7:00 p.m.
East Lawn of the Parish Center
$20.00 per team entry fee

Any questions contact:
Steve Ryan  246-6303
Barrett Long 784-9224

Parish Men’s Bowling League
All men of the parish are invited to join the SJC Men’s Bowling League. The league bowls on Tuesday evenings from 6:45-9:00 p.m. at Willowbrook Lanes (Plainfield & 83) beginning September 11th.
Come for a fun evening out to socialize with other men in our parish. No experience needed.
For more information call Ken Boor at 708-246-1469 or kenboor@sbcglobal.net.

Community Outreach

Thank you from St. Barbara’s Parish
Dear St. John of the Cross Parishioners,
On behalf of St. Barbara Pastoral Care Office, we want to thank you for your overwhelming generosity of food donated to our food pantry. Thanks to you, our shelves are well stocked.
The number of recipients at our food pantry continue to increase. Thanks to your generosity, we are able to keep our shelves well stocked. We have more and more families seeking our help in feeding and clothing themselves and their families. Because of your generosity, we are able to respond to their call for help.
Thank you again for your generosity.
Sincerely,
Sister Margaret Halligan, CSJ
Director
St. Barbara Pastoral Care

WE BELIEVE
Charity 1K Walk / 5KRun
In Support of TEAMFOX
For Parkinson’s Research
September 16, 2012, 9:00 a.m.
Visit our website for more information
www.webelievewalk.com
McDonald’s Hamburger University
2715 Jorie Blvd., Oakbrook, IL

High School Reunion
Did you graduate from the Academy of Our Lady/Longwood High School in a year ending in 2 or 7? If so, your class will receive a special salute at the A.O.L. Alumnae Association’s all-school Reunion 2012 from 5 to 10 p.m., Saturday, October 20 at the Hilton Oak Lawn Hotel in Oak Lawn.
For more information, call the A.O.L. Alumnae Office, 773-445-2300, or visit the website www.AcademyOfOurLadyAlumnae.org.
Operation Support Our Troops ~ Illinois

Annual Parish wide Collection:
September 2nd through September 16th
Donation Boxes in Church and Parish Center
Questions: Contact Debbie Pusinelli (708) 246-6760 ext 251

The mission of Operation Support Our Troops IL is to supplement the basic provisions provided to American soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan and stationed overseas. The packages we send include packaged treats and

1. Peanut Butter (28 oz or less, plastic jars only)
2. Jelly (32 oz or less, plastic jars only)
3. Individual cold drink mix packets (Gatorade, Propel, etc)
4. Mints-Starlight, Lifesavers or Tic Tac types
5. Individually wrapped snacks
6. Shaving cream (non aerosol preferred)
7. Body wash for men (18 oz or less)
8. Dental floss/floss picks
9. Lip Balm (Chapstick, etc)
10. AA or AAA Batteries

Tommy’s Kids and Teens for Kids

“If you are old enough to love, you are old enough to grieve”  Alan D. Wolfelt, Ph.D

Tommy’s Kids and Teens for Teens is a 6 week grief support group for children ages 4 to 17 who have experienced a significant loss due to death. Children/teens meet in age appropriate groups to participate in art and expressive activities.

A support group for parents/caregivers meets at the same time the children/teens are meeting. Adults have the opportunity through group interaction to understand a child’s grief and to experience support and encouragement for themselves.

When & Time: Six consecutive Thursdays, September 13—October 18, 6:00—7:30 p.m.
Where: Adventist St. Thomas Hospice, 119 E. Ogden Ave., Suite 111, Hinsdale

Group size is limited and registration is required. There is no cost to attend the groups. To register go to www.asthospice.org and click on ‘Bereavement Services’ in the left margin. For questions, please contact Rosie Cohen, Bereavement Coordinator, 630-856-6993 or Rosemarie.cohen@ahss.org

“Your welcoming attitudes helped us all, and the program exceeded my hopes and expectations. We have all benefited from the opportunity to talk, listen to others and face our feelings. Thank you.”  Bereavement Parent
Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord
James Benstent, husband of Lucille
Helen Devereux, mother of Bill
Shawn Feeley, husband of MeLisa, father of William
George Gallagher, father of Christie Sever, grandfather of Michael, David & Carolyn
Helen Micetich, mother of Dr. Kenneth Micetich & Gregory Micetich
Theresa Ripoli, mother of Mary Cavalieri

Wedding Banns
Andrew Meyer and Kimberly Caplis

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,
and grant him/her your healing and peace.
We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Angie Babicz
Mary Bartucci
Tracy Bucciarelli
Garth Christie
Ashley Davis
Mary Sue Donahue
David Harrington
Karen Hult
Ruth Ilg
Tom Jass
Emily Johanns
Adriane Kane

Jacob Kenny
Betty Knott
Rita Koziol
Ray Kula
Cathy Laskey
Greg LaValle
Yvonne Lowry
Meredith Mangold
Thomas Martin
Olga Matusik
Moon Meehan
Mack Nelson
Patricia Neumann

Tommy Niemeyer
Elmina Ngwila
Nancy Olin
Greg Palaschak
Andrew Park
Matthew Pecis
Raymond Principe
Rosemary Rissler
Nick Saldana
Rita Shelhouse
Bob Sturenfeldt
Norma Sumpay

Try to get in touch with us? More info is on our website: www.stjohnofthecross.org

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Fr. Fil Ngwila
John Schopp
Bill Bright
Janet Cascetta
Jim Czauer
Kathleen Gorman
Katie Hayes
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MJ Martin
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mjmartin@stjohnofthecross.org

Mass Intentions
Monday, August 27, St. Monica
6:30 Sr. Charlotte Gannon
7:45 Paul Doyle; Thomas E. Doyle
Tuesday, August 28, St. Augustine
6:30 Sr. Anastasia O’Connor
7:45 Ignatius Ignacy Sakowicz;
Our Beloved Dead
Wednesday, August 29, The Passion of St.
John of Baptist
6:30 Dorothy McLaughlin
7:45 Michael Turlek; George Spartz
Thursday, August 30
7:45 Lisa Witynski; Eugene Garvy
Friday, August 31
7:45 Gene Figliulo; Bill Caplice
Saturday, September 1
8:00 Margaret Prost; Donald Fchesten
5:00 Bill Moore; Joseph Connelly;
Robert Plechaty
Sunday, September 2, Twenty-Second Sunday
Ordinary Time
7:30 Patricia Wilson; Catherine Boyle
9:00 Raymond Cochran; Dr. Robert Strzyz
10:45 SJC and Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Parishioners
5:00 Sally Rodi Levin; Edward Lewis

Italics—Living

Baptisms
Grace Audrey,
dughter of Damon & Jacqueline (Remus) Furberg
Ethan Thomas,
son of Joseph & Katherine (Trunko) Marciniak
Harper Marie,
dughter of Brian & Jennifer (Barlow) Sexton
Colin Robert and William Richard,
sons of Richard & Cathleen (Hughes) Wilfenger
CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —
Saint John of the Cross   #9239

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SUNDAY DATE OF BULLETIN — August 26

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS —
ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS
RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

RCIA: COME AND SEE

CLASSES BEGIN TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 25, at 7 P.M.
IN THE PARISH CENTER

AN INFORMATION SESSION WILL BE HELD ON
TUESDAY EVENING,
SEPTEMBER 11
AT 7:00 P.M. IN CHURCH
TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT
THE RCIA PROGRAM

If you are an adult who has thought about becoming Catholic or who was baptized Catholic but never completed the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation, then the Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) is the program for you! For more information about this adult formation program, join us on Tuesday evening, September 11 at 7:00 p.m. in church to have all your questions answered. The evening will last about an hour and will offer an overview of the RCIA program and more information about joining this year's RCIA.

Contact Fr. Filbert, 708-246-4404 or email fngwila@stjohnofthecross.org for more information.