Jesus said, "There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me.

For whoever is not against us is for us."

Mark 9:39–40
 SJ C hosts screening of The Line Tuesday, October 2nd, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

On Tuesday evening, October 2nd, St. John of the Cross will present a viewing of the movie The Line. Written and directed by award-winning producer Linda Midgett, The Line chronicles the very real stories of four people who are living in poverty here in the United States of America today.

“To act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8

How do we follow these familiar words of the Prophet Micah? We start by fostering awareness of injustices so that we might learn to walk with our brothers and sisters. The Line presents beautiful, inspiring and challenging true stories, told by people who right now are struggling with the effects of real poverty brought on by unequal economics.

Premiering the night before the first Presidential debate, the powerful stories detailed in The Line are meant to compel supporters of all political parties to take up our Christian challenge to prioritize social justice issues. Join us in the Parish Center, the screening will begin promptly at 7 p.m., and will be followed by a live stream panel discussion on poverty with leading scholars, policy advisers, and religious experts. RSVP not required. Come and listen. Come and learn. Come and consider.

For questions or additional info – please contact
Betsy Spiering 2singers2@gmail.com or Rose Horvath rohorvath@ameritech.net

Dear Faith Communities,

The violence plaguing our city and our country demands that we do everything we can to protect the lives of its residents, especially our children. The recent three-day story in the Chicago Sun Times reminds us of the easy access to guns that is one of the factors allowing this violence to continue.

We believe that requiring handguns to be titled like cars and banning military style assault weapons from our communities are two reasonable solutions to save lives.

A coalition of religious leaders from all faiths are launching a petition to ban assault weapons and pass H.B.5831, demanding that all guns are registered and titled just like cars.

I am asking you to go online to www.passthebill.us to sign the petition. Hard copies of the petition can also be obtained from St. Sabina Church. The kick-off for this petition started September 9, 2012.

Let us come together to help end this epidemic of violence.

In the Pursuit of Justice,
Rev. Michael L. Pfleger
Archdiocesan Representative
For Anti-Violence Initiatives
Reflections on the Gospel

Living the Gospel

For Jesus’ followers, there is nothing more important—not even our own human life or body parts!—than our entering the kingdom of God and our not being a cause for others to be led astray and thus lose entering the kingdom. If anything whatsoever gets in the way of bringing us or others the life of the kingdom, get rid of it! Nothing is so important as gaining the fullness of the kingdom of God. What, then, does it mean to be a follower of Christ? It means doing good works “in [his] name.” It means receiving all others who do good “in [his] name.” It means cutting off from ourselves any behaviors that keep us or others from living “in [his] name.” It means, then, taking on both Jesus’ single-minded focus (his willingness to pay any price for the sake of the kingdom) and his open-minded acceptance of all the good works and all the good people who are bringing this kingdom about.

Each day we are faced with choices: to be for or against Christ. This is both as easy as it sounds and as challenging. The entire second part of Mark’s gospel is about who Jesus is and what it costs to be his disciple. To be Jesus’ disciple necessitates losing some things, cutting some things out of our lives. The kingdom of God is so important that we must do everything and anything we can—great and small—to bring it about. Sometimes the choices are not so clear and we perhaps are not even aware that we must make a choice. Living the Gospel as a faithful disciple, then, also requires us to take stock of our actions and how others perceive who we are and how we act. Discipleship means that everything we are and do flows from our relationship with Christ. If we “belong to Christ,” then our only concern need be furthering God’s kingdom.

Closing Prayers

May we be faithful followers of Christ by overcoming whatever keeps us from doing God’s will.

May we increase the good works we do in Jesus’ name.

For Reflection

The good I do in Jesus’ name is . . . The good I see others doing in Jesus’ name is . . .

What I need to “cut off” in order to follow Jesus more faithfully is . . .

©Living Liturgy 2012

Meditation

Rev. Richard Rohr

The Reign of God

I hope you’ve met at least one “Kingdom person” in your life. They are surrendered and trustful people. You sense that their life is okay at the core. They have given control to Another and are at peace, which paradoxically allows them to calmly be in control. A Kingdom person lives for what matters, for life in its deepest and lasting sense. There’s a kind of gentle absolutism about their lifestyle, an inner freedom to do what they have to do—joyfully. Kingdom people feel like grounded yet spacious people at the same time, the best of the conservative and the best of the progressive types at the same time.

Kingdom people are anchored by their awareness of God’s love deep within them and deep within everyone else, too. They happily live on a level playing field, where even God has come to “pitch his tent” (the literal translation of John 1:14).

Prayer:

Your will be done.

Year of Sunday Mass: Question of the Week

All three readings of today’s Mass challenge us in very direct, very profound ways. Some of it may very well be difficult for us to hear.

What image or phrase from the readings of today’s Mass is the most challenging for you? Can you identify why it may be so challenging?

Preparing for Sunday Mass

Each Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. -11:00 a.m. a group of parishioners meets in the parish center to reflect and pray on the coming Sunday’s scriptures. The material they use is from the Center for Liturgy at St. Louis University and is designed for ordinary Catholics of all levels of understanding—the people in the pews. Feel free to join this group any week or go to www.liturgy.slu.edu to prepare at home. Call Mary McGovern with any questions at 708-246-1835.

Readings for the Week

26th Sunday in OT
Num 11:25-29
Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14
Jas 5:1-6
Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Monday
Job 1:6-22
Ps 17:1bc, 2-3, 6-7
Luke 9:46-50

Tuesday
Job 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23
Ps 88:2-3, 4-5, 6, 7-8
Matt 18:3-5, 10

Wednesday
Job 9:1-12, 14-16
Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15

Thursday
Job 19:21-27
Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14
Luke 10:1-12

Friday
Job 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5
Ps 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14
Luke 10:13-16

Saturday
Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17
Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130

27th Sunday in OT
Gen 2:18-24
Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6
Heb 2:9-11
Mark 10:2-16 or 10:2-12
Formation Programs for Adults

Do you want to be Catholic and join our faith community?
Do you want to receive communion and be confirmed?

RCIA classes meet on Tuesdays 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. through the school year.
Call Fr. Fil 708-246-4404 ext. 120 or Email: fngwila@stjohnofthecross.org

flourish...Join us for a women’s faith sharing group where we will discover and celebrate God’s unique dream for each of us!
Wednesday mornings from 9-10:30 a.m. in the parish center - October 24th, November 7th, January 9th and 23rd, February 6th and 20th, April 3rd and 17th.
Join us anytime throughout the year!
For more information email Sue Bidstrup at jsbidstrup@ameritech.net.

Are you looking for friends in Christ to share your journey of sorrow?

Seasons of Hope: Bereavement Prayer Group

6 Thursday evenings, 7-8:30 p.m.
October 11 through November 15th in the Parish Center
Facilitators: Andrea Gagliani and Kathleen Broderick

Our Lord assured us that those who mourn are blessed, and they shall be comforted. Seasons of Hope offers the bereaved an opportunity to share in God’s love. Sessions will explore mourning through scripture, prayer, reflection and faith sharing. If you’re in need of consolation after losing a loved one, join us. Come and be comforted. All are welcome.
For more information pick up a Seasons of Hope pamphlet at the exits or the kiosk in church. Call Andrea at 708-246-1520 to register or you have any questions.

“The Drama of Life”
Presented by John Haught, Ph.D. at The Well
October 12th 7-9 p.m.
Many scientists and philosophers today are convinced that the Darwinian understanding of evolution has made the idea of God completely superfluous, and hence unbelievable. The very features of life that previously led religious believers to attribute a sacramental meaning to the created world –descent, diversity, design, death, suffering, sex, intelligence, morality, and religion-now seem to be fully explainable in Darwinian terms. Can we expect scientifically educated people to believe that these features of life may still have religious meaning in a post-Darwinian world? This lecture offers a theological way toward understanding Darwin’s religiously unsettling ideas.
Because our parish co-sponsors this event at The Well, the $25 cost of attending the presentation is waived for SJC parishioners. To reserve a seat, please leave your name, phone, and email with the Parish Center receptionist. 708-246-4404.

The Well is located at 1515 W Ogden Avenue in LaGrange Park. Go to csjthewell.org for more information about this program.
Formation Programs for Adults

September 30 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
But the wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy…..Have you ever felt called to priesthood? Consider attending the next Exploring Priesthood Weekend. This retreat is held on October 5-7 at Mundelein Seminary to learn about, reflect and discuss the possibilities of diocesan priesthood in Chicago. For more information contact Fr. Brian Welter at 312-534-8298 or at bwelter@archchicago.org or go to www.ChicagoPriest.com.

The Women’s Club invites you to join us for an Evening of Reflection
Discovering God’s Presence and Purpose in Daily Life
Wednesday, October 10th from 7 – 9 p.m. in the Parish Center
Featuring Guest Speaker Claire Noonan (Director, Siena Center at Dominican University)
Free Event…Please RSVP to Sue Bidstrup at 708-246-6822 or jsbidstrup@ameritech.net

Join us for a women’s faith sharing group where we will discover and celebrate God’s unique dream for each of us! Beginning October 24th.

Wednesday mornings from 9 to 10:30
October 24th, November 7th, January 9th and 23rd, February 6th and 20th, April 3rd and 17th.
Join us anytime throughout the year!
For more information email Sue Bidstrup at jsbidstrup@ameritech.net

Visit www.stjohnofthecross.org
Celebrate your Wedding Anniversary with Us!

During October, couples celebrating their wedding anniversary 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.

Pet Blessing
Thursday, October 4 at 4 p.m.
North Lawn of Church
Weather Permitting

Bring your family pets to a special pet blessing in honor of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (Oct 4th), patron saint of animals. Be sure to bring your animals on leashes or in carriers, and don’t forget anything special you might need to care for your animal when outside!

Catholic High School Night:
October 2nd

St. John of the Cross Parish School will be hosting a Catholic High School Fair for all parish junior high students on Tuesday, October 2nd from 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in Hynes Hall in the SJC Parish School. Representatives from 17 Catholic High Schools (Benet, Brother Rice, Fenwick, Immaculate Conception, La Lumiere, Marist, Montini, Mother McAuley, Mount Carmel, Mt. Assisi, Nazareth, Queen of Peace, St. Ignatius, St. Joseph, St. Laurence, St. Rita and Trinity) will be available that evening and are anxious to meet 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade students and parents. Also, flyers explaining the Rev. Joseph McDonnell Catholic High School Scholarship Fund will be available. Questions regarding the SJC High School Fair may be directed to Mrs. Kathleen Gorman, Principal, at (708) 246-4454.

Baptism Preparation Meeting
Thursday, October 4, 7 p.m.
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.

Reminder: Sharing Parish International Dinner

St. Mark’s Parish Hall
1048 N. Campbell Ave.
Saturday, October 6, 6-10 p.m.
$12 Adults, $6 Children

Good Food, Music & Entertainment
Visit www.stmarkcatholicparish.org
This Week at SJC

Monday, October 1
9:30 a.m. Senior Club Committee Meeting
10:30 a.m. 11th Step Christian Meditation
1:00 p.m. Little Rock Scripture Study
1:00 p.m. Spiritual Advisory Committee
2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
2:30 p.m. Spiritual Journaling
6:30 p.m. Men’s Club Bears Game

Tuesday, October 2
9:30 a.m. Focus on Sunday Scriptures Group
1:30 p.m. Sr. Josephine’s Bible Study
3:45 p.m. New Altar Server Training
6:00 p.m. New Parent FFC Meeting
7:00 p.m. RCIA
7:00 p.m. YC Council Meeting
7:30 p.m. Boy Scouts Troop 117 Lower Level E & W

Wednesday, October 3
9:30 a.m. Bible Study
1:00 p.m. Endow Women’s Study
2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation
7:00 p.m. Parent Education Talk
7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

Thursday, October 4
10:00 a.m. Design Big Dream Monthly Meeting
3:45 p.m. Daisy Meeting
7:00 p.m. Promise - Marriage Prep Meeting
7:00 p.m. Baptism Prep Meeting

Friday, October 5
9:00 a.m. Mom’s Club
3:45 p.m. New Altar Server Training

Saturday, October 6
7:00 a.m. Christian Meditation
11:00 a.m. Football Party

ANNUAL MASS FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS

On Sunday, October 14th at 2 p.m., the Archdiocese of Chicago Commission on Mental Illness and Faith and Fellowship will sponsor the 20th annual Mass for Mental Illness Awareness at St. Gertrude Church, 6200 N Granville, Chicago. Parking is available.

This Mass celebrates the lives of people with mental illness, their families and friends, as well as care providers and mental health professionals. Afterwards, we will have refreshments and conversation. All are welcome to join us.

Mental Illnesses, such as depression, bi-polar disease, schizophrenia, anxiety disorders and others touch one in four families. Stigma, the misinformation about these illnesses, keeps people from seeking help and stigma keeps people from helping. The mass is for all affected and for all those who are interested in helping.

For more information about the Mass or the Commission, contact Connie Rakitan, 708-383-9276 or Deacon Tom Lambert 773-525-0453 x21.

Senior Luncheon

SJC Saintly Senior Club

proudly presents its fall

Oktoberfest Luncheon

Friday, October 12th at 11:30 a.m.
in the Parish Center

Cost: Members $15, Non members $20

R.S.V.P.'s due on Monday, October 8th to
the Parish Center

Enjoy a delicious, authentic German luncheon. Wine, beer, and soft drinks included. A lively entertaining program follows lunch! This is a great opportunity to connect with other seniors in our parish. Hope to see you there! Any questions, call Trudy Schmitt at 708-246-4696.

Name:_______________________________
Address:______________________________
___________________________________
Phone: __________________

# Reservations at $15______ $20 _____

Total Enclosed: $_____

Visit www.stjohnofthecross
St. John of the Cross Parish School invites all parents, teachers and caregivers in our community to a very special parenting event…

Helping our children navigate the pressures of peers, school and a blindingly fast-paced culture

Susan FitzGerald, award-winning journalist, teacher, mother of three and co-author of *Letting Go with Love and Confidence: Raising Responsible, Resilient, Self-Sufficient Teens in the 21st Century*, will lead an enlightening, encouraging and thoughtful conversation to give parents positive and practical advice based on her award-winning book.

Don’t miss it!
October 3, 2012 at 7 p.m.
St. John of the Cross Parish Center
5005 Wolf Road
Western Springs

Featured on NPR and in The New York Times

Students provide Port Ministries with Meals
Our eighth graders spent some time doing what the students refer to as, “Port Sandwich Making.” Twice a month, one class spends time after school making lunches for the guests at Port Ministries. Port Ministries is located in Chicago and is a multifaceted ministry to serve the poor and many homeless families. This activity truly touches not only the guests that benefit from the meals our students provide, but the rewards our students reap is great as well.

Michelle Jugovich, an eighth grader reflected on why this is so important to her and classmates:

“What does a meat sandwich mean to you? Is it just bread and meat, or is it something more? Sandwiches created during Port Sandwich Making mean a lot to both the people who make the sandwiches and to those who receive the meal. The fortunate people who are given the sandwiches feel loved and nourished. It also gives them something to look forward to each day. Making the sandwiches unifies us as Catholics. This great deed aids in living out our Christian values. Additionally, it adds to our community service, which is an essential part of being a Catholic. It is so important to serve others because this act was taught to us by Jesus. He taught us to dedicate our lives to serving others, and to always put others first. That is what Port Sandwich Making is all about to us. It is such a wonderful experience to be a part of at SJC, and a great way to gather together as one.”

This week at SJC Parish School
October 2, 2012 High School Information Night 7:00 p.m.
Multi Purpose Room
October 3, 2012 Author Night, Susan Fitzgerald 7:00 p.m.
Parish Center
October 4, 2012 All School Liturgy 9:15 a.m.
Church
October 6, 2012 SJC Booster Bash Tailgate 11:00 a.m.
Parking Lot

Save the Date! Friday, November 2
The Inaugural Ball
Father-Daughter Dance
Dancing, *Desserts *Pictures
$25 per family
7-9 p.m. SJC Parish Center
Hosted by SJC Youth Catechesis Council
More details to follow
Make a reservation at Mecenat prior to the dance and enjoy a discount on your dinner.

To order your Christmas Wreaths from Boy Scout Troop 117—see page 14 in the bulletin or visit our website.

Cub Scout News for All Families
SJC Cub Scout Pack 117 will be running its overnight family camping trip to Waterfall Glen in Darien, IL on October 6th/7th. Any boy (Grades 1-5) and family interested should contact John Spitkovsky at (708) 579-3316 for more information. The pack web site is www.pack3117.org.
I WANT YOU, Adults of our Parish!

KEY NEEDS NOW:
Home Group Leaders for Freshmen (1-2 couples & 1 female adult)
Boys Basketball Gym Monitor(s)
Retreat Adult Chaperones

Check out on our website at
www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads
Under the Leaders Tab!

Contact me to get involved! Katie Hayes,
Director of Youth Ministry
708-246-4404 ext. 140 or
khayes@stjohnofthecross.org

CONTINUES to welcome all freshmen to join in! This Sunday, September 30th
6-7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center
Lower Level!

Register online (see above) and/or just show up tonight!

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY
for any high school teens & parents
interested in packing food for those who are hungry!

MONDAY October 8 (Columbus Day)
REGISTRATION DEADLINE OCT. 1
Meet at SJC 7 p.m., Carpool to Aurora, IL
to serve from 7:45-9:30 p.m., return home by 10 p.m.
(LT has no school on the 9th)
REGISTER by going to volunteer.fmsc.org
ENTER CODE # 242995 & JOIN a group
If you have any questions call Lis Williams,
our Parent Service Coordinator at 708-588-8292

Juniors and seniors we want you for Kairos 12,
a four day Catholic based retreat
Thursday, November 8-11.
Now I bet your thinking this is just another “boring” church retreat, but let me let you in on a little secret, Kairos is run BY teens, FOR teens. Your Kairos staff has all been on this retreat before, and we’re just like you.
We’re high school kids; facing the same problems and challenges you are and just like you we all came on this retreat for different reasons.

More details online at
www.stcletusparish.com/youth and
www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/retreats

Scholarships are available! Questions? Call Kristen Maxwell at 708-215-5419.
Last weekend our 7th grade students gathered to kick-off their Confirmation Prep with team building activities that were planned to get the energy of the Holy Spirit sparked within them. And it worked!! Thanks to all the parents who volunteered at this great event!

During the Year of Sunday Mass YC will celebrate five Masses at the 9:00 Sunday Mass. Children will be active participants in the Mass - Join us November 4th at 9:00 a.m. Mass

Watch throughout the year as YC celebrates the Year of Sunday Mass!
Join the 25th National Life Chain!

LIFE CHAIN is a peaceful, prayerful public witness of pro-life Americans standing in honor of 56 million lives lost to abortion, praying for our nation, for people in crisis situations and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian community that abortion kills children and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception to natural death.

*Stand with thousands of pro-lifers throughout the USA! You’ll be a light in a darkened world as you help put an end to abortion through prayer!

*Bring your whole family! Rain or shine!

*Signs provided at each location proclaim “Abortion Kills Children,” “Adoption the Loving Option,” “Jesus Forgiven & Heals,” “Lord, Forgive Us and Our Nation,” “Abortion Hurts Women,” “El Aborto Mata Ninos,” “Life—the first Inalienable Right,” “Pray to End Abortion” and “Pregnant? Need Help? 1-800-395-HELP.”

Signs can be picked up in Western Springs, Wolf & Ogden and Grand & Ogden.

God our loving Father, grant wisdom to those who govern us, compassion and courage to those who work to defend human life, and safety and care to every human being. For you alone who formed us in our mother's wombs, and who call us home to heaven, are God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Visit www.stjohnofthecross.org
Make Networking Your Priority
Interfaith Career Network invites you to a supportive evening of networking on Thursday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m. ICN co-founders and accomplished human resource professionals, Judy Kennedy and Tom Rohan will open this meeting with helpful ideas and suggestions for your job search. At the end of the discussion, take time to expand your networking with 1-2 roundtable sessions. Share leads, information and tips. Network and strategize your job search through shared conversation and connections with other job seekers. Bring copies of your resume or a network handbill. If you don’t have one, come anyway. Bring a friend if you’d like. Everyone is welcome and there is no fee to attend. Join us at First Baptist Church, 20 North Ashland Avenue (across from the La Grange Post Office). Please use the Bell Avenue entrance.

Free Resume Review
Interfaith Career Network invites you to a free resume review on Saturday, October 13, 2012 from 9-11 am at St. Cletus School (Room 201), 700 West 55th Street in La Grange. Have a helpful 20-minute one-on-one conversation with a Human Resource or other search related professional for some ideas and suggestions that may enhance or refresh your resume. Looking for some helpful job search strategies? Need some coaching with your elevator speech? This is a terrific opportunity. Don't miss it! Please enter the school at the flagpole entrance.

ICN Job Support Workshop
Interfaith Career Network invites you to join us on Tuesday, October 2, 2012. Susan Sedler and Dennis Hamilton will help you craft that all important “Elevator Speech”. Time will be allowed to practice your personal statement with fellow attendees. Join us in Westminster Hall, 7:00-9:00 pm, First Presbyterian Church of La Grange, 150 South Ashland Avenue. Please enter the church on Catherine Avenue. Everyone is welcome and there is no fee to attend this workshop. For further information, contact Susan Sedler at sqsedler@aol.com.

Dear Fr. David and Parishioners,
Greetings of peace and love from Holy Cross Parish-Bugembe and let me hope that all is well with you. Thanks for the good work you are doing in the vineyard of the Lord.

Fr. Fred Jenga shared with me his visit at St. John of the Cross Parish; thank you so much with all the brothers and sisters for that warm welcome and the hospitality that you offered to him. We are also so grateful to you and to the entire Parish Community for treasuring the relationship that we share. I appreciate your generous donation of every month and recently also I saw on the list the scholarship fund of the students at L.View SS. We really don't know how we express our thanks in words but we always pray that the Almighty God may bless and reward you abundantly for your great love, generosity and support.

Here at Bugembe, we are doing fine with pastoral activities and recently we held a spiritual conference called Inner Healing. It attracted so many people both within the parish and other parishes in the Diocese. It took five days during which, we had different facilitators and preachers and they did a wonderful job. Many people were touched and I believe many were healed spiritually.

We are now busy with the preparations for the pastoral visitation of our Ordinary to our Parish and we are expecting about 100 Christians to be confirmed in faith.

We wish you well in all your efforts as you continue to serve God's people.

Extend our greetings to our brothers and sisters in the Parish.

God bless,

Fr. Serapio Wamara, CSC
PASTOR

Visit www.stjohnofthecross
Laughter as Faith

In our novitiate, when I was a novice with the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, our Assistant Novice Director, a sincere but overly-stern man, cautioned us about too much levity in our lives by telling us that there is no recorded incident in scripture of Jesus ever laughing. I was a pious novice but, even then, that didn't sit well with me. I combed the Gospels trying to prove him wrong, but found out that, technically, he is right. But is he?

A couple of years later, during my seminary studies, I read a book by Peter Berger entitled, A Rumor of Angels, in which he tries to point to various places within our everyday experience where, he submits, we have intimations of the divine, rumors of angels, hints that ordinary experience contains more than just the ordinary, that God is there.

One such experience, he submits, is that of a mother comforting a frightened child at night, using soothing words and gestures to assure the child that he or she need not be afraid that everything is all right, the world is in order. In saying those words, if she means them, and normally she does, the mother is, in effect, implicitly praying the creed.

Another such intimation of the divine within ordinary experience, Berger suggests, is the phenomenon of laughter. In laughter, he submits, we intuit our transcendence: Given that we are able to laugh in any situation shows that there is something in us that is above that situation, transcendent to it. In laughter, Berger believes, we have a rumor of angels.

Karl Rahner agrees, suggesting that laughter shows we are on good terms with reality and hence with God. Laughter praises God because it foretells our final state in heaven when we will be in an exuberance of joy. Commenting on the Beatitudes in Luke's Gospel where Jesus says, blessed are you who are now weeping, for you shall laugh, Rahner says that what Jesus is saying suggests that the happiness of the final state will not just dry away our tears and bring us to peace, it will also bring us to laughter - "to an intoxication of joy". Here are his words: "‘But you shall laugh.’ Thus it is written. And because God's Word also has recourse to human words in order to express what shall one day be when all shall have been - that is why a mystery of eternity also lies hidden, but real, in everyday life; that is why the laughter of daily life announces and shows that one is on good terms with reality, even in advance of all that all-powerful and eternal consent in which the saved will one day say their amen to everything that he has done and allowed to happen. Laughter is praise of God because it foretells the eternal praise of God at the end of time, when those who must weep here on earth shall laugh."

But is this superficial? Human optimism substituting itself for hope? An upbeat-spirit masquerading as theology? The naive claim that if I am happy than God is on my side? Indeed, in the Gospels, where is there a recorded incident of Jesus laughing?

Good scripture scholarship has long suggested that looking for an individual text to prove or disprove a certain point is not a good approach to scripture. The teachings of scripture are best gleaned by looking to scripture as a whole. And if we do that in this case, I believe, we will find that both Peter Berger and Karl Rahner are right. As Rahner points out, Jesus, himself, teaches that laughter will be part of the final state in heaven. You shall laugh! But, beyond that, Jesus' message as a whole invites us of joy, a joy that no one can take from us, and laughter is the exuberant expression of that joy. It is the height, the apex, the crowning jewel, of our final state in heaven.

Hence, in laughter we do have a rumor of angels and we do intuit our transcendence. In laugh we do manifest that we are on good terms with reality, and on good terms with God. In laughter we affirm, loud, joyously, and to the world, the great mantra of Julian of Norwich that, in the end, all will be well, and all will be well, and every manner of being will be well - even though our world is not in that state today.

My Assistant Novice Director was a wonderful, sincere, gentle, and overly serious man. Levity was not his thing and laughter was not his preferred method of implicitly praying the creed. He showed his deep faith in other ways, believing that laughter is not the only rumor of angels inside of ordinary life. But it is one of intimation of the divine within human life. Laughter, when it is healthy, when it is not forced or cynical, is, as Rahner says, "an intoxication of joy", the joy of our final state. Thus when we laugh we also pray the creed.

Rev. 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.
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<td></td>
<td>36” Balsam Wreath</td>
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<td>Outdoor Evergreen Planter</td>
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<td>H</td>
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<td>I</td>
<td>Balsam Cross</td>
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<td>J</td>
<td>25’ Balsam Garland</td>
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<td>K</td>
<td>Holiday Yule Log</td>
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<td>L</td>
<td>Cemetery Easel</td>
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**TOTAL**

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**St John of the Cross Boy Scout Troop 117 Christmas Wreath Order Form 2012**

Customer Name: _______________________________________________________

Address_______________________________________________________________ City:      _______________________________________________________________

Phone Number:_________________________________________________________

Please make checks payable to: Boy Scout Troop 117

ALL ORDER MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 29th 2012

Orders will be delivered to your doorstep on November 17th 2012

Please drop off or mail in this order form with PAYMENT at the

St John of the Cross Parish Center 5005 Wolf Road, Western Springs IL 60558

All proceeds benefit St John of the Cross Boy Scout Troop 117.

Contact Mike Krol for all questions at:

**troop117christmaswreaths2012@yahoo.com** or 708-415-4040
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.

Mary Bartucci  Adriane Kane  Nancy Olin
Tracy Bucciarelli  Jacob Kenny  Jean Onesto
Garth Christie  Helen King  Greg Palaschak
Connie Crane  Rita Koziol  Andrew Park
Ashley Davis  Ray Kula  Matthew Pecis
Mary Sue  Cathy Laskey  Raymond Principe
Donohue  Greg LaValle  Rosemary Rissier
Kimberly Edwards  Yvonne Lowry  Kathy Saldana
David Harrington  Meredith Mangold  Rita Shellhouse
Karen Hult  Olga Matusik  Bob Sturenfeldt
Ruth Ilg  Moon Meehan  Norma Sumpay
Tom Jass  Mack Nelson  Norma Sumpay
Emily Johanss  Elmina Ngwila  Norma Sumpay
Lois Corrine  Joan Nicholson  Tommy Niemeyer
Johnson  Tommy Niemeyer  Norma Sumpay

Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

Walter Grimms, Sr., father of Walter Grimms, Jr.
Tom Martin, parishioner
Gene Miley, husband of Christine
Leo Peters, father of Leo
grandfather of Amy Edmier, Caron Follette,
Leo A. Peters and Katie Dejuras

Wedding Banns
Andrew Mulcahy and Erica Johnson

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PARISH
Support the Mission of SJC
Online Giving is Here for Your Convenience

You can access the SJC online donation form by using the above QR Code.
Don’t have a smart phone?
Visit: www.stjohnofthecross.org/giving/
St. John of the Cross Parish is most grateful for your continued support of our mission!

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

Fr. David Dowdle  Pastor  ddowdle@stjohnofthecross.org
Fr. Fil Ngwila  Associate Pastor  fngwila@stjohnofthecross.org
John Schopp  Deacon  john.schopp@newhemispheres.com
Bill Bright  Outreach  bbright@stjohnofthecross.org
Janet Caschetta  Director of Youth Catechesis  jcascchetta@stjohnofthecross.org
Jim Clauer  Worship  jclauer@stjohnofthecross.org
Kathleen Gorman  School Principal  gorman@sjc.pvt.k12.il.us
Katie Hayes  Crossroads High School  khayes@stjohnofthecross.org
Jessica Koch  Music  jkoch@stjohnofthecross.org
MJ Martin  Operations  mjmartin@stjohnofthecross.org

Mass Intentions

Monday, October 1, St. Theres of the Child, Jesus
6:30 Carol Carlucci; Joseph Baldwin
7:45 Marie O’Brien; Jerry Fezzuoglio

Tuesday, October 2, The Holy Guardian Angels
6:30 Dorothy Carlini
7:45 Mary Ann Cornell; Sylvester Kwit

Wednesday, October 3
6:30 Dorothy McLaughlin
7:45 Joan Rooney; Theresa Budzinski

Thursday, October 4, St. Francis of Assisi
7:45 Our Beloved Dead; Carol O’Malley

Friday, October 5
7:45 Catherine O’Connor; John Pecis

Saturday, October 6, St. Bruno
8:00 Gloria O’Shell; Alexander Sobey
5:00 John Fash; Anne Kapral

Sunday, October 7, 27th Sunday Ordinary Time
7:30 Chester Miller; William Remin
9:00 Joseph Kmet; Lillian Hanson
10:45 SJC & Holy Cross (Uganda) Parishioners
12:15 Albert Mahier; Peter Crofton
5:00 Mary Jane Harrison; Eugene Garvy

Italics—Living
RETRETS for High School Teens!

Sign up NOW before all the spaces are filled!

January 4-6
All FRESHMEN & SOPHOMORES are welcome!

No matter where you go to school or what activities you participate in, our IDENTITY is a gift from God. Time on retreat spent with old friends and new will be awesome!

Registration online: www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/retreats
Scholarships are available, contact Katie Hayes at 708-246-4404.

ALL Juniors and seniors are welcome!

Exhausted with your daily lives? Need a break from the rigors of endless piles of homework? Wanting to spend some time **relaxing with your friends**? Kairos is the answer to all these questions and more. Kairos is a four day Catholic based retreat which takes place **November 8 through 11**.

The reason our retreats work so well is because there’s **no pressure**. We’re there to relax...to have some fun and just overall get away from it all! In the process, we learn about ourselves, our family and friends and our faith. This weekend not only lets you strengthen old relationships but helps you build new ones with your friends and in your faith.

So really, **what do you have to lose**? It’s only four days; we promise that it’ll be worth it for you. Registration forms can be found online at [www.stcletusparish.com/youth](http://www.stcletusparish.com/youth) or [www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/retreats](http://www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/retreats).

Scholarships are available...please don’t let cost keep you back. Contact Kristen Maxwell at 708-215-5419 with any questions.

(If these dates don’t work, save March 14-17, 2013 for the next Kairos Retreat... forms available in December—maybe a Christmas gift!)