COME LORD JESUS
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Dear Parishioners,

There is plenty to rejoice about here at SJC, as we mark the third Sunday of Advent with the universal church ‘rejoicing in the Lord’. Over 200 women began the season with an evening of reflection, ‘Advent by Candlelight’ sponsored by the Women’s Club and led by our own Nancy Polacek. The second graders, all 183 of them, celebrated their first reconciliation in anticipation of their first communion next May. (Many of their parents also took advantage of the opportunity and received the sacrament as well.) Dozens have walked the Labyrinth in prayer to find a deeper place as they journey within this holy season. The Men’s Club had Fr. Richard Simon for a Saturday morning discussion and inspiration. Over 950 parishioners are using the ‘Sacred Space’ booklet for their Advent daily prayer. This weekend we continue to gift the Matthew Kelly book, Rediscovering Catholicism, and begin to form faith sharing groups that will gather after the first of the year. We are nearing 2,000 copies of the book being distributed. Also this weekend the Christian Meditation group extended an invitation to a quiet morning of meditation focusing on ‘Christ Jesus, Be Born in Us’.

A big part of the rejoicing at SJC at this time of year is Share Christmas, which so many of you faithfully and generously participate in by giving gift cards or shopping for an individual or family. From the MANNA cards and other gift cards you put in the envelopes, to the wrapped presents you bring to the Parish Center, your generosity is a testament to passing on the blessings you have received to those who may need them very badly. Yours may very well be the only Christmas present someone may receive this year. I can’t thank enough all those who helped in the organizing and coordinating all the details so necessary to make it all work. I am especially grateful to Cathy Laskey, Bruce Harkin, Lolly Maloney, Pam Rafferty and many others who were at the tables in the church and helped accept gifts at the Parish Center. I am particularly grateful to Bill Bright and his enthusiasm in involving others in the multi-week effort that goes into making Share Christmas the success that it is.

Today is referred to as ‘Gaudete Sunday’, from the first word of the introit of the Mass, the Latin for ‘Rejoice!’ I rejoice that there is so much being offered as a way to involve parishioners in their spiritual journey by integrating their faith and daily lives. Much more is going on in preparation for the busy schedule that will follow the first of the year, depending of course, on whether the Mayans are right or wrong about the end of time on December 21st. Just in case they are right, you might want to take advantage of the parish reconciliation service this Tuesday, December 18th at 7:00 p.m. It could be the best Christmas gift you give yourself. And if the Mayans are wrong? Rejoice!

Peace,
Fr. David
CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Vigil - Monday, December 24
4:00 p.m. Church  
Children’s Choir  Carol Prelude 3:30 p.m.

4:15 p.m. First Floor School Multi-Purpose Room  
Cantor, Flute  Carol Prelude 4:00 p.m.

4:30 p.m. Second Floor School Gym  
Cantor, Trumpet  Carol Prelude 4:15 p.m.

6:00 p.m. Church  
Cantor, Flute & Cello  Carol Prelude 5:45 p.m.

10:30 p.m. Church  
Traditional Choir, Brass Quartet  
Carol Prelude 9:45 p.m.

Christmas Day - Tuesday, December 25
7:30 a.m. Church  
Cantor, Flute & Cello

9:00 a.m. Church  
Contemporary Ensemble, Guitar, Drums, Instruments

10:45 a.m. Church  
Traditional Choir, Trumpet, Flute, Cello

12:30 p.m. Church  
(*This Mass begins 15 minutes later than the usual start at 12:15 p.m.)  
5 Alive! Teen Choir, Guitar, Drums, Flute, Trumpet

** There will be no 5 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Monday, December 31, 2012—5:00 p.m.  
Anticipatory Mass
Tuesday, January 1, 2013—10:00 a.m.  
Holy Day of Obligation

Saturday, December 22
Private confessions will follow the 8:00 a.m. Mass. Additional priests will be available.

An Advent Examination of Conscience

Stay awake, for you do not know when the Master will return.
Am I attentive for the voice and presence of Christ in my everyday life? Do I change my daily life to be ready for the Lord’s return?

Prepare a way for the Lord, make straight his paths.
Do I look for the Lord among the least and the lowly in the world? How can I contribute part of my resources to making their way a bit easier?

John the Baptist came to testify to the light.
How does the light of Christ shine into the world through my deeds? Do I have the courage to speak out against evil in the world?

The angel said to Mary, “The Holy Spirit shall be upon you.”
How do I honor the Holy Spirit given to me at my baptism? Do I pray daily and participate in the sacraments?
Reflections on the Gospel

Living the Gospel

John’s clear and unequivocal answers to “What should we do?” gave direction to people’s lives. He challenged the crowds and tax collectors and soldiers to change their behavior, to make other people their focus and care. John’s good news, however, went beyond merely telling the people how to behave toward each other, but also instilled expectation in them. His answers indicated that something new is happening. His good news pointed to the One who is all Good News, a mighty Savior who is in our midst, who is near. The Good News is not a message but a person—Jesus. Our lives are about pursuing this Person whom we call Savior.

The gospel imagery of chaff and wheat captures well the dying and rising of the paschal mystery. Those who refuse to die to themselves and be transformed into those over whom God rejoices will “burn with unquenchable fire.” “What should we do” to avoid this judgment? The gospel is clear: live as green wheat rising to new life. The second reading is specific: “Your kindness should be known to all.” Only by dying to self now do we avoid the everlasting judgment to “burn with unquenchable fire.” Only by dying to self now can we claim to be conformed to Jesus, can we claim to have answered with integrity the question, “What should we do?” Here is the key to Gospel living: when we live as wheat risen to new life in Christ, when we make our kindness known to all, we preach the Good News by our very lives. We announce with John that the Lord is near and that we have discovered anew what we should do. Yes, indeed, something new is happening here. What is new is a fresh attentiveness to Jesus’ abiding presence within and among us.

Closing Prayers

May we live the Gospel in such a way that we inspire others to encounter Christ.

May we hear the Good News and rejoice in Christ’s nearness.

Our Father .

For Reflection:

· When the question, “What should we do?” arises in me, I turn to . . .
· The Good News for me is . . .

©Living Liturgy 2012

Readings for the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>4th Sunday of Advent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
KNOW THE MASS, ONE WORD AT A TIME

Jesus speaks of himself as the Good Shepherd and says unforgettably, “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly” (John 10:10 NRSV). In sharing himself, he shares the fullness of life with us. Every Mass expresses this divine generosity in the sharing and self-giving of Jesus to us, his people. We can only stand before this gift in utter amazement and gratitude.

As Jesus shares with us in the Mass, we share with one another. His generosity is contagious. We bring our voices, our hopes, and our uplifted hands to share with others in the Mass. We each fulfill and share a ministry at Mass from celebrant, to servers, to readers, to ministers of Communion, to musicians, to ushers, and to the singing and praying assembly. Our sharing continues after the Mass and into the world, when we are told, “Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.”

Senior Madrigals Sing at SJC

On Sunday, Jan. 13, the LT Senior Madrigals will sing at the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Preludes will start at 4:50 p.m. and inspiring music will continue throughout the liturgy. Come hear some of our finest teens in the area and our parish sing!

Third Sunday of Advent

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word for “rejoice.” We remember today that God is faithful and that Jesus will come again as he promised. On that day every tear will be wiped away and there will be no more pain and death.

Cry out with joy and gladness::
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel. Responsorial Psalm

Go for a walk in your neighborhood this evening and enjoy the Christmas lights at the homes of your neighbors. Reflect on Jesus, the Light of the world. The One who came to help us see how we should live according to God’s plan. Like John the Baptist, the Christmas lights proclaim the Good News of Jesus.

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord’s Nativity, enable us to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Amen.

Collect or Opening Prayer Source: Sourcebook for Seasons 2013

REMINDER: Don’t forget to pick-up your Luminaria Kit orders in the Parish Center

This Sunday, December 16th after ALL SUNDAY MORNING Masses until 1:00 p.m.
Next Sunday, December 23rd from 1-3:00 p.m.
Thank you for your support of this Women's Club Fundraiser!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9am-6:30pm</td>
<td>8am-3pm</td>
<td>Closed Merry Christmas</td>
<td>8am-Noon</td>
<td>9am-8pm</td>
<td>9am-8pm</td>
<td>9am-6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9am-6:30pm</td>
<td>8am-Noon</td>
<td>Closed Happy New Year</td>
<td>9am-8pm</td>
<td>9am-8pm</td>
<td>9am-8pm</td>
<td>9am-6pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This Week at SJC

Monday, December 17
10:30 a.m. Step 11 Christian Meditation
2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
2:30 p.m. Spiritual Journaling
3:30 p.m. Brownie Troop

Tuesday, December 18
9:30 a.m. Focus on Sunday Scriptures Group
1:30 p.m. Sr. Josephine’s Bible Study
3:00 p.m. Tuesdays with Mary
7:00 p.m. Advent Reconciliation Service
7:00 p.m. RCIA

Wednesday, December 19
9:00 a.m. Advent Faith Sharing
11:30 a.m. Ladies Bridge
2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation
6:45 p.m. Tiger Scouts
7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

Friday, December 21
9:00 a.m. Mom’s Club
6:00 p.m. Kairos Reunion

Saturday, December 22
7:00 a.m. Christian Meditation

New Thinking for a New Era

How Contemplative Prayer Transforms Consciousness and the World
Seminar with Laurence Freeman, OSB and Richard Rohr, OFM

This Christmas, give the "Gift of Peace"! Are there still loved ones you need to buy a gift for? Consider registering them for the opportunity to hear Richard Rohr and Laurence Freeman. These two great spiritual leaders will share their wisdom in a dialogue on contemplative prayer and the spiritual urgency of our time. Early registration ends December 31, 2012.

To Register Online
http://usawccm.wordpress.com/upcoming-events/
After a wonderful effort to fill Christmas goodie bags our Sophomores & 4th graders posed for a group photo! Many thanks to everyone who joined these efforts & especially our event leaders: Will Skowron, Debbie Skowron & Mo Dunne for coordinating this awesome afternoon of service! The Little Brothers of the Elderly friends greatly appreciate your efforts!

CALENDAR EVENTS:
Dec. 21 All Kairos Christmas Reunion 6 p.m.
Jan. 4-6 Frosh-Soph Retreat
Jan. 13 Home Group Meetings

Please keep in your prayers our high school teens who will be finishing projects & exams this week: That they see beyond the anxiety a test may bring and acknowledge the constant love God has for them through success or failure!

OUR IDENTITY RETREAT TEAM had its final all team meeting and has a fabulous retreat planned. We look forward to a great start to the new year while retreating with an energetic, willing and engaging group of freshmen & sophomores!

The early part of this week I was able to play Santa’s elf and bring a small gift to our ministry leaders. I even donned a Santa hat. It was so much fun to give something to someone who was so un-expecting of it! The spirit of giving really is wonderful!

Even though I was the giver, I was delighted by the gifts I received along the way:
- Having chocolate passed through a crowd of teens—they shared the treasure of their night.
- Seeing a family putting up their Christmas Tree...their kids dancing and singing as they did it!
- Excitement in the eyes of leaders looking forward to seeing their group.
- A leader sharing the fun they had gathering gifts together & being overwhelmed by the generosity of our teens!
- A hug from an adult who had never initiated a hug before!
- Joining in prayer with a group as adults shared their extended family traditions with their teens.
- Hearing how our freshmen groups are bonding & at times jumping with excitement!
- And so many more….space is limited...read more on our website www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads!

The mystery of the season allows us to feel God’s love through the unexpected! I pray that the pink of today’s candle surprises you into seeing God’s love everywhere!
Our fifth grade students have enjoyed working in the computer lab learning to design brochures. Each student chose a real or imaginary holiday and wrote an essay about it including associated traditions. They then designed a brochure with pictures for their holiday and will present them in class next week.

Our second graders participated in a wonderful service project last Thursday that benefitted Care Net, an agency that provides services and help to women facing unplanned pregnancies. Students brought in gifts for new babies such as diapers, wipes, toys, lotions, and clothes and then attended a special prayer service, “Breakfast with Baby Jesus.” This is a wonderful gift our students’ families are able to give this organization each year.

This Week at SJC
December 20  Christmas Pageant 7 p.m., Gym
December 21  Christmas Break Begins, 3:30 p.m.

Last Sunday the first grade students and students from the Family Faith Connections (FFC) participated in Mass. Participation by the YC families in our special YC Sunday Masses this year has been wonderful! Thank you all for celebrating the Year of the Sunday Mass with us!
Thank You from Kolbe House

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for sending the $1,200 Sharing check. I am grateful for this generous donations.

We are entering into the festive holiday season when our personal and parish activities are increased. These are good days for all of us but we also realize that they are difficult days for many families. The holidays bring back many memories of other celebrations. For the incarcerated, their families, or families who have been hurt by others, celebrating life during these days is difficult. All of this points to how much we need to be reminded that we are never alone. My own personal prayer is that healing be the gift that is given to all of us. Our common faith brings us together as one family.

As we prepare during the upcoming Advent days for Christ’s birth, may the relationship between the people who make up Kolbe House and St. John of the Cross Parish be strengthened. I remain

Your brother in the Lord,
Reverend Arturo Perez Rodriguez

Kolbe House Cares!

Recently Deacon Pablo of Kolbe House had to turn down a request for a pair of men’s jeans or pants………there were simply none left in the Kolbe House ‘closet’ to give. Imagine. Can you fit one more item on your To Do list this week? New or gently used men’s jeans or casual pants are urgently needed at Kolbe House. All sizes are welcome – particularly 34, 36 & 38 waists and length of 30 or 32. Drop off boxes are in the church narthex or the Parish Center entry hall. Your generosity is much appreciated. Thank you!

Interfaith Career Network — Winter Workshop, 2013

Interfaith Career Network invites you to join us when the First Presbyterian Church of La Grange will host a six-week job support skills workshop on Tuesday evenings beginning January 22, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Whether you are unemployed, under-employed, looking for a career change or a recent grad looking for your first professional position, this informative workshop is for you. FPCLG is located at 150 South Ashland Avenue; meetings will be held in Westminster Hall. Please enter church on Catherine Avenue. For further information, call the FPCLG church office at 708.354.0771. This workshop is open to all and there is no fee to attend. We look forward to welcoming you!

Interfaith Career Network offers job support through various programs throughout the month. For further information, please visit our website: www.interfaithcareernetwork.org.
SJC Men’s Club
Save the Date
TRIVIA NIGHT
Saturday
January 26th

2013 New Thinking for a New Era:
How Contemplative Prayer Transforms our
Consciousness and the World with Richard Rohr OFM and Laurence Freeman OSB at
Chicago Marriott O’Hare on Friday-Sunday, Feb. 15-17. Discounted early registration

Moms’ Club
Moms of Young Children - All are welcome!
FRIDAYS 9:30-11:00 a.m. in the Parish Center

The Moms' Club would like to wish you and your families a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year! We will not be holding meetings on Friday, December 21, Friday, December 28, or Friday, January 4th. Look for information about January's meetings in the Christmas bulletin.

Please contact Colleen Whittingham at whitting910@yahoo.com <mailto:whitting910@yahoo.com> if you have any questions.
Please contact Ellen Twomey at ellenkoz@yahoo.com <mailto:ellenkoz@yahoo.com> if you would like to be added to the email list.

MORE THAN THE MANGER

Amid the bustle of December, it’s easy to forget that our Advent preparation is about more than the arrival of a baby in a manger. In the early Church, all of life pointed toward Christ’s second coming, which Christians expected to occur within their lifetimes. Not until the 4th century did the feast of Nativity take root, and with it, the time of preparation. Advent, from the Latin word adventus, or coming.

The idea of focusing on the last things or the end times is known as eschatology, and it shines a very different light on the season of Advent. The knowledge that Christ will return to judge the world is a clarion call to each one of us. When we examine our lives, how well does what we see reflect our heavenly Father? How closely do our actions parallel those of Christ?

To meditate on the end times is to discern whether we are truly prepared to meet God, if we are living out our faith or simply going through the motions. Admitting our own weakness calls us to act, to prepare—even to repent. This is a word we don’t often associate with Advent, but which is implicit in the Scriptures we hear early in the season.

Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man (Luke 21:36).

Although we associate John the Baptist’s call to “Prepare the way of the Lord” with the first coming, the Incarnation, it actually points to the preaching of Jesus as an adult. The Advent Scriptures urge us to focus on our spiritual preparation. During Advent, we pray, “O come, Emmanuel.” Emmanuel—God with us, here in our midst. A God who dwells in some distant Heaven is less threatening; one who dwells among us, within every heart, is harder to ignore.

This Advent, take time to seek stillness and hear the Lord speaking. Pray the “Advent Examination of Conscience” found on page 3 of this bulletin. How else will you prepare to welcome “God with us?”
In late November 1982, while a graduate student in Louvain, Belgium, I began writing this column. That makes for thirty years! When I began writing this, I had no idea as to where this would go, no grand plan. I was putting notes into milk-bottles and floating them out to sea, across an ocean in this case, hoping somebody might read them. The first person that actually pulled a note from one of those bottles was Glenn Argan, the editor of the Western Catholic Reporter, in Edmonton, Canada. I will forever be in debt to him for being the first editor who took a chance on me. He is still editor at the Western Catholic today.

It took some years for the column to attract any attention beyond that first newspaper, but eventually its audience began to widen. Here's a brief history of its development: The Green Bay Compass picked up the column in the mid-1980s. Cardinal Adam Maida, now in Detroit, was Bishop in Green Bay at the time. I met him at a conference several years ago and he reminded me that it was under his watch in Green Bay that my column was taken up by their diocesan paper, my first American readership.

In the early 1990s, I received invitations to run the column from two national Canadian Catholic newspapers, the Prairie Messenger and the Catholic Register. That was a huge expansion: I was now in two countries, in four newspapers, and more than content with that as an audience.

I've never had an agent, nor had the time or heart to actively try to solicit newspapers in terms of taking on the column and was content to simply let it find whatever life it might find on its own. I relied on providence and chance, and I got lucky, pure and simple. In 1987, I taught a summer course in theology at All Hallows College in Dublin and one of the students in the course was Delia Smith, famed in the United Kingdom for everything from theology to cooking to football. At that time I had published only one book, The Loneliness Factor, and had a modest portfolio of columns. Delia took the book to Hodder & Stoughton, a much-respected London publisher, and my portfolio of columns to Otto Herschan, the publisher then of the Catholic Herald in London. That one act forever changed the landscape of my writings.

The Catholic Herald is a national newspaper in England, and is on newsstands as well in many cities worldwide. Moreover, at the time, Otto Herschan, its publisher, also published a national Catholic newspaper in both Ireland and Scotland. Hence the column was now published nationally in those countries as well. That exposure led to other national audiences, in New Zealand, among other countries.

And Delia Smith's kindness in taking The Loneliness Factor to a major British publishing house also had a huge, eventual, impact on the column: In 1988, Hodder & Stoughton re-released the book under a new title, The Restless Heart, and it went on to win the a major book award in the United Kingdom. That led to a publishing contract with Hodder & Stoughton and eventually that contract itself led to a contract with Doubleday in New York. After Doubleday published The Holy Longing dozens of newspapers began to ask for the column, particularly in the United States, but in other English-speaking countries as well. After the release of The Holy Longing the number of newspapers that carry the column rose from around ten to around seventy, where it stands today. Part of that growth was also due to the efforts of the late Kay Lagried who, having brought the column to the diocesan newspaper in Seattle, Washington, began to solicit other newspapers to take it on. She became, until her untimely death two years ago, the agent I never had. Today the column is estimated to have a readership of well over one million readers.

More recently the column has been translated in Spanish and Vietnamese and is now available in those languages.

That's its "legal" availability. The column is also widely distributed on the internet and within numerous newspapers, newsletters, and church bulletins outside any permission or authorization from anyone. This is particularly true in some parts of Asia, where copyright laws are not as strict as here. Overall, I'm okay with this kind of pirating. I'm writing as a ministry and in most cases the people running the column without permission are doing so because they lack the financial resources to do so legally or because they feel they are so far down the rung of importance with anyone that it doesn't make a difference. Hats off to them!

Sitting at a desk in Belgium in 1982, pecking away on a typewriter, I had no thoughts about longevity or world-readership. I was putting notes into milk-bottles and hoping somebody would find them. Thirty years later, now with a laptop instead of a typewriter, the effort and the dream remain the same.

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).
# How to Make a Stock Donation to St. John of the Cross Parish

## 3 Simple Steps

### 1. When processing your securities donations via ELECTRONIC TRANSFER

Provide your bank or broker the following transfer instructions:

- **William Blair & Company – DTC # 771**
- **Account Number – 156-16135-1-2**
- **Catholic Bishop of Chicago Account**
- **For the Benefit of: St. John of the Cross Parish, Western Springs, IL**

Additional information your bank or broker may need:
- Archdiocese of Chicago Tax ID No. – 36-2170826
- William Blair & Company – 222 W. Adams St. – Chicago, IL 60606
- William Blair Representative, Candy Plencner, Phone: 312-364-8169Fax: 312-577-0658 or e-mail: cplencner@williamblair.com

### 2. STOCK DONATION - LETTER OF INTENTION For the Archdiocese of Chicago Parishes, Schools, and Agencies

Donor, Please complete this form for ALL STOCK/MUTUAL FUND Donations. For further assistance, please call the Archdiocese of Chicago Stock transfer representative, Greg Salm, 312/534-5399.

I (we) plan to transfer the securities electronically:  

**Donation Date:** ________________  

**From:** (Please Print)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor Name(s):</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City, State, Zip:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-Mail Address:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please accept our donation of ______ Shares of _________________________________  

(# of shares) (Name of Security)

to be credited to the Catholic Bishop of Chicago for the benefit of:

**Parish, School or Agency:** St. John of the Cross Parish, 5005 S. Wolf Road, Western Springs, IL 60558

(If you are donating various stocks/securities and/or to various locations simply print VARIOUS above and attach a separate page with a list detailing the various gifts and locations that are to receive the gift/s)

### 3. **Send this form To:** (send via one method listed below)

Regular U.S. Mail - Archdiocese of Chicago, Parish Operations – Stock Donations 835 N. Rush Street, Chicago, IL 60611 or  
Send to Greg Salm, 312-534-5399 Fax Number: 312/534-5272 gdsalm@archchicago.org or  
Send to St. John of the Cross: Marguerite Chrusciel, phone # 708-246-4404, fax # 708-246-4566 or mchrusciel@stjohnofthecross.org
Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord
James Carroll, Jr., nephew of Gene Millette
Msgr. John Dolciamore
Donald Gallagher, brother of Rosalie Lawinger
Kyra Victoria Martyn, mother of Pamela Martyn Nemeth
Laura Minotis, daughter of Gloria Deizman

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.

Mass Intentions
Monday, December 17
6:30 Emory Hartmann
7:45 Coretta Spalo; Warren Heraty
Tuesday, December 18
6:30 Our Beloved Dead; Bill King
7:45 Loretta & Frank Burke; Kevin McGuire
Wednesday, December 19
6:30 Joseph Pritasil
7:45 Gloria O’Shall; Jack McDonnell
Thursday, December 20
7:45 Williams Family; Kathleen O’Flaherty
Friday, December 21, St. Peter Canisius
7:45 Helen Grigas; Mary & Frank Reilly
Saturday, December 22
8:00 Steve Ryan; Mollie Adams
5:00 Eileen Dempsey; Parker & Weber Families
Robert Plechaty
Sunday, December 23, Fourth Sunday of Advent
7:30 Walter Kogler; Edward J. Puskaric
9:00 Sally Sebastian; Peter Glen
10:45 Galvin & Grogan Families; Harry Richards
12:15 Louis Skwarek; Eugena Garvy
5:00 SJC & St. Thaddeus Parishioners

Italics—Living

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.

As 2012 comes to a close, we continue to acknowledge the many ways in which we have grown in faith and fellowship together throughout the whole year. We have socialized, prayed, witnessed and celebrated our faith in every season with every age.

We are continually humbled and thankful for all you do to support our parish with your time, talent, and treasure. We strive to be welcoming, living out our mission as a parish community loving God and one another. Each of us is called to discover, to grow, to be all God has asked us to be. Our parish is a blessing in our lives, providing for our families – every day – encouraging us to live our Catholic faith.

Our Parish Finance Council continues to promote online giving. Many of you already pay your bills or purchase things online. Making your donations electronically will work to your benefit as well as our parish. To our Giving page on our website www.stjohnofthecross.org to donate electronically.

Together let us join hands to make our parish be all that it can be.

Wedding Banns
Brian McGrath & Megan Brewer

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

Fr. David P. Dowdle, Pastor
ddowdle@stjohnofthecross.org
Fr. Filbert F. Ngwila, Associate Pastor
fngwila@stjohnofthecross.org
John Schopp, Deacon
john.schopp@newhemispheres.com
Bill Bright, Outreach
bbright@stjohnofthecross.org
Janet Cascetta, Youth Catechesis
jcascetta@stjohnofthecross.org
Jim Clauer, Worship
jclauer@stjohnofthecross.org
Kathleen Gorman, Principal
gorman@sjc.pvt.k12.il.us
Katie Hayes, Crossroads
khayes@stjohnofthecross.org
Jessica Koch, Music
jkoch@stjohnofthecross.org
MJ Martin, Operations
mjmartin@stjohnofthecross.org

Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord
James Carroll, Jr., nephew of Gene Millette
Msgr. John Dolciamore
Donald Gallagher, brother of Rosalie Lawinger
Kyra Victoria Martyn, mother of Pamela Martyn Nemeth
Laura Minotis, daughter of Gloria Deizman

Wedding Banns
Brian McGrath & Megan Brewer

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

Fr. David P. Dowdle, Pastor
ddowdle@stjohnofthecross.org
Fr. Filbert F. Ngwila, Associate Pastor
fngwila@stjohnofthecross.org
John Schopp, Deacon
john.schopp@newhemispheres.com
Bill Bright, Outreach
bbright@stjohnofthecross.org
Janet Cascetta, Youth Catechesis
jcascetta@stjohnofthecross.org
Jim Clauer, Worship
jclauer@stjohnofthecross.org
Kathleen Gorman, Principal
gorman@sjc.pvt.k12.il.us
Katie Hayes, Crossroads
khayes@stjohnofthecross.org
Jessica Koch, Music
jkoch@stjohnofthecross.org
MJ Martin, Operations
mjmartin@stjohnofthecross.org
Rob's on the Job
Handyman Service
Repairs - Maintenance - Assembly
We'll turn your "Honey Do" list into a "Honey Done" list
630-441-0648
www.robsonthejob.com

Blessed Art Thou
Mother, Lady, Mystic, Queen
Art by Brother Michael O'Neill McGrath, OSFS
Prayers by Father Richard N. Fragomeni
Hardcover book $39.95
800-566-6150
World Library Publications
the music and liturgy division of J.S. Paluch Co., Inc.
www.wlpmusic.com

Maloney & Company, Ltd.
Certified Public Accountants & Consultants
Established 1952
38 Years in Business
323-4610

John F. O'Connell III, D.D.S.
Restorative and Implant General Dentistry
930 N. York Rd., Suite 120
Hinsdale, IL 60521
(630) 455-1666

PC MD
PC & MAC Sales & Service
Networking • WIFI • Internet
(630) 789-3971 Toll Free Support (877) pc-md-support.com
www.pcmd.com
We Still Make House Calls!

Dye Hard Salon
Full Service Women, Men & Children
First Time Client Only - Offering
$5.00 Off Men & Children Cuts
$10.00 Off Women Cuts
$15.00 Off Chemical Services
James Apostal
Paolo Romano
Susie Karye
Lauren Ottley
708-784-0777
Call for Convenient Appointments and Walk-in Welcome
923 Burlington Ave., Western Springs
www.VersaciDental.com
See renowned speaker and author, Matthew Kelly, live at our church on Saturday, February 2nd from 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Matthew Kelly’s Passion & Purpose event is the inspiring yet practical experience of dynamic teaching and application of the genius of Catholicism to every aspect of your life, including prayer, work, dating, marriage, personal finances, health, parenting and more. Gain insight to live more fully the life God has created for you.

Consider giving a gift of faith formation for Christmas by registering your teen, sibling, spouse or parent for this awesome, motivating day. Join them for a “date” and enjoy together!

Tickets for this event are $39 per person and are available in the Parish Center and on our website. Ticket price includes all event materials and take-away items. We expect this to be a sell-out event so purchase your tickets early. Seating is limited.

Matthew Kelly Speaking Event: Passion & Purpose Live February 2 Registration

Name: ________________________________
Phone: ________________________________
Email: ________________________________

☐ Tickets @ $39 each

☐ Total Paid  ☐ Cash   ☐ Check

To pay by credit card go to www.stjohnofthecross.org

SJC Rediscover Catholicism
Book Study & Faith Sharing Series

The 5 session series will run every other week beginning the week of January 7th through March 8th.

- There are 3 different day/times to choose from for each session.
- A study guide will be provided at the first session and will be available online for previewing the material.
- If you miss a session you may attend the next session without a problem.
- If you were unable to read the pages for discussion that week, we encourage you to attend the session and participate anyway.
- All sessions are in the parish center.
- There is no cost for the study guide or to attend any session.

Name: ________________________________
Phone: ________________________________
Email: ________________________________

Check the day/time that is best for you to attend:

☐ Tuesdays 1-3:00 p.m.
☐ Tuesdays 7-9:00 p.m.
☐ Fridays 7-9:00 p.m.

Join us after Mass today for hospitality and sign up for the Book Study as well as Matthew Kelly Live!