Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.
(Psalm 104)

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Dear Parishioners,

We celebrate the great Feast of Pentecost this weekend, the climax of the Easter season and the assurance that God is with us as we try to build his Kingdom here on earth. As Pope Benedict XVI resigned the papacy, he made a remark that betrayed his exhaustion when he said that the Lord seemed to be asleep during his tenure as pope. Clearly there are times when we are tempted to feel that the Holy Spirit has taken the week/month/year/decade off and left us to our own devices, even to the point of feeling abandoned. It is precisely at those moments when I need to be reminded that ‘feeling’ and ‘trust’ are not the same thing. Moreover, ‘feeling’ can be the enemy of ‘trust’, trying to undermine and eat away at its foundation. One tip off that this has happened is when we begin to ‘feel’ that we have responsibility for much more than what is in our control. Just as the pope can feel overly responsible for the church when so much is not under his control, so a parent can feel abandoned at times when facing the challenges of raising children. (Or a priest in pastoring a parish, for instance.) Trust is much closer to being reminded about two things: 1.) the Holy Spirit is at work even when there is no evidence we could point to and, 2.) the need to pray to be open to the presence of the Holy Spirit that our best efforts may not be in conflict with God’s desires for us.

Next Wednesday, May 22 is Fr. Kieran Kemner’s 86th birthday. Unfortunately, he continues to slowly decline. His sister reads his cards to him, so if you would like to send him a card his address is:

Fr. Kieran Kemner, OSF
Sunset Home
418 Washington Street
Quincy, IL 62301

May is the month of First Communion (a total of 183 2nd graders at four liturgies!), May Crowning, Ribbon Ceremonies for 8th graders, Mother’s Day, graduation festivities and most diaconate and priestly ordination anniversaries. Fr. Joe celebrated his 58th anniversary on May 3rd, I celebrated my 34th on the 9th and Fr. Filbert will celebrate his 2nd on the 21st. Deacon Tom McGorey celebrated his 33rd last December 16th. Deacon Joe Pepitone celebrated his 31st on April 18th. Deacon John Schopp will celebrate his 5th on May 25th. Remember to pray for the 10 newly ordained priests this weekend and the newly ordained deacons next weekend. Ad multos annos!

As part of a new effort at welcoming new parishioners, we are incorporating a blessing for those who have joined our parish recently. Some new parishioners grew up here and are now starting their families here, some are from parts of the city (mostly the Southside) and some are from different countries or different parts of the USA. We are a big parish, but we also have to be a small parish that welcomes everyone individually. Some are looking to make new friends and to get involved in activities. Others simply want to be part of the most important part of the parish, the Sunday assembly. Some are new to our school or our YC program. At whatever level of familiarity and at whatever level of participation you desire, welcome to all new parishioners to the great mix of people that is the family of SJC.

Peace,
Fr. David

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Summer Mass Schedule Begins Next Weekend

- There will be no 12:15 p.m. Sunday Mass during the summer beginning May 26th until the weekend after Labor Day, September 8th.
- There will also be no 6:30 a.m. weekday Mass from Memorial Day to Labor Day inclusive, May 28th until September 2nd.
- Mass on Memorial Day, May 27th will be at 9:00 a.m.
Living the Gospel

“If you love me.” “Whoever loves me” (emphases added). Our love is always a free choice and, as human beings, we are never quite sure of our choices. God’s love, on the other hand, is sure and steady. God continually sends the Spirit to dwell within us. This indwelling Spirit empowers us to love with God’s steadfastness. Transformed by the Spirit, our love moves from “if” to “I can, I choose, I will.” On this festival of Pentecost which concludes our celebration of the resurrection, we are given a Gift of Life so that we can faithfully take up Jesus’ saving mission. Pentecost is an invitation to choose to love, to choose to do, to choose to be risen Presence. This is the power of Pentecost and why we can continue Jesus’ ministry: the Spirit imbues us with God’s love.

The more we respond to the Spirit’s indwelling, the more we are immersed in God’s very love. The choice to love becomes more clear, more focused. The Spirit brings us to a single-mindedness about our love and about our choice to take up Jesus’ saving mission. Sometimes in our lives we might witness to a powerful presence of the Spirit. Perhaps we must confront another who has done wrong and refuses to change, stand up to injustice, or challenge another to more ethical and generous living. Sometimes in our lives we might witness to a gentler, relational Spirit. Perhaps we spend extra quality time with the children, or visit an elderly relative and bring them some cheer, or help someone pick up the pile of oranges in the grocery which has come tumbling down. In these great and simple acts the Spirit works through us and moves us from “if” to “I can, I choose, I will.”

Closing Prayers:
May we be renewed in our love by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.
May we be faithful to our choice for discipleship by loving and caring for others as Jesus did.
Our Father . . .

For Reflection:
· I experience the Spirit empowering me to . . . when . . .
· My love of others is a sure “I can, I choose, I will” when . . .

As we celebrate all of the First Communions this month, we wanted to share a great short video about receiving communion. This is a great discussion starter for your family.

http://bustedhalo.com/video/eucharist

Archdiocese Celebrating Memorial Day at the Catholic Cemeteries
Monday, May 27
Memorial Day Mass will be celebrated on Monday, May 27, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. at all of our major cemeteries. Please check the Catholic New World and local newspapers for more information.

If as children we were trained to be polite, the words “thank you” may roll off our tongues dozens of times daily. Of course, it’s good to be polite, but, in the routine of saying thank you, we may have lost its deeper meaning. In its fullest and deepest sense, to thank someone is to acknowledge their gift or their favor and also to acknowledge that we cannot give something back in return. To thank someone in this more authentic sense means to stand grateful but also indebted before someone who has been so good to us.

“Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.” We hear the invitation at Mass, and it is not an invitation to repeat a commonplace, hastily spoken thank-you. To give thanks to the Lord is a full and humble acknowledgment of God’s goodness to us manifested in the Death and the Resurrection of Jesus. There is truly nothing we can offer to “pay back” the Lord for all his goodness. Together, we stand before God grateful and indebted. God has done great things for us. We will never forget.

Thank

Readings for the Week

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Living Liturgy 2012

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Perennial Philosophy: Richard Rohr

“The Perennial Tradition” was once defined by Aldous Huxley in his book *The Perennial Philosophy*. He felt that this teaching was immemorial and universal, which would make sense if the Holy Spirit is guiding all of history, or humanly speaking if there is such a thing as the “collective unconscious.”

The perennial philosophy recognizes again and again in different religions and in different ways and with different vocabulary that 1) there is a Divine Reality substantial to the world of things, 2) there is an inner compatibility and coherence between humans and God, and 3) the goal of human existence is quite simply union with that Reality. Jesus, of course, says the same thing *(Mark 12:30)* and, in fact, equates love of others, love of self, and love of God throughout his teaching. Only some form of unitive or non-dual consciousness is capable of understanding such teaching and such a philosophy. The dualistic mind just takes sides and stands isolated on one of them, either God is great (too much religion) or humans and creation are great in and of themselves and by themselves (which cannot be logically sustained), but the real synthesis is that both are great. This is the basis for all sustainable sacredness in the universe, and the practical goal of religion.

~ Adapted from an unpublished talk at a conference in Assisi, Italy, May 2012

New Group for Married Couples

**Starts this Fall**

**Sacred Marriage …United in Christ, Strengthened in Friendship**

Coming to SJC this fall! A faith sharing opportunity for married couples interested in growing in their faith and developing friendships with others on the journey.

Five or six couples form a group and commit to meeting one Saturday evening per month in each others homes to share a meal and reflect on spiritual topics. If this sounds like something you would enjoy, please join us for an informational meeting on **Saturday, June 8, at 7 p.m.** in the Parish Center. Appetizers and dessert will be served. To RSVP or for more information, contact Mary Dorsey at marybmo@aol.com, 708-784-1203, or Lis Williams at lisbethwill@sbcglobal.net.

Is God Calling You?

“There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord…”

What is the Spirit prompting you to do? Be courageous and act on it! If God is calling you to consider a vocation to the priesthood, contact Fr. Brian Welter, bwelter@archchicago.org or at 312-534-8298, or go to www.ChicagoPriest.com. For info on religious life contact Sr. Elyse Ramirez, OP at 312-534-5240 or eramirez@archchicago.org, and for the Permanent Diaconate program contact Deacon Bob Puhala at 847-837-4562 or bpuhala@usml.edu.

Adult Confirmation

Are you an adult who has not celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation? Adult Confirmations will be held during the spring months throughout the Archdiocese. Preparation groups are forming now. To register or for information please telephone (312) 534-8047 or call Fr. Filbert at x-120.

Tuesdays with Mary Pray the Rosary

Join us in the beautiful Mary Garden (between the church and rectory) to honor our Blessed Mother by praying the Rosary during this special month dedicated to her. Our Lady of Fatima, whose feast day we celebrated on Monday, May 13, asked us to "Pray the Rosary everyday!" We begin at 3 and are finished by the time school is out at 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays May 21, May 28 at 3pm. No experience necessary. Children of all ages welcome!

Pray for our new Pope

St. Mary Parish (126 Herrick Road in Riverside) invites all parishioners to join them in a Holy Hour for Pope Francis on Thursday May 23rd at 7pm. Mark Forrest, international Irish tenor, and John Kaplan, concert pianist will perform.
Monday, May 20
10:30 a.m. 11th Step Christian Meditation
2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
2:30 p.m. Spiritual Journaling
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts Court of Honor
7:00 p.m. Garage Sale Volunteer Meeting

Tuesday, May 21
8:30 a.m. Parent Association Meeting
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 Rosary
7:00 p.m. Laurie Petersen Talk
7:00 p.m. School Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 22
9:30 a.m. Bible Study 3
2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation
7:00 p.m. Promise Team Meeting
7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

Thursday, May 23
1:30 p.m. Creed Study
7:00 p.m. Creed Study

Friday, May 24
9:30 a.m. Mom’s Club

Saturday, May 25
7:00 a.m. Christian Meditation
8:00 a.m. Crossroads Mass Prep Meeting

VBS!
July 8-12, 2013
9:00 am to Noon
Register today!

Come join us as we learn to stand strong for the Kingdom of God! VBS at St. John of the Cross is amazing! It’s interactive, filled with games, skits, crafts, and snacks—all while learning about God’s love for us! All children entering kindergarten through 5th grade in the fall can register on the YC website or directly at https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/sjc. Registration fee is $30.00. If you have questions, contact the YC office at 708-246-6760 or email at yc@sjcross.org

High School and Adult Crew Leaders also needed and greatly appreciated! Volunteer today!

Ministry Spotlight
Baptism Team

Ministry Description
Remember when your first born was going to be baptized? What a thrilling time for you and your family. It is also a thrilling time for the parish as we welcome a new Christian to our parish family.

Please consider being a part of this most important ministry that welcomes and celebrates the miracle of life. The baptism team is frequently the face of the parish for the very first time as couples bring their baby to be baptized.

One baptismal couple a month (the first Thursday at 7:00 pm) facilitates the preparation sessions so that you would only do about two or three sessions a year. Being present on the Sunday when the baptisms take place, welcoming the families, assisting the priest or deacon, assuring all is in readiness is a very important aspect of this ministry as well.

You will be trained and have all aspects of the ministry explained to you before making a commitment. Come and learn the theology of baptism and the richness of the baptism liturgy that you will help parents to understand.

Testimonials
My husband, Scott, and I have been on the Baptism Team for over 7 years. It’s great to be able to volunteer as a couple. This is a joyous, happy ministry. Parents remember us as they get each of their children baptized. It is a wonderful way to connect with parishioners. Jenny Mazur

Being on the Baptism Team allows us time to plan, teach and pray in a focused and intimate way. We have received so much love and support from our parish that we want to give some of our time and talents in return. It has been a privilege and a joy to welcome young parents and their babies into our parish family. Nancy and Joe Polacek

We are looking for couples to be a part of our Baptism Team. Please call Fr. Filbert x120 if you would like more information on how you can become involved.

I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son and
of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.
Crossroads

CALENDAR EVENTS:
May 19 Leaders Meeting 6-8pm
June 6 6:30-8:30pm Work Tour Mtg
June 10-14 OLC intergenerational local trip
June 13 SJC Battle of the Bands
June 27-30 Crossroads hosts water & pop station at our SJC Fest
June 27-30 Teens attend Youth Leadership Conference at Lewis University

Crossroads Battle of the Bands on **June 13th** will raise funds to support our summer trips & enjoy musical talents of our teens...to get info or register a band contact us on facebook at sjcbattle!

SAVE THE DATE FOR AN AWESOME NIGHT OF MUSIC & SOCIALIZING!

It’s rare, but it happens...we have all the adults needed for the National Catholic Youth Conference trip before we have all the teen spots filled. Why, you ask?

Because it is SO AWESOME!
Contact Katie Hayes ASAP if your teen wants to join our amazing group.
Promo video is on our website at www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads

Crossroads teens & families will host the water & pop stands at our SJC Fest June 27-30.
More details will follow so reserve that weekend to share in the fest fun!

MANY THANKS AS OUR MINISTRY YEAR ENDS to all our HOME GROUP, RETREAT, ADVISORY & EVENT LEADERS!
We will celebrate with dinner this Sunday in thanks for their generous time and energy to support our teens’ faith!

Wow! There’s such a variety of ways for me to support our Youth Ministry!
I will call Katie Hayes to see how I can share my gifts with our teenagers!
Awesome….I met with Katie and heard the ways in which I can engage teens in our parish life & growing closer to God!

APPLICATIONS FOR OUR FALL TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE NOW at www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/leadership
DAY OF THE SPIRIT Retreat Team FRESHMEN EXPERIENCE Team FROSH/SOPH RETREAT TEAM
Teens can support the faith of their peers and younger teenagers by sharing their talents & gifts!

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Parish School

Recapping a Busy Week at School
This week our students honored the Blessed Virgin Mary during our May Crowning Ceremony. After the eighth graders crowned Mary, they received their green class ribbons marking the end of their elementary school years. Graduation will be on Friday, May 31st.

Our second graders received their First Holy Communion on the first two Saturdays in May. Last week Father David joined them in a prayer service and blessed their First Communion religious gifts.

Our first grade students visited the Morton Arboretum and spent time learning about tadpoles, bugs, and the beautiful trees, while the seventh graders went to downtown Chicago on an architecture tour.

Youth Catechesis

Please help us meet our goal!
&
YOU SAVE $10!

Our goal is to have all our current families registered by May 31st! And we are offering a saving this May to help! Even if you can’t pay, please register by May 31st and you still get the $10 savings on your tuition bill.

HOURS for your CONVENIENCE
we are open on Fridays in May and will extend our hours each week!
Monday through Thursday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Friday 8:30 am to 3:00 pm
Extended evenings until 7:00 pm on
Wednesday May 22nd,
Wednesday May 29th and Thursday May 30th
If these hours in May don’t work for you, please call our office. We will be closed in honor of Memorial Day, Monday May 27th. Thank you!

sign up now

This Week at SJC:
May 22, 2013  Spotlight on SJC School 7-8:00 p.m.
Helping Hands
Volunteer Opportunities
SIGN UP TODAY
Special Recreation Volunteers Needed!
Organization Project
Residential Food Sort Volunteer
Peer Volunteer—School for Children with Autism
Art Room Volunteer
If you would like more information, call Carolyn Kline, Director of Community Outreach, 708-352-3580, x 280

Interfaith Career Network Job Support
Last Week! Tuesday, May 21: Aileen Gilpin will provide a “Linked In” primer and answer your questions on how to effectively use this powerful online resource in your search. Interfaith Career Network invites you to join us at First Presbyterian Church of La Grange, located at 150 South Ashland Avenue; meeting is from 7-9 pm, in Westminster Hall. Please enter church on Catherine Avenue. For further information, contact Susan Sedler at sqsedler@aol.com. This program is open to all and there is no cost to attend.

Catholic Charities Seeking Artwork and Volunteers
Accolades, an adult day care program in Oak Park, is in need of art work to decorate their facility and is also looking for volunteers. If you are doing spring cleaning consider donating any pictures or artwork, to Accolades. Volunteers are also needed Monday through Friday between 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to help with seniors activities and serving meals.
Contact Esmeralda at ezepeda@catholiccharities.net

Memorial Day Poppies remind us to honor the sacrifices and courage of the US military.
Memorial poppies, the little red flowers that honor US troops killed in wartime, will be distributed May 23, 24, and 25 at various locations throughout La Grange, Western Springs, La Grange Park, and Countryside by veterans and volunteer members of the Robert E. Coulter, Jr, American Legion and Auxiliary in La Grange. American Legion volunteers will be stationed outside local businesses accepting donations in exchange for a memorial poppy.

All money raised by the La Grange American Legion and Auxiliary during the annual Poppy Days is donated to programs for hospitalized and homeless veterans receiving care at Hines Veterans Affairs Hospital and to Fisher House, which provides free housing for military families staying with a loved one receiving care at Hines VA Hospital.

The little cloth poppies handed out each Memorial Day weekend recall the wild field poppies that bloomed across the scarred battlefields of France and Belgium during World War I. Since 1924, disabled veterans have assembled the cloth poppies as a therapeutic activity. This year, patients at Hines VA Hospital made 100,000 poppies, which will be distributed during the annual Poppy Days.

Job Opportunity
The Congregation of St. Joseph in LaGrange Park is seeking a PART TIME WEEKEND FOOD SERVICE AIDE/SANITATION EMPLOYEE who will be responsible for various aspects of meal preparation and cleanliness in the Food Service Area. Must be able to work a flexible schedule. One year sanitation experience or will train. A high school diploma or equivalent is required. Come to the Center to complete an application by May 29. 1515 W. Ogden Ave., LaGrange Park.

Through your generosity we have collected a little over $30,000 for the Catholic Charities Mother’s Day Appeal. Thank you for your love, prayers and kindness.

SJC Parishioners volunteer their time and talents through a wide variety of organizations, providing assistance to the homeless, the elderly, and those experiencing tough times. Visit our parish website to learn about the many ways you can volunteer!

College Graduates Workshop: three-hour workshop for unemployed college grads, June 6, call Bob Podgorski of St. Hubert Job & Networking Ministry for more info, at (847) 843-0020. Email address for college students to ask career questions is ConnektLINK@gmail.com.
Recently an op-ed piece appeared in the New York Times by Frank Bruni, entitled, The Wages of Celibacy. The column, while provocative, is fair. Mostly he asks a lot of hard, necessary questions. Looking at the various sexual scandals that have plagued the Roman Catholic priesthood in the past number of years, Bruni suggests that it's time to re-examine celibacy with an honest and courageous eye and ask ourselves whether its downside outweighs its potential benefits. Bruni, in fact, doesn't weigh-in definitively on this question; he only points out that celibacy, as a vowed lifestyle, runs more risks than are normally admitted. Near the end his column he writes: "The celibate culture runs the risk of stunting [sexual] development and turning sexual impulses into furtive, tortured gestures. It downplays a fundamental and maybe irresistible human connection. Is it any wonder that some priests try to make that connection nonetheless, in surreptitious, imprudent and occasionally destructive ways?"

That's not an irreverent question, but a necessary one, one we need to have the courage to face: Is celibacy, in fact, abnormal to the human condition? Does it run the risk of stunting sexual development?

Thomas Merton was once asked by a journalist what celibacy was like. I suspect his answer will come as a surprise to pious ears because he virtually endorses Bruni's position. He responds: "Celibacy is hell! You live in a loneliness that God himself has condemned when he said: 'It is not good to be alone!'" However, with that being admitted, Merton immediately goes on to say that just because celibacy is not the normal human condition willed by the Creator doesn't mean that it cannot be wonderfully generative and fruitful and that perhaps its unique fruitfulness is tied to how extraordinary and abnormal it is.

What Merton is saying, in essence, is that celibacy is abnormal and dooms you to live in a state not been willed by the Creator; but, despite and perhaps because of that abnormality, it can be deeply generative, both for the one living it and for those around him or her.

I know this to be true, as do countless others, because I have been deeply nurtured, as a Christian and as a human being, by the lives of vowed celibates, by numerous priests, sisters, and brothers whose lives have touched my own and whose "abnormality" served precisely to make them wonderfully fruitful.

Moreover, abnormality can have its own attraction: As a young priest, I served as a spiritual director to a young man who was discerning whether to join our order, the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, or whether to propose marriage to a young woman. It was an agonizing decision for him; he wanted both. And his discernment, while perhaps somewhat overly romantic in terms of his fantasy of both options, was at the same time uncommonly mature. Here (in words to this effect) is how he described his dilemma:

I am the oldest in my family and we lived in a rural area. When I was fifteen years old, one evening, just before supper, my dad, still a young man, had a heart attack. There were no ambulances to call. We bundled him up in the car and my mother sat in the back seat with him and held him, while I, a scared teenager, drove the car en route to the hospital some 15 miles away. My dad died before we reached the hospital. As tragic as this was, there was an element of beauty in it. My dad died in my mother's arms. That tragic beauty branded my soul. In my mind, in my fantasy, that's how I have always wanted to die - in the arms of my wife. And so my major hesitation about entering the Oblates and moving towards priesthood is celibacy. If I become a priest, I won't die in any human arms. I'll die as celibates do!

Then one day, in prayer, trying to discern all of this, I had another realization: Jesus didn't die in the arms of a spouse; he died differently, lonely and alone. I've always had a thing about the loneliness of celibates and have always been drawn to people like Soren Kierkegaard, Mother Theresa, Dorothy Day, Thomas Merton, Jean Vanier, and Daniel Berrigan, who don't die in the arms of a spouse. There's a real beauty in that way of dying too!

Bruni is right in warning that celibacy is abnormal and fraught with dangers. It does run the risk of stunting sexual development and especially of downplaying a fundamental and perhaps irresistible human connection. One of the fundamental anthropological dogmas that scripture teaches us is contained the story of God creating our first parents and his pronouncement: It is not good (and it is dangerous) for the man to be alone! Celibacy does condemn one to live in a loneliness that God himself condemned, but it's a loneliness too within which Jesus gave himself over to us in a death that's perhaps the most generative in human history.

Fr. Ron Rolheiser

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.
The Women’s Club 40th Annual Garage Sale will soon be here!
Your help is needed to make this important fundraiser a success.!

Volunteer Information
All volunteers, new and experienced, are invited to come to a
Volunteer Meeting on Monday, May 20th (tomorrow!) at 7pm in the Parish Center.

We encourage you to learn about the many different ways to volunteer and be a part of this annual event. From providing food for the workers to ringing up sales—there is something for everyone! We need your help! Believe it or not…it’s fun, it’s crazy, it’s truly an amazing event you won’t want to miss out on. You’ll meet and make new friends while giving back to our community!

Volunteer Hours – Come Anytime – No Need to Sign Up! Go to our website to see days/times your help is needed. Just come when you can...give an hour, or two or more...on any or all days. Truly, any amount of time you can give is greatly appreciated! Free babysitting available: Call Rita Forster (708) 246-4519

Student Volunteers: Volunteers for service hours are required to sign-up. 7th graders or older wanting to volunteer or to baby-sit, call Maureen Chopp (708) 246-7280.

Donations
And of course, check your closets, toy boxes, attic, basement, and garage for items to donate. Please separate and label your bags i.e. adult clothing, boys’ clothes, housewares items, etc. Given the multitude of items received, this really saves us time! Give generously and please give items in usable condition.

For more information go to our parish website!

We will pick-up large items!
Volunteers are available to pick-up large items Tuesday, June 11th thru Thursday, June 13th. To schedule, call Marian Orth (708) 246-2160 or Connie Madden (708) 417-2012. Last day to request pick-up is June 8.
Donation receipts available. Other donations will be accepted at the school on Saturday, June 15th from 9 to 2; Monday thru Wednesday, June 17-19 from 10 to 8; and Thursday, June 20th from 10 to 6.

Pre-Sale Shopping Night
Work six or more hours and shop before the sale on Friday, June 21 from 3pm to 6pm.

General Sale Questions: please call Garage Sale Co-Chairs
Mary Beth White (708) 246-6339
or Laurie Klafta (708) 784-0667
Parish News

Our Lady of Charity Book Drive was a HUGE SUCCESS!
Thank you to all the "Book Angels" who assisted the Women's Club book drive for Our Lady of Charity School. We were able to fulfill all of the teachers wish lists and donate over 300 books to the school. Additionally, because of your generosity, we were able to provide the school library with a sizable monetary donation to purchase even more books. Thank you for your support!

Moms' Club News
The SJC Parish Moms' Club is a group of women who meet every Friday from 9:30-11:00 in the Parish Center, providing support, spirituality, and fellowship for one another. This combination of prayer and play group is open to all women in the parish with young children. Please join us!
May 24: NO MEETING due to the holiday weekend. See you May 31st!
May 31: Moms and kiddos will celebrate with an End of the Year party. Thank you to everyone who made this year such an incredible success!

Moms at the Garage Sale!
The Mom's will be in charge of the Tot Room at the Garage Sale. Volunteers needed: (June 17-21), the day of the sale (June 22) and half-price sale (Monday, June 24). This is a great way to serve the parish as well as make new friends. For more information contact Jennifer or Katie: Jennifer Nikolic 312-802-6969; ikravcik@gmail.com Katie Leff (708-220-0831; kmleff@gmail.com

Please contact Colleen Whittingham at whitting910@yahoo.com with any questions.

Join the men of the parish at the Men's Club Annual Golf Outing on Friday, June 7th
Flagg Creek Golf Course
Cost: $26, includes cart and two beverage tickets and entry into contests. Contests: low score, closest to the pin; longest drive; longest putt. Checks should be made payable to SJC Men's Club and delivered to the Parish Center. Tee times from 12:30 to 2 p.m. followed by beverages and snacks in the clubhouse.

Names of player(s)

A great way to meet other men in the parish!!

2013 Summer Running Camp
(Designed for boys & girls entering grades 3 – 8)
- The Running Camp will emphasize speed, endurance, agility and conditioning
- Michelle Fink, Cross Country Coordinator will coach the Camp (708) 784-1599 OR am_fink@sbcglobal.net
- Every Wednesday, June 12th-August 14th from 7:30am to 8:30am
- Fee: $60 Includes a T-shirt
- Register on website

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O God, who by the mystery of today’s great feast sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, across the face of the earth and, with the divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, fill now once more the hearts of believers. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass

This year the Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday, September 22 at 2:45 p.m. at Holy Name Cathedral, 735 North State Street, Chicago.

Couples married in 1963 interested in attending this celebration should contact the Parish Center by May 30.

For further information call the Family Ministries Office at 312-534-8351 or visit www.familyministries.org.

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

Fr. David P. Dowdle Pastor ddowdle@stjohnofthecross.org
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SJC FEST
June 27th - June 30th
51st & Wolf Road, Western Springs, IL • www.sjcfest.com

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WE NEED YOU !!
PLEASE SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER
May 18th & 19th after all the masses!

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On
6/8-9, 6/15-16, 6/22-23

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