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Jesus promises to send us the Holy Spirit who will “teach [us] everything.” The Holy Spirit does not teach us what to believe, but to believe. To believe means to live out of the divine indwelling, live out of the peace given, live out of the mutual exchange of love between God and us and each other. Believing is living what the Spirit teaches us. Believing is an action that marries love with presence. God’s love is divine life, divine indwelling. The Holy Spirit given to us is divine life, divine indwelling. This indwelling of divine Life teaches us to live with all the compassion and mercy, love and obedience, care and concern that exists within the Trinity itself. What the Holy Spirit teaches us is surrender of our very selves to God’s Life within us, a surrender which prompts obedience to what God asks and opens us to receive the peace only God can give.

Because we Christians today are so inundated with words and pay little attention to most of them, it is possible that any newness of the Resurrection escapes us or else the newness has become so commonplace that it has lost its power. The challenge is to shift from words and believing as an intellectual exercise to love motivating us to respond to the Spirit’s presence within us. Believing is an action; it is a response to the Holy Spirit’s promptings to do good, to live faithfully the divine Life that has been given to us. Each year our Easter celebration challenges us to assess our treasure trove: God’s dwelling among us, the relationship of hearing (living) God’s word and loving as Jesus did, being taught by the Holy Spirit. These cannot remain simply concepts; these gifts are given to us so that we are Easter made visible.

Closing Prayers

May we embody the Spirit’s peace and love in each moment and every action of our daily living.

May we become ever more aware of God’s indwelling: loved by the Father, raised to new life by Jesus, taught by the Holy Spirit.

Our Father . . .

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Readings for the Week

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The organ begins to roll out the Alleluia Gospel Acclamation. On cue, everyone rises. We all get up, and we look like we are expecting something. And we should. The words, the teaching, the ministry of Jesus are about to be proclaimed in the Gospel. That is momentous and worth rising for. The Word of life and hope is coming to us.

Each time we rise up, we also anticipate the end of time which is the fulfillment of our hopes and dreams. Jesus said, “Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near” (Luke 21:28).

For Reflection:

· The Holy Spirit has taught me that . . .
· I still need to learn . . .
· God dwelling within me shapes the way I choose to live in that . . .

In the Mass, the priest prays that the Holy Spirit would change bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. Jesus tells us that some transforming Spirit is given to us.

For what change in my life do I hope and pray for at Mass?
Mother’s Day Collection

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

May 2013

Office of the Archbishop

Dear Friends in Christ,

On Mother’s Day, we celebrate the women—mothers, grandmothers, aunts, friends—who have loved and cared for us. It is through their unconditional love and compassion that we begin to understand the way in which God cares for us; and the command of Christ to love our neighbors as we love ourselves comes alive. Mother’s Day is also a day to remember and support the thousands of people who struggle with poverty and receive the love and compassionate help of Catholic Charities.

The Catholic Charities Collection on Mother’s Day gives us the opportunity to participate in the Gospel mission to love and serve the poor. It provides us with an extraordinary chance to support a critical mission of the Church—the care of our hungry, homeless and hurting brothers and sisters, many of whom may live right in your own parish communities.

Catholic Charities relies on funding from the Mother’s Day Collection to help serve more than one million people of all ages, races and religions in Cook and Lake Counties. Families, children, pregnant and parenting teens, seniors and veterans who have served our country most bravely come to Catholic Charities for the basic necessities of life: food, clothing and housing. Catholic Charities meets these basic needs with patience and understanding, and then provides a broad range of professional services to help their clients work their way out of poverty, addressing the problems that keep them from independence and self-sufficiency.

Catholic Charities is the public face of the Church’s love for all in Christ’s name. I am profoundly grateful to the devoted staff, volunteers and donors who dedicate themselves to the mission of charity in the Archdiocese of Chicago. I thank you for your past support, and I urge you to please, once again, take the opportunity to bring Christ’s love to the most vulnerable among us by participating in the Catholic Charities Collection on Mother’s Day.

May God bless you and your families. You and those you love are in my prayers; please keep me in yours.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago

Richard Rohr

God Does Not Love Us If We Change,
God Loves Us So That We Can Change

Those who pray learn to favor and prefer God’s judgment over that of human beings. God always outdoes us in generosity and in receptivity. God is always more loving than the person who has loved you the most! All you can bring is today’s latest product, whatever it is, for a new dose of love. It will always be immature on some level. It will always be inadequate, but that is not the point. It is not the perfection of the gift, but the willingness to lovingly offer the gift that pleases all parents and surely then the “Super Parent” that some of us call God.

God does not lead the soul by shaming it, just as a good parent would not shame their child. It doesn’t work anyway. We all have done it at times, and if we were raised in a punitive way ourselves, we still tend to think that is the way to motivate people—by shaming them or making them feel guilty. I’ve done it enough and I’ve received it enough to know that it eventually backfires. It never works. We close down and stop trusting after that, and we use all kinds of defense mechanisms to avoid further vulnerability. So God’s way actually works—to love us at even more deeper levels than we can know or love ourselves. It is really quite wonderful, and one wonders why anyone would want to miss out on this.

Adapted from Following the Mystics Through the Narrow Gate . . . Seeing God in All Things

www.stjohnofthecross.org May 5, 2013 Page 3
Please help us in welcoming our newest members
Renee and Mark Bagdon and Family
Janine and Rick Morrissey and Family
Sharon Orawiec
John Wheeler and Family
Heidi and Michael Kotynek and Family
Andrea and Frank Zimmer and Family

Invitation to Become a Minister of Care
Do you feel moved by the words of the Gospel that invites us to bring Christ to the sick and elderly at their homes and in hospitals?
Training for new Ministers of Care will be held on four evenings in May at the Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien. The dates are May 7, 9, 14, and 16 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. If you are interested in becoming a Minister please email or call Fr. Filbert to attend this training. Pre-registration is necessary, SJC will cover the cost of your training. 708-246-4404 x120 or fngwila@stjohnofthecross.org

Session I: Introduction to the theology of Pastoral Ministry to the sick Pastoral and Practical Aspects of Ministry of Care
Session II: Pastoral Listening Skills
Session III: Theology of Aging, Death & Dying
Session IV: Theological, Pastoral and Practical Aspects of Prayer and Eucharistic Ministry

THE TOWER CHORALE PRESENTS
“Songs My Mother Taught Me”
Saturday, May 11, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 12, 3 p.m.
Nazareth Academy Auditorium
1209 W. Ogden Avenue, LaGrange Park, 60521

If you want to treat your mom to something unique for Mother’s Day, bring her to this concert! The Tower Chorale will explore a wide range of music that celebrates various perspectives of motherhood. Tickets are available from singers or at the door: $18 Adults, $15 Seniors/Students, Children 10 & Under Free. Doors open 30 minutes before the concert. St. John of the Cross members who are singing in the concert are Tom Licar, Kathy and Marty Daley, and Betsy Spiering.

Prayer Shawl Ministry
St. John of the Cross Shawl Ministry will gather at the Parish Center on Wednesday, May 8 at 1 pm. Shawls are available if one is needed for a friend, neighbor or relative. All are welcome to join us. If a shawl is needed or you have one to donate, please call Sheila Gallagher, 708-246-7836.
Elections for the St. John of the Cross Parish Advisory Council, School Board and Youth Catechisis Council will be held the weekend of May 18-19 before and after all Masses. Ballots will be available at the entrances to church. Please affirm the following parishioners who have submitted applications for election to these Consultative Bodies.

**2013 Parish Advisory Council At-Large Parishioner Candidates**

There are two At Large Parishioner positions open on the Parish Advisory Council. The two positions are for two year terms.

The Parish Advisory Council (PAC) meets three times a year to support implementation of the Parish Vision and Mission Statement. The Council serves to assist, represent and discern parish needs as an advisor to the Pastor. The PAC also fosters communication among parish staff, volunteer leaders and parishioners. Council members include the Pastor, Associate Pastors, Parish Deacons, Parish Ministerial Staff, representatives from active Ministerial Committees, the Archdiocesan Parish Council Representative, four elected at-large parishioners and appointed Apostle parishioners.

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I moved into the parish 9 1/2 years ago from Laguna Niguel, California and am married to Tim (will be 20 years May 1st…!!). Sean is a sophomore at Benet Academy, Elise (8th), Luke (6th) and Kevin (3rd) all at SJC parish school.

Graduated from John Adams High School, South Bend, IN and earned a BA in Sociology from St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN. I was a 4 year member of the St. Mary's Tennis Team and was inducted into the school's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2011.

I'm interested in becoming a member of the SJC PAC to serve the parish in a new way and to continue to help build, enrich, and sustain a vibrant St John of the Cross Community.

In past, I have been a committee member of the former Christian Parenting/Mother's Breakfast Club, Social Welfare Co-Chair on the Women's Club Board, Co-Chair of the Annual Women's Club Garage Sale, helped implement the Tuesdays With Mary Rosary Group and am a recent team member that helped plan the Matthew Kelly Rediscover Catholicism Book Seminar and Live Speaking Engagement. Currently, I am a Eucharist Minister and Parent Association Coordinator for the SJC Parish School.

Before having children, I worked in Skilled Nursing Facilities in California helping the elderly. After having held a few sales positions within the past 3 years, I currently devote my time volunteering in various ways for the non-profit organization Open Heart Magic and am a Coordinator for Open Heart Magic's Charity Running Team. Open Heart Magic has volunteer magicians who visit and provide magic at the bedsides of hospitalized sick children in 9 Chicago area hospitals.

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Marie Gerken

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Brian and his wife Kathleen have been parishioners at St. John of the Cross for thirteen years. They have four children: Bridget, a sophomore at Nazareth Academy; Michael, a seventh grader at McClure Jr. High; Mary Clare a sixth grader at St. John of the Cross; and Margaret, a second grader at St. John of the Cross. Brian and his wife have been volunteers with various school/parish activities and are currently in their second stint as home group leaders for Crossroads. Brian looks forward to the opportunity to serve the parish community on the Parish Council, if elected.

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Brian King
There are three candidates for the School Advisory Board. Each will serve a three year term.

The purpose of the School Advisory Board is to develop, formulate, and adopt policies which govern the operation of the school enabling it to reach its goals; in collaboration with the Pastor, to hire and evaluate the Principal; to review and advise on the annual budget and to determine sources of funding for the school; to provide counsel and advice on the vision of the school; and collaborate in the implementation of the school’s three to five year plan.

When we decided to move to the suburbs to raise our family, one of our most important priorities was to find a thriving parish and excellent school. Both my husband Dan and I are products of Catholic education from grammar school through college. We felt, and continue to feel strongly, that this influenced who we are today. We joined St. John of the Cross in 2009. My children Eileen (8) and Danny (5) attend SJC and Genevieve (2) can't wait to join her siblings next year.

Having grown up in La Grange, I went to St. Francis Xavier, attended St Ignatius College Prep and the University of Dayton, followed by De Paul University for a Masters degree in Education. I believe my background as an educator will enable me to contribute positively to the School Advisory Board's goals. I'd like to help SJC remain a prestigious competitor with other private and public schools in the area. I hope to help the school remain on the cutting edge of education, utilizing all resources available to enhance better learning.

I am interested in joining the School Advisory Board because SJC is an integral part of my family's life. More importantly, SJC is a huge part of my children's future. Now that we have made Western Springs our home, we will be active and enthusiastic members of the SJC community. Serving on the Advisory Board is an exciting first step and I feel lucky to be part of the continual evolution of SJC!

Mike grew up in New York City and attended Archbishop Molloy (Marist) High School, class of 1990. He went to Fairfield University in Fairfield, Connecticut and graduated with honors in 1994. He started working for MetLife after graduation as a member of the Management Associate Program in New York City.

Mike moved to Washington, DC in 1995 where he spent almost ten years as an Account Executive with MetLife. He met his wife Katie in DC and they got married there in 2001. In 2004 Mike was appointed Regional Director in the Philadelphia area where he spent nearly 5 years.

In 2008 Mike was asked to assume the position of Regional Vice President of the North Region Sales. This position is responsible for leading the profitable growth of this $1B business, including a broad portfolio of Group Life, Dental, Disability, Voluntary Benefits, Worksite and Executive Benefits.

As the RVP for North Region, Mike has P&L responsibility for the business and leads the sales and account management teams across the North to maximize sales opportunities and to leverage the availability of a vast brokerage and consultant communities that serves this marketplace.

Mike and Katie chose Western Springs as their hometown when moving to the Chicagoland area in November 2008 because of the family values that were evident in the people they met and the clear community associated with St. John of the Cross Parish and School.

Mike and Katie have four children: Grace (10), Finn (7), Aidan (6) and Declan (1). He enjoys coaching the kid’s soccer and baseball teams, as well as fishing and golfing.
I grew up on the south side of Chicago and graduated from Christ the King School. I then attended St. Ignatius College Prep, followed by the Indiana University Kelley School of Business. I passed the CPA exam in 1994 while employed by Bansley and Kiener, where I worked as an auditor and tax preparer from 1991 through 1997. After that, I took a position at Brandenburg Industrial Service Co. as part of a team of three who developed the front and back end of an Oracle database system for the company’s accounting, estimating, billing and payroll areas. I then took a full-time position as mother of three. As a school parent, I have served as Parent Association Co-Chair and Treasurer. I have been a Grade Parent, Room Parent and Art Appreciation instructor and have assisted with the Book Fair, Teacher Appreciation, Hospitality, Secret Santa Shop, Angel Gift and Catholic Schools Week committees. I helped plan and create a video for use in the school’s 50th Anniversary Celebration. I am serving my last year as a Trustee of the SJC Teacher Recognition Trust (formerly the Endowment Trust) and was its 2012 – 2013 Chairperson. I enjoy being involved at St. John of the Cross Parish School, where my husband Dave’s and my children, Grace, Luke and Danny, attend sixth, fourth and second grade, and would welcome the opportunity to join the School Advisory Board’s ministry of promoting Catholic education.

Laurel Schumm has been a parishioner since 2003, with her husband Eric and children Brendan (11), Ryan (8) and Julia (6).

She looks forward to playing a greater role in the faith formation of parish youth and to building an even greater sense of community among all parishioners. Laurel has been a volunteer Catechist in YC since 2007 and also volunteers in other Western Springs organizations. Laurel earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Speech Communications from Miami University Ohio and a Master of Business Administration degree in Marketing and Business Ethics from Loyola University Chicago. Laurel is currently a Senior Manager of Field Relations for Ronald McDonald House Charities Global (RMHC)/McDonald’s Corporation.
Tony Liotta and his family have been parishioner at St. John of the Cross since moving to the neighborhood six years ago. Tony has helped YC as a volunteer for the past four years. His daughters, Natalie and Ava, are both in the YC program preparing to be confirmed in 2014 and 2015, respectively. Tony attended Benet Academy High School in Lisle and studied communication at Loyola University in Chicago.

M. April Sullivan and her husband, Bryan have been parishioners of St. John for five years. Their children, Fiona (9), Keira (8), and Caroline (6) have attended YC and made many of their sacraments at SJC. April attended Saint Mary's School in Lake Forest, IL, Lake Forest High School, and Saint Mary's College in South Bend, IN and she plans to return to the Nursing profession in the coming months. April has taught YC, as well as other local volunteer positions. She looks forward to this new role and to continuing her and her family's journey in the Catholic Faith.

Angie grew up in Glendale, Arizona and moved to the Chicagoland area in 1998. She resided in London for two years before returning to Hinsdale in 2006. Angie and her husband, Dan, moved to Western Springs and joined St. John of the Cross in December 2011. She has two children: Sydney, 6, and Alex, 5. Angie earned a BSBA and an MBA from DePaul. After working for 16 years at Discover Financial Services, she now is a stay-at-home mom.

Lauren Trifilio has been involved with St. John of the Cross her entire life as she is a graduate of SJC School and a long time resident of Indian Head Park. Her daughter Kate is making her First Communion at St. John's this year and her daughter Megan will attend YC next school year. She is impressed with the Youth Catechesis program and is happy to become more involved with the organization.
OPPORTUNITIES for ADULT Volunteers

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.” -Jesus

Serving others, seeing teens faith grow and being a part of a community journeying together in faith allows many moments of peace.

Consider joining us:
* Two adults for OLC local trip June 10-14 (daily commute to Cicero, no overnight)

Or think about the fall:
Join our Freshmen Experience Team, Day of the Spirit Confirmation Retreat Team, Home Group Leaders

Contact Katie at 708-246-4404 or khayes@stjohnofthecross.org

CALENDAR EVENTS:
May 5    Final Home Group Meetings
May 19  Leaders Meeting 6-8 p.m.
June 6 6:30-8:30 p.m.  Work Tour Meeting
June 10-14  OLC local trip
June 13  SJC Battle of the Bands

CONFERENCE & WORK TOUR spots are available for all teenagers of our parish!
pick-up in the Parish Center office or download from our website
www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/service

SIGNED.SEALED.DELIVERED.
2013NCYC™

It’s not quite too late!!! Call Katie to get details about this awesome conference NOW!

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

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!

After our Spring Mass last weekend Teens & Leaders gathered for pizza and community building in the Parish Center Lower Level!
St. John of the Cross Parish School presents

Don’t be late for a very important date! Join us at the production of Alice in Wonderland next weekend.

Performance dates are May 10, 11 and 12. Get your tickets today!
Please call Shelly for ticket information.
708-784-1750.

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!

Outreach

Foolproof Interviewing:
Your Best Answers to the Worst Questions
May 16, 7-9 p.m. St. John of the Cross Parish Center

Job Support Workshop
Each Tuesday evening from 7-9 pm. Whether you are unemployed, underemployed, looking for a career change or a recent grad looking for your first professional position, this informative workshop is for you.

Tuesday, May 7: With 80% of the jobs found in the “hidden job market”, networking is the heart of any job search. Jim Peterson will coach you on the fundamentals of this critical search strategy.

Tuesday, May 14: Judy Kennedy, an accomplished human resources professional, will coach you on the “art of interviewing” and answer your questions about successful phone and in person interview strategies.

For further information, contact Susan Sedler at sqsedler@aol.com.

To learn more or to join a group, go to www.interfaithcareernetwork.org and click on the Search Action Team link.

These programs are open to all and there is no cost to attend.

“Off the Street Club” Needs Our Help
The club needs a number of items for the summer camp it has for the children: The top of the wish list are gently used or twin sheets, pillow cases & new pillows.
Swim goggles Swim suits (new or gently used, toddler—young adult)
Mosquito repellent, regular-sized bath towels, (new or gently used), tooth brushes and toothpaste.

Please drop off at the Parish Center, back of church, or at the YC office in designated boxes beginning the week of May 1st through May 18th.

Questions, Contact Debbie Pusinelli
708-246-6760 or Pusinelli@sjc.pvt.k12.il.us

Free Senior Fair 2013
Village of North Riverside
2401 Des Plaines Ave., North Riverside, IL
708-442-5515
Wednesday, May 9, 9:30am—Noon

This is a great resource for seniors and caregivers. Over 40 exhibitors will be available! www.northriverside-il.org
Free Cardiac Risk Assessment, Glucose and BMI Calculation, Hearing & Otoscopic Screenings, Blood pressure check, Bone Density Testing, Free Medical ID Card with photo & fingerprints and much more.
On Tuesday, our second grade participated in a “Day of Preparation” as part of their journey to come to the table of the Lord. During this day, the students participated in a variety of activities to prepare them for their First Communion. Students spent time in meditation, learned about Jesus as the “Bread of Life,” and studied Passover. The children enjoyed this day and look forward to their First Communion with great anticipation.

Day of Preparation


Week at SJC
May 9  First Communion Practice, 6 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.
May 10 & 11  School Play, 7 p.m., Gym
May 11 First Communion, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., Church
May 12 School Play, 2 p.m., Gym

Youth Catechesis Office
yc@sjcross.org 708-246-6760 * www.stjohnofthecross.org/yc
Sunday during class – Monday 8:30am-7:00pm – Tues thru Thurs 8:30am-4:00pm

Youth Catechesis
Registration for 2013-2014 is now OPEN
$10.00 OFF fees! Stop by!
Please stop by the YC Office to complete your family form:
Sunday, May 5 from 9:00 am-Noon;
Monday from 8:30 am-7:30 pm
Tuesday-Thursday 8:30-4:00 pm
During May, the YC Office will be open for you on
Friday to stop and register—from 8:30 to 3:00
Thank you to all our amazing students that created art and environment for the YC Masses over the last year. Thanks especially to all the families that came and celebrated the Year of the Sunday Mass with us!

YC Schedule
Classes K-6 10:15-11:30am  Sunday, May 5
6:15-7:30pm  Monday, May 6
SJC Clubs

Save the Date Friday, June 7th
Men’s Club Golf Outing
Flagg Creek—Details to follow

Moms’ Club
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 10: We will revisit all things animal! Kids will make animal masks, play animal games, and hear animal stories!
May 17: Get ready for summer! We have some outdoor activities planned, snack, and story time!
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!

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

Our Lady of Charity Book Drive
A BIG Thank You to all of the Book Angels who assisted the Women’s Club with the Our Lady of Charity Book Drive. Please return your book or donation to the Parish Center office on or before May 8th. Questions? Contact Colleen Pabst 708-246-4014 or mahoney5674@yahoo.com
40th ANNUAL SJC GARAGE SALE
SATURDAY, JUNE 22nd - 9am to 2pm
HALF-PRICE/BAG SALE, MONDAY, JUNE 24th – 9am to 1pm

Our success relies on YOU! It is your generous donation of items and volunteer support that keep the sale going year after year. Check your closets, toy boxes, cupboards, 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.

The mission of the Garage Sale means giving to those in need, respecting others less fortunate, bringing together volunteers in a Christian spirit, raising funds to support local charities within our community, supporting the parish as a whole, and it means... making a difference in the lives of others!

Volunteer Information
All Volunteer Meeting: May 20 at 7 p.m. in the Parish Center
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 the community!

Volunteer Hours – Come Anytime – No Need to Sign Up!
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

Organization & Set-up Days
Friday, June 14 10am to 2pm
Saturday, June 15 9am to 3pm
Mon. – Thurs., June 17 –20 9:30am to 8:30pm
Friday, June 21 11am to 3pm

Sale Day*
June 22 8:30am to 2pm
June 24 8:30am to 1pm

Please let a Garage Sale/Room Chair know which hours you can work these days

Clean-Up Day
Monday, June 24 12 pm to 5/6:00pm

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

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

General Volunteer Questions: Mary Beth White (708) 246-6339

Donations Accepted at the School:
Saturday, June 15: 9am – 2pm
Mon - Wed, June 17 –19: 10am – 8pm
Thursday, June 20: 10am - 6pm ONLY

NO DROP OFFS ACCEPTED FRIDAY, JUNE 21

We Will Not Be Able to Accept:
Any items if stained, torn or damaged including clothing, undergarments, linens, stuffed toys, furniture and rugs
Items with missing pieces/parts • Console stereos, console TVs, electric organs, typewriters, trophies
non-motorized treadmills, Nordic Tracks • Bikes not in working condition • Bed Frames or mattresses, traverse drapery rods • Encyclopedias, textbooks, magazines • Large appliances (stoves, microwave ovens, washers/dryers) or humidifiers • Large Artificial Christmas trees/stands • Skis/ski boots Computers 7 years or older, ANY monitor other than flat screen • Construction materials, kitchen cupboards, shutters, metal filing cabinets/desks

LARGE ITEM PICK-UP available on
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 11-13 thanks to our all-volunteer crew. 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.

Pick-up volunteers and vehicles are needed! Call Connie Madden (708) 417-2012 to offer.

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

Thank you for your support!
The SJC Women’s Club
Twenty-five years ago, I wrote a column entitled, Guidelines for the Long Haul. Revisiting it recently, I was encouraged that my principles haven't swayed during the past quarter-century, only taken on more nuance. I still recommend those same commandments, nostalgically revisited, somewhat redacted, but fully re-endorsed:

1) Be grateful...never look a gift universe in the mouth! Resist pessimism and false guilt. To be a saint is to be warmed by gratitude, nothing less. The highest compliment you can give a gift-giver is to thoroughly enjoy the gift. You owe it to your Creator to appreciate things, to be as happy as you can. Life is meant to be more than a test. Add this to your daily prayer: Give us today our daily bread, and help us to enjoy it without guilt.

2) Don't be naive about God... God will settle for not less than everything! God doesn't want part of your life; God wants it all. Distrust all talk about the consolation of religion. Faith puts a rope around you and takes you to where you'd rather not go. Accept that virtue will give you a constant reminder of what you've missed out on. Take this Daniel Berrigan counsel to the bank: "Before you get serious about Jesus, consider carefully how good you're going to look on wood!"

3) Walk forward when possible...or at least try to get one foot in front of the next! See what you see, it's enough to walk by. Expect long periods of confusion. Let ordinary life be enough for you. It doesn't have to be interesting all the time. Take consolation in the fact that Jesus cried, saints sinned, Peter betrayed. Be as morally stubborn as a mule; the only thing that shatters dreams is compromise. Start over often. Nobody is old in God's eyes; nothing is too late in terms of conversion. Know that there are two kinds of darkness you can enter: the fearful darkness of paranoia, which brings anxiety, puts a rope around you and takes you to where you'd rather not go. Accept that virtue will give you a constant reminder of what you've missed out on. Take this Daniel Berrigan counsel to the bank: "Before you get serious about Jesus, consider carefully how good you're going to look on wood!"

4) Pray...that God will hang on to you! Distrust popularity polls. Trust prayer. Prayer grounds you in something deeper. Be willing to die a little to be with God since God died to be with you. Let your heart become the place where the tears of God and the tears of God's children merge into the tears of hope.

5) Love...if a life is large enough for love it's large enough! Create a space for love in your life. Consciously cultivate it. Know that nothing can be loved too much. Things can only be loved in the wrong way. Say to those you love: "You, at least, shall not die!" Know there are only two potential tragedies in life: Not to love and not to tell those you love that you love them.

6) Accept what you are...and fear not, you are inadequate! Accept the human condition. Only God is whole. If you're weak, alone, without confidence, and without answers, say so; then listen. Accept the torture of a life of inadequate self-expression. There are many kinds of martyrdom. Recognize your own brand. If you die for a good reason, it's something you can live with!

7) Don't mummify...let go, so as not to be pushed! Accept daily deaths. Don't seize life as a possession. Possessiveness kills enjoyment, kills relationships, and eventually kills you. Let go gracefully. Name your deaths, claim your births, mourn your losses, let the old ascend, and receive the spirit for the life you're actually living. Banish restless daydreams; they torture you. Keep in mind that it's difficult to distinguish a moment of dying from a moment of birth.

8) Refuse to take things seriously...call yourself a fool regularly! God's laughter fills the emptiness of our tombs. Keep in mind that it's easy to be heavy, hard to be light. Laughter is a direct insult to the realism, dignity, and austerity of hell. Don't confuse sneering with laughter. Laugh with people, not at them. Laugh and give yourself over to silliness; craziness helps too, as does a good night's sleep.

9) Stay within the family ... you're on a group outing! Don't journey alone. Resist the temptation to be spiritual, but not religious. Be "born again", regularly into community. Accept that there are strings attached. The journey includes family, church, country, and the whole human race. Don't be seduced by the lure of absolute freedom. Freedom and meaning lie in obedience to community: community humbles, deflates the ego, puts you into purgatory, and eventually into heaven.

10) Don't be afraid to go soft...redemption lies in tears! All of Jesus' teaching can be put into one word: Surrender. If you will not have a softening of the heart you will eventually have a softening of the brain. Hardness pulls downward. Softness rises. A bird can soar because a bird is soft. A stone sinks because it's hard. Fragility is force. Sensitivity defines soul. Tenderness defines love. Tears are salt water, the water of our origins.

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.
Lord Hear Our Prayer

Pray for our Sick

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

Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

Jack Gocke, father of John andgrandfather of Sean & Claire and Mary Kate Merna
George Jakicic, husband of Kay

O God, let all the nations praise you!Psalm 67

Free babysitting during the 9am and10:45am Masses each Sunday in theGarden Room of the Rectory.
No reservations needed.
On May 12 (Mother’s Day) there will bebabysitting at the 9:00 a.m. Mass only.

Mass Intentions

Monday, May 6
6:30 Ralph Sewall
7:45 Ralph Sewall; Mary Lou Landbeck

Tuesday, May 7
6:30 Our Beloved Dead
7:45 Sobek & Virgilio Families; Tony La Porta

Wednesday, May 8
6:30 Ellen McGowan
7:45 James Toner; Eugene Garvy

Thursday, May 9
7:45 Shirley Cozza; Matthew Suhar

Friday, May 10, St. Damien de Veuster
7:45 Gloria Oechsel; Steve Welsh

Saturday, May 11
8:00 Mae Gertz; Cheri Bloczyinski Tancredy
5:00 Susanne Walsh; Sharon Haggerty

Sunday, May 12, Seventh Sunday of Easter
The Ascension of the Lord
7:30 SJC & Holy Cross Parishioners
9:00 Margaret Tolitano; Catherine Boyle
10:45 Virginia D. Moran; Margaret Hoyle Prost
12:15 DeDe Carney; Cathleen Aikens
5:00 Patricia Cebula; Susan D’Oronzo

Italics—Living

Considering Priesthood?

As we hear in today’s Gospel, if we love, we will knowthe presence of God. (John 14:23-29) Are you open tosharing the love of God with the world? If you thinkGod is calling you to consider a vocation to thepriesthood, contact Fr. Brian Welter,bwelter@archchicago.org or at 312-534-8298, or go towww.ChicagoPriest.com. For info on religious lifectact Sr. Elyse Ramirez, OP at 312-534-5240 oreramirez@archchicago.org, and for the PermanentDiaconate program contact Deacon Bob Puhala at 847837-4562 or bpuhala@usml.edu.

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

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