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Dear Parishioners,

The nation sets aside this Sunday to honor all fathers, living and deceased, natural and adoptive, grand and god, step and foster and, significantly, first time fathers. The tradition goes back in various countries, some saying as much as 4 millennia ago in Babylon, a little over a hundred years ago in the United States. President Richard Nixon in 1972 finally got it on the nation’s calendar as the third Sunday in June after President Lyndon Johnson proposed it in 1966.

Whatever its origins, it seems to be a commonly held belief that it plays second fiddle to Mother’s Day in scope and emotional intensity. Since we need both mothers and fathers it seems a curious and needless distinction. It is the role of the father to transmit life and the role of the mother to nurture life along a continuum that inevitably blends both roles.

When I was a little boy, my father was frequently working one of the three jobs he held at the time to support his rapidly growing (the first five children under the age of five) family. We lived with my grandfather at the time, my mother’s father, and Grandpa McCarthy was a surrogate father of a sort. I have clear memories of my grandfather supervising us kids washing our hands before lunch, praying the Angelus as the parish bells sounded, helping my mother with the laundry and a manual washing machine down in the basement. My father is from the generation that did all the things that needed being done around the house because there was no money to pay someone else to do them. I also have clear memory of being his little helper, holding the end of a board as he sawed it; being his gopher and retrieving a tool from the basement, watching him solve problems of paneling, painting or plumbing. Can my memory be wrong or did the front door bell ring when we turned the light on in the bathroom? Electrical work was his longest learning curve, and the one he was most afraid of, if I remember correctly.

I didn’t know his father, my paternal grandfather, but I remember him talking about missing his dad. My father was very present to me this year at our 8th grade graduation liturgy. I used him as an example for other parents, not by name but from my memory, of how proud a parent can be at the graduation of their first born child (my older sister, in 1965). I remember his patience the night I came home as a teenager having had not one but two accidents the same night with the new family station wagon. My brother and sisters thought he was going to kill me. I knew he was relieved I wasn’t hurt.

And now he is 85 and in Florida. I remember when he had to start wearing reading glasses in his forties, the first time I saw him cry, how he would concentrate on crossword puzzles, when he would kiss my mother in the kitchen and ten thousand other things, of course. All the time he was teaching by example of how to be a man and a father, a believer who lived as a person of faith.

So for all of our dads, living and deceased, today is a good day to offer a prayer of praise for the gift they are to us. I received my father’s day gift earlier this week. It was a letter from the Cardinal appointing me to a second six year term as pastor. I couldn’t be happier with it, or more grateful. Happy Father’s Day!

Peace,
Fr. David

PS Please support the Women’s Club Garage Sale by donating items or by coming to the sale next Saturday, June 22nd. They can always use volunteers to help set-up, work the sale, clean-up and more.

PPS The Family Festival is coming fast! It all begins a week from Thursday, June 27th. There are a lot of ways of getting involved in the Carnival as well. Go to the website for more info.

PPPS Vacation Bible School is four weeks away, starting on Monday July 8th. Help support the kids learn more about the Bible. Who said things slow down around here in the summer?

Cardinal George has audiotaped a message to make you aware of the new capital campaign called “To Teach Who Christ Is.” His message can be found on the home page of our parish website. The campaign will not affect our parish until January, 2015 as it is being rolled out in different parishes at different times.
Becoming Catholic (RCIA)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process designed for those who are considering joining the Catholic Church by celebrating the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist) at the Easter Vigil. The process welcomes adults who have never been baptized and those who have been baptized in another Christian tradition, as well as adult Catholics who wish to be confirmed.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Each year people are welcomed into the church at St. John of the Cross Parish through the RCIA process. The RCIA is an engaging, dynamic, respectful, challenging and – ENJOYABLE journey. Fr. Filbert Ngwila and his RCIA team graciously host the RCIA on Tuesday evenings during the school year. If you would like to learn more about how you can become Catholic please contact Fr. Filbert Ngwila at 708-246-4404 x120.

Adult Confirmation Preparation

Have you been baptized and received your first Holy Communion in the Catholic tradition, but never received the Sacrament of Confirmation? If you are interested in being confirmed this year, please set-up an appointment with Fr. Filbert to discuss this process.

My Lord and my God,
You have formed my inmost being,
and you have made plans
to give me a future full of hope.
Grant me the grace to desire you
with a whole heart,
so that in desiring you
I may seek and find you;
and so finding you,
may love you.
Form and guide me
to trust you
and be your witness
to all the world.
Amen.
A Prayer for Fathers

Let us praise those fathers who have striven to balance the demands of work, marriage, and children with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice.

Let us praise those fathers who, lacking a good model for a father, have worked to become a good father.

Let us praise those fathers who by their own account were not always there for their children, but who continue to offer those children, now grown, their love and support.

Let us pray for those fathers who have been wounded by the neglect and hostility of their children.

Let us praise those fathers who, despite divorce, have remained in their children’s lives.

Let us praise those fathers whose children are adopted and whose love and support has offered healing.

Let us praise those fathers, who as stepfathers, freely chose the obligation of fatherhood and earned their stepchildren’s love and respect.

Let us praise those fathers who have lost a child to death, and continue to hold the child in their heart.

Let us praise those men who have no children, but cherish the next generation as if they were their own.

Let us praise those men who have “fathered” us in their role as mentors and guides.

Let us praise those men who are about to become fathers; may they openly delight in their children.

And let us praise those fathers who have died, but live on in our memory and whose love continues to nurture us.

K. Loudman Copeland
Living the Gospel

The familiar and comfortable context of dining at table becomes an occasion charged with tension. The tensions are many: a sinful woman intimately touches Jesus in public, a host does not extend simple gestures of hospitality, others at table are indignant at Jesus assuming the power and authority to forgive sins. Simon and his guests not only judge the sinful woman, but they also judge Jesus. They fail to see who Jesus is: the One who came to bring the “good news of the kingdom of God.” In this kingdom sinners touch God, receive forgiveness, and are granted peace. In this kingdom it is not tension and judgment that triumph, but love. The woman’s encounter with Jesus not only brought her forgiveness, but also was an occasion for her to show her “great love.” Forgiveness is a sign of love exchanged.

Simon thought that Jesus was unaware of the “sort of woman” who was lovingly “touching him.” In response to Simon’s judgment about the woman, Jesus constructed his parable to open Simon’s eyes to see the great love within the heart of this sinful woman. The woman, who knows only too well how great is her sin, throws herself on Jesus’ mercy and receives forgiveness. We do not know Simon’s response. We do know the woman’s response: loving action. If we keep our eyes turned toward all the good God has given us, we ourselves might more easily overcome whatever temptations to sin come our way. Perhaps one way to live this gospel would be to sit down and make a list of all the good God has given us. This is something we probably have never done. We are good at enumerating our sinfulness; perhaps the challenge of this gospel is to enumerate all the good in our lives. And all the love.

Closing Prayers:

May we compassionately reach out to others with loving mercy and forgiveness.

May we always be a sign of that love revealing the presence of the kingdom of God among us.

Our Father . . .

For Reflection:

• Like Simon, I am quick to judge another when . . .
• What I need to learn from the sinful woman is . . .
• I see love triumphing when . . .

Year of Sunday Mass: Question of the Week

Today, St. Paul says of himself, “…Christ lives in me...I live by faith in the Son of God who has loved me and given himself up for me.”

How has the Mass kept me mindful of Christ’s Love unto death for me and that he lives in me?

Readings for the Week

**Monday**
2 Cor 6:1-10
Ps 98:1, 2b, 3ab, 3cd-4
Matt 5:38-42

**Tuesday**
2 Cor 8:1-9
Ps 146:2, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a
Matt 5:43-48

**Wednesday**
2 Cor 6:1-10
Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 7-8a
Matt 6:7-15

**Thursday**
2 Cor 11:1-11
Ps 112:1b-2, 3-4, 7-8a
Matt 6:7-15

**Friday**
2 Cor 11:18, 21-30
Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7
Mat 6:19-23

**Saturday**
2 Cor 12:1-10
Ps 34:8-9, 10-11, 12-13
Matt 6:24-34

**12th Sunday in Ord. Time**
Zech 12:10-11; 13:1
Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
Gal 3:26-29
Nip it in the Bud

Remember, always remember, that the heartfelt desire to do the will of God is, in fact, the truest will of God. At that point, God has won, and the ego has lost, and your prayer has already been answered.

To sum up the importance of an alternative mind this message says it all:
- Watch your thoughts; they become words.
- Watch your words; they become actions.
- Watch your actions; they become habits.
- Watch your habits; they become character.
- Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.

From *Breathing Under Water: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps*.

Collect

God, strength of those who hope in you, graciously hear our pleas, and, since without you mortal frailty can do nothing, grant us always the help of your grace, that in following your commands we may please you by our resolve and our deeds.

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.

Considering a Vocation?

Love abounds when forgiveness is experienced. Forgiveness frees one to follow Jesus. Rededicate your life to Jesus. If you have ever considered a vocation to the priesthood, contact the Archdiocese of Chicago Vocation Office at 312-534-8298, or go to www.ChicagoPriest.com.

If you would like information on religious life contact Sr. Elyse Ramires, 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.

Spring Parish Advisory Council Update to Parish (Part 3 of 3)

Dear Parishioners,

The Parish Advisory Council (PAC) met on May 14th. The meeting minutes and committee pre-read materials are posted on the parish website under Council & Boards. This is the third of three summary letters to the parish to keep you informed of our work. The first two letters were printed in the June 2nd and 9th bulletins.

Over the summer the homework for each PAC Goal Committee is to revisit and, if needed, refine goals, action plans, and timelines. As input to this goal setting process, the PAC brainstormed ideas that might be considered catalysts, ideas that might have a big impact on our parish and the way we live our Catholic faith. Calling them “Game Changers,” Council members generated creative ideas focused on strengthening the liturgical experience, improving attendance at Sunday Mass, and increasing parish school enrollment, teen involvement, volunteerism, and communication.

Each committee will share its updated goals and action plans at our fall meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2013.

I look forward to sharing more with you in the fall. Have a safe and restful summer.

Karin Teglia
PAC Chairperson

Part-Time position available for YC Coordinator of primary grades. Please contact Janet Caschetta if interested at 708-246-6760, ext 256 or jcaschetta@stjohnofthecross.org
WHO: Young adults in their 20’s and 30’s, married or single

WHAT: Exciting speakers will present challenging information and lead thoughtful discussions about key young adult faith and relationship issues

WHEN: 4 Wednesdays at 7pm

WHERE: SJC Parish Center

July 17 Fr. John Cusick: Recognizing God in Everyday Events
July 24 Dr. Kate DeVries: Why Bother with Church
July 31 Fr. Terry Keehan: Reconciliation & Eucharist
August 7 Fr. Paul Novak: Letting Go & Letting God

NO NEED TO REGISTER JUST COME!

Go to our parish website to invite people you know who might like to come!

Add your friends’ names/email addresses or your son’s or daughter’s name and email and we will send them an e-vite!
Crossroads

CALENDAR EVENTS:
June 18 YLC pre-trip mtg 7:15pm
June 19 F/S Retreat planning mtg noon
June 27-30 Crossroads hosts water & pop station at our SJC Fest
June 28-30 Teens attend Youth Leadership Conference at Lewis University
July 7-13 Teens serve with Habitat in WV

A National Conference that happens every other year will be only 4 hours away: Don’t miss it!
Call Katie for details!
708-246-4404

KAIROS 15 RETREAT Aug 1-4, 2013 for juniors & seniors in high school
Spots are limited and are filling fast. Brochures and application forms can found on the St. Francis Xavier parish website, http://www.sfx-lg.org/parish/education-2/kairosretreat/ or picked up at SJC parish center office!
Retreatants from past Kairos retreats have called the Kairos weekend one of the best, if not the best, weekend of their lives. This year, parishioners of Saint John of the Cross, Saint Cletus and Saint Francis Xavier will be given a priority application period. After June 20th, retreat spaces will be open to all! If you have any questions feel free to phone Terri Simeoni, 709-352-0168 or email her at tsimeoni@sfxlg.org.

“CHANGE is good, accept it and move on!”
a quote from a Kairos retreat reflection

I hung this on my favorite quote wall in my office because I need to be reminded that staying the same just is not an option. We all deal with daily changes, monthly adjustments, seasonal adaptations and yearly re-starts.

What about those minor changes? Did you buy a new toothbrush? Change the brand of syrup?
What was the last major change in your life? Did a family member graduate last week?
A job switch, loss or gain? A new summer routine to follow?

How was God a part of it? Did you say a prayer of thanksgiving for the joys? A prayer of petition to assist?
A prayer of openness to God’s will in the adventure?

Whether or not we acknowledge God’s presence, know that God is with us & loves us.
Thank you to all the Dads that shared their faith this past year with the students of YC.


Blessing to all YC Dads this Father’s Day!

Youth Catechesis Office
yc@sjcross.org * 708-246-6760 * www.stjohnofthecross.org/yc
Summer Hours
Monday thru Thursday 8:30am- 4:00pm
Or call for an evening appointment

Countdown to Garage Sale:
Saturday, June 22nd from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

5. Bake some cookies! The Women’s Club needs baked goods donations to be served during the week of set up Monday-Friday; June 17-22. It's a perfect opportunity for service hours for teens or for those who love to bake! We appreciate all the homemade treats! Questions: Please call Jenny Mazur at 708-784-0925

4. Donate your stuff! See the flyer or check the website for days, times and items accepted beginning Saturday, June 15th from 9am - 2pm.

3. Drop off bags, tissue paper and clothes hangers during set-up beginning Saturday, June 15th!

2. Call for LARGE ITEM pick-up! Our friendly volunteers will come to your home and take away those larger items you can't haul in yourself. To schedule call Marian Orth (708) 246-2160 or Connie Madden (708) 417-2012. Last day to request pick-up is June 15th. Donation receipts available.

1. Volunteer! The Garage Sale is a success because of YOU! Your generosity in donating items and sharing your time is what makes this happen. Working the sale — before, during or after — is a lot of fun and great way to help our community. Adult volunteers, please see the flyer for more info and don't forget we offer FREE babysitting. Student volunteers please call Maureen Chopp at (708) 246-7280.

Pick-up volunteers and vehicles are needed for the Garage Sale!
Please contact Connie Madden (708) 784-417-2012 to offer any amount of time.
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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. – Thurs., June 17 – 20</td>
<td>9:30am to 8:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, June 21</td>
<td>11am to 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sale Day*</td>
<td>Half-Price/Bag Sale Day*</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 22 8:30am to 2pm</td>
<td>June 24 8:30am to 1pm</td>
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<td>* Please let a Garage Sale/Room Chair know which hours you can work these days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean-Up Day</td>
<td>Monday, June 24</td>
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<td>12 pm to 5/6:00pm</td>
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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 Chop (708) 246-7280

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

Donations Accepted at the School:
- 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
Tires • Perishable/non-perishable food items

LARGE ITEM PICK-UP available on Monday thru Thursday, June 17th -20th, 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 15th. 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 Kalfa (708) 784-0667.

Thank you for your support!
- The SJC Women’s Club

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Fr. Filbert Welcomes a Family

It came to our attention through Fr. Filbert that a woman refuge from Rwanda was looking for some immediate assistance. She has been employed as a caregiver for 2 years and was able to save enough money to bring her 3 children to the Chicago area. They arrived on May 30. Just think; no English, no cultural connections, no jobs, no health care, and yet excited, full of hope, and a little frightened, too!

A SJC family, in the midst of down-sizing, just happened to call at SJC to let us know of available beds and other household items. The Tischler family just happened to have their cargo van available. It just so happened that within a few days Fr. Filbert and others were able to deliver new bed frames and mattresses, clothing and more to this family new to America. God has blessed us all!

Babich, Angela, Olivia, Pierrot and Fr. Filbert

Interfaith Career Network

Cracking the Code of a Job Description

As you well know, a job description can range from a few cryptic lines in an email to a 10-page wish list on steroids. Interfaith Career Network invites you to join us on Thursday, June 20, 7-9 pm for an incredibly important discussion on deciphering the information in job postings so you truly understand what the company wants. Once you can do this, you will be able to create effective selling points about your strengths and skills in your resume, write a strong cover letter and prepare interview talking points that clearly and directly address the needs of the hiring manager. Learn valuable techniques to help you quickly identify the key strengths that are truly important to the hiring organization; information that is often buried in the paragraphs, bullet points and “corporate speak” of job descriptions. Our speaker Keith Owens, a principal at Principle Communications, is very adept at helping job seekers prepare for a variety of “selling” situations by developing audience-focused messages and strong presentation and interviewing skills. We look forward to welcoming you at St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 S. Wolf Road in Western Springs. This program is open to everyone and there is no cost to attend.

Interfaith Career Network (ICN) offers job support through various programs throughout the month. For further information, please visit our website at www.interfaithcareernetwork.org.
Make Our Garden Grow…
Volunteers are needed to help with planting, weeding and watering the gardens on our parish campus. There are volunteer positions for all age groups on a regular weekly or “as you can” basis. Call Gardening Angels Chairperson, Jan Grabacki - 708/246-4610 (Home) or 630/204-5264 (Cell) or beaconjan@aol.com

Our next “project day” is Saturday, June 22nd when we will mulch our gardens. Many hands make the work light! This is a great way to meet other parishioners, keep our parish grounds beautiful and take care of God’s creation.

Care for God’s Creation
We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God’s creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

VBS!
JULY 8-12, 2013
9:00 AM TO NOON
REGISTER TODAY!

(For children entering Kindergarten through 5th Grade)
• 1 week program at SJC July 8-12, 2013 from 9am to Noon
• 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!
• Fee: $30.00
• Register on YC website or https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/sjc.
• High School and Adult Crew Leaders also needed and greatly appreciated!

2013 Summer Basketball Camps
(Designed for boys and girls entering Grades 3-8)
• The Basketball Camps will emphasize instruction on proper basketball techniques. Fundamentals, advanced skills, competitions and contests will be included.
• This year’s camp will be run by Coach John Quinn. Coach Quinn and his team have many years of coaching experience at the Junior High and High School levels.
• Session Dates: July 22 – 26, 2013 and July 29 – August 2, 2013
• Grades 3-5th: 8:00 – 10:00am - Grades 6-8th: 10:00am – noon
• Fee:$85 per session if registered by July 19th $95 per session at the door. Includes a T-shirt and basketball
• Camps will be held at SJC
• More information and to register go school website.

(For children entering Kindergarten through 5th Grade)
• 1 week program at SJC July 8-12, 2013 from 9am to Noon
• 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!
• Fee: $30.00
• Register on YC website or https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/sjc.
• High School and Adult Crew Leaders also needed and greatly appreciated!

Save the Date!

Celebrate!
Loretto Gala
20th Anniversary
July 21, 2013

www.stjohnofthecross.org

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As a young seminarian in the late 1960s, I was very taken by the writings of Andrew Greeley, a priest in Chicago, who was churning out books on popular spirituality. I found his approach wonderfully refreshing because, at least to my mind, he dealt with our perennial religious struggles in a way that was both more realistic and more hope-filled than most of the religious literature to which I had been exposed to until then. He was the spiritual bread I needed, and when I went on a retreat to prepare for final vows, I had a couple of his books in hand. He helped me make that decision.

He died last week at the age of 85, having been in bad health since suffering a fall in 2008. Perhaps the word prodigious best describes his output, both in terms of writing and preaching. He wrote more than 120 books, many of an academic nature, and countless articles and op-ed pieces for both secular and religious publications. Within all of that, he was perhaps best known for his novels, which enjoyed a circulation that most writers can only envy. Because of this prodigious output and popularity, there was often a cynicism about him in both academic and religious circles that gave voice to itself in these words: "Andrew Greeley has never had an unpublished thought!" I move in both those circles and can assure the world that envy is not alien to either circle. Greeley was disliked, perhaps for more than anything else, because, unlike so many of us who criticized him for his prodigious output, he actually did things.

But there were other reasons as well why Greeley had his critics, some to do with his ethos and others with his personality. A lot of conservatives disliked him because they considered him irreverent and overly liberal. The irony is that a lot of liberals disliked him because they considered him too pious and overly conservative. And then there was his personality. He didn't suffer fools, or critics, easily. To criticize Greeley was to pick a fight. Nobody got to take potshots from him without being exposed to that hidden bush. He flushed you out and challenged for an open fight. That's not the route to stay on easy terms with everyone.

Since I was perennially one his supporters, I was never subjected to his sword. When his novels were popularly criticized as being "lightweight and trashy" and "harmful to the faith of Catholics", I jumped to his defense with these words: "Nobody has ever left the church because an Andrew Greeley novel, but many people have stayed in the church because an Andrew Greeley's novels." Greeley found this phrase in a column of mine and wrote to me, asking permission to use it on the jacket of his future novels, which he frequently did.

In defense of his novels: The most common complaint was they were "trashy and full of sex". The opposite would be truer to fact. As literary works, his novels suffered more because they were too pious and often thinly disguised Catholic apologia. Any true reading of his novels reveals a man who was deeply pious, much in love with his church, and not-so-subtly defending his church. Moreover he always treated sex as sacrament. Not that his critics would admit this, but his ethos on sexuality was very close to that of John Paul II and his Theology of the Body. Moreover, the strength of his novels was in the story telling. Nobody, including Greeley himself, ever confused his prose with that of Toni Morrison or John Steinbeck; but he could spin off a great tale - and most of his novels did.

I can't claim him as a friend because, although we corresponded occasionally, we only met once. About a year before his fateful accident, when he was still teaching winter semesters in Arizona, I was in Tucson giving some lectures and he took me out to dinner at his favorite Mexican restaurant. We talked about theology and literature, but mostly he shared with me his admiration for the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the religious family of which I am a member, and his admiration for his Ordinary in Chicago, Cardinal Francis George, who belongs to that same family. He talked too about his love for Chicago's sports teams, especially its basketball team, the Chicago Bulls. I invited him to visit our school, but he begged off, sharing that at his age he wanted as much as possible to avoid air-travel. I left the restaurant grateful to have had the chance to meet a remarkable man, and one to whom I owed a huge debt of gratitude.

The anthropologist, Mircea Eliade, once commented "no community should botch its deaths". Fair warning. A major Catholic figure has died and we, friends and critics alike, need to recognize what he brought us. Like other Christian apologists before him, Tolkien, Lewis, and Chesterton, he too tried to give a reason for the hope that's within us; and, in that, he succeeded, wonderfully so.

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.
All Masses to Be Celebrated in Church during SJC Fest 2013

As everyone knows by now, the Parish is hosting a family festival as a fundraiser on June 27th – 30th, 2013. Please note that we will continue to celebrate Mass in the church on the summer schedule that week. This applies to Masses offered on weekday and Saturday mornings and those on Saturday evening and all day Sunday.

Parking for Mass the week of the Fest will be very convenient:

**Weekday and Saturday morning Masses:** The special needs parking lot north of church and approximately 50 parking spots in the main parking lot will be available. Enter either lot from Wolf Road via the northernmost entrance to the main parking lot. After Mass, please exit the same way you drove in.

**Saturday 5:00 p.m. and all Masses on Sunday:** Parking will be available in the special needs parking lot as well as in a temporary lot on the lawn north of the church. Enter either lot from Wolf Road via the northernmost entrance to the main parking lot. There will be plenty of volunteers on hand to direct you. 96 temporary parking spaces are being added to the north lawn. You will have the shortest walk to church that you will have all year!

**Exiting after Saturday 5:00 p.m. and all Sunday Masses:** People parking in the special needs lot should exit the same way they drove in – through the northern entrance on Wolf Road. Traffic from the temporary lot on the north lawn will be limited to one way going east. A special ramp will be in place at the curb to allow those parking on the lawn to exit safely onto Caroline Avenue.

The temporary lot on the north lawn will be for those attending Masses on Saturday evening and Sunday only. We ask that you park on the street if you are attending the Fest afterwards.
Week at a Glance

Monday, June 17
10:30 a.m. Step 11 Christian Meditation
2:00 p.m. Athletic Director's Meeting
2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday, June 18
9:30 a.m. Focus on Sunday Scriptures Group
6:30 p.m. Crossroads Work Tour Information
7:30 p.m. Spiritual Journaling
7:30 p.m. Boy Scouts

Wednesday, June 19
8:00 a.m. Smart Tuition Aide
9:30 a.m. Bible Study 3
2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation
7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

Thursday, June 20
2:15 p.m. Market Day Pick-up
7:00 p.m. Career Networking
7:00 p.m. Family Festival Meeting

Saturday, June 22, Garage Sale
7:00 a.m. Christian Meditation

Pray for our Sick

Linda Drone
Kat Egan
Melissa Morrissey Eldredge
Jacqueline Frank
Todd Goldstein
James Walter Grant
Mary Beth Held
Allison Kazragis
Shirley Kazragis
Joe & Rosie King
Fr. William Mannion
Martha Matrisciano
Jay Meehan
Prem Rotondo
Rick Reimer
Teresa Schaefer
Declan Sheedy
Ray Stanis
Guy Thomas
Pam Wilson

Mass Intentions

Monday, June 17
7:45 Shawn & Phil Sweeney, 35th Wedding Anniversary
Brian Donovan; Muriel Albertson; John Rydzewski

Tuesday, June 18
7:45 Matthew Flood; Jorge Paez
Our Beloved Dead

Wednesday, June 19, St. Romuald
7:45 Marie & Daniel O’Brien; Eileen & Don Dempsey

Thursday, June 20
7:45 John Spalo; Mae Michels Roche

Friday, June 21, St. Aloysius Gonzaga
7:45 Richard Kirtley; Robert Cosgrove

Saturday, June 22, Ss. John Fisher & Thomas More
8:00 Jerry Jung
5:00 Julie O’Connor; George Gallagher

Sunday, June 23, 12th Sunday Ordinary Time
7:30 Mrs. Aikens; John Philbin
9:00 Rose Adducci;
Deceased Members of the McDonnell Family
10:45 SJC & Holy Cross Parishioners
5:00 Special Intention; Margaret Cochran

Italics—Living

Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

Barbara Beauchamp, daughter-in-law of Bill and Carol Beauchamp
Barbara Mann, mother of Therese Craig, grandmother of Madelon, Maren, and Libby
Dr. Norbert J. Nowicki, husband of Virginia
Richard (Kevin) Ryan, husband of Maureen

Judi Urban, mother of Jodi Breen and sister of Gail Rybowski
Victorino Yu, husband of Laura and father of Lisa Russo

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

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    Saint John of the Cross    #9239

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    Western Springs, IL 60558

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    708-246-4404

CONTACT PERSON —
    Shirley or MJ - call before noon if trouble on Thursday thanks.

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SUNDAY DATE OF BULLETIN — June 16, 2013

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS —
SPECIAL EVENT AT FEST

Rooted in Christian faith and service, we are hosting an event for the less fortunate in our communities. Children and young adults with special needs have been invited to enjoy the carnival and games of the SJC FEST on June 27th before the Grand Opening, free of charge. Through collaboration with SEASPAR, Helping Hands, St. Mark’s Parish, Seguin and Our Lady of Charity we hope to make happy memories for many!

For more information
Please contact
Diane Schick
(708) 246-9301

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER!!
AFTER ALL MASSES
OR ONLINE AT
www.stjohnofthecross.org

WE NEED YOU

MEGA PASSES
UNLIMITED RIDES FOR
ALL 4 DAYS
$45 pre-sale / $60 at door
FOR SALE AFTER MASSES
6/8-9, 6/15-16, 6/22-23

St. John of the Cross Fest Cash Raffle
1st Prize $5,000
2nd Prize $2,500
3rd Prize $1,000

Drawing to be held during the SJC Fest: June 27 – 30, 2013
Winner need not be present.
Ticket stubs, payable to St. John of the Cross,
$5/5 sheet or 12 tickets for $50,000