In This Bulletin...

Strong Catholic Parents......................................................p.3
Join the Infant Baptism Ministry Team..............................p.4
Adult Formation.....................................................................p.5
Theology on Tap...................................................................p.6
Sports Camp.........................................................................p.7
RCIA.....................................................................................p.8
Jesus sends the disciples out to plant the seed of the Good News and harvest its fruit of peace and the in-breaking of the kingdom of God. The “kingdom of God is at hand” because wherever disciples are present and received, God is present and received. Despite the disciples facing “wolves” and sometimes being rejected, their labor will bear fruit for it is God’s power that works through them. It is God’s work. The harvest Jesus sends his disciples out to bring in is the larger, even more abundant harvest of heaven. This labor is never our own alone.

The disciple’s journey to Jerusalem includes both dying and rising. When we describe paschal mystery journey and Gospel living as dying and rising, we are using a metaphor which has any number of interpretations and applications. In this Sunday’s context of discipleship, we are saying that ministry brings us to a kind of dying (the pain of the disciple when others don’t accept the Gospel) as well as rising (the rejoicing that is ours because we are doing the work of God). The end of the journey in Jerusalem brings both dying and rising, too: cross and resurrection. If the journey is undertaken alone, we will fail. We are successful, however, when the journey is faithful to Jesus’ ministry and we are open to the Power—the Holy Spirit dwelling within us—given us. Any faithful discipleship and Gospel living calls for an openness to God’s presence to us. Part of our very ministry, then, and of living the dying and rising mystery is to spend time every day in prayer being attentive to God’s presence, the gifts God gives us to be successful, and the power of the Spirit which washes over us. This kind of prayer helps us remember that the ministry is not ours, but Christ’s. ©Living Liturgy 2012

Little Sisters of the Poor Visit SJC July 13 & 14
We welcome the Little Sisters of the Poor, who will be speaking at all the Masses on July 13th & 14th. For over 170 years, the Little Sisters have dedicated their lives to caring for the elderly poor. Our aging population continues to grow and dignity at the end of life is increasingly threatened. The Little Sisters believe the elderly are our greatest treasures. Our elderly brother’s and sister’s lives have brought them a unique perspective in our human family. Through their accomplishments, our elders bring lessons in endurance and self-sacrifice. Through their life-long experiences, the elderly bring lessons in what is important in life. The Little Sisters welcome the elderly as Jesus Christ Himself and serve them with love and respect until God calls them home. Please prayerfully consider supporting the Little Sisters of the Poor with a donation.

Readings for the Week

**Monday**
- Gen 28:10-22a
- Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab
- Matt 9:18-26

**Tuesday**
- Gen 32:23-33
- Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b and 15
- Matt 9:32-38

**Wednesday**
- Gen 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5
- Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40
- Matt 10:1-7

**Thursday**
- Gen 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5
- Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40
- Matt 10:1-7

**Friday**
- Gen 49:29-32; 50:15-26a
- Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7
- Matt 10:24-33

**Saturday**
- Gen 49:29-32; 50:15-26a
- Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7
- Matt 10:24-33

**15th Sunday in O.T.**
- Deut 30:10-14
- Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 or Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 Col 1:15-20

© 2013 Archdiocese of Chicago
Year 3 of Pastoral Plan: Strong Catholic Parents

Dear Parishioners,

Two years ago the Archdiocesan strategic pastoral plan, “Reflecting Christ’s Light,” was launched to help raise our consciousness of opportunities and challenges within our Church. The first year, The Year of Teens and Young Adults, expanded the local Church’s ministry to this crucial population and lifted our awareness of their needs and gifts. During this past year, The Year of Sunday Mass, we focused on the priority and centrality of weekly worship in the Eucharist. As we begin the third year of the pastoral plan, we will focus on Strong Catholic Parents.

Parents have work of great importance to do in the domestic church, the home, as teachers and role models. Within the context of family, parents must teach their children the truths of our faith, pray with them, share Christian values with them and initiate them into the practice of stewardship, i.e., teaching and helping them to place their gifts, their resources, their selves at God’s service in and through the Church.

Throughout the coming year we will resource parents (and grandparents) engaging them fully and completely in their own faith lives through a variety of tools, materials and programs at our parish, enabling them to be strong Catholic parents by encouraging a Christ-centered way of living in their families: doing God’s will, proclaiming the Good News of salvation, healing the afflicted, caring for one’s sisters and brothers, and giving life—life to the full—as Jesus did.

Here are some starter ideas that will foster holiness in your family:

- Begin praying as a family and reading from Scripture daily, certainly before meals, but also first thing in the morning or before bed. Find a time that works for your family. Use the liturgy of the Church as a model for prayer, and try to include heartfelt unstructured prayer as well.
- Pray a Family Rosary (each member leads a decade, and everyone shares intentions).
- Allow your children to witness you in private prayer. Encourage your children to pray daily on their own, to listen for God’s call, and if heard, to respond.
- Have a crucifix in a prominent place in the home, and in every bedroom.
- Make the Sacraments a regular celebration – take the whole family to Confession and Mass!
- Begin family traditions based on the seasons celebrated in the liturgical calendar.
- Make your vacation a holy pilgrimage by visiting the shrines and saints of our land and the world.
- Make worshiping God a priority. Never miss Mass, even while traveling
- Teach stewardship and charity to your children, through word and example.
- Demonstrate love for your spouse, your children, your neighbors, and the world. Remind their children that they are loved by God and have been given gifts to serve others.
- Talk freely about the presence of God in the joys and sorrows of your life.
- Welcome into your home and support priests, brothers, sisters, deacons, and lay ministers in the Church.
- Participate in the lay ministries and activities of our parish community.

Peace, Fr. Filbert Ngwila

Our Essential Purpose:
Holiness is the goal of Christian life.

The North Star: The North Star of the spiritual life is the call to holiness. It leads us unfailingly to Jesus, who is “the Way, the Truth, and the Life,” even when he seems distant or unknown. If we are to find our way as individuals and as a Church, it is vital that we rediscover this great spiritual North Star, so that in times of confusion or decision we can ask ourselves, “How is this situation an invitation to grow in holiness?”
In Gratitude for our Families

Gracious God,
Thank you for the family that surrounds me in this earthly life.
Help us to honor each other with love and tenderness.
Give us the courage to forgive one another when we are hurt or betrayed.
Give us the desire to help each other walk the path of human life.
Give us the willingness to bear each other's burdens,
    share each other's laughter, and give each other space and room to grow.
When we look into each other's eyes,
or touch one another's hearts,
help us see your presence and bow with gratitude and awe.

Amen.
Meditation by Richard Rohr

Prayer is not about changing God, but being willing to let God change us, or as Step 11 in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous says: “Praying only for the knowledge of his will.” Jesus goes so far as to say that true prayer is always answered (Matthew 7:7-11). Now we all know that this is not factually true—unless he is talking about prayer in the sense that I will try to describe it. If you are able to switch minds to the mind of Christ, your prayer has already been answered! The new mind knows, understands, accepts, and sees correctly, widely, and wisely. Its prayers are always answered because they are, in fact, the prayers of God, as well.

True prayer is always about getting the “who” right. Who is doing the praying, you or God-in-you, “little old you” or the Eternal Christ Consciousness? Basically prayer is an exercise in divine participation—you opting in and God always there!

Adapted from Breathing under Water: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps, pp. 96-97

A Good Habit

continued from last week, June 30th …..

Establishing the habit of regularly performing inner work such as meditation is like acquiring any other, more mundane habit. The process follows more or less the same trajectory.

First, there’s the dream to be or achieve something. We imagine ourselves, say, singing in a band, or climbing mountains, or enjoying a serene, alert and tranquil mind. Wouldn’t that be nice? Most of us have lots of such dreams, and they never lead us anywhere as long as they remain locked within us. A few of the, however, become ambitions. Ambitions are dreams that have been mounted by the will, and are pawing within the restrictive enclosure of our mind Impatient to find expression. Eventually, a few of our ambitions may pass through the portal of commitment onto the long road of discipline.

This sequence - dream, ambition, commitment, discipline - takes time. But with time comes this relief: what once required much energy to sustain is now increasingly buoyed along by the momentum of the good habits of behavior we have established through disciplined practice. And this time, for a change, the news just keeps getting better. Not only do our good habits make it easier to maintain the practice, but we are now increasingly enjoying the fruits of the spirit to which meditation gives us access: love, joy, peace, patience, fidelity, kindness, gentleness, self-control (not to mention improved sleep, a stronger immune system, and more spring in our step!)

So don't attempt to meditate by force of sheer will-power. The energy required will exhaust you and soon you'll find there's no time for it. Instead, use the fly-wheel of habit to advance your inner work.

Gregory Robison, Director Meditation Center @ Georgetown

Join us for Christian Meditation

Mondays 10:30 11th Step Meditation
Wednesdays 2:00 and 7:30pm
Saturdays 7am
In the Parish Center

Our Christine tradition proclaims that the faith each of us has received is that God is not absent but present to us fully in the Jesus whose life lives in our hearts. Our prayer is best understood as our awareness of God in Jesus. And so our time of prayer must be a time committed to the fullest openness we are capable of. John Main

Save the Date

Join us for a Beloved Retreat at the Carmelite Center In Darien October 11-13 2013
Theology on Tap: Wednesdays July 17-Aug 7

7/17/13 from 7-9PM
Fr. John Cusick
Recognizing God in Everyday Events: Is There More There Than Meets the Eye?

Fr. John Cusick, ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Chicago in 1970. In 1977 he was given the task to create Young Adult ministry and as the Director of Young Adult Ministry has dedicated his life to Young Adults. He has designed a number of programs including Theology On Tap. His influence is extensive and accomplishments are too many to number. He is a dynamic priest and a passionate speaker.

7/24/13 from 7-9PM
Dr. Kate DeVries
Why Bother With Church?

Dr. Kate DeVries was the associate director of Young Adult Ministry for the Archdiocese of Chicago. She holds a Doctor of Ministry Degree from Catholic Theological Union, and Masters Degrees in Divinity, Pastoral Studies and Special Education. She is an amazingly talented and caring individual, speaking on an important question we should all answer.

7/31/13 from 7-9PM
Fr. Terry Keehan
Reconciliation & Eucharist: Two Fascinating Fonts of God’s Desire to Connect With Us

Fr. Terry Keehan is the Pastor of Holy Family parish in Inverness. He has led retreats, Missions and workshops nationally with a special focus on young adult issues, and responding to God’s call in life. He always speaks from the heart with great enthusiasm.

8/7/13 from 7-9PM
Fr. Paul Novak
Letting Go & Letting God: A Catholic Strategy for Getting Free?

Fr. Paul Novak, O.S.M., who was ordained a Servite priest in 1990, currently is president of De La Salle Institute High School. Additionally, he currently assists at Old St. Patrick’s Church. He will help us to understand that we don’t have to hold onto our baggage.

Theology-on-Tap is a free summer speaker series for Young Adults in their 20’s and 30’s (married or single). All the talks occur in a casual environment with time for socializing, learning and sharing. Light refreshments will be provided. Please join us each week to learn more about our Catholic faith and ourselves.

Know someone who might love to attend? We can send them an e-vite! Go to the home page of our website to add their name and email.
Summer Basketball Camp
(Designed for all boys and girls entering Grades 3-8)

- Basketball Camp 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 to school website.

Youth Catechesis Office
yc@sjcross.org * 708-246-6760 * www.stjohnofthecross.org/yc

Summer Hours
Monday thru Thursday 8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. or call for an evening appointment

Athlete’s Prayer
I thank you, O God, for giving me a body which is especially fit and strong, and for making me able to use it well.

In my training, help me never to shirk the discipline which I know that I need and that I ought to accept.

In my leisure and in my pleasure, help me never to allow myself any indulgence which would make me less fit than I ought to be.

When I compete with others, help me, win or lose, to play fair. When I win, keep me from boasting. When I lose, keep me from making excuses.

And help me always with good will to congratulate a better player who beat me.

Help me so to live that I will always have a healthy body and a healthy mind

This I ask for your love sake.

Amen
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 fngwila@stjoehofthecross.org.

Job Opening at SJC

St. John of the Cross Parish is looking for a Coordinator to join our Youth Catechesis Staff and be responsible for the religious formation and sacramental preparation of parish children in grades K-2. In addition to being a practicing Catholic who possesses a strong knowledge of our faith, the candidate must be able to develop age appropriate curriculum and creative lesson plans, prayer services and materials for each grade level, provide strong direction and leadership to volunteer catechists, and be able to partner with and support parents, affirming their important role as first teachers of faith. The candidate must be professional, organized, faithful, and a team player with strong verbal and written communication skills. Certified catechist or working toward certification and experience as a catechist required. College degree in related field (education, ministry or social work) preferred. This is a part-time position with flexible hours. For a complete job description go to www.stjohnofthecross.org. Send letter of interest and resume to Janet Caschetta, YC Director at jcachetta@stjohnofthecross.org or 708 51st Street, Western Springs, IL 60558.

Let the peace of Christ control your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Fun That Should BE Shared

Like so many, my parents didn’t have much extra money to do exiting things with us kids. In those days, a strawberry milkshake from the Buffalo Ice Cream Parlor at Irving and Pulaski was something we kids shared. I remember going to Riverview a few times and loved the thrill of the whole experience. The “BOBS,” the Shoot the Shoots,” the parachute and oh so much more, a rare treat in bygone days. My brother had to take me along with his friends.

The world we experience today is so different in almost everything we see. However, some things haven’t changed all that much, and a neighborhood carnival strikes me as one of those wonderfully unchanged treats.

It is my belief that the best way to enjoy most things involves sharing, giving it away! We concluded our “St. John of the Cross Family Fest”, on Sunday, the 30th. Just so you know, we invited and hosted 40 children from St. Mark Parish in Chicago, 40 children from Our Lady of Charity School in Cicero, and 40+ clients from Helping Hand in Countryside on Thursday afternoon. They and their chaperones were our guests at the Family Fest and had free and exclusive access to all the fun here at St. John of the Cross.

I have been told by the leaders at all three of our invited guests that their excitement was “charged with positive energy!” Special Thanks to our parish “Fest” leaders who thought of inviting our Sharing Parish families and the clients of Helping Hand. It was just great to be able to “Gift” our guests with an afternoon at our family “Fest!”

Bill Bright
Director of Outreach

Amate House, the young adult volunteer program for the Archdiocese of Chicago, is currently seeking new members for its Board of Directors.

Each year, more than 30 Amate House volunteers devote a year to serving the poor and under-resourced populations of Chicago. These young adults live in community houses in the neighborhoods where they serve; spend 40+ hours a week performing critical tasks at financially strapped nonprofits, parishes and schools in Chicago; and participate in a formation program that encourages them to understand and explore the link between Christian faith and service. Programming and development for the volunteers centers around five tenets: Community; Faith; Service; Social Justice and Stewardship.

Amate House is beginning its 30th year of operation and the Board is seeking established individuals to serve as Board Members during this exciting time of growth.

For more information about Amate House, please see our website: http://www.amatehouse.org/
To inquire about Board membership, contact Board Member and fellow parishioner, Pat Kinsella, 312.609.0478 or pkinsella@clunegc.com.
**Crossroads**

**MANY THANKS TO OUR FABULOUS FRIENDS WHO SERVED, LEARNED AND BUILT OUR SJC COMMUNITY STRONGER** during the last week of June.

Leann & Michael Schied for coordinating our pop & water stations at the SJC Fest! All the teens, leaders & parents who served on behalf of our Crossroads family. Your generosity makes me proud!

Matt, T.J., Thomas, Aaron, Noah, Riley, for taking the adventure of YLC by storm and representing SJC & SFX in such a positive way. We are excited to see your faith lived courageously!

Joe Gazdacka & Maribeth White for leading our Habitat prep mtg and getting the group ready to go!

*Due to an early holiday deadline for the bulletin printing I cannot put pictures here but I will add them to our Parish facebook page….be sure to like us so you can follow future events as they happen!*

**CALENDAR EVENTS:**
- July 7-13 Teens serve with Habitat in WV
- July 9 post-trip mtg for OLC & YLC
- July 23 post-habitat reunion mtg
- July 30 OLPH final pre-trip mtg
- Aug 1-4 Kairos 15 retreat
- Aug 8-13 pilgrimage to OLPH
- Aug 18 Speaker Mike Patin provides training 9am for adults, noon for teen leaders

We have a few spaces on our fall leadership teams:
- Teens & adults can consider joining us:
  - to welcome our newest high schoolers on the Freshmen Experience Team for the fall. 1-2 Sunday evenings a month!
  - to lead our confirmation candidates on their Day of the Spirit Retreat Day Oct. 26th. Our team meets 4-5 times during Aug-Oct. Call Katie for details NOW! 708-246-4404

**NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR**

If you follow our bulletin page closely enough you have seen a few special articles in the last month….about change, influence, and smiles while sharing gifts. These are all vital as our Crossroads Youth Ministry moves into a new and exciting structure for the coming years. From January-May 2013 we have researched, polled, and evaluated in order to set our new Strategic Plan for our Youth Ministry Crossroads family.

Yes, we are a family. We are the family that serves the spiritual needs of our high school teenagers and their families so we are quite large. But in all honesty, we want to be larger. We want to serve more teens to help them better understand their God-given gifts and be able to use them in service to others while building a relationship with God.

At first I was saying that the average parishioner would not notice the changes we have laid out because they affect how our ministry operates and our structure. But the more I’ve shared our plans with others and gotten their responses over the past month I want to share how you will see us more:

A) We will have greater teen leadership so our website & bulletin will share more reflections of teens and their presence as leaders will begin to shape our ministry.

B) Our Teen & Adult Coordinators will take full ownership of activities so instead of calling the office for questions, you will be able to get details and questions answered by them directly.

C) We are going to more intentionally invite all high school teens to join our Crossroads family. Our ministry offers so much in terms of servant leadership, self-esteem and social development, assisting teens in transitioning from a taught to an owned faith, and more. We want to share that with teens to help God’s love transform their lives.

I look forward to the adventure ahead and ask for your continued prayers and support. More details will follow in the coming weeks. Check out our newly formatted website to read our Strategic Plans and see the structure.

*www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads*  
Gratefully yours, Katie Hayes

---

**www.stjohnofthecross.org**  
**July 7, 2013**  
**Page 10**
Happenings for the Week of July 8

**Monday, July 8**  
10:30 a.m. 11th Step Christian Meditation  
2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration

**Wednesday, July 10**  
1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry  
2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation  
7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

**Thursday, July 11**  
7:00 p.m. Baptism Prep Meeting

**Saturday, July 13**  
7:00 a.m. Christian Meditation

---

**Mass Intentions**

**Monday, July 8**  
7:45 Our Beloved Dead; Antionetta and Joseph Gualtieri

**Tuesday, July 9, St. Augustine**  
7:45 Anastasia Esposito; Sophie & Raymond Mathis

**Wednesday, July 10**  
7:45 Bill Moore; Dr. James Freel

**Thursday, July 11, St. Benedict**  
7:45 Helen & Max Kirsh; Marty Grady

**Friday, July 12**  
7:45 Dan Mulcahy; Henry Pype

**Saturday, July 13, St. Henry**  
8:00 Ellen McGowan; Catherine Pozen  
5:00 Sharon Haggerty

**Sunday, July 14, 15th Sunday Ordinary Time**  
7:30 Frank Beauregard; Robert Maliszewski  
9:00 SJC & St. Thaddeus Parishioners  
10:45 Don Spiering; Elizabeth Langenderfer  
5:00 Libby Chapman; Joe Bonadonna

---

**Pray for our Sick**

Linda Drone  
Kat Egan  
Melissa Morrissey Eldredge  
Todd Goldstein  
Karen Hult  
Barbara Jacob  
Allison Kazragis  
Shirley Kazragis  
Joe & Rosie King  
Fr. William Mannion  
Jay Meehan  
Baby Maddie Mayer

---

**Pray for Our Beloved Dead**  
Lois Powers, cousin of Sandy & Tom Halm

---

**New Parents:**  
Next Baptism Prep Meeting, July 11  
The next Baptism preparation meeting will be held on July 11, at 7 p.m. in the Parish Center. Godparents as well as new babies are most welcome to attend with parents. To assist in our class preparation, please register to attend this class by calling the Parish Center at 708-246-4404.

---

**Summer Vacation Offers No Break from Mass**  
Summer travelers may be interested to know that they can call toll-free to 1-734-794-2100 or log on to www.masstimes.org for information on Catholic Masses throughout the country. You can learn where the nearest church is as well as the times of Masses on weekends and holy days. This service also gives information about wheel chair accessibility and sign language availability. Have a great summer vacation!

---

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

Fr. David P. Dowdle  
Fr. Filbert F. Ngwila  
John Schopp  
Bill Bright  
Janet Cascetta  
Jim Clauer  
Kathleen Gorman  
Katie Hayes  
Jessica Koch  
MJ Martin  
Elizabeth Russell-Jones  
Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Deacon  
Outreach  
Director of Youth Catechesis  
Worship  
School Principal  
Crossroads High School  
Music  
Operations  
Welcome

ddowdle@stjohnofthecross.org  
fngwila@stjohnofthecross.org  
john.schopp@newhemispheres.com  
bbright@stjohnofthecross.org  
jcascetta@stjohnofthecross.org  
jclauer@stjohnofthecross.org  
gorman@sjc.pvt.k12.il.us  
khayes@stjohnofthecross.org  
jkoch@stjohnofthecross.org  
mjmartin@stjohnofthecross.org  
erussell-jones@stjohnofthecross.org
CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —
Saint John of the Cross   #9239

ADDRESS —
5005 S. Wolf Road
Western Springs, IL 60558

PHONE —
708-246-4404

CONTACT PERSON —
Shirley—MJ

SOFTWARE —
Microsoft Publisher 2003
Adobe Acrobat 6.0
Windows XP Professional
HP Scanjet 6200C

PRINTER —HP Laser Jet 6P

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT —
Cover through 15

SUNDAY DATE OF BULLETIN — July 7, 2013

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS —
Women’s Club Garage Sale!