Called to be Holy through Prayer, Service & Sharing to Build Up the Kingdom of God.
First Sunday of Lent
March 9, 2014
Dear Parishioners,

And so it begins…..Ash Wednesday was last week and the first Sunday of Lent has arrived. Another season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving opens up for us new possibilities. Another opportunity of growth in our relationship with the Lord, individually and as a community, presents itself. We stand at its beginning as if we were standing at the threshold of a doorway. Will we choose to go in, all in, or will we try ‘an easier, softer way’? Or will it be an ambivalent mix of motives and desires, of wanting to surrender and simultaneously, just as powerfully, being afraid to surrender? Such is the human heart and the journey of faith.

The catechumens, who will be fully initiated by Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist as well as the candidates for reception into the Catholic faith by being confirmed and receiving the Eucharist, take another step on their journey of faith. They signified their intention to continue to prepare for the Easter sacraments last November, when they began the period of the Catechumenate. Next week they participate in the Rite of Election, and will be presented to the bishop at the Cathedral by participating in the Rite of Sending. (There are three different ceremonies of election on three different weekends to accommodate those from around the archdiocese. By the luck of the draw, we will be in the third group and the Cardinal will be the bishop who will receive our candidates and catechumens.) Their names are written in the Book of the Elect and they enter the period of Enlightenment during the season of Lent.

On the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent, they will join us at the Liturgy of the Word and then be dismissed following ‘the Scrutinies’ a term that can be off-putting if misunderstood. So without going into a full blown explanation of the RCIA, the following should help:

...each scrutiny is meant not simply to critique and assess one’s readiness—remember that readiness was established at the Rite of Election with the godparents’ testimony and the bishop’s acceptance of the catechumens’ names. The purpose of each of the scrutinies is “to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect” and “to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good” (RCIA, 141). The true pastoral sense of this two-fold act of uncovering and strengthening is emphasized in the next sentence of 141: “For the scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ.” At its core, the scrutinies are not about the sinfulness of the elect but about the overwhelming grace of God in Christ. The exorcisms are not fear-laden bouts with Satan but are grace-filled encounters with the healing power of the Spirit.

Please keep those to be baptized and those who will be received into full communion in your prayers during the course of Lent. And welcome them at the Easter Vigil.

On another note, I will be away from the parish for the last two weeks of the month. This has been on my calendar for a long time as it is a celebration with friends of birthdays that ended in ‘0’. This will be the first time that there will be no resident priest available at St. John of the Cross for such a long period. As the daily Mass goers have experienced, there are several retired priests who are generously serving us during the week. Should a funeral occur, we may need to ask one of them to be the celebrant, as happened this past Thursday. Last weekend, I was the celebrant for a funeral of a parishioner from St. Francis Xavier that could not be accommodated either there or at St. Cletus. I’m afraid it’s the ‘new normal’, at least for the time being. If you can stay flexible, we can get through this together. You may have to go to a different church occasionally, or the celebrant might be new to you, but you will have access to the sacraments and the liturgy of the church. For the 25th anniversary of SJC in 1985, there were 1600 fewer families than today and three full time priests. Those days are gone well into the foreseeable future. The impact of the decades of fewer and fewer priests is just now being felt here like it has been in many other places for a long time. If we can lean into this reality together and see what needs to be held onto, what must be let go and what must become something new for the benefit of all, a new church will be born.

Blessed Lent,
Fr. David
O, God of second chances, thankfully you give us this time during Lent to be filled, directed and empowered by your Spirit. As we enter fully into Lent, show us what we need to see to more fully follow your Gospel. What in our lives needs the anointing of your Spirit? What in our lives needs clarity on the direction we are being invited to? What in our lives do we need strength to feel empowered to go out and do in your name?

We seek to be filled, directed and empowered by your Spirit, O God of second chances, to overcome the temptations in our own lives as your son overcame the temptations in the desert. We seek to be filled and directed by your Spirit as we go out into our public ministries, as Jesus was directed to do after his time alone with you.

Michael Coren

the bestselling author of Why Catholics are Right, examines our faith with wit, rigor, insight, astuteness, and understanding of Catholic teaching and history.

Please join us for a wonderful, engaging speaker, a glass of wine and fellowship. Grab a neighbor and have an enjoyable evening at St. John of the Cross!

Contact 708-246-6760 to register.
Babysitting available too!

Micheal Coren is the bestselling author of fifteen books, including biographies of G.K. Chesterton, H.G. Wells, Arthur Conan Doyle, J.R.R Tolkien, and C.S. Lewis. He is the host of the talk show “The Arena” on the Sun News Network. He also writes a syndicated column for ten daily newspapers, and was recently named the columnist of the year by the Catholic Press Association. His book Why Catholics are Right was a national bestseller. His latest book is The Future of Catholicism.

Sponsored by the St. John of the Cross Youth Catechesis Council:
Michelle Snorewicz, John Amico, Sharon Gardner, Lisa Geneser, Mary Hays, Katie Larmon, Tony Liotta, Angie Matysik, Nancy Montana, Laurel Schumm, April Sullivan, Lauren Trifilio

Liturgy of the Word
Volunteers are needed for Children's Liturgy of the Word at Saturday evening and Sunday mass. Preparation materials and training are provided. Please help us to continue to offer this ministry. The commitment is only once a month but the reward is great! Please call Megan O'Brien at 708-784-0732.

www.stjohnofthecross.org
May our RCIA Catechumens and Candidates find

JOIN US IN PRAYER FOR OUR RCIA CATECHUMENS AND CANDIDATES.

PRAYER CARDS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL CHURCH EXITS THIS WEEKEND. WE INVITE YOU TO TAKE ONE AND IN THE DAYS AND WEEKS AHEAD PRAY FOR THEM THAT THEY FIND STRENGTH IN GOD’S GRACE AND SUPPORT IN OUR COMMUNITY’S PRAYERS AND EXAMPLE.

CHRISTOPHER ING
TO BE BAPTIZED AND COMPLETE THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION (EUCHARIST AND CONFIRMATION)

BRET PADGETT
TO BE RECEIVED INTO FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH (PROFESSION OF FAITH, EUCHARIST AND CONFIRMATION)

KEITH KNIGHT
TO BE RECEIVED INTO FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH (PROFESSION OF FAITH, EUCHARIST AND CONFIRMATION)

CHRISTOPHER WALTERS
TO BE RECEIVED INTO FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH (PROFESSION OF FAITH, EUCHARIST AND CONFIRMATION)

www.stjohnofthecross.org 3-9-14 page 4 praying ~ serving ~ sharing
May Christ who is the way and the truth and the life, continue be their guide.

Christie Kenny
To be Baptized and complete the Sacraments of Initiation (Eucharist and Confirmation)

Bob Peterson
To be received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church (Profession of Faith, Eucharist and Confirmation)

Katie Broderick
To Receive Confirmation

About the Easter Vigil...

Shattering the darkness, the great Paschal candle is lit with the Easter fire, five wax nails of incense are imbedded, and it becomes the symbol of the crucified Christ. The Paschal Mystery is clearly and joyfully announced from the very beginning of the Vigil liturgy. It is in the light of the Paschal candle that the liturgy continues to unfold.

During the Easter Vigil, the most beautiful of all liturgies during the year, our catechumens and candidates will joyfully receive the sacraments of Christian initiation.

We invite all to our Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 19th at 7:30pm.
When Jesus resists the temptations presented to him by the devil, he draws on his religious upbringing and tradition. Jesus is able to quote from Scripture because he is the Son of God and because he was a human person who lived his Jewish beliefs fully. We who are responsible for raising children are also called upon to immerse them fully in our Catholic Christian tradition so that they too will be able to draw upon this tradition to resist the temptations they will face in their lives.

Use this Sunday as an opportunity to call your family’s attention to the importance of Scripture in our lives. Gather your family around the family Bible and read today’s Gospel, Matthew 4:1-11. Recall that Jesus rebuked the devil’s temptations by quoting Scripture. Take some time as a family to talk about the words that are found in the Bible and the importance of Scripture to our faith. Perhaps the older members of the family can share a favorite Scripture passage with everyone. Younger family members can tell their favorite story from the Bible and be shown where that story can be found. In each case, encourage a deeper sharing of faith by asking each person to tell why the Scripture passage shared is important to him or her. Conclude your time together by again reading Jesus’ reply to the devil found in Matthew 4:4 (“One does not live by bread alone . . .”) and praying the Lord’s Prayer.

First Sunday of Lent
Theme: Lent is time to open our hearts more fully to Jesus. Breaking Open the Word
Suggested text for faith sharing: Today’s Gospel

Step One: Listen to the Word
As you hear this reading, what words or phrases strike you? What in this reading touches your heart? What lingers in your memory?

Step Two: Look into Your Life
Question for Children: When you feel tempted to do wrong, how do you remain strong in your faith?
Question for Youth: What is one thing you will do during Lent to become more open to God in your life?
Question for Adults: As you come to understand the temptation of Jesus in the desert, which one of the devil’s offerings is hardest for you to resist?

March 8: St. John of God
Introduce your Kids to Strong Catholic Role Models

How many of the firefighters out there know who their personal patron saint is? It is St. John of God, who was extremely dedicated to the sick and dying. Once, when he heard that a hospital was going up in flames, he ran in and rescued the patients and much of the bedding, just before the roof fell in – and took John with it. Moments later, he walked out of the building, miraculously spared.

http://lifelongcatechesis.osv.com/questions_of_the_week/
Reflecting on Living the Gospel

Jesus spent forty days alone in the desert and was vulnerable, so the devil tried to allure him with tantalizing temptations. Temptation is essentially an enticement to put our own desires and needs first. Resisting temptation, then, is really resisting self-centeredness. Like Jesus, we must choose instead to surrender ourselves to God who alone should be the center of our lives. To make any other choice is to choose a false god. This First Sunday of Lent poses this question: Do we serve god or God?

With every temptation, we learn through our struggle with good and evil exactly how vulnerable we are. We learn how much we are tempted to serve all the false gods of our personal desires and needs. We also learn, interestingly enough, to fight temptation with temptation—to replace a desire for something that leads us astray with a stronger desire that leads us to serve our loving and merciful God alone. Only in a metaphorical desert can our vulnerabilities become known, our temptations be faced with strength, and our choices be the right ones that bring us to right relationships with God, ourselves, and others. We begin Lent with a reflection on temptation and false gods, hoping that Lenten penance helps us overcome our vulnerabilities and come to Easter ready to receive the new, risen Life this season offers. Penitential practices proper to Lent are not about suffering for the sake of suffering; instead they are meant to expand us beyond self-preoccupation to new self-knowledge which leads us to deeper love for God and greater concern for the good of others. Lent is a time of conversion, a time when we become more perfectly who we are—the Body of Christ. This is Lent’s challenge and invitation: to replace vulnerabilities with strength, temptations with grace.

For Reflection:

What temptation has taught me about human vulnerability is... What temptation has taught me about dependency upon God is...

Closing Prayers:

May we grow in the strength to resist the temptation to choose ourselves over the good of others. May we who are weakened by temptation find strength in the grace of God. Our Father...

Living Liturgy 2014

Journey with us this Lent

6 Week Introduction Series to Christian Meditation during Lent

Christian Meditation is prayer of silence, stillness, and simplicity. It gives us a simple way to spend the silent time in which nothing is needed except ourselves and our attention. This 6-Week Introduction to Christian Meditation is an opportunity for you to come and try it, especially if you are longing for “something more.”

The Introductory Lenten series will be held during the regular weekly meditation times in the parish center: Mondays: 10:30am, beginning March 10 (CM as an 11th step practice—open to all) Wednesdays: 2pm and 7:30pm beginning March 12 Saturdays: 7am, beginning March 15

Registration requested but not required: mary105105@gmail.com or 708-246-5108

Encouragement in Your Meditation Practice: Lenten Evening of Meditation

Friday, March 28th, 7 - 9:30pm, hospitality at 6:45pm

Overview of Other Lenten & Ongoing Prayer Opportunities

Stations of the Cross: Fridays during Lent at 6:00pm in church

Praying the Stations of the Cross is a Lenten devotion that offers witness to Jesus’ Passion and Death. At each station we reflect prayerfully upon Jesus’ suffering, Death, and Resurrection, and Christ’s love for us.

Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

On Mondays from 2:30-8:45pm in the Mary Chapel

Pray the Rosary

before and after daily Mass and on Tuesdays at 9:05am in the Mary Chapel

Living Gospel Nonviolence in a World of Violence

Facilitator: John Dear

$60 fee waived for SJC parishioners!

Go to our website or watch the bulletin for more info!!
Prayer

The fast pace of your life may seem to leave little time and energy for the traditional Lenten practices. But you can weave moments of spiritual awareness and service into even the busiest of schedules. The trick is to see Lenten practice as part of, rather than in addition to, each activity of your ordinary hectic day.

The three foundational practices of Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Here’s how to think about them in a new way:

Praying Daily
If you make a habit of saying a little prayer whenever someone irritates you, cuts you off in traffic, or makes life difficult; when someone does you a favor, you experience great and friendly service, or when something joyful happens to you—you will soon find yourself praying your way through the day. Try this simple practice and you will be observing the Catholic Church’s call for greater prayer during the Lenten season. You will also find that this habit makes your life flow smoother, your self more centered, and your Spirit more aware of God’s presence.

A Different Type of Fasting
There are many ways to fast. Why not fast from criticism, gossip, judging others, or passing on rumors? Why not abstain from unwarranted fear and anxiety? You can also tell that inner voice inside your head that criticizes you to abstain from eroding your ability to be the confident, blessed person God calls you to be. These are beautiful ways to observe the Lenten call to fasting and abstinence.

Give of Yourself
Daily life also offers countless opportunities to give of yourself to others (alms), and most don’t involve dipping into your wallet. Give encouragement to the doubting, give a word of praise to the insecure, show kindness to someone who could use a friend, and offer a word of thanks to those whose service of others often goes unappreciated. Give the gift of your attention to someone who simply wants to be noticed. Tell your children stories about people whose values you admire when you gather at mealtime. Don’t be stingy with your smiles—give them freely to everyone you meet. And most important, give your love to those close to you. Hug them, hold them, and tell them what they mean to you. In this way you open your heart to God and others.

So no matter how busy your are in life, with some greater awareness and new perspectives you can consciously pray, fast, and give of yourself this Lent—and you will be ready to celebrate when a joyful dawn breaks upon you Easter morning. Used with permission. Loyola Press 2014.

Richard Rohr Meditation

"Second half of life" wisdom requires prayer and discernment more than knee-jerk responses toward either conservative or liberal ends of the spectrum. You have a spectrum of responses now, and they are not all predictable, as is too often the case with most knee-jerk responses. Law is still necessary, of course, but it is not your guiding star, or even close. It has been wrong and cruel too many times.

The Eight Beatitudes speak to you much more than the Ten Commandments as you grow older. Life is much more spacious now. The boundaries of the container have been enlarged. You are like an expandable suitcase, and you became so almost without your noticing. Now you are just here, and here holds more than enough.

Starter Prayer:
Teach me to pray.

In just minutes per day, the insightful meditations of Not by Bread Alone can deepen your experience of this solemn season of prayer and penance and prepare you to participate more fully in the joy of the great Easter mystery.

While our parish supply of books is gone, you can still download the Lit Press App for free on your tablet or phone and purchase the book for .99. Go to www.litpress.org/apps.
This Lent, we are invited not so much to think of what we will “give up,” but more, to think about how we will enhance, renew and develop our relationship with Jesus. As a parish community, we will participate in CRS Rice Bowl as a way to encounter Jesus through others, especially the most vulnerable around the world. Expressing love for those in need expands our hearts in hope.

Along with 13,000 faith communities across the U.S., our parish will participate in Catholic Relief Services’ Lenten Rice Bowl. This program invites us to pray with our families and fast in solidarity with those who are hungry, and at the same time learn about the people who will receive help from our sacrificial contributions.

At Masses this weekend each parish family will receive a cardboard Rice Bowl to fill with spare change and a Lenten Calendar with prayers, recipes and reflections.

Then each week in Lent we will learn about hunger and poverty in a different country. In addition, children in our parish school and YC program will receive Rice Bowls in their classrooms and will participate in special activities to help them deepen their awareness of needs throughout the world.

Your Rice Bowl can be brought to Mass on Palm Sunday, April 13th or dropped off at the Parish Center after Palm Sunday.

“To be something, to be doing something is important”, Michael says. “It brings us together as a community, and also puts food on the table for our families.”

- Michael Mzuli, member of a CRS-organized working group

Kariobangi is a neighborhood in Nairobi, Kenya's capital city. The people who live here come from many different backgrounds. Many are young adults under the age of 30. The people of Kariobangi have trouble finding jobs, clean water and healthy food that is not too expensive. Hunger, poverty and sickness are problems that affect the entire community. Since there are very few paid jobs in Kariobangi, people can have a hard time affording food and other necessities for their families.

Continue to read about Kenya on our parish website.
**CALCERAND OF EVENTS**

March 9 Leadership Board Update Mtg noon-1:30pm  
Home Group Meetings  
March 13 Passion Play practice 7pm  
March 14-17 Kairos 16 Retreat  
April 6 Trip to Vicariate Youth Rally, depart 1:30pm  
Home Groups  
April 13 Easter Basket Service Project 3-4:30pm  
For a complete calendar of Crossroad events:  
[www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/events](http://www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/events)

Many thanks to our Men’s Club & Teens working  
together for a fabulous FISH FRY!  
The positive vibes and support that exists between us  
is a gift and a true example of service for the other.  
Photos to be shared in next weekend’s bulletin!

Please pray for our Kairos 16 team as final  
preparations are put underway for them to lead  
49 retreatants. Many adjustments this year...  
A new Retreat Center meant new dates:  
**Friday March 14 through Monday March 17**  
Which means *a later return* on Monday evening  
**into the Parish Center.**

Please pray that our adaptations  
will go smoothly & that these teens  
will be enlivened in their faith!

Contact us at khayes@stjohnofthecross.org or  
crossroads@stjohnofthecross.org

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**Special Needs**

Our youth with special needs meet twice a month.  
This year our class that is preparing for Confirmation  
next year is learning about Jesus, His life and His  
ministry. They took a trip to the School Chapel last  
class to get a idea of what heaven might be like. They  
shared with each other what they hope to see in  
heaven one day! What a blessing these amazing  
young students are!

**YC Schedule**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classes</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>10:15-11:30am</td>
<td>Sunday, March 9, 16</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:15-7:30pm</td>
<td>Monday, March 10, 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th &amp; 8th Grade</td>
<td>Small groups</td>
<td>Sunday March 9</td>
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<td></td>
<td>at School</td>
<td>Sun, March 16 or 17 on campus</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>with K, 1, 2 students</td>
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**No Classes** March 23/24 and 30/31 for Spring Break! *Enjoy*

**Lent is a good time for sacrificing. Let us deny**  
ourselves something every day to help others.  
Pope Francis Tweet March 5
This week our 3rd through 7th grade students took the Terra Nova test. The Terra Nova test is an external audit of how children ranked with other children at that grade level who took the same test across the nation. It is just one of the many ways to help our teachers identify gaps in student learning and differentiate instruction. In the past, our students score well above the national average we are very proud of our children’s scores. They validate our high academic success.

Last week, our 3rd, 4th, and 7th grade students attended a special presentation with My Mary Cate. Mary Cate is a young girl with Apert Syndrome. The children had the opportunity to meet Mary Cate and ask her mom questions. It was a wonderful experience for our kids and a great lesson in the importance of choosing to be kind.

Don’t forget to buy your tickets to Nancy Drew, Girl Detective this Thursday – 100% of the proceeds go to Saint John of the Cross Parish School.
Parish News

Save the Date:

**SJC BOOKFAIR**

*Spring 2014*

* SJC School, Room 119

Tuesday, March 25 and
Wednesday, March 26

Class schedules to follow.

(Proceeds support the Parent Association)

“There is always time to shop for a good book.”

**Welcome!**

Please help us welcome our new members to the St. John of the Cross faith community:

Deanna and Collin Gardiner and Family
Anne and Martin McFadden and Family
Julie and Gabriel Misarti and Family
Sarah and Leonard DePasquale and Family
Kimberly and John Eyen and Family

If you would like to register to become a new member, please contact Elizabeth Russell-Jones in the Welcome Center.

For more information, call 708.246.4404x155 or erussell-jones@stjohnofthecross.org.

LAY LEADERSHIP FORMATION PROGRAM

*Are you ready to...* Dive deep into the Catholic faith? Explore Scripture and Tradition? Study with leading scholars and ministers? Learn pastoral skills for today’s Church? Pray, reflect, and grow spiritually?

**Attend a Lay Leadership Information Night:**

**Wednesday, April 9, 2014, 7pm** University of St. Mary of the Lake, Prist Center

**Wednesday, April 23, 2014, 7pm** Saint Xavier University, Andrew Conference Center

**Wednesday, April 30, 2014, 7pm** Benedictine University, Kindlon 136

*Join a community of Catholics passionate about the faith. Contact us at (847) 837-4550 or ilf@usml.edu.*

SJC Parish Moms’ Club

Attention mothers of young children (6 and under)! Meetings are fun for both moms and kids! Email sjcmomsclub@gmail.com to get added to our weekly no-obligation email list so that you can receive the most up to date information. Please consider joining us for our next meeting.

Thursday 3/13 9:30-11:00am parish center

**Women’s Club Outreach: Spring Clothing Drive**

Spring Clean to Build Esteem!
Clean out your closets and join SJC Women’s Club to help women get back on their feet!

We are teaming up with The House of the Good Shepherd to help women in need return to the workforce and rebuild their lives. All items must be clean, in good condition and suitable for the business casual environment. Spring and Summer women’s items only please.

- Blouses
- Skirts
- Shorts/Skorts
- Slacks
- Capri pants
- Sun/Summer dresses
- Suits/Blazers
- Light summer sweaters
- Tops
- Flats/Sandals/Summer Dress Shoes
- Accessories (purses, scarves, etc.)

Donations accepted at Drop Boxes located at:
Church Narthex, Parish Center & School

Questions? Please contact Amanda Collins at amandacollins4@gmail.com or Colleen Pabst at mahoney5674@yahoo.com

www.stjohnofthecross.org 3-9-14 page 12 praying ~ serving ~ sharing
Hope Out of Darkness: Lent 2104
“I was a stranger and you welcome me...”
(Matthew 25:35)

Pope Francis teaches “…we Christians are called to confront the poverty of our brothers and sisters...to make it our own and to take practical steps to alleviate it.” (Lenten Message 2104) Many immigrants today experience the poverty of living in the shadows of society. During this season of Lent, let us take practical steps to accompany immigrants living in these shadows. Let us pray and act to alleviate the fear of family separation through detention and deportation.

**ACTION:** Send a postcard to your Representative by accessing the USCCB Justice for Immigrants website at [www.justiceforimmigrants.org](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org). Learn practical ways to accompany immigrants by downloading the Office for Immigrant Affairs’s 2014 Lenten Calendar, at [www.archchicago.org/Immigration/](http://www.archchicago.org/Immigration/).

Office for Immigrant Affairs and Immigration Education
3525 S. Lake Park Ave, Chicago, IL 60653
Elena Segura (312) 534-5333, esegura@archchicago.org

Thank you from Kolbe House

Dear Parishioners,

Every day is a blessing received from God. I want to thank the people of St. John of the Cross for the added blessing of their sharing check of $1,200 which strengthens and supports our ministry to the incarcerated, their families, and persons affected by crimes.

In spite of the bitter cold and snow, Kolbe House volunteers have continued to visit the Lake and Cook County Jails and the Juvenile Detention Center. I admire their faithfulness and am inspired by their commitment. Their work is a blessing on all of us.

We at Kolbe House are equally blessed by the faithful and consistent work of volunteers from St. John of the Cross who keep our religious services attendance lists updated, provide us with clothing for the recently released, and extend their service to us by remembering our needs in prayer. The financial help provides for our daily expenses. Every day is a blessing for which I am grateful to God to be here and share with all of you.

Please keep us and those who we are privileged to serve in prayer as we remember you with gratitude. I remain

Your brother in the Lord,
Rev. Arturo Perez Rodriguez
Director

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**Changing Careers After 50**

If you’re considering following your heart down a new career path, Interfaith Career Network invites you to join us on Thursday, March 20, 7-9 pm for an inspiring journey. Job seekers over 50 are faced with a challenging job market and the thought of changing careers at this stage can be daunting…but rewarding! Our speaker, Shaun Gorman, who lives right here in our community, will share her personal experience and tell us how she successfully changed her career after 50. She will share her strategy and the goals she set to achieve this successful career transition. Professionally, Shaun is skilled at combining Business Development and Partner Relations with a strong background in Sales. She enjoys helping clients build their business by applying technology in new ways.

This program is for the employed and under employed, as well as the unemployed. Everyone is welcome and there is no charge to attend. We look forward to welcoming you at St. Cletus Education Building, 700 W. 55th Street, La Grange. Please enter the school at door 3 by the flag pole. Look for the ICN sign outside.
SJC Saintly Seniors
St. Patrick-St. Joseph Party
Go RED or go GREEN and be part of the FUN!
Friday, March 14 11:30-2:30
Enjoy a corned beef luncheon with all the trimmings and lively entertainment.
Members $15 ~ Guests $20
RSVP by March 10th. Drop this form and your check to the SJC Saintly Senior Club at the parish center.

Name: ___________________________________________________________

Phone: _______________________________________________________________________

Number of Members _________ Number of Guests _________

Total Enclosed: $_____________
Questions to Senior Club Chair: Trudy Schmitt at 246-1619.

SJC Saintly Seniors Holy Hill Basilica Bus Trip to Hubertus, Wisconsin
Wednesday, April 2, 2014

A Deluxe Motor Coach will leave the Parish Center promptly at 8am and return by 5pm. We will arrive at Holy Hill in time to celebrate Mass and, immediately following, watch a presentation. There will be time to walk the grounds and visit the many spiritual and interesting areas. There is also a gift shop. Lunch will be at the Holy Hill Café. The cost of the trip is $45 which includes the cost of the motor coach, luncheon, all gratuities and a donation to Holy Hill.

Reservations with your check payable to SJC Saintly Seniors need to be sent to the Parish Center by March 19. Space is limited. If you have questions, contact Carolyn Koehler at 708-246-2978.

Name _____________________________________________

Phone ____________________Cell_____________________

Number of People__________ Total Enclosed___________
This Week at SJC

Monday, March 10
9:30 a.m. Senior Planning Meeting
10:30 a.m. Christian Meditation Step 11
1:00 p.m. Little Rock Scripture Study
2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
2:30 p.m. Spiritual Journaling
3:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Tuesday, March 11
9:05 a.m. Rosary
9:30 a.m. Focus on Sunday Scriptures Group
1:00 p.m. New Evangelization Lenten Meeting
7:00 p.m. New Evangelization Lenten Meeting
7:00 p.m. RCIA
7:00 p.m. SJC Teacher Recognition Trust

Wednesday, March 12
9:30 a.m. Bridges
1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl
1:00 p.m. Outreach Advisory Committee
2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation
7:00 p.m. Archdiocese CRHP Director Training
7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

Thursday, March 13
8:00 a.m. Catholic Charities Meeting
9:30 a.m. Mom’s Club
9:30 p.m. Flourish Plus
5:00 p.m. Kairos Send Off
6:30 p.m. YC Council Speaker
7:00 p.m. Faith Sharing Group Committee

Friday, March 14
11:30 a.m. Senior Lunch
4:00 p.m. Kairos

Saturday, March 15
7:00 a.m. Christian Meditation
9:00 a.m. New Evangelization Lenten Meeting
6:00 p.m. Beloved

Sunday, March 16,
12:00 p.m. RCIA Luncheon
6:00 p.m. YC Speaker

Mass Intentions

Monday, March 10
7:45 Amedeo and Adina Misantoni; Bob Grady

Tuesday, March 11
7:45 Our Beloved Dead; Mary Clarke

Wednesday, March 12
7:45 Muriel Albertson; Anthony Shafranski

Thursday, March 13
7:45 Silviano Gomez; Mike Cronk

Friday, March 14
7:45 Edward Wolak; Katherine Keane

Saturday, March 15
8:00 Walter Pizczor; Joseph Naponiello
5:00 Patricia Rankin; Sunny Lawrence

Sunday, March 16, Second Sunday of Lent
7:30 Rita O’Carroll; Susan M. Shannon
9:00 William Raleigh; S.J. Ptak
10:45 Michael Nolan; George Jakicic
12:15 Harry Milani; Mary Sue Donohue
5:00 Clarence Modzik; Jerry Casper

Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

Geraldine Golf, mother of Linda, Albert and Carmella
Henry Kotynek, father of Mike
Eleanore Gierlasinski, mother of Norman and Linda Bremer

Pray for our Sick

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rosary</th>
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<td>Frank Accardi</td>
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Our Lady is always close to us, especially when we feel the weight of life with all its problems.
Pope Francis Tweet

Trying to get in touch with us? More info is on our website: www.stjohnofthecross.org
Lent has begun and so has Fr. Barron’s New Evangelization study series, but it is not too late for you to join.

During our first week, Fr. Barron gave us an overview of the growth of secularism in our world, showed us the joyful spirit of evangelism, and gave us an explanation of the New Evangelization. We saw how to evangelize by leading with joy—the JOY of Jesus Christ.

Join us this week as we continue the study with Lesson 2—New Ardor—new enthusiasm, new energy and renewal from the Holy Spirit. Today we need a new passion for the mission of offering friendship with Jesus Christ to others. Fr. Barron takes us behind the scenes at World Youth Day and shows us other energetic examples of new ardor. The deepest source of Christian ardor is the reality of the resurrection, which fuels us to actively reach out in love to others with the “Good News.”

Sessions are on Tuesdays at 1pm or 7pm and Saturdays at 9am in the parish center. Each session lasts 90 minutes and includes a prayer, video presentation, and a small group discussion.

Stop in the parish center to pick up a study guide and register or go on our parish website. Walk-ins are welcome too! We look forward to sharing the Light of Christ with you!