Called to be Holy through Prayer, Service & Sharing to Build Up the Kingdom of God.

The Ascension of the Lord

June 1, 2014
How Can We Know Jesus: Opening Three Doors

Excerpts from his homily at Holy Mass Pope Francis on May 23, 2014

Jesus himself says that he is the way: I am the way, and the truth, and the life. Everything. I give you life, I reveal myself as the truth, and if you come with Me, I am the way. That is why coming to know him who presents himself as way, truth, and life requires starting out on a journey. Knowing Jesus is our life’s most important work, also because in coming to know him we come to know the Father.

But how can we know Jesus?, the Pontiff asked. We have to study much. He invited everyone to study the Catechism: a beautiful book, The Catechism of the Catholic Church. We must study it. Yet he was quick to add that we cannot limit ourselves to believing that we will know Jesus through study alone. Indeed, there are some who imagine that ideas and ideas alone will lead us to the knowledge of Jesus. Even among the early Christians some thought in this way, and they ended up a bit tangled up in their thoughts. For ideas alone do not give life. Thus one who travels by this way ends up in a labyrinth from which there is no way out.

The Pope then pointed out three doors we need to open if we want to know Jesus. Reflecting on the first of these doors, i.e. Prayer—study alone without prayer is useless. The great theologians do theology on their knees. By study we advance a little, without prayer we will never know Jesus.

Regarding the second door, i.e. Celebration—prayer alone is also not enough. For the joy of celebration is needed as well: celebrating Jesus in the Sacraments, for it is there that he gives us life, nourishes us, comforts us, makes a covenant with us, gives us a mission. Without the celebration of the Sacraments we will not arrive at the knowledge of Jesus.

Finally, to open the third door, i.e. The imitation of Christ - the Pope advised that we take up the Gospels in order to discover there what Jesus did, what his life was like, what he told us, what he taught us, in order to seek to imitate him.

Passing through these three doors means entering into the mystery of Jesus, Pope Francis said. Indeed, we can only come to know him if we are able to enter into his mystery. And we need not be afraid of doing so.

For the full text go to http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/cotidie/2014/documents/papa-francesco-cotidie_20140516_three-doors.html

A Prayer from Anselm of Canterbury
O my God teach my heart where and how to seek you, where and how to find you...
You are my God and you are my All and I have never seen you.
You have made me and remade me,
You have bestowed on me all the good things I possess,
Still I do not know you...
I have not yet done that for which I was made....
Teach me to seek you...
I cannot seek you unless you teach me or find you unless you show yourself to me.
Let me seek you in my desire, let me desire you in my seeking.
Let me find you by loving you, let me love you when I find you.
The Mission of the Resurrection

For forty days Jesus stayed among the people, until he was taken up to heaven in a cloud.

During this time, he laid the foundations for his church to continue his presence and work on earth. He gave final instructions to his twelve handpicked apostles, the patriarchs of this new extended family of God.

He had instructed them privately throughout his ministry and given them powers to heal and cast out demons in his name. In those last forty days, he taught them how to interpret the Scriptures and preach. He breathed his Spirit into them, confirmed their authority to forgive sins in his name. He gave them a mission—to preach the good news of his salvation to the ends of the earth, to celebrate the breaking of the bread in his memory, to teach what he had taught them, to baptize all nations and make them one family in God. He promised he would remain on earth through his church—present in the sacraments, living signs that truly bring people into contact with his saving presence.

Jesus ascended to heaven in his glorified, risen body. He took his place in heaven in all the fullness of his humanity, bearing for all time the marks where the nails had been, the signs of his passion carved forever into his precious skin. From that day forward, we could never think of God without thinking of humankind. The very being of God—the Trinity of Father, Son, and Spirit—now contains One who is one of us.

Jesus is now “seated in glory at the right hand of the Father.” He is “King of kings and Lord of lords.” He will come again one day to render a final judgment on the living and the dead and to usher in the never-ending kingdom that Israel's prophets proclaimed, the new Jerusalem that will come down from heaven. Until that day, Jesus will remain our high priest in the precincts of heaven, hearing our prayers and sending us his Spirit. He is the one mediator between our Father and us, the only one who can save us from the sin of the world.

Until Christ comes again, Catholics live as the first apostles did—as witnesses to his resurrection, trying by his grace to testify with our entire being to the salvation he won for us. We live by faith in all that he revealed about God. We experience our lives as people born of the water and blood that flows from his sacred heart. We call God our Father and love all men and women as our brothers and sisters. We live by hope in the promise that the kingdom is coming, growing and spreading under the Father’s watchful eye in the church of his Son, empowered by his Spirit. And we live by love, in imitation of Jesus, with the love of God in our hearts giving meaning to everything we do. By his grace, we live as he did, as living “Eucharists,” as offerings of praise and thanksgiving.

And we see miracles every day, not only at the altar where bread and wine become his body and blood. We see lives changed by the encounter with the risen Jesus, and we believe that no person stands beyond the pale of his love. We have seen with our own eyes the truth of what he said, that with God all things are possible.

from The Catholic Passion: Rediscovering the Power and Beauty of the Faith by David Scott Used with permission.
Lifelong Learning

Today’s Gospel is taken from the conclusion of the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew’s Gospel quickly moves from the disciples’ discovery of Jesus’ empty tomb, to Jesus’ appearance to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, to the commission that Jesus gives his disciples in today’s Gospel.

The Final Commission, as this Gospel is sometimes called, is given on the mountaintop. Throughout Scripture, the most important events happen on the mountaintop, and Matthew has used this motif throughout his Gospel. Earlier in Matthew’s Gospel, Peter, James, and John had seen Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop (Matthew 17:1-8). Also in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus taught the crowds from the mountaintop in what we now call the Sermon on the Mount.

Here we are told that the eleven disciples go to the mountaintop in Galilee, as Jesus had instructed through Mary Magdalene and the other Mary (cf. Matthew 28:9-10). They see Jesus, and both worship and doubt at the same time. Jesus approaches them and commissions them to baptize and teach, "to make disciples of all nations." It is a task which Jesus had previously prepared his disciples for; recall that Jesus had sent the twelve apostles to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal (cf. Matthew 10:1-15). However, earlier the Twelve were sent only to the House of Israel; in this Final Commission, the eleven are told to go to "all nations." The mission of Jesus is now to be taken to all people; the task now is to baptize and to teach.

Jesus commissions his disciples to baptize in the name of the Trinity, one of the clearest attestations found in Scripture for baptism in the name of the Trinity. In the Acts of the Apostles and in the Letters of Paul, baptism is more frequently offered "in the name of Jesus."

The ending of Matthew’s Gospel can be understood as the beginning of the Church. Jesus commissions his disciples to continue to teach in his name and to bring others into the community of disciples through baptism. The Gospel ends, as it had begun, with the promise that Jesus will continue to be Emmanuel, "God with us" (cf. Matthew 1:23), for all eternity. Loyola Press 2014

Jesus did not absent himself after his ascension, but becomes present to us in a new way. This new Presence of Jesus is, through the power of the Spirit, within us ("I am with you always, until the end of the age") and is manifested when we continue Jesus’ saving work as his disciples. It is easy to think that witnessing, baptizing, and teaching belong to the church “professionals.” Jesus is saying otherwise. We don’t have to be mystics or theologians to do what the Spirit in us urges: witness, baptize, teach. We do this by letting the Spirit work through us in our daily lives.

How long is the Easter Season?

The fifty days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday are celebrated in joy and exultation as one feast day, indeed as one "great Sunday." These are the days above all others in which the Alleluia is sung. The Sundays of this time of year are considered to be Sundays of Easter and are called, after Easter Sunday itself, the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Sundays of Easter. This sacred period of fifty days concludes with Pentecost Sunday.

The first eight days of Easter Time constitute the Octave of Easter and are celebrated as Solemnities of the Lord. On the fortieth day after Easter the Ascension of the Lord is celebrated, except where, not being observed as a Holyday of Obligation, it has been assigned to the Seventh Sunday of Easter. (There are six metropolitan sees and their dioceses which maintain the Solemnity of the Ascension on Thursday: Boston, Hartford, Newark, New York, Omaha, and Philadelphia. Every other region of the United States has opted to transfer the Solemnity to the following Sunday, the Seventh Sunday of Easter).

The weekdays from the Ascension up to and including the Saturday before Pentecost prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

From Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar:

Monday
Acts 19:1-8
Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab
John 16:29-33

Tuesday
Acts 19:1-8
Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab
John 16:29-33

Wednesday
Acts 19:1-8
Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab
John 16:29-33

Thursday
Acts 19:1-8
Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab
John 16:29-33

Friday
Acts 19:1-8
Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab
John 16:29-33

Saturday
Acts 19:1-8
Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab
John 16:29-33

Sunday
Acts 19:1-8
Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab
John 16:29-33

www.stjohnofthecross.org 6-1-14
In today's Gospel we glimpse Jesus' prayer for his disciples. If we read further in John's Gospel, we find that Jesus prayed for his disciples' protection from the evil one. Jesus also prayed for all those who would have faith in him because of the disciples' teaching. That means that Jesus prayed for us as well, even before his death on the cross. Our faith tells us that Jesus continues to intercede for us at the Father's right hand.

Gather together as a family and think about the tradition of praying for other people. Who do you pray for? What do you ask for in your prayers? In today's Gospel we find an example of Jesus' prayer to the Father. Read together today's Gospel, John 17:1-11a. Think about Jesus' prayer for his disciples. We know that Jesus continues to intercede for us at the Father's right hand. What might Jesus' prayer be for you and your family? Conclude by praying together in thanks for the great love that Jesus shows you. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.

© 2013 Loyola Press. Used with permission.

Don't Overschedule Your Child this Summer.....

Children need quiet time too. Personal reflection can lead to prayer.

Quiet, reflective time is an endangered species in our culture. For many families, every moment of life is filled with noise and activity, and "down time" is seen as empty rather than rich and full.

"The importance of quiet time is something that our culture fails to respect," says author Polly Berrien Berends. She sees an overemphasis on competition and social interaction that leads to children's lives being over-scheduled. "We teach our children to fear silence and solitude," says Berends. We also distract them from becoming acquainted with the voice of God within them.

Berends says, "The child whose private, quiet time is respected and protected benefits in many ways. She has a chance to develop her own individuality and sense of self, to follow her own creative passions, to learn that she is good company (if for herself, then also for others), to develop her imagination, and to discover deep inner resources for healing and inspiration. Such quiet time is also a very good preparation for prayer."

You can help your children to learn how to pray by teaching them traditional prayers, by praying with them, by letting them see you pray, and by protecting their times of quiet. Silence is an acquired taste—especially if we've been on a steady diet of noise and activity. But once gained, quiet time will feed your child for a lifetime. Loyola Press
I have been blessed with being a part-time stay-at-home dad since 1999 and a licensed therapist since 1996. I thank God for the gift of being a dad. Parenting is the most exhausting and exhilarating thing I have ever done. I have never been so caffeine-dependent in my life, but I am convinced that God is OK with that.

I do find that parenting for me and my wife is much easier when I learn the profound lesson of the airlines. (I am not talking about the way they price their tickets or overbook most flights.) Let me explain.

Before every flight the airline attendant comes into the cabin and tells the passengers something like this: “If cabin air pressure changes, masks will deploy from the ceiling. Grab the mask and make sure there are no twists in the tubing. Gently place the mask over your face. Oxygen will begin to flow immediately into the mask. Place the mask on yourself first and then help those around you who are unable to assist themselves. Have a nice flight and enjoy the pretzels.”

Here is the key: “Place the mask on yourself first and then help those who are unable to help themselves.”

What are the reasons they teach this?

The airlines know that if adults are able to receive the oxygen they need first, then there is a chance that others can be saved. For example, we have a seven year old son who has Down’s syndrome. If in the middle of a flight a mask with a rubber band comes down from the ceiling he is going to have a great time with this new toy from the sky! He will be flinging it all over the cabin, playing with the rubber band part especially. His oxygen supply will become critically low.

That is the reason airlines tell us to put our masks on first. If I live there is a chance I can help others. If I don’t get the oxygen I need, then I will pass out, guaranteeing that those who can’t help themselves will also pass out. If parents could learn from this model I am convinced that our families would be helped tremendously. Here is how it would look.

Parents would not feel guilty when they devote positive time away from their children: time to pray, time to exercise, time with life-giving friends. Of course, this can’t happen all the time, but we as parents have to make sure some of our basic needs are being met. These met needs provide much-needed air in the midst of a near-suffocating amount of parental tasks.

When we meet our basic needs then we are better able to meet the demands of our children. How do we do this?

It depends. If you are married, talk with your spouse and plan ahead for times where you can pray, go for walks, talk with uplifting friends, visit with a spiritual director, or simply take a nap. If possible, plan a retreat every year. I try to go on two or three retreats a year, and so does my wife. I miss my family, but I come back refreshed and full of new oxygen to share.

Also, plan on syncing your calendars at least twice a month. During this time talk to each other about how your needs are being met. If you need more time away for life-giving activities plan them ASAP. Spirit-led time away will always help our families.

If you are a single parent perhaps start a baby-sitting group so one person can baby-sit once or twice a week, giving the other parents some free time. Or, talk to your church and see if there are some trusted Confirmation students who are good baby-sitters and need service hours. Time alone as a single parent is critical.

When I have shared this wisdom with hurting families and the parents start to create positive time to meet their needs, amazing things start to happen. Parents become more patient with their children. As they become gentler with themselves, they become gentler with their children. They begin to breathe the breath of new life.

May God bless you as you meet your needs so that the Holy Spirit will equip you to meet your children’s needs.

This article is adapted from the author’s parenting workbook: The Daily Dozen of Christian Parenting. To order the workbook visit www.healinginchrist.com

Plan ahead to attend Beloved, our parish weekend retreat, for men and women. The dates are October 17, 18 and 19, 2014. More details to come.

www.stjohnofthecross.org 6-1-14 page 6 praying ~ serving ~ sharing
Parish School

This week we celebrated our outstanding students at our awards assembly. SJC recognized students in grade 3 to 8 not for only academic excellence, but athletic participation, altar serving, and community stewardship.

The eighth graders and first graders also participated in the “Buddy Lunch.” Each year our eighth grade students eat one of their final lunches at SJC with their first grade buddies. The buddies have worked together all year on many projects and this is a great way to culminate the program.

While there were quite a few activities for the eighth graders leading up to their graduation Friday evening, our pre school students also celebrated their end of the year with presentations for their parents.

Youth Catechesis

Our children are in need of adults and high school teens that are willing to make a difference in their lives!

Here at YC, we have so many opportunities for you to get involved and positively affect a child’s faith life.

- Mentor a child’s faith walk
- Keep our youth safe while they are in classroom
- Help in the office with preparing crafts and activities
- Help during class times monitoring halls and tracking attendance
- Aide the Teacher in the classroom
- Teach children about how much Jesus loves them!
- Help at YC Council events

Call us and find out more!

This Week at SJC
June 2, Kindergarten Celebration 9:15 a.m. Gym
June 3, All School Liturgy, Closing Mass 9:15 a.m.
June 5, Celebrate SJC Day/Last Day of School All Day
Crossroads

The week of:
June 1, 2014 Upcoming Events
Kairos 17 Retreat July 31-Aug 3 now has registration open!
June 5th Work Tour meeting
June 6th S.Wo.R.D Retreat 11am-8pm
June 8th Identity Retreat Mtg 10am
June 9-13th OLC local

Want more updates on happenings in the Crossroads Community? Check us out on Facebook or Twitter!
Friend us at Crossroad Youth-Ministry
Follow us @SJCCrossroads

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES:
LAST CALL FOR S.Wo.R.D. Retreat Day June 6th—get forms at www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/retreats!

Did you miss Church League Basketball and feel a hole where your athleticism and faith meet? Then join Saint John’s 16” Softball League! Beginning June 8th, a softball game will be held on Sunday’s where two teams square off. Details on the signup form at: www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/sports.

Juniors and Seniors, are you interested in growing your faith and also becoming close with some of your peers? SIGN UP FOR KAIROS!!! Details on application, check it out at www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/retreats

Crossroads volunteers will serve at the Pop and Water stand at SJC Fest on June 26-29th!
If interested, contact Lis Williams at Lisbeth@sbcglobal.net

Summer Sports Camps

St. John of the Cross Parish announces registration for summer sports camps open to all boys and girl in the parish.

2014 Summer Running Camp: Grades 3-8
The Running Camp will emphasize speed, endurance, agility and conditioning. Michelle Fink, Cross Country Coordinator will coach the Camp. Every Wednesday, June 11th- August 6th from 7:30am to 8:30am. The fee: $60 Includes a T-shirt. Meet each Wednesday morning in the SJC parking lot near the flagpole. To Register: Go To: www.stjohnofthecross.org/school Go To: Athletics, Select: 2014 Running Camp Flyer and Form from the drop down print the registration form and return it with the fee (payable to St. John of the Cross) to: SJC Parish School, Attn: SJC Running Camp, 708 51st Street, Western Springs, IL 60558 For questions contact Michelle Fink at: (708) 784-1599 OR am_fink@sbcglobal.net.

2014 Summer Basketball Camps: Grades 2-8
The Basketball Camps will emphasis 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 28th—August 1st
August 4th—August 18
Grades 2-5th: 8-10am
Grades 6-8th: 10am—Noon
The fee is $85 per session if registered by July 19 or $95 per session at the door. Each student will receive a T-shirt and basketball. All camps will be held at SJC.

To Register: Go To: www.stjohnofthecross.org/school Go To: Athletics, Select: 2014 Summer Basketball Camp Flyer and Form from the drop down print the registration form and return it with the fee (payable to St. John of the Cross) to: SJC Parish School, Attn: Basketball Camp Registration, 708 51st Street, Western Springs, IL 60558. For questions contact Tom Taylor, 312-617-8535 or ttaylor@ph1c.com No refunds after the first day of camp.

www.stjohnofthecross.org 6-1-14
Parish News & Notes

Interfaith Career Network
Tuesday, June 3, 7-9 pm: a panel of HR professionals will coach you on the “art of interviewing” and answer all your “thorny” questions about successful phone and in-person interview strategies and techniques as well as providing tips on how to recover from interviewing blunders. Everyone is welcome and there is no charge to attend. First Presbyterian Church of La Grange, 150 South Ashland Ave. For further information, contact Susan Sedler at sqsedler@aol.com.

50th Wedding Celebration
The Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday, September 14, at 2:45 pm at Holy Name Cathedral, 735 North State Street in Chicago. Couples married in 1964 interested in attending this celebration should contact their parish to register. For further information call the Marriage and Family Ministries Office at 312-534-8351 or visit the website: www.marriageandfamilyministries.org.

Bereavement Camp for Kids
Tommy’s Kids Summer Camp
Helping children who have experienced the death of someone they love is one of the most difficult tasks a parent or other relative may ever face. Tommy’s Kids Camp, an extension of Tommy’s Kids Support Group is available to assist you with that difficult task and to help your child learn healthy ways of coping.

This Camp is a five day summer camp where children ages 5-12 can come together to talk about their loss, to remember special times, to meet new friends and to have fun. It is facilitated by Adventist St. Thomas Hospice staff and volunteers who have received specialized training in childhood development and grief. Monday, June 16th—Friday, June 20th from 9am until 3pm at the Arabian Knights Farms 6526 Clarendon Hills Rd., Willowbrook. The cost is $50/child (includes all five days, scholarships available). Snacks and supplies will be provided by St. Thomas. Children are asked to bring a sack lunch including a drink and to wear comfortable shoes. Camp will meet rain or shine and is limited to 30 children. For more information or to register contact Heather Kochen at 630-856-6985 or heather.kochen@ahss.org

Men’s Golf Club Outing:
Friday June 6th
Flagg Creek Golf Course
Meet and Socialize with the Men of our Parish!
Cost: $26 includes golf, cart, 2 beverage tickets, entry into contests. Contests: low score, closest to the pin, longest rive, longest putt. Tee times: 1:00 to 2:24 pm. Please drop off an envelope with your contact information, your name and/or the name of your foursome and a check(s) made payable to SJC Men’s Club. Questions: contact Barrett Long (708-784-9224) or John Cisek (708-784-9224) or John Cisek (708-784-1998).

Congratulations to Sarah and Kevin Kline on the baptism of their new baby, Everett William, last Sunday. The godparents were Spencer Dees and Sarah Lowrey. Sarah Klein is a teacher at our parish school. Everett’s uncle is Rev. Elliott Dees and his grandmother is Christina Turlek who works in the parish center finance area.
Parish Outreach

Share—Help the poor and hungry

Bring food items to our church narthex when you come to Mass. The nonperishable food is donated monthly to different food pantries. Paper products such as napkins, paper towels and diapers are good to donate too. For the month of June all of our food will be donated to Catholic Charities. When you take your children shopping, let each child pick out a food item to bring to church. Explain why we share with those who are poor.

More Ways to Help

Sort School Supplies
Both adults and grade school aged children and up are welcome to help with the annual sorting of school supplies on Monday and Tuesday, June 9 and 10th from 9am-Noon. You can also bring new or gently used school supplies with you to donate. The sorting will take place at Mary Lee and Jim Larson’s home at 5421 Harvey (708-246-3987). The supplies are distributed to children in need both locally and internationally. Adults need to accompany children.

OLC Work Tour
Adults and teens clean, organize, sort, garden, paint and do repairs at Our Lady of Charity School in Cicero during the weekday hours of June 9th-13th. Adult volunteers are welcome for the whole week, a single day or a half day. Meet for 7:45 Mass at SJC on the first morning. Carpool or drive your own car. For more information call Bill Bright or Katie Hayes at the parish center.

Help at the Garage Sale
There are many different types of jobs that you can volunteer for—from organizing and setting up to helping with sales and clean up after the sale. Work begins on June 10th. The sale is on Saturday, June 21 8:30-2pm in the parish school. For more info see page 13 of this bulletin.

Volunteer at our Parish Fest
The Fest is our main parish fundraiser. Many volunteers are needed to make it a success. Dates are June 26-29. Go to our website and click on the Fest logo to see the volunteer opportunities and days/times that interest you. More on the Fest can be found on page 11 of this bulletin.

Help in the YC Office
Volunteers are needed to sort supplies and do office work during the month of June between 8:30am and 4pm. Sign up for one hour or more. Call 708-246-6760 to volunteer. Open to adults and teens.

Help with Vacation Bible School
Volunteer your time on 5 weekday mornings the week of July 7th at our parish Bible School which is open to all parish children from K-5th grade. Call the YC office to learn about ways you can help. 708-246-6760. Open to adults and teens.

Items Requested
For Kolbe House

New or gently used clothing
SJC collects new white men’s boxer underwear in sizes L XL and XXL, new athletic socks, gently used or new jeans in 38-44 waist/30-32 length, gently used or new work and dress shirts. Payless gift cards for work and dress shoes.

CTA Transit Cards
Transit cards (7-day passes) help individuals and families with transportation to/from work, court and jail visits. Donated passes or checks made payable to SJC or Kolbe House may be dropped off at the Parish Center.

Stamps
Books of stamps and stationery for writing.

Gift Cards
Office Depot, OfficeMax or Staples Gift cards and/or monetary donations aid Kolbe House in producing their publications, Catholic Servant and Making Choices (84 cases of copy paper are needed each year). Direct donations of cases of copy paper (8 ½ by 11 and 11 x 17) are also appreciated.

Assumption Parish—Kolbe House Jail Ministry, one of our Sharing Parishes, supports those in Cook County Jail and their families.
RAFFLE & SILENT AUCTION

Mass in your home - Mass said by Fr. Bill Vollmer with a catered dinner and adult beverages for 16 friends & family

Sporting tickets
Golf outings at some of the areas nicest courses, such as Ruth Lake
TVs, i Pads, and much, much more!!!!!!

ON SALE AFTER MASSES
5/31 & 6/1, 6/7-8, 6/14-15

VOLUNTEER
WE NEED YOU!!
PLEASE SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER
ONLINE SIGN UP at www.sjcfest.com

MEGA PASSES
UNLIMITED RIDES FOR ALL 4 DAYS
$50 pre-sale / $65 at door
FOR SALE AFTER MASSES
5/31 & 6/1, 6/7-8, 6/14-15
ONLINE www.sjcfest.com
@ Parish Center & Parish School
Nature, desire, and soul - we rarely integrate these well. Yet they are so inextricably linked that how we relate to one deeply colors the others; and, indeed, spirituality itself might be defined as what we each do in terms of integrating these three in our lives.

More recently notable spiritual authors such as Annie Dillard, Kathleen Norris, Bill Plotkin, and Belden Lane have argued persuasively that physical nature profoundly affects the soul, just as how we manage our private desires deeply influences how we treat nature. Spirituality is naïve when it is divorced from nature and desire. In a book just released, The Road Knows How: A Prairie Pilgrimage through Nature, Desire, and Soul, Canadian writer Trevor Herriot joins these voices in calling for a better integration between nature, desire, and soul.

The flow of the book follows its title. Herriot does a walking pilgrimage across part of Saskatchewan's prairies, a land roamed for centuries by the buffalo, and lets nature and desire speak to his soul as he does this prairie Camino. The result is a remarkable chronicle, a deeply moral book.

As a naturalist, Herriot is involved in various conservation projects from saving grassland birds to preserving the historic grass upon which the buffalo once roamed. Thus it's no surprise that one of his central themes is the connection he intuits between nature and spirit: "I worry about what happens when we separate spirituality from bodily life and culture, both of which are profoundly connected to soil, climate, and the other gives of place." And we should worry too: "These days, we watch truckloads of grain pass by and sense that something in us and in the earth is harmed when food is grown and consumed with little intimacy, care, and respect. The local and slow food movements are showing us that the way we grow, distribute, prepare, and eat food is important for the health of our body-earth exchanges. The next step may be to realize that the energy that brings pollen to ovary and grows the grain, once it enters our bodies, also needs to be husbanded. The way we respond to our desire to merge, connect, and be fruitful - stirrings felt so deeply, but often so shallowly expressed - determines the quality of our body-to-body exchanges."

From there it's a short step to his reflections on sex and desire. Herriot submits that "there is a sadness that comes of misappropriating sexual energy, a kind of functional despair that hums away in the background for most men if they stop long enough to listen to it." In brief, for him, how we treat our bodies, our spouses, and the other gender greatly helps determine how we treat nature. And the reverse is just as true; how we treat nature will help determine how we treat our own bodies, our spouses, our lovers, and the other gender: "In a world bathed in industrial and impersonal sex, where real connection and tenderness are rare, will we sense also that something in us and in the earth is being harmed from the same absence of intimacy, care, and respect? Will we learn that any given expression of our erotic energies either connects us to or divides us from the world around us and our souls? We are discovering that we must steward the energies captured by nature in the hydrocarbons or in living plants and animals, and thereby improve the ways we receive the fruits of the earth, but we struggle to see the primary responsibility we bear for the small but cumulatively significant explosions of energy we access and transmit as we respond to our own longings to connect, merge, and be fruitful. Learning how to steward the way we bear fruit ourselves as spiritual/sexual beings with a full set of animal desires and angelic ambitions may be more important to the human journey than we fully understand." This is not a language that's easily digested by either the right or the left.

Like Allan Bloom's book a generation ago, The Closing of the American Mind, Herriot's book is poised to have equally strong critics on both sides of the religious and ideological spectrum. Religious conservatives will be upset about some of his views on sexuality, but I fear that many secular liberals will be just as upset by those views as their right-wing counterparts. The same holds true for some of Herriot's views on soul, church, historical Christianity, patriarchy, feminism, gender, homosexuality, and global warming. Conservative Christians will find themselves stretched in ways that they would prefer to not think about and strident secularists will find themselves constantly incredulous that someone like Herriot, whom they consider an ally, will speak of soul, spirituality, lust, and chastity in ways that they have long-considered naïve; but holding very complex truths often creates precisely this kind of tension.

James Hillman used to quip: "A symptom suffers most when it doesn't know where it belongs." The Road Knows How tells us where many, many of our symptoms belong.

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in
Mark your calendar to come to our Garage Sale!

41st ANNUAL SJC GARAGE SALE
Saturday, June 21st 9am to 2pm
Half-Price/Bag Sale:
Monday, June 23rd 9am to 1pm

ALL DONATIONS ACCEPTED AT THE SCHOOL:
Saturday, June 14: 9am—2pm
Monday-Wednesday, June 16—18: 10am—8pm
Thursday, June 19: 10am-6pm

LARGE ITEM PICK-UP:
Available on Monday thru Thursday, June 16th-18th
*Strong volunteers needed for night time pick-ups
To schedule call Marian Orth (708) 246-2160
or Connie Madden (708) 417-2012

Looking for ways to help and do you like to bake?
Please drop off all baked goods to SJC
School kitchen during donation hours.

Room Chairs still needed for BIKES and SMALL TOYS
Please contact Mary Beth White to sign up or with
Any questions, C (708) 606-6339; H(708) 246-6339.

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

Parishioners affirmed the following fellow parishioners to serve our parish as consultative body representatives. Congratulations and thank you to each of you for your willingness to share your gifts and talents with our parish.

Parish Advisory Council At-Large Representatives (serve 2 year terms)
Pat Surdyk, Ed Giles

School Advisory Board Representatives (serve 3 year terms)
Jim Morrissey, David Zich, Lorraine O’Malley

Youth Catechesis Council Representatives (serve 3 year terms)
Becky Harrigan, Julie Montesano, Karen Olenec, Patrick Ormsby
Come join us as we learn it’s okay to be different!
God made each one of us unique and special!
And He loves us totally!!
VBS at St. John of the Cross Parish is amazing!
It’s interactive and filled with games, skits, crafts, and snacks -
all while learning about God’s love for us!
All children entering kindergarten through 5th grade in the fall
can register on the YC website or directly at
Registration fee is $35.00
If you have questions, contact the YC office at 708-246-6760 or email at yc@sjcross.org

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

JOIN US
for a
GREAT
TIME
this summer!

Register for VBS today!

www.stjohnofthecross.org  6-1-14  page 14  praying ~ serving ~ sharing
This Week at SJC

Monday, June 2
10:30 a.m. Step 11 Christian Meditation
2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
2:30 p.m. Spiritual Journaling
5:30 a.m. Finance Council Meeting
7:00 p.m. RCIA Planning Meeting

Tuesday, June 3
9:15 a.m. School Mass

Wednesday, June 4
9:30 a.m. Bible Study 3
2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation
7:00 p.m. Family Festival Meeting
7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

Thursday, June 5
8:00 a.m. Staff Development Day
8:30 a.m. Art and Environment
9:00 a.m. Crossroads Retreat

Friday, June 6
8:00 a.m. Staff Development Day
8:30 a.m. Art and Environment
9:00 a.m. Crossroads Retreat

Saturday, June 7
7:00 a.m. Christian Meditation
6:00 p.m. Music Ministry

Mass Intentions

Monday, June 2
7:45 M/M DeWitt Yeasr; Stanley Groszek

Tuesday, June 3, St. Charles Lwanga & Companions
7:45 Ervin & Sophie Rozsypal; Dr. Edward Montgomery

Wednesday, June 4
7:45 Tom Baer; Our Beloved Dead

Thursday, June 5, St. Boniface
7:45 Bob Cosgrove; Carmela McGuire

Friday, June 6, St. Norbert
7:45 Capt. Ace Evans; Richard Burke

Saturday, June 7
8:00 Ada Hickey; Lawrence Hickey
5:00 Michel & Rosalie Krupski; Bob Floch

Sunday, June 8, Pentecost Sunday
7:30 Vic Yu; David Yu
9:00 Bob Cosgrove; Barbara Mann
10:45 Barbara Mann; Bill Carey
5:00 Walter Cebula; Silviano Gomez

Italics—Living

Summer Mass Schedule
There is no 12:15 Mass during the summer months. The 12:15 will return the weekend after Labor Day on Sunday, September 7th.

Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

Anthony Hlinka, father of Hope Tolitano
John Buehler, husband of Arlene

Wedding Banns

Ashley Davis & Anton Steele

Pray for our Sick

Mitch Allen
Debbie Brandt
John Cozza
Margaret Daley
Karen Hult
Joe Jezmoinka
Allison Kazragis
Shirley Kazragis
Dan Kelly
Frank Kranz
John Munch
Mary Nowicki
Virginia Nowicki
Alexander Obi
Joe Robin
Harry Stone
Mary Catherine Warren
Donna Webster
Sharon Wildman
Edward Wojcik

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


Congratulations to our 2013-14 Graduates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jennifer</th>
<th>Margaret</th>
<th>Blouin</th>
<th>Bridget</th>
<th>Anne</th>
<th>Lockie</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tara</td>
<td>Kathleen</td>
<td>Brankin</td>
<td>Lisa</td>
<td>Marie</td>
<td>Lopez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard</td>
<td>Jake</td>
<td>Brennan</td>
<td>Quinn</td>
<td>Kirschten</td>
<td>Maloney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald</td>
<td>Patrick</td>
<td>Buonavolanto Jr.</td>
<td>Andrew</td>
<td>Vincent</td>
<td>Marquardt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Callaghan</td>
<td>Benjamin</td>
<td>David</td>
<td>Matsche</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant</td>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Campbell</td>
<td>Kayla</td>
<td>May</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob</td>
<td>Emerson</td>
<td>Cinthagada</td>
<td>Max</td>
<td>Phillip</td>
<td>May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danielle</td>
<td>Gibbons</td>
<td>Chopp</td>
<td>Madeleine</td>
<td>Rose</td>
<td>Mazur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>Clancy</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Gilpatrick</td>
<td>McHugh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maeve</td>
<td>Kathleen</td>
<td>Cooney</td>
<td>Gabrielle</td>
<td>Renee</td>
<td>Meyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>Schellin</td>
<td>Craig</td>
<td>Stella</td>
<td>Nicole</td>
<td>Michalowski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackenzie</td>
<td>Faith</td>
<td>Cronin</td>
<td>Elaina</td>
<td></td>
<td>Milani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olivia</td>
<td>Margaret</td>
<td>DiMonte</td>
<td>Irene</td>
<td>Ann Herlihy</td>
<td>Minik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anabella</td>
<td>Marie</td>
<td>Dougherty</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Bertrand</td>
<td>Moody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julia</td>
<td>Ann</td>
<td>Doyle</td>
<td>James</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>Ellen</td>
<td>Durkin</td>
<td>Katherine</td>
<td>Margaret</td>
<td>Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alek</td>
<td>Charles</td>
<td>Feldky</td>
<td>Kathleen</td>
<td>Rose</td>
<td>Morrissey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel</td>
<td>Patrick</td>
<td>Feldmeier</td>
<td>Hannah</td>
<td>Arlene</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma</td>
<td>Christine</td>
<td>Fink</td>
<td>Charles</td>
<td>William</td>
<td>O'Connor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colleen</td>
<td>Mary Catherine</td>
<td>Finn</td>
<td>Katherine</td>
<td>Grace</td>
<td>Owens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaylie</td>
<td>Grace</td>
<td>Fredian</td>
<td>William</td>
<td>Dominic</td>
<td>Pacella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Patrick</td>
<td>Gilger</td>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>Frances</td>
<td>Quinn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>R.</td>
<td>Gloor</td>
<td>Robert</td>
<td>Reed</td>
<td>Rafanelli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen</td>
<td>Paez</td>
<td>Goldman</td>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Ryan</td>
<td>Rafferty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>R.</td>
<td>Gordon IV</td>
<td>Joie</td>
<td>Bridget Anne</td>
<td>Reisch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>Patrick</td>
<td>Grace</td>
<td>Nora</td>
<td>Burke</td>
<td>Rooney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah</td>
<td>Michele</td>
<td>Grier</td>
<td>Michael</td>
<td>R.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melissa</td>
<td>Abigail</td>
<td>Grimes</td>
<td>Emily</td>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>Seyfarth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma</td>
<td>Catherine</td>
<td>Hackett</td>
<td>Conor</td>
<td>Ryan</td>
<td>Shannon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jenna</td>
<td>Christine</td>
<td>Hans</td>
<td>Tess</td>
<td>Kathryn</td>
<td>Shannon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret</td>
<td>Jane</td>
<td>Herr</td>
<td>Michael</td>
<td>Louis</td>
<td>Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>Patrick</td>
<td>Hogan</td>
<td>Dylan</td>
<td>Fitzgerald</td>
<td>Stark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Patrick</td>
<td>Hogan</td>
<td>Griffin</td>
<td>Patrick</td>
<td>Stark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheryl</td>
<td>William</td>
<td>Hohl</td>
<td>Anne</td>
<td></td>
<td>Swade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher</td>
<td>William</td>
<td>Hummel</td>
<td>Brooke</td>
<td>Rachel</td>
<td>Tomsk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace</td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>Koerner</td>
<td>L'exas</td>
<td>D.</td>
<td>Totaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luka</td>
<td>Augustin</td>
<td>Kosic</td>
<td>Lauren</td>
<td>Christine</td>
<td>Turano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>K.</td>
<td>Kowalski</td>
<td>Nicole</td>
<td>Marie</td>
<td>Turano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria</td>
<td>J.</td>
<td>Krug</td>
<td>Dylan</td>
<td>Edward</td>
<td>Ward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MaryAnn</td>
<td>Alexa</td>
<td>Kuffell</td>
<td>William</td>
<td>C.</td>
<td>Wojcicki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maeve</td>
<td>Kiely</td>
<td>LeFevour</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>