Come Holy Spirit, on us shine;
Look on the poor with love benign,
And give your people gifts divine.

Come, be our soul’s most welcome guest,
Endowing us with all the best;
Be solace, comfort, and our rest.

Come, Light, be with us every day:
In prayer, in rest, at work, at play;
Without your help we go astray.
Come, Spirit, Come!

Come, heal sin’s wounds and give us grace.
All wrong you wish us to erase;
All good you call us to embrace.

Come, Paraclete, with gifts descend.
Through all our life you are our friend;
Come, bring us joys that never end.

Rev. Jerry Siwek
Meet Fr. Bill Vollmer!

Fr. Bill Vollmer, our new associate pastor, arrived at St. John of the Cross in May. Please stop by after Mass to welcome Fr. Bill and introduce yourself!

Fr. Bill is loving SJC and is looking forward to the Garage Sale and the Fest! Fun facts to know about him include: He is taller than Fr. David, but weighs less than Bill Bright. He is glad Fr. David does not smoke cigars. He loves the White Sox, dark chocolate and sharing the Eucharist with all of us.

Recently I had dinner with a friend whose teenage son plays varsity volleyball for the local high school. In the conversation the topic of music came up. My friend mentioned that his son and his teammates will spend time before each match listening to music to motivate and inspire them. The conversation brought back memories of my own days as a basketball player. I performed the same ritual. Before each game I would listen to carefully selected music that would inspire and get me ready for the game. Some of those songs included – Rock and Roll (Led Zeppelin), Don’t Stop Believing (Journey) and Rock the Casbah (The Clash).

Throughout my life music has been important. As far as I can remember I have always enjoyed listening to music, music of all genres. Music is such a part of our lives. We listen to it in our cars (to calm us while stuck on the Ike or Stevenson), in our homes (to study by or to create an atmosphere) at the gym (to motivate and inspire us), in prayer (to connect us to and with God) and when we are put on hold. Music expresses and captures the depth of human emotion.

This weekend we as a Church celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost, the great feast of the Holy Spirit. We recall on this day the outpouring of the Spirit of God into the hearts and lives of people of all time.

Throughout scripture and history, the Spirit has inspired, guided, and kindled the hearts of God’s people, to acts of compassion, moments of prayer and gathering as a community of faith to name of few. I believe that because of this, the Holy Spirit and its movement in our lives is like music.

Throughout its history, the Church has used music to inspire us in faith. This weekend at all of the liturgies we will be singing a Sequence after the Second Reading. Sequences are chants in the form of a liturgical poem that was originally sung following the singing of the Alleluia. The origins of the Sequence can be found in the Middle Ages. It was during this time in the Germanic countries words were set to long musical extensions that were often played following the Alleluia. There were many Sequences written for use in the celebration of the Eucharist, but today only four are used. These four are used on Easter, Pentecost, The Body and Blood of the Lord and the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. Today, the Sequence is sung before the Alleluia and not after. The use of the Sequence on this feast helps and reminds us of the importance of the celebration of Pentecost and the inspiration and role the Holy Spirit has in our personal lives and in the life of St. John of the Cross Parish. Its words (by Rev. Jerry Siwek) are on the front page of the bulletin.
June, 2014

Dear Friends in Christ,

On the weekend of June 7-8, 2014, we will take up a special collection for the Retired Priests of the Archdiocese. During 2013, we mourned the death of thirty of our retired priests—the most who have died in a single year. At their funerals, I listened to accolades for their ministerial service—the children they baptized, the homilies they preached, the Masses they celebrated, the hospitals and nursing homes they visited, the children they taught in our schools and religious-education programs, the weddings they witnessed and the families they comforted at countless funerals. Time and again, I heard stories of the selflessness with which our retired priests helped many parishes avoid reducing Mass schedules and other services.

Our retired priests still number 193, and they rely upon your help now. The Priests' Retirement and Mutual Aid Association (PRMAA) cares for our retired priests. As you know so well, the costs for health care, prescription drugs and nursing-home care continues to increase. Also, the priests' pension fund remains seriously impacted by the economic downturn. This special collection will help us continue to support our retired priests.

This special collection in June is different from the December collection for retired men and women religious where the collection goes to those in religious orders; Archdiocesan priests do not receive any funds from that collection.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our retired priests for their lives of service and devotion. I also remember in prayer all of our retired priests who have died.

I am thankful to all of you for your immense generosity in this collection last year. I ask you to repeat your kindness this year. Your donations, your prayers and your good wishes are an affirmation of our retired priests. Please pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. You and those you love are in my prayers; please keep me in yours.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Strong Catholic Parent

The Seedbed of My Vocation: One Sister’s Story

The formation of every human person begins in a family, whatever its condition may be—healthy, religious, irreligious, broken, or divorced. Held in the tender loving care of our God, the family prepares, according to its state and condition, every child to know, love and serve God. Every family provides children with the place for natural maturation—physically, psychologically, spiritually—to receive and respond to a call from God to a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life.

Allow me to share with you ways that my family became the “seedbed” for my vocation as a religious sister:

**Marital love becomes familial and filial love.** The love my father and mother had for each other, and for God, told me volumes about God’s love. It is faith in God that brought my parents through marital difficulties, deaths in the family, and other trials and joys of life. Through prayer, their relationship with God nourished qualities of healthy, holy relationships: courage in speaking the truth in love, patience in weaknesses, forgiveness after hurtful words and pardon sought. Our familial relationship with God was nourished (communally and individually) through the sacraments. The family is where I learned the love of God “made flesh” in our family, and this love nourished my own love for God and the love I have for the sisters in my religious community.

**Family Prayer.** Hindsight is 20/20! Although I did not always understand the importance of prayer in our family, I sensed it. Praying the Rosary during Lent, going to the Stations of the Cross and Sunday Mass—despite my young “groans” at the discipline to do so—opened my heart to my own personal relationship with the Lord. As a young adult in college, I realized the importance of prayer and began to take responsibility for my own relationship with God through prayer.

**A Sacred Meal.** Eating our meals together as a family taught me the importance of being together, sharing the day’s blessings and challenges. I remember the struggle we shared when the telephone began ringing more frequently during supper. It interrupted our conversation and often seemed necessary to answer. We realized that many phone calls were not necessary to answer immediately. Valuing our time together, we decided to turn off the ringer during supper. I grew in respect for my parents’ wisdom and their vigilance over our family time together.

**Love of neighbor.** The compassion that our family showed to the poor, sick, and suffering in our community taught me how to love my neighbor with generosity and tenderness. Children seem to have an innate ability to give, and help those in need. When nurtured, this desire becomes a fruitful form of self-gift to God. The joy of helping those in need is recalled at moments when the self-gift requires a deeper sacrifice. This is critical to understand and develop to maturity for any vocation. In fact, even after we have responded to a particular vocation of marriage, priesthood or consecrated life, maturation in self-donation to God, and others for the sake of the Kingdom, continues! Daily, in my work and prayer, God gives me opportunities to deepen my love for Him and for my neighbor.

These are just a few simple ways I recognize how my parents and family contributed to my religious vocation, and I could not be more grateful for their patience and love. May the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, guide all families and parents to respond to God’s will with generous and willing hearts for love of Him! usccb

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful. And kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit you have taught the hearts of your faithful. In the same Spirit help us to relish what is right and always rejoice in your consolation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Family Connection**

Pentecost is sometimes called the birthday of the Church. The Gospel for Pentecost reminds us that the Church begins with the command to forgive. Within the family, the domestic Church, we learn how to forgive and how to accept forgiveness. The gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to do both. Today is a fitting time to share a family celebration of reconciliation. As you gather together as a family, sit quietly for a few minutes, inviting everyone to reflect upon their need to forgive and to receive forgiveness. If there is a situation or an issue within the family that needs attention, spend some time reflecting on how your family might address it. Read together today’s Gospel, John 20:19-23. Talk together about how Jesus gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit to help us in the work of forgiveness and to bring us peace. Pray together today’s Psalm or the Prayer to the Holy Spirit, asking that the Holy Spirit help your family. Share with one another a Sign of Peace. Loyola Press.
Lifelong Formation

Background on the Gospel Reading

The Season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today's first reading. The account in today's Gospel, John 20:19-23, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Yet the event in John's Gospel takes place on Easter Sunday. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is enough that we know that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.

We already heard today's Gospel proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter this year (Lectionary Cycle A). That Gospel passage, however, also included the description of Jesus' appearance to Thomas. In that context, we were led reflect on belief and unbelief.

In the context of the Feast of Pentecost, John 20:19-23 reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Yet the event in John's Gospel takes place on Easter Sunday. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is enough that we know that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.

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Prayer

Veni, Sancte Spiritus! Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love!”

Richard Rohr on Pentecost

After the ascension in Luke’s Gospel, the apostles experience the absence of Jesus’ presence and power. They recede to the Upper Room where they had known His love before and perhaps He seemed close and real there.

Mary is in their midst. They pray. They’re scared, and the doors are locked. They do not know at this point if they have been fooled. Maybe we wanted it so much we created it, they must have thought. Maybe we did it ourselves. Are you sure that was really Jesus who you saw on the road, Peter? You can’t believe those women; they get emotional. How do we know that they really experienced Jesus?

Perhaps it was then that Mary communicated to them her own experience of Jesus. Again and again she had pondered in her heart what He was to be, what His life was to mean. No doubt they shared again and again during those forty days. Yet it was jumbled and confused. There is no talk yet of conviction or power.

But they are praying together and sharing as a community. They’re gathered together in faith, waiting upon the Lord. They’re listening to the Lord, suffering with the Lord, knowing that no person who has put trust in God has done so in vain.

And they are not disappointed. The power comes. By no effort of their own they are made into persons of faith, of conviction, into those who can say, “Jesus is Lord!” That is the dividing line, the day of Pentecost. Finally they are purified. They are free to believe in the power of the Lord. They receive the gift of the Spirit. God had not changed, they had, by the Spirit’s gift.

The Spirit is always unmerited favor. She always does it first. God is experienced as intimacy and warmth and fire, as love-power. She is surprising, elusive and free.

So the Church has always been afraid of the charismatic, has always feared those who speak of the Spirit because they cannot be easily organized. The Spirit blows where the Spirit will, like the wind: It comes from and goes where you know not.

A New Serenity Prayer

God, grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change, which is pretty much everyone, since I’m clearly not you, God.

At least not the last time I checked.

And while you’re at it, God, please give me the courage to change what I need to change about myself, which is frankly a lot, since, once again, I’m not you, which means I’m not perfect.

It’s better for me to focus on changing myself than to worry about changing other people, who, as you’ll no doubt remember me saying, I can’t change anyway.

Finally, give me the wisdom to just shut up whenever I think that I’m clearly smarter than everyone else in the room, that no one knows what they’re talking about except me, or that I alone have all the answers.

Basically, God, grant me the wisdom to remember that I’m not you. Amen By JAMES MARTIN, SJ

The one who listens attentively to the Word of God and truly prays, always asks the Lord: what is your will for me? Pope Francis May 19 Tweet

The Spirit unleashes a twofold energy within us; the Spirit draws us into Christ and sends us out to proclaim Christ to the world.
Pope Francis in the Upper Room in Jerusalem

Excerpt from the Pope’s Homily in The Upper Room (Jerusalem) Monday, 26 May 2014

It is a great gift that the Lord has given us by bringing us together here in the Upper Room for the celebration of the Eucharist. Here, where Jesus shared the Last Supper with the apostles; where, after his resurrection, he appeared in their midst; where the Holy Spirit descended with power upon Mary and the disciples, here the Church was born, and she was born to go forth. From here she set out, with the broken bread in her hands, the wounds of Christ before her eyes, and the Spirit of love in her heart. In the Upper Room, the risen Jesus, sent by the Father, bestowed upon the apostles his own Spirit and with his power he sent them forth to renew the face of the earth (cf. Ps 104:30).

To go forth, to set out, does not mean to forget. The Church, in her going forth, preserves the memory of what took place here; the Spirit, the Paraclete, reminds her of every word and every action, and reveals their true meaning.

The Upper Room speaks to us of service, of Jesus giving the disciples an example by washing their feet. Washing one another’s feet signifies welcoming, accepting, loving and serving one another. It means serving the poor, the sick and the outcast, those whom I find difficult, those who annoy me.

The Upper Room reminds us, through the Eucharist, of sacrifice. In every Eucharistic celebration Jesus offers himself for us to the Father, so that we too can be united with him, offering to God our lives, our work, our joys and our sorrows… offering everything as a spiritual sacrifice.

The Upper Room also reminds us of friendship. “No longer do I call you servants – Jesus said to the Twelve – but I have called you friends” (Jn 15:15). The Lord makes us his friends, he reveals God’s will to us and he gives us his very self. This is the most beautiful part of being a Christian, becoming a friend of the Lord Jesus, and discovering in our hearts that he is our friend.

The Upper Room reminds us of the Teacher’s farewell and his promise to return to his friends: “When I go… I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also” (Jn 14:3). Jesus does not leave us, nor does he ever abandon us; he precedes us to the house of the Father, where he desires to bring us as well.

The Upper Room, however, also reminds us of pettiness, of curiosity – “Who is the traitor?” – and of betrayal. We ourselves, and not just others, can reawaken those attitudes whenever we look at our brother or sister with contempt, whenever we judge them, whenever by our sins we betray Jesus.

The Upper Room reminds us of sharing, fraternity, harmony and peace among ourselves. How much love and goodness has flowed from the Upper Room! How much charity has gone forth from here, like a river from its source, beginning as a stream and then expanding and becoming a great torrent. All the saints drew from this source; and hence the great river of the Church’s holiness continues to flow: from the Heart of Christ, from the Eucharist and from the Holy Spirit.

Lastly, the Upper Room reminds us of the birth of the new family, the Church, our holy Mother the hierarchical Church established by the risen Jesus; a family that has a Mother, the Virgin Mary. Christian families belong to this great family, and in it they find the light and strength to press on and be renewed, amid the challenges and difficulties of life. All God’s children, of every people and language, are invited and called to be part of this great family, as brothers and sisters and sons and daughters of the one Father in heaven.

These horizons are opened up by the Upper Room, the horizons of the Risen Lord and his Church.

From here the Church goes forth, impelled by the life-giving breath of the Spirit. Gathered in prayer with the Mother of Jesus, the Church lives in constant expectation of a renewed outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Send forth your Spirit, Lord, and renew the face of the earth (cf. Ps 104:30)!
Christian Meditation

The World Community for Christian Meditation invites all parishioners to attend a special event at Elmhurst College, The 2014 John Main Seminar Muslims and Christians: Listeners for the Word July 24-27, 2014. Led by Fr. Daniel Madigan SJ, the seminar will explore what Christians and Muslims have in common and what distinguishes us from each other in the context of esteem that Vatican II expresses for Muslims and their religious practice.

Fr. Laurence Freeman OSB will also lead an optional 3-day silent retreat entitled Changing Patterns: The Power of Stillness and Silence in Meditation, prior to the seminar on July 21-24.

Meditation Basics

Christian Meditation, also known as contemplative prayer, is the prayer of silence. In meditation we go beyond words, thoughts, and images into the presence of God within. Meditation, when prayed seriously (twice daily with a mantra), is not only a tool for self-improvement or relaxation, but is a discipline that will change the way you live.

There are physical and psychological benefits or spiritual fruits of meditation that include stress reduction, internal peace, clarity in problem solving, improved relationships, care for oneself, patience, and reduced dependence on alcohol. These fruits can lead to improved attention to people, a greater capacity for giving and receiving love, joy, and self-knowledge, the knowledge of God.

Parishioners can experience group meditation four times a week in the parish center: Mondays at 10:30am (11th step meditation), Wednesdays at 2pm and 7:30pm and Saturdays at 7am.

More on the JMS and Christians and Muslims

The keynote speaker for The World Community for Christian Meditation Seminar at Elmhurst College this July is Fr. Daniel Madigan, SJ. Father Madigan will discuss the commonalities and differences between Muslims and Christians to help break down barriers and widen the horizon of understanding. Father will share his understanding of our Christian faith through the lens of his friendships with Muslims and extensive study of Islamic tradition. Because Muslims today are often our neighbors, fellow citizens, and co-workers, we need to understand our faith in relationship to theirs to build relationships with compassion and mutual respect; that is achieved through education. Sadly both sides have used doctrinal differences as a pretext for acts of intolerance, discrimination, marginalization and persecution. As disciples of Jesus we are called to respect every person as a creation of God: one’s life, rights, reputation, property, ethnic and cultural identity, ideas and political choices.

Talks by Fr. Madigan will be interspersed with periods of meditative silence and prayer. For a brochure on this unique opportunity for prayer and understanding, visit www.wccm.org or contact Parishioner, Betsy Spiering at wccmchgo@gmail.com. Scholarships available.

Reading Resources

Expand your knowledge of the differences between Muslims and Christians and the practice of Christian Meditation through some excellent resources posted on our parish website under Adult Formation at http://www.stjohnofthecross.org/adult-formation-resources/.

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord, so that purified by your graciousness, we may be conformed to the mysteries of your mighty love.
Outreach News

At times we can be self-absorbed. Lord, help us to open our hearts to others and to serve those who are most vulnerable.

Pope Francis Tweet 6.1.14

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.

Attention Knitters and Crocheters
The Prayer Shawl Ministry is in need of shawls. You are invited to attend the next Prayer Shawl meeting on Wednesday, June 11 at 1pm in the Parish Center. If unable to attend, you can contribute a knitted or crocheted shawl by dropping it off at the parish center office. Yarn is available. For further information call Sheila at 246-7836 or Mary at 246-5108.

Sort School Supplies
Adults and kids are welcome to help sort school supplies Monday and Tuesday, June 9 and 10, from 9am-Noon at the Larson’s (5421 Harvey). The supplies are distributed to children in need. Call 708-246-3987 with questions.

Work Tour to Our Lady of Charity School
Teens and adults from our parish will be at OLC this coming week, June 9-13, during the daytime cleaning, organizing, sorting, gardening, painting and doing repairs. Adults are invited to come for the whole week or just a day or even just a morning. Call Bill Bright for more information. X 132

Help with Vacation Bible School
Volunteer at VBS 5 weekday mornings beginning July 7th. Call the YC office for details. 708-246-6760

Volunteer at the Annual Garage Sale
Volunteer before and during the sale held in the parish school. Work begins this week on June 10th. The sale is Saturday, June 21 from 8:30-2pm. See the Garage Sale page in today’s bulletin for more information.

Volunteer at the Parish Fest
Many volunteers are needed to make this parish fundraiser a success. Dates are June 26-29. Go to our parish website and click on the Fest logo to see days/time/volunteer jobs that work for you. See the Fest page in today’s bulletin for more info.

Job Hunting?
Here are 2 free ICN events at SJC Parish

Thursday, June 12, 7-9 pm: learn how to answer the overqualified question, the REAL reason why recruiters and hiring managers are concerned about hiring overqualified applicants, how to change your cover letter and resume if you believe you are overqualified, seven ways to explain on an interview why being overqualified is an advantage and how to handle the “age factor”. Our speaker, Abby Kohut, will provide you with powerful strategies to help you overcome your interviewer's misconceptions about you. “Absolutely Abby” has made it her mission to help the long-term unemployed find jobs.

Tuesday, June 17, 7-9 pm: learn how to write a compelling profile, how to find company postings, how to learn about and research companies of interest, how to join professional groups, and how to get noticed by employers...all on LinkedIn! If you are in a career transition, hopefully you have discovered how powerful a resource LinkedIn can be in your search. LinkedIn is a professional networking tool unlike other social media sites that millions of professionals, administrative and hourly workers use to extend their reach into the business community. This meeting is for any one new to LinkedIn and intermediate users as well. Even if you are an experienced LinkedIn user, you will learn some helpful new ideas on how to use LinkedIn more effectively in your job search. Our speaker is Matt Kerr. You can read all about him on LinkedIn.
Parish News & Notes

SJC Fest News
The countdown until SJC Fest 2014, the Parish annual carnival and fundraiser, is now less than three weeks away. Visit the table in front of the Parish Center after Mass to sign up to volunteer, to purchase raffle tickets, or Mega Passes for carnival rides. The Fest will run from June 26-29. We hope everyone will join us for great food, fun, and music!!

Parishioners should know that Masses will continue to be celebrated in church that week and weekend at regular Mass times. 50 parking spots will be available in the main parking lot for weekday Mass. Parking for weekend Masses will be on the grass north of the church. The handicap lot will remain available everyday. All cars will enter on Wolf Road. There will be parishioners directing traffic too, so not to worry!! More details next week.

Summer Sport Camps for Kids
Running Camp for children in grades 3-8 begins June 11th and will run every Wednesday through August 6th from 7:30-8:30am. Kids meet at the flag pole. Fee is $60. Register at www.stjohnofthecross.org/school/athletics. Questions: Michelle Fink, 708-784-1599

Basketball Camp for children in grades 2-8 will be offered at 2 sessions: July 28 through August 1 and August 4 through August 18. grade 2-5 attend from 8-10am and grades 6-8 attend from 10am-Noon. Fee is $85 or $95 at the door per session. Register at: stjohnofthecross.org/school/athletics. Questions: Tom Taylor, 312-617-8535.

Continuing Education/Enrichment Program
St. Joseph High School is offering continuing/enrichment classes for adults beginning in September. Please visit About Us on the school website at www.stjoeshs.org for more information and to register now.

The 40 Film: A WAKEUP CALL FOR AMERICA
Investigating the Aftermath of Legalized Abortion Over the Last 40 Years  

**40** presents abortion as the most important human rights issue of our time  
**Gives voice to both pro-life and pro-choice sides, letting women speak through experience on why they have firm convictions about abortion**  
**Provides heartfelt testimonies from post-abortive women and men**


Illinois Citizens for Life will sponsor the showing of this documentary. Tuesday, June 24 at 7pm at St. Mary of Gostyn’s Gathering Place, 445 Prairie Ave., Downers Grove. The documentary lasts about one hour-goodwill offerings will be accepted. If possible, call ICL to let us know how many are coming, 630-852-5448

Interested in Joining our Parish?
Welcome! is the name of our New Member Program at St. John of the Cross. The Welcome! Program is a time for you to get to know all about your new parish and for us to get to know about you and your family. Each of us has a place at the Table at St. John of the Cross Parish. Each of us is called to discover, to grow, to be all God has asked us to be. We are so happy to be on the journey with you.

Become a Member by registering online at http://www.stjohnofthecross.org/welcome/ or by stopping in at our Parish Center office. Our Welcome Coordinator, Elizabeth Russell-Jones will meet with you to introduce you to everything at SJC, take you on a tour of our campus, listen to ways that our parish might help you, inspire you, and become an important part of your life and answer any questions you may have. Elizabeth’s office is located in the Welcome Center in the Parish Center. 708-246-4404 x155 email her at erussell-jones.org.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!
Register for VBS today!

July 7-11, 2014 from 9:00 am to Noon
Open to All Parish Children
Register online. Questions? Call 246-6760.

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

JOIN US FOR A GREAT TIME THIS SUMMER!

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School 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 https://osv.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/sjc/gpgs/Home.aspx. Registration fee is $35.00. If you have any questions, contact the YC office at 708-246-6760 or email at yc@sjcross.org

School News

Our second graders planted a garden just before spring break, and this week picked their lettuce and enjoyed healthy salads for lunch. This lesson teaches the children about healthy living and cultivating their own gardens.

We hope many of you saw us at the La Grange Pet Parade. This was the first year our students gathered to march and show their school spirit. We had a great time and can’t wait to participate in the parade each year.

Thursday ended the school year on a positive note. Our students participated in Celebrate SJC Day. Students danced to a DJ, had their faces painted, enjoyed pizza, played lots of games, participated in a cake decorating contest, and laughed with their friends from school one last time before going home for the summer.

We had a wonderful school year and look to the 2014-15 year with great anticipation.
Crossroads

Calendar of Events:
June 9-13 OLC work tour week
June 24 Final meeting for Notre Dame Trip
June 26-29 SJC Fest

Join fellow teens in service during our SJC Fest: Serve at the water & pop station! Email Lis Williams to volunteer now: lisbethwill@sbcglobal.net

Kairos 17 forms are available online on St. John’s website. For more information regarding the once in a lifetime retreat, get the form at www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/retreats

“Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock” (Matthew 7:24).

How are you forming your rock this summer?

Baptisms

Our parish community prayerfully supports and congratulates the following families who had their child baptized last Sunday!

Kaitlyn Joy, daughter of William and Sara (Deddo) Hickey
James Maxwell, son of Phillip and Nicole (Genna) Slightom
Eleanor Jane, daughter of Christopher and Kristen (Burich) Mortonson
William Daniel, son of William and Wendi (Lorenz) Mulcahy
Catherine Cunningham and Genevieve Hagerty, twin daughters of Stephen and Elizabeth (Warmuth)
Ryan Joseph Charles, son of Erich and Kerry (O’Malley) Rohloff

God of all creation, we are made in your image and are signs of your love. Bless these children who were given new life as your adopted sons and daughters through the waters of Baptism. May they grow up to know your name and give you praise. Bless the mothers and fathers of these children. Fill them with your strength so that they will be models of faith for their children, nurturing and teaching by word and example to know you and walk in your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

What do I need to do to have my baby baptized?

Pre-baptism sessions are now offered for all parents whether it is your first child being baptized or a subsequent child. The sessions are offered on the fourth Sunday of each month at 1:30pm (noon during the summer). It is our expectation that both parents will attend this session. Feel free to bring your new baby and invite the godparents too. The session which runs under two hours is designed with input from parents like you who are eager to provide an environment that will foster faith in Jesus Christ. Parents are asked to register to attend a pre-baptism session. Simply call the parish center front office during regular business hours (9am-4pm). One of our full-time staff members will take all the necessary information and answer any questions you may have.

Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock” (Matthew 7:24).

How are you forming your rock this summer?

Come friend the Crossroads profile on Facebook or follow it on Twitter! Posting helpful reminders or inspirational quotes here and there, it’s a great way to have faith and fun at the same time!
Thirty years ago, before the airline hijackings of September 11, 2001, before the shoe-bomber and others like him, it was simpler to travel by air. You didn't need to take off your shoes to pass through security, you could carry liquids with you, laptops and other electronic devices, if you had any, did not have to be brought out of your carry-on bags, the door to the cockpit wasn't barricaded with steel, and there was much less paranoia in general about security. You even got to see the pilot occasionally.

I remember such an occasion thirty years ago when I did see the pilot, and heard him engage in conversation with a particular passenger. It was an early morning flight from Dublin to London in a small, commuter-type plane with no business-class section. I was seated in the aisle-seat in the first row and directly across the aisle from me, in the first row of seats, sat a middle-aged woman who, very soon, made it clear that she had a phobia about flying. Shortly after we were seated she called the airline attendant over and told her that her family had talked her into taking this flight but that she was terribly frightened and was having second thoughts about staying on the plane. The attendant gently tried to reassure her that everything was safe; indeed statistically she was safer in the air than on the ground. But logic doesn't so easily quiet a phobia. The woman was reassured for the moment, aided no doubt by the fact that she was sitting ten feet from the door which was still wide open and that our plane was, for the moment, obviously not going anywhere.

But she began to be more progressively more panicky after the doors were closed and the plane began to back away from the gate. The airline attendant reappeared to calm her and, for a few moments again, her reassurance worked. The woman grew calm and our plane took its place in the queue of planes waiting to take off. Suddenly, the woman broke out in a full-scale anxiety-attack, shouting to the airline attendant that she needed to get off the plane. The attendant, having already twice failed to effectively calm her, opened the door to the cockpit to talk to the pilot and, within a minute, the pilot emerged and began to speak to the panicked woman.

He might have been a professional counselor, given the patience and empathy with which he treated her. He took her hand and gently gave her reassurances: "It's okay to feel like this! Lots of people have these fears. You're perfectly safe here. I have flown this route countless times in this very airplane; I guarantee it's safe. Your family will be waiting for you in London, think of how happy they'll be! And once you'll have done this, you'll be free from this fear for the rest of your life. I will personally escort you off the plane in London!"

His words seemed to work a magic, the woman calmed down and nodded to him that she was ready. Yes, she was going to do this. The pilot returned to his seat in the cockpit, and I sat in awe of his patience.

But a phobia is what it is. After several minutes, just as it was our turn to move out for takeoff, the woman went into another anxiety-attack, worse than the first. The airline attendant got up and quickly opened the cockpit door, sharing the situation with the pilot. The door closed without a word and our plane turned round and slowly taxied back to our gate. Upon arrival, the pilot announced that we had returned to the gate because a passenger was experiencing "an emergency" but that we wouldn't be too long at the gate. A jetway bridge came out from the gate and the door of the plane opened. The airline attendant opened the door to the cockpit and I could hear the pilot's voice clearly. Irritated, angry, sharp in tone, he said to the attendant: Get her off! Just get her off this plane! Gone were his patience, gentleness, warmth, and empathy. He had already tried these, to no avail. The woman had had her chance. It was time to move on: Get her off! Just get her off this plane!

We all sympathized with his loss of patience. We'd run out of patience too. We needed to get on with our trip. It wasn't like he hadn't tried. He'd just run out of patience, got worn-down, had had enough. That's understandable and forgivable. He'd had done well, pretty well in fact ... but, in the end, not well enough.

Ultimately he had given in to weariness and scripture tells us that we must never grow weary of doing what's right. Of course, we mostly we don't have the strength to do that. Mostly we do the right thing until our patience runs out, and then it's: Just get her off this plane!

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX. He can be contacted through his website www.ronrolheiser.com. Now on Facebook www.facebook.com/ronrolheiser

Wearied in our Patience
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

THURSDAY
6 pm  Safety 2nd  Super Cool new band in Chicagoland area!
7:30 pm  Red Seven  Rocking you through the night!

FRIDAY
6 pm  August Son  Heartland Rock & Roll!
8:30 pm  Maggie Speaks  Listen to nearly every track on your Ipod!

SATURDAY
6 pm  Grand Avenue Big Band  Playing true Big Band sound!
8:30 pm  Maggie Speaks  Listen to nearly every track on your Ipod!

SUNDAY
NOON  Raisin Rhyme  Just for KIDS! Pre-K through 2nd grade!
4:00 pm  Radio Rock  More Kids entertainment! All ages thru 8th Grade!

MEGA PASS SALES
RAFFLE TICKETS
& VOLUNTEER SIGN UP
After Masses on 6/7-8, 6/14-15

SJC FEST 2014
June 26-29th

FOR DETAILS VISIT www.SJCFEST.com
This Week at SJC

Monday, June 9
10:30 a.m. Christian Meditation 11th Step
2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
2:30 p.m. Spiritual Journaling

Tuesday, June 10
9:30 a.m. Focus on Sunday Scriptures Group
10:30 a.m. Christian Meditation 11th Step
2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
2:30 p.m. Spiritual Journaling

Wednesday, June 11
9:30 a.m. Bridges Study Group
9:30 a.m. Bible Study Group
1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation
7:00 p.m. Fest Meeting
7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

Thursday, June 12
7:00 p.m. Career Networking
7:00 p.m. Faith Sharing Group

Friday, June 13

Saturday, June 14
7:00 a.m. Christian Meditation
6:00 p.m. Beloved Team Meeting

Sunday, June 15
12:00 p.m. Baptisms

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Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

John Hunter Higgins, uncle of Trish Kinsella

The Holy Spirit is a continual gift to believers in every age. The presence and power of the Spirit works within believers in various ways, bringing forth various gifts, all necessary for the functioning of the Church, the Body of Christ. Do we know what your gifts are? Do you use them in service, for the common benefit?

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Mass Intentions

Monday, June 9. St. Ephrem
7:45 Our Beloved Dead; Brian Donovan

Tuesday, June 10
7:45 Peter Glen; Bob McNulty

Wednesday, June 11, St. Barnabas
7:45 Kevin Ryan; Larry Hartlaub

Thursday, June 12
7:45 John S. Piszczor; Philip Corboy

Friday, June 13, St. Anthony of Padua
7:45 Richard Kirtley; Robert Casey

Saturday, June 14
8:00 Margo and Johnny Hermes; Teresa Cullen
5:00 Robert Plechaty; Barb Mann

Sunday, June 15, The Most Holy Trinity
7:30 Gene Figliulo; Anne Jennings
9:00 Sylvester Ptak; Scelsi & Cheaney Families
10:45 Bob Cosgrove; Robert Placek
5:00 Chester Cebula; Walter Cebula

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Pray for our Sick

Mitch Allen
Debbie Brandt
John Cozza
Margaret Daley
Patricia DeLong
Don Heldmann
Karen Hult
Joe Jezmoinka
Allison Kazragis
Shirley Kazragis
Dan Kelly
Frank Kranz

Florence Link
John Munch
Mary Nowicki
Virginia Nowicki
Alexander Obi
Joe Pozen
Joe Robin
Harry Stone
Mary Catherine Warren
Donna Webster
Sharon Wildman
Edward Wojcik

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

Rev. David P. Dowdle Pastor
ddowdle@stjohnofthecross.org
Rev. Joseph F. McDonnell Pastor Emeritus
dcontact Fr. Joe through the Parish Office
Rev. William J. Vollmer Assoc. Pastor
bvolmer@stjohnofthecross.org
Deacon John Schopp Deacon john.schopp@newhemispheres.com
Bill Bright Outreach
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41st ANNUAL SJC GARAGE SALE
SATURDAY, JUNE 21st - 9am to 2pm
HALF-PRICE/BAG SALE, MONDAY, JUNE 23rd - 9am to 1pm

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

Our success in support of our mission relies on YOU! It is your generous donation of items and volunteer support that keep the sale going year after year. Check your closets, toy boxes, cupboards, attic, basement and garage for items to donate. Please separate and label your bags i.e. adult clothing, boys' clothes, housewares items, etc. Given the multitude of items received, this really saves us time! Give generously and please only give items in usable condition.

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:
We need your help! Believe it or not...it's fun, it's crazy, it's truly an amazing event you won't want to miss out on.
You'll meet and make new friends while giving back to the community!
Come Anytime – No Need to Sign Up! Just come when you can...give an hour, or two or more...on any or all days.
Truly, any amount of time you can give is greatly appreciated!
Free babysitting available: Call Rita Forster: (708) 246-4519.

VOLUNTEER HOURS
Friday, June 13 (Rm Chairs Only) 10am to 2pm
Saturday, June 14 9am to 3pm
Mon. – Thurs., June 16 –19 9:30am to 8:30pm
Friday, June 20 11am to 3pm
Sale Day* June 21, 8:30am to 2pm
Half-Price/Bag Sale Day* June 23, 8:30am to 1pm
Clean-Up Day June 23, 12 pm to 5/6:00pm
* Please let a Garage Sale/Room Chair know which hours you can work these days

Pre-Sale Shopping Night: Work 6 or more hours and shop before the sale on Friday, June 20 from 3 to 6 pm

DONATION INFORMATION:
All Donations Accepted at the School:
• Saturday, June 14: 9am – 2pm
• Mon - Wed, June 16 –18: 10am – 8pm
• Thursday, June 19: 10am - 6pm

NO DROP OFFS ACCEPTED FRIDAY, JUNE 20

WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT:
Any items if stained, torn or damaged including clothing, undergarments, linens, stuffed toys, furniture and rugs items with missing pieces/parts • Console stereos, console TVs, Tube TVs, electric organs, typewriters, trophies non-motorized treadmills, Nordic Tracks • Bikes not in working condition • Bed Frames or mattresses, traverse drapery rods • Encyclopedias, textbooks, magazines • Large appliances (stoves, microwave ovens, washers/dryers) or humidifiers • Large Artificial Christmas trees/stands • Skis/ski boots, Computers 7 yrs or older, ANY monitor other than flat screen • Construction materials, kitchen cupboards, shutters, metal filing cabinets/desk • Tires • food items • drop side cribs • car seats older than 5 yrs.

LARGE ITEM PICK-UP:
Available on Monday thru Thursday, June 16th–18th.
To schedule call Marian Orth (708) 246-2160 or Connie Madden (708) 417-2012. Last day to request pick-up is June 13th
(Donation receipts available)
Pick-Up trucks are needed to assist prior to and during the sale:
Please call Connie Madden (708) 417-2012 to offer.

BAKERS NEEDED:
Looking for a way to help out and love to bake? Please drop off all items to SJC school kitchen during donation hours.

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