August 24, 2014
21 Sunday in Ordinary Time
...our mission is to love as Christ loved
and to proclaim the Good News.

You are
the Christ,
the Son of
the living
God.
Matthew 16: 16
Sacraments are ways that God enters into our lives. Through these visible signs and gestures, we encounter the invisible God. The Church (The People of God) can be considered the Sacrament of Christ since the Church is a visible sign of Christ's presence in the world. We also refer to Jesus as the Sacrament of God. Through the mystery of the Incarnation, the invisible God became flesh and entered into our lives.

During this coming year, the fourth year of the Archdiocesan Strategic Plan, we will focus on the purpose and meaning of the Sacraments. Look for articles, programs and resources throughout the year across our parish ministries that will provide foundational and formational teachings that will deepen and renew our faith.

A simple way to learn about sacraments is through film. Sister Rose Pacatte is Daughter of St. Paul and the director of the Pauline Center for Media Studies in Culver City, CA. She has her own website at http://sisterrosemovies.com/. Sister Rose recommends and lists movies that contain sacramental themes. These movies include:

- Baptism – The Lion King, WALL-E
- Eucharist – Babette’s Feast, Mostly Martha, Ratatouille, The Lion, Witch and Wardrobe
- Confirmation – Whale Rider, Spider Man II
- Reconciliation – The Mission, Cry the Beloved Country, Smoke Signals, Toy Story
- Anointing of the Sick – Marvin’s Room, Dead Man Walking
- Holy Orders – Diary of a Country Priest, Keeping the Faith
- Marriage – Big Fish, Shall We Dance

A delightful movie about the experience of God and saints in our lives is Millions.

For a further look check out Sister Rose’s website.

~ Fr. Bill Vollmer
Parish News & Notes

Labor Day
This year Labor Day is Monday, September 1st. Only one Mass is scheduled that day at 9:00am. Please join us as we thank God for the blessings of labor and seek his continued blessings upon us. There will be no Eucharistic Adoration on Labor Day.

Summer Mass Schedule Ends
The 12:15pm Mass returns the Sunday after Labor Day, Sunday, September 7th. Weekend Masses during the school year are Saturday 5pm, Sunday 7:30am, 9am, 10:45am, 12:15pm and 5pm. Babysitting is available in the rectory Garden Room during the 9 and 10:45am Masses, except on holiday weekends. There will be no sitting on Sunday, August 31st.

Parish Grief Support
Begins Thursday, September 4th
6 sessions on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8pm beginning Thursday, September 4th in the parish center. Fellow parishioners and educators, Kathleen Broderick and Carmella Ryan, team up to lead this intimate grief support group for adults who have experienced loss of any kind. There is no fee to attend. To register and learn more contact Kathleen Broderick at 708-246-1165.

Divorce & Beyond
Open to adults experiencing or having completed divorce. Journey with fellow parishioners who have gone through the same things as you. Journey through stress, anger, and guilt to forgiveness, happiness and growth. Know that you are loved and welcomed as part of our faith community. Every other Friday evening from 7-9pm in the parish center beginning Friday, September 12th. Materials $10. Drop off an envelope with your name, phone and fee to the parish center. Questions can be directed to facilitator, Ann Marie Calistro at 708-784-9311.

Mental Illness & Faith Formation
Faith and Fellowship is a faith formation program for adults with mental illness. As part of the Archdiocesan Commission on Mental Illness, this new outreach program provides small group faith sharing as well as recreational activities and inclusion in the church community. All are invited to an introductory meeting on Thursday, September 11th at 1:00 pm (and repeated at 7:00 pm) at St. Catherine-St. Lucy Parish Ministry Center at 25 W. Washington Blvd in Oak Park. Learn how you can share our faith with those who have mental illness. For information, contact Connie Rakitan at faith_fellowship@hotmail.com or 708/383-9276.

Honoring Catholic Education
The Dr. Adalbert L. and Mildred J. Vlazny Scholarship Endowment was created in their memory by their children to honor their commitment to Catholic education. Dr. and Mrs. Vlazny were founding members of our parish and served in numerous volunteer positions during their five decades as parishioners. This scholarship is awarded annually to a St. John of the Cross Parish School student in need of financial help. This year’s award was in the amount of $1,722.76.

Minister of Care Training Dates for Fall
Our parish Ministry of Care gives the sick, the elderly and the homebound an opportunity to receive Christ in the Eucharist, to pray and experience the love and care from our parish and feel connected to our community of faith. Ministers of Care make a weekly visit to a parishioner’s home or a monthly visit to an area hospital depending on your schedule. Oftentimes the friendship that grows from time spent together in prayer and talking is greatly treasured by both. Dates for upcoming training sessions at the Carmelite Center are:
September 23-25-30, Oct. 2
Tuesdays and Thursdays 7-9:30pm OR
October 14-16-21-23
Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-11:30am
If you are interested in becoming a Minister of Care contact Fr. Bill Vollmer in the parish center. Preregistration is necessary. SJC covers the cost of your training.
Reflection on the Gospel

In answer to Jesus’ query about his identity, the disciples tell Jesus what others are saying about him. Their answer is based on hearsay. This is not good enough and does not get at the heart of who Jesus is. Jesus is not simply initiating an open discussion; he is leading the disciples to personal understanding and profession of who he is. Peter arrives there when he acclaims, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Each of us must come to this same personal profession about who Jesus is. Each of us must move beyond what others have told us about Jesus to a personal encounter with him that brings us to the awe and wonder of who he is: the Messiah who has come to save us.

The Church is that community of individuals who have come personally to know who Jesus is and have chosen personally to make Jesus known to the world. Jesus himself will lead us there through our personal encounters with him. Jesus chose ordinary human beings who simply open themselves to the capacity to be great believers because they are first great hearers of the revelation. “Revelation” doesn’t mean that we sit around alone in silence waiting for God to speak to us. It means that we open our eyes to see and our ears to hear and our hearts to experience Jesus’ Presence and power in the daily happenings around us. The infant who utters the first word and delights parents, a person with Alzheimer’s who has a rare moment of recognition, the unexpected good deed which comes our way can all be revelations of Jesus’ identity and saving power. We only need to pay attention to our experience and recognize and receive the gift which is given to us. © Living Liturgy 2014

Richard Rohr Meditation

Jesus and “the Christ” Are Not Exactly the Same

Jesus is the microcosm; Christ is the macrocosm. There is a movement from Jesus to the Christ that you and I have to imitate and walk, as well. A lot of us have so fallen in love with the historical Jesus that we worship him as such and stop right there. We never really follow the same full journey that he made, which is the death and resurrection journey—Jesus died and Christ rose.

Unless we make the same movement that Jesus did—from his one single life to his risen and transformed state (John 12:24)—we probably don’t really understand, experientially, what we mean by the Christ—and how we are part of that deal! This is why he said, “Follow me.” The Jesus that you and I participate in and are graced by and redeemed by is the risen Jesus who has become the Christ (Acts 2:36), which is an inclusive statement about all of us and all of creation too. Stay with this startling truth in the days ahead, and it will rearrange your mind and heart, and change the way you read the entire New Testament. Paul understood this to an amazing degree, which is why he almost always talks about “Christ” and hardly ever directly quotes “Jesus.” It is rather shocking once you realize it.

May we encounter Christ more deeply and profess him more faithfully. May we be visibly faithful to our own identity as the Body of Christ.

O Lord, you are my hope, who will never leave me disappointed; you are my joy, who turns my mourning into dancing; you are my Father, whose love knows neither limit nor condition. With humility and hope, with the conviction of faith, with the joy you inspire, let me celebrate your presence in every dimension of my life so that, in you, I may be complete. Amen.
Enjoy an evening of fellowship, food and fun at SJC!

All men of the parish are invited to

Men’s Club BBQ & Bags Tournament
Friday, September 5th
6:00 pm

Food & beverages will be provided by the Men’s Club. Please bring a friend, lawn chairs and competitive spirit! The Men’s Cub will also host its

6th Annual 2-Man Team Bags Contest

The Bags competition will begin at 6:30 pm and requires a $10.00 Entry Fee. Please RSVP if you plan to attend the BBQ to either Barrett Long longbarrett@hotmail.com or John Cisek johncisek@netscape.net. Also, please let us know if you plan to participate in the Bags Contest.

All the festivities are on the lawn east of the Parish Center

Virtus Training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who</th>
<th>All Parents, Coaches, Room Parents, any Volunteer in the parish who has regular contact with children. Sign up now as seating is limited.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What</td>
<td>Protecting God’s Children Workshop includes two thirty minute videos and discussion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| When         | August 26 9am
               | August 26 6:30pm
               | September 11 6:30pm
               | September 18 9am
               | September 18 6:30pm
               | Attendees must be on time and attend the entire session.                                     |
| Where        | St. John of the Cross Parish Center                                                             |
| How          | You will need to register for this training by going on-line to Virtus Training at www.virtus.org
               | Click on the “registration” on the left side, choose “begin the registration process” and then
               | choose “Chicago, IL”                                                                          |
| Why          | We are all affected by the abuse of children by representatives of the Church and society. In response the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops provided guidelines for the safety of our children in their Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. These recommendations have then been translated into an action plan by Cardinal George. Every employee and volunteer who has regular contact with children is required to attend a training session of Protecting God’s Children. These workshops will inform and inspire participants to be part of the solution and to help keep our youth safe from harm. |
Flourish-Women’s Faith Sharing will be gathering on Thursday, September 11th from 9—11:00 am in the Parish Center 4,5,6. Questions? Contact Elizabeth Russell-Jones at 708.246.4404 or erussell-jones@stjohnofthecross.org.

**Sunday in the Park**

“An opportunity for families with young children to meet”

All families with young children are invited to meet at Springdale Park on Sunday, September 14, after the 9:00 Mass. It’s a great way to make new friends and connect with old ones. If you have any questions, please contact Jen Francis at cnjfrancis@comcast.net

**Volunteer Opportunity**

Our parish Senior Club is looking for a volunteer or two who could help in the kitchen with serving and clean up at the 3 luncheons scheduled on Friday, Oct. 10, Thursday, Feb. 12th and Friday, March 13. Contact: Gerry Mazzone at 708-246-0721 for more information.

**LallapalOPERA!!!**

Father Harry Bonin will give an introduction to understanding and feeling the greatest and most monumental experience available in classic European-based music. Opera brings together story telling, hearing, seeing, and acting along with costumes, scenery, artistic motion and heart-sensitive orchestra music----ALL IN ONE! We’ll meet on 8 Wednesdays from September 10 to October 29 at 9:00am until 11:00am. We will also be attending a Lyric Opera performance.

**Benefit Dinner**

**Bishop Abramowicz Seminary**

On Sunday, September 7, 2014, the annual benefit dinner for Bishop Abramowicz Seminary will take place at the Westin O’Hare Hotel in Rosemont. The evening will start with cocktails and silent auction at 5:00 pm followed by dinner. Tickets are $175 per person. For tickets and reservations please call Joan Trandel 708-484-6513.
Infant Baptism

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.

The St. John of the Cross Parish Beloved Retreat for men and women has been rescheduled for spring. Mark your calendar to attend on April 24-25-26, 2015.

A life of happiness, holiness and faith

St. John of the Cross Parish congratulates the Rioux Family on the baptism of their son. Pictured from the left are Ryan and Sara Rioux with baby, Ryan Francis, Jr., and godparents, Gina Rubar and Donald Alberico.
If you love music, take advantage of this opportunity to create vibrant music for worship in our parish! Our Music Ministries will provide you with a creative outlet, an invitation to deepen your prayer life, and the opportunity to meet new people. Contact Jessica Koch, Director of Music Ministries to find the best match for your musical gifts and your availability.

**Children & Young Adult Choirs:**

**Cherub Choir (Grades 1-3)** Children in grades 1-3 practice after school on Wednesdays in church from 3:45-4:30pm throughout the school year. Practice begins on Wednesday, September 10th with registration and a brief parent meeting at 4:20pm.

**Youth Choir (Grades 4-8)** Children in grades 4-8 practice after school on Thursdays from 3:45-4:30pm in church throughout the school year. Practice begins on Thursday, September 11th with registration and a brief parent meeting at 4:20pm.

**Sunday 5 Alive! Teen Choir (Sunday 5 p.m.)** This choir is open to anyone 8th grade and older. No regular commitment is necessary - you just come when it works for you. Choir for the Sunday 5:00 mass will start on Sunday, September 7th. Rehearsal is at 4pm in church directly before Mass. Check out the Facebook page, 5 Alive St. John's Sunday Mass, or contact Ann Bourjaily-Maney to get on an email list or for more information at bourjman@sbcglobal.net.

**Adult Choirs:**

Both choirs are fun, supportive, and social groups that pray together and aim to foster prayer in our community through our love of music. No previous experience or music-reading skill required - just a desire to sing praise to the Lord!

**Contemporary Ensemble (Saturday 5 p.m.)** Rehearsals resume Thursday, September 11. Refreshment and fellowship at 7:00 pm

**Traditional Choir (Sunday 10:45 a.m.)** Rehearsals resume Wednesday, September 10. Refreshment and fellowship at 7:00 pm

If you are interested in attending a rehearsal or want to find out more about music ministry, **Contact us to get involved! Visit our website for more information:**  www.stjohnofthecross.org

Jessica Koch  
Director of Music Ministries  
jkoch@stjohnofthecross.org  
(708) 246-4404, ext. 136

Ann Bourjaily-Maney  
Associate Director of Music Ministries (Teens & Children)  
bourjman@sbcglobal.net  
(708) 246-4171
The past five years have seen a growth in interest in studies on human happiness. Numerous books have been published on the topic, not least Sonja Lyubomirsky's, The Myths of Happiness, which has become for many a secular bible for happiness and meaning. In a recent book, Called to Happiness, Sidney Callahan critically evaluates many of these studies. Whatever the merit of these studies, all of us nurse our own secret dream of what will bring us happiness and often that fantasy is at odds with what we know to be true at a deeper level. What will make us happy?

In a recent interview (July 29, 2014) for the Argentine weekly, Viva, Pope Francis weighs in on this topic, submitting his own "Top 10 Tips" for happiness. What are Pope Francis' tips for happiness or, as he puts it, "for bringing greater joy to one's life"?

In presenting these, I will be faithful to his captions but, because his commentary on each one was rather lengthy, I will risk synthesizing his central point in my own words:

1. **Live and let live.**
   All of us will live longer and more happily if we stop trying to arrange other peoples' lives. Jesus challenged us not to judge but to live with the tension and let God and history make the judgments. So live we need to live by our own convictions and let others do the same.

2. **Be giving of yourself to others.**
   Happiness lies in giving ourselves away. We need to be open and generous because if we withdraw into ourselves we run the risk of becoming self-centered and no happiness will be found there since "stagnant water becomes putrid."

3. **Proceed calmly.**
   Move with kindness, humility, and calm. These are the antithesis of anxiety and distress. Calm never causes high blood pressure. We need to make conscious efforts to never let the moment cause panic and excessive hurry. Rather be late than stressed.

4. **A healthy sense of leisure.**
   Never lose the pleasures of art, literature, and playing with children. Remember that Jesus scandalized others with his capacity to enjoy life in all its sensuousness. We don't live by work alone, no matter how important and meaningful it might be. In heaven there will be no work, only leisure, we need to learn the art and joy of leisure not just to prepare for heaven but to enjoy some of heaven already now.

5. **Sundays should be holidays.**
   Workers should have Sundays off because Sunday is for family. Accomplishment, productivity, and speed may not become our most valued commodities or we will begin to take everything for granted, our lives, our health, our families, our friends, those around us, and all the good things in life. That is why God gave us a commandment to keep the Sabbath holy. This is not a lifestyle suggestion, but a commandment as binding as not killing. Moreover, if we are employers, the commandment demands too that we give our employees proper Sabbath-time.

6. **Find innovative ways to create dignified jobs for young people.**
   If you want to bless a young person, don't just tell that person that he or she is wonderful. Don't just admire youthful beauty and energy. Give a young person your job! Or, at least, work actively to help him or her find meaningful work. This will both bless that young person and bring a special happiness to your own life.

7. **Respect and take care of nature.**
   The air we breathe out is the air we will re-inhale. This is true spiritually, psychologically, and ecologically. We can't be whole and happy when Mother Earth is being stripped of her wholeness. Christ came to save the world, not just the people in the world. Our salvation, like our happiness, is tied to the way we treat the earth. It is immoral to slap another person in the face and so it is immoral too to throw our garbage into the face of Mother Earth.

8. **Stop being negative.**

9. **Don't proselyte, respect others' beliefs.**
   What we cherish and put our faith into grows "by attraction, not by proselytizing." Beauty is the one thing that no one can argue with. Cherish your values, but always act towards others with graciousness, charity, and respect.

10. **Work for peace.**
   Peace is more than the absence of war and working for peace means more than not causing disharmony. Peace, like war, must be waged actively by working for justice, equality, and an ever-wider inclusivity in terms of what makes up our family. Waging peace is the perennial struggle to stretch hearts, our own and others, to accept that in God's house there are many rooms and that all faiths, not least our own, are meant to be a house of prayer for all peoples. Offered with apologies for whenever my own thinking replaced that of Pope Francis.

_Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser www.ronrolheiser.com_
The Youth Catechesis Office is praying that you are ready to share your Baptismal Call to spread the Good News! Sharing is not just for parents. Each one of you has GIFTS to give our children. The success of our wonderful YC program is dependent on the generosity of volunteers that give their time.

This is one of the most important jobs in our church, because YOU are helping children learn what being Catholic means.

The YC Office provides lesson plans, resources and training to all volunteers. If you or someone you know can help, please call the YC office soon at 708-246-6760.

PLEASE HELP: WE NEED

Sunday 10:00-11:30 AM
- KINDERGARTEN TEACHER
- SECOND GRADE TEACHER
- THIRD GRADE TEACHER
- THIRD GRADE TEACHER
- FOURTH GRADE TEACHER
- FOURTH GRADE AIDE
- FIFTH GRADE TEACHER
- FIFTH GRADE TEACHER
- SIXTH GRADE AIDE

Monday 6:00-7:30 PM
- KINDERGARTEN TEACHER
- FIRST GRADE TEACHER
- FIRST GRADE TEACHER
- FIRST GRADE AIDE
- FIFTH GRADE TEACHER
- SIXTH GRADE TEACHER
- SIXTH GRADE AIDE

Small Group Leaders for 7th & 8th grade
- Confirmation Prep
  - SUNDAY MORNING AIDE
  - SUNDAY EVENING TEACHER
  - SUNDAY EVENING TEACHER
  - SUNDAY EVENING TEACHER
  - SUNDAY EVENING AIDE
  - SUNDAY EVENING AIDE

Saturday
- 10:00-11:30 AM
4 times a year
- 2 PRESCHOOL TEACHERS
Kids off to college?
Kids getting married?
The Empty Nest

Tom and Maribeth are college sweethearts married 29 years. They feel they have a stable marriage that has involved raising four children. It has been a wild ride of parenthood with a few hair-raising experiences, but they both agree that all four have been successfully launched into adulthood. As the kids were growing Tom and Maribeth often yearned for when they were simply a couple again.

Now that time has come. To their surprise Tom and Maribeth aren’t sure just how to begin living it. They have devoted so much of themselves to raising a family, and much of their communication has been directed to that end. They find themselves experiencing a strange emptiness in their daily lives and even feel uncomfortable in their conversations together. They both are deeply committed to each other but aren’t sure just what the “good life” of being a twosome again will be for them.

Despite having renegotiated their married relationship during other life cycle changes, couples facing change might feel unsteady and possibly tend to resist it, even if unconsciously; however the more they understand how to navigate the predictable changes of this next stage, the easier it will be for them to make a smooth transition together.

In the best of situations, it is a challenge for married couples to stay in tune with each other in the midst of parenting tasks and responsibilities. Their communication style can suffer as they concentrate on daily busyness and fail to connect on a level of intimate friendship. Taking time daily to talk about each person’s ups and downs of the day is a good beginning. Some couples develop a habit of a daily walk together. Others sit on the patio after work. When partners communicate on a vulnerable level, sharing their important thoughts and feelings regularly, they reconnect and bonding occurs.

Sometimes a marriage has been too child-centered to the detriment of the couple relationship. It is important for couples entering any stage of marriage to commit to keeping the relationship “partner-centered.” In a “we-centered” marriage, the couple’s love relationship is central in their daily lives. This allows their love to flow outwards to their children and others. The Church makes it clear that couples are called to love one another in an extraordinary fashion. A good way to begin redefining the marriage is to reread your wedding vows to one another.

Allowing oneself to grieve the loss of particular roles enjoyed during parenting years is a healthy start to new growth. Discussing openly the strengths and limitations of the relationship and setting new goals together is also helpful. Letting go of old hurts and resentments is a necessary step towards growing healthier and holier in the marriage. Sometimes professional help may be needed.

An excellent book for empty nesters is The Second Half of Marriage by David and Claudia Arp. Excerpts from an article by Judy Clark, a licensed professional counselor who is Co-Director of Family & Adult Ministry at St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Plano TX.

40 Ways to Pray with Family

What did St. Paul mean when he said we should “pray unceasingly?” Should we all join a monastery? Or maybe he was talking to people who are perennially in need of prayer, like Chicago Cubs fans. If we look carefully, our daily lives offer infinite opportunities to pray nonstop. Here are 10 of the 40. Add your own to the list.

1. Teach your children one of the classic prayers.
2. Pray before meals together, whether a standard prayer or a spontaneous one.
3. Substitute a short prayer for any “expletive deleted’s” you might use. Better your children hear “God bless it” than a close alternative.
4. Pray spontaneously with your children at bedtime.
5. Say an Our Father whenever you start a long car trip.
6. Create a May altar in your home with a statue of Mary surrounded by flowers.
7. Buy or make a beautifully scripted prayer or Bible verse and hang it on a wall in your home.
8. Pray nonstop. Here are 10 more ideas. From Raising Faith-Filled Kids by Tom McGrath
Donations that Make a Difference

Parishioners, Betsy Rogers and her daughter, Amy, are serving on a global medical relief team of 11 medical professionals with “tinypeoplematter.org” to Zambia, Africa on Nov 1-16, 2014. The purpose of their trip is to teach the internationally accepted course “Helping Babies Breathe” to birth attendants. The course is designed for resource limited circumstances with the premise that every baby born deserves simple resuscitation if needed. The team will also be providing a mobile medical clinic at several schools and orphanages.

In preparation for their trip, Betsy and Amy would like to fill four suitcases (50 lbs each) with donations for those in need. Donations may be dropped off at their home from today through September 13th at 4371 Central, Western Springs (drop box on front porch) or call 708-359-2857 for a pick up. Any surplus of donations will be given to Community Nurse Health Association, LaGrange.

Items Needed:
- Infant/Toddler Clothing (new or gently used)
- School Supplies: paper, notebooks, colored pencils, pens, pencils, manual sharpeners, individual chalk boards, chalk, flash cards, stickers

Seeking Attorney Volunteers

The Pro Bono Network is looking for attorneys, both active and inactive, to join its efforts in providing free legal work to the poor and elderly in Cook and DuPage Counties. The group is involved with many different endeavors, some of which can be done at home and most are scheduled to happen during school hours. In the past year the group has been involved in immigration matters, a Consumer Clinic at the Daley Center, Lawyers in the Classroom, legislative monitoring and trips to the Cook County jail to prepare short-term guardianship documents on behalf of incarcerated women among other projects.

You control your level of involvement so that you can volunteer for programs that work with your schedule. The projects are discrete and often can be done in one day. Training is always offered and there are opportunities for free CLE hours. Informal kickoffs to the year (orientations) are scheduled at the Hinsdale library on Thursday, September 4th at 10:00 and at the Oak Park library on Thursday, August 28th at the Oak Park library. For more information, please look at the website: pro-bono-network.org or e-mail kjbprobono@gmail.com.

Misericordia Women’s League Seeks New Members

Misericordia provides a caring environment for more than 600 children and adults facing challenges with mental and physical disabilities. Our league, which supports Misericordia through fund raising and service, is looking for new members. Please join us for coffee on Tuesday, September 16th at 9:00am. For more information contact Carolyn Excell at excell9@comcast.net or Lisa Wilder at wilder6@comcast.net.

Legacy Guild Golf Outing

The Legacy Guild, which helps provide college scholarships for local students who have lost a parent was able to help 23 students with just over $50,000 in scholarships last May. Golf foursomes, gaming tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available for The Legacy Guild Fall Golf Outing Sept 26th. More info at http://www.thelegacyguild.com/, com, Bob Bock – 708-646-9047.
Calendar
- September 7: Kick-off Party, Parish Center, Freshman parents encouraged to stay for pizza and info from coordinators!
- Sept 21: First Home Group Meetings (you can still register, visit our website)

The time to join is NOW!
-Freshmen Experience Team needs 2 more adults to welcome, listen and encourage our freshmen in their faith journey. The commitment is from Sept-Dec, 2 hours twice a month!
-Our Day of the Spirit Retreat Team needs 2 more adults & 2 more male teens to lead our 8th graders as they prepare for their Confirmation. The commitment is 3 meetings on Sunday afternoons and all day Oct. 25. Please contact Katie Hayes khayes@stjohnofthecross.org to get the details & join these teams already underway!

Our Home Group Leaders will gather Sunday August 24 at 6pm to prepare for this year. Terry & Mary Stadler loved serving as leaders so much that they now coordinate our home groups! That includes recruiting new adults to join this awesome ministry. If you’ve thought about joining please contact Mary at 708-246-3838 or show up to observe the meeting and see what an amazing group of adults you get to serve alongside as you dialogue with the teens.

Crossroads wants to send a team of adults to the National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry in San Antonio, TX December 4-6, 2014. We’ll cover the conference fees & a couple meals together. You get yourself there and cover housing. LET KATIE HAYES KNOW BY SEPTEMBER 5th. If you are interested so we can obtain early registration discounts. Details found at: http://nccym.nfcym.org/
Welcome Back Students, Faculty & Staff

Week of August 25
Monday, August 25, 2014
Pre School Open House
Various Times for Grade Level

Tuesday, August 26, 2014
Pre School Open House
Various Times for Grade Level

Wednesday, August 27, 2014
Pre School Begins
Mass Intentions

Monday, August 25
7:45 Our Beloved Dead; Dutchie Adamanas

Tuesday, August 26
7:45 Markey Foley Ringwood; Consuelo Pinto

Wednesday, August 27
7:45 Robert McNulty; Donald Wees

Thursday, August 28
7:45 Patrick Sheridan; Gora and Maier Families

Friday, August 29
7:45 Jeanne Boyle; Edward Wojcik

Saturday, August 30
8:00 Larry Dougherty; Filamena Cemius
5:00 John DenBesten; Robert Plechaty

Sunday, August 31
7:30 Gene Figliulo; John Hermes
9:00 Raymond Cochran; Sally Hawkins
10:45 Bill Caplice; Vincent Candela, Sr.
5:00 Joseph Connelly; Larry Dougherty

Italics—Living

A Look Ahead:
Monday, August 25
10:30 a.m. Christian Meditation Step 11
2:00 p.m. Spiritual Journaling
2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday, August 26
9:00 a.m. Virtus Training
6:30 p.m. Virtus Training
6:30 p.m. 8th Grade Catechist Meeting
7:00 p.m. Moran Prayer Group

Wednesday, August 27
2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation
6:30 p.m. 7th Grade Catechist Meeting
7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

Thursday, August 28
7:00 a.m. Christian Meditation

Friday, August 29

Saturday, August 30

Sunday, August 31

Monday, September 1 Labor Day
9:00 a.m. Labor Day Mass
Parish Office Closed (See page 2 of today’s bulletin)

Tuesday, September 2
9:00 a.m. Parent Association Meeting
7:00 p.m. RCIA Evening of Inquiry in Church
7:00 p.m. Moran Prayer Group

Wednesday, September 3
9:30 a.m. Angel Study Continues from Spring
2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation
7:00 p.m. Chicago Catholic Scripture School
7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

Thursday, September 4, 2014
6:30 p.m. Seasons of Hope Grief Support
6:30 p.m. YC Catechist Meeting

Pray for our Sick
Lucine Kasis
Ann Maliszewski
Alexander Obi
Gary Ziema

Pray for our Beloved Dead
Michael Janowiak, father of Matthew and Phillip
Don Middleton, father of Scott, grandfather of Matthew and Colleen

Marriage Banns
Benjamin Andrews and Joan Apolinaro

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
Contact Fr. Joe through the Parish Office
Rev. William J. Vollmer, Associate Pastor
bvollmer@stjohnofthecross.org
Deacon John Schopp, Deacon
john.schopp@newhemispheres.com
Bill Bright, Director of Outreach Ministries
bbright@stjohnofthecross.org
Janet Caschetta, Director of Youth Catechesis
jcaschetta@stjohnofthecross.org
Jim Clauer, Director of Worship
jclauer@stjohnofthecross.org
Laura Dragich, Reservations Coordinator
ldragich@stjohnofthecross.org
Kathleen Gorman, School Principal
gorman@sjc.pvt.k12.il.us
Katie Hayes, Director of Crossroads Teen Ministry
khayes@stjohnofthecross.org
Jessica Koch, Director of Music
jkoch@stjohnofthecross.org
MJ Martin, Director of Parish Operations
mjmartin@stjohnofthecross.org
Elizabeth Russell-Jones, Welcome Coordinator
erussell-jones@stjohnofthecross.org
CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —
  Saint John of the Cross    #9239

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

PHONE —
  708-246-4404

CONTACT PERSON —
  Shirley is out of the office. Contact MJ Martin 708-246–4404 x123

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

PRINTER —HP Laser Jet 6P

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT —
  Cover through

SUNDAY DATE OF BULLETIN —

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS —
RCIA or the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the way that those interested in the Catholic Church learn about the faith and join our community. The process traces its roots back to the earliest days of Christian communities.

The process is for . . .

- Those never baptized who would like to become a Catholic,
- Those baptized in another Christian Church who would like to become Catholic, or
- Those already baptized as a Catholic but who have not received the Sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation.

The RCIA gives people on a faith journey an opportunity to “Come and See” not only what the Catholic Church and a life of faith in it is all about, but also an opportunity to explore how Jesus Christ may be calling them into his life in a deeper way. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about becoming Catholic invite them to attend the Evening of Inquiry on September 2, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Community Room. Sessions will be held on Tuesdays beginning September 16th from 7-8:30pm in the parish center.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS AND REGISTRATION CONTACT FR. BILL VOLLMER AT 708 246 4404