28 Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 12, 2014

“...our mission is to love as Christ loved
and to proclaim the Good News...”

from our Parish Mission Statement
From the Desk of our Pastor, Fr. David Dowdle

Dear Parishioners,

The month of October is dedicated to many issues and causes. The church has long held it as a month to honor Mary, especially in the praying of the rosary. The feast of Our Lady of the Rosary was October 7th. It has also been used to focus Pro-Life issues for many years now. I want to draw your attention particularly to the film that will be shown on the last Monday of October, titled simply 40. Mark Heneghan from our parish is coordinating the evening. There is more information elsewhere in this bulletin.

Another remarkable focus of October is happening in Rome. The first Saturday of October had the opening liturgies for a Synod that will span two years focusing on the family. In his opening statement Pope Francis said, "Speak out. Let no one say: 'This can not be said'...After the last consistory (February 2014)...a Cardinal wrote to me saying: pity that some Cardinals have not had the courage to say some things out of respect for the Pope, believing perhaps that the Pope thought something different. This is not good, this is not collegiality, because you have to say everything that you feel you have to say...without timidity. And, at the same time, you should listen with humility and accept with an open heart what your brother says."

He ended exhorting all, "...please speak with frankness and listen with humility."

Pope Francis offered hopeful words prioritizing mercy over rigid adherence to unbending rules. He asked for three things:

1. The gift of listening for the synod fathers: to listen in the manner of God, so that they may hear, with him, the cry of the people; to listen to the people, until they breathe the will to which God calls us.
2. Openness toward a sincere discussion and a spirit of fraternity.
3. A willingness to be able to overcome situations of difficulty with persistence, patience and creativity.

As he ended his address he prayed, "(May) the wind of Pentecost blow upon the Synod's work, on the Church and on all of humanity....(May it) undo the knots which prevent people from encountering one another, heal the wounds that bleed, rekindle hope."

The pope has invited an honest and open exchange on issues of the family. I doubt there will be any radical departure from the Church's tradition, but there may very well be new initiatives of healing and understanding for real people with real lives. The ability to meet the expectations for the Synod may be beyond anyone’s capabilities at this point. This year is really preparation for next year, and all the work that will have to be done in the mean time. It is well worth the effort to pay attention to what is happening in Rome with the Synod on the Family.

October is also designated as Domestic Violence Awareness month. This is one of the silent issues in our community and in many communities. If you should ever need assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any of the SJC staff. There is more information about local resources also in this bulletin.

The last Sunday in October is when we will celebrate the annual Anointing of the Sick Mass on Sunday, October 26th starting at 12:30 pm. Please plan on attending if you need to avail yourself of this healing sacrament.

October is a full month celebrating life from conception to natural death and all the issues in between. Speak with frankness. Listen with humility.

Peace,
Fr. David
Special Collection Next Weekend: World Mission Sunday

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Next weekend the Church throughout the world celebrates World Mission Sunday. As we gather at Mass to worship God, this is an occasion to especially remember in prayer those who have given their lives to missionary service in places far and near. World Mission Sunday also invites us to make concrete gestures of solidarity and support that will assist missionaries and the people to whom they minister, people who are often poor and sometimes persecuted for their faith in Christ. This day is marked by the annual collection to help Pope Francis fund missions around the world.

At the center of a missionary’s vocation is an eagerness to draw others to Christ, to introduce Him to those who do not yet know who He is, and to invite those who have forgotten Him to live as His disciples once again. Missionary and evangelizing activity consists of communicating the joy and hope of being loved and redeemed by Christ to everyone, everywhere, on every possible occasion. First by our Baptism, and then by our regular encounters with the Lord in the Sacraments of the Church, especially the Eucharist, we are called and enabled to be missionary disciples, followers of Christ who seek to do His will and to teach others who He is by our lives of faith, hope and Christian charity.

In his message for World Mission Sunday, Pope Francis reminds us that God loves a cheerful giver, and that this annual celebration is a moment to rekindle the desire and sense of obligation to take a joyful part in the missionary activity of the Church. The special collection that is taken up in Catholic churches everywhere is distributed by the Pontifical Mission Societies, which support the Church’s missionary endeavors. In 1,150 mission dioceses, these mission societies seek to evangelize, educate, heal and bring comfort to people in need. The monetary sacrifices we make are loving signs of self-offering, first to the Lord and then to others. Through the work of the Pontifical Mission Societies and the missionaries who rely on them for funding, our material offerings truly become a means for the evangelization of all humanity in places near and far.

I thank you for your participation in the missionary work of the Church, particularly by your support of the Pontifical Mission Societies. May God bless you and those you love, and awaken in us all the missionary spirit that shines so brightly and invitingly in the ministry of Pope Francis.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago

Read the Pope’s message for World Mission Sunday on the home page of our parish website: www.stjohnofthecross.org.

Let us pray through the intercession of Mary, the model of humble and joyful evangelization, that the Church may become a welcoming home, a mother for all peoples and the source of rebirth for our world.

Feast of All Souls Memorial Liturgy

Please join us on Sunday, November 2nd at 12:30 PM to celebrate the Feast of All Souls. Our liturgy will commemorate parishioners and loved ones who have died during the past year. As the names of all deceased are read aloud, families will be invited to light a votive candle as we prayerfully remember them. After Mass, our bereavement ministers and priests will be available in the narthex. More details to follow in next week’s bulletin.
Family Connection
Today’s Gospel reminds us that God invites all of us to his kingdom. How do we respond to this invitation? In theological terms, God has granted us free will to accept or reject salvation. The parable of the wedding feast reminds us that God desires our wholehearted acceptance of his invitation to salvation.

As you gather as a family, discuss what you consider appropriate attire for various occasions. For example, if your family were invited to a neighbor’s barbecue, what would you wear? If you were planning to attend the symphony, what might you wear? If invited to an evening wedding, what might you wear? Discuss how our preparations for an event and our choice of attire indicates the importance and value we place on the occasion. In today’s Gospel Jesus uses this metaphor to talk about the kingdom of heaven. Read Matthew 22:1-14. Discuss why the guest was thrown out of the wedding feast. What does Jesus expect of those who accept his invitation of salvation? What would be the evidence of our conversion to God’s salvation? Pray together as a family that you will respond wholeheartedly to God’s invitation to salvation. Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 23. Loyola Press.

St. Luke
Feast Day: October 18th
On October 18 we celebrate the feast day of St. Luke. There are only a few certain facts about St. Luke’s life. We know him best as the author of the third gospel and of the Acts of the Apostles.

A Greek himself, he wrote the story of Jesus and the Christian community for Gentile readers. He also accompanied St. Paul on some of his journeys and shared in his sufferings. Probably a physician, Luke may have pioneered as an early member of the church at Antioch.

The saint's books reveal something about his character. Luke wrote excellent popular prose with an artist's skill at painting picture stories. Demonstrating an unusual commitment to accuracy, he appears to have fastidiously checked his facts. For example, archaeologists have confirmed many details that he reported in the Acts.

Some of Luke's main themes - prayer, the Holy Spirit, and mercy - suggest that he was a compassionate, spiritual man. He aimed his books to persuade Gentiles that the Christian story was true. So he made it more accessible to them by filing his gospel with accounts of Christ's openness and mercy.

Tradition says Luke lived a long life without marrying and that he died at age eighty-four. Loyola Press.

Richard Rohr Meditation
We don’t come to God (or truth or love) by insisting on some ideal worldly order or so-called perfection, but in fact we come “to knowledge of salvation by the experience of forgiveness” (Luke 1:77)—forgiveness of reality itself, of others, of ourselves—for being so ordinary, imperfect, and often disappointing. Many also have to forgive God for not being what they wanted or expected. One reason why I am so attracted to Jesus and then to Francis is that they found God in disorder, in imperfection, in the ordinary, and in the real world—not in any idealized concepts. They were more into losing than winning. But the ego does not like that, so we rearranged much of Christianity to fit our egocic pattern of achievement and climbing.

Isn’t it strange that Christians worship a God figure, Jesus, who appears to be clearly losing by every criterion imaginable? And then we spend so much time trying to “win,” succeed, and perform. We even call Jesus’ “losing” the very redemption of the world—yet we run from it. I think Christians have yet to learn the pattern of redemption. It is evil undone much more than evil ever perfectly avoided. It is disorder reconfigured in our hearts and minds—much more than demanding any perfect order to our universe.

Much of the Christian religion has largely become “holding on” instead of letting go. But God, it seems to me, does the holding on (to us!), and we must learn the letting go (of everything else).
Living the Gospel

The king is adamant about filling the wedding hall with guests. His initial guest list has been carefully drawn up, but when these invited guests do not come, the king sends his servants out to invite anyone and everyone—the “bad and good alike.” The hall must be filled. There can be no real feast with only a partially filled hall—the joy and happiness of the feast must be full. The bottom line issue in this parable, however, is not who is invited to fill the hall, but who will choose to come. In the same manner as the parable king, God persistently invites us to the royal banquet in the “kingdom of heaven.” But the gracious invitation requires our positive and definite response.

Jesus says that many are invited to God’s banquet, “but few are chosen.” The twist of this gospel is that God invites all—salvation is extended to everyone. The choosing is not what God does from among all those invited; the choosing is what we do in our response to God. This response is a clear choice to do all we need to do in our daily living to witness to the presence of the kingdom of God. When we listen attentively to another and in our listening strengthen and encourage that person, we are choosing to come to God’s banquet. When we help clothe the poor, feed the hungry, shelter the homeless we are choosing to come to God’s banquet. When we help clothe the poor, feed the hungry, shelter the homeless we are choosing to come to God’s banquet. When we help clothe the poor, feed the hungry, shelter the homeless we are choosing to come to God’s banquet.

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The third level of meaning is the practical meaning that the parable holds for us. How does it apply to our lives today? For the answer we turn to the ending of the parable. It describes a substitute guest who is expelled from the feast by the king because he came without a wedding garment. It describes a man who showed up at the banquet in perhaps the same filthy clothes he wore to clean his stables. Why did Jesus add this crude individual to this story? The man stands for a substitute guest who responded to the king’s invitation, but on his own terms, not the king’s terms. He stands for someone who refused to conform to the etiquette that was normal for the time when people entered the king’s presence.

We are among the substitute guests who have been invited by God to the wedding feast of the kingdom of heaven. We have been invited to sit down at the banquet of eternal life with his Son, Jesus. But God makes it clear that if we accept his invitation, we must do so on God’s terms—not our own. It means we must wear a wedding garment. The wedding garment that Jesus refers to is our loving concern for others, especially the needy in our midst. The garment stands for our service to our brothers and sisters. We must come dressed in the wedding garment of love.

Dressed in a Garment of Love

Like all of Jesus’ parables, this parable has three levels of meaning.

First, there’s the literal meaning. It’s simply a story Jesus tells: A king holds a wedding feast for his son. When the invited guests don’t show up, the king replaces them with substitute guests.

The second level of meaning is the intended level. It’s what Jesus was teaching the people. Studying the parable closely, we see that the king stands for God. The wedding feast stands for the kingdom of God. The invited guests stand for the Chosen People, who made a covenant with God. Finally the substitute guests stand for the sinners and the Gentiles of Jesus’ time. They are the people who accepted Jesus after God’s Chosen People rejected him. And so we learn that the kingdom of God is now open to all people, not just the Chosen People. No one is excluded.

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Lord, open our eyes that we may see your face in the face of the needy. Open our hearts that we may reach out our hands to feed you when we find you hungry, to clothe you when we find you naked, to house you when we find you homeless. Then, when life is over and we stand face-to-face before you, you will reach out your hand to us and say, “Come you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for your from the foundation of the world.”

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Wisdom When Facing Illness—For Those Who Are Ill and Those Who Love Them

- If someone is seriously ill or going through serious surgery or increasingly feels the effects of aging, don’t wait to call your parish for the sacraments of healing—Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, and the Holy Eucharist.
- The sacraments are to be sacraments for the living. The purpose is to unite the suffering person’s ailments to the Lord’s passion and resurrection. Don’t wait until the person can no longer participate in these sacraments of hope.
- Forgive and allow yourself to be forgiven.
- Silence and trying to protect each other when illness becomes difficult does not allow for honest conversation.
- Medical science is a gift from God. Don’t hesitate to ask for pain relief when the symptoms of illness prevent good communication and being present to each other.
- Be honest about how you feel in your prayers to God. Pray about your feelings, your memories, your questionings, your rage and frustrations, your fears, and your loneliness.
- Communication: ask questions, clarify responses, and listen as much as you speak. When visiting or meeting your loved ones or the medical team, either call or email everyone in the family about the visit, what you experienced, and how it went that day. Good communication ends secrets and a sense of exclusion.
- Be humble. Don’t be afraid to say, “I don’t understand.” Don’t be ashamed that you made a mistake or that you misunderstood. Don’t dwell on failures. Learn from them and move on.
- When visiting a loved one, be yourself. Laugh, cry, and—when you feel it—admit that you feel helpless.
- Care for yourself. That enables you to care for others. Sleep, eat, exercise, and attend to your own interests and hobbies and concerns.
- Appreciate beauty. It feeds the soul.
- Always remember that God’s love and mercy are greater than our imperfections and sins. Take advantage of the healing power of the Eucharist even when you don’t feel worthy or deserving.
- Pray for the gift of trust that God’s love and care are bigger than death. by Father William Moriarity, Chaplain
Pro-Life Movie
Educating adolescents and adults alike on abortion is an important part of church teaching. The pro-life movie 40 will be shown in the parish center on Monday, October 27th at 6:15pm. This hour long documentary is an interesting, informative and compassionate film. There will be time for discussion after. No registration. Just come to the parish center.

Consider the Priesthood
All high school and college men are invited to join Bishop Manz and Chicago area priests and seminarians for Evening Prayer, Conversation, and Dinner on Sunday, Oct. 19th at 5:30pm at St. Cletus Parish. RSVP to Fr. David or Fr. Bill.

Lost Child Pilgrimage
We invite men and women who have lost a child to explore the sacred journey of loss, healing and hope. Speaker Rev. Richard Fragomeni will speak at the Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii on Saturday, October 18, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Guests may come at 8:30 a.m. to check-in and have coffee.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Two parishes in our area (Divine Infant and St. Francis Xavier) have Domestic Violence Ministries that are committed to raising awareness of the problem of domestic violence and offering support and access for help to those who have experienced any type of violence in their lives.

If you need immediate help, call the 24 hour Pillars Domestic Violence Hotline - 708-485-5254 to receive advice and access to shelter, counseling, and legal advocacy.

A New Class for Adults Starts this Week
Spirituality of John of the Cross
Wednesdays 3-4pm
Beginning on Wednesday, October 15th through December 10th all are invited to learn about the life and spirituality of our parish patron, St. John of the Cross. We will meet in the parish center from 3-4pm every Wednesday afternoon to learn and discuss. On Sunday, December 14th at 10:15am, the feast of St. John of the Cross, our study will culminate with a special celebration of his life. For more information and to register call Sister Joyce at 708-599-2954.

Interfaith Community Partners
Theater Benefit
Thursday, October 23
Reception 6:30pm ~ Performance 8pm
The Gravedigger—A Tale of Frankenstein’s Monster by Joseph Zettelmaier at First Folio Theatre in Oak Brook. For benefit and raffle tickets call 708-579-8929.

What is Interfaith Community Partners?
The mission of Interfaith Community Partners (ICP) is to maximize the independence and well-being of older adults by enabling connections with others in their community.

Interfaith Community Partners (ICP) was formed to help our elderly neighbors maintain their independence. ICP was founded in 1999-2000. After extensive research undertaken by Community Memorial Foundation identified the plight of isolated adults in our community, ICP began as a visitation service with teams of volunteers from seven founding churches. It became evident that loss of mobility is one of the biggest causes of isolation. Within two years ICP’s primary service switched to assisted transportation. ICP now accompanies our care partners to medical appointments, therapies, and assists with other essential daily living errands (grocery shopping, banking, etc.) As ICP’s services grew, so did the number of coalition churches. At present there are 13 member congregations, and most of the volunteers are members of these churches.
Go to interfaithcommunitypartners.com for more information or call 708-579-8929 for assistance.
Afternoon of Reflection

The World Community for Christian Meditation groups at St. John of the Cross parish invite you to an afternoon of reflection and meditation in the Christian tradition.

Christian Meditation as an 11th Step Practice
Sunday, November 2, 2014
1 – 4 pm, Hospitality 12:30

Mission Statement: We are a group of men and women from 12 step programs, following the teachings of John Main and the World Community for Christian Meditation. We are not a replacement for, nor are we affiliated with, any 12-step program of recovery. We are here to share this ancient path of contemplative prayer as a way to practice the 11th Step. Step 11 – “Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.”

Conscious Contact: Releasing the Power of Love

“We are all in need of the power of love that will restore us to wholeness and bring us to fullness of life”, says Linda Kaye, who will lead this time of reflection on a topic that holds broad appeal.

Linda Kaye is the director of the WCCM Neptune Beach Center in Neptune Beach Florida, which opened in 2009. She remains active in a 12 step program since 1984 and has facilitated retreats and workshops internationally for Christian Meditation as an 11th Step Practice since 2002.

Janet, 708-246-4866, jccaadc@sbcglobal.net ~ Mary, 708-2465108,mary105105@gmail.com
www.wccm-usa.org ~ Free will offering ~ Reservations requested, but not required

YOU ARE INVITED

Plan to attend a special program spotlighting churches of Western Springs at 4 p.m. on Sunday, October 26 at the First Congregational Church of Western Springs, 1106 Chestnut St. The event is part of the Adult Lecture series sponsored by the Western Springs Historical Society.

Representatives of SJC and other Western Springs churches will give short presentations and display historic items from their faith communities. Refreshments will be served.
Women’s Club News

Thank you to those who attended the 9:00am Mass this past Sunday and helped Fr. Joe McDonnell bless our Women’s Club Board members as we kick off our 2014-2015 year of activities. We are all honored to serve as representatives for the women of St. John of the Cross Parish, and are dedicated to serving our parish, outreach organizations, and both the spiritual and physical needs of friends of our parish.

A Message from Ginny Grecco, Membership Chairperson:

I’m excited to be a part of the SJC Women’s Club Membership, under the direction of former Women’s Club Membership head, Maureen Chopp.

The goal of Membership is to welcome and invite all women from the parish to be part of the Women’s Club. We encourage you to join and take part in the many wonderful events and outreach programs throughout the year. Our next event is an Evening of Reflection on Wednesday October 15th at 7pm which will feature a night of Holy Yoga in the Parish Center. Look to the left for more info.

Also, hopefully by now you have received a postcard in the mail listing all of our events for the year. If you have not, please let me know by emailing sjcwomensclub@gmail.com. There are also additional calendars in the parish center or visit our page on the parish website!

As the year continues, we are working on increasing our communication of events and membership news. So be on the lookout for these communications by email and in bulletin.

Look for me at every event, as I’d be happy to help you find a volunteer position that suits your needs, from social to spiritual or to answer any questions you have about the Women’s Club. Volunteering to help the Women’s Club is one way of getting to know some of the amazing women of our parish. I look forward to meeting you!

Holy Yoga is experiential worship specifically created to deepen your connection to Christ. The sole purpose is to combine world class yoga with a Christ honoring experience that offers an opportunity to authentically connect with God. We do this by integrating God’s Word, prayer, worship and the physical practice of yoga to contemporary and Christian music. All levels are welcome!

The annual Women’s Club Coat Drive to benefit St. Vincent de Paul will be held from October 19 through November 7th. There will be drop boxes in the Church, Parish Center and School. Donations will also be received in the parish Center the weekend of November 8 & 9th. Please bring gently used clean jackets and coats to keep others warm this winter.

Church Women United of LaGrange/Western Springs invites you to World Community Day on November 7th at Plymouth Place/Albert Hall in LaGrange Park. Please join in bible study at 9:30 am, followed by a celebration/prayer service at 10:30 am. Contact Carolyn Grela at 630-662-0517 for more information.
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.

Congratulations!

Our parish community prayerfully supports and congratulates the following families who had their child baptized last Sunday! Pictured from left to right are Emma Charlotte with parents Thomas and Carolyn Wyness, Grace Ann with parents Michael and Sheena Vojta, Matthew Christopher with Christopher and Katherine Leff, and Timothy Patrick with Tim and Meghan Selz.

Couples Needed to Lead Freshman Home Groups
Last weekend our Freshmen teens discussed their gifts and how to share them with others. They are journaling in this photo and some of their reflection words included: excited, motivated, inspired, encouraged! These teens want to be connected and we need adult leaders to support them. Contact Mary Stadler 708-246-3838 or Katie Hayes 708-246-4404.

Boys Church League Basketball
Registration for Boys Basketball opens on October 14 for Crossroads Members. Register online at www.stjoohnofthecross.org/crossroads/sports/.

Feed My Starving Children Service Project
Those teens who have the day off school on Friday, October 24 are encouraged to join us for a service project at Feed My Starving Children in Aurora. To register, go to volunteer.fmsc.org and enter our group name: Crossroads or our Join Code: 521572.

Identity Retreat—Last Chance to Register!
Time is running out to register for the Freshman/Sophomore Identity Adventure retreat. Register today at stjoohnofthecross.org/crossroads/retreats/

Work Tour News
Information on next summer’s local, Appalachian, and Guatemalan work tours will be available later this month.
BEDS Plus Begins 27th Shelter Season

BEDS Plus is a non-profit agency providing emergency overnight shelter along with assistance to the homeless & those individuals in danger of becoming homeless in West Suburban Cook County. On October 1, we opened our doors for the 27th time. Operated by a dedicated staff and a large corps of volunteers, BEDS Plus has helped guide thousands of clients out of crisis to return to stable, independent and healthy lives.

BEDS Plus operates its nightly emergency shelters in seven community churches. We are more than an emergency shelter, however. Our Support Center operates Monday through Friday, 10am – 2pm, offering an expanded curriculum in addition to a nutritious lunch. Our case managers use best practice models to give all clients the opportunity to achieve self-sufficiency and reintegrate into our communities as proud, productive citizens.

Call for Volunteers

Can you spare 4 hours a month to help those in crisis? Volunteers are vital to the success of the BEDS mission. Here are ways to contribute your time:

- **Site Volunteers** work a four-hour shelter shift, once a month.
- **Cooks** work individually or as a team to supply a hot evening meal and breakfast items, once a month.
- **Laundry Volunteers** wash linens and bedding, once a month.
- **Lunch Providers** prepare bagged lunches for 15-20 clients to eat at our daily Support Center, once a month.
- **Support Center Site Volunteers** serve bagged lunches, engage in quiet conversation with clients & perform light clean-up, once a month.

All prospective and new volunteers must attend one volunteer orientation. You'll learn how you can help plus you'll meet great people with similar interests!

**Volunteer Orientation Dates:**
Orientation begins at 7pm and takes place at the First Presbyterian Church of LaGrange, 2nd Floor conference Room, 150 S. Ashland Ave., LaGrange
- October 13, 2014
- November 10, 2014
- December 8, 2014

For more information, visit www.beds-plus.org. Interested in volunteer opportunities--please contact Diane Kassel at kassel@beds-plus.org or 708-354-0858 extension 7.

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### Annual Mass Supporting People With Mental Illnesses, Families, Friends, and Mental Healthcare Providers

Mental illnesses, such as depression, bi-polar disease, schizophrenia, anxiety disorders and others touch one in four families. Stigma, the misinformation about these illnesses, keeps people from seeking help and stigma keeps people from helping. The Mass is for all affected and those who are interested in helping. This celebration is our petition to the Holy Spirit to give encouragement to those affected by mental illness to pursue paths of recovery and wellness and to inspire and motivate all others to be advocates and helpers to those in need of housing, jobs, and support to reach their life goals. The Mass will start at 2 PM on October 26th at St Gertrude Church, 1400 West Granville, Chicago (6200 North, and 4 blocks west of Broadway at Granville and Glenwood.) Refreshments and conversation will follow Mass. For more information contact: Deacon Tom Lambert 773-525-0453x21/email:olmcinfo2@aol.com; or Deacon Dan Welter 312-534-8283/email:dwelter@archchicago.org; or Faith &Fellowship 708-383-9276/email:faith_fellowship@hotmail.com Sponsored by: Archdiocesan Commission on Mental Illness/ Office for Persons with Disabilities and Faith and Fellowship.
Senior Day
Over 70 people attended our recent parish Senior Day to listen to speakers discussing spirituality and aging well, keeping your brain healthy, simple breathing techniques to calm the mind, nutrition and safety, chair yoga and looking your best. Thank you to event coordinators, Carolyn Koehler and Marie Daly.

Youth Catechesis News
What an exciting and spirit filled time at Youth Catechesis last week!
Parents joined their kindergarten students for a day of learning about Noah and how he saved this family and God’s creation. They had story time, crafts and music!
Parents joined their 3rd grade students for a new event! Third grade students learn about prayer this year, so parents joined them for a presentation with Fr. Dave, Fr. Bill and Janet Caschetta on different ways to pray and created their own prayer book.

YC Schedule
Classes K-6 10:15-11:30am  Sunday, Oct 19,26
6:15-7:30pm  Monday, Oct 20,27
FFC  Noon-1:30 pm  Sunday, November 2
Jr Hi Sm Groups and Special Needs  Sunday, Oct 19, Nov 2
No Classes October 12 & 13 in honor of Columbus Day

Youth Catechesis Office
yc@sjcross.org  * 708-246-6760  *  www.stjohnofthecross.org/y
Hours : Mon-Thurs 8:30am-4:00pm, open Sunday mornings and Monday evenings during class
St. John of the Cross Parish Invites You to Our

Father-Daughter Luau
Friday, October 17th
7-9pm Parish Center

$35 per family includes:
Pizza, Snacks, Desserts, Drinks,
Music/Dancing,
Flower Leis, and a Memorable Photo!

To register, mail your check or drop off to the YC Office
Watch for your Evite and Purchase Tickets at the Door

Please bring a canned good to donate to those in need.

Hosted by the SJC YC Council

Interfaith Community Network

How to Use Story Telling to Improve Your Interviews
Come on Thursday, October 16 from 7-9 pm when Jim Waszak will focus on one of the challenges most people have in interviewing... knowing how to tell their story, and how to answer behavioral style, open ended questions using stories. Learn how to demonstrate your skills rather than just name them, how to be comfortable on interviews, the best technique for answering questions... and more. St. Cletus Education Building

ICN Career Transition Workshop
Looking for a change in jobs, interested in making a career switch, unemployed, underemployed or a recent grad looking for your first professional position? Interfaith Career Network invites you to join us at First Presbyterian Church of La Grange from 7-9pm. Come for one or all of the consecutive Tuesday sessions and gain new skills that may help you land that new position. For information, contact Susan Sedler at sqsedler@aol.com.

Week 4, Tuesday, October 14: this week's Workshop will headline a panel of HR professionals who will coach you on the "art of interviewing" and answer your "thorny" questions about successful phone and in-person interview strategies and techniques as well as provide tips on how to recover from interview blunders.

Week 5, Tuesday, October 21: With 80% of jobs found in the "hidden job market," networking is the heart of any job search. At our final workshop session, Jim Peterson will coach you on the fundamentals of this critical search strategy. Jim will also provide job search tips for people over 50.
Boy Scout Annual Wreath Sale
Orders will be taken for the Scout annual Christmas wreath sale through November 1st. Order forms with pictures are available in the Parish Center, church or on our parish website. Watch for the Scouts taking orders outside the Parish Center after Mass in the coming weeks.

Last Saturday, October 4th, the feast of St. Francis, our parish pets received a special blessing from Deacon John Schopp. It was a blustery fall day, but the animals did not mind!

THE SJC MEN’S CLUB INVITES ALL PARISH MEN TO OUR ‘SMOKER’

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15TH
6:30PM
AT THE CASA DE MONTECRISTO IN COUNTRYSIDE (1332 WEST 55TH STREET)

PIZZA AND COLD REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.
YOU ARE WELCOME TO BYOB, BUT BEER WILL BE AVAILABLE.

RSVP TO DAN MONTGOMERY AT TDM30550@GMAIL.COM
312.952.1435

BILL BRIGHT AT BRIGHT@STJOHNOFTHECROSS.ORG
708.246.4404 x132
Pray for our Beloved Dead
Frank Charbonneau,
grandfather of Mike Charbonneau

Pray for our Sick

| Richard Baruth       | Tom McGorey       |
| Tara Bassi           | Linda McMahan     |
| Mike Belpedio        | Donald J. Martin  |
| Irene Gutsell        | John C. Martin    |
| Karen Hult           | Christine Moran   |
| Jeanine Jasica       | Alexander Obi     |
| Lucine Kasis         | Erika Peterson    |
| Theresa Anne Keanini | William J. Voller |
| Steven LaVoie        |                   |

May we be strengthened to say yes
to the faithfulness necessary
to come to fullness of Life.

May we make choices
that lead to growth and
fuller Life in Christ,
thus witnessing to the presence
of God’s kingdom among us.

Monday, October 13, is Columbus Day. The Parish Center office will be open from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. There will be no Adoration on Monday.
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 or MJ Martin 708-246-4404

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 17

SUNDAY DATE OF BULLETIN —  10.12.2014

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS —
Over fifty years have passed since St. John of the Cross Parish School opened our doors. Catholic parishes then and now, are the foundations of a strong community. Though the school has changed throughout the years, the hard work and commitment to spiritual growth while providing a strong educational foundation has not. We remain a community “Rooted in Faith, Growing in Knowledge.”

Mission and Philosophy
The mission of St. John of the Cross Parish School is to provide a safe and dynamic Catholic environment where faith is nourished and knowledge grows. We offer challenging educational experiences that foster success, promote unity, and respect the individuality of each student. Our parish school prides itself on multigenerational Catholic traditions and achievement, which empowers our students to live The Good News.

St. John of the Cross Parish School proudly offers:
- School Liturgies, Classroom Prayer Services, and Sacramental Preparation
- Grade Level and School Service Experiences
- Exceptional technology including one to one iPads, SMART Boards, Laptop Computers
- Students Resource Services and Academic Support
- Comprehensive Fine Arts, Physical Education, Computer, and Spanish Programs
- Full and ½ Day Kindergarten, 3 and 4 year old preschool
- Before and After Care for Kindergarten – Grade 8
- No cut athletics and many co curricular activities

OCTOBER 15, 2014
9:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.
AND
OCTOBER 16, 2014
1:30 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.
708 51st Street, Western Springs, IL
www.stjohnofthecross.org/school

RSVP TODAY!
708-246-4454