For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day. John 6:40

All Souls Day
November 2, 2014
Dear Parishioners,

High school teenagers: what do you think about them? What is your image of teenagers today? Let me give a couple of snap shots of some teens around SJC that might help round out your thoughts.

Last Saturday was the Day of the Spirit. It is designed to help the eighth graders prepare to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in February. There were fourteen high school students (and seven adults) from Crossroads who worked with four staff members to help the 8th graders focus on the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. The high school teens led small group discussions, gave 5 witness talks, led the prayer service to help prepare 196 eighth graders to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and facilitated presentations on each of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. In short, the high school teenagers modeled church for the eighth grade teenagers. The eighth graders listened to the older teens in a way they could never have from an adult. It was a marvel to behold.

Next Saturday, November 8th, the teenagers from the Crossroads program will be distributing flyers throughout the village to remind people that the following Saturday, November 15th, is Harvest Saturday. When the morning of Harvest Saturday comes, teens and adults alike, with a few younger brothers and sisters, will gather to celebrate the Eucharist before fanning out and picking up the groceries that have been contributed. Once back at the Parish Center, they will sort and box everything before having it transported to the various food pantries who are the beneficiaries of your generosity.

That's a lot of teenage ministry in a three week span.

Last Sunday afternoon was enjoyable learning about the history of the other churches in our village and sharing a bit of our own story. Sponsored by the Western Springs Historical Society and hosted by the Congregational Church, it was informative and enjoyable to spend time with each other. I want to publicly thank Pat and Jim Wees and Christine Scriba for helping prepare the display and some of the ‘artifacts’ that were used for our parish table. There were several people in attendance that had a clear memory of the parish property when it was Vaughn’s seed nursery. Knowing about the Quakers voting to incorporate the village, the only pastorate of Billy Graham at the Village Baptist Church, the westward migration of the Dutch to the Christian Reformed Church, the Methodists taking over the building from the Masons for their church and many more interesting details from each presentation was very enjoyable. We began by singing ‘The Church’s One Foundation’. We concluded with the ministers brainstorming about when else we might gather with our people from the respective congregations to pray and share with each other. Hopefully, more to come on that subject soon.

This year the Feast of All Souls falls on a Sunday. It supersedes the 31st Sunday in Ordinary time and the readings for today are basically from the funeral liturgy. I have come to deeply appreciate the Bereavement Ministers and the Resurrection Choir. I try to tell both groups frequently that they do some of the most important ministry in the parish. Funeral home directors have told me they much prefer to come here because they know we will be prepared for them when they arrive. The liturgy Sunday afternoon will remember those who have died in the past year in a particular way as we pray for ‘all the souls’ at every Mass. Remember to enroll them through the All Souls envelopes to be included in the weekly Masses all year round when we pray for Our Beloved Dead.

Share Christmas begins in three weeks. Can you believe it?

Peace,
Fr. David
The month of November for centuries has been a time when Roman Catholics remember our deceased loved ones. In this year of the Sacraments the month of November has been designated as a time for Parishes in the Archdiocese to catechize on Dying, Grieving and Celebrating Funerals. Throughout the month an article will address the Funeral Liturgy.

The Funeral Liturgy (Mass) is our great "Thank You" to God who created us, died for us, and is calling each one of us back to Him, our loving God. This liturgy, particularly at the time of death, is a unique moment, a holy moment, a God-moment (Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Chicago)

Celebrating the Funeral Liturgy at Mass in the parish church is the customary way in which most Catholics experience the Order of Christian Funerals. The Eucharist helps us to look forward to our participation in the heavenly banquet, where we will be united with Jesus, the saints, and all those who share eternal life. As Cardinal Francis George writes “The Mass is the most powerful assurance we have of the Lord’s constant and faithful presence in the midst of his people. When Jesus is present among his people, life is transformed” (“Fear is Useless. What is Needed is Trust!” Catholics Before the Mystery of Death).

The Funeral Liturgy is a time for the family, friends and the faith community to gather: to commend our beloved deceased to the mercy and compassion of God, to celebrate the life of their deceased loved one, and to embrace the hope we share in knowing that for our loved ones “life is changed, not ended.” Jesus said, "whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood shall live forever." (John 6:54) The Funeral Liturgy is greatly enhanced when the family participates in appropriate ways: clothing the casket with the pall, selecting the Scripture readings, serving as lectors or extraordinary ministers of Communion, singing the responses and the hymns and, most especially, in the reception of the Body and Blood of Christ.

The Funeral Rites, which include, the Reception of the Body at Church and Mass, and the Rite of Committal, are celebrated for both the living and the deceased. Through these rites we commend our deceased brothers and sisters to God in the hope of resurrection. When our faith community gathers with the bereaved, we do so as a community that reaches out to embrace their pain, sorrow and grief so as to assure them that they are not alone. The faith community walks with our brothers and sisters on their journey of faith, through life and death. Together we are gathered in the presence of the living God and the hope, comfort, solace, and embrace that God offers to us.

Fr. Bill Vollmer
We invite you to become a liturgical minister. Training will be held in the month of November in church.

**Lector:** Lectors proclaim the Word of God during Mass. This ministry is open to all adults and high school youth who are registered members of the parish, have a sincere love for the Word Of God contained in scripture, have been fully initiated into the Catholic Church through the sacrament of confirmation, who preferably possess good reading skills and a clear speaking voice. Training will take place on Tuesday November 4th at 7:00 PM and Sunday November 9th at 3:00 PM, in the church. You only need to attend one session and no RSVP is required.

**Communion Minister:** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion distribute the Body and Blood of Christ during weekday and Sunday liturgies. This ministry is open to all adults and high school youth who are registered parishioners, have a sincere love and appreciation for God’s gift of Eucharist, have been fully initiated into the Catholic Church through the sacrament of confirmation, and who are not restrained through a marriage situation from receiving the Eucharist themselves. Training will be held on Tuesday, November 11th at 7:00 PM, Sunday, November 16 at 3:00 PM and Tuesday November 18th at 7:00 PM. You only need to attend one session. We are especially in need of ministers at the Sunday 12:15 PM Mass. No RSVP is required for the training.

**Altar Server:** Any child in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade is welcome to serve at Masses, weddings, and funerals. If you missed the training this past fall now is your chance to get involved. Training will be held on Tuesday and Friday, November 4, 7, 11, 14, 18 and 21st. Students must attend 3 sessions either on Tuesday or on Friday (1 session each week, as different material is covered each week.) Please sign-up on the website.

**Usher/Hospitality Minister:** Ushers/Hospitality Ministers play an extremely important role because you may be the only contact a visitor has with someone in our parish and we want them to feel welcome. They also assist with seating of the assembly at weekend Masses and gather the collection. This ministry is open to adults and high school students over the age of 16. If you are interested in this ministry please contact Jim Clauer at the Parish Center.

Call or email Jim Clauer, Director of Worship, with any questions. X137 or jclauer@stjohnofthecross.org.

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**Month of Remembrance**

**The Book of Remembrance**

During the month of November, the Month of All Souls, parishioners and visitors to St. John of the Cross Parish are invited to write the names of their beloved dead in *The Book of Remembrance* found by the Ambo. *The Book of Remembrance* will remain there until the final feast of the Church year, Christ the King. Please put their name on the envelope and they will be prayed for every week. Remembering all of those who have gone before us, “marked with the sign of faith,” helps us better understand and appreciate our faith in the Christ, our risen Lord, who conquers sin and death and brings new life to all.

Unlike the Books of Life, which list only deceased parishioners of St. John of the Cross, our Book of Remembrance may include the names of all our deceased loved ones.

**The Books of Life**

In keeping with the important observance of this month, our parish Books of Life will be placed along the north wall of our church. These books, one for each month, list the names of every person who has been buried from St. John of the Cross Parish. As a parish that is rooted in faith in our Lord Jesus, let us prayerfully recall these deceased members of our community.

Take time to look through the books. Find the names of those you know and offer a prayer for them.
RCIA Prayer

Almighty God,
look upon your servants,
Nicole, Mick, Eric and Ellin,
as they begin the process
of being counted among the members of your Church.
Teach them through this time of preparation
in coming to know Christ,
the love of God,
the mysteries of our faith,
the way of the Gospel,
the grace of the sacraments
and the importance of their relationship with you and the Church.
Send down upon them and their sponsors
your Spirit of guidance and wisdom
as they journey together in faith.
We thank you for these whom you have called
and we await their joining us around the table of the Lord.
Through the power of the Holy Spirit,
assure them of the prayers and support
of the St. John of the Cross faith community.

“Receive the Holy Spirit.”
John 20:22
We Pray For Our Parishioners and Their Loved Ones
Who Have Entered Everlasting Life
November 2013 – November 2014

Jeanne Abiog
Barbara Jane Adolf
Julius Alberico
Mitch Allen
Dale Alm
Adeline Anderson
Sally Bacon
Barbara Bailey
Regina Baumgartner
Mary Beedie
Helen Bowen
Deborah Brandt
Rev. Patrick Brennan
John Buehler
Edwin Bunyea
Rose Byrne
Ann Cadero
John Callahan
Angela Camardo
Rose Canino
Eileen Carlson
Robert Casey
Gerald Casper
Mary Chamberlain
Frank Charboneau
Donald Cisek
Shirley Clifford
Patrick Collins
Kathleen Conforti
Avariella Cotto
Jack Creagan
Madelein Cronin
Teresa Cullen
Michael Daleiden
Martin Daley
Nellie DiPompeo
Tom Doby
Roger Doherty
Emilia Donlon
John Donnelly
Mary Doohan
Lawrence Dougherty
Jack Doyle
Richard Falkenthal
Anne Flanagan
Tom Flynn
Francis Gabrys
Jack Gallagher
Eleanore Gierlasinski
Joseph Gierlasinski
Michael Goedert
Geraldine Golf
Mae Geraldine Goodyear
Floyd Graham
Harry Hajek
Geraldine Harrington
Patrick Harrington
Sally Hawkins
Thomas (Monk) Hawkins
Scott Hayn
Ramona Heinemann
Erin Hickey
John Higgins
Anthony Hlinka
Lil Hoffman
John Hogan
John Hogan
Ruth Hughes
Lorraine Janda
Genevieve Janis
Michael Janowiak
Henry Juiras
Donald Kaiser
Lenny Kamenjarin
Kelly Kennedy
James Kerber
David King
Joan Kipp
Harriet Klodzinski
Michael Klump
Marion Koerner
Dennis Konkolewski
Brian Konrad
Henry Kotynek
Joseph Paul Koucky
John Kowalik
Gary Kozlowski
Frank Kranz
Jack Kunkle
Joseph Kusper
Grant La Rocque
Greg LaValle
Steven LaVoie
James Leninger
Nancy Leslie
Florence Link
Don Love
Michael Lynch
James Madell
We Pray For Our Parishioners and Their Loved Ones
Who Have Entered Everlasting Life
November 2013 – November 2014

Demetrio Maguigad
Anne Maliszewski
Anne Marciniak
Nazareno Marconi
Tom Marshall
Clarise Martorelli
Leonard Martyn
Alice Marzalik
Mary Maska
Mary Jo McAuliffe
Daniel McCarthy
Bob McGee
Helene McInerney
William McMahon
Josephine McNamara
Don Middleton
Lottie Moran
Bob Murray
Clarence Naborowski
Joseph L. Naponiello
Virginia Nowicki
Sr. Anna O’Brien, RSM
Terry O’Brien
Ronald Opyd
Mat O’Toole
Rose Pacocha
Pauline Paneral
Anthony (Bob) Patrick
Carmela Peckat
Carlos Perez
Luz Maria Perez
Phillip Piazza
Consuelo Pinto
Mary Polito
Matthew Porebski
Barbara Potempa
Raymond Principe
Robert Rafanelli
Richard Ringwood
Joe Robin
Jim Ryan
Lillian Sagat
Frank Saran
Willard Savage
Arnold Sayyeau
Rosemary Schick
Ann Schweinberg
Peter Shannon
Maureen Scanlon Shaughnessy
Patrick Sheridan
James Sikes
Edward Slowik
Nancy Snyder
Evelyn Spikovsky
Elizabeth Stead
Dorothy Stefan
Diana Steinl
Charles Sugrue
Dr. Bob Sullivan
Dr. Anthony Sweeney
Parris M. Sot
Gloria Tepavchevich
Ronnie Terry
David Thonn
Arthur Tichenor
Betty Tobin
Marian Tomaso
John Tuohy
Maria Turano
Gloria Turlek
Donald Ureel
Wilma Rae Vedok
Geraldine Vie
Mel Joseph Villicana
Norman Wallace
Dolores Walsh
John (Jack) Walsh
Mary Catherine Warren
Donald Wees
John Joseph Wheelihan
Evelyn Whitson
Jon Wilson
Maxima Wongkee
Margaret Mary Woods
Eleanore Zarnowiecki
Norbert Zimmer
Charles Zine
Joyce Zine
Elidia Zuniga
Lifelong Learning

Living the Gospel

God wills that all “have eternal life.” While this gift is surely and freely given by God, it nonetheless requires something of us: belief in the Son. Rather than an intellectual consent, this belief is a consent of our self, of our will, of our life. Jesus will raise up on the “last day” those who come to him, who choose to be grasped by him, and who welcome the Life he gives. These are the faithful departed who rest in peace and whom we commemorate this day.

The gospel twice points to the hope we have for those faithful who have died but have not yet received the fullness of eternal Life. The basis for this hope lies in Jesus himself who passed from death to Life. Having passed through trial and testing, the faithful departed are now graced with peace, understanding, love, and mercy. They have given their all during life, and now receive all from the Son who draws them to eternal union with him. Traditionally, many practices of prayer, penance, and good works take place on this day. This day also reminds us that we are called now to live lives of prayer, penance, and good works, that we ought not to live our faith minimally and hope for the best after we die, relying on God’s mercy. Our belief in him must translate to doing good. Gospel living isn’t simply a matter of the “big things.” It’s a matter of doing everything for the good of another. In smiling to those who seem sad or tired, in lending a helping hand to the overburdened, in sharing with those less fortunate than ourselves, we are already ©Living Liturgy

Hear our prayers, O Lord
and be with us on our journey.
May your peace guide our steps and
hope light our way
as we journey through this life
to the joy of the life of the world to come.
We make our prayers in the name of your Son,
our Risen Lord and Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

The One Thing Necessary
Richard Rohr Meditation

Mystics always bring this message in some form: “Do not be afraid.” They know that it is all okay and finally okay, too! They want to tell you so that you can stop fretting and fearing and enjoy divine union now. “Enjoy” is the operative word. Mystical experience allows you to enjoy your own life, and to stop creating enemies and people to be afraid of and nations we have to punish and kill. When you are enjoying deep union, you won’t need to create divisions, mistrust, and separation. Conspiracy theories and tabloid gossip hold little interest for you.

True spiritual encounter changes your politics, your attitude toward money, your use of time, your relationship toward foreigners and the weak, your attitude toward war and nationalism. You are a citizen of the Big Kingdom now (Philippians 3:20). Be prepared to have a very different lifestyle afterwards. If you are not ready to change, don’t seek out God.

Once you have one sincere moment of divine union, you will want to spend your time on the one thing necessary, which is to grow deeper and deeper in love every chance that you get. Talk to someone who has had a near-death, or nearing-death, experience. They all agree: It’s all about love. It’s all about union.

Gateway to Silence:

We are one in Love.
On the feast of All Saints, November 1st, the Church recognizes the saints, thousands of men and women whose lives have mirrored the holiness of God in a special way. People like ourselves who did ordinary things in an extraordinary way. People like ourselves who took seriously Jesus’ invitation to love one another as he loved us. A saint is a dramatic illustration of God’s power at work in people’s lives—people like us. On this day we are reminded that every one of us without exception is called to be a saint. Not one of us is called to be anything less than a saint.

What is the best way to become a saint? Simply, you become a saint by doing what God made you to do. Practically speaking, this means that if you are a parent at this moment in your life, that’s exactly the way God intends you to become a saint: by being the best parent you can be. If you are a student at this moment in your life, that’s exactly the way God intends you to become a saint: by being the best student you can be. Or if you are an elderly couple at this moment in your life, that’s exactly the way God intends you to become a saint: by being the best elderly couple you can be.

Some years ago an elderly couple lived on a large corner lot near an elementary school. The children from the school had a habit of cutting across the corner of their lawn wearing an ugly path through it. At first this merely annoyed the couple, but after a while it angered them. The couple realized that something had to be done. The situation was poisoning their attitude toward the children and destroying their peace of mind. The couple hit upon a solution. First they put crushed gravel on the path. Then they lined it with flowers. After that they set a bench along the path. On afternoons when school let out, the couple sat on the bench and greeted the children as they passed by. The response of the children was amazing. They stopped and thanked the couple for the path. They even asked the names of the flowers and sometimes sat down to talk with the couple. In short the couple turned an unhappy situation into a happy one, a potentially angry situation into a delightfully happy one.

If you are still in doubt about what it means to be a saint in today’s world, reread the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12). The Beatitudes spell out in simple terms the guidelines that we should use to live our lives. And if we live out these guidelines, as the elderly couple did, Jesus will someday say to us what he said to the people of his time in the Sermon on the Mount: Blessed are you, the kingdom of God is yours. Used with permission. M Link.

Lord, teach me to be generous.
Teach me to serve you as you deserve;
to give and not to count the cost;
to fight and not to heed the wounds;
to toil and not to seek for rest;
to labor and not to ask for reward,
except to know that I am doing your will.

St. Ignatius
Recently I received a letter from a woman asking me to explain the Christian teaching about praying for the dead. Her son had been killed in an accident and she had been dissuaded from attending any special prayers for him. Her question: Does it make sense to pray for the dead?

The Christian answer is unequivocal, yes! It makes sense to pray for the dead and our Christian faith asks us to do so, both in liturgy and in private. Why? What possible good can it do? To remind God to be merciful? God needs no reminders. To ask God to see a good heart beneath all the struggles of a human life? God doesn't need a lesson from us on understanding. God is already perfect understanding, perfect love, and perfect forgiveness. As a cynic might ask it, why pray for the dead? If the person is already in heaven, he or she doesn’t need prayers; if he or she is in hell, our prayers won’t be of any help!"

So why pray for the dead?

For the same reason we pray for anything. We need to pray. It does us good. Objections to praying for the dead might, with equal logic, be raised against all prayers of petition. God already knows everything and there is no need to remind God of anything. Yet, God has asked us to pray and to pray in petition because prayer is meant to change us, not God. Thus, the first reason we pray for the dead is because that prayer helps us, the living. Prayer for the dead is meant to console the living.

Closely tied to this is a second reason: We pray for our dead loved ones to help heal our relationship to them. When someone close to us dies, it is natural, always, to feel a certain amount of guilt, not just because that person died and we go on living, but because, being human, we have had a less-than-perfect relationship with him or her. There is unfinished business between us. In praying for that person, among other things, we help wash clean those things that remain painful between us.

This takes us to the heart of the matter. We pray for the dead because we believe in the communion of saints, an essential Christian doctrine that asks us to believe that a vital flow of life continues to exist between ourselves and our loved ones, even beyond death. Love, presence, and communication reach through death.

We pray for the dead to remain in communication with them. Just as we can hold someone’s hand as he or she is dying, and this can be an immense comfort to both of us, so too we can hold another’s hand beyond death. Indeed, since death washes many things clean, in our prayers for our loved ones who have died, often more so than our conversations with them when they were alive, the connection is purer, the forgiveness is deeper, the perspective is wider, and the distance between us is less. Communication with our loved ones after death is privileged, undercutting much of what kept us apart in this life.

Praying for the dead, our faith assures us, not only consoles us, but also offers real strength and encouragement to the loved one who has died. How? In the same way as loving presence to each other offers strength and consolation here in his life. Picture, for example, a young child learning to swim. The child’s mother cannot learn for the child, but if she is present and offering encouragement from the edge of the pool, the child’s struggle and learning become easier. Things are more easily borne, if they can be shared. This is true even for a person’s adjustment to the life of heaven.

By praying for the dead, we share with them the pain of adjusting to a new life. Part of that pain of adjustment (which classically Roman Catholics have called “purgatory”) is the pain of letting go of this life. In our prayers for the dead, we offer them our presence and love, as a mother on the edge of the pool, as they adjust to a new life. Purgatory is not a geography, a place distinct from heaven, but the pain that comes from being in heaven, without having fully let go of earth. Love, even as we know it in this life, already teaches us that.

From my own experience of having loved ones die, as well as from what others have shared with me, I have found that usually, after a time, we sense that our deceased loved ones no longer need us to pray for them. Now they just want us to connect with them. Prayer for the dead does that and even though our prayers might still to be formulated as if we are praying for them we are now simply connecting with them and what was formerly a cold, cutting absence now becomes a warm, comforting presence.

Ron Rolheiser, OMI
Outreach

Donate Stamps
Shoppers at Jewel Osco receive Saver Stamps that can be redeemed for Cuisinart cookware.

Donate your Saver Stamps to help us earn cookware for new refugee families served by the Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program in Chicago. Stamps may be dropped off at the parish center or the YC office.

Help Interfaith Career Network
ICN has many tools to assist job seekers, but we need your assistance to provide the most important element in a job search which is open positions. If you are a hiring manager or aware of open positions in your company, please send the information to jobs@interfaithcareernetwork.org. Any and all postings are welcome. ICN job seekers are at all stages of their career, in every industry, with a broad spectrum of education and experience. All job postings will be communicated to the over 400-member ICN Yahoo group. Ideally it will be a WIN/WIN for your company and a qualified job seeker in your community. If you have any questions or for additional information you can also contact Judy Kennedy, jkennedy1333@ameritech.net at 708.352.8943 or Tom Rohan, tom_rohan@yahoo.com at 708.246.4231.

Lastly, to learn more about ICN visit our website at www.interfaithcareernetwork.org.

Summer Work Tour Opportunity
Both adults and high school students are invited to a summer work tour trip to Nuestros Pequenos Hermanos in Guatemala. Come and learn more about this international trip on Wednesday, November 19th at 7pm in the Parish Center. Contact TJ Williams at fifatjw@att.net with any questions.

Food Pantry Donations
Your nonperishable food donations brought to our church narthex during the month of November will be donated to our neighboring parish St. Francis Xavier. Please remember to bring food for the poor when you come to Mass.

Francis Xavier Run/Walk
Join us for the 9th Annual Falcon 5K Run/Walk to benefit St. Francis Xavier School on Saturday, November 8th at 8:30am. Register online at www.imathlete.com/events/falcon5k2014.

Volunteers Needed
Sign up to help at the Share Christmas sign up tables in church over three weekends beginning November 22-23 before and after all Masses. Contact Lolly Maloney at lollymaloney@gmail.com or Bill Bright at bbright@stjohnofthecross.org.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development
While seemingly far away and obsolete, poverty is closer to home than it may seem. What can we do? Be a volunteer. Be a donor. Be an advocate for justice. Pope Francis tells us, “The measure of the greatness of a society is found in the way it treats those most in need, those who have nothing apart from their poverty.”

In efforts to align our church with Pope Francis’ call, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) works to combat the threats that poverty poses and empower the poor through self-help programs. They fund organizations in your neighborhood including Mujeres Unidas (Women United), who works to build upon the talents of the program participants to create future self-sufficient, women owned co-operatives in the food service industry.

This November 22nd and 23rd, join the millions of generous Chicagoans and support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development to help fund remarkable organizations. Visit www.ChicagoPeaceAndJustice.org/CCHD information.
The Beatitudes are the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-10). Jesus teaches us that if we live according to the Beatitudes, we will live a happy Christian life. The Beatitudes do not provide specific directions on how we should live our lives, as the Ten Commandments do. Rather, they inspire us to adopt a certain mindset or vision for our lives, namely, the vision of Jesus Christ. The Beatitudes challenge us to be people of virtue. Virtue is a firm attitude, mindset, or disposition to do good. For the virtuous person, doing good is a habit. Through the Beatitudes, Jesus calls us to change our vision and learn that in order to be happy (blessed), we must be peace-loving, merciful, clean of heart, and meek.

Living the Beatitudes is a lifelong task because the Beatitudes turn upside down the values of the world. The world sets up the rich to be first; Jesus puts the poor on top of the world. The world tells us to seek happiness at all costs; Jesus saw happiness in mourning. The world values power over others; Jesus praised the meek. The world encourages self-fulfillment; Jesus told us to work for justice. The world says that the merciless succeed; Jesus proclaimed blessed the merciful. The world announces, Go for the gold!; Jesus taught us to keep our hearts pure. The world honors the winners of wars; Jesus celebrated peacemakers. The world sees the persecuted as losers; Jesus declared them the winners.

So what are some ways that we can develop the Beatitudes in our own lives? First, we can rest assured that the Holy Spirit is already at work within us, drawing us toward God and inspiring our desire to be a Beatitudes-type of person. Second, like anything we hope to develop in ourselves, we must be open, learn, and study. Pay attention to the people you know who model a particular beatitude. Think of ways you can model their behavior in your own life. Finally, talk with God in prayer. Ask him to help you out and to teach you how to develop the Beatitudes in your mind, heart, and actions. Loyola Press

The family is where we are formed as people. Every family is a brick in the building of society.

Pope Francis @Pontifex · Oct 23

Volunteer for Flyer Day and Harvest Saturday

Flyer Day is Saturday, November 8. Crossroads teens will be delivering flyers about our annual Harvest Saturday food collection to homes in Western Springs and surrounding neighborhoods. The food will be collected on Harvest Saturday, November 15.

Drivers (21 and over) are needed both days and we need help sorting and packing the food on the 15th. Sign up on the Crossroads website. Contact Fran Karas with questions at 708-246-2612 or franbkaras@gmail.com.

Basketball Registration Closing

Registration for Boy’s basketball will close on Wednesday, November 5. Register today on the Crossroads website.

Crossroads Teens Serve

Many of our Crossroads teens spent their recent day off school volunteering at Feed My Starving Children.

Speaker Event

The Crossroads Parent Outreach Team invites parents of teens to a speaker event on Sunday, November 23, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Parish Center. LTHS Student Assistance Program Coordinator, Jeanne Widing, will lead a discussion on the issues and challenges facing today’s teens. Widing has been involved as a facilitator and advisor in support groups related to student stress and suicide prevention, adolescent counseling, and teen substance abuse. Call the Parish Center (708)246-4404 to register. Questions? Contact Beth Korenchan at bkorenchan@comcast.net.
Saint John of the Cross Parish School is beginning to accept applications for new students for current school families and parishioners. If you are interested in learning more about SJC or setting up a tour, please call Jennifer Jermano Miller at 708-246-4454 or miller@sjc.pvt.k12.il.us. Or apply by following the QR code below.

This Week at SJC
November 4 Parent Association Meeting 9am
November 6 & 7 Parent Teacher Conferences
November 7 No School for Students

Day of the Spirit was last Saturday, Oct. 25. Thank you to our core team of 4 adults who planned the day, 21 Crossroads teens and leaders that facilitated and 20 adult small group leaders that led our 194 8th grade students through the retreat. It was a spirit-filled day for ALL!

YC Schedule
Classes K-6 10:15-11:30am  Sunday, Nov. 2, 9, 16
FFC 6:15-7:30pm  Monday, Nov. 3, 10, 17
Jr. Hi Sm Groups Noon-1:30pm  Sunday, Nov. 2
Special Needs Elementary Sunday, Nov. 9 & 16
Special Needs Confirmation Sunday, Nov. 2 & offsite on 23rd
We would like to thank all those who attended our Holy Yoga class and Elizabeth Celauro for leading us through a wonderful spiritual experience and evening of reflection.

"Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might..."
Ecclesiastes 9:10

A message from Elizabeth Turcich, Spiritual Advisor:
It is with pleasure that I am a part of such a dedicated, motivated, and inspirational group of women. These are just a few ways I would describe the SJC Women’s Club! Among our many events throughout the year, I work to plan those to bring us all together to reconnect to our faith. The strength of our group is rooted in faith but the work we do in both the church and community will inspire you. Come join a dedicated group of women from the church as we continue to challenge ourselves to meet our mission of celebrating our spiritual and social well-being.

Retreat/Workshop for Widowed Men & Women
Friends and family don’t understand what I am going through. Feeling stuck? Need something to get you “over the hump?” Have you reached a turning point after your loss?
Come and join us for a weekend especially designed to help you reflect on and recognize new direction for your life while still treasuring memories of your loved one.
Nov.15 & 16 at Our Lady of the Angels in Lemont near Cog Hill (includes overnight private room and meals). For more information contact Joyful Again, Widowed Ministry: 708-354-7211 or joyfulagain7211@gmail.com.

Coping with the Holidays
For those mourning the death of a loved one this holiday season, Little Company of Mary Hospital and Health Care Centers is offering an evening entitled: Coping with the Holidays
Wednesday, November 12 from 7:30-9:30pm
The presenter will be Fr. Jim Heneghan, Pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. Little Company of Mary is located at 2800 W. 95th Street in Evergreen Park. Register at 708-229-5484. There is no fee.

2 Upcoming Programs at The Well
“The Non-Negotiables of Christian Spirituality” with facilitator, Sallie Latkovich, CSJ on Thursdays from 7-8:30 pm on Nov. 6, 13, and 20.
“Thomas Berry: Thomas the Teacher ~ Thomas the Man” with facilitator, Carolyn Toben on Saturday, Nov. 8 from 8:30-Noon. To register or for more information go to www.csjthewell.org. The Well is located at 1515 West Ogden Ave. LaGrange Park.

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

Kathleen and Timothy Siffermann and Family
Marnie and Ross Dowd and Family
Andrea and Thomas Tamlyn and Family
Sister Therese Fenlon
Kelly and Edward Kasper and Family
Krystyna and Michael Skrabacz and Family
Selena and Thomas Bills and Family
Colleen and Patrick Quinn and Family
Lois Harris
Robert Reitmeier

If you would like to register to become a new member, please contact Elizabeth Russell-Jones in the Welcome Center. For more information call 708.246.4404x155 or erussell-jones@stjohnofthecross.org.

For more information or to learn more about the Women’s Club, please email us at SJCWomensClub@gmail.com
We look forward to seeing you at our next event!
This Week at SJC
Monday, November 3, 2014
9:15am School Mass
9:30am Spiritual Journaling
10:30am Step 11 Christian Meditation
1:00pm Little Rock
2:30pm Adoration
7:00pm Boy Scouts
Tuesday, November 4, 2014
9:00am Parent Association Meeting
9:05am Tuesdays with Mary
7:00pm YC Council Meeting
7:00pm RCIA
Wednesday, November 5, 2014
9:30am Wednesday Morning Bible Study
2:00pm Christian Meditation
3:00pm Spirituality of St. John of the Cross
7:00pm Chicago Catholic Scripture School
7:00pm RCIA Planning Meeting
7:30pm Christian Meditation
Thursday, November 6, 2014
9:00am Women’s Club Flourish
6:30pm YC Sponsor Night
Friday, November 7, 2014
9:30am Mom’s Club
6:30pm YC Sponsor Night
Saturday, November 8, 2014
7:00 am Christian Meditation
9:00am Crossroads Flyer Day
Sunday, November 9, 2014
4:00pm YC, BEDS

Virtus Training—Protecting God’s Children Workshop will be offered next week on Wednesday, Nov. 12 at 6:30pm. Register at virtus.org. Attendees must be on time and stay for the entire session. For all parish employees and volunteers 18 years of age and older. This is our last session for the year. Call for location.

Mass Intentions
Monday, November 3, St. Martin de Porres
7:45 Patrick McNamara; Charles & Ann Ward
Tuesday, November 4, St. Charles Borromeo
7:45 John P. Ryan; Our Beloved Dead
Wednesday, November 5
7:45 Jerry Albertson; Gloria Oechsel
Thursday, November 6
7:45 Francis E. Napleton; Genrose Hlavin
Friday, November 7
7:45 Richard & Margaret Kirtley; Loretta Babka
Saturday, November 8
8:00 John Jurkacek; Raymone & Margaret Cochran
5:00 Sr. Anna O’Brien, RSM; Thomas Albertson
Sunday, November 9, Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
7:30 Demetrio Maguigad; Margaret Taylor
9:00 Patrick Healy; William Gruber
10:45 Michael Nolan; Richard Falkenthal
12:15 Genevieve Obritz; Larry Dougherty
5:00 John Callaghan
Joe Hathaway
Italics—Alive

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
bvolmer@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
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Jim Clauer, Director of Worship
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Laura Dragich, Reservations Coordinator
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Kathleen Gorman, School Principal
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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

May we grow in our belief in Christ by greater fidelity to living as he taught. May we be more closely united with Christ in his death and resurrection.

Pray for Our Sick
Richard Baruth  Lori Cook
Bruce Byne  Jim Rozsypal
Ramona Carroll

We Pray for Our Beloved Dead
Willard Savage,
cousin of John Casey
Shirley Clifford,
mother of Robert & Kim Egan
Ann Cadero,
brother of Ed Jamrozik
Richard Ringwood,
brother-in-law of Cathy Laskey
Berta Gion
sister of Carlo and Lilly Ceccotti
ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS WOMEN’S CLUB ANNUAL

COAT DRIVE

To benefit The Society of St. Vincent De Paul

October 16th thru November 7th
Drop boxes available in the Church Parish Center and School

November 8th & 9th Donations will be received in the Parish Center after all masses

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT Jennifer Miller at jenjoemiller@hotmail.com and Sylvie Salazar is
jdranskomore@sbcglobal.net