Be filled with the Holy Spirit

Pentecost Sunday
May 24, 2015
It’s time to start thinking about SUMMER!
Come to our parish Vacation Bible School where you will LEARN what’s so great about God, EXPLORE the nature of God, and SERVE God in practical ways through interactive games, skits, songs, and crafts.

**June 29-July 2 from 9am to Noon**

VBS is for kids entering kindergarten through 5th grade in the fall. The cost is $35 which covers the program, t shirt, crafts and snacks. You can register at the YC Office or website. Space is limited. High school and adult crew leaders needed and appreciated. Register by June 1.
Dear Parishioners,

Every parishioner received a letter from the parish last month with a brochure explaining the To Teach Who Christ Is (TTWCI) Campaign. The archdiocese has initiated this $350 million dollar Campaign to address funding Catholic education needs as well as a number of other issues affecting our ability as an archdiocese To Teach Who Christ Is to the world around us. The Parish Advisory Council has been very involved in gathering and prioritizing the ideas that have been generated for our parish. Here is the latest update on what has been happening.

A broad variety of ideas were generated from parishioners who attended our Imagine Listening Sessions (which took place in April) as well as ideas generated from sessions conducted with the Parish Staff, PAC members and parishioners serving on the School Advisory Board, Finance Council, Youth Catechesis Council, Crossroads Advisory Council, Spirituality Advisory Group, and Outreach Advisory Committee. Ideas were identified and prioritized for our portion (60%) of the total funds raised. We are grateful for all who participated in these sessions and to Dan Cochran and Pat Surdyk who co-chaired the Pre-Campaign advance efforts.

Last week the Parish Advisory Council approved the ideas which will now be further refined before presenting them to the parish in the fall as part of our campaign kick-off. These ideas will allow our parish to better live out our parish mission, leaving a spiritual legacy for future generations who will celebrate the Sacraments, reach out to those in need, and pursue life-enriching religious education and formation opportunities.

Our work in visioning the future of our parish as we prepare for the Campaign has truly been exciting as it reflects the thoughts of a wide range of parishioners, some of whom were part of the building of our parish at its very beginning. Additional ideas from the idea generation sessions will be used by the staff and PAC as they formulate strategic goals in the coming years.

As we prepare to break for the summer, I would like to acknowledge the service of the following Council members who have completed their terms: Jerry Klafta (served on the PAC for 4 years), Marie Gerken (2 years), Betsy Spiering (4 years), and Patrick Falvey (3 years). I would also like to welcome our new At-Large reps, Lisa Geneser and Jim Strafaci, and our Apostles, Dan Cochran (serving a second term), Larry Krema, and Heidi Kotynek.

I look forward to keeping you informed of the future work of the PAC and hope you will be excited to see our presentation to the parish in September. All pre-read materials and meeting minutes can be found on our parish website under stjohnofthecross.org/leadership/parish-advisory-council/.

Have a great summer!

Ann Marie Calistro
Parish Advisory Council Chairperson

There are openings in several ministries at our parish. Training will be held this summer. If you would like more information about the ministry see Fr. Bill, or if you are ready to sign up call the Parish Center front office.

**Usher:** Ushers welcome, help people find seats, assist those with special needs, answer questions, take up the collection, and take charge when there is an emergency. There are openings at all Mass times. Ushers should be of high school age or older. Usually they serve at the same Mass each week.

**Communion Minister:** This ministry is for those high school aged and older who have received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Communion, Confirmation) and wish to share their faith with members of the assembly. Scheduling is based on your availability.

**Lector:** Lectors proclaim the Word of God at Mass. Like Communion Ministers, Lectors should be of high school age and older, have received the Sacraments of Initiation and wish to share their faith. Good reading skills and a clear speaking voice are important. Scheduling is based on your availability.

**Minister of Care:** Ministers of Care are trained volunteers who visit, pray with and bring Communion to the elderly or patients at RML Specialty Hospital, LaGrange Hospital, Hines VA Hospital or at their home. Ministers complete four evening training sessions and receive additional instruction from Fr. Bill. Scheduling is based on your availability.
Prayer

The traditional prayer to the Holy Spirit can be a wonderful source of reflection.

_Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love._

_V. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created._

_R. And you shall renew the face of the earth._

_Let us pray._

_O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant us in the same Spirit to be truly wise and ever to rejoice in His consolation._

_Through Christ our Lord._

_Amen._

_Come, Holy Spirit_

The first movement of this prayer is to ask for the Holy Spirit to come to us. A lot goes into preparing our hearts to ask for the Holy Spirit to come, not the least of which is to acknowledge that there is a Holy Spirit and that we feel something missing without the presence of the Spirit in our lives. This is the Spirit Jesus promised to send us so that we would not feel orphaned. This is the Spirit that transformed the first disciples from people afraid and locked in to the upper room.

_Fill the hearts of your faithful_

This is a request for a heart filled with the Spirit. This isn’t asking, “Give me a little bit of your Spirit.” This is a bold request. We are asking that we might be filled - and therefore, transformed by the Spirit. No hesitation, no doubt, no fear, no judgment, no wrangling, no selfishness can remain. Fill us. Fill me.

_Enkindle in them the fire of your love_

Our prayer gets even more specific. We desire the love which only the Spirit can bring. We know it is a fire, and we ask for it. It is a purifying fire. It burns away all that is in the way. And, it warms whatever is cold. This fire brings a new vitality and courage. And, fire can be shared with others, without being diminished. Set our hearts on fire. Set my heart on fire.

_Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created_

Paul tells us, "So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. [ 2 Corinthians 5:17] We are asking the Spirit to make us a new creation. This is more than a new beginning or a fresh start. We are asking for a transforming renewal. Our lives can be new with the Spirit filling our hearts. Give us/me your Spirit and make us/me new.

_And you shall renew the face of the earth_

When we are on fire and renewed by the Spirit, we can become one with that Spirit’s activity of renewing the whole world. We can be the fire that ignites other fires. We can work to bring reconciliation, healing, true justice and renewal for all the people on the face of the earth. Let me be part of your Spirit's fire for all God’s creation.

_O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful_

We acknowledge before God that the work of the Spirit is alive among us, enlightening our minds and hearts, helping us listen and discern with growing freedom and courage.

_Grant us in the same Spirit to be truly wise and ever to rejoice in His consolation._

So, we conclude our prayer, asking that this same Spirit will allow us to be truly wise - with that discerning Spirit - and to give ourselves to enjoying - that is, being consoled by - what the Spirit gives us. Let us pray for the Holy Spirit to come to us and to our communities.
A fundamental element of Pentecost is astonishment. Our God is a God of astonishment; this we know. No one expected anything more from the disciples: after Jesus’ death they were a small, insignificant group of defeated orphans of their Master. There occurred instead an unexpected event that astounded: the people were astonished because each of them heard the disciples speaking in their own tongues, telling of the great works of God (cf. Acts 2:6–7, 11). The Church born at Pentecost is an astounding community because, with the force of her arrival from God, a new message is proclaimed—the resurrection of Christ—with a new language, the universal one of love. A new proclamation: Christ lives, he is risen. A new language: the language of love. The disciples are adorned with power from above and speak with courage. Only minutes before, they all were cowardly, but now they speak with courage and candor, with the freedom of the Holy Spirit.

Thus the Church is called into being forever, capable of astounding while proclaiming to all that Jesus Christ has conquered death, that God’s arms are always open, that his patience is always there awaiting in order to forgive us. The risen Jesus bestowed his Spirit on the Church for this very mission.

Take note: if the Church is alive, she must always surprise. It is incumbent upon the living Church to astound. A Church that is unable to astound is a Church that is weak, sick, dying, and that needs admission to the intensive care unit as soon as possible!

—Excerpted from the new book Walking with Jesus by Pope Francis
www.ignatianspirituality.com

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Living the Gospel

According to this Gospel, both the Spirit and the disciples testify to Jesus. What is this testimony? It is the revelation that Jesus is of the Father, is the divine Son. Furthermore, this gospel says that the Spirit glorifies Jesus by testifying. So then do we. What is this glory? It is Jesus himself who is the visible Presence of the Father. Like the Spirit of truth, when we testify we also glorify.

If we are to be living icons of the Spirit of truth dwelling within us, then the good choices we make daily testify to this divine indwelling. Simply put, Pentecost invites us to act like God! Although our testimony is not about ourselves—it is about the risen Jesus as the Son of God present among us and bringing us to salvation—in one respect it truly is about ourselves. Through the indwelling Spirit we are made members of the Body of Christ. We are living icons of the Spirit of truth, and living icons of the risen Jesus who dwells within and among us. We cannot love another if we do not give of ourselves to others. We cannot have joy if we are turned in on ourselves. We cannot have peace if we are distracted by getting and doing only what we want. We cannot have patience if we do not respect the dignity of others. We cannot have gentleness if we do not see the need in others. We cannot have self-control if we don’t put the good of others first. We cannot have any of the fruits of the Holy Spirit if we do not live the wondrous mystery of the Spirit dwelling within us. Come, Holy Spirit! ©Living Liturgy

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May we respond faithfully to the enlivening Presence of the Spirit dwelling within us.

May we proclaim the Gospel in word and deed with sincerity and truth.

Pray for those who received the sacraments of initiation at Easter. May they be strengthened in their vocation as new disciples of Christ.
Volunteer Opportunity
It’s once again time to think about this year’s school supply recycling project. With the help of many of you last year in collecting, sorting and packing supplies, more than three hundred fifty boxes were distributed to the following organizations all of whom were most grateful for what they received:

Catholic Charities in Chicago, Catholic Charities in Cicero, Global Youth Leadership, Harvest Hope, Kolbe House Prison Ministry’s Children of the Incarcerated Program, Off the Street Club, Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation, Refugee One, St. Leonard Prison Ministry, St. Thadeus School, SCARCE, School on Wheels, and St.Vincent DePaul Settlement House, St. Louis MO

Helpers of all ages are needed to sort and pack this year’s supplies on Monday and Tuesday, June 15 & 16 from 9 until 12 at Mary Lee and Jim Larsen’s home, 4521 Harvey in Western Springs. Please come for as little or as long as you would like. There will be a pizza lunch and a chance to swim afterwards for those who can stay. If you know of any additional schools or organizations that might be in need of supplies this year or you have any gently used school/art/office supplies that you would like to donate, please call Mary Lee and Jim at 708-246-3987.

Your Behind-the Scenes Tour of HR and the Hiring Process
Join Interfaith Career Network’s tour of HR on Thursday, June 4 from 7-9 pm at St. Cletus with Judy Lake as your Tour Guide. Judy has been in the Human Resources field for over 18 years working as a Coordinator, Generalist and Manager. She will provide insight into what goes on behind the scenes from an HR point of view with discussion on resumes, cover letters, the interview/selection process and more. In a job search? Don’t miss the answers to HR questions you’ve been asking yourself.

Big Shoulders Benefit
Mark your calendar for the 15th annual Big Shoulders Fund Golf Classic on August 3, 2015 at Olympia Fields Country Club. 100% of the proceeds benefit Big Shoulders Fund Scholarship Programs which assist thousands of children by helping their families afford tuition at one of the 89 inner city Chicago Catholic schools supported by the Big Shoulders Fund. Raffle Tickets, sponsorships and foursomes are available now starting at $100. For more information or to register visit www.bigshouldersfund.org or call Amelia Drozda at 312.751.8337

SJC Outreach Advisory Group
Vision and Mission
For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ – Matthew 25:35-36

We the people of St. John of the Cross Parish establish our relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ by living the message of the Gospel to “Love God with our whole hearts and our neighbors as ourselves.”

Vision
Each and every St. John of the Cross parishioner yearns to make Matthew 25 come alive, by:
• Looking inward to identify his/her individual talents, resources, and interests
• Looking outward to understand the concerns and wants of others in need
• Discerning how best to serve God through action based on those reflections, faith and prayer

Mission
To be the vehicle, within our community, to connect those who can help with those who need help by:
• Providing service opportunities
• Educating others on opportunities to serve
• Guiding others on how to discern their individual action
• Keeping our focus on Vision (or not becoming all things for all people)

Values
1. We honor the dignity of those being served as well as those doing the serving.
2. We demonstrate humility and compassion when serving.
3. We place God at the center of it all.
4. We recognize that it is a privilege and a joy to give of ourselves.
May is Mental Health Month

The dignity of the individual is paramount in our belief that we are all created in the image and likeness of God. Our language should reflect our belief. When talking about mental health challenges, we need to use “people first language.” We refer to people as the persons they are – not the disease or disability they have. So we say, “a person who is experiencing mental health challenges” or “a man or woman with a mental illness.” We avoid referring to people using terms like “the mentally ill” or “the depressed.” As people of compassion and justice we should never use stigmatizing language or demeaning terms. Careful use of language is more than being “politically correct.” It is a way of communicating that people with mental health challenges, as Pope John Paul II said, “have the inalienable right not only to be considered as an image of God and therefore as a person, but also to be treated as such.” As a faith community, we can reflect on our words and our willingness to make people welcome in our parish community.

Many people with mental health challenges are in recovery and lead normal lives – doing the same every day activities that everyone else does. Due to the stigma associated with mental illness, you and I are probably not aware of their challenges. They are not likely to tell anyone at work or in the neighborhood that they have a major mental illness. Some, while they are able to work, sometimes find the illness debilitating. They miss work for periods of time; and can’t do every day activities. Tragically, they might have health insurance while they can work – and not need it; and then have no health insurance when they can’t work and are in need of the health care. Some will never be able to work, and have to rely on public assistance and programs to help them throughout their life. Still others find themselves in a constant cycle of crisis due to the lack of health insurance or inadequate and inconsistent systems of mental health services. As a faith community, we can make a difference in people’s lives by being accepting of their illness, comforting them in times of crisis, supporting them when needed, and assisting them in their search for mental health services. In justice, our advocacy is needed for better systems of care, and fair employment and housing practices that serve people with mental health challenges, and their families. For more information, visit the National Catholic Partnership on Disability at http://www.ncpd.org/ministries-programs/specific/mentalillness

We pray that the Holy Spirit will inspire Christians everywhere to open their hearts and arms to welcome those who face mental illness.

Catholic Charities Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide (LOSS) Support Program
Loss is a support group for those who are grieving a death by suicide of a family member or close friend. It offers a safe, non-judgmental place where survivors are educated and assisted through the grieving process by trained clinicians and veteran LOSS survivors. There are also LOSS groups that help children and youth. There are monthly meetings at 9 sites in the area, weekly groups for the newly bereaved in 8 week sessions, and individual/family counseling for adults and children. Call 312-655-7284 or go to www.catholiccharities.net/loss
Youth Catechesis is SJC’s religious education program for all parish children from kindergarten through 8th grade. Registration is underway for the next school year. Visit our office to register your children. The YC office is located in the southeast corner of the school building at 708 51st Street. Call us with questions at 708-246-6760. New families are asked to bring a copy of each child’s baptismal certificate if not baptized at our parish.

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 8:30am-4pm. We offer families extended hours on from 8:30am-6:30pm on Wednesday, May 27 for your convenience.

We encourage all parishioners to become involved as a Catechist or Aide next year. We have volunteers who have children in the program, parishioners who do not have a YC student, and high school teens. All are welcome to share their faith with our parish children! Join us!!

Loving Jesus,
"Peace be with you," was your wish for your disciples.
And I know it is your wish for me.

On this great celebration of your Holy Spirit touching deeply all of our lives,
I ask for the gifts you long to give me.
Breathe on me and let me carry your grace, strength and joy to others.
I rejoice in your call to me
to renew others in your Spirit.

Help me to see each of my brothers and sisters as a part of the body of humanity, with you as our head.
"As the father has sent me, so I send you."
Send me, Lord!

I hear your call and my heart is filled with joy as I go into the world to live my life as your faithful witness. Creighton Online.
St. John of the Cross Parish congratulates the following families who had their infant baptized by Fr. Bill last Sunday. Pictured from the left is infant, Daniel Joseph, and parents Scott and Jessica Ball, Taylor Nicole with parents Tom and Selena Bills, and Colton Christopher with parents Brian and Katie Hartigan.

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

What do I need to do to have my baby baptized?
Pre-baptism sessions are offered for parents whether it is your first child being baptized or a subsequent child. The sessions are offered on the fourth Sunday of each month at 1:30pm (noon during the summer). It is our expectation that both parents attend this session. Feel free to bring your new baby and invite the godparents too. To learn more simply call the parish center front office during regular business hours (9am-4pm). One of our full-time staff members will take all the necessary information and answer any questions you may have.

Lord, teach us that here on earth you have no voice but ours to preach the good news of Jesus to others. Help us spread that good news not only by our prayers and by our material resources but also by our personal word and example. Lord, teach us that here on earth we are, indeed, your hands; we are your voice; we are your heart.

Addressing the crowd in St. Peter’s Square last week, Pope Francis once again talked more about loving one another.

Today I would like to continue our catechesis on the family by reflecting on three phrases: “May I?”, “Thank you”, and “Pardon me”. These simple phrases are not so easy to say or to put into practice. But when they are ignored, their absence can cause cracks in the foundation of the family, which can lead to its collapse. If these words are part of our daily lives, not just as a formal expression of good manners, but as a sign of deep love for one another, they strengthen a happy family life. “May I?” – even if we think we have the right to something, when we speak to our spouse or family member with kindness we create space for a true spirit of marital and familial common life. We renew trust and respect, revealing our love for others, and we allow them to open the door of their hearts to us. “Thank you” – our society has great need for gratitude, which makes us more sensitive to the dignity of the human person and the demands of social justice. Thankfulness is also the language of God, to whom above all we must express our gratitude. “Pardon me” – Without these words, hurt can develop in our relationships, and weaken our life as a family. But when we ask forgiveness, we show our desire to restore what was lost – respect, honesty, love – and healing between family members is made possible. “May I?”, “Thank you”, “Pardon me” – Let us ask the Lord to keep these three phrases in our hearts, our homes and our communities.

Yes, the phrases seem simple, but living in a spirit of harmony, gratitude, and forgiveness takes practice, and the family is a great place to start our practicing. Which attitude do you need to focus on today? What steps can you
Crossroads

Calendar of Events

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<th>June 4</th>
<th>Work Tour Meeting 6:00 pm</th>
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<td>June 5</td>
<td>SWORD Retreat</td>
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Parish News

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

Parish Advisory Council
Lisa Geneser and Jim Strafaci

Youth Catechesis Council
Laura Heckman, Tim McVady, and Matt O’Connell

School Advisory Board
Jim Conniff, Erin Walsh Gibbons, Jim Grossman, and Elizabeth Turcich

Senior Unity Mass
All senior citizens are invited to the 42nd Annual Senior Unity Mass on Thursday, June 4 at 10am at Holy Family Church in Chicago. The free event includes a social gathering and hot luncheon immediately following Mass in the basement cafeteria of Holy Family. There are 350 places for lunch which are available on a first come first serve basis so please rsvp today. For reservations, parking and additional details contact Megan Fry at 312-655-7425.

NEW Ignite Small Groups for High School and College Students!
Are you looking to spark or re-spark your faith life? Maybe you want to be closer to God but have a hard time staying connected to people who share your values in this busy world. Maybe you’ve been going through the motions or praying halfheartedly – high school or college has taken its toll on you. Or perhaps your faith is already on fire from something like Kairos or Crossroads and you don’t want the flame to die down over the summer! Whatever your story may be, Ignite is for you! Ignite is a weekly small group faith-sharing program for high school and college students. We will get together and talk about the struggles and successes we’ve had following Jesus. Discussions will be Scripture-based where each week we will look at a gospel passage and talk about how it applies to our daily lives. Ignite has changed my life and I hope you will let me share it with you!

Please contact me, Ashley Klesken, at aklesken33@aol.com or 708-299-1737 if you have any questions.

Kairos
Kairos 20, a retreat for Juniors and Seniors, will take place August 6-9. Register by June 30 at www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/retreats/

Contact Joe Gazdacka at 708-246-3965, or at gazzyjoe@aol.com if you have any questions.

Summer Work Tours
The foundation has been poured. Are there 6 teens who are at least 16 years old and two adults who would like to help build this house and others this summer? Sign up now and help a family enjoy home ownership. We will be going to West Virginia July 12-18. Two adults are also needed for our trip to OLPH in KY, August 1-8. Registration forms are on our website, www.stjohnofthecross.org/crossroads/work-tours/

Contact Joe Gazdacka at 708-246-3965, or at gazzyjoe@aol.com if you have any questions.

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Parish News

Summer Mass Schedule
From Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day (inclusive) there will be no 12:15pm Mass. This year there will be no 12:15pm Mass beginning today, Sunday May 24, 2015. Please mark your calendar.

LAST CHANCE To Have Your Picture Taken
We are coming up to the last few opportunities to have your picture taken for our 2015 Parish Directory. There are spots available on:
June 2
June 19
June 20 and
June 21
Please visit the website www.stjohnofthecross.org or call the Parish Center to schedule your appointment. If you already had your photo taken and you received a complimentary 8 x 10, the pictures are now available in the Parish Center for pick-up. Questions? Call Elizabeth Russell-Jones at x155.

Welcome!

Help Us Welcome New Parishioners to SJC!
All are invited to join us next Sunday, May 31st after the 9am Mass for coffee and donuts as we welcome our newest parishioners. Extend a handshake. Share a cup of coffee and get acquainted with some new fellow parishioners in the Parish Center

Jack Shea Program at The Well
A perhaps too facile evaluation is that we spend most of our lives getting through to Friday and, hopefully, resting on the weekend, only to begin the process again. However, “things happen.” We find ourselves in experiences that shift our awareness, support the best in us, and suggest new behaviors. Spiritual traditions greatly prize the consciousness that these experiences initiate. Much to our surprise, we become accidental mystics. We will spend time describing these types of “spiritually significant” experiences and charting their impact on our development.

Saturday, May 30, 2015 9 - Noon
Facilitator, Jack Shea, is a theologian and storyteller who lectures nationally and internationally on storytelling in world religions, faith-based health care and contemporary spirituality.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
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 discover 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 contact Fr. Bill at 708-246-4404.

A Note of Gratitude from Fr. Dennis
My mother, Mary Rita, died peacefully at almost age 98, on April 27. She had been in the nursing home for 9 months. All four children in our family were able to say a loving "goodbye" before she died. All together, there are 4 children, 10 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and 6 great-great-grandchildren in my family, almost all of whom were able to visit her at Easter time.

I was principal celebrant and homilist at the funeral Mass on May 1 at St. Joseph Church in Garnavillo, Iowa. My homily was joy-filled and there was much laughter as I was telling a few funny stories about our family life. Many people said that it was the most joyful funeral that they ever attended. We did have a wonderful celebration of her marvelous life. You can read more about her at Tuecke-Allyn Funeral Home, Garnavillo, IA.

I thank everyone for your prayers and love and kind words of condolence.

Fr. Dennis Koopman

Eucharistic Procession
Join neighbors on Sunday, June 7 at 12:30pm in a family friendly, festive Eucharistic Procession from Notre Dame to St. Isaac Jogues. Sign up at sj.net/corpus-christiprocession/ The procession will be followed by Benediction and an ice cream social.
Men’s Club Golf Outing
Tee Times Are Filling Up Fast!!
The SJC Men’s Club invites all men to a golf outing on Friday June 5 at Flagg Creek.
Cost: $27 includes golf, cart, 2 beverage tickets and entry into contests.
Contests: Low score, long drive, closest to the pin.
Tee Times: 1:00 to 2:17pm
Sign-up: Forms can be found on the Parish Men’s Club Web Site. Please drop off the form or a note with your name and/or name of the foursome, contact information, and a check(s) made payable to the SJC Men’s Club to the Parish Center.
Questions: Contact Dan Montgomery (312.952.1435) or John Cisek (708-784-1998).

Get Involved!
The Parish Men’s Club is seeking a candidate to fill the office of President. If you are interested please contact Bill Bright at bbright@stjohnofthecross.org or Barrett Long at longbarrett@hotmail.com.

Women’s Club

42ND ANNUAL SJC GARAGE SALE
Saturday, June 20th 9am to 2pm
Half-Price/Bag Sale:
Monday, June 22nd 9am to 1pm

Volunteer Hours:
Friday, June 12 10am-2pm
Saturday, June 13 9am-3pm
Mon-Thurs, June 15-18 9:30am-8:30pm
Friday, June 19 10am-3pm

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

Student Volunteers: Volunteers for service hours are required to sign-up. 7th graders or older who would like to volunteer or baby-sit please call Denise Schullo c.312/415-6456 or h. (708) 246-0254.

All Donations Accepted at the School:
Saturday, June 13: 9am – 2pm
Mon - Thurs, June 15 –18: 10am – 8pm
Friday, June 19: 10am – 12pm

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

Lord you left your Mother in our midst that she might accompany us.
May she take care of us and protect us on our journey, in our hearts, in our faith.
May she make us disciples like herself, missionaries like herself.
May she teach us to go out onto the streets.
May she teach us to step outside ourselves.
May she, by her meekness, by her peace, show us the way.

Excerpt from Pope Francis prayer July 2013
Mark your calendar to join in on the fun at our annual Parish Fest - June 25-28. Watch the bulletin for Fest News or visit our Fest Website at sjcfest.com

MEGA RIDE BRACELETS ON SALE NOW!
Pre-Sale Price: $50
Good for unlimited rides during entire SJC FEST!

A limited number of Mega Pass Vouchers are now available for $50 on a pre-sale basis only. Vouchers can be redeemed at the carnival voucher redemption booth for an unlimited ride wristband during the entire SJC Fest from June 25th-28th. Vouchers can be purchased at the Parish Center Office (checks only), School Office (see Val Nelson), on the Fest website or after Sunday Mass. Mega Passes are non-transferrable, non-replaceable and non-refundable.

Don't forget to purchase your SJC FEST RAFFLE TICKETS!
For additional information, please call Diane Schick at (708) 292-1100

FEST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!
For SJC Fest to be a success, it requires a lot of volunteers. Over 300 to be exact!

Won't you please consider volunteering for this year's Fest? Whether you are a returning volunteer or a new one, we really need all hands on deck! We could use your assistance selling carnival and food tickets, serving food and beverages, selling raffle tickets, helping with setup and takedown, security and much more. We'd very much appreciate you sharing your time and talent with your Parish family!

For more info, please stop by the SJC Fest 2015 table outside the Parish Center after weekend Mass or visit www.sjcfest.com and click on the “Volunteer” tab.
There are different ways to be present or absent to each other.

For example, when Jesus is saying farewell to his disciples he tries to explain to them some of the deep paradoxes inside the mystery of presence and absence.

He tells them that it is better for them that he goes away because, unless he does, he will be unable to send them his spirit. He assures them too that the heaviness and grief they will feel at his leaving is really the pain of giving birth and that this heartache will eventually turn warm and nurturing and bring them a joy that no one can ever take from them.

That is the language of Ascension and Pentecost, not just as it pertains to Jesus leaving this earth and sending his spirit, but it is also as it pertains to the mystery of giving and receiving spirit in all our goodbyes.

Among other things, it points to that perplexing experience we have where we can only fully understand and appreciate others after they go away, just as others can only fully understand us and let themselves be fully blessed by us after we go away. Like Jesus, we can only really send our spirits after we go away.

We experience this everywhere in life: A grown child has to leave home before her parents can fully understand and appreciate her for who she really is. There comes a day in a young person’s life when she stands before her parents and, in whatever way, says the words: “It is better for you that I go away! Unless I go you will never really know who I am. You will have some heartache now, but that pain will eventually become warm because I will come back to you in a deeper way.” Parents say the same thing to their children when they are dying.

We only really grasp the essence of another after he or she has gone away. When someone leaves us physically, we are given the chance to receive his or her presence in a deeper way.

And the pain and heartache we feel in the farewell are birth-pangs, the stretching that comes with giving new birth. When someone we love has to leave us (to go on a trip, to begin a new life, or to depart from us through death) initially that will feel painful, sometimes excruciatingly so. But when that leaving is necessitated by duty or by life itself then, no matter how hard it is, even if it is death itself that takes away our loved one, eventually he or she will come back to us in a deeper way, in a presence that is warm, nurturing, and immune to the fragility of normal relationships.

Many of us, I suspect, have experienced this in the death of someone whom we loved deeply. For me, this happened at the death of my parents. My mother and father died three months apart, when I was twenty-three years old. They were young, too young to die in my view, but death took them anyway, against my will and against theirs. Initially, their death was experienced as very painful, as bitter. My siblings and I wanted their presence in the same way as we had always had it, physical, tangible, bodily, real.

Eventually the pain of their leaving left us and we sensed that our parents were still with us, with all that was best in them, our mum and dad still, except that now their presence was deeper and less fragile than it had been when they were physically with us. They were with us now, real and nurturing, in a way that nobody and nothing can ever take away.

Our presence to each other physically, in touch, sight, and speech is no doubt the deepest wonder of in all of life, sometimes the only thing we can appreciate as real. But wonderful as that is, it is always limited and fragile. It depends upon being physically connected in some way and it is fragile in that separation (physical or emotional) can easily take someone away from us. With everyone we love and who loves us (parents, spouse, children, friends, acquaintances, colleagues), we are always just one trip, misunderstanding, accident, or heart attack away from losing their physical presence.

This was the exact heartache and fear that the disciples felt as Jesus was saying goodbye to them and that is the heartache and fear we all feel in our relationships. We can easily lose each other.

But there is a presence that cannot be taken away, that does not suffer from this fragility, that is, the spirit that comes back to us whenever, because of the some inner dictates of love and life, our loved ones have to leave us or we have to leave our loved ones. A spirit returns and it is deep and permanent and leaves a warm, joyous, and real presence that nobody can ever take from us.

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX.
Mass Intentions

**Monday, May 25**
St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church, St. Gregory VII, Pope, St. Mary Magdalene de’ Pazzi, Virgin
9:00am Suzanne Eley; Richard Baruth

**Tuesday, May 26**
St. Philip Neri, Priest
7:45am Herb Nilles; Rita Gangi

**Wednesday, May 27**
St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop
7:45am Pat Cavalieri; Our Beloved Dead

**Thursday, May 28**
Weekday
7:45am Walt Sobek; Patricia Duff

**Friday, May 29**
Weekday
7:45am Richard Powers; Special Intention

**Saturday, May 30**
Weekday
8:00am Valerie Presperin; Pasquale Cavaliere
5:00pm John Joseph; Thomas Marshall

**Sunday, May 31**
The Most Holy Trinity
7:30am Phyllis Paul; Agnes Yocius
9:00am Noreen Hanson; Evelyn Spikovsky
10:45am Robert Rafanelli; Tepen Chao

No 12:15 Mass — Summer Schedule
5:00pm Phyllis Paul; Thomas Durkin

*Italics: Living Intention*

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**Pray for our Sick**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tracy Bucciarelli</th>
<th>Thomas Jenders</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lori Cook</td>
<td>Don King</td>
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<td>Fr. Bob Heinz</td>
<td>Robby Rafanelli</td>
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<td>Sarah Hergenrother</td>
<td>Patricia Shannon</td>
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**Pray for our Beloved Dead**

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<tr>
<th>Marie Coyne, wife of John, mother of Tom, Cathy, Jim, Mike, and Carol, grandmother of 12</th>
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<tr>
<td>Clara Giampa, aunt of Jean Sobek</td>
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<td>Margaret Thorsen, mother of Tina Sabia</td>
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<td>Ann Porter, wife of Dennis, mother of Marin and Kerry, grandmother of Eddie</td>
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**Wedding Banns**

Anne Munaretto & Adam Hite
Hannah Rose Fisher & Liam Rhatigan

Memorial Day: To honor men and women of the armed forces who died while serving, as well as active military and veterans, special Masses will be said at 10:30am at various cemeteries on Memorial Day. At the Masses veterans present will be asked to come forward for a special blessing followed by the playing of Taps. Archbishop Cupich will celebrate a Memorial Day Field Mass at All Saints Cemetery and Mausoleums in Des Plaines at 10:30 a.m. Visit the archdiocese website to view a listing of all the Masses for that day.
St John of the Cross Parish School
Honors Retirees

Join us as we celebrate the teaching careers of

Mrs. Judie and Mrs. O

Sunday, May 31
after the 10:45 a.m. Mass
from 11:45 am - 1:00 pm
Please join us in the
Multi Purpose Room of the School
for an Ice Cream Social

Mrs. Judie Gale
Celebrating 47 Years of Dedicated Service
“I was happy here for 47 years with children
and families I have loved. God placed me here
for a reason.”

Mrs. Mary Ann Oczkowski
Celebrating 32 Years of Dedicated Service
“It has been my great pleasure to have spent
so many years with young children, especially
as they enthusiastically discovered the magic
of words and the joy of reading. I am very
grateful to the parents for their kindness and
support.”