July 10, 2016
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

JUST
LOVE
Background on the Gospel

As Jesus continues his journey to Jerusalem, he is confronted by a scholar of the law who wants to test him. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Jesus is asked about the greatest commandment. Here, in Luke's Gospel, the lawyer asks what we must do to inherit eternal life. In the other two Gospels, Jesus answers the question by quoting Deuteronomy 6:5, on loving God with all your heart, and Leviticus 19:18, on loving your neighbor. Here Jesus asks the expert to answer this question, “What is written in the law?” The man is caught and responds with Deuteronomy 6:5. This verse is one of the most important prayers in Judaism, and it was said twice a day in Jesus’ time. Love of God and love of neighbor are what is required for eternal life. Jesus’ response is simple, “Do this and you will live.”

Having been shown up by Jesus, the lawyer tries another question: Who is my neighbor whom I must love like myself? In the society of Jesus’ time, with its distinctions between Jews and Gentiles, men and women, clean and unclean, this was a trick question. Jesus responds with one of the most beautiful of all the parables, the Good Samaritan. It is found only in Luke's Gospel.

The road from Jerusalem to Jericho descends 3,300 feet in just 17 miles. Its narrow passes and rocky terrain made it an easy place for bandits to wait for travelers. The traveler in this parable is identified only as “a certain man.” Luke uses this phrase in many of his parables so that the audience, Jew or Gentile, could identify with the man. After the attack, the man is left for dead, naked and bleeding on the side of the road. A priest comes along, but rather than helping, as one might expect, he moves to the other side of the road. Another religious person comes along, a Levite who assists in the Temple. His reaction is the same as the priest's. Both of them choose to not even find out if the man is alive. A third person comes along. The listeners would probably expect him to be an Israelite. This would make the parable a criticism of the religious leadership. Instead he is a Samaritan, an Israelite’s most hated neighbor. Samaritans were descendants of Jews from the northern part of the country, who had intermarried with Gentiles and did not worship in Jerusalem. The Samaritan not only goes over to the injured man but cleans his wounds, puts him on his own animal, takes him to an inn to recover, and promises to pay all his expenses. The hated enemy is the compassionate neighbor in this parable.

Jesus has demolished all boundary expectations. It is not social definitions such as class, religion, gender, or ethnicity that determines who is our neighbor. A neighbor is a person who acts with compassion toward another. The point becomes not who deserves to be loved as I love myself, but that I become a person who treats everyone with compassion.

When Jesus asks the lawyer who was the neighbor in the story, the lawyer can't bring himself to say it was the Samaritan. All he says is that it was “the one who treated him with mercy.” Jesus’ response was similar to that of the first discussion: “Go and do likewise.” The lawyer, and we, know what is right. The key is to do it.
The fruit of silence is prayer
The fruit of prayer is faith
The fruit of faith is love
The fruit of love is service
The fruit of service is peace.

Lord Jesus Christ,
You came to bring peace and offer reconciliation.
You sent your Spirit
to heal the separation between people,
and to reveal how it is possible for women and men
to overcome their differences and celebrate their unity
through your body and blood.
You revealed your Father as the Father of all people;
a Father who cares for every single individual
and embraces them with love and mercy.
It is that love and mercy, made manifest by your cross,
that shines your light on us all, creates new life,
offers a new way of living,
and brings a Gospel message that is a sign of hope.
Give us the courage to live your Gospel fully
even when it brings risk,
to share your word vibrantly even if it leads to scorn,
and to respond to others generously
even when we feel like holding back.
Show us the way to live as good stewards
of your presence among us,
and in doing so,
may we shine your light on a darkened world.
Amen.

Today’s Gospel turns our attention to one of Jesus’
most familiar stories, the Parable of the Good Samaritan. It is about living how God intended us to live: to acknowledge God’s divine love and compassion lavished upon us, and to extend that love and compassion upon others without reservation. We can find a lot of reasons for not stopping to help someone. We can talk ourselves out of being Good Samaritans. Strangers are not our responsibility, or are they? Good stewards understand that God’s mercy is a gift that must be shared, and that doing the right thing, acting as Jesus would act toward others, is the only course of action for one who lives according to the demands of the Gospel. How might you be a Good Samaritan this week? lcs

Living the Greatest Commandment
To give is the essential function of love.
Love gives without tiring,
without counting its gifts,
without feeling their loss.
Love lavishes its good,
gives what it possesses and
after giving all
spends its own self
without stint, without reserve,
completely, forever.
He who loves does not look to himself
nor does he seek himself.
To the lover, what matters his own well-being,
his pleasure, his honor, even his very life?
He is totally preoccupied with the beloved.
Let him rejoice although I suffer;
let him be rich even though I be poor;
let him smile although I weep...
But is it possible to suffer and
to weep if the beloved is happy?
My joy is your joy;
my glory is yours;
my happiness, your happiness....
Love is both death and life—
the most absolute death, the most blessed life.
Love is as strong as death.
But what can I give God
if he is in himself eternally rich, happy,
the fount of love and ocean of beatitude?
What can I give him if I receive everything from him?
If love consists in giving, how can I love you?
And if I cannot love you, how can I live?
There is one thing I can give to God,
only one:
I can give him glory.
For the glory of God the universe was created;
for the glory of God Christ lived
and the Church exists.
To love God is to give him glory.
The motto of St. Ignatius,
“For the greater glory of God,”
is the supreme formula of love.
Servant of God Archbishop Martinez of Mexico City

Compassionate God, Father of all humanity, hear the prayers we offer. Give us eyes of faith to see all men and women as our brothers and sisters, and hearts of love to welcome them as your children. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

"Every decision you make either moves us toward God or moves us away from God." (Choose wisely) Deacon Jim Russell
Twelve Step Spirituality: Step Two

Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

A Cherokee or Ojibwa chief is said to have asked his young braves, “Why do you spend your time in brooding? Don’t you know you are being driven by great winds across the sky?” Don’t you know you’re part of a much bigger pattern? But you’re not in control of it, any more than you would be of great winds. You and I are a small part of a much bigger mystery.

The only people who grow in truth are those who are both humble and honest. This is traditional Christian doctrine and is the maxim of Alcoholics Anonymous. Without those two qualities, we don’t grow. If we try to use religion to aggrandize the self, we’re on the wrong path. Humility and honesty are really the same thing. A humble person is simply a person who is brutally honest about the whole truth. You and I came along a few years ago; we’re going to be gone in a few years. The only honest response to life is a humble one. As one dying person told Kathleen Dowling Singh, “I realized about halfway through this [terminal illness] that I’m not in control, and my body sure isn’t. It’s in the hands of something far greater than me. And that’s what I’m staying connected with.” What a good way to say it.

Listen to Bill Wilson tell his own story:

[My] friend sat before me, and he made the pointblank declaration that God had done for him what he could not do for himself. His human will had failed. Doctors had pronounced him incurable. Society was about to lock him up. Like myself, he had admitted complete defeat. Then he had, in effect, been raised from the dead, suddenly taken from the scrap heap to a level of life better than the best he had ever known!

I saw that my friend was much more than inwardly reorganized. He was on a different footing. His roots grasped a new soil.

Authentic religion leads you to a place that you initially know nothing about. Like Habakkuk the prophet, you have to be picked up by your hair and set where you need to be (Daniel 14:36). Once you know what you need to know, there is no other explanation except that there must be another Power at work in this world. It’s not believing doctrines; it’s having an experience of being changed or moved to a new place, almost in spite of yourself. Sometimes no one is more surprised than you. All you can do is offer thanks.

Alcoholics Anonymous parallels the clear teaching of Jesus: surrender alone leads to transformation; mere reason, willpower, or information cannot change you at deep levels. This surrender has been variously described as a spiritual awakening or “a vital spiritual experience.”

Give me your failure, God says. I will make life out of it. Give me your broken, disfigured, rejected, betrayed body, like the body you see hanging on the cross, and I will make life out of it. It’s the divine pattern of transformation.

Gateway to Silence:
Let go and let God.
The “Differences” Between the Baby in the Womb and the Newborn Baby

There are four "differences" between the baby in the mother's womb (or so-called fetus), who has no protection under the law, from a newborn baby, who is protected:

1. Size: The baby in the womb is usually smaller than newborns. The question, then, is what does size have to do with rights of personhood? The answer: nothing.

2. Level of development: Babies in the womb are less developed than a newborn (unless the newborn is born prematurely). Again this has no moral significance. Children are generally less developed than adults and all human beings continue to develop and change throughout our entire lives. It is humanity, not brain capacity or strength that determines personhood.

3. Location: The baby in the womb has a different place of residence. Again this is irrelevant because personhood stems from being a human being, not from your location.

4. Dependency: Abortion protagonists love to argue that, "Since a fetus cannot survive on its own, it has no inherent right to life." The problem with this argument is that to varying degrees, we are all dependent on others. Moreover, newborn babies and small children are absolutely dependent upon their parents for survival. What is absurd about this line of thinking is the fact that dependency should merit more protection under the law, not less! We are all far more outraged, for example, at violence towards children than at violence towards other adults. The reason is obvious. Children are more helpless and innocent and less capable of defending themselves than adults. The child in the mother's womb is the most helpless and innocent and the least capable of defending themselves.

Every person is part of God’s plan. Pray that we may be strengthened in protecting his gift of life.

Only God creates
but we are called to enhance that creation.

Only God gives life
but we are called to cherish life.

Only God makes to grow
but we are called to nourish that growth.

Only God gives faith
but we are called to be signs of God for each other.

Only God gives love
but we are called to care for each other.

Only God gives hope
but we are called to give each other reason to hope.

Only God gives power
but we are called to get things going.

Only God can bring peace
but we are called to build bridges.

Only God brings happiness
but we are invited to be joyful.

Only God is the way
but we are called to show the way to others.

Only God is light
but we are called to make that light shine in the world.

Only God makes miracles happen
but we must offer our loaves and fishes.

Only God can do the impossible
but it’s up to us to do what is possible.

The Church’s year-long celebration of God’s love and mercy is an opportunity to discover anew who God is and what God means to each of us and to our world.

Sometimes people get the impression that God is an angry, judgmental being who likes to punish us for our sins. But this is not the God we Catholics believe in. We believe in the God who revealed himself to the people of Israel and who is made visible to us in Jesus Christ. This God is slow to anger and rich in mercy. God’s patience is infinite. His forgiveness is freely given to all.

This does not mean that God doesn’t care what we do or how we live. How could a loving father be indifferent to his children’s decisions and actions? How could he not care whether we are living well or being truly happy? No, God cares deeply but does not force us to do anything (no lightning bolts from the sky). We have been given the gift of freedom. We can choose whatever we want and do whatever we like—as long as we are willing to accept the consequences. At the same time, God really does care about our choices, and he invites us to discover his will and freely choose to live in ways that are pleasing to him—because they are good for us.

We believe that there will come a day when we’ll be asked to render an account of all our choices. Unless God is merciful, as we believe he is, that day could go badly for us as individuals and communities. We believe that it’s our obligation to live holy lives—according to God’s plan for each of us—but we pray that we will be forgiven for the many ways that we have failed to live up to God’s expectations as men and women called to make God known to others through what we say and do.

We believe that God is not a fantasy or a stranger or an angry, uncaring life force. God is love. God’s love reaches out to us, cares about us, and rescues us the way a loving father would. God is also our brother, Jesus Christ, who lived as we live and who died to set us free. God is the unseen Holy Spirit who works silently in our lives, and in our world, to make things better and to bring unity, peace and harmony to an angry, divided and unhappy world.

This is the mystery of the Holy Trinity which we believe even though we don’t understand it. We believe that God is a community of three persons that preserves the individuality of each. God is what each of us, and all of creation, longs for—an experience of perfect unity or connectedness that does not destroy our individual identity or uniqueness. We want to be like God because we were made in his image and likeness. We want knowledge, love and communion. We want joy, the satisfaction of our deepest desires, and we want peace the resolution of all conflict and injustice.

We want to be united with God, and, until that day comes, we will never be fully satisfied. We too often search for the satisfaction of our desires in places that promise what they can’t deliver. But as St. Augustine said from his own profound experience, “Our hearts are restless till they rest in you, O God.”

We believe in a merciful God, but unless we put God first in our lives, nothing can satisfy us. That’s why so many of us, believers and unbelievers alike, live restless, anxious lives. We are filled with desires that we can’t satisfy. We long for love, success, happiness and peace, but we can’t find them. We will never find what we are looking for as long as something other than God occupies first place in our lives.

The God of mercy comes first. If we truly believe this and try to live it as best we can with the help of God’s grace, it makes a huge difference in our daily lives. Through the mystery of love and mercy incarnate, we discover who God is. Through our participation in God’s great gift of mercy—our forgiveness of ourselves and others—we grow in holiness and in hope.

No real peace, no true justice and no lasting love are possible for us as individuals or as communities until we accept God’s love and mercy and then share it generously with others.

God is not angry or aloof. On the contrary, God is pure love. In this Year of Mercy especially, let’s open our hearts and love God in return. © 2016. Daniel Conway
This is the third article in a series on the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

The Catechumenate period ends with the Rite of Election when those to be baptized from each parish gather at the cathedral with their local bishop to receive ‘election’ into the final period of preparation called Purification and Enlightenment.

This part of the RCIA process usually takes place during the season of Lent, about forty days before Easter. During this time, the elect, godparent, and Church community begin an intense discipline to prepare for the Easter celebration at which the elect will be baptized. This discipline includes intensified prayer, fasting, and works of charity and justice.

The Church sees itself as a participant in the great drama and struggle between good and evil, between God and the devil. From this perspective, this period of Lent and this intense preparation by the Elect is somewhat like the final moments before a great battle, and it may be when the Elect and the Church are at their most vulnerable. When faced with the awesome invitation to baptism in the midst of so much pain and suffering in one’s life and in the world, it can be easy to lose heart and lose faith. In a way, it is like an engaged couple with cold feet before their wedding day—Will I be worthy enough for this person? Can I stay faithful when society makes it so easy to not be? Am I making the right choice? Is this really what I want? It is no accident that Lent takes place in spring when (in the northern hemisphere, at least) nature is at its most turbulent and the new life just springing up is most vulnerable.

For this reason, the Church prays fervently for the Elect in rites called Scrutinies. Through these rites on the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent, the Church prays that God will strengthen the good things that have been growing in the elect’s faith life and will remove the barriers that keep the elect from trusting completely in God. During this period, there are also other prayers, blessings, and anointing for the Elect to give them the courage they need to profess their faith in God.

If you would like more information about RCIA at St. John of the Cross, call Steve Weigand in the Parish Center office.

---

O God of love, send down the power of the Holy Spirit to those who long for your grace and presence. Draw them to the saving death and resurrection of the Lord as they search for meaning and purpose in their lives. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.
"We must understand that to be a disciple of Christ, to actually be one of His followers, requires not just conversion, but action, doing something to serve others." Catholic Stewardship Consultants

WE ARE CALLED…
By virtue of our baptism, we are called to be God’s disciples and are invited to do Christ’s work on earth. As disciples, we are granted all of the tools necessary to bring the light, hope and love of God to others.

WE ARE DISCIPLES…
Our relationship with God is strengthened through prayer. In allowing ourselves to be transformed by this relationship, we have the ability to transform—to give flesh to God in this world and help God's kingdom come “on earth as it is in heaven.” We are asked to share our gift of faith with others and to be missionaries in the ordinariness of our everyday lives.

WE ARE GIFTED…
As God’s creation, we reflect God's love and vision for humanity. We each are blessed with unique gifts and talents. In fact, all we have is a gift, all we are is a gift—our very life is a gift. We are asked to be responsible managers of our gifts, utilizing them in a faith-filled spirit of generosity to help fulfill God’s mission on earth.

WE ARE JUST…
We are asked to love…to be in right relationship with God, ourselves, our neighbors, and our world by giving practical expression to Gospel values and tangibly witnessing to God’s miraculous love.
We have been told what is good and what God asks of us:
“To live justly, to love tenderly, to walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8

Archdiocese of Chicago

Every Can Makes a Difference
1 in 7 Americans struggles to get enough to eat. In fact, hunger or food insecurity exists in virtually every community in the United States. An average food-insecure family of four may forgo up to 100 meals a month because they lack enough money to buy food. For the majority of people seeking food assistance, pantries are now a part of households’ long term strategies to supplement monthly shortfalls in food. Seniors are disproportionately represented among those visiting pantries. Statistics from Feeding America.

Please bring healthy nonperishable food to the church narthex to help feed those who will visit the St. Barbara Food Pantry in Brookfield during the month of July.
Women’s Club Garage Sale Thank You!!
It’s no wonder summer is a season for carefree living. After months of itises—senioritis, workitis, winteritis, lifeitis—it’s nice to finally relax. And so we sleep in a little, plan vacations, and slack on our schedules. **Summer is a much-needed treat.**

In the midst of fun, it’s a good idea to pay attention to our spiritual life. Thankfully, we can continue in the carefree style of summer and still enjoy a growing relationship with God. Our tips for staying on track are below.

1. **Stick to quick reads.**
   Summer is the perfect time to invest in a devotional. Ask friends for recommendations based on the type of study you’d like to do then visit your local bookstore, place an order online, or download an electronic version.
   The key is to **buy something you’ll actually have time—and make time—to read.** Shoot for one- to two-page readings with a central theme you can meditate on throughout the day.

2. **Write out your prayers.**
   Get in touch with your inner teen—the one who expressed her emotions freely and dreamed without hesitation. That girl knew how to journal.
   Grab a pen and a notepad, and jot down your prayers. You can write in paragraphs, make lists, or even draw. **Embrace the season by indulging your creative side.** Open up your heart and mind to what God has to say and what He wants you to do.

3. **Maintain a schedule.**
   If you have school-aged kids, you know the joy that is the end of summer and a return to normalcy. June and July’s ever-changing activities can feel chaotic. **Our relationship with God keeps us grounded**—a foundation we desperately need during these hot months.

   While everything else is off kilter, maintain a schedule in your devotional life. Pick a time of day when you can have a moment alone. Do your best to take those minutes—few as they may be—as often as you can. This structure will add balance to your summer.

4. **Act on your beliefs.**
   Use days off to your family’s benefit. Talk about one thing you could do together to minister to someone else. This might mean partnering with an existing ministry or coming up with your own idea. **Consider your family’s unique passions and abilities and ask God to guide your actions.**

   You might help build a home, serve food, clean up a street, mow a yard, or organize a neighborhood sale to benefit people in need. Whatever you do, be sure it’s a stretch for both you and your kids. **When you step outside your comfort zone to help someone else, you experience God’s love in a whole new way.** What a wonderful thing to do together as a family!

   Of course, it’s also okay—and encouraged—for you to relax. Go on a trip, read a beach book, and watch the sunset. Do a fair amount of nothing.
“To live justly, to love tenderly, to walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8
“We have been given possession of an unshakable kingdom. Let us therefore be grateful and use our gratitude to worship God in the way that pleases him, in reverence and fear.” (Hebrews 12:28)

“Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.” (Melody Beattie)

“If the only prayer you ever say is ‘thank you,’ it will be enough. (Meister Eckhardt)

What is Gratitude? It is the foundation of all other virtues. It helps us focus on others rather than on ourselves. It allows us to look at what we have rather than on what we don’t have. It is transformational (helping us to move towards new and higher ways of being and relating) rather than conservational (encouraging us to hoard what we have, both spiritually and materially).

But how many of us truly practice it? How many of us, each day, give thanks to God for our unearned and undeserved gifts? Remember, of the ten cured lepers, only one returned to thank Jesus. And most of our prayers, inside or outside of church, are prayers of petition - asking for what we don’t have - rather than prayers of praise or thanksgiving for what we do have.

For centuries, religions have tried to increase people’s sense of gratitude as an important path in spiritual development. Gratitude fosters our connection with God. However, psychological research has now shown that people who show such characteristics as gratitude, forgiveness, and optimism are more psychologically healthy than those who don’t. It will help you spiritually and psychologically to make an effort to foster a sense of gratitude in your life. The psychologist Robert Emmons has suggested keeping gratitude journals on a daily basis.

But if gratitude is so good for us, why don’t we do more of it? One of the reasons may be the constant cultural messages that bombard us (“You deserve the best, “Have it your way”). The sense of entitlement thus fostered (“I deserve it!”) hampers expressions of gratitude. Also, people may tend towards expressions of entitlement as a way of building self-esteem (“I got what I have because I’m so good!”). There may even have been evolutionary processes that favored the survival of those who were pessimistic and guarded - they were more likely to survive long enough to contribute to the human gene pool.

Gratitude is a choice!

On the next page is a short Gratitude Survey that gives you an idea of how grateful you are. For scoring and comparisons with other groups of people, go to www.authentichappiness.org where you will find this and similar instruments. There will also be a scoring key and comparisons printed in next week’s bulletin.

And, practice the following exercise: Each day, write down 3 - 5 specific things (unearned gifts) that have happened for which you feel grateful.

Gratitude can transform your life if you train your “gratitude muscles” as you would train your body. Try it, it will help you.
Below is a short Gratitude Survey that will give you an idea of how grateful you are. For scoring and comparisons with other groups of people, go to www.authentichappiness.org where you will find this and similar instruments.

Or, use the scoring key and comparisons which will be printed in next week’s bulletin.

DIRECTIONS: Please rate each of these items according to the following scale: 1 = Strongly disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Slightly disagree, 4 = Neutral, 5 = Slightly agree, 6 = Agree, 7 = Strongly agree

1. I have so much in life to be thankful for. _____
2. If I had to list everything I felt grateful for, it would be a very long list. _____
3. I am grateful to a wide variety of people. _____
4. When I look at the world, I don’t see much to be grateful for. _____
5. As I get older I find myself more able to appreciate the people, events, and situations that have been part of my life history. _____
6. Long periods of time can go by before I feel grateful for something or to someone.
College Orientation: Finding Catholic Faith and Thought on College Campus

Heading off to college later this summer?? Your important first college orientation is right at our parish! Come learn about Catholic Faith and Thought on Campus.

If you are in the 90% who will not be attending a Catholic college, this may be your only Catholic orientation. If you will be attending a Catholic University, come learn about course options and what it means to be at a Catholic institution. Make decisions for yourself about what a life of faith means for you at college.

Sessions are two hours over two nights in the Parish Center. Come on:

**Sunday, July 10th and Wednesday, July 13th**

Come for Chipotle at 6:30pm- Session starts at 7:00pm

RSVP and questions / text to Mary Dorsey 312-203-9025 or Kevin McGann 708-408-8731  kevinmcgann@sbcglobal.net.
Mass Intentions

Monday, July 11  St. Benedict
7:45am Max & Helen Kirsh; Our Beloved Dead

Tuesday, July 12  Weekday
7:45am Theodore Willett; Dan Mulcahy

Wednesday, July 13  St. Henry
7:45am Gail Sullivan; Bob Rooney

Thursday, July 14  St. Kateri Tekakwitha
7:45am Martin Daley; Libby Chapman

Friday, July 15  St. Bonaventure
7:45am Margo Hermes; Don Spiering

Saturday, July 16  Our Lady of Mount Carmel; Blessed Virgin Mary
8:00am Milton Bocek; Lisa Ann Kraska
5:00pm Bernice & John Wisniewski; Mary Meyer

Sunday, July 17  16th Sunday in OT
7:30am Robert Swade; Bruno Shukis
9:00am Bob Rooney; Tom & Lena Perona & Family
10:45am Bill Beauchamp; Mary Fitzpatrick
(No 12:15pm Mass for the summer months)
5:00pm Marilyn Long; Bubbles Sabath

Pray for Our Sick

Rita Barnes  Curtis Kerzich
Anna Marie Berland  George Kojima
Robert Bright  Athie Lanahan
Daniel Burke  Nancy Lohr
Judy Burke  Bobbie Misiora
Bradley John Burton III  Ann McGuire
Crystal Deters  Frank Mraz
Mildred Fitzgerald  Frank & Marge Pipal
Lynn Freking  Anthony Placek, Jr.
Christopher Gallagher  David Sarros
John Cannon  Kelly Seebruch
Kathleen Gros  Deloris Simonek
Robert Hartnett  Sharon Sine
Randall Hennauer  Duane Szymakowski
Alfred Hesse  Don Vollmer
Karen Hult  Monica Westell

Pray for Our Loved Ones Serving Our Country

Sgt. Steven Foody, son of Tom & Sandra Foody
Sergeant Sebastian Grabacki, son of David & Jan Grabacki
Sr A Joshua Tischler USAF Pararescue, grandson of Betty & Frank Madler & Mary Tischler
A Navy Seal, a relative of our parishioner
Lance Corporal Daniel Pett, nephew of Kathryn Stimetz
Capt. James Maicke, grandson of Phil & Mike Maicke
Sgt. Robert Marburger, son of David and Kathleen Marburger
Sgt. Larry Waszak, grandson of Bruno and Barbara Gacek
Petty Officer 3rd Class Mathew Strafaci, grandson of Sandra & Jim Strafaci
Lance Corporal David Strafaci, grandson of Sandra & Jim Strafaci

College Night for Freshmen & Parents
1 SJC invites future college freshmen to a college student led panel discussion on Wednesday, July 20. 7-8pm is social-networking time followed by the discussion from 8-9pm. Topics covered will include practicing our faith at college and how to connect with other Catholic college students on campus.
2 Parents will meet and ask questions to the college panel from 7-8pm (while the teens are enjoying food and social time) which will be followed by an experienced parent led discussion from 8-9pm dealing with issues facing parents of new college students. Bring you questions and join the discussion.

We are looking for volunteers to help with light cleaning/dusting in church every six weeks. The cleaning, which takes about 30 minutes, is done on Fridays after morning Mass. Please contact Marietta Moore if you can help. mariettam1@prodigy.net or 708-246-3579.
St. John of the Cross Parish is hosting a **new** 6-week Seasons of Hope Grief Support series beginning:

**Monday, July 11**

**from 7:00-8:30pm**

**in the Parish Center**

Seasons of Hope is for anyone mourning the loss of a loved one or struggling with the grieving process. The grief support group is grounded in the healing wisdom, tradition and practice of the Catholic faith, and is respective of all faith traditions.

Register online [www.stjohnofthecross.org/grief-ministry](http://www.stjohnofthecross.org/grief-ministry) or call Steve Weigand at 708-246-4404.
A Place for Faith and Dialogue
Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, a graduate school of theology and ministry, offers Certificates and Degrees on campus and online.

- Exceptional Faculty
- Scholarship/Financial Aid
- Day & Evening Classes

www.ctu.edu
773.371.5523
Catholic Theological Union

MARIANO’S
Shop Well Eat Well Live Well
4700 Gilbert Ave.
Western Springs, IL
708.246.6210
www.marianosfreshmarket.com

PERL: Your Lender for Life

Scott Mazur Mortgage Lender
Parishioner Discount
Parishioner for 45 Years

708-768-7621
Will Waive Closing Cost for SJCC Parishioner
smazur@perlmortgage.com
NMLS #755878

Beltone Hearing Aids
Hearing Care for 75 Years
708-336-3783
8 Locations to Serve You
www.yourbeltone.com

CatholicMatch Illinois
CatholicMatch.com/myIL

Experience The Difference
922 S LaGrange Rd., La Grange, IL 60525
708-337-4500
606 W North Ave. | Oak Park, IL 60302
708.848.9900

BY YOUR SIDE Home Care Services, Inc.
7 Days · Live-In · Hourly · Come-and-Go
Call Us For a Free Assessment!

630.717.9118
www.byyoursidehc.com

Scotch Walls
Fine painting of walls, ceilings & woodwork
Wallcovering removal & installation
Installation of chair & crown moldings,
baseboard & shoe moldings

John Wilson
jwilsonpainting@yahoo.com
Cell (630) 337-8946
Office (708) 246-3044
Parishioner

1000 Hillgrove Ave., Western Springs, IL 60558  708-246-7100
Dan Madden
708-246-1263
Indian Head Park
6961 Vine Street

ANN’S CLEANING SERVICES
Expert Polish Girls
Homes • Condos • Offices
Free Estimates
Insured
773.502.9369

1st Choice Auto Mall
Expert Interior Color Consultation
(630) 687-4995  styleyincolor@gmail.com

Plumbing
Quality Work – Reasonable Prices
Demmis Plumbing & Sewer
Ask for a Parishioner Discount
Emergency Service
demmisplumbing@yahoo.com

Catholic Theological Union
Modern Service with Traditional Dignity™ since 1915
We are proud to be a local, family owned & operated business.

773-767-2166  708-839-8999

For Ads: J.S. Paluch Co., Inc. 1-800-566-6170
www.jspaluch.com