

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PARISH
DECEMBER 11, 2011
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



5005 SOUTH WOLF ROAD WESTERN SPRINGS, ILLINOIS 60558

PARISH CENTER: 708-246-4404 SCHOOL: 708-246-4454 YOUTH CATECHESIS: 708-246-6760

WWW.STJOHNOFTHECROSS.ORG

Come Walk the Labyrinth

Friday December 16 and 23

2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

in the Mary Chapel

Walking the labyrinth is a physical meditation. It has only one path so there are no tricks or dead ends. There will be suggestions for meditation or you might consider a question in your life, a passage of scripture that you want to embrace or simply letting go of the business of the Christmas season. The Labyrinth is a small version of the Chartres Cathedral labyrinth. Pamphlets and fliers at the exits of the church are available for more information. Allow about 10–15 minutes for the walk. Please wear socks.

Come and experience this peace filled prayer this Advent



For information contact Marianne Firlit 708-246-4404 ex. 155 or mgfirlit@stjohnofthecross.org



Blessing for Christmas Tree

Stand around your tree with hands joined. Leader says the prayer:

Lord our God, we praise you for the light of creation: the sun, the moon and the stars of the night. We praise you for the light of Israel: the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures. We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son, he is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace, who fills us with the wonder of your love. Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we illumine this tree. May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts. May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lights of tree are then illuminated. Leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross saying:

May the God of glory fill our hearts with peace and joy, now and forever. Amen.

As Christmas draws near,
you are invited to a quiet

Morning of Meditation “Reflections of the Season”

**Presentation by*

Sr. Josephine O'Brien, IBVM

**Periods of meditation*

**Ways to prepare for meditation times*

All are invited:

Those who meditate,

Those who want to learn to meditate, and

Those who want to know more about meditation.

Saturday, December 17

Hospitality 8:30 a.m.,

Program 9 -11:30 a.m.

Parish Center

*Sponsored by the Christian Meditation Group
(wccm.org)*

Freewill offering accepted.

Reservations are requested but not required .

*Contact: Mary – 708-246-5108, or
mary105105@gmail.com, or Betsy – 708-246
-8315, or wccmchgo@gmail.com*

Come, Lord Jesus

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, December 17, Individual Reconciliation - 8:30 a.m.

Extended individual confessions will be offered on Saturday, December 17, with the opportunity for private or face-to-face confession. St. John of the Cross offers the Sacrament of Reconciliation every Saturday throughout the year at 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, December 20, Reconciliation Service

A Communal Service of Reconciliation with individual confession and absolution will take place in the church at 7:00 p.m.

Email Address Drive Today!

Stop in the church vestibule or community room today after Mass! We invite you to add your email address and areas of interest at the parish to our database. This will enable us to send you timely information about events and activities!

Job Opening

**Are You Called
to Share Your Gifts with our Parish?**
Administrative & Communications Associate

We are looking for an experienced business administrative associate who has excellent computer and website/Facebook skills to join our Parish Operations-Administrative Staff. This professional should possess outstanding organizational and time management skills, strong written and verbal communication skills and be able to exude a warm, welcoming presence, so important to those entering our parish center. This is a full-time benefits eligible position. For a complete listing of position qualifications and job description, go to www.stjohnofthecross.org.



Parishioners are reminded not to park in the circle in front of church or in the driveway leading to church. These areas must remain open for emergency vehicles. Cars parking illegally will be ticketed and towed.

Lord, help me to believe that in the moments that I am lost, it is your love that will come and help me find the way.

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Workshop Today & Tomorrow!

New Roman Missal Workshops

Jim Clauer, Director of Worship, will be giving workshops on the New Roman Missal. This is a wonderful opportunity to deepen your understanding of the Mass and its new translations.

**Today, December 11
at 10:15 a.m. and Noon
Tomorrow, Monday,
December 12 at 6:30 p.m.**

All sessions are in the Parish Center. No need to RSVP, just come!

This Week @ SJC

Monday, December 12

- 10:30 a.m. Christian Meditation, 11th Step
- 2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
- 2:30 p.m. Spiritual Journaling
- 6:30 p.m. New Roman Missal Workshop

Tuesday, December 13

- 1:30 p.m. Sr. Josephine's Bible Study
- 3:30 p.m. Rosary
- 3:30 p.m. Girl Scout Brownies
- 7:00 p.m. RCIA

Wednesday, December 14

- 9:00 a.m. Outreach
- 9:30 a.m. Bible Study
- 1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation
- 3:00 p.m. Outreach
- 7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

Thursday, December 15

- 2:15 p.m. Market Day
- 2:00 p.m. Advent Faith Sharing
- 7:30 p.m. Men's Club

Friday, December 16

- 11:30 a.m. Senior Christmas Luncheon

Saturday, December 17

- 7:00 a.m. Christian Meditation
- 8:45 a.m. Reconciliation after the 8:00 Mass
- 12:00 p.m. YC Reconciliation Make up

Outreach Opportunities

Thank you from Holy Cross Parish, Jinja-Uganda...

Dear Parishioners,

We greet you in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord; we hope all is going well with you. It has been quite long since we communicated, but know that you are still in our hearts and our thoughts. Over here, all has so far been well, and we continue to thank God for his blessing upon us.

We have been blessed to have your friendship and thank you for journeying with us over the years in the service of God's people in Holy in Holy Cross Parish. In a special way we thank you for sharing the gift of life and faith, and we are so grateful to you for your continuous support to our Parish Ministries. Since the death of Fr. Bob Hesse, CSC, things have not been easy and running the Parish on the local income is almost impossible but because of your generosity and love, we have continued to serve God's people.

As we look forward to commemorating our Saviour and Lord's Nativity, we pray that God's blessings and peace be upon you, your family and friends during the upcoming festive season and into the New Year 2012.

God bless,

Rev. Fr. Serapio Wamara, CSC
Pastor

Rev. Fr. Benedict Mugisa, CSC
Associate Pastor

Thank you from Our Lady of Perpetual Help...

Dear Parishioners,

What a wonderful surprise when I received the October "Sharing" check from St. John of the Cross.

The people of St. John are truly a blessing to us and to those we minister to. I'm happy to hear again that the young folks had a good "mission experience" here. We look forward to the next group!

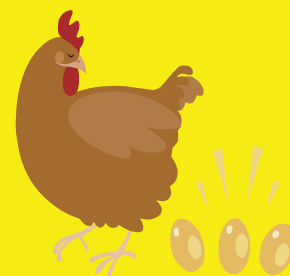
May God continue to bless you as you are a blessing to us.

Gratefully,
Sr. Margie

LIVESTOCK FOR LIFE

Give someone on your list the Gift that Continues to Give

Help our brothers and sisters at our Sharing Parish—Holy Cross in Jinja, Uganda. Your donation supplies a hen, goat or pig (and training) to a specially selected family; the animal provides income for the family and the church. Complete the form and return it to the Parish Center with your check for \$40 made out to SJC. We will mail you a Gift Card.



Gift for:

Given by:

Send Gift Card to:

Wrapped in Love

Prayer Shawls are available for relatives, friends and neighbors. We will gather at the Parish Center on Wednesday, December 14, at 1:00 p.m. Please join us to knit or crochet, pick-up or drop off shawls. Yarn is available for shawls. For more information, please call Alice Myers, 708-246-0127 or Sheila Gallagher at 708-246-7836.

Heavenly Father, we are so blessed in this special time of Advent. May we serve you by sharing our joy with our brothers and sisters who also need you. Amen.

Crossroads

Dec. 11 Home Groups
Dec. 22 KAIROS REUNION 6:30pm
Enjoy your Christmas Break!



Jan. 8 Home Groups meet

Our Kairos 10 team made up of seniors in high school is meeting and preparing for a wonderful weekend of faith, fun and friends!



All juniors & Seniors in high school are encouraged to join us. Forms will be

Enjoy the winter outdoors? Care about connecting our teens to their faith during retreat?
Join our UNITY frosh/soph retreat team!
We need 1-2 adults to assist the teens in planning & presenting the weekend retreat Feb. 10-12, 2012!
Contact Katie at khayes@stjohnofthecross.org!

Thanks to the parish sophomores, their Home Group leaders, & the 4th graders (and their generous families!) who came out on Sunday to decorate and fill holiday gift bags for seniors served by the Little Brothers of the Elderly program. These gift bags, chock full of toiletries, cards and candy, will brighten Christmas for many seniors!

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

Last weekend our home groups talked about their preparations & the peace of the Advent season. Terry Nelson-Johnson shared with adults at The Well about living the incarnation of the season.

Some thoughts to consider:

How are you preparing to let Christ enter your life?
Where can you bring peace?

God will be present to us....
will you let yourself be held by his love?

How can you pay attention and meditate the incarnation?

This season of giving has kept our teens busy serving others!

Many thanks to those who have given extra of themselves to ensure food is provided to those in need:



Gazdacka group cooking at Inspiration Café



Prepping food & cleaning at Feed My Starving Children

Great job
Pruitt home group & all our friends who joined the FMSC afternoon!





Second Grade Students completed biography studies in their literature contract groups with core teacher Mrs. Udovich. Good job bringing the stories to life students!



Preschool children decorated turkey hats and celebrated with a Thanksgiving feast!



SJC fifth grade students studied the lives of Saints. They selected one Saint to research and wrote a Saint report and a prayer, and constructed a Saint banner.

This Week at SJC

December 12 Advent Prayer Service, School, 9:15 a.m.
Athletic Board Meeting, School, 7:00 p.m.



Family Home Lesson

Each year the YC office provides a lesson to complete as a family. With so many weekends at Thanksgiving and Christmas that there are no YC classes, this is a wonderful opportunity to bring the teachings of the church home. This lesson is an engaging way to learn with your child about the revisions to the prayers and responses at Mass.

Take time this season to complete the lesson, grow in faith as a family and share the good news! The lesson can be found on the parent page of our website.

YC Schedule

Classes K-6 10:15-11:30 a.m.
Sunday, December 11
6:15-7:30 p.m.
Monday, December 12

FFC & Preschool Noon-1:30 p.m. - Sun, Feb 5
Home Groups and Special Needs
Sunday, December 11

Classes will resume Sunday January 22nd

Contact the YC office at 708-246-6760 or yc@sjcross.org
NEW!! We now have a drop box at the YC office door for your convenience!

SJC Clubs

Women's Club
Advent Faith Sharing Group
Thursday, December 15th 2 p.m.-3 p.m.
Parish Center

This is a great way to nurture your faith during this busy season. Please join us!



*Come to us O Jesus,
remain with us,
enlighten our hearts,
Give us light and strength
to know your will,
to make it our own,
and to live it in our lives.
Guide us by your wisdom,
support us by your power
for you, Lord, are our hope.
Amen.*

Young Adult Retreat

A weekend experience for adults 18–39 years old and adults who care about this age group, will be sponsored by **Life Directions' Young Adult Ministry**. The weekend experience will take place at the Brother David Darst Center on 2834 South Normal Avenue in Chicago, Illinois from 7:00 p.m. Friday, December 16 through 3:30 p.m. Sunday, December 18, 2011. Using a format of presentations, discussions and reflections, we will focus on connecting scriptural values with everyday life experiences to encourage young adults to see the opportunities and challenges their faith journey have for them. Life Directions is a ministry dedicated to young adults and to their ongoing development in faith and values. We strive to bring together young adults of various cultures and backgrounds, providing them with forum for ongoing support and outreach. We hope you will take this opportunity to get to know us and to introduce other adults to us. **For more information, please contact Van Bensett at (773) 265-5806 or vanb@lifedirections.org**



The SJC Men's Club will host a Holiday social meeting from 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. on **Thursday, December 15th**

Come enjoy the camaraderie and share

your tips, and stories, about Christmas shopping and decorations.

Beverages and snacks provided.

Additionally, there will be wine sampling from 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Representatives of *Hillgrove Wine Cellars* of Western Springs will present various wines and recommendations.

All Men of the Parish are welcome!

Parish Center – Lower Level – 7:00 p.m.

Third Sunday of Advent

Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used.

The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.

How to Make a Stock Donation to St. John of the Cross Parish

3 Simple Steps

1 When processing your securities donations via ELECTRONIC TRANSFER

Provide your bank or broker the following transfer instructions:

William Blair & Company – DTC # 771
Account Number – 156-16135-1-2
Catholic Bishop of Chicago Account
For the Benefit of: St. John of the Cross Parish, Western Springs, IL

Additional information your bank or broker may need:

Archdiocese of Chicago Tax ID No. – 36-2170826
William Blair & Company – 222 W. Adams St. – Chicago, IL 60606
William Blair Representative, Candy Plencner, Phone: 312-364-8169
Fax: 312-577-0658 or e-mail: cplencner@williamblair.com

2 STOCK DONATION - **LETTER OF INTENTION** For the Archdiocese of Chicago Parishes, Schools, and Agencies

Donor, Please complete this form for ALL STOCK/MUTUAL FUND Donations. For further assistance, please call the Archdiocese of Chicago Stock transfer representative, Greg Salm, 312/534-5399.

I (we) plan to transfer the securities electronically: *Donation Date:* _____
From: (Please Print)

Donor Name(s):	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Telephone:	
E-Mail Address:	

Please accept our donation of _____ Shares of _____
(# of shares) (Name of Security)

to be credited to the Catholic Bishop of Chicago for the benefit of:

Parish, School or Agency: **St. John of the Cross Parish, 5005 S. Wolf Road, Western Springs, IL 60558**

(If you are donating various stocks/securities and/or to various locations simply print VARIOUS above and attach a separate page with a list detailing the various gifts and locations that are to receive the gift/s)

3 Send this form To: (send via one method listed below)

Regular U.S. Mail - **Archdiocese of Chicago**, Parish Operations – Stock Donations 835 N. Rush Street, Chicago, IL 60611 *or*

Send to Greg Salm, 312-534-5399 Fax Number: 312/534-5267 gdsalm@archchicago.org *or*

Send to **St. John of the Cross**: Marguerite Chrusciel, phone # 708-246-4404, fax # 708-246-4566 or mchrusciel@stjohnofthecross.org

IRA Charitable Gifts are STILL AN OPTION (But only until December 31st)

Last year, Congress re-authorized legislation that allows you to make charitable gifts from your IRA accounts during 2011 without incurring income tax on the withdrawal. That provision is set to expire on December 31, 2011 and it might not be renewed. The IRA Charitable Rollover provides you with an excellent opportunity to make a gift during your lifetime from an asset that would be subject to multiple levels of taxation if it remained in your taxable estate. To take advantage of this opportunity, you must act by December 31, 2011.

To qualify you must be age 70 ½ or older at the time of gift.

Transfers must be made directly from a traditional IRA account by your plan provider to the parish. Funds that are withdrawn by you and then contributed do NOT qualify. Gifts from 401k, 403b, SEP and other plans do not qualify.

Your plan administrator may make the check out to the parish and mail the check to you. But you must postmark the check to us by December 31, 2011.

Gifts must be outright. Distributions to donor-advised funds, certain supporting organizations, or life-income arrangements such as charitable remainder trusts and charitable gift annuities are not allowed.

Benefits – Qualified charitable distributions can total up to \$100,000 and are not included in your gross income for federal income tax purposes on your IRS Form 1040 (no charitable deduction is available, however).

Rich Goode, of the Archdiocese, can provide a sample letter of instruction that you can send to your IRA plan provider. For more information, please feel free to call Rich at 312/534-7848.

Praying So As Not To Lose Heart

One of the reasons we need to pray is so that we don't lose heart. We all do sometimes. We lose heart whenever frustration, tiredness, fear, and helplessness in the face of life's humiliations conspire together to paralyze our energies, deaden our resiliency, drain our courage, and leave us feeling weak in depression.

Poet Jill Alexander Essbaum, gives us a poignant example of this in her poem, Easter. Reflecting on the joy that Easter should bring into our lives, she shares that Easter can instead be a season of defeat for us because its celebration of joy can highlight the shortcomings of our own lives and leave us with the feeling that: Everyone I've ever loved lives happily just past my able reach.

And this feeling can drive us to our knees, in bitterness or prayer; hopefully prayer.

There are many examples in scripture of men and women being driven to mountaintops or to their knees in prayer because they are paralyzed by fear, discouragement, or loneliness. For our purposes, I will highlight two, highly illustrative, examples of this.

We see an example of praying so as not to lose heart in the prophet, Elijah, when he is being threatened because of his prophetic message. Elijah had been a true and a courageous prophet, but at one point in his ministry he became dangerously disconsolate. His own people had ceased listening to his message, he had witnessed some of his fellow prophets being martyred, and his message had deeply upset Jezebel, the most powerful woman in the kingdom, who had now sent out men to kill him. To flee Jezebel, Elijah climbed up Mount Horeb. However as he retreated into a cave, he was confronted by God's voice, asking him what he was doing there. Elijah confessed his discouragement, his fear of losing his life, and his loss of heart. Having confessed his fears, Elijah retreated into the darkness of the cave, to sit paralyzed in his own fear and depression. But God, through the sound of a gentle breeze, lured him out to the mouth of the cave where Elijah again confessed his depression and fear; but this time in the form of a prayer. And, through that prayer, he regained his strength of heart and came down the mountain ready to face his ministry and all its dangers with renewed energy and courage.

When all of his own strength had dried up, Elijah approached God with his weaknesses and that movement renewed his heart.

We see the same thing in Jesus when, facing his passion and death, he prays in the Garden of

Gethsemane. It's the low-point of Jesus' life and ministry: The people have stopped listening to him, the religious authorities are conspiring with the civil authorities to have him killed, those few, his inner circle of disciples, who are still listening to his message, are not understanding it, and he feels utterly alone, "a stone's throw away from everyone". So as not to lose heart, he drops to his knees in prayer, a prayer so intense that he "sweats blood", but that prayer eventually ends in consolation, with "an angel from heaven coming down to strengthen him". He brings his beaten-down, misunderstood, fearful, and painfully isolated heart to prayer, and he is strengthened, given all the sustenance he needs to regain his courage.

And, in that, Jesus is contrasted with his apostles. At that very moment, they too are discouraged, lonely, and fearful. But they are asleep while he prays, and their sleep, as the gospels hint, is something more than physical. They are, we are told, "asleep out of sheer sorrow". In essence, they are too depressed to be awake to the full strength of their own lives. This loss of heart has them paralyzed in fear and when they finally do act they act in ways contrary to what Jesus had taught them. They attempt violence and then flee. They couldn't face impending suffering as Jesus did because they didn't pray as he did. They lost heart.

No matter who we are or how rich and blessed our lives may be, it is impossible to go through life without, at times, feeling bitterly misunderstood, becoming deeply disconsolate, succumbing to a paralyzing tiredness, and simply losing heart. We are human and, like Jesus, we will have days when we feel "a stone's throw away from everyone". And what's paralyzed inside of us is what's highest in us: our capacity to forgive, our capacity to radiate huge, generous hearts, our capacity for empathy and understanding, our capacity for joy, and our capacity for courage. Frightened and discouraged, like Elijah, we retreat into the inner darkness of a cave.

But in moments like this, we might understand ourselves this way: Like Elijah, we are in the darkness of a cave, paralyzed by loss of heart; but God is at the mouth of the cave, a gentle breeze, luring us back out where everyone we love will be back within our reach.

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX. He can be contacted through his website www.ronrolheiser.com.

Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Church

Children's Choir, Carol Prelude 3:45 p.m.

4:15 p.m. First Floor School Multi-Purpose Room

Carol Prelude 4:00 p.m.

4:30 p.m. Second Floor School Gym

Carol Prelude 4:15 p.m.

6:00 p.m. Church

Carol Prelude 5:45 p.m.

10:30 p.m. Church

Parish Choir, Carol Prelude 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25

7:30 a.m. Church

Cantor, Flute & Cello

9:00 a.m. Church

Contemporary Ensemble

10:45 a.m. Church

Parish Choir

12:15 p.m. Church

Worship & Praise Choir

*** There will be no 5 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day*

Holiday Weekday Mass Schedule

Our regular 7:45 a.m. daily Mass will be celebrated on December 26-30 and 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 31. There will be no 6:30 a.m. Masses that week.

New Year's Eve and Day

Saturday, December 31, 2011 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 1, 2012

7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 12:15 p.m.

*** There will be no 5 p.m. Mass on New Year's Day*

Lord Hear Our Prayer

Pray for our Sick

God of love,
ever caring, ever strong,
stand by us in our time of need.
Watch over _____ who is sick,
Look after him/her in every danger, and
grant him/her your healing and peace.
We ask this in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

Mark Glassgow
Karen Hult
Emily Johanns
Ray Kalis
Olga Matusik
Nancy Olin
Emerson Roessler
Joanne Shea
Stanley Ziemba

Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

Fr. Sigsbert Mzaga, friend of Fr. Filbert
John Ptak, brother of Rich Ptak

Wedding Banns

Jennifer Williams & Matthew Rauen

Mass Times

Sunday:

7:30, 9:00, 10:45 a.m., 12:15 p.m.
and 5:00 p.m.

Saturday:

8:00 a.m. and
5:00 p.m. (*Sun. Anticipatory*)

Monday – Wednesday:

6:30 and 7:45 a.m.

Thursday and Friday:

7:45 a.m.

Holy Days:

6:30 a.m., 7:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Reconciliation

Following the Saturday 8:00 a.m.
Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 9:00 a.m.
and 10:45 a.m. Masses

Babysitting in the Garden Room
of the Rectory at the Sunday 9:00
a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Masses.
No Babysitting on Dec. 25 or Jan.
1st.



St. John of the Cross Parish
5005 S. Wolf Road
Western Springs, IL 60558
708-246-4404 Office
708-246-4454 School
708-246-6760 YC
www.stjohnofthecross.org

"In the evening of life you will be examined in love."

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe

6:30 Zimmerman/Hermann Family; Rev. Edward Feeley
7:45 Dorothy Kamenjarin; Jim Fletcher

Tuesday, December 13, St. Lucy

6:30 Parishioners
7:45 Margaret Kirtley; Loretta & Frank Burke

Wednesday, December 14, St. John of the Cross

6:30 Purgatorial
7:45 Raymond Pazzali; Patricia Olmstead

Thursday, December 15

7:45 Leona Rompala; Henry Tymick

Friday, December 16

7:45 A. George Zurowski; Michael Kenny

Saturday, December 17

8:00 Coretta Spalo;
Bryan O'Connor Family
5:00 Parker & Weber Families; Bob Brandt

Sunday, December 18, Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30 Michael Kristy; Chester Miller
9:00 Jack Sullivan; David Budreck
10:45 Lorraine Cramsie; Kay Hannah
12:15 Anthony Shafranski; Ron Lycar
5:00 Peg Schreiber; Dr. Steven Richard

Italics—Living

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;
Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Is 54:1-10; Lk 7:24-30
Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Jn 5:33-36
Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17
Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89;
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

A student at Marquette University is writing his dissertation on Dr. Arthur Falls. Dr. Falls was the first black man to move to Western Springs in the 50's and was an involved parishioner at St. John of the Cross. If anyone has information about Dr. Falls that might help this student, please call Bill Bright at the Parish Center. Thanks!

DID YOU KNOW?

Wednesday, December 14th is the Memorial of Saint John of the Cross, our parish patron saint, and priest and doctor of the Church.

CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —
Saint John of the Cross #9239

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

PHONE —
708-246-4404

CONTACT PERSON —
Shirley

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS —



**Get in the
Spirit!**

Christmas will soon be here! Celebrate with the
Saintly Seniors
at our annual
Christmas Luncheon

on
Friday, December 16th
11:30 a.m.

in the Parish Center

RSVP to the Parish Center
by Monday, December 12th

Enjoy a delicious luncheon of ham, breaded pork tenderloin, scalloped potatoes, beets, spiced apples, cole slaw, rolls, and pumpkin squares for dessert! Wine, beer and soft drinks included. An entertaining program follows lunch. This is a great opportunity to connect with other seniors in our parish. Bring a friend or make new ones at this annual get-together!

Questions? Call Trudy Schmitt at 708-246-4696.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Number of Reservations:

Amount Enclosed: \$

Cost: Members \$14, Nonmembers \$19

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Greg Fiflis - Parishioner

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