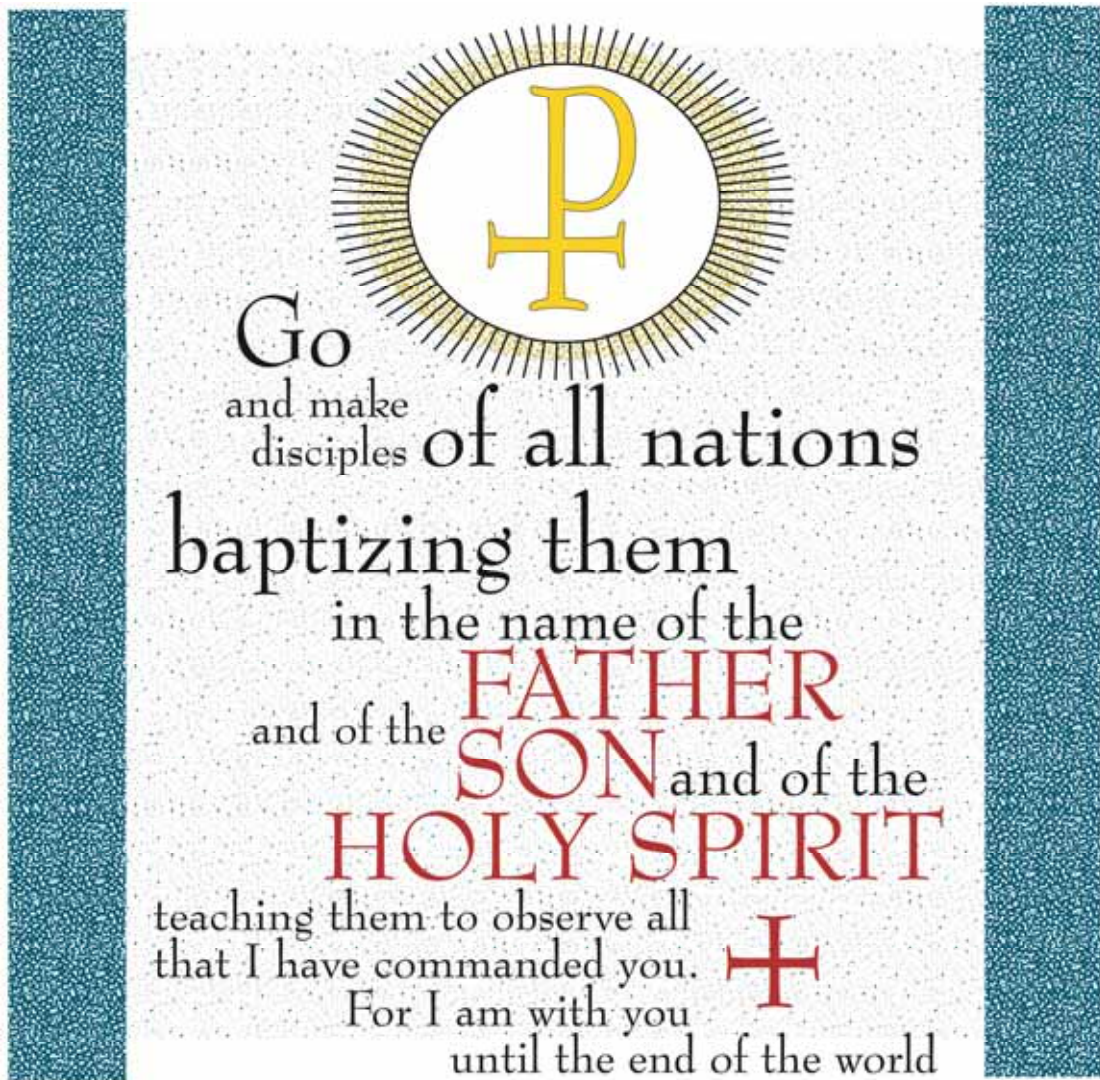


St. John of the Cross Parish

May 29, 2011
Sixth Sunday of Easter



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5005 South Wolf Road Western Springs, Illinois 60558
Parish Center: 708-246-4404 School: 708-246-4454 Youth Catechesis: 708-246-6760

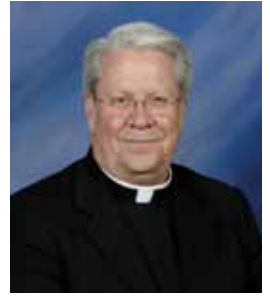
From the Desk of the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend continues the unbelievably important celebrations that we have had since Easter, six weeks ago. Newly ordained associate pastor Rev. Filbert Ngwila will be the principal celebrant of the Saturday 5:00 p.m. Mass. He asked Rev. James Presta to be the homilist for this Mass. Fr. Presta was the rector at St. Joseph College Seminary when Fr. Fil first came from Tanzania. The tradition of asking an older priest to preach the newly ordained First Mass of Thanksgiving had pretty much ended in Chicago when I was ordained in 1979, but not completely. It was intended as a help for the new priest to concentrate on the rubrics of his first public celebration of the liturgy and let someone else be responsible for the homily. Priests ordained around the time I was had a year of Sunday preaching as deacons behind them by the time they were ordained priests. Deacons in the current system have much less opportunity to preach in parishes. Having another priest preach was also a way of publicly recognizing the importance of a priest who may have played an important role in your vocation or during the time you were in the seminary. If you were at Fr. Elliott Dees' Mass of Thanksgiving last Sunday you know Fr. Elliott chose to give the homily himself (and he did a very fine job). We welcome Fr. Presta and all of the other guests of Fr. Fil for this great personal and parish celebration.

Fr. Fil's parents, sister, and uncle having been enjoying being guests at the seminary and seeing different parts of Chicago. They have also gone to the art museum in Milwaukee and the Shrine of the Passion in St. John, Indiana. Many things amaze them, not the least of which is that they can find African foods in grocery stores in

Chicago. They will leave to go back home on Monday. At least now they will have some sense of where their son will be a priest for the next several years. Thank you for welcoming them so warmly. They are truly grateful.



There are a few other things going on. The eighth graders have had their award ceremony and will graduate Tuesday night. Earlier in the month they led the May Crowning ceremony and had their first grade 'buddies' give them their ribbons. The whole school awards were given last Tuesday. The Great America trip was Friday and Celebrate SJC will be next Thursday. Lots of end of the year activities will lead to the closing school Mass next Friday.

Many people think of this weekend as the beginning of summer. While a holiday weekend, it is an opportunity to be mindful of those who have given the supreme sacrifice in defense of our country. We remember all the men and women who have died in the armed forces and for those who are currently serve on behalf of the country. May their deaths increase our sense of gratitude for the freedoms we enjoy on a daily basis. May the leaders of all countries of the world seek the ways of peace together.

If you see the Ngwila family at the parade on Monday, wish them a safe trip home. Peace,

Fr. David



Memorial Day is observed on Monday, May 30 this year. While the regularly scheduled 6:30 a.m. and 7:45 a.m. Masses will not take place, we invite all parishioners to a special Memorial Day Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m.

The Parish Center office will be closed May 30.

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FAREWELL TO FR. KEN BAKER

It is difficult for me to believe that seven years have passed so quickly and it is now time for me to say "Goodbye" to St. John of the Cross. Perhaps then we should just say "Until we meet again!" Fortunately the likelihood of us meeting again, at a local restaurant, at Oakbrook Mall or even the grocery store has been made possible by my next assignment...to St. Cletus in La Grange!! Even though I will be moving "just around the corner", I do have to leave our parish family, with cherished memories and wonderful friendships. Please join me then, when you can, on the weekend of June 4-5 as I say farewell. I will preside at a con-celebrated Mass of Thanksgiving at the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, June 4th with a reception to follow in the Parish Center. On Sunday, June 5th, I will say a few words following Communion at each of the masses and meet parishioners, again in the Parish Center, for hospitality and the chance to say personal goodbyes. I hope to see as many of you as I can that weekend so that I may have the opportunity to say "Thank You!!" for the blessings you have been in my life these past seven years.

Fr. Ken

Baptism Preparation Meeting Thursday, June 2

Baptism preparation meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Parish Center. All couples are expected to attend the meeting. Godparents are encouraged and most welcome to attend. Please call the Parish Center if you are coming or if you have any questions.



Summer Parish Center
Office Hours
begin Monday, June 6:
Parish Center Office Hours
Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Weekends: Saturday 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.



Rose Horvath Sharing Stories

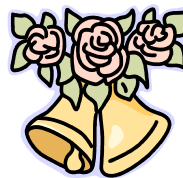
October 13, 1987 Rose Horvath entered the Sr. Anastasia Library and began to share her love of children's literature with generations of St. John of the Cross Parish School students. Over the years her passion for the written word has sparked students' interest in grades Preschool to 8th grades. From book beach parties in the library, to world religion week, international days, Peace & Justice, and keeping up with the world wide web, or skyping an author, Rose has kept the library hopping. It is a place to read, study, do research, learn the difference between fiction and non-fiction and discover the Dewey Decimal System!

Now 24 years later, Rose has decided to retire. She will be missed. We wish her well. We invite her back to read stories to the children! As is said to the students when they leave the SJC Library: "God be with you," Rose.



Pray for Peace

Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass



The Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday, August 28 at 3 p.m. at St. John Brebeuf, 8307 N. Harlem Ave. in Niles.

Couples married in 1961 interested in attending this celebration should contact the Parish Center by May 30.

For further information call the Family Ministries Office at 312-534-8351 or visit www.familyministries.org.



Calendar

June 7 Local Work Tour Planning Mtg
7pm LL PC
June 9 Work Tour formation mtg 7pm
June 12-17 Local Work Tour to Mary

Queen of Heaven; please keep the group in your prayers

Are you an adult who has considered joining the Crossroads Youth Ministry leader's team?

Want to hear more about us from current leaders & teen leaders?

Contact Katie Hayes to set up a meeting with a current leader or to have a teen leader come explain some of the joys of our ministry
708-246-4404 ext. 140
khayes@stjohnofthecross.org

Summer plans are underway...if you are an adult who is willing to support one of these activities as an adult leader/chaperone please contact Katie Hayes 708-246-4404, khayes@stjohnofthecross.org



Day trip to Great America
Video



Discussion Group starting in July

World Youth Day local pilgrimage and overnight
Aug. 20-21



Work Tour teens will be selling SJC water bottles during the next few weeks if you're interested in purchasing one contact Anela Kusic, sales coordinator, at akkusic@sbcglobal.net

ADULTS WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

We are specifically seeking adults who want to funnel the teens post-work tour energy and enthusiasm into positive growth for each teen. Contact Katie Hayes to see if you can help!
khayes@stjohnofthecross.org

ARE YOU A TEEN WHO PLAYS IN A BAND?

Want to be a part of the Summer Fest BATTLE OF THE BANDS? Contact: Anselmo, anselmomarquez@comcast.net, 708-203-3320

Or search St. John of the Cross Jam Session on Facebook for details

Do you have a son or daughter heading off to college in the fall for the first time? Or maybe a second or third?

Crossroads has a long list of campus ministry programs & their contact information where many of our graduates have gone over the past few years. If you would like us to send the details to your child please email us at crossroads@stjohnofthecross.org with the name of the school, your child's name & email address.

We want to support their connection to their faith through church & ministry programs on campus!

Many thanks to our parents who helped prepare our End of the Year Leaders' Dinner: Sandra & Tom Foody & Sue Grier as well as their helpers: Irene, Joan, Bob, Katie, Maggie, and Kevin!
Your help & creative energies made the evening so wonderful for us all!



SJC culminated the year long Honor Flight fundraising campaign by greeting the veterans at Midway Airport after their flight home from Washington D.C.



Father Darrio visited our second graders to bless their special First Communion gifts.



SJC students said farewell to Father Ken Baker with a musical tribute this week. It was a wonderful afternoon of songs, poetry and performances! We will miss you Fr. Ken!

This Week at SJC

- May 30 Memorial Day, No School
- May 31 8th Grade Graduation Church, 5:00 p.m.
- June 1 Kindergarten Celebration School Gym, 9:15 a.m.
Preschool Celebration School, 10:15 a.m.
- June 2 Celebrate SJC Day
- June 3 All School Liturgy Church, 9:15 a.m.
Dismissal, 11:00 a.m.



**SJC Summer SportCamps
2011 Summer Running Camp**

(For boys & girls entering Gr. 3 – 8)

The Running Camp will emphasize speed, endurance, agility and conditioning.

Michelle Fink, Cross Country Coordinator, and Margaret Connelly, Ivy League runner at Brown University, will coach the Camp.

**Every Wednesday, June 15th – August 17th from
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m**

Fee: \$50 Includes a T-shirt Meet each Wednesday morning in the SJC parking lot near the flagpole.

To Register:

Go To: www.sjcpsinfo.org

Scroll To: SJC Flyers

Print the registration form and return it with the fee (**payable to St. John of the Cross**) to:

SJC Parish School, Attn: Donna Webster,
708 51st Street, Western Springs, IL 60558

For questions contact Michelle Fink at: (708-784-1599)
OR am_fink@sbcglobal.net



2011 Summer Basketball Camps

(For boys & girls entering Gr. 3 – 8)

The Basketball Camps will emphasize instruction on proper basketball techniques. Fundamentals, advanced skills, competitions and contests will be included. Coaches from Fenwick High School will instruct the camps.

Session Dates

July 25 - 29

August 1 - 5

Grades 3-5th: 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Grades 6-8th: 10:00 a.m. - noon

Fee: \$80 per session

Includes a T-shirt and basketball

Camps will be held at SJC

To Register:

Go To: www.sjcpsinfo.org

Scroll To SJC Flyers

Print the registration form and return it with the fee (**payable to St. John of the Cross**) to:

SJC Parish School, Attn: Donna Webster, 708 51st Street,
Western Springs, IL 60558.

For questions contact Brian Shannon: (708) 494-3333



Don't
Forget
Registration

for
**2011-12 Religious Education for
grades Preschool through 8th grade is
NOW OPEN!**

Stop at the YC Office
Monday ~ Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Late Office Hours:

Wednesday, May 24th until 7:00 p.m.

Office will be closed for Memorial Day, May 30th
YC Office: 708-246-6760 or yc@sjcross.org



The YC Office hopes you are enjoying the warm weather...but we are planning for the fall and winter already. **WE NEED YOU!** Each of you have gifts and talents. Won't you please consider sharing them with our children? To be a Catechist or Aide you are asked to LOVE JESUS! We provide lesson plans, resources and tons of support! Please pray about helping in the YC classes this fall!! Call today for more information at 708-246-6760



Vacation Bible School

June 27 to July 1

9:00 am-Noon

K-5th graders are invited to join in Vacation Bible School
FUN! Through crafts, snacks, songs, & scripture, learn more
about Jesus.

**There is still a place for YOU ~ SIGN UP at
www.vacationbibleschool.com/sjc**

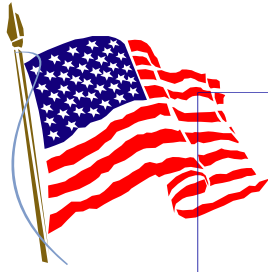
Deadline is nearing!



VOLUNTEERS are needed!!

*Junior High, High School and Adults are all welcome
to have a great time this summer at VBS!!
To volunteer, please call (708) 246-6760.*





Remember our Military

One in Prayer with Loved Ones in the Military

Michael Ryan Burke, grandson of Joseph & Laverne Kusper
Captain Brandy Caffy, friend of Julie and Katie Warren
A1c Matthew Callaghan, son of Judy Callaghan
Lt. Mark Callari, grandson of Jane Domagala
Captain Sean Christopherson, friend of Katie Warren
Matthew Curin, son of Donna Curin
Lt. Katie Warren, daughter of Julie Warren
2Lt. Ken Engberg, Army National Guard
Capt. Michael Federico, son of Rick & Jeanne
Petty Officer MM2 (SS) Daniel Fox, USN, son of Chris and Irene O’Ryan-Fox
Pfc. Amy Harris, niece of Gary & Barbara Ainge
Sgt. Joseph Johnson, son of Pete & Jan Van Merkestyn
2Lt Catherine Kane, niece of Michael & Terese Kane
Pfc. John T. King, cousin of Catherine Mini
Lt. Matthew Kopp, nephew of Larry & Mimi Powers
Msg. Carl Kroll, son of Mary Lou Kroll and brother of Judi Llapitan
Master Sgt. Matthew Kusper, grandson of Joseph & Laverne Kusper
Capt. Brendan D. Masini, M.D., grandson of Marilyn & Charles Scallon
Tim McMillan
Douglas Murphy, brother of Jeanne Fornari
Sgt. Krista Nelson, USMC, niece of Mary and Len Novotny
Capt. Annette Podolak, niece of Marguerite Chrusciel
Ross Rafferty, nephew of John Rafferty
Sgt. Daniel Roche, cousin of Jacqueline McDonnell
Cameron Saltus, cousin of Jack, Rory and Gordon
Alex Scalise, nephew of Cathy Pesch
Lance Cpl. Nicholas Schultz, friend of the Chrusciel Family
Lance Cpl. Brian Skraba, friend of the LeFevour Family
Jarett Smith, grandson of Dan and Jo Rudakas
Pfc. Robert M. Sullivan, son of Michael & Helen
Spc. Alex Teckenbrock, 3rd Infantry Div. ARMY
Alex Uribarri, son of Mari Uribarri
Spc. James C. Woods, nephew of Mary Neel
Pfc. Anthony Zimmerman, nephew of Mary Kate Hermann

*Almighty and eternal God, those who take refuge in you will be glad and forever will shout for joy.
Protect these soldiers as they discharge their duties.
Protect them with the shield of your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm.
May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety, and that with all who love them,
they may ever praise you for your loving care.*

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

THE TRUE STORY OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH.



ANSWERING THE CALL FOR THE NEW EVANGELIZATION, THIS MULTI-MEDIA, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM REVEALS THE TRUTH, BEAUTY AND GOODNESS OF THE FAITH IN AN UNPRECEDENTED WAY.

“Catholicism is a smart religion, and we consciously stress this aspect of the Faith in the program.”

- Fr. Robert Barron.

Catholicism

We are planning to present Fr. Barron’s Film Series this fall.

For more information check the web-site

<http://www.wordonfire.org/The-Catholicism-Project/Overview-New.aspx>

If you are interested in helping with the program contact

Marianne Firlit mgfirlit@stjohnofthecross.org

Tommy’s Kids Summer Camp

A Children’s Bereavement Camp

For Children who have experienced a significant loss due to death.

Tommy’s Kids Camp, an extension of Tommy’s Kids Support Group, help children cope with the experience of loss in healthy ways. Tommy’s Kids Camp is a five day summer day camp where children can come together to talk about their losses, to remember special times, to meet new friends and to have fun. Children write stories about their loved ones, draw pictures, participate in arts and crafts, go on nature hikes and play games.

Tommy’s Kids Summer Camp will be facilitated by St. Thomas Hospice staff and volunteers who have had special training in childhood development and grief. Participation is limited to 30 children. There are still openings. Please call to register.

Who: Children ages 5-12

When: July 11 - July 15

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Where: Arabian Knights Farms
Willowbrook, Illinois

For more information and registration:
Heather Kochen 630-856-6985

Moving on with Grace A Spiritual Journey for Those Who Have Experienced the Death of a Spouse

The Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii
1224 W. Lexington Street
Chicago, Illinois

Saturday, June 4, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Cost: \$25

Presider: Fr. Richard Fragomeni

Speaker: Amy Florian

After the unthinkable has happened, how do you go on? Finding peace and healing after the death of a spouse can be impossible. Yet, facing fear, anxiety and overwhelming sadness can lead to embracing a new life. It is possible to once again know happiness and live with a full heart.

Share a morning of spiritual comfort. Through presentation and discussion experience community and hope through prayer.

Amy is an engaging nationally known authority on grief who experienced the loss of a spouse at 25 with an infant son.

Information and registration: 312-421-3757



St. Mark, one of our Sharing parishes, held it's annual banquet on April 30th. It was a wonderful evening of warm welcome along with good food and music. Our thanks to Fr. Elmer Romero, Pastor, for the invitation. A number of St. John of the Cross parishioners and friends attended. We truly enjoyed the hospitality and shared a real sense of belonging with the good people of St. Mark! Bill Bright

St. John of the Cross would be honored if you would consider remembering the parish in your estate planning. Thank you.

WANTED: JOBS

The mission of INTERFAITH CAREER NETWORK (ICN) is to help prepare and enable individuals to successfully complete their job search by finding meaningful employment in a timely manner. YOU can be a critical part of this ministry, if you answer "Yes" to the following questions:

Are you hiring?

Do you know of a company that is hiring?

All levels of positions are welcome. ICN members are degreed and non-degreed individuals seeking full time, part time and contract positions in a broad range of industries including: Accounting, Advertising/Marketing, Clerical/Administrative, Customer Service, Engineering, HR, IT, Sales, Supply Chain and more. Please send position description and preferred method of contact to:

Jobs@interfaithcareernetwork.org. Job opening information will be sent to ICN group members via the ICN Yahoo Group. Thank you for your assistance!

In a job search? Interfaith Career Network offers job support through various programs throughout the month. For details, please visit our website: www.interfaithcareernetwork.org

Catholic Citizens Forum

On June 10, Catholic Citizens will host Fr. Michael Sweeney, O.P., President of the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology in Berkeley, CA. Father Sweeney has served as university chaplain and also as a parish pastor. His chief interest is the mission of the Church in the world, understanding the relationships between clergy, laity and parish community, with the formation of the laity for the task as apostles. Describing the "Land of Lakes" Conference in the 60's led by Fr. Hesburgh of Notre Dame as the beginning of the loss of Catholic tradition at Catholic Universities, he has a plan for the restoration of Catholic Universities to the Catholic Tradition. The subject of his talk will be "**What is Catholic about a Catholic University?**" For all those concerned about the secularization of Catholic Universities and the demise of Catholic tradition and truth at those universities, this talk is one that must not be missed.

Luncheons are at 11:45 a.m. at the Union League Club, 65 W. Jackson, Chicago. Tickets \$35.00. Business attire. Reservations required. For reservations, call Maureen at 708-352-5834.

Can You Help???

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 boxes were distributed to the following organizations all of whom were most grateful for what they received:

Catholic Charities in Cicero
Catholic Charities in Chicago
Lake Ridge Head Start Program
Kolbe House Prison Ministry's
Children of the Incarcerated
Program
Global Youth Leadership
Harvest Hope
St. Vincent DePaul Center
St. Thadeus Parish
Marillac Social Center
Curie High School
SCARCE



We will be collecting school supplies again this year with the goal of helping even more groups/schools in need. Helpers of all ages are needed to sort and pack on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, 6/14 and 6/15, 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 can. There will be a pizza lunch and a chance to swim afterwards for those that can stay. If you have any questions please call Mary Lee and Jim at 708-246-3987.

Do you have a story to tell about the history of SJC?

Email or call Mary Tymick
246-2376 or tymickfamily@aim.com



*Celebrating 50 Years
As A Faith Community
1960 - 2010*

The **BIGGEST** Event of our 50th Anniversary Year!

SJC Family Festival

Mark Your Calendars Now!!

Festival Dates & Hours:

Thursday, July 21, 5-10

Friday, July 22, 5-11

Saturday, July 23, 1-11

Sunday, July 24, 12-7

Rides provided by North American Midway Entertainment during Festival Hours

Evening Music

Thursday, July 21 - Battle of the Bands 5:00pm

Friday, July 22 - Infinity 7:30pm

Saturday, July 23 - American English 8:00pm

DAYTIME ENTERTAINMENT

Irish Dancers, Fred Astaire Dance Lessons,
Zumba Lessons, 4U Concert & more!

OASIS - Stop by for fun & Games

Kids Games
Pull Tabs/Jar Games
Raffle

Raffle Prizes Needed

We are looking for prizes to make our raffle a success. Our raffle will be \$5 per ticket.

Can you donate:

Small electronics (iPods, video games)

Large electronics (t.v.s, computers)

Gift cards to restaurants, spas or great local shops

Please call Ellen Smith at (708) 784-0226 or
MaryTerese Smith at (708) 784-0451 to make a donation!

Thank You!

The SJC Family Fest 2011 Needs YOU!

We hope each SJC parishioner will volunteer 2 hour to make this event one we remember in 50 years!

Call Elizabeth today and tell her when and how you would like to help make this event a success!!

Contact Elizabeth Russell-Jones at:
elizabeth@russell-jones.us or (708) 246-6282.

For these times:

Thursday Evening

Friday Evening

Saturday Afternoon

Saturday Evening

Sunday Afternoon

Sunday Evening

For these activities:

Ticket Booth

Food Station

Beer Tent

Stage Area

Security

Set Up/Take Down

Kids Games

Oasis

Bake Sale

Pull Tabs/Jar Games

Fun Run

Raffle





St. John of the Cross
 Celebrating 50 Years
 As A Faith Community
 1960 - 2010

July 8th
7:10 PM

Chicago
 White Sox

vs.

Minnesota
 Twins



Transportation,
 Before Dinner Buffet
 and Ticket Included in
 Price

It's time to start thinking **BASEBALL!**

Our 50th anniversary celebration continues with an White Sox outing to U.S. Cellular Field.



Join us for a fun evening

5:00 PM	Buses depart from the St. John of the Cross parking lot
Arrive at U.S. Cellular Field	Before the game, we will enjoy an ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT buffet dinner. It will include BBQ ribs, Cajun chicken, fried chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers, side salads, wine, Miller and Pepsi products
7:10 PM	Enjoy the game from Right Field in Lower Reserved Seats
Post Game	Enjoy the fireworks sponsored by Pepsi.
Bus Ride Home	Our buses will return to St. John of the Cross following the fireworks display.

A perfect gift for Mother's Day, Father's Day or just a great way to spend the day with friends!



Only 150 tickets available
Reserve your seats today!

Name: _____
 Email: _____
 Phone: _____
 # of Tickets: Adults: _____ Seniors: _____ Children: _____

Price Includes:
 Ticket, Transportation,
 Before game dinner &
 drinks and fireworks.

Adults: \$ 90.00
 Seniors: \$ 77.00
 (60 and older)
 Children: \$ 77.00
 (13 & under)

Return this to the Parish Center

For more information or reservations, please contact Paul or Diane Januska at (708) 784-3520 or pjanuska@sbcglobal.net.
 Tickets can also be ordered using PAYPAL on the Parish website under the SJC 50th Anniversary link.

God and Violence

God is non-violent. God does not prescribe violence. Violence should never be rationalized in God's name. That is clear in Christian revelation.

But that immediately poses the question: What about the violence in scripture that is attributed to God or to God's direct orders?

Doesn't God, in anger, wipe out the entire human race, save for Noah and his family? Doesn't God ask Abraham to kill Isaac on an altar of sacrifice? Doesn't Moses have to talk God out of destroying Israel because God is angry? Didn't God give an order to Israel to kill everybody and everything (men, women, children, and even the animals) as she entered the Promised Land? Didn't the Mosaic Law, attributed to God, prescribe stoning women to death for adultery? Didn't Jesus kick over the tables of the money-changers in anger? And what about all the wars and capital punishment that have been done in God's name through the centuries? What about extremist Islam today, killing thousands of people in God's name? God, it seems, has prescribed and sanctioned a lot of violence and killing from ancient time right down until today. How do we explain all the violence attributed to God?

Two things need to be kept in mind:

First: Whenever scripture speaks about God as being offended, as getting angry, as wanting to wreak vengeance on his enemies, or as demanding that we kill somebody in his name, it is speaking anthropomorphically, that is, it is taking our own thoughts, feelings, and reactions and projecting them into God. We get angry, God doesn't. Our hearts crave vengeance, God's heart doesn't. We demand that murderers be executed, God doesn't. Scripture contains a lot of anthropomorphisms that make for a bad and a dangerous theology if read and understood literally. To read parts of scripture literally is to turn God into a tribal God in competition with other gods.

When scripture says that we experience God's wrath when we sin, it doesn't want us to believe that God actually gets angry and punishes us. There's no need. The punishment is innate, inherent in the sin itself. When we sin it is our own actions that punish us (the way excessive use of alcohol dehydrates the brain and the dehydration causes a headache). We may feel that the punishment as coming from God, from God's anger, from God's wrath, but it is nature's wrath and our own that we are feeling. God has no need to extrinsically punish sin because sin already punishes itself. Nature is so constructed. There is a law of karma. Sin is its own punishment.

But at the level of feeling, this is felt as if God is punishing us. However, as Jesus shows in forgiving his own killers and forgiving everyone who betrayed him, God forgives sin. God has no need for vengeance or for a justice that extracts a pound of flesh for a pound of sin. Nature already does that. Indeed, given a proper understanding of God's nature and transcendence, it is presumptuous on our part to even believe that we can "offend" God.

More important still, the biblical texts that attribute violence to God are also archetypal, namely, they are texts that teach us things about the deep rhythms of the human heart but are not meant to be taken literally. Taken literally, they are often the very antithesis of the revelation of God.

But still what do we do with the biblical texts that prescribe violence to God? For instance, how can we interpret God's ordering Israel to kill all the Canaanites as she entered the Promised Land?

In archetypal stories, killing is metaphorical not literal. It's about a death inside the heart. God's command to kill all the inhabitants of Canaan is simply a hard metaphor for what Jesus refers to when he says that you have to put new wine into new wineskins so that the new wine will not burst the old skins.

Anyone who has gone through a 12-step addiction program knows what it means to have to kill all the Canaanites. To move into the promised land of sobriety and remain there, something hard and cruel needs to happen that can't happen through half-measures: To move into the promised land of sobriety, you have to clean out ("kill") your entire liquor cabinet, all the "Canaanites": All the beer, scotch, bourbon, rum, vodka, wine, cognac, and brandy, every ounce of alcohol has to go. If you allow yourself even one drink you will eventually lose your sobriety.

Virtually every text in the bible which ascribes violence to God or puts into his mouth a command to do violence needs to be read in that same way. The violence and killing are metaphorical, even as the text is asking the heart to do something which cannot be a half-measure.

Walter Brueggemann once commented that "God is in recovery from all the violence that has been attributed to him and done in his name." It's time that the churches entered the same recovery process.

Rev. Ron Rolheiser OMI
www.ronrolheiser.com

This Week @ SJC

Volunteers Needed

Monday, May 30

2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
2:30 p.m. Spiritual Journaling

Tuesday, May 31

1:30 p.m. Sr. Josephine's Bible Study
3:00 p.m. Rosary

Wednesday, June 1

2:00 p.m. Christian Meditation
7:30 p.m. Christian Meditation

Thursday, June 2

9:30am Fr Kieran Sunday Scripture Study
7:30pm Fr Kieran Sunday Scripture Study

Saturday, June 4

7:00am Christian Meditation
6:00pm Fr. Ken's Farewell Reception

Volunteers are needed for Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 10:45 a.m. Sunday Mass. Preparation materials and training are provided. Please help us to continue to offer this wonderful ministry. The commitment is only one Sunday per month but the reward is great!

Please call Megan O'Brien at 708-784-0732.

Prayer for Springtime

Lord of the springtime,

Father of flower, field, and fruit,

Smile on us in these earnest days when the work is heavy and the toil wearisome; lift up our hearts, O God to the things worthwhile—sunshine and night, the dripping rain, the song of the birds, books and music, and the voices of our friends.



Annual SJC Garage Sale

Saturday, June 18th, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Monday, June 20th, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

We Need Your Help!

We are looking for Room Chair and/or Co Chairs for **Toys**. Grab a friend or two to work with you. We are also looking for as many volunteers as possible for a couple of hours to help after the event preparing items for the charities. Anyone interested in volunteering may call Mary Beth White at 708-246-6339.

Students looking for service experience during the Garage Sale, please contact Maureen Chopp at 708-246-7280 to sign up. Any high school or college students also welcome.

Strong men looking to help with the Garage Sale? We have a great opportunity. We are in need of men to help with furniture pick ups the evenings of June 14, 15 and 16. Anytime available is appreciated. Call Connie Madden, 708-246-4363

We are also in need of snacks and/or baked goods for our garage sale volunteer workers that help set up and work the sale. Please drop off items Monday, June 13 through Friday June 17 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. in the school kitchen.

Remember to start saving brown paper bags, plastic bags and nice shopping bags of all sizes.



Cleaning for a Reason

Any woman currently undergoing chemotherapy for any type of cancer can have a cleaning service, provided **FREE**, 1 time per month for four months while in treatment.

All you need to do is sign up and have your doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. The Cleaning for a Reason Foundation will have a participating maid service in your zip code area arrange for the service. This organization serves the entire USA and currently has 547 partners to help women undergoing chemo. For further information, log on to: www.cleaningforareason.org



Are You In The Process of Moving?

Don't forget to call the Parish office at 708-246-4404 and leave your new address and phone number. This is important if you wish to receive the parish mailings in a timely manner. If you are a Parish School family or a Parish Youth Catechesis family you need to inform the School and Youth Catechesis administration as well as the parish office. Thank you.

St. John of the Cross

708-246-4404 www.stjohnofthecross.org

The Generation of Priests We Needed

They were there when we needed them
for the joys and sorrow of our lives.

Many are still there for us helping out in parishes.
Others wish they could be
but they are suffering from health problems.

We Need Each Other Now

FUND FOR RETIRED PRIESTS

The **Only** Annual Collection for ^{Retired} Priests
of the Archdiocese of Chicago

thank you for your sacrifice and generosity



JUNE 12, 2011

St. Leo 50th Reunion

We are looking for classmates from 1961 graduating class of St. Leo Grammar School, located at 78th & Emerald in Chicago.

If you have a relative or friend that graduated from St. Leo in 1961, please let them know that a reunion is being planned. Call John Roche at 312446-4413 or www.stleoclassof61reunion.weebly.com.

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 10:45 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 8:00 a.m. and 5:00pm (*Sun. Anticipatory*)
(*Children's Liturgy of the Word at Saturday, 5pm,*
Sunday, 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Masses.
Babysitting at 9:00 & 10:45 a.m. in the
Rectory Garden Room.)

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.
Gluten free hosts are available. Inquire in the sacristy
before Mass.

Prayer Opportunities

Adoration: Every Monday 2:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
(*Divine Mercy Chaplet at 2:30 and Rosary, 8:45 p.m.*)
Christian Meditation: Wednesday, 2:00 and 7:30 p.m.;
Saturday, 7:00 a.m.
Rosary: Daily before & after the 7:45 a.m. Mass.
Saturday before and after 8:00 a.m. Mass

Parish Center Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Weekends: Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Mass Intentions and
Sacramental Inquiries:
Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and Weekends

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturday: after the 8:00 a.m. liturgy
Anointing of the Sick: Call the Parish Center. A Minister of Care is also available to bring Communion to our parish sick and homebound.
Marriage: Contact the Parish Center one year in advance and prior to making any other arrangements.
Baptism: Call the Parish Center to schedule preparation sessions and baptism date.
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Adults inquiring about becoming Roman Catholic may call the Parish Center.

All Are Welcome!

Handicapped parking is located along the north wall of the church. A push-bar automatic entrance is located at the northeast corner of church. Personal hearing devices are available from the ushers.

Lord Hear Our Prayer

Pray for our Sick

Charlie Ames	John Munch
Dennis Augustine	Diana Nawrocki
Terry Aversa	Russ Niesen
Eileen Biros	Gregory Palaschak
Mary Kathryn Biros	Teresa Peterson
Annabelle Boehnke	Marge Pipal
Ed Carpenter	Gary Poore
Vera Caschetta	Peter Quinn
Judy Cranston	Rick Reimer
Jacob DiFranco	Leona Rompala
Justin Donnelly	Fabian Saldana
Ryder Federico	Fred Sheehan
Jack Gibbons	Bruce Siefert
Patricia Barnes Gibbs	Betty Sulak
Kathy Gorski	Norma Sumpay
Dean Grilli	Patrick Synnott
Owen Hollinger	Joyce Szot
Jacob M. Joyce	Joyce Tischler
Loucine Kassis	Stephanie Wall
Phyllis Kelley	Francesca Principe-
Kathryn Mahoney	Wegner
John Makar	Patricia Wilson
Meredith Mangold	Joan Workman
R. W. McClellan	Amy Zavisin

Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

Edward Luke, husband of Margaret, father of Margaret Sander

Laverna Mikrut, mother of Michael Mikrut

Gerard Machtemes, cousin of Jackie Frank

Peg Schreiber, sister of Andy Schreiber

Mary O'Shea, mother of Patricia O'Shea

Wedding Banns

Joanna Dreher & Philip Lukanich

Mass Intentions

Monday, May 30

9:00 Jean Ann Pendleton

Tuesday, May 31

6:30 Purgatorial

7:45 O'Malley-Madigan Families

Wednesday, June 1, St. Justin

6:30 Parishioners

7:45 Virginia Phillips; Brian Donovan

Thursday, June 2

7:45 Michael Hermann

Friday, June 3, St. Charles

7:45 Ordination Class of 1955; Sophie Rozsypal

Saturday, June 4

8:00 Frederick & Loretta Englehart

5:00 Rosalie & Michale Krupski; Meg Scanlon

Sunday, June 5, Seventh Sunday of Easter

7:30 Parishioners

9:00 Arnold Pignatti; Margaret Bigelow

10:45 David Yu; Joseph Connelly

5:00 Patrick Scally; Dr. Silvio Morales

Italics—Living

Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 16:11-15; Jn 15:26 — 16:4a

Tuesday Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16; Lk 1:39-56

Wednesday Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1; Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47; Eph 1:17-23;

Friday: Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28; Jn 16:23b-28

Sunday: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47; Eph 1:17- 23;

Mt 28:16-20

Pastoral Staff

Pastor

Rev. David P. Dowdle

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Joseph F. McDonnell

Associate Pastor/Director of Worship

Rev. Kenneth J. Baker

Associate Pastor

Rev. Darrio L. Boscutti

Rev. Mr. Filbert F. Ngwila

Deacons

Tom McGorey, Joe Pepitone, John Schopp

Director of Operations

M.J. Martin

Finance Manager

Marguerite Chrusciel

Parish School Principal

Kathleen Gorman

Plant Manager

Frank DiPompeo

Director of Music Ministries

Jennifer Kerr Budziak

Director of Worship

Jim Clauer

Director of Spirituality and Care

Marianne Firlit

Director of Youth Ministry

Katie Hayes

Director of Youth Catechesis K-8

Janet Caschetta

Outreach Ministry Coordinator

Bill Bright

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Shirley

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS —



Friends in Christ,

There are no words that can adequately describe the joy and gratitude that we felt last Saturday as we witnessed our son and brother, Elliott, being ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Chicago, and then as he celebrated his Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday surrounded by family and friends. The weekend is one that will be treasured for a lifetime.

Please continue to keep Elliott in your prayers as he begins his assignment at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Glenview. His journey as a priest has just begun, and we pray that he will continue to be blessed with the joy and peace that were present on his face and in his heart last weekend as he served God's people for the very first time as a priest.

Thank you to all of you for making last weekend a most joyous celebration. The Dees/Turlek Families

WHAT WILL *Our Legacy* BE?

Thank you to all of you who have sent in your commitment cards. We are well on our way to reaching our goal of \$525,000, but we still have a ways to go. If you have yet to return your commitment card, please consider being a part of our 50th Anniversary parish gift. We need your support at whatever level you are comfortable giving.

This shared gift of the Parishioners of St. John of the Cross will serve as a lasting tribute to our years as a Parish community and provide a welcoming spiritual home for future generations.



Our Legacy
A TRIBUTE TO YESTERDAY, A COMMITMENT TO TOMORROW

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.stjohnofthecross.org or contact Dave Bennett or Dan Cochran at 708-292-1100 or by email at legaycampaign@stjohnofthecross.org